



Chapter 47

District 22 – Australia (2008–2019) ¹

Since 1920, Zonta International has grouped clubs by district. The following is information on the formation of District 22. Today, District 22 has 44 clubs in Queensland, Australia.

District 22 was formed after the division of District 24. In a 1998–2000 edition of *The Zontian*,² Dianne Leggo, OMC co-chairman for the biennium, reported on the establishment of the Zonta Club of Mount Isa, club number 1440:

One of the great joys of organizing is the look of expectancy and excitement on the faces of 25 or 35 new Zontians at the very special occasion, the charter dinner. I recall with delight the charter dinner that Mary Magee and I attended for the new Zonta club of Mount Isa in remote outback Queensland. We travelled 3,700 kilometers by car, approximately . 20 hours each way. The Governor of the State [of] Queensland, Mrs. Leneen Forde (Zonta International President 1990–1992) arrived in great style in the special Governor’s train. What an occasion! The venue was elaborately decorated; the members and guests were beautifully attired; the food was delicious; and the evening was meticulously organized. The charter president went on to be Area Director. Mary and I organized the club in eight days – almost a record! We shared the “Zonta way of life” with resourceful, courageous women of the Outback who were eager to give even more than they were already giving, to serve not only their community but to reach out and make a contribution to our world – yours and mine.

This club has never faltered...despite being 650 kilometers from the nearest club. ³

Governors of District 22

- **2008-2010 Vicki Varthas, Zonta Club of Brisbane Metro Breakfast Inc.**
 - The first District Governor for the newly created District 22, Vicki Varthas from the Zonta Club of Brisbane Metro Breakfast Inc., was installed at the 59th Zonta International Convention in Rotterdam, Holland. Denise Conroy, Zonta Club of Brisbane East Inc. was appointed as a member of the Zonta International Legislative

¹ Research compiled by Eva Nielsen with additional contributions from Ros Kinder, former District 24 Governor.

² *The Zontian*, 1998-2000, Issue Five, p. 14

³ Club number 1659, the Zonta Club of Mount Isa Breakfast (2000–2013)

Awareness and Advocacy Committee, and Jane Wilson-O'Brien, Zonta Club of Northside Inc. (then Sandgate) was appointed as a member of the Organisation, Membership and Classification committee.

- In September 2009 the inaugural District 22 Conference was held at Rydges hotel, Townsville with the theme of "Create, Communicate, Celebrate". Zonta International representative was ZI President Beryl Sten. The District had 49 Clubs and 1267 members.

- **2010-2012 Trish Collins, Zonta Club of Rockhampton Inc.**
 - Trish Collins from the Zonta Club of Rockhampton Inc. succeeded Vicki as Governor and was installed at the Zonta International Convention in San Antonio, Texas, USA. Jane Wilson-O'Brien, Zonta Club of Northside Inc. was appointed to the Zonta International Young Women in Public Affairs Award Committee.
 - The second district conference was held in 2011 at the Novotel Hotel, Brisbane with Zonta International Vice-President, Lynn McKenzie, from New Zealand attending as International Representative. The conference theme was "Together as One – Vital, Visible, Viable".

- **2012-2014 Judith Anderson OAM, Zonta Club of Brisbane Inc.**
 - Judith Anderson OAM from the Zonta Club of Brisbane Inc was installed at the 61st Zonta International Convention held at Torino, Italy. Jane Wilson-O'Brien, Zonta Club of Northside Inc. Continued to serve on the Zonta International Young Women in Public Affairs Award (YWPA) Committee.
 - The third district conference was held in September 2013 at the Noosa Convention and Exhibition Centre, Noosa. Zonta International Director, Maria Stefanova from the Republic of Bulgaria, was the International Representative. The theme for the conference was "Visible + Credible = A Viable Future

- **2014-2016 Judith Trevan-Hawke, Zonta Club of Wynnum Redland Inc.**
 - At the 62nd Zonta International Convention in Orlando, Florida, Judith Trevan-Hawke from the Zonta Club of Wynnum Redland Inc. was installed as District 22 Governor. Judith Anderson OAM, Zonta Club of Brisbane Inc., was appointed to the Membership Committee.
 - The fourth District 22 Conference was held 9–11 October, 2015, at the Coral Sea Resort, Airlie Beach. Zonta International and Zonta International Foundation director, Sally Bean from the USA, was International Representative and the conference theme was "Empowering Women with Conviction, Commitment, Courage".

- **2016-2018 Ans Van Erp, Zonta Club of Toowoomba Inc.**
 - The reins as Governor were handed over to Ans Van Erp from the Zonta Club of Toowoomba Inc. at the Zonta International Convention in Nice, France. Judith Anderson OAM, Zonta Club of Brisbane Inc., was elected as a Director on the Zonta International and Zonta International Foundation Boards. A number of District 22 Zontians were appointed to Zonta International Committees – Bridget Mather, Zonta Club of Mackay Inc. to the Advocacy Committee; Petra Ladwig, Zonta Club of Maroochy Inc. to the Membership Committee; and Marie Cameron, Zonta Club of Mackay Inc. to the Z Club Committee.

- The fifth district conference was held at the Royal on the Park, Brisbane, from September 8 to 10, 2017, with Zonta International and Zonta International Foundation Director, Ute Scholz, as the Zonta International Representative. The theme for the conference was “Empowering Women Through Service and Advocacy”.
- **2018-2020 Sandy Venn Brown, Zonta Club of Stanthorpe**
 - Sandy Venn Brown from the Zonta Club of Stanthorpe Inc. was installed at the Zonta International Convention in Yokohama, Japan. Judith Anderson OAM, Zonta Club of Brisbane Inc. was elected a member of the Zonta International Nominating Committee, and three District 22 Zontians were appointed to international committees: Marie Cameron, Zonta Club of Mackay Inc. to the Women in Technology Committee; Leanne Shepherd, Zonta Club of Mackay Inc. to the YWPA Committee; and Janet Prowse, Zonta Club of Brisbane Inc to the Advocacy Committee.
 - The 2019 conference from 6 to 8 September was a combined conference of District 16 (New Zealand) and Districts 22, 23 and 24 (Australia). The conference, held at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, linked the original District XVI Areas in a joyous celebration of Zonta’s centennial year. More than 800 Zontians attended. The Zonta International and Zonta International Foundation President, Dr Susanne von Bassewitz, attended.

District 22 service projects

- Zonta breast care cushions project: cushions are provided free of charge to men and women who have undergone breast surgery. Approximately 5,500 cushions are provided to hospitals throughout the district each year. A number of clubs also make and provide drainage bags. 75 per cent of District 22 clubs participate in this service project.
- Zonta birthing kits project: A number of clubs assemble birthing kits, which are then distributed to developing countries through the Birthing Kit Foundation.
- Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women campaign: Clubs throughout the district actively support this campaign each year. Activities vary from club to club, with considerable support being given to the club campaign by local authorities and businesses.

District 22 Advocacy initiatives

The District has a strong focus on advocating at local, State and Federal levels on issues affecting women and girls and in accordance with the mission of Zonta international.

Submissions have been made on the following matters:

- October 2018 – Submission to the Banking Royal Commission
- June 2018 – Submission to the Queensland Anti-Bullying Taskforce. Sent to the Honourable the Premier, Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for Education and Minister for Industrial Relations
- February 2016 – Endorsement of the National Federation of Australian Women (NFAW) submission on the aged care workforce (predominantly women: 90 per cent). The submission stated Zonta’s opposition to any form of discrimination in employment, particularly inadequate remuneration and inferior working conditions just because the workforce is dominated by women

- October 2015 – Submission to the Australian Government concerning support for a Trauma Fraction Liaison Service for improved management of osteoporosis in women (especially ageing women suffering repeat fractures)
- October 2015 – Submission urging the Australian Government to continue support of programs addressing domestic and family violence against women in Papua New Guinea
- October 2015 – Submission to the Australian Government requesting it express grave concern through its representatives in all UN Forums (especially the Security Council and General Assembly) about the abuse of women’s human rights in conflict situations (e.g. abduction of girls in the Congo and Islamic State’s sexual slavery of women, combined with forced birth control)
- December 2014 – Submission to the Queensland Premier’s Special Taskforce on Domestic and Family Violence
- November 2014 – Submission on behalf of Districts 22, 23 and 24 to the Federal Government on the Beijing Platform for Action: Beijing +20 Review. The District 22 submission was sent to the Prime Minister (the Honourable Tony Abbott), the Leader of the Opposition (the Honourable Bill Shorten) and all relevant Ministers and Shadow Ministers
- May 2013 – Letter to the Queensland Premier and relevant Ministers seeking funding for Domestic and Family Violence Shelters and Provision of Low Rental Housing
- January 2013 – Submission to the Federal Minister for Health seeking funding for the national post- and ante-natal depression initiative
- November 2013 – Letter to all Queensland Local Council Mayors advocating that local government councils in Queensland undertake a safety audit to identify those areas which may be unsafe for women and the girl child, especially around transport services (train, bus stations, ferry terminals), public amenities (especially public toilets), sports grounds, parks and gardens, cultural precincts and major shopping centres
- May 2013 - Letter to the Prime Minister of Australia and other relevant Ministers and Shadow Ministers (a) congratulating the Government on action taken to address Female Genital Mutilation in Australia, (b) expressing support for the Government’s new laws which criminalise forced marriage, forced labour and organ trafficking, and (c) strongly advocating that the Government endorse Recommendation 6 of the Committee of Inquiry into Multiculturalism in Australia (*viz.* “that the Government promotes the message that multiculturalism entails both a respect for cultural diversity and a commitment to the framework of Australian laws and values which underpin social cohesion”) in order to help eliminate illegal customary practices
- January 2013 – Letter to the State Minister for Police requesting information on the outcomes of the Queensland Police Service Domestic and Family Violence Strategy 2009–2013 with respect to its effectiveness in helping women to exit violent situations
- November 2011 – Letter to the Honourable the Premier and copies to other relevant Ministers and Shadow Ministers acknowledging Queensland Health for setting the target, that by the end of 2013 10 per cent of all births in Queensland Health public hospitals will occur in a continuity-of-care model that supports CEDAW, and encouraging Queensland Health to continue working towards achieving this target and to continue improving the quality of birth options and services available to Queensland women
- November 2011 – Letter to the Honourable the Premier and copies to other relevant Ministers and Shadow Ministers advocating to the Queensland State Government that it provide financial support to the Women’s Legal Service for the continued operation of a dedicated legal advice line for women in rural, remote and regional Queensland

- November 2010 – Letter to the Minister for Health and Ageing and other relevant Ministers and Shadow Ministers advocating to the Federal Government that, in the absence of a Medicare rebate for compression garments for post mastectomy sufferers of lymphoedema, it ensure that those women who develop lymphoedema after a mastectomy will have access to these garments under a similar Medicare Agreement that exists for the provision of free breast prostheses for all mastectomy patients.

District Awards

Clubs are encouraged to participate in the Zonta International Foundation education programs i.e. the Young Women in Public Affairs Award and the Jane M Klausman Women in Business Scholarship. The District has been successful in having Shannon Scott (2012), Teegan Green (2013), Emma Beal (2018) and Kaitlin Hillman (2019) announced as Zonta International recipients of the Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Scholarship. Emma Tait (2014), Sophie Ryan (2015), Phoebe Frederick (2016), Madison Birtchell (2018) and Khushi Shelat (2019) received international YWPA awards.

In addition to supporting the Zonta International Foundation award programs, many clubs offer scholarships at the club level to encourage students and mature age students to continue their education.

In 2019 the District Board announced a District 22 Governor's Award – the Dianne Leggo Honour Roll. The award recognizes the contribution made by this District 22 Zontian who was responsible for organizing more than 20 Zonta clubs in Queensland and internationally during her eight years as a member and later co-chairman of the Zonta International Membership Committee with fellow District 22 Zontian, Jane O'Brien. The Honour Roll recognises and honours individual Zontians who have personified the ideals of Zonta at club level through their support and promotion of local projects and Zonta International. The award is not specifically linked to length of service but instead focuses on the quality of the member's ongoing contribution to Zonta. At the 2019 District 22 Conference, the inaugural awards were announced and presented to Susan Davies (Zonta Club of Brisbane), Gail Sellers (Zonta Club of Gladstone), Margaret Bell (Zonta Club of Toowoomba Area) and Margaret Banfield (Zonta Club of Noosa).

Z Clubs in District 22

Zonta clubs have actively sponsored the establishment of Z Clubs, particularly the Zonta Club of Mackay which has sponsored eight of the 18 current clubs.

The first club in Queensland was the Rockhampton State High School Z Club sponsored by the Zonta Club of Rockhampton in 1985 when the club was allocated to District 16. The Z Club was very active in its local community until its closure in 1993. Two other Z Clubs were formed while Queensland clubs were still part of District 24: Ipswich Girls Grammar School in 1996, sponsored by the Zonta Club of Ipswich Inc., and Maryborough State High School in 1999 sponsored by the Zonta Club of Maryborough Inc. Both closed in 2000.

In 2018 the first e-Z Club, the Z Club of the School of Distance Education, was sponsored by the Zonta Club of Cairns Inc.

Charter year	Z Clubs in District 22	Area	Sponsor Club	Closed
2007	Whitsunday Anglican School	05	Mackay Inc.	
2009	Bracken Ridge State High School	01	Sandgate Inc.	Date not known
2009	Queensland Academy of the Creative Industries	01	Brisbane Inc.	Date not known
2009	Mirani Meg Z – Mirani State High School	05	Mackay Inc.	
2012	St Gabe's Z Club – All Souls St Gabriel's School	05	Charters Towers Inc.	
2012	HOWW Z Club – North Mackay State High School	05	Mackay Inc.	
2013	HSC Z Club – Holy Spirit College	05	Mackay Inc.	
2014	Mackay Northern Beaches Z Club – Northern Beaches High School	05	Mackay Inc.	
2014	Zarina Z Club – Sarina State High School	05	Mackay Inc.	
2015	Pioneer Z Club – Pioneer State High School	05	Mackay Inc.	
2016	Burdekin Catholic High School	05	Burdekin Inc.	
2016	For the Women of the World	05	Townsville Metro Inc.	
2017	St Patrick's College Z Club – St Patrick's College, Mackay	05	Mackay Inc.	
2017	The Ambassadors Z Club	05	Caloundra City Inc.	
2017	St Cath's Z Club	05	The Whitsundays Inc.	
2018	Mt Alvernia College	01	Pine Rivers Inc.	
2018	e-Z Club School of Distance Education	05	Cairns Inc.	
2019	Mount Isa Zonta Z Club	05	Mount Isa Inc.	

In 1999 the Zonta Club of Ipswich Inc. sponsored the formation of a Golden Z Club at the University of Queensland/Queensland University of Technology. However the club closed shortly after formation.

Charter Year	Golden Z Clubs in District 22	Area	Sponsor Club	Closed
2017	CQUNI Mackay Golden Z Club	05	Mackay Inc.	
2019	Griffith University Gold Coast	03	Southern Gold Coast – Tweed Area Inc.	

Zonta International Foundation

Clubs are encouraged to donate one-third of service funds raised to the Zonta International Foundation Service and Awards programs. The District 22 contribution during the 2016–2018 Biennium was USD\$196,714.76⁷ excluding donations made at the Zonta International Foundation booth during the 2018 Zonta International Convention.

Clubs and individual Zontians are also encouraged to support the Centenary Anniversary Endowment Campaign. At the time of writing, more than 50 per cent of District 22 clubs had made contributions.

Timeline of district history highlights.

The early Australian clubs were non-districted and, as of 1970, were managed as part of Zonta International Area III, the Asia-Pacific Area.

1972: In April, 13 Australian and New Zealand Zonta clubs met in Sydney for the first Area 03 Workshop and advised International President-elect Harriette Yeckel, that they were ready to form a district.

Area III Asia Pacific became Region III Asia Pacific at the Portland convention and on 2 July 1972, the Zonta International Board agreed that Region III was to be granted district status.

1974: The 18 clubs in Region III became District XVI. The Zonta International Board granted District status to Region III, and District XVI for clubs in New Zealand and Australia was effective from 20 July 1974. .

1990: District 24 was established as a district after the division of District 16, comprising clubs from Queensland, New South Wales, and the Australian Capital Territory.

2008: Further growth in clubs and membership in District 24 led to a decision at the Rotterdam convention to divide District 24 into:

- District 22, comprising clubs in Queensland and the Zonta Club of Northern Rivers (club number 1523)
- District 24, comprising clubs in the Australian Capital Territory and New South Wales.

2008: 48 clubs in five areas.

2013: After debate at the District Conference, District 22 was registered as a Public Company Limited by Guarantee – Zonta International District 22 Ltd (Australian Company Number 612 963 194).

2016: 43 clubs in five Areas. Clubs ranged from Cairns in the far north and Mount Isa and Longreach in the west, to Lismore in the Northern Rivers of New South Wales.

Two clubs, the Zonta Club of Brisbane City Heart (club no. 1947), and the Zonta Club of Greater Springfield (club no.1961) have been chartered since the formation of the district. In 2019, the latter became the Zonta e-Club of Queensland, the first e-club in the district.

The district has more than 1,100 active members, including two former Zonta International Presidents: Leneen Forde (1990–1992) and Mary Magee (2000–2002).

2018: 972 members.⁴

⁴ ZI Directory online

2019: 892 members.⁵

History of formation of District 22 Clubs.

New South Wales

Year Chartered	Club Number	Club Name	Area as of 2019	Closed
1995	1523	Zonta Club of Northern Rivers Inc.	03	

Queensland

Year Chartered	Club Number	Club Name	Area as of 2019	Closed
1971	0680	Zonta Club of Brisbane Inc.	01	
1977	0811	Zonta Club of Gold Coast Area Inc.		2009
1978	0825	Zonta Club of Toowoomba Area Inc.	04	
1978	0852	Zonta Club of Brisbane North Inc.	01	
1979	0870	Zonta Club of Brisbane South Inc.	03	
1979	0900	Zonta Club of Ipswich Inc.	04	
1980	0932	Zonta Club of Redcliffe Inc.	01	
1980	0960	Zonta Club of Southern Gold Coast-Tweed Area Inc.	03	
1981	0988	Zonta Club of Wynnum Redland Inc.	03	
1983	1054	Zonta Club of Rockhampton Inc.	02	
1983	1057	Zonta Club of Cairns Inc.	05	
1984	1089	Zonta Club of Townsville Inc.	05	
1988	1197	Zonta Club of Beaudesert Area Inc.	03	
1989	1232	Zonta Club of Caloundra City Inc.	01	
1989	1235	Zonta Club of Brisbane East Inc.	03	
1990	1296	Zonta Club of Bundaberg Inc.	02	
1990	1303	Zonta Club of Hervey Bay Inc.	02	
1991	1350	Zonta Club of Dalby Area Inc.	04	
1992	1354	Zonta Club of Gladstone Inc.	02	
1992	1362	Zonta Club of Gympie Inc.		2016
1992	1387	Zonta Club of Mackay Inc.	05	
1993	1408	Zonta Club of Noosa Inc.	01	
1993	1423	Zonta Club of Emerald Inc.		2013
1993	1428	Zonta Club of Caboolture Inc.	01	
1993	1429	Zonta Club of Brisbane River Inc.	03	
1993	1432	Zonta Club of Roma Inc.	04	
1993	1440	Zonta Club of Mount Isa Inc.	05	
1994	1451	Zonta Club of Longreach Inc.	02	
1994	1452	Zonta Club of Tamborine Mountain Inc.		2013
1994	1466	Zonta Club of Maroochy Inc.	01	
1994	1469	Zonta Club of Toowoomba Garden City Inc.	04	

⁵ ZI Directory online

1994	1470	Zonta Club of Pine Rivers Inc.	01	
1994	1474	Zonta Club of Logan Inc.		2013
1994	1475	Zonta Club of Burdekin Inc.	05	
1994	1476	Zonta Club of Bowen Inc.	05	
1995	1499	Zonta Club of Maryborough Inc.	02	
1997	1565	Zonta Club of Warwick Inc.	04	
1997	1572	Zonta Club of Brisbane Breakfast Inc.	01	
1997	1573	Zonta Club of Paradise Point Inc.	03	
1997	1577	Zonta Club of Blackall Range Inc.	01	
1998	1624	Zonta Club of Brisbane Metro Breakfast Inc.	03	
1999	1625	Zonta Club of Stanthorpe Inc.	04	
1999	1633	Zonta Club of The Whitsundays Inc.	05	
2000	1659	Zonta Club of Mount Isa Breakfast Inc.		2013
2004	1758	Zonta Club of Charters Towers Inc.	05	
2004	1774	Zonta Club of Townsville Metro	05	
2007	1831	Zonta Club of Northside Inc.*	01	
2016	1947	Zonta Club of Brisbane City Heart	03	
2017	1961	Zonta Club of Greater Springfield**	04	

*Formerly Zonta Club of Sandgate Inc.

**In 2019 Zonta Club of Greater Springfield became Zonta e-Club of Queensland Inc.

e-Clubs

Year Chartered	Club Number	Club Name	Area as of 2019	Closed
2017	1961	Zonta e-Club of Queensland Inc.*	04	

*Previously Zonta Club of Greater Springfield