ZONTA INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 23
EMPOWERING WOMEN THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY

ZONTA SAYS NOW

To gender equity and climate action

Zonta Says NOW News - December 2020



The Jacarandas are blooming, Christmas is near!

"When the bloom of the Jacaranda tree is here, Christmas time is near!" (from Christmas where the gum trees grow).

This year has been a roller coaster of sadness, disruption, and innovation. With over 66 million people infected with Covid-19 and one and a half million people losing their lives, this has been a year of suffering and grief for many around the world. In Australia, we have been luckier than most but the lockdowns disrupted our economy hitting the retail, hospitality, tourism and the arts hard. On the bright side, it has also been a time when governments worked collaboratively to handle the big issues and succeeded. We all discovered how adaptable we can be as we learned to innovate. Online technologies such as Zoom were being quickly embedded into our everyday home and working lives and working from home become the norm. Who would have thought it possible?

2020 has given us hope that we can respond to a big challenge - and there is none so big as climate change. So take heart this Christmas, knowing that the nation's thinking has shifted - we don't take things so much for granted and the appetite is there to collaborate and innovate. This is the time for ferocious optimism as we advocate for a more sustainable and just future for everyone.

This edition features ideas for a more environmentally-friendly holiday season, an update on the Climate Change Bill working its way through Parliament and feedback on some recent climate-related events. Please take some time out to relax and enjoy the jacarandas. Over summer, have a look through the books, videos and links showcased on the website and remember to share any good reads or films with us via email. We are always happy to hear what has touched, moved and inspired you!

We now have a Facebook page! Many thanks to Helene Jaccomard for setting that up for us - so please use it to share your news, views and ideas.

Thanks to everyone for their support of Zonta Says NOW - we have achieved a lot in a very short time and I have appreciated the input from so many members. Together we can and do make a difference to the lives of future generations.

As Mary Robinson said at the recent One Million Women Earth Love Festival...
Women globally have woken up!

Here's to a safe and happy 2021. Let's hope that our lockdowns will ease over the summer and that we can safely catch up with family and friends for Christmas.

Carole
Carole Theobald
District 23 Futurist/Leadership Coordinator

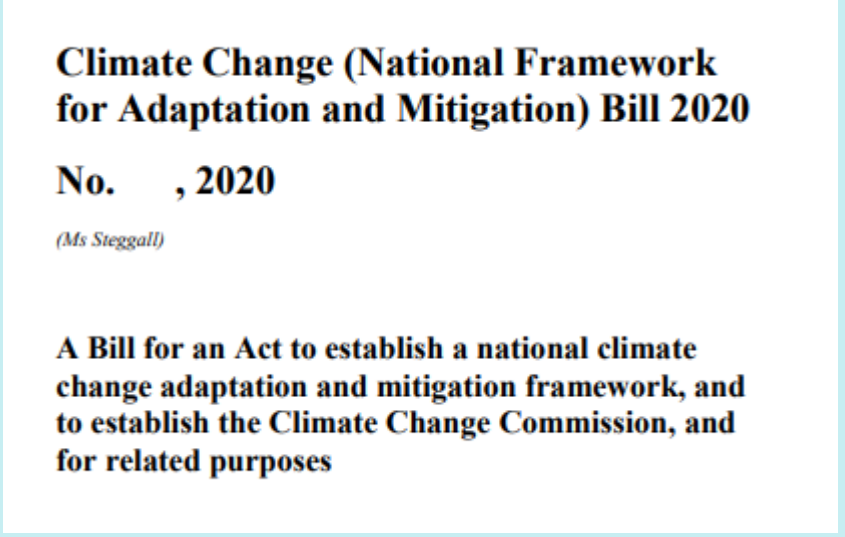


Oranges that activate

Zonta clubs are currently in the midst of the16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence that runs from 25 November to 10 December.

Clubs have been busy raising awareness with daily posts on websites and social media, wearing orange, participating in silent marches and arranging for landmarks to be bathed in orange light.

One environmentally friendly way to raise awareness is to display oranges on the desk and write NO! NO! NO! on them. They are sure to start a conversation, especially if teamed with a Zonta Says NO item.



Climate Change (National Framework for Adaptation and Mitigation) Bill 2020

No. , 2020

(Ms Steggall)

A Bill for an Act to establish a national climate change adaptation and mitigation framework, and to establish the Climate Change Commission, and for related purposes

Help the Climate Bill to work its way through Parliament

Did you know that Zali Steggall, the independent Federal Member for Warringah, has introduced a Climate Change Bill into Parliament? It is currently being reviewed by the House Standing Committee on the Environment and Energy. You can track its progress, access links to your local MP and get more information here.

The Bill proposes net-zero emissions by 2050, risk assessments and adaptation plans. It also proposes reviewing technologies to fast track emission reductions and establishing an independent Climate Change Commission.

The UK passed a similar Climate Act in 2008, and since this time emissions have decreased 43% and the economy has grown by 75%. UK politicians agreed that climate change was bigger than any one party, and now their only difference is on speed and scale of their climate response.

Do you know how your local members of Parliament will vote on this issue? Why not email them today?

Help the Climate Bill here



Love Earth 2020

The One Million Women Love Earth Festival was held on Zoom this year. Scanning through the hundreds of faces, I was pleased to see quite a few Zontians.

This was a marvellous event with attendees from around the world gathered electronically to hear climate champions such as Christiana Figueres, Mary Robinson, and Craig Reucassel. We also were moved by entertainers including Paul Kelly, Missy Higgins and Alice Skye.

The highlights are described on the website and include these wonderful words from Mary Robinson, the former President of Ireland:

Women globally have woken up to the fact that we have to be there at the table.

There has to be parity of decision making. We need women to be half of the cabinet, half of the board in business. We need women to be involved at every level – we need their voices.

Yes, I say to all women globally, this is our time, our century and we must step up and take that responsibility… We must walk tall, take our place and make it the century where women's leadership will lead us forward.

Highlights of Love Earth Festival



All I want for Christmas ... is a sustainable world :)

Zontians have been sharing their ideas about sustainable shopping.

Eloise suggests to think about:

- **Packaging** - select items with minimal or no plastic wrapping.
- **The longevity of the product** - avoid single-use products and also ask yourself, "Is this something low value and likely to be discarded or left unused within a year?"
- **Provenance/source of the product** - is it manufactured locally? If it is not something made by club members themselves, e.g. the Zonta Club of Central Goldfield's delicious shortbread, is there an opportunity to support some of the many social enterprises that support women or migrants such as SisterWorks?

Carole believes that the best presents are those that help women and girls. She gives donations in the recipient's name to the Zonta Foundation for Women's Endowment Fund and purchases tickets to Zonta Club events. She is also trying to wrap family presents this year using re-usable fabrics such as heirloom linen, tea towels, pillowcases, and ribbons.

Sandra and Sharon noted that One Million Women has just created a LoveEarth Marketplace where you can discover brands, organisations and community groups that are providing solutions to help us all live climate action in every aspect of our lives.

Val's family and friends have been telling her about Zeroco that reuses ocean waste products to make recycled plastic containers for re-fillable home cleaning and personal care products. They also found an app where you can track your carbon emissions, and that also offers ways to offset your carbon footprint. Aeriel works by scanning your inbox for flight itineraries, train tickets, and Uber and Lyft receipts, and calculates your carbon emissions based on that information. It then presents you with the option to offset that number by purchasing credits to save trees through one of the app's verified forest conversation partners.

What tips and products have caught your eye?

Donate to the Zonta Foundation for Women



TEDx Perth - Countdown WA Climate Leadership Summit

Western Australia has been in lockdown for many months and with no community spread of Covid-19, this TEDx event was held face-to-face with around 250 attendees, plus volunteers and speakers.

These are some of the highlights to look out for on TED in coming weeks:

- Jeff Hansen the Managing Director of Sea Shepherd Australia, described a 10,000 mile, 110-day chase across the oceans to successfully track down the Thunder - the world's most notorious poaching vessel.
- Brendan Hammond told us about the Asian Renewable Energy Hub planned for the Pilbara Region of WA - 6,500 square kilometres of solar and wind generation. This is renewable energy on an oil and gas production scale!
- Chantal Caruso from Clean State who describes, in 60-seconds, 26 big ideas to create 200,000 jobs in WA by transforming to a sustainable future.
- David Carter, the CEO of Austral Fisheries who described how his fishing company is the only one in the world that is certified as Carbon Neutral. It took 402 days from deciding to do it, to achieve it and he feels a failure as no other companies have followed suit.
- Anna Poelina is a first nations scientist and traditional custodian from the Kimberley. She showed an understanding of two worlds and described a future where humans were part of nature and did not dominate it. She urged everyone to 'wake up the snake' which means to wake up our consciousness.

Fiona Stanley, a Western Australian child health expert who has a hospital named after her, called for four actions: recognise first nations in the Constitution, create diverse citizens juries of young and old to understand our climate change capacity; bring net-

zero forward to 2040, and to go Beyond GDP to find a more sustainable and equitable way of measuring a country's success.



Best wishes for the holiday season!

Don't forget to reuse your Christmas decorations to reduce your carbon footprint. When they eventually need replacing, choose environmentally friendly options.

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