ZONTA INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 23
EMPOWERING WOMEN THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY

ZONTA SAYS NOW

To gender equality and climate action

Think Tank Notes
October 2021



COP26 - here we come!

COP 26 is nearly here! The Zonta Says NOW October newsletter and meeting focussed on COP 26 - the most critical global conference for the future of humanity and biodiversity on the planet.

We were privileged to have Dr Diane Kraal from Monash University as our guest speaker. Dr Kraal has attended COP meetings in Poland and Spain and gave us a taste of what happens behind the scenes. She is currently working on projects to increase the uptake of electric vehicles (EVs) - and gave some insights into the complexities involved. Speeding up the switch to EVs is one of the goals of the COP 26 meeting.

Our other inspiring speakers were from within the Zonta fold. We learned so much from the climate journeys of Vicki Carman-Brown and Bronwen Haywood. Vicki talked about diving amongst giant kelp (that has now gone due to climate change), teaching students in the remotest parts of Australia, and her passion for gender-equal science discovery. Bronwen explained what started her emission reduction journey, how she got involved with her local climate action group and how that has led to shaping her local community climate action plans. She reminds us that, "Decisions are made by those who turn up!"

Special thanks go to Sheila Cook-Cohen from California and Angela Brokmann from Kentucky for joining us in the middle of the night their time. Sheila and Angela are very enthusiastic about gender equality and climate action and are from the newly-formed climate team of the Zonta USA Caucus. Sheila explained that the Caucus consists of the Advocacy Chairs from all USA Districts and outlined what they did. We can learn so much from each other, and we look forward to collaborating more.

With International Liaison Florence Fischer-Herber also joining us from Luxembourg, this was a truly global meeting.

We have uploaded the meeting notes to the Zonta Says NOW website. The first page contains a link to a video recording of the event - so you can be re-inspired or catch up on what you missed.

Be aware that taking action can help reduce climate anxiety - and there are many tips for climate action in the meeting notes. Also, look out for:

- COP26 - 31 October to 12 November - what will happen when?
- TED Countdown Summit - presentations from the recent four-day conference and link to a global live stream of findings on 30 October
- Climate Change Bill - Can Zali Steggall MP force a debate on the Climate Change Bill before the Prime Minister leaves for COP26?
- Sharma vs Minister for the Environment - Will the initial judgement survive appeal?

Please note the December meeting in your calendar today. We will send out the agenda nearer the date.

Saturday 4 December
1 pm - 2.30 pm WA
3.30 pm - 5 pm SA
4 pm - 5.30 pm Victoria, Tasmania
(6 am Luxembourg)

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83644782341

The next Zonta Says NOW News will also be published in December - where has this year gone?

Keep smiling and stay safe!

Kind regards

Carole
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Click here to access the Meeting Notes and video

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