



HOT AIR

01 May 2025 — Youth Service Month

hotair@rotarybrisbanehighrise.com

ANZAC Edition



The Presidential Point:

What a terrific 4 days was had by 11 members of Brisbane High-Rise plus family and friends, spent together at Happy Valley, K'gari.

We were there to be part of the Anzac Day celebrations on the beach at the Maheno wreck - the Maheno was a hospital ship that had served at Gallipoli and the Western Front and, many years later, came aground during a cyclone, not far from Happy Valley.

Russell Postle and his 2 sons, James/Jimmy and Mark, did an exceptional job in the organisation of the day. James and Mark had a studio set up on the sand that live streamed the service. I know Greg and Ann-Maree attended the service this way, as did many others as well.

Two reporters from the ABC spent 2 days on the Island to cover the event. Russell was interviewed about the history and meaning of this service, Rob O'Donovan about his grandfather who served in the same war zones as the Maheno. The service was included in the ABC news Anzac coverage, and ABC Wide Bay has put up an extensive story on it's news feed page.

Photos are over the page and you will see we had a flyover, and a moving and respectful service. The local Aboriginal people from the Butchulla tribe were represented and took part in the ceremony, and an amazing woman, Wing Commander Sarah Johnson RAAF, was the official armed services personnel in attendance.

We all arrived on site early to help set up for the day so we were in a in position to see people pouring in from up and down the beach to attend this very special Anzac Day service at the Maheno.

The weather was perfect as was the ceremony that Russell had organised. After talking all props down we went back to Happy Valley for lunch - a replica of the lunch that was served on the Maheno Christmas Day 1918 - soup, turkey, ham, roast veggies followed by Christmas pudding and meringue. While the original menu called for lime juice and soda, this is where we differed.

What happened the other 3 days? We all decided what happened on K'gari stayed on K'gari! But to let you know we had a great time

Jane Andersen



Upcoming Meetings & Events

- Thu 01 May Weekly Meeting @ United Service Club – [RSVP](#)**
Michael Eather, FireWorks Gallery
- Thu 08 May Weekly Meeting @ United Service Club - [RSVP](#)**
Prof Eric Chung - Coloplast Interventional Orology
- Thu 15 May Weekly Meeting @ United Service Club - [RSVP](#)**
Brendan Rook - Investigator - Australian Army
- Thu 22 May Weekly Meeting @ United Service Club - [RSVP](#)**
- Sun 25 May Croquet Under Lights - [RSVP](#)**
Stephens Croquet Club, Annerley
- Thu 29 May Weekly Meeting @ United Service Club - [RSVP](#)**
Club Assembly
- Thu 05 Jun Weekly Meeting @ United Service Club - [RSVP](#)**
Cr Vicki Howard, BCC
- Thu 12 Jun Weekly Meeting @ United Service Club - [RSVP](#)**
Sally Huynh & Brendan Ketter, Shadforth Financial

Rotary Grace: For the fellowship of Rotary we give our thanks.

Last Week on K'gari (Fraser island)

High-Rise members, friends and family made the trip to K'gari to attend the ANZAC service.

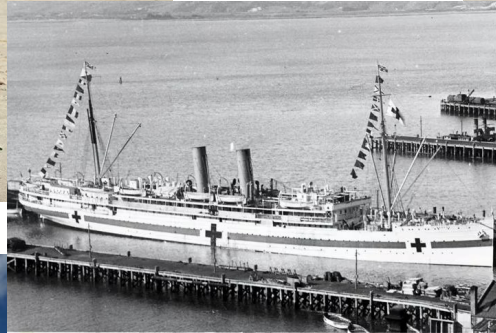
They also had some time for fellowship, fishing and frivolity.



ANZAC on K'gari (Fraser Island)

Another moving ANZAC service was held at the wreck of the Maheno on K'gari – credit to Russell Postle for pulling this together.

ABC Wide Bay were in attendance (and credit to them for some of these photos) – read their great story [here](#).





At our meeting on Thursday 17 April
those present pledged

\$2,300

YOU can add to that – let's see what
we can achieve together.

Deposit your donation into our club
account and let Cindy know.



Rotary Launches Flood Relief Effort with Immediate and Long-Term Support for Affected Communities

Rotary is mobilising a multi-phase response to support individuals and families impacted by recent flooding. Through a coordinated and compassionate approach, Rotary aims to address immediate needs while laying the groundwork for long-term recovery and wellbeing.

Phase 1: Immediate Financial Assistance

Rotary has commenced distribution planning for prepaid debit cards valued at \$250 and \$500 to eligible individuals and families affected by the floods. These cards, branded with The Rotary Foundation and Rotary Australia World Community Service (RAWCS) logos, provide flexible and immediate financial relief to those in need.

Phase 2: Coordination of Essential Goods

Rotary is partnering with trusted organisations such as GIVIT and RARE to ensure donated goods are efficiently transported and matched with the needs of flood-affected communities. This targeted approach guarantees that essential items reach the right people at the right time.

Phase 3: Mental Health Support

Recognising the lasting impact of natural disasters, Rotary is actively seeking partnerships with established Rotary-led mental health initiatives. The aim is to provide accessible and ongoing mental health support to individuals and families dealing with trauma and stress as a result of the floods.

How You Can Help

There are two ways to contribute to Rotary's disaster response and ensure your support goes directly to helping those in need:

- **District 9560 Disaster Fund Account (please note this a joint District 9560 and 9620 appeal)**

(No tax deduction available – suitable for Rotary clubs and district donations for immediate funding)

BSB: 633000 | Account Number: 186414595

- **Rotary Australia Community World Service (RAWCS)**
(Tax deductible in Australia – suitable for individual donors)

Appeal No. 33-2023-24: Flood Disaster Appeal Fund - Australia (RARF)

Donate via: <https://directory.rawcs.com.au/33-2023-24>

With your support, Rotary can continue to deliver real, meaningful relief to flood-affected Australians—now and into the future.

Enquiries to:

Western Flood Relief Co-ordinators

On behalf of the Rotaract Club of Brisbane Rivercity, we are delighted to extend a warm invitation to an unforgettable evening of elegance and purpose at our Cocktail Fundraising Gala, ***“An Evening of Brushing Kindness”***, in proud support of **Habitat for Humanity Australia**.



This year, we're proud to continue our partnership with **Habitat for Humanity Australia** hosting Rivercity's Annual Cocktail Party in support of the **“Brush with Kindness”** program operating here in the Brisbane region.

This program mobilises volunteers to renovate and repair homes for vulnerable families, including Indigenous housing projects and crisis accommodation for those escaping domestic violence or experiencing homelessness.

There has never been a more critical time to make positive progress on homelessness here in our own backyard. Since 2017, Queensland has seen a 22% increase in homelessness, far surpassing the national average. We are facing a growing reality: homelessness no longer affects only the most vulnerable, but increasingly impacts everyday Australians who are unable to keep up with rising rents and housing shortages.

✨ So please, join with us, dress to impress in your finest cocktail attire and enjoy an unforgettable evening featuring:

- A 3-hour drinks package
- Delectable canapés
- Raffle prizes
- Inspiring stories and meaningful connections

...all in the spirit of building hope and creating change.

📍 **Date:** Friday, 16th May 2025

🕒 **Time:** 6:30 PM

📍 **Venue:** The Port Office Hotel – 40 Edward Street, Brisbane City

🎫 **Early Bird Tickets:**

\$95 per person until 24th April.

🎫 **Standard Tickets:**

\$105 per person after 24th April.

👉 Click [here](#) to view the Facebook event

👉 Click [here](#) to purchase tickets

Let's come together to paint a brighter future and support **Habitat for Humanity Australia's** mission — *to ensure that everyone has a safe and decent place to call home, both locally and globally*. Together, we can help build not just homes—but hope, safety, and dignity.

We can't wait to welcome you on the 16th of May for a truly memorable evening of compassion, celebration, and impact. **Through shelter, we empower.**

Warm regards,

Susita Das (Club President) (she/her)

Jane Hillyard (Events Director) (she/her)

Rotaract Club of Brisbane Rivercity

www.rotaractrivercity.org | www.facebook.com/rotaractbrisbanerivercity

Croquet Under Lights Sunday Evening, 25 May 25

Come join us for a fun and relaxed social event, learning to play croquet. Cost includes croquet, snacks and pizza dinner. BYO drinks. Bring along the whole family with the bonus that Sunday dinner is sorted!

Sunday 25 May 25 from 5 to 8pm

Stephens Croquet Club, in Yeronga Memorial Park
enter from Frederic St, which is off Villa St, Yeronga

Cost: \$35 per head, \$30 for children aged 10 -18 years.

Children under 10 are welcome but can't play on the courts - there is other smaller gear they can use off the courts.

RSVP to Ann Maree Buttner & Rosemary Meadows.



Mother's Day Raffle - Tickets On Sale This Week



At this week's meeting we will not be having a Joker Draw - instead we will be selling tickets in our Mother's Day Raffle. The prize is this beautiful cultured pearl ring kindly donated by Margaret Rix.

The tickets are 3 for \$10 and we'll continue to sell the tickets up to our meeting on the 8th May when we will do the draw.

Pay Cindy at the desk, deposit online (make sure to put a suitable reference) or pay cash to me at our meetings. Proceeds go towards club projects

Margot Baillie.

International Toast

This week we are celebrating the:

Rotary Club Istanbul Anatolia International, Turkey



This club is located in Istanbul, Turkey where, in February 2025, RI opened the new peace center at Bahçeşehir University in Istanbul, Turkey – click [here](#).

“The center will bring together peacemakers from across the Middle East and North Africa - people with different backgrounds and viewpoints, but who share common goals - and provide them with the resources and experiences needed to work together to promote peace within the region,” says Martha Peak Helman, a trustee of The Rotary Foundation and president of the Otto and Fran Walter Foundation. The Walter Foundation donated US\$15.5 million to fund the center's operations and fellowships for up to 40 students per year in perpetuity.

The curriculum will address issues that are particularly relevant in the Middle East and North Africa: land disputes, climate change, food insecurity, refugee integration, and economic and community development. Fellows will also attend seminars and workshops offered by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research through CIFAL Istanbul, the UN's international training center for local leaders and organizations, located at the university. The fellows will then implement a nine-month social change project in the region and present their work at a capstone seminar.

“The university's unique partnership with the UN Institute for Training and Research, and its focus on the UN Sustainable Development Goals, will offer Rotary Peace Fellows from the region an opportunity to receive high-level training that is aligned with Rotary's mission,” says Rotary Peace Centers Manager Laura Descher.

Board Members 2024-25

President	Jane Andersen
Past President	Dyls Bertelsen
President Elect	Gregory Beard
Secretary	Jennifer Eathorne
Treasurer	Cindy Kemp
Community Projects	David Bunce
Marketing	Ann-Maree Bennett
Membership	Deb Le Garde
Projects	Bill Phillips
Rotary Foundation	Susan Rix
Youth	Loretta Lynch

Assisted By:

Fellowship	Margot Baillie
Speaker Program	Dyls Bertelsen
Administration	Rosemary Meadows
Hot Air	Steve Knight

Duty Roster

REMEMBER: If you won't be there that day then it's your responsibility to arrange a replacement

Setup, Greeter & Closedown Chair

Thu 24 Apr	No Meeting – ANZAC on K'gari instead	
Thu 01 May	Lindsay M	Hawys McM
Thu 08 May	Hawys McM	Ros M
Thu 15 May	Ros M	Kym McC
Thu 22 May	Kym McC	Michael N
Thu 29 May	Michael N	Bill L