## PO BOX 59 WEST PERTH WA 6872

ABN: 73 171 897 613

Rotary District 9455



# The Bulletin

# **Breakfast Meeting 15 May 2025**

# **Guest Speaker**

The Guest Speaker this week will be Mrs Margaret Watroba Electrical Engineer BHP Billiton who will talk about her Mt Everest adventures.

## **Duty Roster**

<b>Duty Role</b>	15 <sup>th</sup> May	One Week Look Ahead
Host	Geoff Hick	Ian Hutton (when available)
Welcome	lan Hutton (when available)	Kym MacCormac
Toast	Kym MacCormac	Tony Pepper
Thanks	Tony Pepper	Mally Rall
Bulletin	Mally Rall	Geoff Simpson
2 Minute Noodles	Geoff Simpson	Ant Ulijn

Please find a substitute if you cannot fulfill your duty

# **Breakfast Meeting 8 May 2025**

(With thanks to Tony Pepper)

# **Guest Speaker**

Our Guest Speaker last week was Ms Catherine Henwood, CEO Perth Symphony Orchestra. Catherine spoke to us about her remarkable worldwide musical journey, and it was a feast of inspiration. From the get-go, Catherine thanked Pat E for helping get everything sorted for her talk. Then she leapt right in.

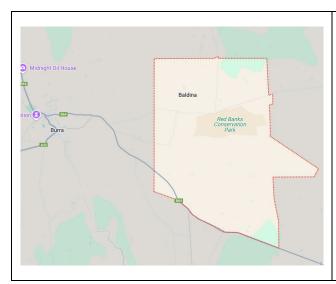
"My name is Catherine Henwood CEO of the Perth Symphony Orchestra. We have the West Australian Symphony Orchestra who is based in the Concert H, then we have the Perth Symphony Orchestra that has performed some concerts in the Concert Hall, as well as a lot of other things outside the Hall.

It's always a bit of a shock for people when I tell them that my heart really is in the Australian country. I grew up riding around the Burra hills on a motorbike mustering sheep and doing all kinds of fun and crazy things.





Home was Baldina Station (I think) which is near Burra, a historic copper town and the Merino Capital of the world, is in the mid-north of South Australia, around Goyder's Line, a line that runs roughly east—west across South Australia and, in effect, joins places with an average annual rainfall of 10 inches/ 250mm, dropping an inch a mile. It is a very changeable land, so that at one end of our station, you could sew a crop, but the other end you definitely could not.





The hills that I biked chasing sheep, go on to form the Flinders Ranges and is very, very beautiful country, but also very rugged. I was the oldest of four children and my dad was a farmer, but originally a scientist, and my dad took a different approach to farming, and we grew up okay. We did crazy things like jumping off of cliffs into water holes and we really did have such a fantastic upbringing in that country.



But while we were looking after farm animals and chasing sheep, we also learned ballet and piano and art, because every week my mum would drive us from the sheep station down to

Adelaide, a two and a half hours drive each way to have all of these lessons and that's how I learned music while growing up in the bush, which of course, I'm so grateful to mum now, as I grew up to be a serious classical pianist. I would do piano in the morning and in the evening and went on to play piano at boarding school down at Pembroke in Adelaide and then went on to graduate from the Adelaide Conservatorium with honours in performance. I also completed my Bachelor of Commerce degree. Around that time, I thought about what I was going to do with this; am I going to be a classical pianist or an accountant (hard choice)? So, I thought I'd go to the United States to try and help figure this out, and I ended up going to Boston where I had an uncle. When I was there, I fell straight into the most amazing job running a concert hall called Jordan Hall which was part of the New England Conservatory, one of the really premier conservatories in America, and of a similar standard to the Juilliard School





We had the most incredible artists coming and performing on this stage every week, and it is where Boston Philharmonic Orchestra performs. They came to me when I was only 27 and asked if I would be their general manager. I said yes. It was a huge learning curve for me. I had never actually been part of an orchestra before, so I had to learn how to run one.

I worked with this amazing man, Benjamin Zander, who is still conducting now and who would be in his late 80s now. He was also a motivational speaker who spoke about orchestral conducting as a model of leadership for major companies; Fortune 500 companies such as Coca Cola, Nike, Adidas.



One of our really major projects we did, was taking Mahler's Symphony No. 8 down to Carnegie Hall in New York, an incredible adventure. This Symphony, which some of you may have seen, is called Symphony of 1000 and it literally is a huge orchestral force and choir, and we took all of that down to New York and gave sold out performances of Mahler's 8.

A fantastic experience for me as you can imagine, from the bush in South Australia to Carnegie Hall. My brain was really exploding at this time, and my mum was following all the journey way from Adelaide in the Advertiser. So very proud was my mum.



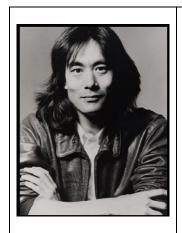




It was also at this time that I met my future husband, who was from Western Australia, and I didn't realise it at the time that all West Australians come with an invisible tattoo on the bottom of their foot saying *I'm one day returning to WA*. In the meantime, work was available in California, and we decided to move there where I found a job working with this wonderful conductor, Kent Nagano, and I became the executive director of the Berkeley Symphony.



Berkeley is across the Bay from San Francisco. It was an amazing time in the early 2000s, and it was a really exciting time to be in California during the .com boom when there was so much happening, and this orchestra was a very interesting company to work with because it did a lot of new music, and a lot of world premieres were happening on stage for this company.









We decided to return to Australia to have our family and we were blessed with three children, two boys and a girl. When we finally came to Western Australia, I saw the light and realised this actually is the best place in the world to live, and that I'd really love to get back into the arts again, so I started work with the West Australian Ballet where I worked for 9 years, heading up their philanthropy and fundraising programmes. We had an absolutely incredible journey where we raised lots of money for different types of productions. Another thing that we did while I was there, we set up an endowment for the company

While I was in the US, I learnt a lot about fundraising and the power of an endowment for an arts company. I feel really strongly about establishing a sustainable funding source for arts. It's something that's not done enough here in Australia and I think there is so much amazing potential for that here. So, we set up the endowment and launched it with \$7.5 million dollars and it was really ground breaking at that time. There were a lot of companies then and there still are a lot of companies now that do not have an endowment.

After the West Australian Ballet, I decided I wanted to get back into orchestral land, so I decided to join Perth Symphony Orchestra. Straight away you realise this is not a normal orchestra; the players stand.







It's a really different kind of company. We're playing in different places and playing in different spaces. Our orchestral musicians will sometimes be in a costume, there's smoke, there's many, many different effects that we use. We're a company that is now playing a really important role in the freelance sector in WA and providing all kinds of work for creatives in WA. We're really helping to grow this sector and making our state more creative and have more musical experiences here. We also provide employment for hundreds of musicians and provide musical experiences all over the state. We are not just based in the Concert Hall, and that was a really important part of Perth Symphony starting out.

We have a wonderful West Australian Symphony in the Concert Hall, but we see our job as being out of the Concert Hall mainly. We often get called the orchestra that breaks the rules; breaks the rules of the Concert Hall. We do not want to be an orchestra on stage with an audience behind an invisible glass wall. We want people to feel like they can be part of our orchestra, that our orchestra is for them. We will play music they might recognise, and we will make those experiences very accessible and in places that people feel comfortable attending.

The way we survive is a very different kind of model, quite a commercial model where we do rely on donations and sponsorships. We sell tickets to our shows, and we have a very large portion of our funding that comes from fee-for-service type of work, but our support is where we partner with local governments, councils and shires where they will want to host a big event to engage their population. We will come in and do a concert for a fee and that's how we pay our players and that's how we survive. Importantly, we actually get a tiny amount of funding from governments. That is what I am very much focused on at the moment; building that government support because the role we're playing in our state is not reflected in our government funding right now. But you will be hard pushed to find any organisation in the world that has such a small government funding. We are very unique amongst orchestras.

The role we play we, we understand we're in an ecosystem. We really see our role as being critical for young musicians that are graduating from WAPA and UWA and they want to aspire

to a professional full time contract in one of our other state or national companies, but they get experience first within Perth Symphony. We also have a huge number of professional freelance musicians who've decided they don't want to be locked down by just one company, they want to freelance, which means they will take work from a number of different companies. So that is where we fit. We do a lot of work right across our state and we are constantly on the road. Next week its Karratha.





Examples of our work included the solar eclipse where we were in Carnarvon playing, and we have a series of community concerts, for example, in Kalgoorlie we partnered with Northern Star and put on fantastic events for their community. We also have a signature programme called Green Shoots, which is a yearlong residency in the regions, such as Narrogin and Moora, and it's a really transformational programme where we will spend a year working with people that might have played an instrument or want to learn an instrument. To give you an idea, there was a group of ukulele players aged between 70 and 92. What we did is we worked with them throughout the year to teach them how to play their instrument and then at the end of the year, we did a big concert with the community musicians out the front, and our orchestra behind them in a really unique setting. In Narrogin and we built an arena of hay bales to reflect the Narrogin area and then we invited the whole community in to come and watch members of their own community get up and play music. It was hot and windy that day with a strict fire ban!



It doesn't matter who you are, or where you're from, it's about being together with members of your community. There are governments and local councils that really worked hard for years trying to achieve these kinds of outcomes and that's where Perth Symphony shows that music brings everyone together and it unites a community in such a special way. We have seen this countless of times now.

We also do corporate performances where it's a fee-for-service engagement and that could be for Business News or the Australian Institute of Management when we do their awards.

We have national promoters that go around and do national shows right around the country and we will be their orchestra here in Perth. We also have a wonderful electric quartet, and this is a good example of us doing things a bit differently. This Perth quartet made it to the finals of Eurovision, so we created a tribute video of them performing their song and we posted it on the Web, and it got a million shares online. They got the response of being the coolest orchestra in the world. That's what was said about them.





For 2025, we've got a beautiful series coming through and thank you so much. We hope to see you at the next concert at some stage."

The flyer handed out at breakfast is at the back of the Bulletin. You can also order tickets for the tribute concert.

#### Questions

Not quite a question but John VV said "I have to say we love with your orchestra. We've been to a lot of your concerts and you really bringing the music to the people, and you're doing it in very unique places. We went to one concert in the Railway Repair Shop in Middle, and you had Dalek's sliding around and they were playing the pylons. You have very talented people from all sorts. Everybody loved the music.

#### I love that.

Tony gave the Vote of Thanks and said what a pleasure it was to have a talk from an organisation that goes to the community rather than in a Concert Hall. As Tony has a son who has graduated from WAPA, he knows how hard it is to tell budding graduates and young people to get a real job so that they can make real money. But they're passionate about what they do, and they just want to continue doing what they love, which is the cohort you work with Catherine. Like all things with community, sometimes the government is happy to pay \$65 million for a rugby team, but it won't support the arts, and that's a shame in our community. I commend you for trying to get a bit more money out of government, and we all wish you good luck

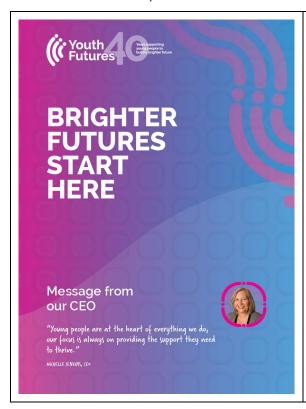


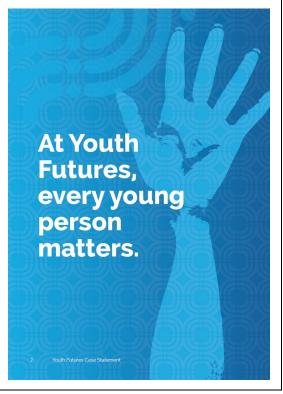
## 2-Minute Noodles



Chop Shop Guest Chef last week was Mally Rall who happened to be passing through on her way to her busy life. This is what she dished up:

"I'm going to talk about Youth Future. It started as a nonprofit organisation to assist young women who were pregnant and were homeless, because the legislation here is, if you don't have a fix abode, the authorities will take your child away from you regardless. That moved the heart of person called Mark who started this organisation, and which has just recently left. But the reason I'm letting you about this is because I know there are a few cyclists here and one of the major fundraisers is the Pipeline Challenge, in which you ride from Kalgoorlie to Parkerville in the outer Perth region. It goes over 4 days following the water pipeline and it's a great race and it's a great thing to do. It's a relay and you can have as many people in your team as you would like, and they do great things for this particular cause providing young woman with a safe place to raise their children.





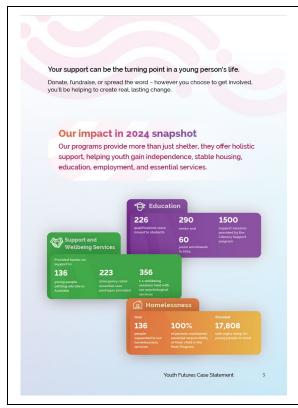
Their mission and values are that every person matters, and they want to empower them, and they have an enormous amount of empathy for each person's unique story. They want to ensure that each person and each woman is valued along with her child and that they stand together and work with integrity and develop integrity around the space as well as vigour.

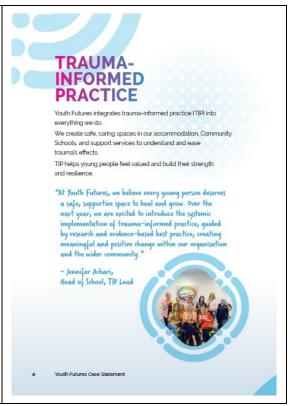




Essentially, their vision is every young person is valued and celebrated, no matter what their background or circumstances.

They've been operating for 40 years and essentially what they do now is they run a number of different programmes where they're supporting young people. The most significant one is the creation of shelters but specifically providing young women with opportunities and places and support for having their children.





The programmes provide more than just shelters, they offer holistic support to helping youth gain independence, stable housing, education, employment and essential services, so very similar to what Foyer does, but Foyer takes people who are able to have a tertiary education and support them to finish school, giving them a place to stay so that they can finish school and then when they go to university, buy using their Centrelink grants.

Youth Futures has a whole team of experienced councillors and people who intervene and engage with the young people, taking them off the streets and supporting them through their pregnancies and then putting them into quick secure accommodation.



The Nest is where they started, which is the home for unmarried mothers and a place for safe accommodation and an outreach. Accommodation that helps young parents, their babies and small children to grow and thrive.

They have a six-bed short term crisis accommodation and long-term stays for up to 12 months. They've just started the Tanoka short term accommodation, which is for 15 to 19 year olds.

Then they have Tap North for groups of people, which is the next part of the programme. Tap North not only supports housing, but also provides vocational education, securing jobs in order to earn a salary similar to what PICYS' does, and then enable them to be procuring their own accommodation. They also provide support for those people with families who have mental health issues and are struggling with employment, and they have connected with Saint Patrick's in Fremantle who offer support for people facing homelessness.



They also have a programme for a sort of on-site short drop-in centre which is very similar to what PICYS offers with their breakfast.

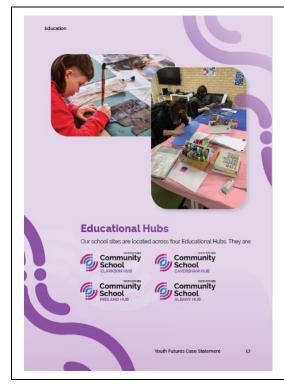
- Statistically, they provided 72 young people in Perth with safe short term accommodate.
- Last year transitioning housing for 55 young people and 30 children
- Housing support for 50 young people and 25 children.
- Have supported 85 young people and 23 children.

## The sort of things they do:

- Drug education support with counselling opportunities
- Provide emergency relief facilities
- Provide settlement services where they help people find accommodation once they move out these out of the short term stays
- They're looking towards moving into education and training to provide for the young people, the community education programmes where they've got at-risk young kids.
- They have drop-in programmes at schools where they'll do things like art therapy and counselling services.



- They also support Pathways, which is an education programme run by the Department of Education Department for kids at risk
- They have a number of literary programmes
- All these programmes run alongside the more formal education institutions for those kids who can't go to normal schools anymore because they've been kicked out.





There are lots of different ways of getting involved.





### The Pipeline Challenge.

If you're interested and I hope you are, it's being sponsored by Big Yellow, which is my husband's company and I'm giving it a bit of a push. It's in September and it's a relay. Last year they raised \$180,000 and the year before I think it was \$120,000 and it's about corporates sponsoring teams.

Information at the end of the Bulletin, for participation and donations. Thank you

#### **Questions:**

Where do they get the housing/ accommodation from? There is The Nest and at the moment they are in the process of looking to develop more accommodation. The Nest is a series of one bedroom apartment, more like a big house/ hotel and is quite small though for the kids and the young mums when they are ready to have their babies. They have another programme where they have a series of transportable units that are currently in a sort of a centre location that's just outside Armadale and they have volunteers on site to assist and give skills, that kind of thing. They are also partnering with the Department of Communities and other organisations like Anglicare. Their focus has always been with the young mothers.

#### **Announcements**

**RFD**: There's only one week to go for Royal Flying Doctor Day which is next Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> May. Those who have supported the programme so far is very much appreciated. The Board has agreed to put \$8000 to match anything that the trust receives from donation. One week to get donations from friends, family and associates. It's a terrific cause as they do a great job for medical emergencies throughout the region.

**Changeover Night**: Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> June at Anzac House, \$75 ahead for a two-course meal and cash bar. Parking at the back of Council house for \$5 after 6:00pm.

**President at Home:** Members, Wives and Partners, Pres and Mrs Tick are throwing open their doors at 14 Hope Street Ardross, for the much anticipated President at Home shindig amongst the boxes and hired furniture from 3:00pm to 6:00pm. Come see how the other half once lived. Please bring a plate. Ticks will provide beverages.

#### Still On the Horizon:

- The possibility of a field trip in the country in September, weekender and overnight stay, maybe Geraldton or something like that. A bus load on a cultural tour
- A Motor Neurone disease project is in the making
- Vietnam Water project is getting traction, sinking a well, a bore, water tank, reverse osmosis, solar batteries, reticulation
- Writers Guild project being considered: \$7000 to gutter up
- A PNG project in pipeline for water type sanitation, tie-in with guest speaker

**Bulletin Vacancy:** Deadline 30<sup>th</sup> June 2025.

**Speaker Hunting Vacancy** may not be so vacant after all. Watch this space.

Duty Role	01 May	08 May	15 May	22 May	29 May
Host	4	Dennis Hartley	Geoff Hick	Ian Hutton	Kym MacCormac
Welcome	Dennis Hartley	Geoff Hick	Ian Hutton	Kym MacCormac	Tony Pepper
Toast	Geoff High	Ian Hutton	Kym MacCormac	Tony Pepper	Mally Rall
Thanks		Kym MacCormac	Tony Pepper	Mally Rall	Geoff Simpson
Bulletin	K MacCormac	Tony Pepper	Mally Rall	Geoff Simpson	Ant Ulijn
2 Minutes	ony Pepper	Mally Rall	Geoff Simpson	Ant Ulijn	John Van Vliet

#### **UNDER THE SPOTLIGHT**



Birthdays
No candles this week
Anniversaries
Too busy with football
Rotary Membership
Out to lunch

## **Attendance**

Members:	17
Honorary Member:	0
Visiting Rotarians:	0
Guests:	0
Guest Speaker:	1
Total:	18
Apologies:	12

# **President's Parting Thought**

There are two rules in life. One: Never give out all the information ... This is a quote that could have come from Donald F Trump...



# **Summary of Upcoming Meetings**

Thu 22<sup>nd</sup> May: Ms Jenny Davis, Playwriter: Theatre 180

Thu 29<sup>th</sup> May: Professor Steve Wilton Medical Researcher: Bespoke Medicines for

Rare Diseases

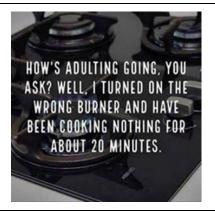
Thu 5<sup>th</sup> Jun: Professor Kingsley Dixon OAM: Service to Conservation Biology

Thu 12<sup>th</sup> Jun: Professor Ralph Martins AO: Detecting Alzheimer's at an Early Age

Stage

## **Tit Bits**





Nothing spoils a good story like the arrival of an eyewitness.

~ Mark Twain

Anyone remember the good ol' days, before Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter? When you had to take a photo of your dinner, then get the film developed, the go around to all your friends' houses to show them the picture of your dinner? No? Me neither. Stop it.



Husband Hack: Next time you're in a fight with your wife, start undressing.

She will instantly have a headache and fall asleep.

## **PADDY'S LAMENT**

A Pastor entered his donkey in a race, and it won. The Pastor was so pleased with the donkey that he entered it in the race again, and it won again.

The local paper read: PASTOR'S ASS OUT FRONT.

The Bishop was so upset with this kind of publicity that he ordered the Pastor not to enter the donkey in another race.

The next day the local paper headline read: BISHOP SCRATCHES PASTOR'S ASS.

This was too much for the Bishop, so he ordered the Pastor to get rid of the donkey. The Pastor decided to give it to a Nun in a nearby convent.

The local paper, hearing of the news, posted the following headline the next day: NUN HAS BEST ASS IN TOWN.

The Bishop fainted. He informed the Nun that she would have to get rid of the donkey, so she sold it to a farm for \$10.

The next day the paper read: NUN SELLS ASS FOR \$10

This was too much for the Bishop so he ordered the Nun to buy back the donkey and lead it to the plains where it could run wild.

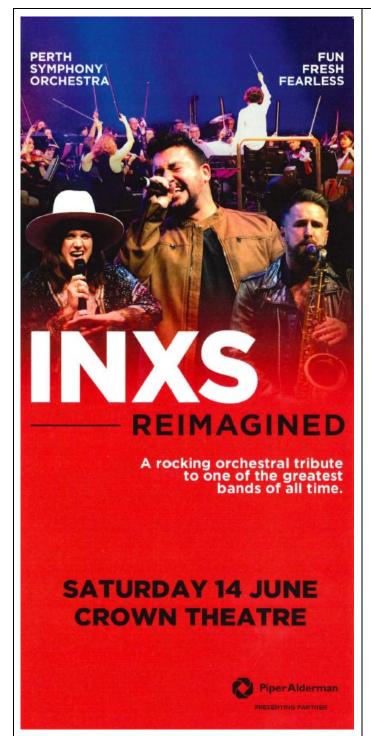
The next day the headlines read: NUN ANNOUNCES HER ASS IS WILD AND FREE.

The Bishop was buried the next day.

The moral of the story is . . . being concerned about public opinion can bring you much grief and misery and even shorten your life.

So be yourself and enjoy life! Stop worrying about everyone else's ass and just cover your own!!!

You'll be a lot happier and live longer!



Following a sell-out season in 2023, experience this powerful tribute to one of Australia's most iconic rock bands - brought to life with a full orchestra, choir, and sensational soloists. Their timeless hits remain as powerful as ever, making this symphonic celebration a must-see for fans old and new.

Rising from Perth's pub scene to take over the world's best stadiums, Michael Hutchence, Andrew, Tim, and Jon Farriss, Garry Gary Beers, and Kirk Pengilly left an unparalleled legacy in the music world. Audiences can expect a setlist packed with INXS classics, from the unforgettable groove of Devil Inside to the heartfelt emotion of Never Tear Us Apart.





immersive chamber music series. Blending stunning music, evocative visuals, and compelling narration, this spellbinding journey brings both celebrated and forgotten moments of WA brilliance to life.

#### **Ticket Packages**

Purchase tickets to two or more performances in the WA Stories Concert Series to receive your discount.

Package	Discount Per Package *	A Res	B Res	C Res
2 Concerts	\$15 off	\$175	\$155	\$135
3 Concerts	\$25 off	\$260	\$230	\$200

<sup>\*</sup> Prices based on a single ticket holder

### WA STORIES BOOKING FORM

Address:	
Phone:	Email:
Step 2 - Your Tickets No. of tickets per performar	nce: Ticket Category:
	O A Reserve
	O B Reserve
	O C Reserve
tep 3 - Your Performance	s ·
Edith Bisshass Casses	O Friday, 25 July   7pm
Edith Dircksey Cowan	O Saturday, 26 July   7pm
	O Friday, 5 September   7pm
Richard Walley	O Saturday, 6 September   7pm
	O Friday, 14 November   7pm
Jon Sanders	O Saturday, 15 November   7pm
lotes/Seating Requests:	
tep 4 - Your Gift: Join o	ur WA Heroes to support the series!
O Rebel \$500	O Major Player \$5,000
O Bohemian \$1,000	O Game Changer \$ 10,000
	O My Choice: \$
All gifts \$2 and over are tax-deductible	
tep 5 - Your Payment	
O Charus made payable to	
<ul> <li>Cheque made payable t</li> <li>Request an invoice</li> </ul>	o Perth Symphony Orchestra  Book Online
O Request all Invoice	BOOK Online

#### Step 6 - Submit

Please email this completed form to ticketing@perthsymphony.com or call 08 9384 5060.

Alternatively, scan the QR code to book online





#### **EXCLUSIVE INVITATION**

# 2025 Big Yellow Pipeline Challenge

# LAUNCH EVENT

The new sponsors of the 2025 Big Yellow Pipeline Challenge —invite you as our honoured guest to our exclusive launch - celebrating 10 years of life-changing impact.

Every dollar raised supports the Youth Futures Nest Program, providing safe housing, parenting support, financial skills, and wellbeing resources for young pregnant women.

10 Years. One Mission. Lives Changed.

This isn't just a ride—it's a movement.

Ride for hope. Ride for change. Ride for them.

Date: Thursday 29th May 2025

Time: 6:00pm - 9:00pm

Venue: Beaumonde on the Point - Level 1, 306 Riverside Drive, East Perth

RSVP: Please reply by Friday 16th May via our event website:

https://pipelinechallengelaunch.rsvpify.com











# It is on again How to turn \$1 into \$4

# Royal Flying Doctors Service fundraising partnership with the Rotary Club of West Perth and the RCWP Trust

Dear Rotarians and Supporters,

The Rotary Club of West Perth and the RCWP Trust have been appointed an "RFDS Champion" with Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) to support RFDS Flying Doctor Day appeal on 15<sup>h</sup> May 2025.

From 1<sup>st</sup> May until the 15th May your tax-deductible donations to the Royal Flying Doctor Service made through the RCWP Trust Account will be matched dollar-for-dollar up to \$8,000. The RCWP Trust will donate the total contribution to the RFDS Flying Doctor Day Appeal.

Donations made to this appeal will be similarly matched dollar-for-dollar by RFDS Matched Giving Partners (CBH Group, IGO Ltd Byrnecut, Roy Hill and Sandfire Gold) further doubling the contribution!

# Once again, we are working together to turn \$1 into \$4 Please donate today!

Your donation will go towards the acquisition and upgrading of vital medical equipment for RFDS.

Donations are to be made to the RCWP Trust

BSB: 036011 Account No: 405139

Please include the following reference: [Your Surname RFDS]

A receipt for your tax-deductible donation will be issued by the RCWP Trust as part of this appeal.

Please provide your email or postal address contact details to our secretary via secretaryrotarywestperth@gmail.com to ensure you receive your receipt.

For further information contact:

Geoffrey Hick 0438 946 927 or Peter Blockley 0419 900 942