



**Rotary**   
Gold Coast

**Yearbook 2024-25**

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Rotary Theme 2024-25



## The Object of Rotary

The object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

### First

The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service.

### Second

High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignity of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society.

### Third

The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business and community life.

### Fourth

The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

## The Four Way Test

In everything we think, say, or do: -

1. Is it the Truth?
  2. Is it Fair to all Concerned?
  3. Will it Build Goodwill and Better Friendships?
  4. Will it be Beneficial to all Concerned?
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Rotary Gold Coast was chartered on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2011 with the merger of the Rotary Clubs of Surfers Paradise Central and Gold Coast Central

We meet for dinner 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month @ 6.00pm @ Gold Coast Tavern Bundall Rd., BUNDALL, QLD.

<https://www.goldcoastrotary.org.au/>

## Rotary International

President  
**Stephanie A. Urchick**  
Rotary Club of McMurray  
Pennsylvania, USA

## Rotary District 9640

District Governor  
**Lisa Hunt**  
Rotary Club of Coomera River

Rotary Community Leader (Group 3)  
**Anthony Zirilli**  
Rotary Club of Burleigh Heads

## President Natalie's Welcome



Welcome to the Rotary Club of Gold Coast Yearbook for 2024–25!

What an incredible journey this year has been. From the moment we kicked off with our Club and District Changeovers, it was clear that this Rotary year would be one of energy, connection, and

meaningful impact. Our themes of fun, fellowship, and community service have been at the heart of everything we've done, and I'm so proud of what we've achieved together.

We began the year with a strong sense of purpose, setting goals that reflected our members' interests and passions. The results have been nothing short of inspiring. From the success of the Botanical Bazaar to our ongoing support for ROMAC and RizeUp, we've demonstrated what it means to be People of Action. Our guest speakers have brought fresh perspectives and powerful stories, and our social events have strengthened the bonds that make our club so special.

One of the highlights for me has been our engagement with youth programs. Whether through Rotary Youth Exchange, RYLA, RYTS, or our support for local schools and programs like The Busy School and MOB Academy, we've invested in the next generation of leaders. Hosting exchange students and hearing their stories has been a personal joy and a reminder of the global reach and heart of Rotary.

I want to thank each and every member for your contributions—whether you flipped sausages at a Bunnings BBQ, shared your home for a dinner event, hosted a student, or simply showed up with a smile. Your commitment and generosity have made this year unforgettable.

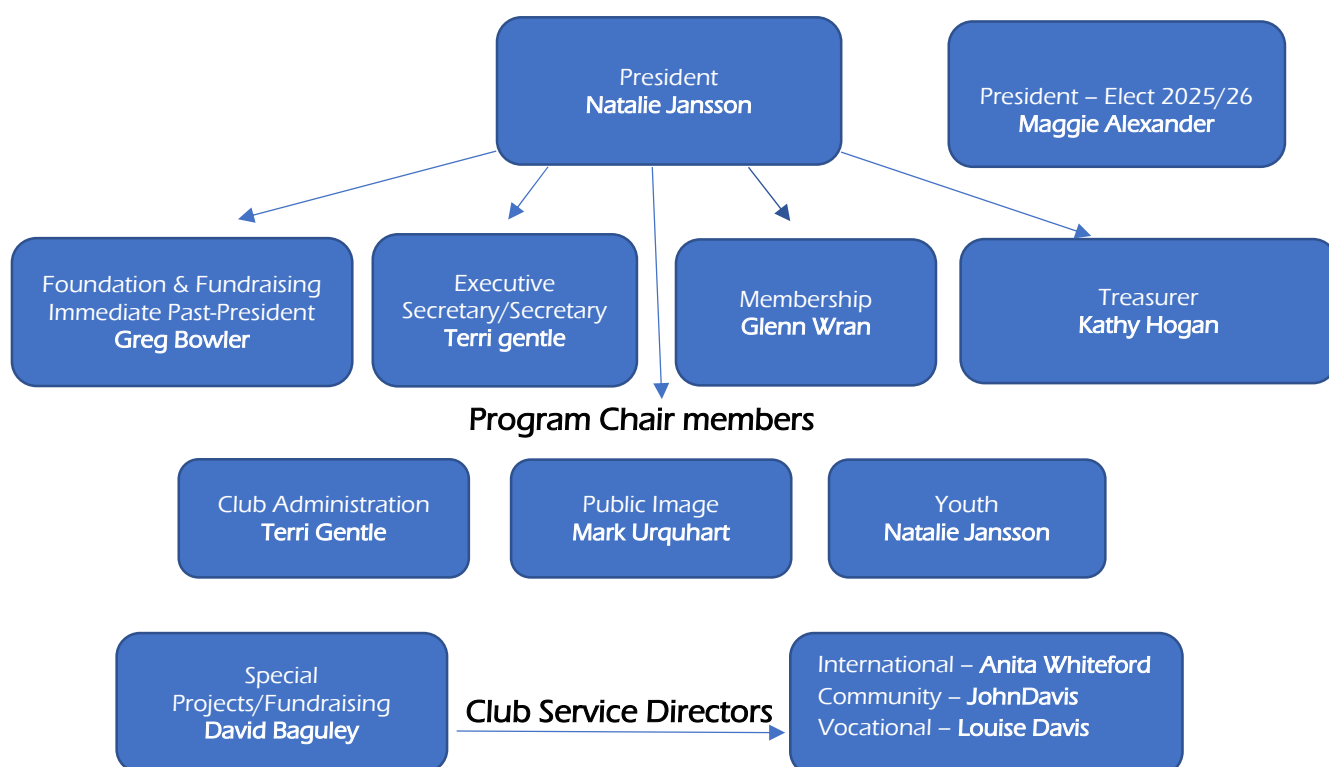
As we look ahead, I know the momentum we've built will carry forward. Maggie and I are ready to take the reins, and I have every confidence that the club will continue to thrive.

Thank you for the privilege of serving as your President for the 2024-25 Rotary year. Let's celebrate all we've accomplished and look forward to even greater things to come.

Yours in Rotary,

*Natalie Jansson*

## Leadership Structure 2024 / 2025



### Botanical Bazaar Committee

David Baguley (Co-chair), Kate Kimmorley (co-chair), Greg Bowler, Nev Davis, Mark Urquhart, Vanessa Glowaski, Sue Foskett, Glenn Wran, Barry Lane, Kathy Hogan, Marion Simon, Lea Rickwood, Chawki Gazal, Lindy Dupree, Lisa Locke, Anita Whiteford, *Nikki Murphy, Helen Moore, Scott Wilson, Noah Decosta*

### Ken Bromley Association Committee

Kathy Hogan (Chair), Mark Urquhart (Sec.), Richard Flanagan (Treas.)  
Andi von Zeppelin, Greg Bowler, David Baguley



### Club Past District Governors

1993/4 Bob Baldwin  
2004/5 Douglas Geekie  
2009/10 Glenn Wran (District 9750)

### Club Past Presidents

Surfers Paradise Central  
Gold Coast Central

1977/79

Ken Baguley OAM

1979/80

David Cavanagh

1980/81

Arthur Newman

1981/82

Jack Kogler

1982/83

John Goldstein

1983/84

Deryl McConaghy

1984/85

Colin Christensen

Kendall McClelland



1985/86

Gedas Rakauskas

Bill Vanderstaay

1986/87

Bill Fox

Terry Lawrence

1987/88

Russell Ewart

Bernie Jarvis

1988/89

Graeme Thiedeke

John Kelly

1989/90

John Watter

Stan Francis

1990/91

Ian Daw

Gerry Ward

1991/92

Peter Laurens

Peter Palmer

Bernie Jarvis

1992/93

Andre von Zeppelin

Tom Bence

1993/94

Dennis O'Connor

Guy Hasenkam

1994/95

John Quayle

John D'Anna

1995/96

Ken Bannister OAM

Chris Kennedy

1996/97

Bob Scott

James Tan

1997/98

Geoff Prentice

Stan Shneider

1998/99

Nan Baldwin

Sam Turrisi

1999/2000

Chawki Gazal

John Kelly

2000/01

David Bonifant

Ian Callan

2001/02

Brian Kidd

Graeme Maus

2002/03

Kevin Stapleton

Sherri Prior

2003/04

Joan McDermott

Kerry Crawford

2004/05

Andrew Csabi

Kerry Crawford

2005/06

Kate Kimmorley

Kathy Hogan

2006/07

Warren Walmsley

John Lander

2007/08

Sue Foskett

Kathy Hogan

2008/09

Peter Watkins

Stan Shneider

2009/10

Richard Flanagan

Vivienne Mallinson

2010/11

David Baguley

John Lander

Past Presidents  
Gold Coast

2011/12

Mark Urquhart

2012/13

Greg Bowler

2013/14

Kathy Hogan

2014/15

Eddie Klimowicz

2015/16

Lynda Hynes

2016/17

Kate Kimmorley

2017/18

Andrew Csabi

2018/19

John D'Anna

2019/20

Rowan Johnstone

2020/21

Melissa Neilsen

2021/22

Kathy Hogan

2022/23

Greg Bowler

2023/24

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Barry (Baz) Lane &  
Greg Bowler

## Service Above Self

1999/00  
Bob Robertson  
2001/02  
Glenn Wran  
2004/05  
Bryan Mason OAM

## Four Avenues of Service

2000/01  
Glenn Wran  
2005/06  
Tom Bence  
2007/08  
Phil Rosenberg

## Annual President's Awards

For outstanding  
Rotary service – Dr  
David Portley  
Memorial Mug  
1985/86  
John Kelly  
1986/87  
Ernie Hicks  
1987/88  
Graham Johnson  
1988/89  
Tim Baker  
Peter Palmer  
1989/90  
Terry Lawrence  
1990/91  
Guy Hasenkam  
1991/92  
Bryan Mason  
1992/93  
Chris Kennedy  
John D'Anna  
1993/94

Gary Kinniard  
1994/95  
Stan Schneider  
1995/96  
Rob Ffrench  
1996/97  
Jim Howe  
1997/98  
Brent Osachuk  
1998/99  
Tony Hemmings  
1999/2000  
Dr Darrell Price  
2000/01  
Bryan Mason  
Kate Kimmorley  
2001/02  
Phil Rosenberg  
Joan McDermott  
2002/03  
John Campbell  
Chawki Gazal  
2003/04  
Jill Ellis  
Michael Atkins  
2004/05  
Douglas Geekie  
Sue Foskett  
2005/06  
Phil Rosenberg  
Chawki Gazal  
2006/07  
Jill Iddon  
David Bonifant  
2007/08  
John Campbell  
Chawki Gazal  
2008/09  
Carol Allan  
Mark Urquhart  
2009/10  
Tom Bence  
Sue Foskett  
2010/11  
Phil Rosenberg  
David Bonifant  
2011/12  
Caroline Mercer  
2012/13  
Dianne Benadretti

2014/15  
Chawki Gazal &  
Mark Urquhart  
2015/16  
David Baguley  
2016/17  
Lynda Montgomery  
2017/18  
Chawki Gazal  
2018/19  
Rowan Johnstone  
2019/20  
Mark Urquhart  
2020/21  
David Baguley  
2021/22  
Barry (Baz) Lane  
2022/23  
Marion Simon  
2023/24  
Natalie Jansson

## Rotary Village Mayors

1991/92  
Terry Lawrence  
1992/93  
Ian Callan  
1994/99  
Brent Osachuk  
1999/2001  
Tony Hemmings  
2001/14  
John F Kelly  
2014/-  
Kathy Hogan

## Active Members

*As of 18 June 2025*

**Maggi Alexander** (Michael  
Hetherington)  
*Information Technology*  
**David Baguley** (Rana)  
*Management Consulting*  
**Jenny Bao** (Martin Reisch)  
*Business Facilitator*  
**Lynda Battig**  
*Tertiary Education*

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**William Bourne**  
*Entrepreneur*

**Greg Bowler**  
*Immigration  
Services*

**Ella Bristow**  
*Community Service*

**Kevin Campbell**  
(Lindy)  
*Self Storage*

**Andrew Chan (Ester)**  
*Accounting*

**Andrew Csabi**  
*Security  
Services*

**John D'Anna**  
*Bicycle Rental*

**John Davis**  
(Louise)  
*Food Services*

**Louise Davis**  
(John)  
*Occupational  
Therapy*

**Nev Davis**  
(Lorraine)  
*Building  
Construction*

**Beth Dermoudy**  
*Fundraising  
Management*

**Marilyn Douglas**  
*Social worker*

**Bryan Dower**  
(Carolyn)  
*Real Estate & Property  
Sales*

**Lindy Dupree**  
*Travel Agency*

**Rob Ffrench (Judy)**  
*Law – Commercial  
& Property*

**Richard Flanagan**  
(Narelle)  
*Electrical Contracting*

**“Ted” Fong Tat Yin**  
(Anni)

*Capital Investments*

**Suzanne Foskett**  
*Real Estate Resid.*

**Terri Gentle**

**Christopher Glasgow (Deb)**  
*Printing*

**Deb Glasgow (Chris)**  
*Recruitment*

**John Goldstein**  
*Baking Retail*

**Fiona Grundy (Darryl)**  
*Pharmacy*

**Mike Hetherington (Maggie  
Alexander)**

*Public Service*

**Kathy Hogan**  
*Human Resources*

**Natalie Jansson**  
*Public Service*

**Lindsay Kaynes**  
*Commercial Property  
Development*

**Kyle Kelly-Collins (Christine  
Liu)**

*Security Services*

**Brian Kidd (Lexie)**  
*Architecture*

**Kate Kimmorley (Eric  
Lugthart)**

*Financial Advisor*

**James King**  
*Luxury Travel*

**Edward Klimowicz (Genik)**  
*Building Services  
Contracting*

**Maryanne Kroon (Russell)**  
*Work Health & Safety*

**Alexander Lang**  
*Tertiary Education*

**John Lunney (Rosemary  
Adams)**

*Merchant Banking*

**Vivienne Mallinson**  
*Employment and Training*

**Lynda Montgomery (Peter)**  
*Health Services and  
Entertainment*

**Susan Myburgh**  
*Tertiary Education*

**Ken Owen**

*Insurance Brokerage*

**Melanie Pakea**

*Disability Support*

**Lea Rickwood**

*Wine Wholesale*

**Bruce Roddick (Coralie)**

*Retail Pharmacy Manag.*

**Bianca Saikals Lima (Toby  
Brazier)**

*E-Commerce Jewelry*

**Assad Sarroff**

*Distribution*

**Marion Simon (Chris)**

*Building Management*

**Mark Urquhart (Kerrie)**

*Residential Architecture*

**Andi von Zeppelin (Anne  
Maree)**

*Tourism*

**Chokyi Wangdi**

*Service co-ordinator*

**Anita Whiteford**

*Primary School Education*

**Garry Williams (Leanne  
Attenborough)**

*Pest Control*

**Glenn Wran (Fern)**

*Investment Banking*

## Active Corporate Members

**Darryl Grundy (Fiona)**

*Health Centre Management*

**Dirk Van Zyl**

*Exercise Physiology*

## Honorary Members

Nan Baldwin

Margaret Grummitt

Peter Laurens

Jennifer Rakauskas

Don Stalker

Kevin Stapleton

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## Treasurer Report

Kathy Hogan PP



Our fundraising for the year has been through the Botanical Bazaar \$17,142, the Ramble \$7,079 and the Bunnings Sausage Sizzles raising a further \$12,000. These events not only allow us to put funds back into the local and overseas communities such as Rise Up, St Johns Crisis Care and Disaster Relief, they are also valuable ways to connect with the public and for members to enjoy the comradery that inevitably makes it fun. Those extra benefits are priceless.

1. The Rotary Foundation
    - Annual Fund \$10,000
    - \$2,000 End Polio Now and
  2. Community Groups assisted on the Gold Coast
    - \$6,000 donation to Rizeup for Christmas Gifts for Children, Pantry Stocks and Microwaves
    - \$2,000 Oz Harvest Children's Education Program
    - \$2,000 to Men of Business Academy - Southport
    - \$7,079 to Rise Up through the GC Ramble
    - \$2,000 to St Johns Anglican Crisis Care
    - \$200 Donations to Hinterland Community Band
    - \$2,000 Passport Rotary Club
    - \$336 Volunteer Coast Guard
    - \$2,000 Malaria Vaccine Project
  3. Support to International Causes
    - \$5,000 to Shelter Box
    - \$982 to Sponsor two Students Sustainable Cambodia Education and Health
    - \$5,000 FAJR Scientific World-Class Surgical Care
    - \$5,000 Brazil Flood Response
    - \$3,000 donation to ROMAC
    - \$2,000 Food Vouchers for Vanuatu
  4. Tertiary Scholarship
    - \$1,500 Ernie Hicks Scholars @ Griffith University
  5. Rotary Youth Programs
    - \$2,500 for District programs – RYLA, RYPEN RYTS
    - \$1,746 for YEP expenses
    - Donation - Ukraine Student \$1000
  6. Social Housing for Elderly
    - Income from the units is strong at approximately \$152,880 pa. \$15,000 was transferred to the Club to go towards our projects. There was an increase in expenditure on unit maintenance and upgrades at the Village this year and will be again next year. With roof restoration works on all 14 units and unit refurbishment when units are vacated. With the age of the complex ongoing upgrades are to be expected to continue into the future.
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# THE ROTARY FOUNDATION

President Greg Bowler



Each year our club donates to Rotary's charity, The Rotary Foundation. We have been donating \$10,000 each year to our Foundation which uses club donations for service projects that change lives locally and internationally. Over the years, our club and its members making personal donations have donated over **\$250,000** to the Foundation. A significant achievement for our club and *Doing Good in the World*.

Total donations also include contributions to the Foundation's *End Polio* project that has virtually eliminated polio around the world through mass vaccinations by Rotary teams, although there are small numbers of cases still in some Third World countries.



This year we completed management of a Foundation Global Grant for medical facilities at Mauna Health Centre on Pentecost Island in northern Vanuatu that was started over six years ago in early 2019. In conjunction with Rotary clubs of Surfiers Sunrise and Broadbeach and a team of Gold Coast Rotaract members, the project involved club donations and contributions from the Foundation totalling US\$54,100 to purchase an X-Ray machine, a blood analyser machine and construction of the medical building for the Mauna Health Centre.

The building was initially constructed at the Surfiers Sunrise club shed, then deconstructed and packed into shipping containers that were shipped to Vanuatu then reconstructed onsite on Pentecost.

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## Vocational Service

Louise Davis



I have thoroughly enjoyed a fun-filled and interesting year in this position and appreciate our club's members (and partners) participation in the various Vocational events organised for the year.

Firstly, my time as Vocational Director started as the Volunteer Coordinator for the Botanical Bazaar in August 2024. A truly amazing event which would not be able to function without the tremendous efforts, time and support from the many volunteers in our club and in the wider community. The meaning behind Vocation being "a strong desire for a certain course of action" was truly encapsulated by the small army of volunteers who worked together to make the Botanical Bazaar a success. I will continue in 2025 in the role of Volunteer Coordinator for the Botanical Bazaar and urge any members to contact me to register as a Volunteer. I know you will find it both rewarding and a learning experience in the field of sustainability.

On the 7<sup>th</sup> of September, our club had a relaxed and interesting visit to the Hound and Stag Brewing Co., which is Australia's largest Taproom and Live Music Precinct located in Arundel. Members were able to learn about the art and science of brewing a craft beer, as well as some the latest innovations in sustainable brewing. After our interesting tour by the Hound and Stag's Master Brewer, members were then treated to a fun afternoon of beer tasting. Our members enjoyed a few creative brews including the "Red Baron", "Dutch Courage" and "Stagalicious".

The next Vocational Event was on the 7<sup>th</sup> of November where our club members attended a very informative visit to the Men of Business (MOB) Academy in Southport. The MOB Academy has developed leadership and mentoring programs to create brighter futures for young men on the Gold Coast. This Academy combines education and skills training, to improve the ability of young men navigating the sometimes difficult, journey through to manhood. It was a visionary concept formulated by Marco Renai and some local businessmen on the Gold Coast and is a testament to believing in the power of education to improve the lives of at-risk adolescent boys who were disenfranchised by traditional education settings due to behavioural issues and educational disengagement. For

more information on the MOB Academy, for those members who missed out on this vocational visit, I do encourage you to visit the following link: the Empowering Young Men at Risk ABC Interview <https://youtu.be/imTD3fMc26M?si=NvWCOFmd-RBeVvco>. After visiting the MOB academy we had a delightful Italian feast at Mr PPs where we enjoyed our ever-present Rotary fellowship.

Finally, on the 1<sup>st</sup> May this year our club was able to visit TopGolf in Oxenford and participate in the vocation of golf. This was a lovely social night of many



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## Community Service

John Davis



Well, what an eventful year it has been. We have managed to be involved in 8 houses this year along with Christmas collection and distribution of gifts with Rizeup. The scourge of Family and Domestic Violence is ever-present in the news so anything we can do to support Rizeup in their quest to improve the lives of the families effected is nothing short of amazing. We now have 10 registered volunteers having added 4 since last changeover. Anyone wanting to be part of the onboarded group just needs to send request to Community Director for instructions.

Over the 12 months our club has donated 104 microwave ovens, provided thousands of dollars toward food hampers for the houses that are setup for families. Rizeup was extremely thankful to Mike Hetherington and Andrew Csabi for their kind donation of \$1000 each for food hampers on top of what our club provided.

This year has seen the introduction of further hands-on volunteering, provided in the form of working bees at the Coomera shed packing groceries for hampers, stocking the grocery shelves and for the real handy men and women the construction of furniture from flat packs. Some real fun and games in this arena but lots of laughs. This form of volunteering requires no onboarding; we encourage anyone to join in and brings friends to show the work we do. Currently, we envisage the working bees to be every 6-8 weeks. Watch club runner emails for details.

We have attended to 4 Bunnings BBQ's, sadly we had to turn a couple of dates down due to other Rotary commitments. In saying that we raised just on \$8000 to support our local community. Amazing work done by the team. We would like to encourage participation by more members to spread the workload, great way to get to know fellow members in a truly social environment.

I would like to thank all the members who have supported our club at the various Rizeup activities and BBQ's, these activities are for such worthwhile causes. I look forward to working with the new Community Director in supporting these programs into the future.



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## YOUTH SERVICE

President Natalie

Youth engagement has been a cornerstone of our club's activities throughout the 2024–25 Rotary year. From leadership development programs to international exchange, our commitment to empowering young people has never been stronger.

One of the highlights of the year was our involvement in the Rotary Youth Exchange (RYE) program. We proudly hosted or supported several exchange students, including Cecilia from Brazil, Eliz from Ukraine, Shuzo from Japan, and Allie from the USA. Each student brought unique perspectives and cultural richness to our club, and their presence was a source of joy and learning for all members. Cecilia's farewell presentation was heartfelt and emotional, reflecting the deep bonds formed during her time with us.

We also sponsored Emily for her outbound exchange to Italy. Her return in January was celebrated with a warm welcome, and she shared her experiences at a club meeting, inspiring others to consider the life-changing opportunity of exchange.

Looking ahead, we are excited to welcome Emmett from Minnesota, USA, in July 2025. Emmett is a talented musician and will attend Southport State High School. We are currently finalising host families and James has volunteered as club counsellor to support his journey.

Beyond exchange, our club supported youth leadership through RYLA and RYTS. We sponsored Mattias Steljic for RYTS 2024, a Year 11 student at Queensland Academies Health Sciences, who has shown exceptional initiative through his involvement in school-based charities, surf lifesaving, and community service. We also endorsed Chokyi Wangdi for RYLA 2025. Chokyi, originally from Bhutan, has demonstrated a strong commitment to helping others and is an exemplary Rotarian.

Our partnerships with local youth organisations also flourished. We supported The Busy School, MOB Academy, and PCYC Gold Coast, exploring initiatives like graduation dress drives and mentoring programs. These collaborations will allow us to make a tangible impact on the lives of disadvantaged and disengaged youth in our community.

In every interaction, our goal has been to foster leadership, build confidence, and create opportunities for young people to thrive. The stories shared, the friendships formed, and the growth witnessed this year reaffirm our belief that investing in youth is investing in the future of Rotary.

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# International Service

Anita Whiteford



The 2024-25 Rotary year was again affected by natural and man-made disasters. The Gold Coast Rotary Club has assisted the recovery of some of these disasters. Along with this support, we have also started sponsoring two Cambodian children with their education.

## Sustainable Cambodia

Cambodia is one of the poorest countries in the world with Pursat Province being the poorest. Many families can't afford to have their children educated and struggle to buy uniforms and books. Twenty years ago, a non – profit organisation called Sustainable Cambodia was established to support struggling families.

It was through Sustainable Cambodia that we received our two sponsor children. Their names are Nit and Sonita. Sonita is from Pursat and Nit is from Kravagh. We communicate regularly with these girls and have been fortunate to receive letters back. Both girls are grateful to Rotary Gold Coast for helping with their education.

2024 Student Profile



Hello! My name is Nit. I am a student in grade 7 at Secondary School. Every day, I live with my father, mother, sister and two nieces. I am the fourth child in the family. My father is a farmer and my mother is a housewife. When I am at home with my family, I love helping my parents with housework, reading books, look after watching the cows and teach my sisters and nieces with new lessons in their grades. In the family, we feed some chickens and cows and the vegetable we grow are lemon grass, lemon and banana. We get the water from well.

Here are the activities that I really enjoy learning at KBFC school is listen to the teacher during explaining the lessons in the classroom that remind me the lessons that teacher has already taught. At KBFC, my friends and I love to invite my friends to read books, drawing, discuss the lessons and do the exercises. I can learn how to speak English, typing the computer and I can sing some English songs. In my KBFC library I am interested in learning more about reading books in English and Khmer, learning about pictures in books and drawing.

Class Art Activity



2024 Student Profile



Hello! My name is Rithsanita. I am a student in grade 4 at Primary school. Every day, I live with my mom, aunt, and two sisters. I am the third child in the family. My parents divorced (I just stayed with my mom) and my mother is a chef. When I am at home with my family I love to wash the dishes, broom the house and play with my sisters. In my family, we feed some dogs and chicken, and the vegetables we grow are herbs. We get the water from the clean water.

Here are the activities that I really enjoy learning at SC school are read the book, play running, play the rubber and ride on the swing with my friends. At SC my friends and I love to share the snack to eat, help my friends with explain the lesson that they didn't understand, learning math with addition, subtract and other subjects. I can learn how to use computer, dancing, preparing the shoes, and sing the English song. In my SC library, I am interested in learning more about how to borrowing the book, painting the picture and listen the story from my librarian teacher.

Library learning

Classroom learning



## FAJR Scientific

The Gaza Crisis began in October 2023 and continues today. The Gaza Strip has experienced major destruction with many casualties. Rotary Gold Coast has helped these casualties by donating \$5000 to FAJR Scientific. This is a non-profit humanitarian organisation dedicated to delivering world class surgical and medical care to those in need. Our donation will help pay for life saving surgeries, the supply of urgent medical equipment, caravans and the restoration of water wells in North Gaza.

## Vanuatu Earthquake

In December last year, Vanuatu experienced two Earthquakes with the capital city, Port Vila suffering catastrophic damage. Rotary Gold Coast has helped the recovery by donating \$2000.

## Atlantis Rotary Club

Atlantis Rotary Club is a new club situated north of Capetown in South Africa. Atlantis is a difficult town experiencing many difficulties such as gang violence. Atlantis Rotary Club is working hard to help these victims of crimes and are looking to establish effective partnerships with Rotary clubs around the world. Rotary Gold Coast has agreed to partner with Atlantis Rotary.

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# Membership Report

PDG Glenn Wran



As of the 5<sup>th</sup> of June 2025, we have inducted twelve new members this Rotary year: William Bourne, Ella Bristow, Marilyn Douglas, Deb Glasgow, Kyle Kelly-Collins, Maryanne Kroon, John Lunney, Susan Myburgh, Melanie Pakea, Bianca Saikale, Chokyi Wangdi and Garry Williams.

Pleasingly, seven of the new members (58%) are women and, as a result, the percentage of women in the club has risen again this year from 42% to 44%. Each of our new members has quickly become involved in several important club activities and will prove to be valuable members of the club.

I am also pleased to report that five of our new members (42%) are in their twenties and one is in her thirties. Finally, four of our new members (31%) are from a non-English speaking background.

Additionally, two prospective members have applied for membership, and they will be inducted on the 19<sup>th</sup> of June for a total of fourteen new members this Rotary year.



## Rotary Village

Kathy Hogan PP



In 1988 the Rotary Club of Bundall, later Gold Coast Central and now Gold Coast negotiated a 50 year lease for a plot of land in Labrador along with a \$347,000 loan from the Dept of

Housing specifically to build and maintain 8 units as part of community housing. The Rotary Club wanted to address the need for safe affordable housing for the elderly. An additional \$56,000 was raised by the club to build 10 units in total and the Rotary Village was built.

A loan from the late Ernie Hicks was accepted to build another two units, he was a member of the club who later forgave the balance of the loan. (Our Griffith University Scholarship is named in his honour.) After many years in the planning the final two units were built and completed in 2013, making 14 in total. Surplus funds from the rental income goes back into the upkeep and maintenance of the Village and thereafter to support our Rotary projects eg homelessness and DV,

We source the applicants from the Department of Housing and the applicants must be in receipt of a full age pension, be a resident of the Gold Coast, they must not have any other financial means of support and they must be capable of looking after themselves. The tenants must also be mobile enough to keep their unit in a clean condition.

Two tenants moved to aged care facilities. Which meant their vacated units needed refurbishment with new floor coverings, new curtains, painting throughout and other small repairs. We finally have a male tenant in the Village again.

There were the usual small maintenance jobs. The most interesting callout was for the snake catch for an errant snake that made the occasional appearance and then disappeared. The snake catcher advised from the description that it was a non-venomous cane toad eating

snake that will squirt a nasty smelling substance if under threat.

Major work was the roof was sealed and painted which has given the buildings a real facelift and the replacement of the very old ceiling fans in all units.

The morning teas the fitter tenants organise for everyone have been a great success in getting them all together and fostering better relationships. The torrential downpour did not dampen their get together for a happy Christmas lunch.

Last year we had damage from the Tornado, this



year the Gold Coast had a Cyclone. Luckily no real damage this time and it was good see the tenants pitch in to make sure that there weren't any loose objects that could get blown away or turn into missiles.



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## Ken Bromley Assoc Inc.

Greg Bowler PP – Chairperson



Scheme In 1965.

Following Australia's involvement in the Vietnam War, the Rotary Club of Surfers Paradise Central established the Wounded Servicemen's

The program was started by Rotarian Griff McKay, ably assisted by ex-servicemen Ken Bromley and Charles Smith.

At that time the program was confined to Australian soldiers receiving treatment at the Yeronga Military Hospital. Ken Bromley, an ex- Naval officer took over the chairmanship in 1971 and was honoured with an M.B.E. for his dedication to the cause. Between 1965 and 1973, a total of 1496 servicemen enjoyed rehabilitation on the Gold Coast.

The programme was continued by the Rotary Club of Surfers Paradise Central, which became the Rotary Club of Gold Coast, through the Ken Bromley Memorial Wounded Service Personnel Convalescent Association, whereby wounded service personnel accompanied by nominated family members receive a fully paid 5 star holiday on the Gold Coast from anywhere in Australia.

Ken was an Honorary member of the Rotary Club of Surfers Paradise Central and willed his home to provide ongoing funds for a program that he had energetically supported. Our Club sold the home and manages the invested funds through an incorporated association, using the interest earned for their holidays.

Service personnel who have served in many overseas areas of conflict have benefited from this program. At one stage even British service personnel wounded in the Falklands conflict enjoyed Gold Coast holidays.

The objects of the Association are to *"provide funds and services to promote the health and wellbeing and generally improve*

*the lives of Australian Defence Force Services personnel physically or mentally wounded in the course of their service of Australia".* All costs are covered including airfares, 5 star accommodation, theme park family passes and a generous allowance for food and incidentals.

We have continued to foster our relationship with Mates4Mates, Solder On and Legacy for referrals of personnel who fit the criteria of being wounded during overseas deployment and through these organisations we have provided holidays for four families this year.

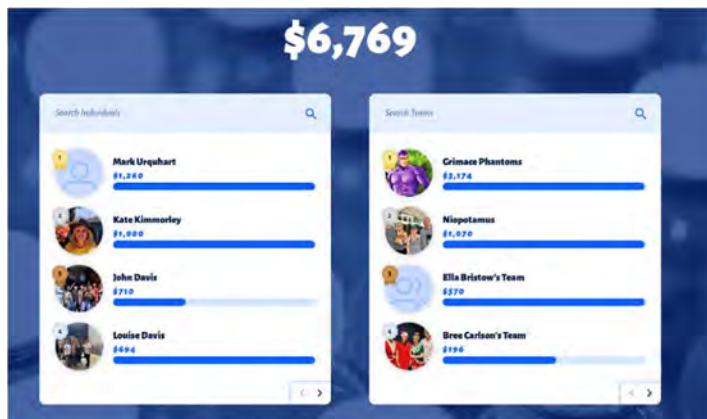
The Committee consists of Chairman Greg Bowler, Treasurer Kathy Hogan, Secretary Mark Urquhart, as well as Lynda Battig, Andi von Zeppelin, David Baguley and Glenn Wran. We thank Kate Kimmorley who continues to provide the Association with her financial management services for our investments.

Thank you all for your contribution. We do make a difference.



# Gold Coast Ramble 2025

David Baguley PP



The Gold Coast Ramble was held at Broadbeach on Sunday 2 February 2025 at 9am. Gold Coast Rotary partnered with The Broadbeach Collective to stage the event and the Ramble was included in the program of events for the Broadbeach Beats and Eats Festival

It was a great opportunity to promote awareness of Rotary's campaign against domestic violence and to raise funds for our charity partner RizeUp, supporting victims of domestic violence. Over 50 participants in 10 teams took part, including a number of Rotary Exchange students. There were some great Bee costumes as shown in the photographs.

It was a great opportunity to promote awareness of Rotary's campaign against domestic violence and to raise funds for our charity partner RizeUp, supporting victims of domestic violence. Over 50 participants in 10 teams took part, including a number of Rotary Exchange students. There were some great Bee costumes as shown in the photographs.

Thanks to Marion Simon and the generosity of Broadbeach businesses, we had plenty of vouchers and accommodation packages to give away as prizes. The centre stage of the Broadbeach Mall was a great location to start and finish the Ramble with the announcement of prizes for the winners of Gold Coast Ramble, the best costumed team and random draws.

A discretionary grant of \$2,000 from Cr Darren Taylor covered event costs so team registration fees were added to team sponsorships. This resulted in \$7,079.67 being transferred to Rizeup. Three (3) teams raised more than \$1000, thus earning 100 bonus points. Reigning champion *Niopotamus* once again scored the most points – managing to completed 35 challenges and also raised \$1,000 for 100 bonus points.





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# Botanical Bazaar 2024

David Baguley PP



Not your average gardening market, our annual festival transforms its entire Country Paradise Parklands site into a vibrant, immersive celebration of gardening, sustainability, and community. Described as "The Woodford of Garden Festivals," we offered an array of activities for all ages, including:

- **Speaking Program:** 34 insightful presentations across three stages featuring celebrity speakers such as Sophie Thomson, Costa Georgiades, Phil Dudman, Morag Gamble and Peter Gash from Lady Elliott island plus a range of local experts.
- **Workshops:** 28 hands-on sessions were led by subject matter experts.
- **Live Entertainment:** Memorable performances by Obi Sun, Joseph Brown, Mr Brown & his Vintage Vibration on the Figtree Stage and other musicians throughout the venue. The performance by indigenous dancers after the Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony was another highlight.
- **Children's Activities:** Interactive and educational programs focusing on nature and healthy living.
- **Exhibitors:** A wonderful range of 100 stalls featuring plant sellers and local artisans.
- **Guided Walks:** The 10 expert-led tours exploring community and urban gardens, including insights from celebrity gardeners were very popular
- **Food Vans:** Our diverse food vendors made us reno-one was hungry
- **Botanic Art Competition:** 81 stunning dragonfly art pieces from the 2024 competition filled the green house
- **School Gardens Competition:** Costa's interaction with the children representing their schools drew the largest crowd. Their videos showcasing the educational value and creativity of school garden projects.
- **Local Environmental Groups:** The Gold Coast Climate Action network's displays educated the public about the efforts of not-for-profit organizations promoting sustainability.
- **Waste Management Excellence:** A standout initiative where we minimise the amount of waste generated going to landfill, showcasing best practices in event sustainability.

Great event on all counts except ticket sales. The attendance was definitely higher than 2023 with many patrons taking advantage of weekend passes. However, the reduction of gate prices to align with on-line prices plus our investment in professional public relations and paid radio advertising affected the financial results, approximately \$17,000 was raised, which is 45% down on 2023. Thanks again to Division 5 Councillor Peter Young for his generous support through a Community Events Grant.

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Having said that, everyone enjoyed a wonderful event with so much positive feedback. These comments from a patron and an exhibitor make all our hard work worthwhile.

**Patron** - Thanks for providing such a brilliant event. Great info beforehand, lovely greetings from the gate crew, interesting range of exhibits and stalls, tasty food and drinks, inspiring speakers....all on a perfect winter weekend at a stunning venue. Congratulations on making it so successful

**Exhibitor** -It was a privilege - and a joy - to be involved in the Botanical Bazaar, our first ever and I hope not the last. For such a huge event I just couldn't fault the organisation and execution, you all did such an incredible job!



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## July 2024

The Rotary year began with a burst of energy and enthusiasm in July 2024. Within the first week, we had already celebrated our Club Changeover on June 29th, followed by the District Changeover the very next day. That same weekend, we also hosted our first Bunnings BBQ of the year—an early reminder of our club’s commitment to service and community engagement.

One of the most exciting moments came during the District Changeover, where our club was honoured with a District Significant Achievement Award for our work on the Vanuatu Project. While we never seek recognition, it was incredibly rewarding to have our efforts acknowledged at a district level. Past President Greg accepted the award on behalf of the club, and it was a proud moment for all involved.

Our first Board meeting of the new Rotary year was filled with energy and ideas. We discussed our goals and aspirations for the year ahead, with a shared vision of creating a balance between fun, fellowship, and meaningful community service. A mini survey conducted at our first club meeting revealed that members were most interested in community-focused projects and social events, with a strong desire to contribute their time and talents.

We also hosted a special member’s night aimed at helping us get to know one another better. It was a heartwarming evening filled with personal stories, laughter, and even a bit of surprise trivia. We were also joined by four visiting Rotarians from Japan, which added an international flavour to the evening. Our exchange student Shuzo played a key role in bridging the language gap and keeping the conversation flowing.

July was a month of firsts, full of promise, purpose, and the unmistakable spirit of Rotary.



## August 2024

August was a month of momentum, milestones, and meaningful connections. We began with a powerful presentation from our very own Mike and Maggie, who shared their journey with ROMAC—Rotary Oceania Medical Aid for Children. Their stories of children receiving life-changing surgeries, often for the first time in their lives, were deeply moving. Seeing the photos and hearing about the challenges these children and their families face reminded us of the profound impact Rotary can have beyond our borders. Inspired by their work, we've begun exploring ways to further support ROMAC through fundraising and hands-on assistance.

The month's major highlight was the Botanical Bazaar, a signature event that brought together community, creativity, and collaboration. After months of planning, the event came to life with vibrant energy. We were thrilled to secure a commitment from Costa Georgiadis, whose presence drew a large crowd and added a buzz of excitement. The event's success was a testament to the hard work of David, Kate, and the entire organising committee. Their dedication and attention to detail ensured everything ran smoothly, and the feedback from attendees and keynote speakers was overwhelmingly positive. Social media played a key role in promoting the event, and members were encouraged to share and engage with posts to help spread the word. The result was a strong turnout and a fantastic showcase of Rotary in action. As we celebrated the success, we also began gathering feedback to make next year's event even better.

Our guest speaker later in the month was Lana from The Busy School, an organisation that supports disadvantaged youth in re-engaging with education. Lana's presentation was both informative and inspiring, and we agreed to explore a future "dress-drive" initiative to help students celebrate their graduation with dignity and pride.

We also celebrated the 17th birthday of our exchange student Cecilia with a surprise party, bringing together fellow exchange students and host families. It was a joyful evening that highlighted the personal connections and cultural exchange that make Rotary Youth Exchange so special.

August was a month of inspiration, action, and community spirit—setting a strong tone for the months ahead.



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## September 2024

September was a month that truly embodied the spirit of Rotary—fellowship, service, and inspiration. We began with the joyful aftermath of our August social event, “Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner.” This creative evening brought members together in small, surprise dinner parties hosted by Louise and John, and Mike and Maggie. The event was a resounding success, filled with laughter, delicious food, and meaningful conversations. Special thanks to Kathy Hogan for her brilliant coordination and planning.

Our club continued to deliver engaging and impactful meetings throughout the month. One of the standout speakers was Tex O’Grady OAM, a retired submariner and mental health advocate. Tex shared his journey of supporting veterans with PTSD through sailing therapy, accompanied by his loyal dog Sheila. His story was both moving and motivating, and we’re now exploring ways to collaborate with Tex through the Ken Bromley Fund and a potential club sailing day.

Another highlight was the visit from Dr Dinesh Palipana, whose powerful story of resilience after a life-changing accident left a lasting impression on everyone in the room. His message of perseverance and purpose was a timely reminder of the strength of the human spirit.

We also enjoyed a vocational visit to Hound and Stag Brewing Co., where 21 members and guests toured the brewery, sampled craft beers, and shared a relaxed lunch. Thanks to Louise Davis for organising this fun and informative outing.

Our community service efforts remained strong, with a successful Bunnings BBQ raising over \$1,800. Thanks to Kathy Hogan and John Davis for their exceptional organisation. We also prepared for another RizeUp Pantry Pack session, supported by generous donations from members including Andrew Csabi, Mike Hetherington, and Maggie Alexander.

To cap off the month, our President represented the club at the Rotary Community Group 3 Growth Plan Workshop. This collaborative session brought together leaders from across the region to explore new strategies for growing Rotary’s reach and impact.

September was a month of connection, compassion, and community—a perfect reflection of what Rotary is all about.

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## October 2024

October was a month of vibrant engagement, youth empowerment, and meaningful connections. We began with a fantastic meeting featuring Jess and Jacqui from Northern Gold Coast Rotaract. Their presentation on Interact and Rotaract programs was eye-opening, especially for members unfamiliar with the scope of youth involvement in Rotary. Jacqui's personal journey, which began with a RYLA sponsorship from our club, was a beautiful reminder of how Rotary can shape lives.

Youth programs remained a strong focus throughout the month. We encouraged members to nominate young people for the 2024–25 Rotary Youth Leadership Programs, including RYLA and RYTS. These programs offer transformative experiences, and our club is proud to support the next generation of leaders. We also confirmed our sponsorship of Emmett, an inbound exchange student from Minnesota, USA, arriving in July 2025. Emmett is a talented musician and will attend Southport State High School. We began the search for host families and a club counsellor to support his exchange journey.

We also prepared for our next Bunnings BBO and reminded members about the importance of volunteering to ensure its success. These events continue to be a vital part of our fundraising efforts and community visibility.

October wrapped up with a strong sense of purpose and unity. From empowering youth to strengthening our club's social bonds, it was a month that showcased Rotary's ability to make a difference—locally and globally.



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## November 2024

November was a month of variety, celebration, and new beginnings. We started with a vocational visit to the Men of Business (MOB) Academy, where members were inspired by the passion and dedication of the staff working with disengaged youth. The visit was followed by a social evening at Mr PPs, filled with laughter, great food, and fellowship. Thank you to Louise and Terri for organising such a memorable night.

A special moment came with the induction of our newest member, Ella Bristow. As our youngest member, Ella brings fresh energy and perspective to the club, and we're excited to see her grow within the Rotary community.

Our Bunnings BBO on November 10th was another success, thanks to the many volunteers who gave their time. These events continue to be a cornerstone of our fundraising efforts, and we're grateful for the consistent support from our members.

Later in the month, our club was well represented at the District 9640 AGM and Rotary Foundation Seminar. Members collaborated on a potential homelessness project with the Burleigh Heads club, showcasing the power of inter-club partnerships. We looked forward to exploring this initiative further in the coming months.

Preparations also began for our annual Christmas party and gift drive for RizeUp. Members were encouraged to bring unwrapped gifts for children in need, continuing our tradition of giving during the festive season.

November was a month of action, connection, and generosity. With new members, new ideas, and ongoing service, our club continued to thrive and make a meaningful impact.



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## December 2024

December brought the festive spirit to life with celebration, reflection, and heartfelt farewells. Our annual Christmas party, held on December 5th, was a joyful evening filled with fun, fellowship, and festive cheer. The event was moved forward due to travel plans, and the turnout was fantastic. Members enjoyed a delicious two-course meal, shared laughs, and celebrated the year's achievements. A big thank you to Kathy for her excellent organisation.

In the spirit of giving, members brought unwrapped gifts for children, which were donated to RizeUp's annual Christmas collection. This act of generosity helped brighten the holidays for families in need and was a beautiful reminder of Rotary's commitment to service.

We also held our AGM, where we inducted new members and introduced the President-Elect for 2025–26. It was a moment of transition and excitement as we looked ahead to the future of our club.

December also marked the end of the exchange year for Cecilia from Brazil and Eliz from Ukraine. Cecilia gave a heartfelt farewell speech, expressing gratitude for the experiences and friendships she gained during her time in Australia. Eliz, hosted by the Coomera River club but closely connected to ours, also prepared to return home. Their departures were emotional, but their growth and gratitude were deeply rewarding for all involved.

Our final Bunnings BBQ of the year took place on December 21st, our first Saturday slot. With the holiday rush, it was a busy and successful event. Volunteers worked hard to maximise fundraising, and the results were impressive.

December was a fitting end to a remarkable year—full of warmth, generosity, and Rotary spirit.



# January 2025

January ushered in the new year with a sense of renewal and reflection. After a brief holiday break, our club returned with fresh energy and a continued commitment to service. The final event of 2024—a Bunnings BBQ on December 21st—was a great success, raising valuable funds to support our local initiatives. Special thanks to all who volunteered, especially John and Louise, whose leadership and dedication ensured everything ran smoothly.

January was also a time of heartfelt farewells. We said goodbye to our exchange students Eliz from Ukraine and Cecilia from Brazil. Their time with us was filled with growth, cultural exchange, and unforgettable memories. Eliz’s journey, in particular, was deeply moving—she came to us through a humanitarian exchange program, and our club played a significant role in supporting her experience. Her farewell was emotional, and her gratitude was a powerful reminder of the impact Rotary can have on young lives.

We also welcomed home our outbound student Emily from Italy. Her return was marked by joyful reunions and stories of her adventures abroad.

Our first club meeting of the year was a warm and enthusiastic gathering. January was a month of transition—saying goodbye, welcoming home, and preparing for the exciting months ahead.





## February 2025

February was a month of growth, inspiration, and heartfelt connection. We began with a fantastic meeting featuring Neale Butler from Sailability, who shared the story of this incredible program that helps people with disabilities experience the joy of sailing. Neale's passion and dedication were evident, and we're exploring ways to support Sailability through volunteering and fundraising.

We also welcomed our newest member, Sue Myburgh, who jumped straight into club activities by helping out at the January Bunnings BBQ. Sue's enthusiasm and commitment are already making a positive impact, and we're thrilled to have her on board.

Mid-month, we had the pleasure of hearing from Nicolle and Gareth Edwards from RizeUp. Their powerful presentation about building a support network for families affected by domestic violence moved everyone in the room. The emotional depth and resilience they shared reminded us why our partnership with RizeUp is so important. Plans are already underway for another flatpack session, and members are eager to get involved.

February also marked our Youth Night—a celebration of Rotary Youth Exchange and youth leadership. We welcomed back Emily from her exchange in Italy, heard from District RYE Chair Kath Koch, and enjoyed stories from Rotarian John Campbell, a former exchange student himself. The energy in the room was electric, and we're excited to be sponsoring Emmett from Minnesota for the 2025–26 exchange year.

The month wrapped up with a strong sense of community and purpose. February reminded us of the power of Rotary to connect, uplift, and inspire.



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## March 2025

March was a month of resilience, reflection, and Rotary spirit. We began with a high-energy meeting attended by 41 members and guests, where we inducted two new members—Deb Glasgow and Garry Williams. Their enthusiasm and commitment were immediately felt, and we're excited to welcome them into our Rotary family.

We also had the pleasure of hosting international guests, including President Wu-Yi from the Rotary Club of Touliu Southeast in Taiwan and Alexandre Fernandes from Brazil's District 4590. Their presence added a global touch to our meeting, and the exchange of gifts and stories reminded us of Rotary's international reach.

March was the month of Cyclone Alfred and we made the tough call to cancel our 7th March meeting due to the imminent weather event. Luckily all our members survived the wrath of Alfred and our planned guest speaker, Sergeant Cherie McLean from PCYC Gold Coast, had to cancel due to emergency service duties. Her talk was rescheduled for April, and we look forward to learning more about PCYC's impactful work.

The month ended with a sense of anticipation as we prepared for the upcoming District 9640 Conference. Members were encouraged to register and participate in what promised to be an inspiring and energising event.

Despite a few disruptions, March was a testament to our club's adaptability and commitment to service. We continued to grow, connect, and prepare for even greater things ahead.



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## April 2025

April was a month of inspiration, education, and renewed community engagement. It began with the much-anticipated District 9640 Conference, which delivered a weekend full of Rotary spirit. From the lively Friday night cocktail party to the diverse lineup of guest speakers and project showcases, the conference was a celebration of everything Rotary stands for. Members who attended returned with fresh ideas and a renewed sense of purpose, ready to bring new energy into our club.

We were also thrilled to finally welcome Sergeant Cherie McLean from PCYC Gold Coast as our guest speaker. Her presentation, postponed from March due to emergency duties, was well worth the wait. Cherie shared the impactful work PCYC does to support youth through programs like “Braking the Cycle,” which helps disadvantaged young people complete their required driving hours to obtain a license. The initiative not only improves employment opportunities but also builds confidence and community connection. Several members expressed interest in volunteering as driver mentors, and we’re excited to explore this partnership further.

Another highlight was hearing from Rotary Youth Exchange student Cassi Priess from Germany. Cassi, hosted by the Rotary Club of Nerang, shared her Impact Project—a fundraising dinner to support Serving Our People. Her initiative and passion were inspiring, and members supported her efforts by attending the event or donating.

To close the month, our own club member Andrew Csabi gave a powerful and personal presentation. As a Security expert and Bali bombing survivor, Andrew shared practical insights on situational safety. His presentation was delivered with passion and sparked important conversations among members about awareness and preparedness. Andrew also generously gave away copies of his book *Bom Bali: Life After Death*, which chronicles his experience and reflections.

April reminded us of Rotary’s reach—from local youth programs to international exchange, from personal stories of survival to district-wide collaboration. It was a month that strengthened our bonds, expanded our impact, and reaffirmed our commitment to service.



# May 2025

May marked the final full month of the Rotary year, and it was filled with reflection, celebration, and anticipation for what's to come. With Changeover just around the corner, preparations were underway to welcome President-Elect Terri into her new role. Unfortunately due to personal reasons, Terri made the difficult decision to withdraw from the President's role for 2025-26. Natalie as current President and Maggie and President-Nominee decided they would share the year ahead with each of them undertaking the role for six months of the year.

We also enjoyed a lively social night at Top Golf in Oxenford, organised in place of our postponed Vocational and Community Service Awards. The evening was full of laughter, friendly competition, and fellowship. Members took to the driving bays with enthusiasm—some with skill, others with comic flair—and shared a delicious meal together. The event was a wonderful reminder of the joy and connection that Rotary brings beyond formal meetings. Thank you to Louise for coordinating the night and to everyone who attended.

May also saw our President depart temporarily for a work secondment in Western Australia. In her absence, IPP Greg stepped in to lead the club, ensuring continuity and support. Her farewell message reflected gratitude for the opportunity and excitement to return in mid-June with new experiences to share.

As the month came to a close, we reflected on the incredible journey of the past year. From youth programs and international exchanges to community service and fellowship, our club has grown stronger, more connected, and more impactful. May was a month of transition—celebrating what we've achieved, preparing for what's next, and continuing to show up for each other and our community.



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## June 2025

The month of June was a whirlwind of activity, connection, and inspiration for the Club. President Natalie returned from a six-week secondment with the South West Aboriginal Medical Service in Bunbury, WA, bringing with her fresh insights and stories to share. President-elect Terri also made the difficult decision to withdraw from the President's role for personal reasons. To cover this loss the Board appointed Natalie as President for 2025-26 and Lynda Battig to the role of Secretary. The 2024-25 Board also had a combined meeting with the new 2025-26 Board to round out the year. The new Board comes into effect on 3 July 2025 at our Changeover.

A significant highlight of the month was our guest speaker, Professor Cindy Shannon AM, who shared reflections on her role as Chair of the Gold Coast Hospital and Health Board. As a descendent of the Ngugi people from Moreton Bay and a prominent leader in Indigenous health, Cindy inspired members with her insights into current challenges and the promising developments on the horizon. Her rich background, including the development of Australia's first degree-level program for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health workers and her role in founding the Institute for Urban Indigenous Health, resonated deeply with the club.

Our meetings were also marked by the storytelling brilliance of filmmaker Dan Stevenson of Bordertown Films, a past member of our club. Dan showcased his moving short film, *Magic Chalk*, which highlights the journey of a mother and daughter escaping domestic violence. The screening touched hearts and underscored why our Rotary club's support for initiatives like RizeUp is so vital. Dan also shared a professionally crafted video of our members setting up a safe refuge home, a testament to the practical and impactful ways we serve the community.

June was a time of inspiration and reflection, with heartfelt gratitude extended to Greg for seamlessly stepping in during Natalie's absence. With such a rich tapestry of stories and accomplishments, June set a tone of unity and service, embodying;

*The Magic of Rotary.*

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# Thank You

As we close the chapter on the 2024–25 Rotary year, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to each and every one of you who made this journey so memorable.

This year has been filled with laughter, learning, and leadership. From our first meeting to our final meeting, your dedication to service and fellowship has been unwavering. Whether you were welcoming exchange students, mentoring youth, flipping sausages, attending vocational visits, or simply showing up with a smile—your presence made a difference.

I'm especially grateful for the way our club embraced the spirit of Rotary Youth Exchange. Supporting students from Brazil, Ukraine, Japan, Mexico, and the USA brought a richness to our club that words can't fully capture. Watching these young people grow, learn, and share their cultures with us was a true highlight.

To our Board and committee members—thank you for your tireless efforts behind the scenes. Your leadership and creativity helped shape a year full of meaningful projects and unforgettable events. To our guest speakers, thank you for inspiring us with your stories and insights.

And to our members—new and longstanding—thank you for your generosity, your time, and your heart. You are the reason our club thrives.

As we move to the 2025-26 Rotary year, I continue to serve with immense pride and gratitude. I look forward to seeing how our club continues to grow and evolve.

Thank you for an incredible year. It's been an honour to serve as your President.

Warm regards,

*Natalie Jansson*





Mart Urquhart  
PHOTOGRAPHY