



Janet Hope
 Lt Governor Zonta International District 16

This report for the District Membership Committee is at the end of the 2014-16 biennium. The role of the Lt Governor is to assist the District Governor in her role, chairing the Membership Committee and supporting Area Directors and individual clubs with membership initiatives or issues.

Retention and Recruitment

The District has not met the target of 660 members for the biennium, while things were relatively stable in the first half of the biennium there have been more resignations than new members joining in the second half.

The number of clubs in District with 20 members or less has increased to 12. These clubs are deemed as being “at risk” by Zonta International however there are some real membership success stories with The Hawkes Bay, Hatea-Whangarei, Thames and Marlborough clubs showing growth in membership. These clubs may be small in numbers however they are big in heart, their members fully engaged, positive, energetic and active in their local communities.

Clubs in Area 1 appear to be struggling with growing membership which is a real concern. Clubs in Area 3 continue to rebuild and there is a high level of energy and activity.

	<i>Membership 02/07/2013</i>	<i>Membership 24/05/2014</i>	<i>Membership 31/05/2015</i>	<i>Membership 18/05/2015</i>	<i>Clubs 18/05/2016</i>
Area 1	217	206	190	168	9
Area 2	123	133	145	140	5
Area 3	102	107	112	120	5
Area 4	69	76	71	73	4
Area 5	138	151	150	144	5
Total	650	673	668	645	28

Establishment of new clubs

Our District goal for the biennium was to charter one new club. Whilst there are two clubs in the process of forming, the Whakatane club and the Waitangi-Awa Club, neither are in a position to charter this biennium.

Area Meetings

In the first half of the biennium Membership was a focus at all five Area Meetings. with clubs taking up the opportunity to use the Club Vitality Indicator tool to assess the level of engagement of their members at Club, Area and District level. Clubs were reminded about the Membership Recognition Programme. In the second half of the biennium growing club membership was identified as a priority for clubs in Area 1. In areas 3 and 5 there was a lot of activity and commentary about prospective members and in Area 4 some positive growth predicted for the Thames club which is great news.

District 16 – the future

Membership is the life blood of Zonta. Retaining our existing members and attracting new members is the responsibility of every club and every member. We all share a common goal of empowering women through service and advocacy. Growing our membership will continue to be a challenge into the next biennium.