



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMY AND GENDER AND ECONOMIC EQUALITY
Ms Leanne Castley MLA (Chair), Ms Suzanne Orr MLA (Deputy Chair),
Mr Johnathan Davis MLA

Submission Cover sheet

Inquiry into memorialisation through
public commemoration

Submission number: 001

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The Standing Committee on Economy and Gender and Economic Equality Inquiry into memorialisation through public commemoration: Place, monuments, streets and suburbs.

Re: Stephanie Goulstone, Zonta Club of Canberra Breakfast for consideration by the Standing Committee on Economy and Gender and Economic Equality re Inquiry into memorialisation through public commemoration: Place, monuments, streets and suburbs.

Zonta Club of Canberra Breakfast (ZCCB) is seeking public commemoration for an ACT woman Stephanie Goulstone who had an extraordinary focus on empowering women and girls and raising awareness in the ACT and region of the impact of domestic violence on women and children. The Zonta Says No Rotary Peace Bell ringing at Nara Park is now in its 4th year and is an annual community event. The ringing of the Rotary Peace Bell raises awareness and highlights the impact of Domestic Violence against women and children across Australia. Rotary and many other organisations in the ACT stand with Zonta on the question of domestic violence in all its forms, especially against women.

Zonta is an International organisation with over 29,000 members whose vision is:

- A world in which women's rights are recognized as human rights and every woman is able to achieve her full potential.
- In such a world, women have access to all resources and are represented in decision making positions on an equal basis with men.
- In such a world, no woman lives in fear of violence.

Stephanie was born in the UK in on the 5th August 1959 and died in the Canberra Hospital on 13 January 2021. Stephanie Goulstone was a member of the Zonta Club of Canberra Breakfast from July 2017 to her death in January 2021. During her three and half years with ZCCB, Stephanie was one of our most passionate and energised members who assisted in all our projects to empower women and girls, including the making of breast cushions, the preparation and delivering of home starter packs to women leaving ACT refuges to go into provided homes following domestic violence.

Stephanie was instrumental in galvanizing ZCCB members to become more heavily involved in the Zonta Says No to Violence to women and girls campaign which occurs every year from 25th November, the United Nations Day for the elimination of violence against women and ends on the 10th December, the United Nations Day for Human Rights every year.

In 2017 Stephanie made orange crochet and knitted flowers for us to wear during the 16 Days of the campaign. Stephanie did this through encouraging the making of orange flowers that could be worn by members and larger floral displays that could be placed in public sites, such as local ACT libraries to raise the awareness of Zonta Say No Campaign.

Every year since 2017 ZCCB we have had orange floral displays in ACT libraries identifying the number and names of women who died through violence in the year. In 2018 Stephanie heard Michael Rabey talking on ABC radio about ways to increase the use of the Rotary Peace Bell. Canberra Rotary and Zonta clubs have formed a great partnership and ZCCB has held a Peace Bell ringing event every year since then. It started with about 16 Zontians in 2018 and in 2020 it grew to over 60 participants, with representatives from the PM's office, several ACT and Federal politicians

from all parties, as well as representatives from many ACT Departments, businesses, not for profit organisations, community members, Rotarians, Zontians and Ambassadors.

During the very sombre occasion of the ringing of the Peace bell at Nara Peace Park we ask attendees to walk to the bell, read the name and age of a woman, and children if also killed through violence, who have died from violence and then they ring the Bell.

The ringing of the Nara Peace Bell for the Zonta Says No to Violence against women campaign would not have happened without Stephanie and her ability to see what could be and the importance of making a stance to raise the awareness of violence against women in the ACT and Australia.

The last few years has seen ACT politicians, representatives and business members raising awareness of this huge issue in other ways in the ACT during the 16 days of Zonta Says No to Violence against Women. ZCCB has sought assistance from some ACT Government Departments to turn buildings, fountains and light rail stops orange to increase awareness of the campaign for ACT and region people. We are very appreciative of their assistance.

Our Zonta Club of Canberra Breakfast website is: <http://www.zontaclubcanberrabreakfast.org>

Please contact me should you require any further information.

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