



Adelaide

Patron: Her Excellency, The Hon. Frances Adamson AC, Governor of South Australia

Region of South Australia

Volume 4 Summer Newsletter December 2025

SI Adelaide acknowledges the traditions and culture of the Kaurna People, the First Peoples of the Adelaide plains. We respect and acknowledge their Elders, past, present, and emerging.

President's Message

As we wrap up 2025, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to all members for your ongoing commitment to action, advocacy, and meaningful community impact. This has been a season filled with inspiring initiatives—from our support for asylum seekers and refugees, to collaborations that provided educational opportunities for young parents, assistance for women transitioning from prison, and urgent aid for Safe Pets Safe Families. We also strengthened our regional connections and engaged younger women through our outreach and member development activities.



These wonderful efforts—and the stories behind them—are highlighted throughout this newsletter, and I invite you to read more about them in the sections that follow.

One ongoing challenge remains the decline in membership across the Soroptimist movement. I encourage each of you to share our work within your networks and inspire more young women to join us.

Thank you for your passion, generosity, and service. I look forward to all we will achieve together in 2026.

Club Programs

Awareness, Advocacy, and Action

In September we hosted our annual soup and dessert fundraiser in support of the National Council of Women. The funds raised from this event were donated to Circle of Friends, an organization that welcomes and assists asylum seekers and refugees as they navigate the challenging process of establishing themselves in Australia or face the difficulties of detention and asylum applications.

Talking Realities Scholarship Project

We partnered with SI Torrens to organize a joint movie fundraiser, featuring 'Downton Abbey—the Grand Finale' at the beautiful Capri Theatre in Goodwood. This joint event aimed to achieve three goals: raise funds for educational scholarships for participants in the Talking Realities program (a program for young pregnant and parenting individuals, enabling them to continue or start new studies), maximize our impact by combining efforts with SI Torrens to increase attendance, and strengthen the relationships between our two clubs. We are delighted to report that all three goals were achieved. The funds raised will be used to help four recent SACE graduates take driving lessons to improve their employability skills.

For more inspiration, follow this link! <https://thepostsa.au/community/2025/01/08/dreams-dont-stop-here-how-these-teen-mums-are-rewriting-the-rules>



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Circle of Friends Australia (COFA)

Our guest speaker was Janet Giles from Circle of Friends, Circle 108 whose presentation focused on Afghanistan and the increasing isolation faced by women under Taliban rule. Janet shared the story of Jamila, a Hazari science teacher and mother of four, who sought help after her husband's disappearance in 2023. Circle 108 raised over \$100,000 in two years to enable Jamila and her family reach safety in Adelaide. The journey was traumatic, requiring many hours of hard work and networking by group members. The group continued to support the family after arrival assisting with housing, medical expenses, and more. The daughters are now attending St Aloysious College—a chance they would not have had in Afghanistan—while Jamila attends English language classes at TAFE.

October Events

Annual October Awards Night

We welcomed Peggy Jackson, the 2025 Olive Johnston Travel Scholarship winner, as club speaker. Peggy is currently studying for a Bachelor of Speech Pathology at Flinders University and used her scholarship to fund a study trip to Thailand. There, she worked with children and young adults—mostly nonverbal and on the autism spectrum—in community project centers in Bangkok. Her primary role was to engage participants in play-based communication activities, often working alongside translators to overcome language barriers. Peggy shared that she learned a great deal about cultural diversity, flexible needs-based program delivery, and working within a very different education system. She expressed her gratitude for the opportunity. Peggy was also the guest speaker at the October membership development seminar.



Seeds of Affinity Project

Lisa formally launched our annual Christmas sparkling wine sale, with proceeds going to Seeds of Affinity—a charity that supports women recently released from prison as they transition back into the community. It's not too late to place your wine order for pick up on December 15. Please see the attached order form for details.



Safe Pets, Safe Families (SPSF) Update

In October, a social media post about Safe Pets Safe Families' need for funds caught the attention of member Marrion. Our club has supported this important organization in the past and has come to know its founder, Jennifer Howard. Due to a recent loss of donors, SPSF had to refuse 60 pet foster placements—an especially difficult situation as they provide foster care for pets of women in need. After our October meeting, a quick email exchange resulted in members agreeing to donate \$500 to SPSF right away. While this is only a small contribution to their overall costs, it was greatly appreciated. Marrion recently checked in with Jennifer and learned that SPSF is preparing to launch a Vet Van in early December, providing veterinary services to homeless and financially struggling individuals. Staffed by veterinarians, vet students, and vet nurses, this is wonderful initiative by Jennifer and her team. SPSF's website is user-friendly, with a prominent "Donate" button. We encourage everyone to spread the word and support this worthy cause: [DONATE | Safe Pets Safe Families](#)



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November Activities

M2M Campaign - Club member Emma, a 2024 Olive Johnston travel award winner, developed a promotional flyer to display at universities and on social media in support of this campaign. The goal is to attract younger members through this marketing initiative. Emma also organized a donation jar at her local eatery, Grill'd in Unley.

During November, patrons can elect to support one of three charities, with the winner receiving \$300 and runners-up receiving \$100 each.

We thank Emma and the generous staff at Grill'd for this opportunity. A club luncheon is planned for Saturday, November 22, where members attending can support our club with their votes! For details contact a club member!



16 Days of Activism Celebrations - SI Adelaide supports the Zonta Club of the Adelaide Hills' Twilight Vigil 2025, honoring women and children who have died from domestic violence and advocating for an end to gender-based violence. The event will take place at Mount Lofty Summit on Tuesday, December 2, 2025. Light meals will be available from 6:00 PM, and the vigil will begin at 8:00 PM. Attendees are asked to wear orange. More information can be found at ZCAH: The Twilight Vigil 2025 - ZONTA Club of Adelaide Hills

Women's Safety Services

We have completed our annual collection of household goods for Women's Safety Services and developed our 2026 calendar during our November meeting.

Upcoming Activities

December Activities

Our 2025 year will conclude on December 15 with a pizza meal and fellowship celebration, during which the wines sold to raise funds for Seeds of Affinity can be collected.

Regional Roundup

SISA Regional Meeting

At our recent SI South Australia meeting, the morning speaker was Justine Reynolds, creator and owner of Woodleigh Hills natural products. The meeting was hosted by SI Northern Highlands (Jamestown) at Sir Hubert Wilkins Aerodrome in Jamestown, named after the often-overlooked Australian explorer and innovator. Justine lives on a farm near Jamestown with her husband and five children. In August 2023, she launched her Woodleigh Hills products, which harness the healing properties of locally grown Australian native plants—many grown on her own property. Justine, who suffers from a rare illness called 'semi superior canal dehiscence', uses her Wilma rub daily for relief. Each product contains a maximum of four ingredients: the plant, olive oil, and beeswax, with some products soon to be available as a spray. Justine expressed her gratitude to a mentor from the Adelaide Hills for their invaluable support. Woodleigh Hills products are available from many stockists. For more information, visit www.woogleighhills.au. Stories like Justine's show the strength and creativity of women in regional and rural Australia. Bravo, Justine, and thank you for your inspiring talk and time! We hope more members can join us at 2026 regional meetings.



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Member Development Meeting

We held our member development meeting in October and were pleased to welcome two speakers, Danielle Hughes and Peggy Jackson. Both young women shared inspiring stories about their work. Here is a brief summary for those who were unable to attend. Danielle is an experimental physicist and surface scientist. She discussed the work she has conducted during her PhD., particularly about nuclear fusion reactors. When exposed to extreme temperatures and particle bombardment, the materials lining the inside wall of a nuclear fusion reactor see surface and subsurface damage which decreases their lifetime. Danielle has been developing nanolayers of diamond-like carbon and tungsten to act as protective coatings against helium particles, a product of the nuclear fusion reaction. In her talk she discussed different layer configurations from single layers, up to 16 alternating layers. After exposure to helium plasma, the damage observed depends on the initial configuration and exposure temperature. She highlighted that thin layers appear to reduce surface and sub-surface damage to the underlying material.

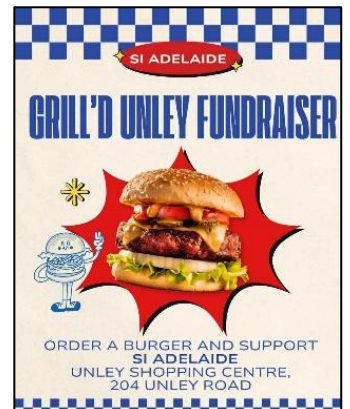


Peggy is in her final year of studying speech pathology and is about to embark on a year of placements in rural South Australia, from her home in Lucindale! Her special interest is in diagnosing and treating communication and swallowing disorders across all ages. These disorders include issues related to speech sounds, language comprehension and expression, voice quality, fluency (such as stuttering), and social communication skills. Peggy is SI Adelaide's 2025 Olive Johnston Travel Award scholarship winner and we are proud to have played a small part in her journey.

Thankyou both for your most welcome contributions.

Coming Events

- Grill'd Luncheon Nov 22 Unley Shopping Centre
- Coercive Control Webinar: Saturday, November 29, 3:30 PM AEDT, <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6850906770621804639>
- 16 Days of Activism: Tuesday, December 2 – Twilight Vigil, ZONTA Club of Adelaide Hills
- Annual Christmas Break Up: Monday, December 15 at War Memorial House



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It is Wine Fundraising Time !!



Soroptimist International of Adelaide
NV The Lane Lois Blanc de Blancs Sparkling Wine
\$ 20 per bottle

A beautifully packaged, deliciously easy-drinking and top value bubbly from one of the Adelaide Hills' leading wineries.

Perfect for the holiday season.

\$5 from the sale of each bottle of "The Lane Sparking Wine" sold will be donated to

'Seeds of Affinity' From Little Seeds, Strong Trees Grow.

Seeds of Affinity – Pathways for Women (Seeds) is a non profit community organisation that is run by and for women with lived prison experience. We meet twice a week to check in with each other, cook and eat a meal together, access support services & learn some new work skills through making and selling skin care products and gourmet treats. Most importantly, women at Seeds of Affinity feel a sense of belonging, solidarity and self worth during the difficult transition between prison and the community.

Wine Order Options

Patrons can order quantity of their choice - Single bottle \$20

Please email or text your order using form below with contact details to

Email: Lisa Clarke ljc108@gmail.com Phone: 0419 62 77 33

Orders & payments close 30 November.

Collection: Monday 15 December at 6 pm at War Memorial House 95 South Tce., Adelaide (car park at back of building) or by mutual arrangement

Name: _____

Date of Order: _____

Contact Details (Email/phone)

Wine	# of Bottles/Boxes	Cost per bottle	Box of 6	Total
"The Lane Sparking Wine"		\$20		
Bank payment details Soroptimist Intl of Adelaide Inc BSB 015208 Account No 654846814 Reference your name			TOTAL	

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