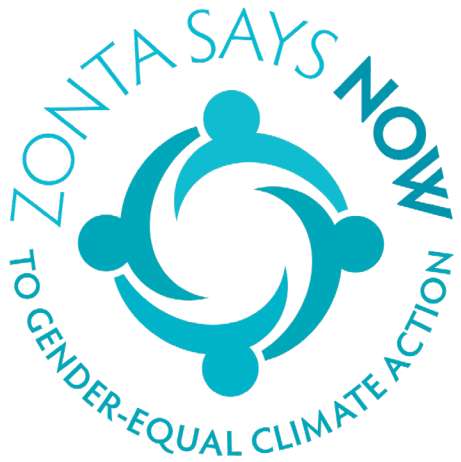




ZONTA
INTERNATIONAL
AUSTRALIA



Standing up for climate justice

Australian Think Tank

Saturday 13 December 2025



Today's Journey





Housekeeping



Use the chat line to say hi and where you are calling from today

Use welcoming and inclusive language

Please keep your microphone on mute

Ask short, succinct questions



**United
Nations**

**Human Rights Day
10 December**

Photography 4 Humanity

Photography 4 Humanity calls on photographers around the world to **bring to life the power of human rights** through their images.

Highlighting the most compelling human rights imagery - illustrating **courage, despair, hope, injustice, and compassion** in ways small and large - the photos serve to inspire people to get involved and take a stand for human rights.

See the full exhibition at:

<https://www.un.org/en/exhibits/exhibit/photography4humanity2025>



WINNER: In Jharia's Fire, Both Earth and Mothers Weep. India, 2025. Photo/Sourav Das





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.



- Congratulations to Maisie Harkin as she receives a birth certificate at the age of 88
- Maisie was born 'on country', in the WA Goldfields.
- She was taken to a mission when she was 2.
- Her identity was confirmed through anthropological records.

I'm somebody now



POLL 1

How many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people do you know socially?

1. None
2. Less than 5
3. 5-10
4. More than 10

POLL 1 - Results

How many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people do you know socially?

1. How many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people do you know socially? (Single choice)

14/14 (100%) answered · 0 skipped

More than 10



5-10



Less than 5



None





POLL 2

How many Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander people have you spoken to in the last week?

1. None
2. Less than 5
3. 5-10
4. More than 10



POLL 2 - Results

How many Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander people have you spoken to in the last week?

1. 2. How many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have you spoken to in the last week? (Single choice)

14/14 (100%) answered · 0 skipped





Today's Journey



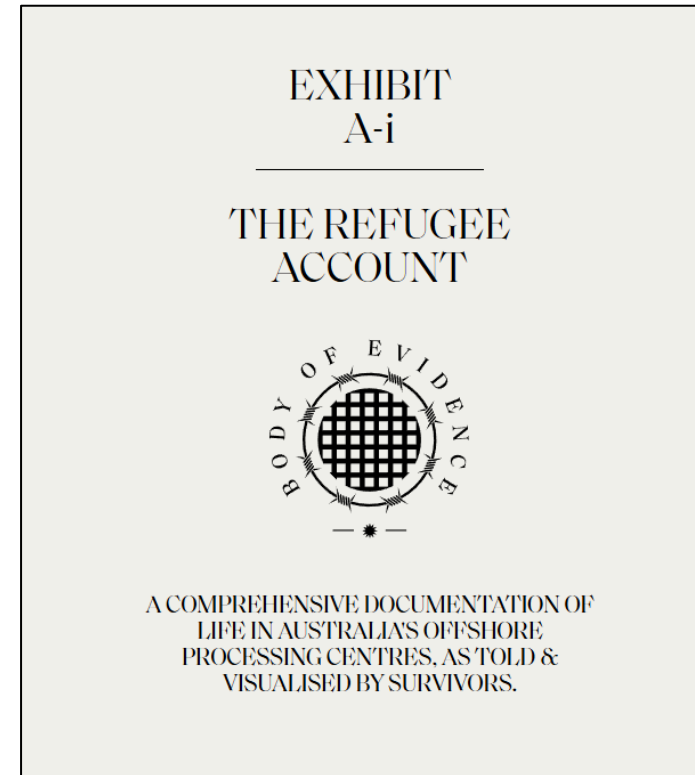
Nicki Lees



*Special Counsel,
Maurice Blackburn's
Social Justice Practice*

All people should be equally protected by the law and respected within society regardless of nationality, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation or other status.

- Trained in Melbourne and Geneva
- Joined Maurice Blackburn in 2011
- Passionate about defending people's rights
- Ran and led strategic public interest litigation
 - Asylum seekers
 - First Nations community
- Used AI technology to turn witness statements into images
 - [Exhibit A-i](#)



Nicki Lees



*Special Counsel,
Maurice Blackburn's
Social Justice Practice*

Nicki's
presentation

Nicki Lees



*Special Counsel,
Maurice Blackburn's
Social Justice Practice*

Questions



Today's Journey





Aboriginal women are often the ones leading the fight for 'protecting country.'

DISCUSSION

How can we as individuals and in our clubs support Indigenous women?

- Local advocacy
- Everyday actions
- Zonta leadership



DISCUSSION

Aboriginal women are often the ones leading the fight for 'protecting country.'

How can we as individuals and in our clubs support Indigenous women?

- Local advocacy
- Everyday actions
- Zonta leadership

10 minutes discussion



Feedback



Today's Journey





International News

Think Tanks



Intercontinental Think Tank UPDATE

In this October Zonta Says NOW Intercontinental Think Tank Update:

- [Looking forward to COP30](#)
- [Women rise in solidarity for COP30](#)
- [November Think Tank](#)
- [What else is in the news?](#)
- [Virtual Art Gallery](#)

Thank you to everyone who completed the August Update Feedback Survey. Most of you were happy with the length and content of the Update and would prefer to receive it every two months, alternating with the Intercontinental Think Tank. Therefore, the next Update will be in December 2025.

Looking forward to COP30



COP30, to be held from 6-21 November, at Belem in the heart of the Amazon, will be the 'implementation COP' as it will focus on people and delivery rather than promises and declarations. The Brazilian Presidency reminds us that climate action [begins and ends with people](#), and will spotlight collaboration and shared responsibility. Its guiding call, the [Mutirão](#), captures the spirit of collective effort, uniting governments, business, academia, social movements, and civil society to co-create real change.

<https://zontasaysnow.org.au/intercontinental-think-tank/>

Zonta Says NOW

HOW CAN CITIES LEAD A JUST AND CLIMATE-RESILIENT FUTURE?

Intercontinental Think Tank – Asia and Oceania



SPEAKER

Huey Yoong

Head of Implementation for East, SEA and Oceania (ESEAO) at C40 Cities



SPEAKER

Krista Milne

Director of Climate Change and City Resilience and co-Chief Heat Officer at the City of Melbourne



SUNDAY
11 JANUARY 2026
11:00AM HKT & AWST
3:00 AM UTC



Register on Zoom [HERE](#) or the QR code below

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



registration QR code

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





International News

Think Tanks



- Focus on Women and Sustainable Decision Making
- Friday 13 March (Australia time)
- NGO CSW70 / Think Tank event
- Beamed live from New York at 11.30 am AEDT

<https://zontasaysnow.org.au/intercontinental-think-tank/>

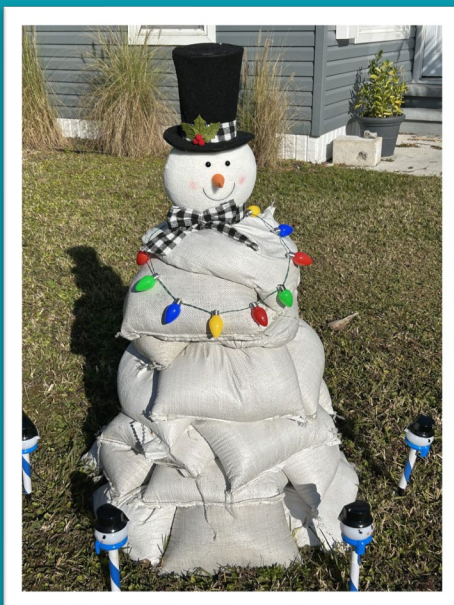


- 11 July Zonta Says NOW Walk
- Focus on Women and Sustainable Decision Making
- 11 July F2F Workshop
- 12 July Virtual Think Tank



Virtual Art Gallery

Entries now open for 2026
zontasaysnowvirtualartgallery.org



Climate change disproportionately impacts women and girls and has been described as a

Floridian
Snowperson

Liz Vitek, ZC
Kitchener Waterloo,
Canada



Today's Journey





Zonta Australia News



Gender and Climate Justice
Day
Tuesday 10 March
The Great Hall, UTS



CAWS Collaboration





Climate Action Week - continued



- Focus on Women and Sustainable Decision Making
- Friday 13 March (Australia time)
- NGO CSW70 / Think Tank event
- Beamed live from New York at 11.30 am AEDT

Include as a Climate Action Week Sydney virtual event



Zonta Australia Zonta Says NOW Think Tank NOVEMBER UPDATE

In this November **UPDATE**:

- [Adapting to Situations](#)
- [What Happened in Belem?](#)
- [Australia's Climate Action Week](#)
- [December Australian Think Tank](#)
- [The Economy We Could Have](#)
- [January Intercontinental Think Tank](#)
- [What Are Our Allies Up To?](#)

Adapting to Situations



As November draws to a close, Australia is navigating a complex moment in international climate diplomacy — and sometimes, taking a sideways step is exactly what helps us move forward.

Much like the clever crab in this month's photo, Australia has shifted direction by stepping back from co-hosting the *Pacific COP*. While many were disappointed to lose the chance to welcome a COP on home soil, this move has unblocked the process and allowed preparations for the 2026 climate summit to proceed. Australia will still [play a significant role](#), with Climate Minister Chris Bowen taking on responsibility for managing key negotiations.

Zonta Says NOW Australia

WHEN DISASTERS HIT, GENDER MATTERS

THINK TANK on Saturday 14 February

1.00-2.30pm WA | 2.30-4pm NT | 3pm-4.30pm Qld | 3.30- 5pm SA
4-5.30pm Vic, Tas, NSW, ACT | 6-7.30pm NZ

How can gender-smart disaster action shape stronger, more resilient communities?

Dr Margaret Moreton, CEO of Gender and Disaster Australia, brings decades of experience and a passion for reducing gendered harm before, during and after crises. She'll share clear, practical insights on strengthening resilience and preventing violence.

Don't miss this chance to learn how inclusive disaster practice can drive real, lasting change.

REGISTER HERE

BUILD A BETTER WORLD
FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS



zontasaysnow.org.au/think-tank

Odd-numbered months – Australian Update
Even-numbered months – Australian Think Tanks



Climate Action Awards – District 23

Zonta Says NOW

Women Taking Climate Action

District 23 & the Zonta Club of Melbourne on Yarra

Applications close Monday October 20

\$1000 AWARD

zontamelbourneonarra.org.au
info@zontamelbourneonarra.org.au

**WOMEN TAKING CLIMATE ACTION
AWARD WINNER 2025**

SALLY QUINN

GREEN CONNECT




- Sally Quinn
- Co-founder and CEO of Green Collect
- Last year saved
 - Over a million kg of CO2 emissions (1,000 cars)
 - Over 17 mill MJ of energy (the power of a suburb for a year)
 - 558,358 litres of water

Make the most of everything with Green Collect.

Goodbye unwanted items, hello sustainable purchasing.




Climate Action Awards – District 22




ZONTA
INTERNATIONAL
DISTRICT 22 LTD

**Women in Climate Action
Award 2026**



ZONTA SAYS NOW
TO GENDER-EQUAL CLIMATE ACTION



Award value: AUD \$10,000
Applications open: 1 January – Midnight AEST March 15 2026
Eligibility: Women residing in District 22 (Queensland and Northern Rivers NSW)

Projects or achievements may relate to:

- Emissions reduction or clean energy transitions
- Sustainable agriculture or industry
- Climate adaptation and resilience initiatives
- Community education, advocacy, or behaviour change
- Innovative technologies, systems, or partnerships addressing climate impacts.

<https://www.zontadistrict22.org/women-in-climate-action/>



Today's Journey





Australian Human Rights Awards 2025

2025 Australian Human Rights Awards



Australian Human Rights Awards 2025



Fri, 12 Dec, 5:30pm - 9:30pm AEDT

[Add to calendar](#)



Great Hall, UTS Tower
Ultimo NSW, Australia

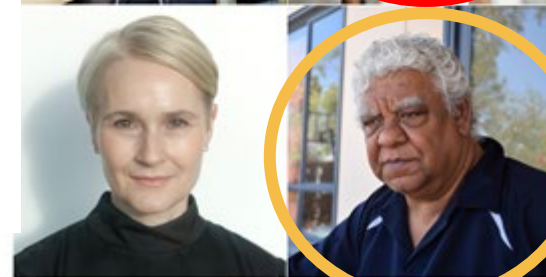
Winner:
William Tilmouth,
Founder of Children's Ground



Meet the finalists

Human Rights Medal

- Travis Lovett
- Anjali Sharma
- Michelle Telfer
- William Tilmouth





Surveys from our allies

Take 10 minutes to do the




SUMMER SURVEY

Click Here

Your voice can change the story



<https://swelteringcities.org/>



WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

1m SHARING

TAKE OUR SURVEY: How is climate change affecting you? Your voice is so powerful!

OUR ANNUAL SURVEY

We want to hear from you! Whatever your age, wherever you are in the world, your voice is so important in helping shape our work empowering women. Add your voice.

Take the survey today

[Survey link](#)

<https://www.1millionwomen.com.au/>



Australian Government Webinar

Australian Government | United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Stakeholder Engagement Hub

- Dr Sally Box, Australia's Head of Delegation to the UNFCCC
- Summary of the key negotiating and action agenda items

[Registration link](#)

UNFCCC Stakeholder Briefing Series

Post-COP30 (Monday 15 December)

15

Dec 2025

Post-COP30 (Monday 15 December)

From : Mon, 15 Dec 2025 10:00 AM

To : Mon, 15 Dec 2025 11:00 AM

At : Canberra, ACT



Summary of 2025

FEBRUARY 2025



Elections offer more than a sausage

Gender-Equal Climate
Justice in Australia

APRIL 2025



Heading into the unknown

Global pushback...

Women Shaping the
Future of Conservation
Assoc Prof Carly Cook

JUNE 2025



What to do when something is not fit for purpose

Generation Justice
Maya Farmer



Summary of 2025

AUGUST 2025



The power of purposeful collaboration

OCTOBER 2025



Exploring nature based solutions

DECEMBER 2025



Standing up for climate justice

W20/20 Vision

Fiona Dorman,

National Council of Women Australia

Climate Resilience

Powered by Nature

Charlotte Sterrett, World Wildlife Fund

Is the Climate Crisis a
Women's Rights Crisis?

*Nicki Lees, Special Counsel, Maurice
Blackburn's Social Justice Practice*



What to look forward to in 2026

JANUARY 2026

Zonta Says NOW

HOW CAN CITIES LEAD A JUST AND CLIMATE-RESILIENT FUTURE?

Intercontinental Think Tank - Asia and Oceania



SPEAKER

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BUILD A BETTER WORLD FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS



registration QR code



ZONTA INTERNATIONAL
BUILD A BETTER WORLD FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS

FEBRUARY 2026

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BUILD A BETTER WORLD FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS



Gender and Disaster Australia



zontasaysnow.org.au/think-tank

MARCH 2026

NGO CSW FORUM **70**

CLIMATE ACTION WEEK SYDNEY

9-15 MARCH 2026



What to look forward to in 2026

APRIL 2026



Australian Think Tank 11 April
Dr Elizabeth Kirkwood, University of Sydney
Energy Justice for Women

JULY 2026



11-14 July



Today's Journey





Next Meeting

Zonta Says NOW Australia

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FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS



zontasaysnow.org.au/think-tank



Australian Think Tank

Saturday 14 February

- 1 pm to 2.30 pm WA
- 2.30 pm to 4 pm NT
- 3 pm to 4.30 pm Qld
- 3.30 pm to 5 pm SA
- 4 pm to 5.30 pm Victoria, Tasmania, NSW, ACT
- 6 pm to 7.30 pm Wellington, NZ

Register at:

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAuceGo_rTwsHNwbeC-87NGX4Pnv85r5mwbF



**THANK YOU FOR MAKING ZONTA SAYS NOW
THRIVE IN 2025.**

**HERE'S TO CONTINUING OUR JOYFUL ADVENTURE
IN 2026.**

ENJOY YOUR HOLIDAYS!





ZONTA
INTERNATIONAL
AUSTRALIA



Standing up for climate justice

Thank you

zonta.org/zontasaysnow

zontasaysnow.org.au

info@zontasaysnow.org.au