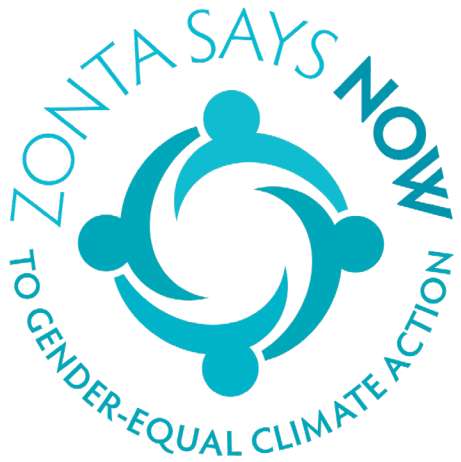




ZONTA  
INTERNATIONAL  
AUSTRALIA



Racing into the new biennium

# Australian Think Tank

Saturday 17 August 2024



# Housekeeping



Use the chat line to ask questions and make comments

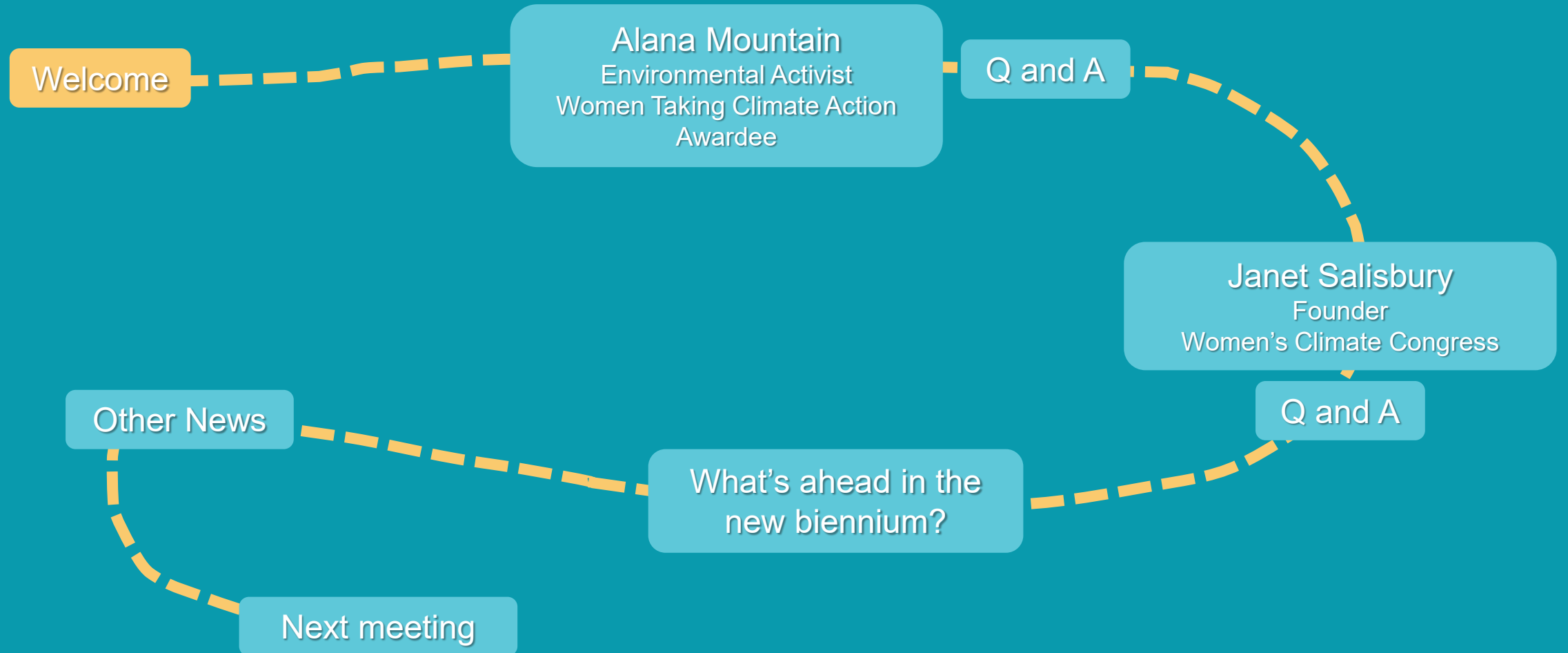
Use welcoming and inclusive language

Please keep your microphone on mute

Ask short, succinct questions



# Today's Journey





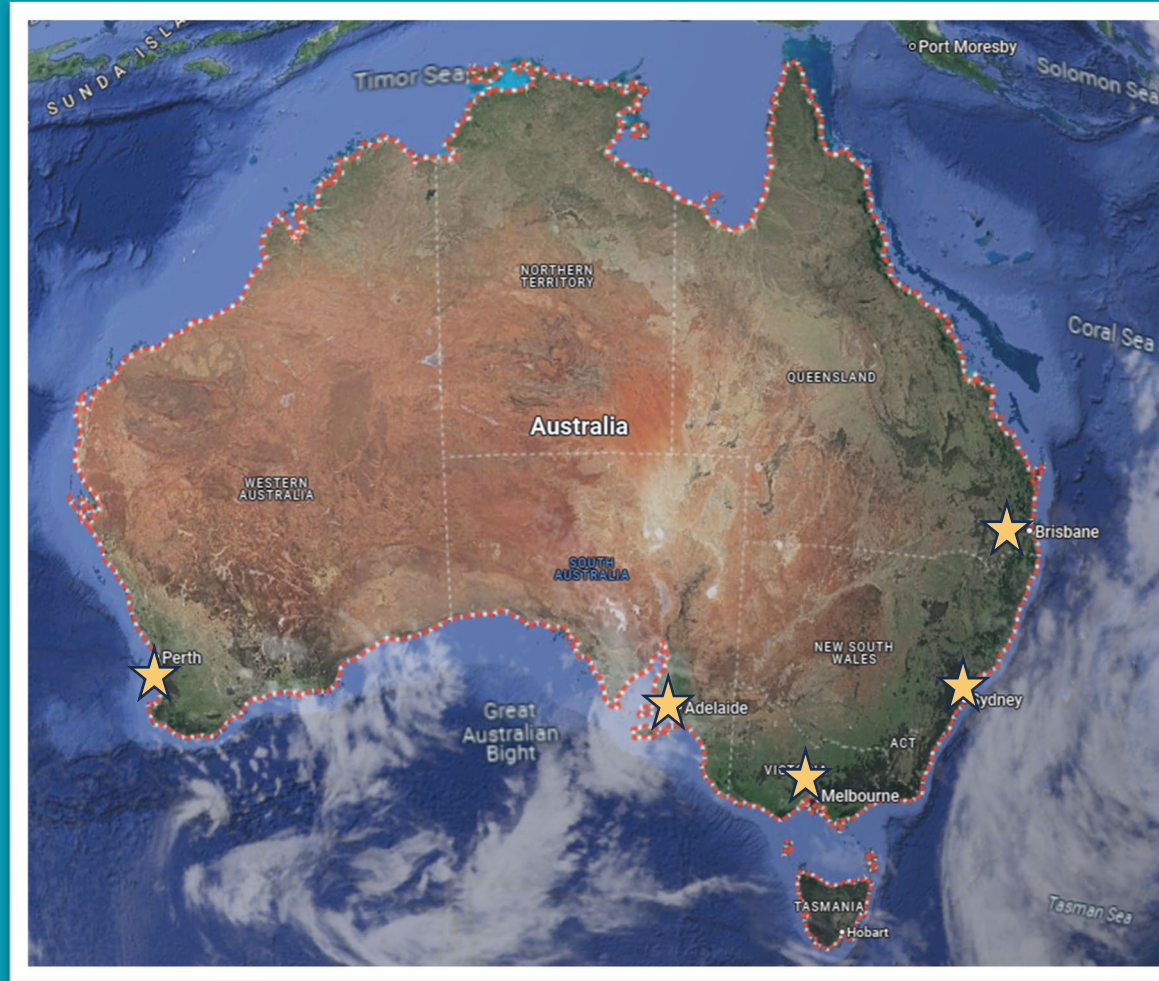
# Today's Presentation Team



Carole Theobald  
ZC Perth  
Western Australia



Christine Trenorden  
ZC Fleurieu Peninsula  
South Australia



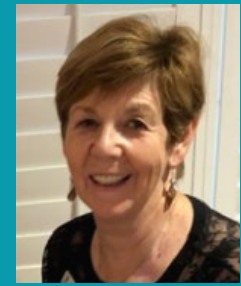
Sandra McLean  
ZC Brisbane  
Queensland



Sharyl Scott  
ZC MacArthur  
New South Wales



Sue Lees and Sandra Burns  
ZC Melbourne-on-Yarra  
Victoria, Australia





# Welcome

*We acknowledge the traditional owners of the lands in all the places we meet from today - and pay our respects to their elders, past, present and emerging.*

## Australia today

Impacts of climate change are destroying Saibai and Boigu islands.

*We have to hunt further and further. We cannot garden anymore. Our resting places of our loved ones are washing out.*

*There is catastrophe on the islands. Scientists are saying that it could be around 2038 – these two islands will be underwater.*



Dr Aunty McRose  
Climate Justice Advocate  
Torres Strait Islands

Dr Aunty McRose Elu delivering an address at the Climate Integrity Summit 2024

Photo from; <https://australiainstitute.org.au/post/climate-change-action-from-the-top-western-torres-strait-dr-aunty-mcrose-elu/>

Class Action: Uncle Pabai and Uncle Paul argue that the Australian Government’s failure to cut greenhouse gas emissions is causing lasting harm to their communities.

Read more about this ‘duty of care’ case at: <https://australianclimatecase.org.au/the-case/>



# Why does Zonta Say NOW?

Increased carbon pollution

Cause global heating and extreme weather events

Trigger social disruption

Magnify gender inequality

ZONTA SAYS NOW  
TO GENDER-EQUAL CLIMATE ACTION



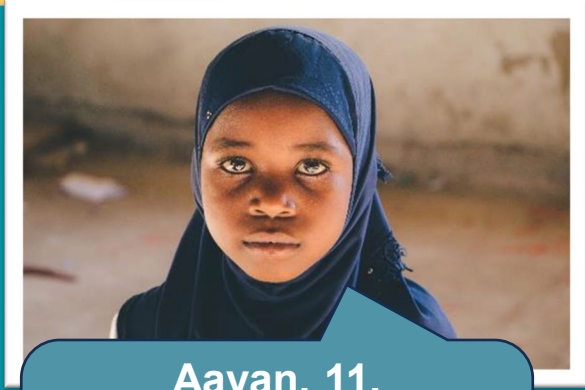
Stops the train by taking **climate action** and closing the gender gaps in **leadership, education, economic opportunity, health, and safety.**



# Life for women and girls at the end of the train



**Dabor, 9, Sudan**  
Drought means no time for school.



**Aayan, 11, Mozambique**  
Floods led to child marriage.



**Judith, 42 and Clare 7, Canada**  
Wildfire smoke triggered Clare's asthma. Judith may lose her casual job as she cares for Clare.



**Maria, 79, Australia**  
Her heart condition is exacerbated in extreme heat and she cannot afford air conditioning.



**Yvonne, 72, Australia**  
Bushfires destroyed her home – no insurance, few savings... in temporary accommodation for years.



# The Statistics

**1°C** rise in average temperature associated with

**6%** rise in violence against women



**10%** increase or decrease in average rainfall associated with

**1%** rise in child marriage –  
when crops fail, families sell their daughters into marriage



**36.2 million** climate refugees in 2022, and this could rise to

**1.2 billion** by 2050



**1 in 5** women who are refugees or who have been displaced because of a natural disaster has experienced sexual violence





# Our Purpose

**Zonta Says NOW  
seeks climate justice  
for women and girls**

So women and girls can  
**prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from**  
the impacts of climate change on the same basis as men.



# Zonta's International Service Projects for 2024-2026

Zonta.org



UNFPA

## Ending Child Marriage

US\$1.5 M

12 countries:

Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Mozambique, Nepal, Niger, Sierra Leone, Uganda, Yemen, Zambia



UNFPA

## Climate Empower

US\$1M

Prevent climate-induced gender-based violence.

Madagascar, Mozambique, South Sudan



UNICEF

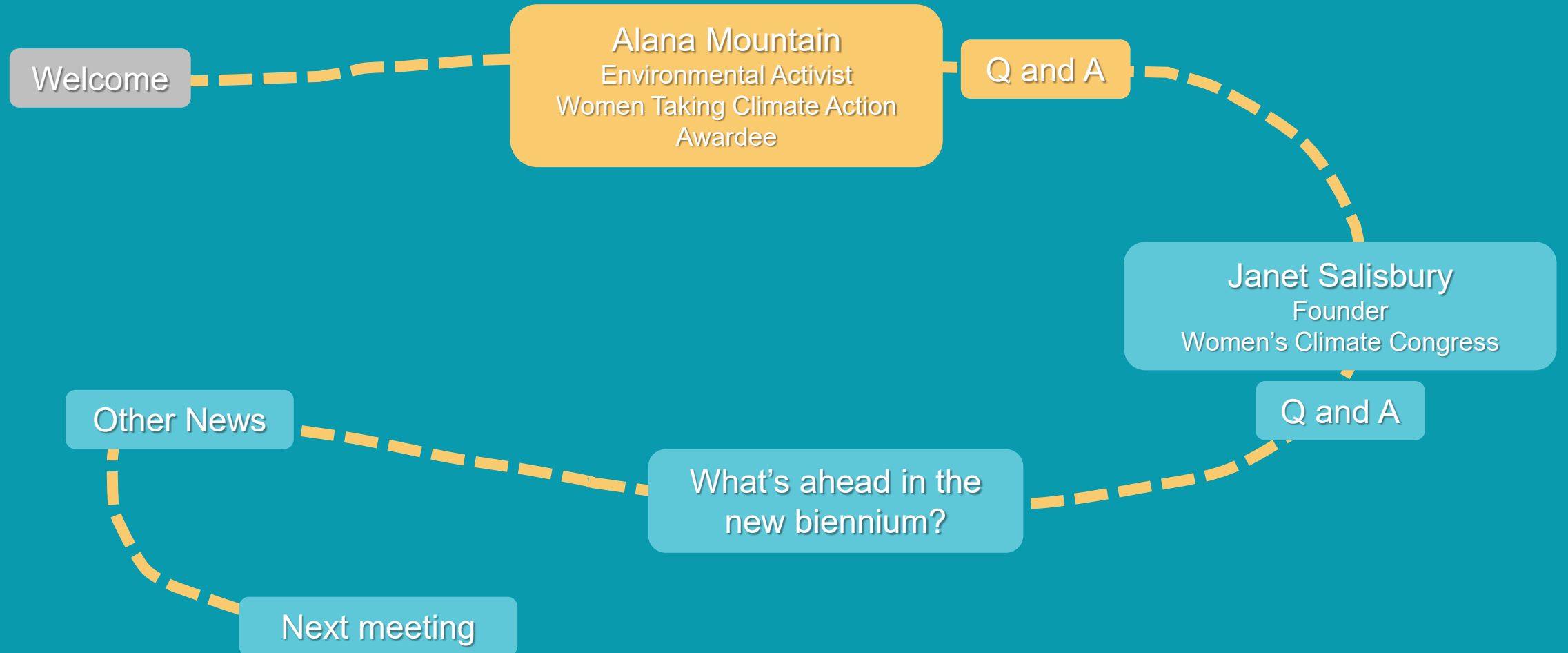
## Laaha

US\$0.75M

Extending to 12 countries, this virtual safe space where women and girls learn about gender-based violence and sexual and reproductive health.



# Today's Journey



# Alana Mountain

Forest Campaigner  
and Activist

## End of native logging in Victoria 'a monumental win for forests', say conservationists

The shutting down of the industry six years earlier than scheduled comes after decades of conflict



The Victorian government says bushfires, legal action and court decisions have brought about an end to logging in the state's native forests. Photograph: Rachel Mounsey/The Guardian

Introduced by Sue Lees,  
ZC Melbourne on Yarra, Victoria

- Dedicated activist for over 10 years
- Member of Wildlife of the Central Highlands
  - Surveys critically endangered species
- Forest campaigner with
  - Friends of the Earth
  - Victorian Forest Alliance
  - Forest Conservation Victoria
- Women Taking Climate Action Awardee 2023



Worked on the front line to save these old-growth forests  
– and succeeded in changing the law!



Presentation by Alana Mountain



# Q and A

- **What would you like to know more about?**
- **What are your main take-home messages?**



# District 23 Women Taking Climate Action Award

Zonta Says NOW to

## WOMEN TAKING CLIMATE ACTION

*an acknowledgement award*

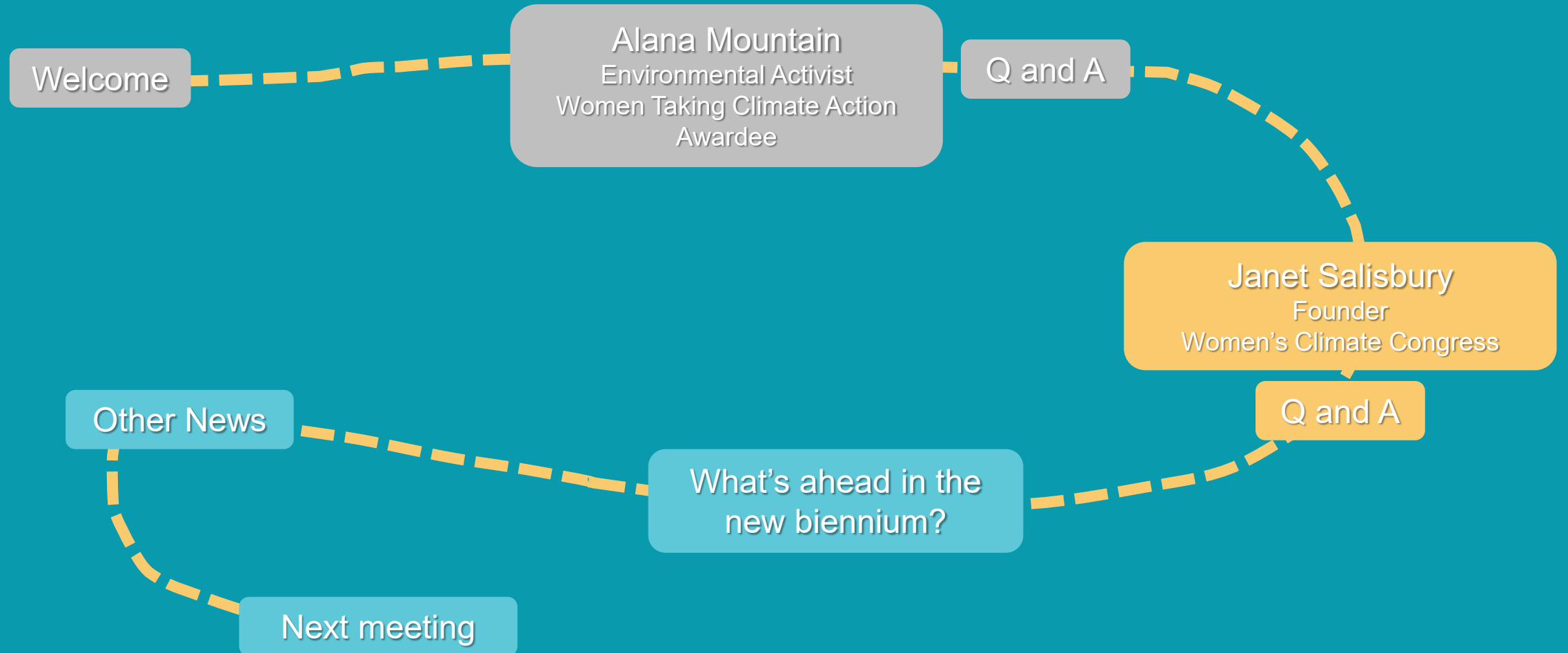


Entries open  
1 September to 21 October  
Download form from:  
[zontadistrict23.org](http://zontadistrict23.org) or  
[zontasaysnow.org.au](http://zontasaysnow.org.au)

- \$1,000 Award
- Recognises climate change action that
  - Engages with women
  - Contributes to the global efforts towards climate change innovation.
- Who can apply
  - Identify as a woman
  - Be a resident of District 23
    - Vic, Tas, SA, NT, WA
- Activities/achievements in climate change
  - Mitigation
  - Adaptation
  - Communication, advocacy, or service



# Today's Journey



# Dr Janet Salisbury

Founder

Women's Climate Congress



Introduced by Sharyl Scott,  
ZC MacArthur, New South Wales

- Cancer researcher, science writer and editor
- Founded Women's Climate Congress in 2020 in response to the Black Summer fires
- WCC is a national movement, promoting women's leadership for united, nonpartisan action on climate change
- Finalist, Women's Agenda Women in Leadership Awards 2021



Engaged with thousands of women to produce the Charter for Change



A call to climate action  
**Charter for change**

womensclimatecongress.com | Version 1 | November 2022



Presentation by Dr Janet Salisbury

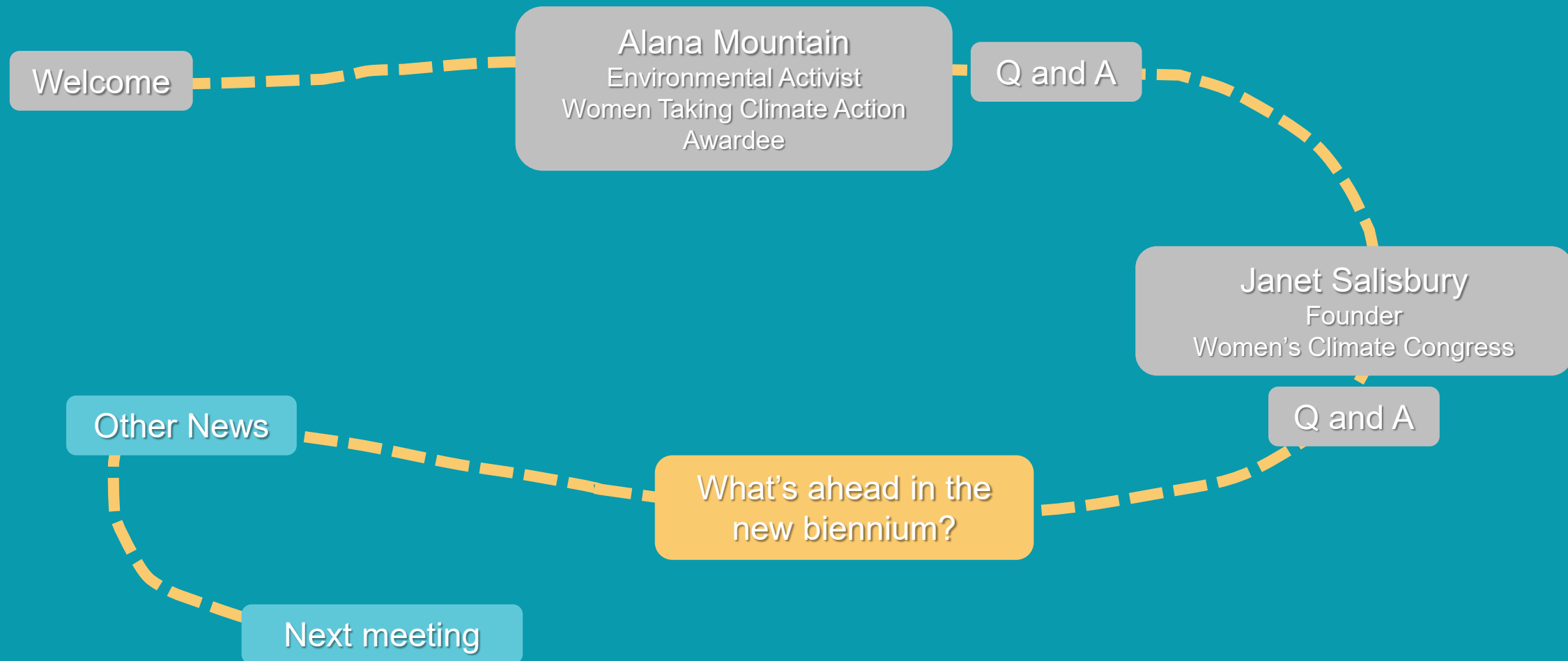



# Q and A

- **What would you like to know more about?**
- **What are your main take-home messages?**



# Today's Journey





# What's ahead in 2024-2026?



Please put any questions  
in the chat line...

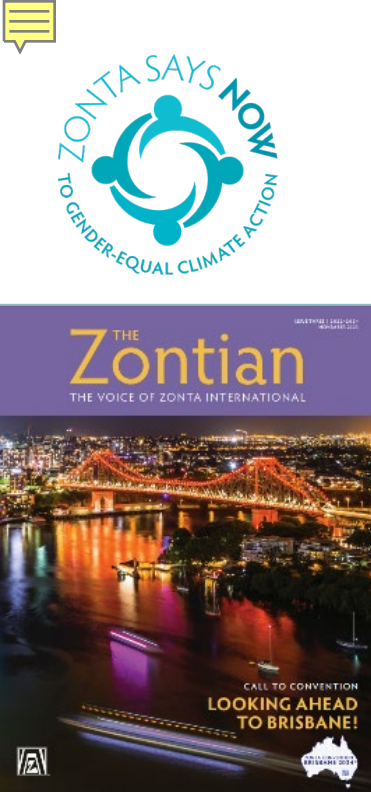


# Strategic Plan



Zonta Says NOW is the campaign for climate justice

Zonta will fully embrace climate justice as an area of focus, and we will further develop Zonta Says NOW as the campaign for our activities to address climate justice at local, national and international levels.



# ACHIEVING CLIMATE JUSTICE

## A Message from the Zonta Says NOW Working Group

Around the globe, women and girls are facing challenges within their everyday lives due to the climate crisis.

- In Mozambique, Aayan, age 11, is frightened she will be forced into marriage. Her family lost everything in floods, leaving them destitute and unable to feed her.
- In Australia, Maria, age 79, walks to the local library to find relief from extreme heat as she cannot afford to effectively cool her apartment. She has a heart condition and is worried about how she will financially, physically and mentally survive the summer.
- In Nigeria, Ralia, age 33, saw her entire market wash away in floods – taking away her livelihood and she is worried how she will feed her children.
- In Canada, Judith, age 42, has a daughter with severe asthma that is made worse by the wild weather. Judith is worried she may lose her home and must stay home to care for her child.
- In Sudan, Dabor, age 15, has to walk to school every day.

## WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE?

**Climate Change:** The long-term changes in the Earth's climate that are warming the atmosphere, ocean and land.

**Climate Crisis:** The serious problems that are being caused, or are likely to be caused, by changes in the planet's climate, including weather extremes and natural disasters, ocean acidification and sea-level rise, loss of biodiversity, food and water insecurity, health risks, economic disruption, displacement and even violent conflict.

**Climate Justice:** Putting gender equity and human rights at the core of decision-making and action on climate change as women and children are often more vulnerable in natural disasters. This is Zonta's focus on climate-related topics.

**Climate Action:** Actions we all should take to address climate change, climate crisis and climate justice.  
Source: UNDP

## Changing Climate and the Gender Gap

Our changing climate is widening the gender gap. Extreme heat, drought, fires, storms and floods cause immense social disruption, with millions losing their homes and livelihoods, and, in turn, magnify any existing disparities, including gender inequality.

Globally, women have less access to resources and opportunities than men, due to social norms and caring responsibilities. This makes them more vulnerable to the impacts of the climate crisis and more likely to be injured or killed during an extreme weather event. And, due to systemic gender inequality, women will find it harder to rebuild their lives after a disaster. The social upheaval caused by disasters increases women and

**Climate Justice:** Putting gender equity and human rights at the core of decision-making and action on climate change

## The climate crisis is a human rights crisis — and a women's rights crisis.

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, at CSW 66, 2022.

girls' risk of child marriage, forced prostitution, abuse, assault and human trafficking and also disrupts access to employment, education and health.

Yet women are key to resolving the climate crisis. Countries with more women in parliament often have more stringent climate policies and lower carbon emissions. When more women are on corporate boards, there is better transparency around carbon emission data. If women globally had the same legal rights as men, they could own and improve land (and feed 150 million more people), increase food security and start businesses to support their families. If girls had 12 years of education, they would have more choices, fewer children and more skills to build resilient communities than girls without education. Strengthening access to sexual and reproductive health gives women more options and opportunities, enabling their families and communities to survive better during and after a disaster.

## Closing the Gap with Zonta

The Zonta Says NOW Working Group's task is to implement the recommendations in *Zonta International's Statement on Climate Change* by closing the gender gaps in education, economic opportunity, disaster response, STEM, health and leadership to achieve climate justice.

To keep Zontans, their families and communities safe during the immediate disaster and their aftermath, we are coming up with practical steps to take. We are developing "action" emergency response packages that would help women and girls survive and



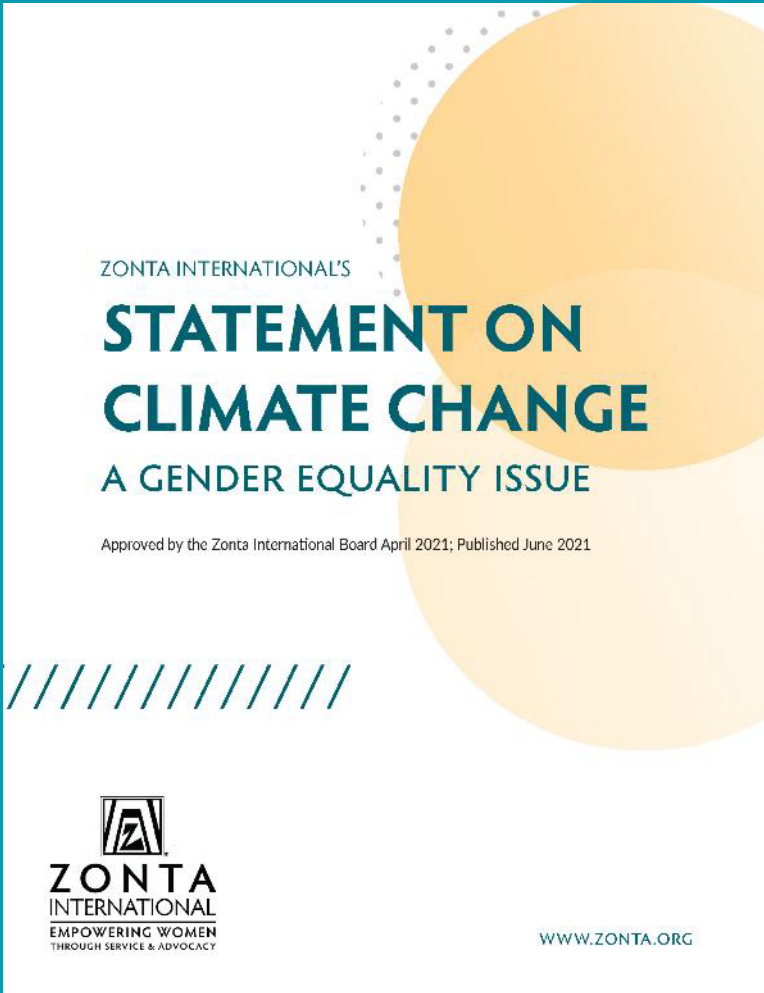
*"When I visited our Ending Child Marriage project in Mozambique this year, I found that in every village, the local authorities said the biggest driver for child marriage was the changing climate. Homes that were hit by cyclones were destroyed and families did not have the means to rebuild them. To get the necessary money, families gave their adolescent daughters away to be married. We must take action to achieve climate justice, so no adolescents are forced to marry as a means to survive climate-related disasters."* —President Ute Scholz.

The climate crisis is a gender equality crisis in which women are disproportionately affected. Through Zonta Says NOW, you can be part of the solution to build a better world for women and girls. To find out more

**Working Group:** implements the recommendations in the Statement on Climate Change.



# Statement on Climate Change



## Calls on governments to

Meet obligations under **Paris Climate Agreement**

**Educate** girls and include STEM and climate change

Involve more women in **decision-making** processes

Enable women's full **participation in the economy**

Include women in **disaster preparedness planning** that includes women's health and safety needs

## Calls on members to

Increase **awareness** and raise awareness locally

Promote girls' **education**, climate literacy, women in STEM

Support women's inclusion in national and local **decision-making** on environmental sustainability.

Advocate for national policies that ensure women's full and equal **participation in the economy.**

Include **gendered climate change advocacy** actions



# Our Toolkit



zonta.org & zontasaysnow.org.au



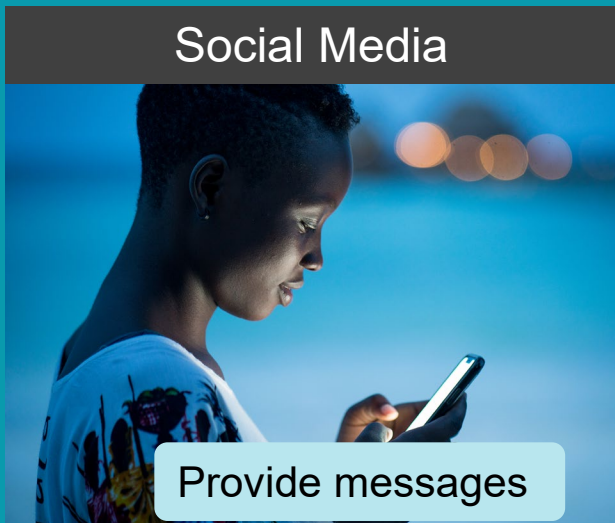
Intercontinental, Australia, USA, etc



Action Guides to advocate for women's

- Full and equal economic opportunity
- Inclusion in decision-making on environmental sustainability

Plus 'how to' leaflets as required...to guide national groups, districts, clubs



Provide messages



Earth Day annual launch



# Zonta Says NOW Activities 2024-2026

## Zonta Says NOW Think Tanks

Forum for *members and guests* to **learn** about gender-equal climate justice issues, share ideas, and inspire action by advocacy teams at all levels of Zonta. Subscribe to mailing lists at [zontasaysnow.org.au](http://zontasaysnow.org.au)

## Intercontinental Think Tank

- Two-monthly (odd months)
  - Second Sunday
- Rotating times:
  - North / South America [Sept & March 6pm UTC]
  - Europe / Africa [Nov & May 10am UTC]
  - Asia / Oceania [Jan & July 3am UTC]

## Australian Think Tank

- Two-monthly (even months)
  - Aug, Oct, Dec, Feb, Apr, Jun
  - Second Saturday 1pm WA

## Advocacy Teams

- Clubs
- Areas
- Districts
- National Groups
- International
  - United Nations
  - Council of Europe
  - African Union
  - UN Environment Program
  - CSW

## Events / Resources

Develop resources around:

- Economic opportunity
- Decision-making

**IWD/Rose Day**  
(8 March)

**CSW 69**  
(10-21 March)  
In person event

**Earth Day**  
(22 April)  
Virtual Art Gallery

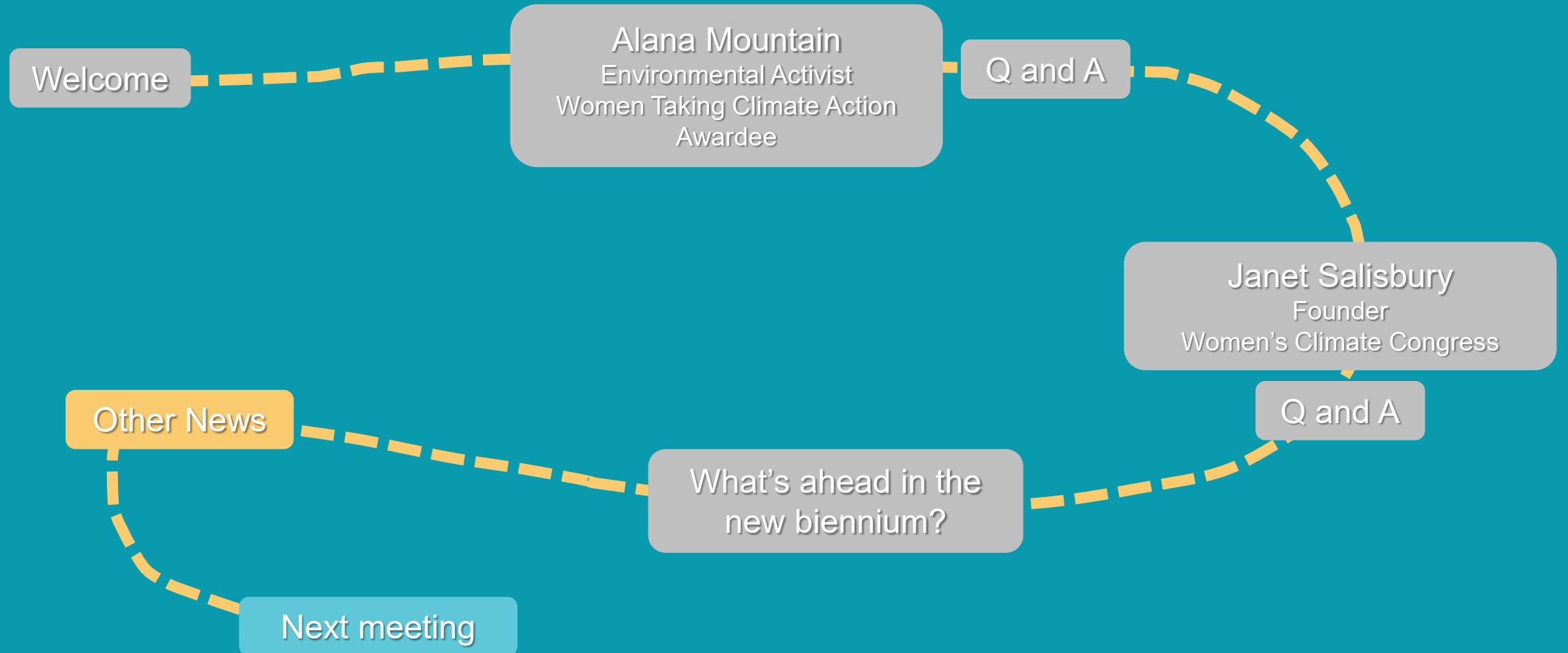
**Girl Child**  
(10 October)

**16 Days**  
(25 Nov- 10 Dec)

Social Media to support Zonta Says NO



# Today's Journey





New York, 2024

# Summit of the Future

20-21 September – Action Days  
22-23 September – Summit

“ We can't **build a future** for our grandchildren with a system built for our grandparents.”

ANTÓNIO GUTERRES, United Nations Secretary-General



**Aim:**  
Turbocharge the Sustainable Development Goals



**Pact for the Future**  
*Action-oriented, endorsed by Heads of Governments*

- Sustainable development and financing for development
- International peace and security
- Science, technology and innovation and digital cooperation
- Youth and future generations
- Transforming global governance

*All chapters include human rights, gender and sustainable development*

Declaration on Future Generations

Global Digital Compact



# Duty of Care Bill

JUNE 27, 2024

Senate committee misses historic opportunity to enshrine climate justice for children in law

Environmental Defender's Office

The Senate

Environment and Communications Legislation Committee

Climate Change Amendment (Duty of Care and Intergenerational Climate Equity) Bill 2023

## Recommendation 1

2.135 The committee recommends that the bill **not be passed**.

2.136 While the committee is of the view that the bill would not achieve its stated aim, the committee considers that policy development and assessment processes may **benefit from a more explicit emphasis on the implications of decisions for children and future generations**.

## Recommendation 2

2.137 The committee recommends that the Australian Government consider the **utilisation of the Australian Human Rights Commission's Child Rights Impact Assessment Tool** to assist in policy development and decision making



# News

“The lives of children are being shortened and altered by the climate crisis”

“We must quit coal, oil and gas”

8.8.24 [Climate Council](#)

RESOURCES / MEDIA RELEASES  
**LIKE A BROKEN RECORD: SCIENTISTS LAMENT HIGHEST OCEAN TEMP IN 400 YEARS ON GREAT BARRIER REEF**

13.8.24 [The Guardian](#)

**Heat aggravated by carbon pollution killed 50,000 in Europe last year - study**

14.8.24 [Yahoo News](#)

**'Damaging' trend that's ruining summers for Aussie children**  
Learning, play and sleep are all being impacted by an increasing number of heatwaves.

5.8.24 [ABC News](#)

**WA Premier says he's hopeful Woodside's Browse gas project is still viable, despite regulator's environmental concerns**



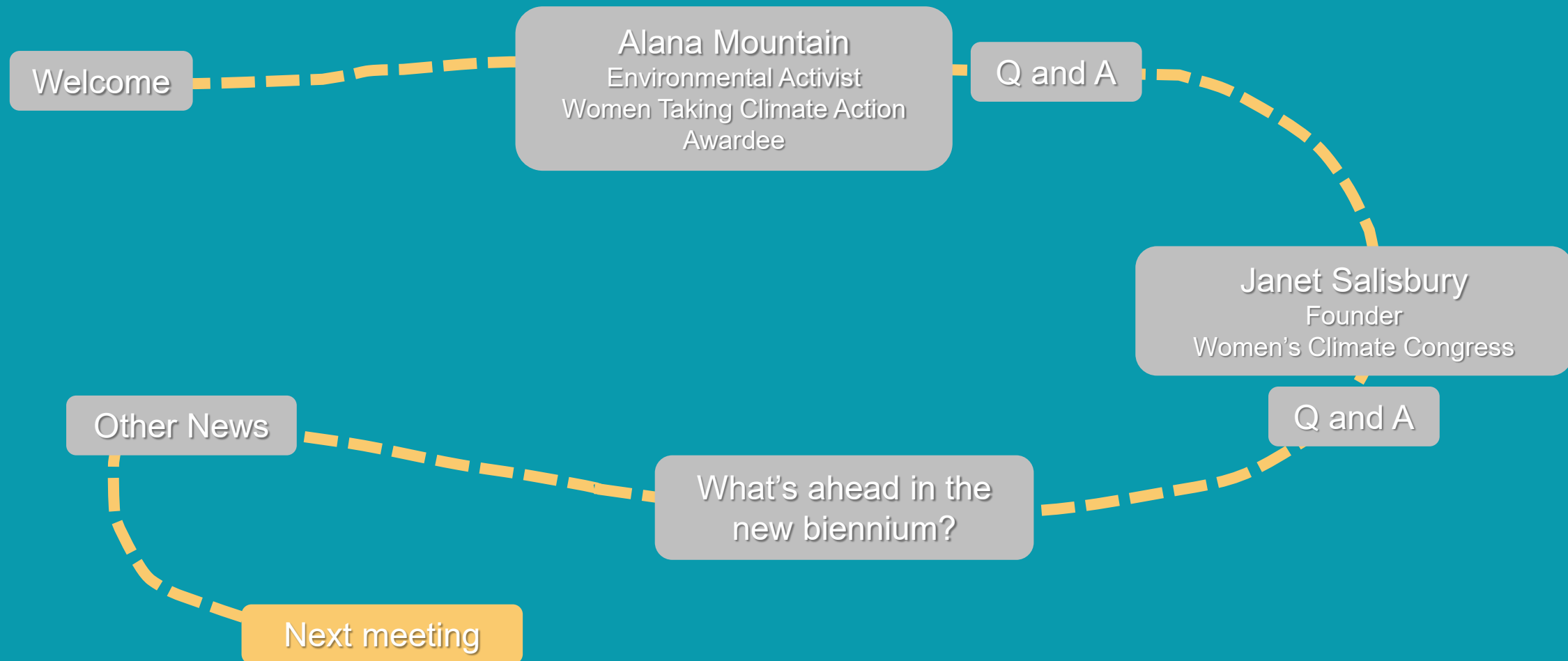
[A Threat to Progress 2307.pdf \(unicef.org\)](#)



[Fossil Fuels Health Hazard final .pdf \(nationbuilder.com\)](#) 14.8.24

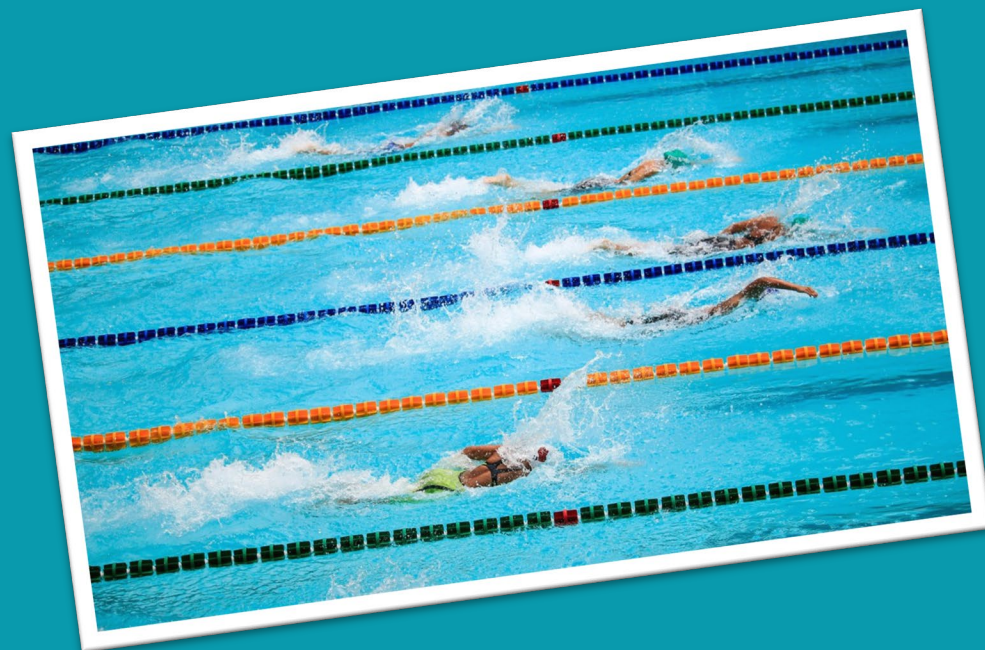


# Today's Journey





# Next Meeting



We hope to have Anjali Sharma as our guest speaker - fingers crossed!



**Australian  
Think Tank**

## Saturday 12 October

- 1 pm to 2.30 pm WA
- 3.30 pm to 5 pm SA
- 4 pm to 5.30 pm Victoria, Tasmania, NSW, Qld

Register at:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0pcuGqrD0tHtWsYOZ1IxsCaWi\\_LnFaLjS6](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0pcuGqrD0tHtWsYOZ1IxsCaWi_LnFaLjS6)



ZONTA  
INTERNATIONAL  
AUSTRALIA



Racing into the new biennium

# Thank you

[zonta.org/zontasaysnow](http://zonta.org/zontasaysnow)

[zontasaysnow.org.au](http://zontasaysnow.org.au)

[info@zontasaysnow.org.au](mailto:info@zontasaysnow.org.au)