

ZONTA
CLUB OF
BENDIGO INC

Information for Secondary Colleges - Gwen Symons Memorial Scholarship

We kindly invite your college to nominate one student for consideration.

The Zonta Club of Bendigo awards the Gwen Symons Memorial Scholarship to a female student currently studying in year 10. This scholarship recognises a student who is succeeding academically, in the face of challenging circumstances. The scholarship supports her continued education, through years 11 and 12, and a pathway to senior secondary completion and future tertiary studies.

The value of the scholarship is \$1,000. It is awarded to a student who is commencing Year 11 in the following year. Upon satisfactory completion of Year 11, an additional \$1000 will be awarded to support year 12 studies.

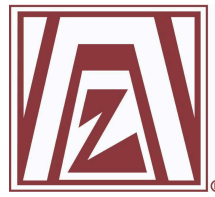
The selected student will demonstrate above average academic performance with aspirations for tertiary studies. She will demonstrate positive personal qualities and will benefit from financial support.

The nomination form is attached. Nominations should be submitted via email to zontabendigo@gmail.com. Further information can be found on our website: [link here](#).

Nominations will occur during term 4 of the academic year. Once shortlisted, candidates will be interviewed in the following two weeks. Following the selection of the successful candidate, schools will be notified for possible inclusion in school based awards and celebrations. The winner will also be invited to and acknowledged at the Zonta Bendigo International Women's Day Dinner in March of the following year.

Yours sincerely,

Zonta Club of Bendigo Inc
zontabendigo@gmail.com



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Who was Gwen Symons

Charter member Gwen Symons was very involved in the initial setting up of the local Zonta International Bendigo Club in 1980 and continued her membership until she passed away in September 1993. Gwen was our Club's Charter Treasurer and held various positions on the club Board and Committees over many years. Since 1984, the Zonta Club of Bendigo has awarded this scholarship.

In 1981, Gwen was an active participant in the establishment of the Zonta Day Centre for elderly "shut in" members of our community and fundraised towards the purchase of the ZONTA BUS in 1983. She spent many hours driving this bus that would collect attendees, transport them to the Zonta Day Centre and then spend time with the clients before driving them home. Gwen had great respect for the elderly in our community as they did for her.

Gwen had a great love of sport, horses and the people she met, and as a member of the Bendigo Pony Club was an active supporter of riding for the disabled. She also played tennis, hockey and polocrosse and excelled in sport as well as life.

She had a great love of horses and along with her husband George, they had many successes with their horses they trained and raced. You can see from this short outline of Gwen's life she was an active member of her community, had a great love of sport, horses and the people she met.

Gwen's love of her family and community is reflected in the Gwen Symons Memorial Endowment left by her family after her passing in 1993 so that girls in the final years of their secondary schooling could be supported to succeed. The Zonta Club of Bendigo is very proud to administer the Gwen Symons Memorial Award on behalf of her family each year.