



ZONTA

**CLUB OF
BOTANY BAY INC**

**BUILD A BETTER WORLD
FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS**

24-1-1467

Charter date:1st May 1994

ABN: 23 605 031 194

NSW Fair Trading Incorporation: Y2092042

Zonta Club of Botany Bay Inc.

Annual Report

2022-2023

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About Zonta

The word Zonta comes from a Lakota Sioux Indian word that means "honest and trustworthy".

Zonta International is a global organisation of more than 27,000 members in 1,133 Zonta clubs in 62 countries.

Administratively, it is divided into 31 districts and one region worldwide. In Australia there are three Zonta International Districts. ZCBB is one of 26 Clubs in District 24.

The 2022-2024 goals remain aligned with Zonta's mission and vision and are centred under five pillars:

1. Stand Out for Gender Equity
2. Represent Global Citizenship
3. Develop Future Leaders
4. Celebrate Ourselves
5. Position Zonta for the Future

Mission

Zonta International is a leading global organisation of professionals empowering women worldwide through service and advocacy.

Vision

Zonta International envisions a world in which women's rights are recognised as human rights and every woman is able to achieve her full potential.

In such a world, women have access to all resources and are represented in decision-making positions on an equal basis with men.

In such a world, no woman lives in fear of violence.

President's Report

I am pleased to report that the Zonta Club of Botany Bay (ZCBB) bounced back from COVID-19 restrictions with renewed vigour.

Service projects continued and fundraising activities gradually resumed.

The Vintage and Collectables Fairs produced significant income and provided an opportunity to advertise the Club's service projects. Three fairs were held, in July and September 2022, and February 2023.

The Fairs have become very sought-after by traders who regularly compliment ZCBB on the great organisation. Compliments have also been received from visitors about the variety of items for sale, the on-site ATM, as well as great rock'n'roll music and delicious café fare.

In March 2022 the Club ran a Bunnings barbeque at Taren Point.

A Trivia night on 21 October, was a very successful fundraising event as well as being great fun.

Kookaburra Kids camps resumed in 2022 after being suspended in 2021. Birthing Kit assembly days were held, at Sylvania High School in May 2022, and at Bankstown Senior College in June 2022.

The Annual Golf Day at Calderwood Valley was cancelled due to wet weather.

In September members and friends celebrated the Woman of Achievement (WoA), and Young Woman in Public Affairs (YWPA) Awards at a dinner at Gardens on Forest. The WoA winner was Dr Gabrielle Humphreys from Dandelion Services and Darcy Blades, from Caringbah High School won the YWPA award.

A new project was established to assist two young Afghan women who arrived in Australia as refugees. Seven ZCBB members were trained as mentors by the Community Refugee Sponsorship Australia (CRSA). The members agreed that the project was very worthwhile, and they will remain in contact with the girls as they continue to establish independent lives.

The Club, with support from David Coleman MP, received a grant to upskill members in IT. Classes were held at the St George and Sutherland Community College (SGSCC) in Jannali and were very well received by participants.

NSW ClubGRANTS were received from Club Central, Taren Point Bowling Club, Ramsgate and Earlwood Bardwell Park RSL Clubs. This enabled ZCBB to assist others through service projects. Community grants from Georges River Council funded projects targeting young women. Community grants from Sutherland Shire Council were used to purchase hospital grade mattresses for Platform 9 refugees.

In kind donations for room hire were received from Club Central. Venue hire grants were received from Georges River Council for Marana Hall.

Ongoing Projects include:

- Breast Care cushion project: St George Public, St George Private, Sutherland, St Vincent's and the Royal Hospital for Women at Randwick received cushions for distribution to women following breast cancer surgery;
- Platform 9: Exit baskets and new linen packs were provided to women leaving the facility;
- Moving Forward: Vouchers and bed linen packs were provided;
- Awards: WoA, YWPA and Young Indigenous Woman;
- Young Women's Networking event: Attended by YWPA Alumni and other young women;
- Behind Closed Doors Posters: These were placed in all public toilets in Georges River LGA and Southgate shopping centre. The initiative has recently been supported by the Liquor Accord in St George and Sutherland areas;
- Tertiary Student Scholarship;
- Smith Family Student Sponsorship.

New projects:

- Training to upskill members in IT provided by SGSSC;
- Mentoring Afghan refugee girls through CSRA.

Various committees used Zoom to meet and plan activities, including the Vintage fairs and the Young Women's Networking event. Thank you to our younger members who increased ZBCC's social media presence.

I would like to thank the Board members who gave me so much assistance and support, and were always willing to take on new challenges. Thanks also to all the members for their continuing enthusiastic involvement, and to the Honorary Zontians (husbands and partners) for their fantastic assistance at Bunnings BBQs, and the Vintage Fairs.

An elevator pitch describing Zonta comes from ZC Brisbane Breakfast and I believe it fits our club perfectly:

Imagine a world where women and girls are not exploited, and have equal opportunities to be educated, work, and simply walk down the street. Well, that's what Zonta is. We do this through advising the UN, and working with local and global communities, through hands on volunteering, fundraising, and advocacy. And... doing it all with a lot of fun and inspiration with an amazing group of women and friends

Ann Selle OAM

Membership

Membership has increased to 36 members, including one Honorary (Hon) member and five Young Professional (YP) members. The commitment of members has ensured a dynamic club, and as membership grows, so too will service, advocacy and fundraising. Following District 24 precedent, the Vice President assumed the role of Membership Coordinator in 2022.

Board 2022-2023

Thana Akkari, Vice President	Kathy Jamieson, Director
Judy Bendl, Director	Marilyn Lowder, Secretary
Elaine Brus, Director	Bronlyn Schoer, Treasurer
Pamela Davidson, Director	Ann Selle OAM, President
Robyn Fague PhD, Past President	

Members 2022-2023

Thana Akkari	Pam Lohse
Beverley Barrett	Marilyn Lowder
June Beattie	Sue Lowe
Judy Bendl	Daniella Luchi, YP
Elaine Brus	Wendy Matheson
Gayle Cale	Diane McInerney
Robyn Cameron	Nadia McMaster
Marie Collins	Diana Milford-Smith
Sandra Coogan, Hon	Daniella Mraovic, YP
Susan Culley	Sue Munro
Pamela Davidson	Kerry Parsons
Robyn Fague PhD	Sue Richards
Sonia Fenton	Athena Savvas, YP
Amanda Gibson	Bronlyn Schoer
Silvana Hourcade	Ann Selle OAM
Kathy Jamieson	Winola Su, YP
Jayde Jensen, YP	Jeannette Werda
Dorothy Koukari	Sharna Wiblen PhD
Pam Lancaster	

Meetings

Members were pleased to resume meetings at Club Central Menai and hear from a range of guest speakers who explored a variety of topics.

2022

- February: **Alison Duff**, Teacher, Watercolourist, Artist, Marriage Celebrant;
- March: Members of our Young Women's Forum and the past YWPA Winners;
- May: **David Roberts**, Angel Flight;
- July: **Annette Mayne**, The Reconnect Project;
- October: **Lillian Chen**, The Stroke Foundation.
- November: **Anyier Yuol**, Presentation on bride price in Sudanese communities in Australia.

2023

- January: **Pam Brown and Kathryn Lord**, St George Sutherland Medical Research Foundation;
- February: **Sue Munro and June Beattie**, Meet the Zonta Members.

Gayle Cale

Social Activities

Two walks followed by coffee at outdoor venues were held during the year. In March members walked along the beachfront from Wanda to Cronulla, followed by coffee. In October members walked around the sea front at Dolls Point and enjoyed coffee and conversation at a local coffee shop afterwards.

Twenty three members enjoyed a relaxed and convivial lunch at RMYC Burraneer in December to celebrate Christmas and the end 2022.

In January 2023, members, partners and friends enjoyed social drinks at Oatley Hotel.

Wendy Matheson and Kerry Parsons

Treasurer's Report

Funds in the bank at the end of the Zonta Financial Year (28/2/2023)

Discretionary service funds	\$37,382.60
Monies held in trust from grants and prior payments	\$18,418.81
General administration funds	\$9,077.07

A summary of Club fundraising and expenditure of discretionary service funds is summarised in the tables below.

Funding from NSW ClubGRANTS and Community grants from Georges River and Sutherland Shire LGAs enabled ZCBB to provide a wide range of ongoing services to the community.

Club Central, Hurstville provided \$3,600 for the Breast Care Cushions and the printing of an information booklet for Breast Cancer patients; \$6,000 for Platform 9; and, \$1,000.00 for the 2022 Zonta WoA Award.

Ramsgate RSL and Taren Point Bowling Club each provided \$6,000.00 to fund Platform 9.

Earlwood Bardwell Park RSL allocated \$3,600.00 for the supply of gift cards and linen for Moving Forward.

Sutherland Shire Council Community Grants gave \$19,800.00 to provide hospital grade mattresses and bedding for Platform 9.

Georges River Council Community Grants provided \$5,825.00 for the Zonta Young Women's Networking Event.

Net Service Funds Raised in Club Fundraising Events, Zonta Financial Year, March 2022 – Feb 2023

Sale of logos and donations for breast care cushions	\$2,110.98
Donations for refugee support	\$820.00
Vintage Fair July 2022	\$7,085.49
Vintage Fair Sept 2022	\$8,935.07
Vintage Fair Feb 2023	\$13,648.82
Trivia Night	\$1,993.01
Bunnings BBQ, Taren Point	\$1,056.32
General donations	\$3,660.53
Cronulla Theatre night	\$1,022.00

Expenditure of Discretionary Service Funds, Zonta Financial Year, March 2022 – Feb 2023

Donations to Zonta International service projects	\$5,003.67
Smith Family Disadvantaged Child sponsorship	\$1,370.00
ZCBB Tertiary Scholarships	\$3,500.00
ZCBB WoA	\$589.85
'Days for Girls' Program	\$600.00
Birthing Kits Assemblies	\$4,500.00
Donations to Platform 9 from proceeds of Vintage Fairs	\$7,000.00
Refugee support program	\$1,085.00
Prizes for Young Women in Public Affairs Award	\$1,049.00

Bronlyn Schoer

Fundraising

Vintage and Collectable Fairs

Three Vintage and Collectable Fairs were held in July and September 2022, and another in February 2023. They were one day events at Marana Auditorium, Hurstville. At each fair between 900 and 1000 visitors paid an entry fee and around 40 traders hired tables.

The fairs were advertised online, on social media and on street posters as well as flyers placed in antique centres and shops. The hiring of tables, entry fees, raffles, and takings from 'Café Zonta' contributed to the profit at each fair.

Venue Hire Grants for Marana Hall and the kitchen from Georges River Council enabled the funds raised to be maximised. Following each fair, a significant donation was made to Platform 9, and funds were also contributed to other service projects.

Ann Selle OAM

Theatre Party

The Cronulla Arts Theatre invited ZCBB to host an evening preview performance. Members and friends enjoyed the lighthearted play, *Exit Laughing*.

Tickets included drinks, canapes on arrival, and supper, which were provided by members. The Theatre donated a percentage of tickets sales to ZCBB.

Sue Richards

Trivia night

In October, eighty-five enthusiastic lovers of the trivial things in life attended the Trivia Night. The audience was challenged on topics including current politics, geography, entertainment and serial killers. The competition between teams was evident; reaching its peak in the final round with two points separating first and second place.

The evening was a great success, and, for many in the audience, it was their first exposure to Zonta. The feedback from the evening was overwhelmingly positive which augurs well for another Trivia Night in 2023.

Elaine Brus

Bunnings

In March 2022, seventeen ZCBB members and partners held a Bunnings barbeque at Taren Point. The barbeque was undercover in the carpark which provided shelter from the recent heavy rainfall.

Everyone who attended enjoyed the day which raised a good amount of funds. Members also identified several ideas to streamline the event which will be implemented next time.

Jeannette Werda

Service and Advocacy

To Zonta International (ZI), service and advocacy are pivotal aspects which exist to improve the status of women and girls. In line with ZI, ZCBB members work together to advocate for change in attitudes, actions and laws that discriminate against women and girls.

ZCBB's Service projects support vulnerable women and their families, and raise awareness of the needs of women in the local community. Projects and awards recognise the achievements of local women and girls by mentoring and providing financial assistance to help young women.

ZCBB's advocacy in the community provides an opportunity to raise awareness of the issues surrounding the service projects chosen by the club. Community events such as Vintage fairs are not only profit making exercises and fellowship for members but also provide exposure for the Club and its ideals.

Zonta International Project

Zonta International Young Women in Public Affairs (YWPA)

YWPA is a Zonta International Award which recognises young women, aged 16 to 19, who demonstrate leadership and a commitment to public service and civic causes, and encourages them to continue their participation in public and political life.

ZCBB recognised the achievements of young women attending secondary schools in the St. George and Sutherland Shire areas.

Information about the application procedures and deadlines was sent to all secondary schools. Online applications were received from 14 students attending six schools. Each applicant described the initiatives she had introduced, and the challenges and successes they had experienced through their leadership in their school and community.

Applications were reviewed by a panel of three members and five applicants were selected as ZCBB finalists. The winner then was selected.

The winners of the YWPA award and the WoA award were announced at a Presentation Dinner at Gardens on Forest, with over 80 people attending, including special guests, students, teachers, school principals, parents, and members. . Monetary prizes and Certificates were presented to the finalists.

The 2022 ZCBB YWPA award winner was Darcy Blades of Caringbah High School. Darcy will represent ZCBB at District level.

ZCBB members have maintained contact with the finalists including inviting them to some club events.

Thana Akkari

District 24 Endorsed Projects

Breast Care Cushions

The Zonta Breast Care Cushion Project has been an endorsed Service project in all Zonta Districts in Australia since 2001. The cushions are delivered to hospital Breast Care Nurses for distribution to patients after breast cancer surgery. They aid recovery by allowing the patient to sit, sleep and rest comfortably, as well as by preventing pain from bumps while walking and discomfort from wearing a seat belt.

Grants from Club Central Hurstville funded the project. The cushion cases were sewn by many volunteers and completed at a community cushion stuffing day at Gardens on Forest in March 2022, and Club Central at Hurstville in January 2023.

ZCBB supplied over 650 cushions to St George Public, and Private Hospitals, and Sutherland Hospital.

ZCBB was fortunate to receive 250 cushions from Sri Sathya Sai International Organisation of Australia & PNG as their community project. This enabled the Club to supply extra cushions to Breast Care Nurses for distribution at St Vincent's Public Hospital at Darlinghurst and the Royal Hospital for Women at Randwick. Cushions are also posted, when requested, to women throughout NSW.

When patients are diagnosed they are also given a list of local resources and information booklets which are compiled by Breast Care Nurses and produced by ZCBB with the assistance of the Club Central grant.

Amanda Gibson and Ann Selle OAM

Birthing Kits

The Birthing Kit Foundation Australia (BKFA) is a humanitarian organisation that provides birthing kits and education in clean birthing practices to women who give birth in remote regions of the world. BKFA works in partnership with global organisations and health providers to offer the birthing kits to women in an effort to prevent maternal and newborn deaths. In support of BKFA, ZCBB holds birthing kit assembly days in a number of local high schools.

Two Assembly days were held in 2022. In May a group of students packed 600 birthing kits at Sylvania High School. At the time COVID-19 restrictions limited the number of Zonta members able to supervise the students.

In June 2022 students in Years 10, 11 and 12 at Bankstown Senior College packed 600 kits. Most of the students were mature-aged, from refugee and multicultural backgrounds. Zonta members were inspired by the students' stories and challenges, and their aspirations for life in Australia.

Kerry Parsons and Wendy Matheson

District 24 Achievement Award for a Young Indigenous Woman

This District 24 Award is in its 12th year, having been initiated by Bronlyn Schoer who has coordinated the implementation of the Award across NSW and the ACT. Bronlyn has been assisted in the selection process by some fellow Zontians and importantly, by some young Indigenous women who give generously of their time to consider the applications which arrive from schools across the state, many of which are far from any Zonta club.

It was established to create a constructive connection between young Indigenous women completing their final year of secondary school and Zonta clubs of District 24. The Award recognises and celebrates the achievements of young indigenous women as they contribute to their school and community through leadership and service, but most importantly, successfully complete their secondary education. The applicants are asked to articulate their post school goals and aspirations, to share their pride in their indigenous heritage and to acknowledge the support they have received from a special person or persons who has encouraged them to pursue and complete their formal education.

ZCBB is committed to recognising the achievements of young women of senior high school age and actively promotes this District 24 Award in all local schools, and has welcomed applications from several young women each year. The Award winner in 2019, Sarita Singh, was a student at Heathcote High School, and has maintained her connection to the program by her generous contribution as a member of the 2020 to 2023 selection panels.

Sue Lowe has assisted with the implementation of this initiative since its inception, which is deeply appreciated.

Bronlyn Schoer, (Coordinator, District 24)

Club Projects

Woman of Achievement Award (WoA)

ZCBB acknowledges and rewards the outstanding achievements of women whose actions enhance life and empower women in their communities in the Sutherland Shire, Georges River and Bayside Council areas.

The second annual award was held in 2022 and the Coordinators were heartened by the increase in nominations this year. Sponsorship from Club Central enabled a second prize to be offered.

The winner of the second prize was Natalia Esdaile-Watts, an advocate and support person for women experiencing domestic violence. Natalia also campaigned for change in how DV is managed by law enforcement.

The WoA winner was Dr Gabrielle Humphreys, General Manager of the Dandelion Support Network. Gabrielle joined Dandelion in 2012, initially as a volunteer, and now leads the organisation which supports disadvantaged women and children through the provision of equipment and clothing.

The awards were presented at a gala event in September.

Jeannette Werda and Marilyn Lowder

Behind Closed Doors Project

The *Behind Closed Doors* project commenced in 2020 following receipt of GRC community grant. Members created “Zonta Says No to Violence” posters which listed the 24-hour emergency phone numbers and QR codes of services which are available to those experiencing domestic and family violence.

This year ZCBB worked with councils, shopping centres and a hotel, to encourage them to place posters behind the doors of female public toilets. Currently there are posters in all Georges River Council public facilities, Southgate Shopping Centre, Oatley Hotel, Gardens on Forest, and along the beachfront in the Cronulla area.

Bayside Council was approached regarding this initiative, and responded by stating their support of the concept and their intention to include it as part of their Domestic Violence Support Program.

Pam Davidson

Tertiary Student Scholarship

This Award was established in 2022 to provide financial support to a YWPA applicant who is experiencing financial hardship, to enable her to pursue her tertiary education. The award provides \$2,000.00 in the first year of study and will continue in the second and third years, contingent upon successful completion of her course of study each year.

The Award recipient was identified by the ZCBB YWPA selection panel after confirmation from her school principal, that she met the following criteria:

- had been an applicant for the YWPA award through ZCBB;
- demonstrated commitment to her learning;
- was experiencing financial hardship;
- demonstrated qualities of leadership in her school and wider community.

2023 Recipient, Ola Gafour

Ola, from Beverly Hills Girls High School was a finalist in 2022 YWPA.

Ola was a director of communications at her school where she focused on empowering women. Her particular focus was to assist students in the Intensive English Centre with their literacy skills.

In her community Ola volunteers at her local religious schools and is part of the youth group. She has worked with many organisations associated with the importance of mental health.

Ola’s long-term goal is to study neuroscience or psychology and she is working towards her goal at UNSW.

ZCBB is proud to celebrate the achievement and resilience of such a committed young woman.

2022 Recipient, Roaa Ahmed

The 2022 Tertiary Award Recipient, Roaa Ahmed achieved great results in her courses at university, which enabled the continuance of her tertiary award.

Ann Selle OAM

Young Women's Networking Event

In celebration of International Women's Day 2023, ZCBB, in collaboration with Meet Her, hosted a Networking Event aligned to the IWD theme, Cracking the Code Together: You, We and Country, at Club Central Hurstville.

The Event was curated by the ZCBB Young Professional team. It focused on hearing and amplifying the voices of young women aged 17 to 27, and supporting young women's journeys through connection, inspiration, and motivation.

The Event started with a keynote presentation by Taylah Spirovski, CEO at Voices of Influence Australia. Taylah shared her experiences as a young lawyer advocating for women's rights, policy developments and law reform to foster a safer and equitable world. The second keynote address was presented by Dr Georgia Durmush, an Indigenous woman who spoke to the country aspect of the event and shared stories of navigating culturally-specific expectations within academia and broader society.

The event included two workshops. ZCBB's Dr Sharna Wiblen facilitated a values-based workshop involving the attendees identifying values that can guide their daily decision-making. Rider Antwi, Miss Sahara 2022, a financial literacy advocate, facilitated the second hands-on workshop which provided the young women with knowledge and skills to become responsible for their finances and the impact of financial decisions.

The event concluded with a question-and-answer session between the attendees and a panel of three women from diverse professions and backgrounds, Rider Antwi, Gemma Irvine, a fashion designer and founder of Gem The Label, and Jayde Jensen, a ZCBB member, youth sports star and coach.

The day was successful as it allowed young women to network and help one another to upskill in a context that acknowledged and accepted diverse voices.

Sharna Wiblen PhD

Working with Others

Platform 9

Platform 9 is a refuge for women/families in the St. George and Sutherland areas. It operates under the auspices of Kingsway Care. run through Kingsway Community Church Outreach Program. Platform 9 assists women who are homeless, and many are also victims of domestic violence.

In 2022 ZCBB received grants through the NSW ClubGRANTS scheme from Club Central, Hurstville, Ramsgate RSL and Taren Point Bowling Club. The Club was also fortunate to receive \$20,000.00 from the Community Grants and Subsidies Program at Sutherland Shire Council.

During 2022 and into 2023, ZCBB provided over 40 care packs of items which are expensive for those on a tight budget. The packs included linen packs on arrival and, on departure, exit baskets of cleaning products and personal care items. This year exit packs were augmented with the inclusion of crockery, cutlery and kitchen pots and pans. The \$20,000.00 grant was used to fund the purchase of Hospital Grade mattresses to conform with COVID-19 protocols.

Feedback from the Program on-site Manager, Stefani Allen, indicated that such practical support was invaluable. Guests were always grateful to receive useful items which are essential when setting up a new home.

Gayle Cale and Jeanette Werda

Moving Forward

Moving Forward is a specialist case management service that assists women and children who have escaped domestic violence to move forward with their lives. ZCBB has supported Moving Forward since its establishment.

ZCBB's Project Coordinators were in frequent contact with the Manager Jan Christie. As the needs of the community changed, appropriate support was provided. In 2022 and into 2023, the supply of linen and vouchers was the priority. Support from ClubGRANTS enabled ZCBB to continue to provide flexible support.

On 19 September six Zonta members visited Moving Forward's new offices in Hurstville. Two members attended the AGM.

Pam Lancaster and Pam Davidson

Dandelion Support Network

A small group of ZCBB members regularly volunteered at the Dandelion Support Network site in Caringbah.

Dandelion accepts donations of preloved and new clothing, toy packs, nursery furniture and safety seats for cars. These goods are distributed to families in need via a referral process. The need for Dandelion's services has increased.

The donation of funds from an anonymous donor has resulted in Dandelion looking to purchase a site for a permanent home.

Dandelion continued to benefit from the skills of ZCBB members and friends who donated beautifully stitched cot quilts.

Robyn Cameron

Kookaburra Kids

ZCBB donates toiletry bags for all girls and boys attending Kookaburra Kids camps in NSW. Children who attend have been referred for respite and assistance as one or more parents have been affected by mental illness. The children are mentored, given contacts and practical assistance and enjoy a weekend of fun and contact with others in similar positions.

Because of COVID-19, fewer KK camps were held in 2022. However, ZCBB supplied toiletry bags for four camps in September and October 2022 and numbers are rising again in 2023.

In February 2023, members packed 200 bags for the first four camps of the year and, towards the end of April, will need to supply another 120 bags for three camps to be run in May and June.

Regular purchases of toothpaste, deodorant, combs and tissues have, in the past, been supplemented by donations and collections from travellers who may be supplied with

hotel toiletries. However, more items have been purchased this year to supplement donations as there were fewer travellers collecting hotel toiletries.

Judy Bendl

Days for Girls

The Days for Girls (DFG) organisation provides washable, reusable menstrual management kits for impoverished and refugee girls and women. Over 270,000 women and girls received period products and menstrual health education from DFG in 2022. DFG has assisted local women to set up small business to enable them to make and sell the kits.

Since 2015 when ZCBB adopted DFG as a Service project, Marilyn has represented the club as an active volunteer. ZCBB has provided financial aid for the purchase of essential items, and this year donated funds to buy fabrics for the sewn components of the kits (drawstring carry bag, waterproof transport bag, two waterproof shields, four regular liners and four heavy-flow liners per kit). Volunteers hold monthly working bees to prepare the kits for distribution.

This year the kits were sent to a girls school in Papua New Guinea, the UN refugee support team, Sri Lanka, and Bhutan. They were distributed free to the women and girls who attended an information session about the use and care of their kit.

Marilyn Lowder

Refugee mentoring

After a presentation by Nicole Watkins from Community Refugee Sponsorship Australia (CRSA), seven ZCBB members formed a committee to establish a project to mentor newly arrived refugees for one year.

The committee members were allocated two mentees, Laila and Zahra who had recently arrived from Afghanistan. Both women arrived on temporary protection visas and were then given permanent visas as part of Australia's humanitarian program.

Members met Laila and Zahra, who are in their early twenties and were living in Auburn in Western Sydney. They discussed their journey to Australia and some of the issues they were facing in settling.

ZCBB provided clothing and other goods which were donated by members, and \$1,000.00 was allocated to each woman to be spent at the discretion of the committee. Other financial assistance included shopping trips as well as organising monthly payments towards a mobile phone.

When the project officially ended the committee reflected on the achievements and challenges.

Initially there were language barriers, however these lessened as the English language ability of the women improved. There were cultural challenges between members and the women and it took time for trust to develop, however these issues were addressed over time.

Kerry Parsons and Kathy Jamieson

Smith Family Student Sponsorship Program

For the second year ZCBB sponsored Ariella, a nine-year-old school student from Queensland who is in year three.

The Club sent Ariella a birthday gift in July, and the Smith Family Student Sponsorship Program provided a profile and a drawing from her at the end of 2022.

Through the sponsorship Ariella received:

- financial support to pay for school essentials such as a uniform, appropriate shoes, textbooks, and excursions;
- targeted support to her family from a Learning for Life Coordinator to understand their unique circumstances, and to link Ariella to local learning opportunities;
- access to a range of educational opportunities including Smith Family out-of-school learning and mentoring programs to help boost confidence.

Ariella's family undertook the following:

- ensured Ariella attended school;
- completed a student profile. (The Smith Family provided a written update to ZCBB);
- provided a copy of her end of year school reports to the Smith Family (not shared with ZCBB);
- kept receipts of educational expenses to be provided upon request.

Marilyn Lowder

Communications

Electronic, Social and Print Media

ZCBB's Website and Facebook were updated to ensure that the information remained current. QR codes or Bitly links enabled direct access to online application forms for the YWPA and WoA Awards. A QR code was added to the Club's brochure to facilitate access to the website.

In November, a grant from Federal MP, David Coleman was utilised to upskill members in IT and digital technology.

Minuteman Press at Caringbah provided a competitive, efficient service for the Club's printing, including business cards, changes to the Vintage Fair corflute advertising boards and the Club brochure.

The Club's Newsletter, Volume 20 was issued in February 2023. The newsletters are circulated via email as well as uploaded to the ZCBB and District 24 websites, and Facebook.

Robyn Cameron

The Voice

ZCBB contributed to the District 24 quarterly publication The Voice, which was distributed to members via email. It is a tool for Zonta Clubs to showcase their activities and projects. ZCBB is proud to be the only Club to have contributed to every issue this year.

Gayle Cale

Appendix

Audit

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO MEMBERS OF ZONTA CLUB OF BOTANY BAY INCORPORATED. ABN 23 605 031 194

I have been engaged to audit the special purpose financial report of ZONTA Club of Botany Bay Inc. comprising Statement by Members of the Committee, Profit and Loss Statement and Balance Sheet for the year ended 28 February 2023.

Management Committee's Responsibility for the Financial Report

The Committee is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and for such internal controls as the Committee determines are necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

My responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on conducting the audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require that I comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control.

An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

Independence

In conducting my audit, I have followed applicable independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

Basis for Opinion

As is common for organizations of this type, it is not practicable to maintain an effective system of internal control over cash donations, fund raising activities and certain other income until their initial entry in the accounting records.

The Committee has advised that the procedure for accounting for revenue from cash donations and fund raising activities is verified by two or more members; and that the authorisation procedures for payments have always been consistently and completely applied as per the rules of the Club.

In my opinion, the financial report of ZONTA Club of Botany Bay Inc. presents fairly the financial position of the organisation as at 28 February 2023 and the results of its operations for the year then ended.

Maria Good

Certified Practising Accountant
18 Margaret Street
Woolwich NSW 2110

18 April 2023

Zonta Club of Botany Bay Incorporated

ABN: 23 605 031 194

Statement by Members of The Management Committee

For the year ended 28 February 2023

The Committee has determined that the Club is not a reporting entity. The special purpose financial statements have been prepared for the purpose of complying with the Club's Bylaws which require the accounting records to be audited.

Australian Accounting Standards and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board have not been specifically applied. In the opinion of the Committee, compliance with these standards would place an unreasonable burden on the Club for comparably minor benefit.

In the opinion of the Committee the Profit & Loss Statement and Balance Sheet:

1. Present fairly the financial position of ZONTA Club of Botany Bay Incorporated as at 28 February 2023 and its performance for the year ended on that date.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Club will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Committee and is signed for and on behalf of the Committee by:


ANN SELLE


BRONLYN SCHOER