

News Release

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Tony Piccolo MP

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NEW WHITE RIBBON AMBASSADORS ANNOUNCED

Four local men were announced as “white ribbon ambassadors” at a ceremony held on Friday by the Zonta Club of Gawler.

White Ribbon Ambassadors are men who are active in their communities and have taken on the challenge to help reduce violence against women.

The movement, which started in Canada, involves men agreeing to take action to eliminate violence against women; whether it be in the domestic environment, in the workplace or anywhere.

On Friday local MP MR Tony Piccolo, Lion President Eric Filmer, Gawler Heath Service Fatherhood and Community worker Aaron Phillips and Kiwanian Bruce Townsend were nominated by the Zonta Club of Gawler and presented at an event at Conversations Café as the new Ambassadors.

Ambassadors come from all walks of life.

Event Organiser, Zontian Ms Maggi Gregory said the purpose of White Ribbon Ambassadors is to highlight that men need to take responsibility for their violent behaviour towards women.

Speaking at the ceremony Mr Piccolo said that at first he was a little hesitant about just tackling one form of violence.

Mr Piccolo said we need to change the “culture of violence” that seems to be creeping into our society.

“Unfortunately violence appears to be condoned in some sections of the community as an acceptable form of behaviour.”

“Violence against others robs the victim of their dignity” said Mr Piccolo.

“No one should live in, or in fear of violence, as it undermines the inherent dignity and self esteem of the individual.” said Mr Piccolo.

“Domestic violence is particularly insidious as the victim is often socially and economically isolated”

“We need to stamp out violence in our communities; full stop!” said Mr Piccolo.

Mr Piccolo said alcohol related violence is a major problem in our society, and as a nation, I think we live in denial about the real impact it is having in our communities.

Mr Piccolo said he was pleased to be asked to be an Ambassador and congratulated the local Zonta club for their initiative.

For further details about the White Ribbon Ambassador project contact Maggi Gregory on 0407 391 344 or Val Mew on 0423 111 689.