



Zonta Club of Southern Gold Coast-Tweed Area Inc

Member of Zonta International

Welcome to Another Year in Zonta Fellowship.

I would be remiss not to start the New Year with the acknowledgement of last year supporters and friends. From us to you, a huge heartfelt thank you.



We start the fundraising year in the same way as we ended it with another Tweed Bunnings barbeque. How good is a sausage sizzle? We get to raise funds to help women in our community, have a chat to shoppers and find ingenious ways to overcome the weather. Call in and say hello, January 31st. Bunnings Tweed. Like to help? great,

contact Louise. E mail me for Louise's contact details.

In December our club members also assembled amenity packs for victims of sexual assault. These along with over 270 pairs of new underwear were donated to The Tweed Hospital sexual assault service and also Gold Coast University Hospital Social Work Departments.

We are now again collecting shampoo, conditioner, soap/bodywash, toothpaste and toothbrushes to donate to Robina Hospital as well. We are always collecting new underwear, please contact me if you are able to add to your shopping and I will pick up. The high and unacceptable rate of violence toward women in our community makes this an ongoing project.



(pic) Angie McColl Coordinator Tweed Valley Sexual Assault Service and Zontian Merle Stephens.



(pic) April Boyd, Social Worker at GCUH receives donation from Zontian Kaye Lollback

April reports that the ladies often leave the hospital with their belongings in a plastic bag so we will now also donate the hessian bags seen in the photo.

Congratulations to Rosie Batty who over the past year has tirelessly spoken about family violence. Rosie continued with her campaign despite being overwhelmed by “raw grief”. Rosie admits that it will take decades to change society; however her contribution to changing the culture of domestic violence will have an impact if we all make a conscious decision to not let violence persist. Awareness must be foremost, we have come far but in some

ways it still seems like inches not miles. Already the deaths of women are matching the weeks of the year. The epidemic continues with more women and children seeking assistance every day.

Rosie’s tenure as **Australian of the Year** has come to an end and the baton has been handed over to David Morrison how vows to continue Rosie Batty’s work.

David Morrison is a former Army Lieutenant-General of 37years has committed himself to gender equality, diversity and inclusion. He is now Diversity Council of Australia Chairman. I wonder if that title will change to chairperson? Changing the gender pay gap. Yes please. Why does that even exist? Women on the whole are paid 17.8% less than men in the professions. It is time to value female input surely. Let’s see what will change by this time next year.

Someone on the frontline of mindless violence would have to be Professor Gordian Fulde, Director of Emergency at St Vincent Hospital also Sydney Hospital for 30 years. Congratulations on Senior Australian of the Year. He has always outspoken about the dangers of alcohol-fuelled violence and methamphetamines. He sends a great message “In Australia we really do look after our mates and each other. We really do not need to be drunk and ugly or out of it to enjoy this fantastic country Australia. Looking after each other, it’s not that hard...just do it!

How good is The Young Australians of the Year? Two young men who help the homeless to have clean clothes? Congratulations to mates Nic Marchesi and Lucas Patchett of Brisbane **Orange Sky Laundry** an old van fitted out as a free mobile laundry.

As Rosie advised Mr Morrison: “be bold, brave and go hard” In 2016 we can do the same.

So with all the awareness of the past 12 months how is it then possible for a service which has for many years provided the very services that we know are needed can have its funding cut? Sign the petition the link is on our [facebook page](#).

Our next dinner meeting will be February 15th. They are held in the Secret Garden Room at South Tweed Sports Club. We will be welcoming Judith Trevan-Hawke, District Governor Zonta International District 22. This will be a perfect time to find out more about Zonta.



This photo is of Kaye presenting cheque to Tweed Shire Women's Service Tracy Ashby, in 2011.

An invitation from Zonta Club of Southern Gold Coast Tweed Inc

Courage

Conviction

Commitment

What is Zonta?

It is an international service organisation whose main focus is women. Our international projects support women and girls in developing countries and locally.



Why should you join Zonta?

Zonta offer you opportunities to:

- meet with other professional women to share knowledge, skills, advice and experience*
- promote human rights both globally and locally*
- develop network and leadership capabilities*
- contribute to international understanding and projects through a worldwide network.*

Which Club?

Zonta Club of Southern Gold Coast Tweed Inc is one of a number of clubs in the Gold Coast and Brisbane areas. We meet for dinner on the third Monday of each month at the South Tweed Sports Club, Secret Garden Room.

Recent projects supported by our club are:

- Zonta Says No Campaign*
- Birthing Kits for developing countries*
- Breast cushions for local Gold Coast & Tweed hospitals*
- Care packages for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault*

Please visit us for a dinner meeting.

Enquiries: call Kaye. 0423433813.

Susie. 0412833835.

Merle. 55980409

Website: zontadistrict22.org

Facebook: Zonta Club Southern Gold Coast/Tweed

Email:

southerngoldcoasttweed@zontadistrict22.org