

District Governor
Janet Hope

I have been a member of the Zonta Club of Hibiscus Coast for 12 years. When I joined Zonta I had recently moved to Orewa and found Zonta was a great way to meet likeminded women and give something back to the local community. As I have learnt more about Zonta it is the international reach of the service, advocacy, education programmes and projects to improve the lives and women and girls that continues to motivate and inspire me.

I am working fulltime as the Volunteer Services Manager for Hospice North Shore which is a busy and sometimes challenging role however I do enjoy a challenge and working with volunteers has some synchronicity with my Zonta roles.

I feel very fortunate to have been given this opportunity to lead District 16. My theme for the biennium is “Shaping our Future”, my goal is to build on and strengthen what has been achieved to date in terms of service and advocacy, and raise the profile of Zonta and the work we do.



Lt Governor
Souella Cumming

I joined the Zonta Club of Wellington in 2006 and since then I have been actively engaged at all levels of Zonta – serving as Club President, on the District Board as Parliamentarian (2010-21012) and Treasurer (2012- 2014 and 2014 – 2016) and at the International level, on the ZI Finance Committee (chair 2012 – 2014). Zonta provides me with the opportunity to work locally and globally on critical issues that impact on women and girls including preventing violence and empowering women and girls.

I am a partner with KPMG New Zealand specialising in governance, risk management and assurance services. I work extensively with public sector organisations and also in lead KPMG’s Government Advisory practice. I have a number of not-for-profit roles including my role as a member of the St John New Zealand’s Priory Trust Board and chair of the Audit and Risk Committee. I have recently been appointed as the Deputy Chancellor, a newly established role, working closely with the Chancellor to further St John’s charitable activities and operation of New Zealand’s largest emergency ambulance service.

I am supported in my work and community activities by my husband, Brian, and son, Timothy.



Secretary
Suzanne Coleman

A move out of the city and a change of pace after years working in Dental Health and the New Zealand Blood Service, gave me the opportunity to learn new skills developing a lifestyle property in 2003. Once I had the animal thing sorted, even breeding coloured sheep for spinning, I started a garden maintenance business which I worked for four years. During this time, I was looking for some way I could get more involved with the wider community, something I have always been committed to, without joining Rotary! I was introduced to our local Hibiscus Coast Zonta Club and the rest they say is history. I have been a Zontian for 10yrs and a Board member three months after being inducted, holding the office of President in 2011 – 2013. During that time, I have had the privilege of meeting some amazing women from all over Auckland and New Zealand wide at conferences. I was determined not to be just a “knife and fork” member and firmly believe you get out of Zonta what you are prepared to give. I am very excited to be attending my first International Convention in Nice this year.



I have two adult sons, one based in the UK and four delightful “grandies” here in Auckland. It is very rewarding and such fun to be actively involved in their lives and supporting them in their numerous activities. Gardening which has always been a huge part of my life has now taken a rest with a recent move from a country property to an apartment and once all the renovations are done, there will be even more time to enjoy time with friends, walking, cooking, reading, music and working part time.

I look forward to supporting Governor Janet in her role in any way I can and working with District 16 Zontians as we all continue to advocate for women and girls improving the status of women globally.

Treasurer
Barbara Astill

I have been a member of the Zonta Club of East Auckland since 1991 holding down most offices including two years as President. I have enjoyed my time in Zonta immensely, making a difference to the lives of girls and women in our community, country and internationally, while making good friends and having fun.

I am a Chartered Accountant and was in public practice for some twenty years as a sole practitioner and then in partnership with my daughter. Three years ago I retired from the practice to enable me to spend more time on my other business interests which include running a chefs training school and my daughter took over my practice.



It is a great privilege to serve on the District Board as District Treasurer and I will be diligent in ensuring that all financial matters are dealt with efficiently and effectively. I look forward to supporting our Governor and other Board members.

Outside of work and Zonta I am Board Chair at Totara Hospice (South Auckland) and enjoy family activities particularly with my four grandchildren.

Area 1 Director
Irene McPherson

I have been a member of the Zonta Club of Whangarei for 16 years. I have found being a Zonta member at times challenging but always inspiring and a great venue for bring the best out of me and my fellow Zontians as we strive to follow the ideals of Zonta.

Along with my husband Bruce we own and run a small business in Whangarei in which we are the distributor for Caltex oils. This can see us on the road travelling anywhere between Warkworth in the south to Cape Reinga in the north.



My interests are my family, cooking, travelling and going to the gym, the last interest which I must admit is not enjoyable some days!

I would love to see the membership of Zonta in Area 1 grow. I believe that by bringing new members in we are bringing fresh new ideas to our Zonta Clubs. I would also like see the Clubs in the area attend each other's Club functions more to bring Clubs closer together through fellowship and service.

I look forward to working with all the Clubs in Area 1 and alongside Gvernor Janet and fellow D16 Board members in the 2016-2018 Biennium.

Area 2 Director
Nicola Schreurs

I joined Zonta in 2010 and it has been a swift (but enjoyable) movement from club membership director, club Vice-President then President and now Area 2 Director. As Area 2 Director I would like to encourage synergies between clubs. I have a belief that relationships between clubs can be used to provide a greater sense of Zonta belonging and camaraderie and that the larger network can achieve greater outcomes. I would like to get a greater understanding of the perceived barriers for joining Zonta and sustaining membership and help clubs to hurdle these barriers where possible. I also aim to be an effective emissary from District Board and to ensure an open connection between the clubs and District 16.



I work as a Senior Lecturer of Ruminant Nutrition and Meat Science in the Institute of Veterinary, Animal and Biomedical Sciences at Massey University. I obtained an Honours degree in Animal Science and followed this by PhD studies at Massey University and AgResearch. I spent two years as a post-doc at the Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique (INRA) in Clermont-Ferrand, France studying the development of muscle in beef cattle and returned to New Zealand in 2008 to take on my current role.

As well as my commitment to Zonta I am also President of the New Zealand Society of Animal Production, board member for the New Zealand Equine Trust, Associate Editor for the New Zealand Journal of Agricultural Research, Facilitator for the Massey University division of the Red Meat Network and is a member of Graduate Women Manawatu.

When I am not busy with the aforementioned roles I take delight in the lifestyle that comes with living on a 1.6ha block of land on the outskirts of Palmerston North with my partner Thomas, a 16-

year-old cat called Friesian, 15 ewes, 2 rams, 7 lambs (more on the way) and 7 chickens. We hope to build our dream house on the property one-day (hopefully within the next 5 years).

Area 3 Director
Sue Grainger

I have been an enthusiastic member of Zonta since 2009 and enjoyed meeting with like-minded people who share the common desire to improve the lives of women.

I am married to Mike and have two grown up children. We enjoy outdoor activities, tramping, jogging, and biking along with breeding Standardbred trotters for the NZ Premier Yearling Sales.

After holding a senior management position for several years with a large NZ Corporate, I am now involved with managing a portfolio of Body Corporates with an emphasis on facilities and property management.

My focus for the biennium

- to work with clubs to continue to grow and retain membership and attract younger women in our communities
- increase visibility of Zonta through advocacy and fundraising projects
- communicate with Presidents regularly to share and exchange information

I have always enjoyed opportunities to challenge myself and as such I look forward to working with Governor Janet and fellow District 16 Board members in the 2016 – 2018 biennium.



Area 4 Director
Vivienne Stephens

I am married to Ian and have an adult son and daughter and two grandchildren. I run my own business providing administration services including bookkeeping to small businesses.

I have been a member of the Tauranga Zonta Club for the last 24 years and have held positions of President (twice), Treasurer and Director of several committees. I joined Zonta to continue my involvement with helping the community. Prior to this I was involved with PTA and School Committee, Play Centre and Parents Centre among others.



My goals for the next biennium are to increase our membership especially focussing on younger women and supporting Rotorua Club in getting Whakatane Club to Charter and formation of their Z Club. I also want to help our club presidents in their roles and in the type of service their clubs are providing and encouraging young women to apply for scholarships.

Area 5 Director
Helen Carter

I have been a member of the Zonta Club of Timaru since 2001 and have been actively involved in all areas of leadership (apart from Treasurer) during this time. I enjoy the fellowship at our meetings and meeting other Zontians through attending inter-club get togethers, Forums, Conferences and now my fourth Convention in Nice.

At District level, I have been privileged to be the Service Chair for the 2014 – 2016 Biennium. Through being able to attend the 2015 District 16 Area Meetings, I was able to meet and get to know so many more Zontians. This has been a learning curve indeed!

I am very proud to be a member of such a dynamic organisation of professional women that takes hold of such diverse and difficult issues knowing that together with a combination of advocacy, service, money, time and enthusiasm, we can make a difference to the lives of women and girls locally, nationally and internationally.

I am married to Roger and together we have four adult family members (three married) and five grandchildren whom we love to spend our holidays with. Since being retired and encouraged by Roger, I am happily busy using my leadership skills in various roles in community organisations and church.

My Goals as Area 5 Director for the 2016 – 2018 Biennium are:

To work positively with Governor Janet and the D16 Board in promoting Zonta International and District 16 Service and Advocacy goals and activities to the Area 5 clubs

1. To support, encourage and communicate with Area 5 leaders by email or phone on a regular basis and to update them on any Zonta news
2. To support Area 5 club's continued participation in Area major projects when invited
3. To visit each of the Area 5 clubs at least once a year and be available to support and encourage the leaders when invited

Parliamentarian and Bylaws Chairman
Desirae Kirby

I have been a member of Zonta for 24 years. First as a member of the Zonta Club of Bundaberg, Queensland and now as a member of the Zonta Club of Rotorua. I have held a variety of Zonta roles including club president, club parliamentarian, Area 4 Director - District 24 and Parliamentarian and Bylaws Chairman for District 16 in the previous biennium.

I am a chemical engineer by training and manage an environmental research programme for Oji Fibre Solutions (formerly Carter Holt Harvey Pulp and Paper). I have spent many years, both in Australia and New Zealand, on the management boards of a range of volunteer and professional associations at local, state and national levels. Good governance is a passion of mine and I look forward to working with Governor Janet and the District 16 Board as we work to improve the lives of women and girls in New Zealand and around the world.

