

East-Enders



ZONTA
CLUB OF
BRISBANE EAST INC

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

December 2025

President's Patter

This month's highlight is our involvement in Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women campaign, and the action we have taken during the 16 Days of Activism (25 November to 10 December). I always enjoy delivering Orange Lady silhouettes across the community and talking about our Zonta Club's engagement in this campaign. Our thanks to businesses, schools, Brisbane City Councillors, State and Federal MPs who are displaying our Ladies and posters, adding their voices to raising awareness and taking action against gender-based violence.

Our Paint the Bayside Orange Breakfast was inspiring with guest speakers presenting their approach to preventing domestic violence tolerance and perpetration through cultural attitude and behaviour change. Their program raised interest in the local community about future workplace training opportunities. And of course, a number of members participated in the ZSN Walk in Brisbane City. Check out the photos later in the newsletter.



My best wishes to our members and to all who support our Zonta Club – may you enjoy a relaxing, fun and safe time with your family and friends over the Christmas / End of Year period.

Jacinta

We envision a world in which no woman or girl lives in fear of violence. Join us in saying NO and learning how to end gender-based violence at www.zontasaysno.com.

What's in the Newsletter

Upcoming Events and Last Month's Events (p. 2); Items of Interest (p. 3); 16 Days of Activism (p. 4); Diary Dates for January-February-March (p. 5); Photo Album (p. 6-7); Flyer for Zonta Young Women in Leadership Award - Club (p. 8)

Website: <https://brisbaneeast.zontadistrict22.org>

Email: brisbaneeast@zontadistrict22.org

Upcoming Events:

Bunnings Sausage Sizzle: 6 February 2026

Members are asked to contact Jo if available for roster for this Sausage Sizzle – we will need at least 9 (3 for 3 shifts). Our thanks to Jo for coordinating this fundraiser.

Zonta Club Celebration: 22 February 2026

An afternoon of information and fellowship, acknowledging our HonZons and recipients of Zonta Brisbane East scholarships and Awards (Young Woman in Leadership, Women in Business Leadership, Women in STEM).

Where: Undercroft, St Gabriels Anglican Church, 15 Bridgnorth Street, Carindale

Time: 2 – 4 p.m.

Last month

Thank you, Councillor Lucy Collier

So appreciative of the donation towards printing Safety Cards – our club has been partnering with Brisbane Domestic Violence Service for several years to print these cards, which contain contact details for services for women escaping domestic violence. These cards are available throughout the community (including in the Morningside Ward Office) or can be accessed at [Brisbane Southside Safety Card - Domestic and Family Violence | Micah Projects](#)

We were so pleased that Lucy was able to attend our monthly meeting



Tertiary Scholarship presented at Yeronga State High School Award Night



The recipient of the Jill Hedley Zonta Club of Brisbane East Scholarship was Dorcas Furaha. Unfortunately, Dorcas was not able to attend to receive her certificate, and to meet our members, Lesley and Sophie.

We look forward to meeting Dorcas early 2026.

Paint Bayside Orange Breakfast: 26 November 2025

Our thanks to Ros for her leadership in organising this event – the 10th year was a great success. Speakers Kirsty Tschirpig and Shaan Ross-Smith from the Be There Group were so inspiring in the work they are doing in the prevention of harassment, discrimination and violence across workplaces, schools and communities. We also heard about Be There App – this is a free app that gives you access to tools that empower, educate and support you to help someone who is experiencing domestic and family violence.



Of Interest

Queensland Women in STEM 2025

This Prize celebrates the exceptional contributions of Queensland's women in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). Now in its tenth year, the Prize aims to foster passion and drive among women and girls, encouraging them to actively participate in, initiate and lead within STEM. This year, prizes were awarded across three categories: First Nations STEM Award, Breaking Barriers Award, and Judges' Award. For more information, and to read about the winners: [Queensland Women in STEM Prize 2025 | Queensland Chief Scientist](#)

Queensland's Women's Economic Security Strategy

This strategy will be developed with women, for women, in partnership with community and industry leaders. Consultation is underway – feedback is sought on identifying key issues, creating actions to improve women's economic security, and to remove barriers to economic empowerment. You can share your ideas by completing an anonymous survey at <https://www.women.qld.gov.au/taking-action/economic-security> On this webpage, you can also access the Women's Economic Security and Wellbeing Report 2025, request being placed on a mailing list, and download resources from the promotional toolkit. [Economic security | Office for Women](#)

Churchill Fellowship 2024 – Research conducted by Rebecca McIntosh, Australian Creative Director and Arts Journalist.

This fellowship allowed Rebecca McIntosh (also known as Bec Mac) to develop a blueprint for transforming Brisbane into the world's safest 24-hour city by 2032. She explored how female-led governance, arts-led cultural programming and gender-sensitive urban design can create safer, more vibrant night-time environments. The research examined successful models across Los Angeles, New York, London, Paris, Amsterdam, Rotterdam, and Berlin. Interviews were conducted with urban planners, cultural programmers and women's safety advocates. This consultation and case study analysis validated the core hypothesis that arts, culture and vibrant night-time economics acts as catalysts for urban safety.

Read the full report: [Bec Mac - Churchill Trust](#)

President's Note: I was interested in reading this report, given

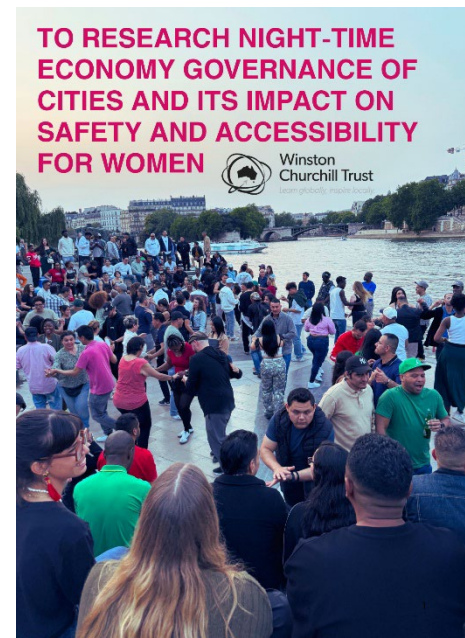
- 84% of Queensland women reporting they feel unsafe walking or running alone at night (compared to 47% of men), 85% of women nationally aged 18-24 years and 83% of women aged over 55 years said they avoid walking home at night.

[84% of Queensland women feel unsafe to walk or run at night - DemosAU](#)

- The Safe Streets for Women and Girls Project led by UQ, Queensland Walks and the Zonta Club of Brisbane

[Creating safe streets for women and girls - School of Architecture, Design and Planning - University of Queensland](#)

[Nighttime walks initiative strives to make streets safer - Queensland Walks](#)



16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence 25 November-10 December

This year's UN theme: UNiTE to End Digital Violence against All Women and Girls.

Digital tools are increasingly used to stalk, harass and abuse women and girls – this may include sexual harassment, online threats, non-consensual sharing of intimate images, online surveillance/tracking. Digital violence targets women more than men, especially those with public or online visibility.

The UNiTE campaign calls on governments to pass/enforce laws that criminalise digital violence; calls on tech companies to ensure platform safety and enforce codes of conduct; calls on donors to invest in feminist organisations working to end violence against women; calls on individuals to speak out, support survivors and challenge harmful online norms.

References: [16 days of Activism yearly theme](#)

[Digital violence is intensifying, yet nearly half of the world's women and girls lack legal protection from digital abuse | UN Women – Headquarters](#)

Why become empowered to recognise digital violence, and to speak out?

Domestic Violence doesn't occur behind closed doors anymore. Technology has become one of the fastest growing ways domestic and family violence is perpetrated. It is widespread, and a core part of coercive control. The reach of abuse has expanded - and so must our understanding, our prevention efforts, and our response.

How to take action to promote safety online?

Learn and share information from this year's campaign, participate in digital safety sessions, start conversations about digital violence with girls in your networks, support male allyship campaigns that reject and prevent digital violence against women and girls.

Read DV-Alert's ***Hidden in Plain Sight: Recognising 5 Key Digital Red Flags***. Become aware of signs of tracking / location sharing and device monitoring; ways access to phones, apps, banking and online accounts is used to limit independence; how digital behaviours can isolate someone from friends, family and support networks; patterns of online threats, harassment and image-based abuse; and role of digital tools in financial control and economic abuse. [Recognising Digital Red Flags](#)

Donate a phone. Perpetrators of domestic violence often use phones to control and monitor, resulting in isolation and insecurity. DV Safe Phone's Vision is to ensure that every domestic violence victim in Australia has access to a safe and reliable phone. DV Safe Phone collects, repurposes and distributes free mobile phones through a national network of 514 registered agencies – DV support services, police stations, hospitals and refuges. Since 2020, over 15,000 DV Safe Phone Kits have been provided across Australia – each kit includes a working mobile phone, charger, starter SIM, and phone credit. [DV Safe Phone - Donate Phones, Donate Funds](#)

There are many locations where you can drop off a 4G phone – have a look at the map on this webpage: [Donate Phones - Save Lives](#)

2025 Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women Virtual Summit

When: Australian Time: Thursday 11 December

What: Three sessions – focus on critical role of male allies in preventing and addressing gender-based violence

Cost: US\$25 + fees (Recordings of all sessions will be available for everyone who purchases a ticket). Proceeds will go to Zonta Foundation for Women International Service Fund to support global programs to address gender-based violence.

Session 1: 12.00 – 1.30 a.m (Brisbane time): Victor Rivas Rivers – National Network to End Domestic Violence

Session 2: 4.00 – 5.00 a.m. (Brisbane time): Men Against the Tide film and discussion with filmmaker Priyali Sur

Session 3: 8.00 - 9.00 a.m. (Brisbane time): Ending GBV with Male Allyship – panel discussion

[Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women and Girls 2025 Summit Tickets | Eventbrite](#)

Diary Dates

10 December 2025 Human Rights Day

10 December 2025 Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women Virtual Summit

19 January 2026 Fellowship Dinner at Colmslie Hotel

06 February 2026 Bunnings Sausage Sizzle (Oxley Bunnings)

16 February 2026 Zonta Brisbane East Club Meeting

22 February 2026 Celebration of Zonta Awards and HonZons

16 March 2026 Zonta Brisbane East Club Meeting

28 March 2026 Combined Area 1 and 3 Meeting

Book these events in your diary:

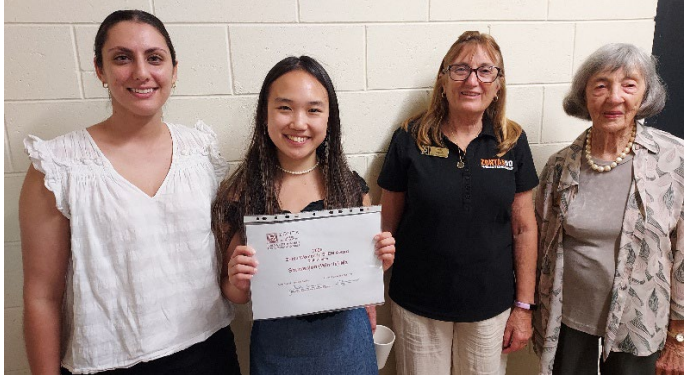
23 May 2026 Dîner en Rouge (Fundraiser)

12-14 July 2026 Zonta International Convention, Vancouver. Registration open at [Zonta International Convention Registration](#); Early bird rate (\$US395) until 15 March 2026. Note the keynote speakers have been announced: [Speakers | Zonta Vancouver](#)

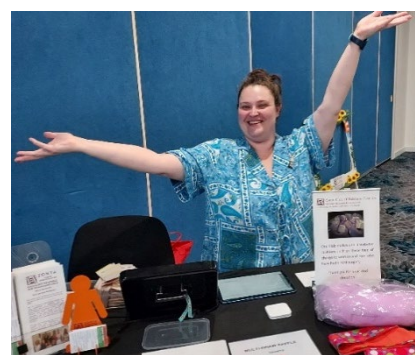
Opportunities to be involved this month

- Tell someone in your network about Zonta, and encourage membership
- Containers for Change – our club receives 10c for each container. Collect and deposit cans and bottles; (quote the number **C10671310**).
- Download the free Be There App – to help you know what to say when you are trying to support someone who is in an abusive, toxic relationship
- Donate a phone to DV Safe Phones
- Contact Jo to volunteer for our next Bunnings Sausage Sizzle in February
- Read about our Zonta International Cause: [Ending Gender-Based Violence](#)
And members can access promotional resources to increase knowledge [Take Action! – Join us in saying NO](#)

November's photo diary: Zonta events: Donations from Hands of Hope towards our Christmas Hampers for Madonna House; Bunnings Sausage Sizzle, Women in STEM awardee Winnie Ma attends our meeting; Kirsten attends Zonta Brisbane River Melbourne Cup fundraiser.



November's photo diary: Zonta Says No to Violence Against Women



2026

ZONTA YOUNG WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP



Recognizing young women for their commitment to volunteerism, volunteer leadership achievements and dedication to empowering women worldwide



1 APPLICATION, 3 OPPORTUNITIES

Club award
Varies by club

District level second prize of \$1000 and third prize of \$500.

37 international awards US \$5,000 each

Applications must be received by the applicant's local Zonta club's deadline. To locate a club near you and download an application, please visit: zonta.org/ZYWLA.

CLUB DEADLINE:

28 FEBRUARY 2026

SUBMIT APPLICATION TO:

ZONTA CLUB BRISBANE EAST INC

brisbaneeast@zontadistrict22.org

The Zonta Young Women in Leadership Award is a Zonta International program funded by contributions to the Zonta Foundation for Women. Zonta International is a leading global organization of individuals working to build a better world for women and girls.

Website: <https://brisbane.zontadistrict22.org>
Email: brisbaneeast@zontadistrict22.org