

HOT AIR

10 Apr 2025 — Youth Service Month

hotair@rotarybrisbanehighrise.com

International Toast:
Rotary Club of
Oamaru,
New Zealand
See Page 4

The Presidential Point:

I am writing this just after getting back from the Tree Planting that we worked at today. The District has been doing it now for 8 years to help the Brisbane City Council develop a corridor in Brisbane for Koalas. Great to hear that that 90% of the trees we planted last year survived. I think there were about 3,000 trees planted this morning, which is amazing. And with many clubs represented, including a great number from Rotaract, it was done pretty quickly.

Pride of Workmanship Awards is a meeting that is always humbling to attend and it was wonderful to hear the stories of the people who give such great service to our members – see more on Page 2. Thanks to Rosemary for all her work.

As the year slips by it's easy to forget what we have achieved so far – here's a quick list (in no particular order):

- ✓ Painting and block out curtains at 3rd Space
- ✓ Care Packs for Maternity Africa
- ✓ Wrapping Christmas presents to raise funds for Act for Kids
- ✓ Delivering Flowers on Valentines Day - funds to St Jude's
- ✓ St Jude's Breakfast Fundraiser
- ✓ Netball courts and the Living Area for teachers at St Jude's
- ✓ Sponsoring St Jude's students (club & members individually)
- ✓ Sending an exchange student to Denmark
- ✓ Hosting an exchange student from Denmark
- ✓ Arranging for Shelterbags for homeless people
- ✓ Running the 2024 Art Show
- ✓ Gearing up for the 2025 Art Show
- ✓ Gathering groceries needed for Coffee Brigade
- ✓ Donating to Riverview State School to help with the running of their bus
- ✓ Phil's Specsavers – recycling used spectacles through RARE
- ✓ Awarding 2 Paul Harris Fellowship recognitions
- ✓ Celebrating 2 members who received significant community awards
- ✓ Annual Bursaries to 2 Albert Park Flexi School students
- ✓ Donating to Albert Park Flexi School for the upkeep of their Support Dog
- ✓ District Tree Planting Challenge
- ✓ Pride of Workmanship Awards
- ✓ Tour of the back of house areas of the Queensland Museum
- ✓ Great guest speakers
- ✓ Fellowship events – Poetry Night, theatre nights, dinners.

Isn't that a great list and well done everyone! But we are not finished yet – there are more activities coming up to round out the year so watch out for them and get involved.

Don't forget to wear an Easter Bonnet this Thursday and join in the fun and frivolity of the season.

Jane Andersen

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.

Upcoming Meetings & Events

- Thu 17 Apr Weekly Meeting @ United Service Club - [RSVP](#)**
Easter – Very Rev Dr Adrian Farrelly - Papal Elections
- Thu 24 Apr Meeting Cancelled**
ANZAC on K'gari instead.
- 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

Last Week's Meeting – Pride of Workmanship Awards

Our annual Pride of Workmanship awards presentation was last week and yet again the worthy recipients all had great stories to tell:

Cathy Wilson, Flight Nurse, Royal Flying Doctor Service
Innovative solutions to patient care in complex settings.

Matt Wiberley-Cecchin, Director, Worldwide Printing South Brisbane
Outstanding service, quality printing and support for the Rotary Art Show.

Carmen Ford, Travel Advisor, Cruise Centre by Travelcall
Exceptional service and care ensuring wonderful travel experiences.

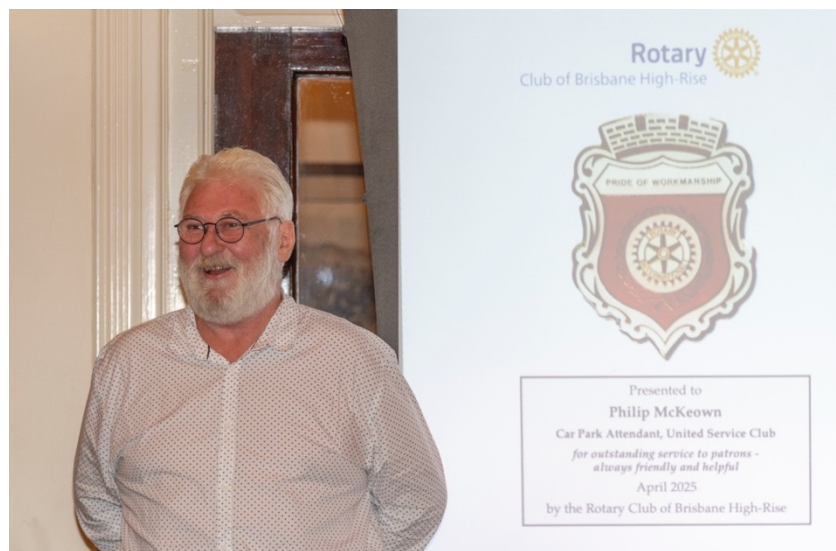
Philip McKeown, Car Park Attendant, United Service Club
Outstanding service to patrons - always friendly and helpful.

Alyson van Gaalen, Music Coordinator, Kedron High School
Dedication to developing performance skills and love of music.

Alyson was not able to be there on the day and will be presented with her award at a later meeting.



Award recipients and their nominators.



Maheno School 150th Jubilee Celebrations

Five brave souls from Brisbane braved the NZ autumn to attend the 150th celebrations of the Maheno School over the weekend of 11-12 April. *Coincidentally, on the same weekend Oamaru Rotary was celebrating their 100 year centenary – see International Toast on Page 4.*

Lindsay and Di Marshall took the scenic route to Maheno, exploring the South Island on the way from Queenstown to Oamaru / Maheno. And then once there they showed the deep connect that they have established with the Maheno School community. Russell, James and Mark Postle also attended the celebrations.

Friday was the school tour, the unveiling of the new school mural, a school assembly with presentations by each of classroom groups, followed by supper in the school hall.

Saturday included a tree planting near the Maheno cenotaph involving the schools oldest surviving student at 94 years old and the school's head students. Lindsay and Russell placed a wreath at the cenotaph, and this was followed by the photos of past school pupils in groups closing out with the Anzac at K'gari team.

The formal dinner on Saturday night included some anecdotes from past students.

The Maheno School is interested to activate future trips, with funding being one of the more significant hurdles.

Russell Postle



D9620 Tree Planting Challenge – Sun 13 April



Greg Beard, Jane Andersen, Ann-Maree Bennett, Bill Phillips, David Bunce. A small but dedicated group of our members made it to the District Tree Planting, along with many keen Rotarians, Rotaractors & others.



The School of St Jude

From: Gemma.s@schoolofstjude.co.nz
Date: 9 April 2025 at 6:26:46 PM GMT+10
To: treasurer@rotarybrisbanehighrise.com
Cc: Supporter.relations@schoolofstjude.co.nz
Subject: Thank you!

Dear all at the Rotary Club of Brisbane High-Rise,

How are you? I just got word from My Accounts team that we've received a generous AU\$5,000 donation from you. Thank you SO much.

Loved meeting with you all during the breakfast event you hosted for us back in February. Every year the Brisbane High-Rise event is one of the highlights of the Aussie tour for me, and this year was no exception! Truly appreciate your ongoing support.

You'll be happy to know that last weekend we hosted our very first Art Exhibition and Gala Dinner at St Jude's to promote the Student Art Program with our local community. It was such a hit, thanks to the efforts of our dedicated staff and the incredible talent of the students. I'm attaching a video of our talented music teacher Mr Sam supporting his students as they performed at the art event. I hope you can see from the video a short glimpse into the passion, dedication, and heart that my staff bring to their roles, and the positive impact that has on the students. I've also [linked here](#) a few photos from the event. You all make this possible.

Be on the lookout for an email from my Supporter Relations team telling you all about how your donation will be of help at St Jude's.

With thanks,
Gemma



!!ATTENTION!!

**APPLICATIONS CLOSE
2ND MAY**

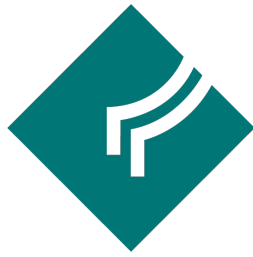
The Edge of the World



Yvonne has reached the Edge of the World and looks very happy to have reached it! She's standing behind the 0km marker on the Camino Finisterre, having arrived in Finisterre, Spain. It was thought that this place being the west most point was the edge of the world. Well done Yvonne!



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Dedicated to a better Brisbane

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



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

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.



Board Members 2024-25

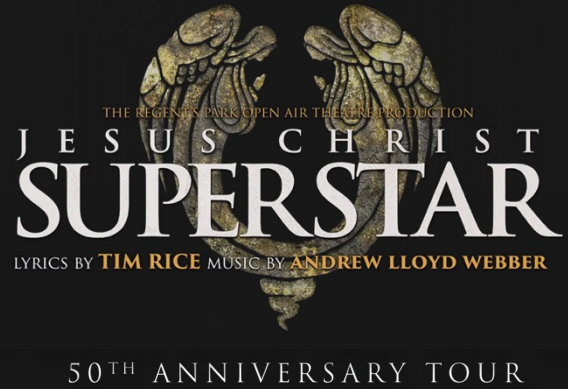
President	Jane Andersen
Past President	Dyls Bertelsen
President Elect	Gregory Beard
Secretary	Jennifer Eathorne
Treasurer	Cindy Kemp
Community Projects	David Bunce
Marketing	Ann-Maree Bennett
Membership	Deb Le Garde
Projects	Bill Phillips
Rotary Foundation	Susan Rix
Youth	Loretta Lynch
Assisted By:	
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 17 Apr	Margot B	Lindsay M
Thu 24 Apr	No Meeting – ANZAC on K'gari instead	
Thu 01 May	Lindsay M	TBC
Thu 08 May	?	TBC
Thu 15 May	?	TBC

Friday 01 Aug 25



I've locked in a group booking for Jesus Christ Superstar at QPAC Lyric Theatre, 7:30pm Friday 1st August.

Tickets \$135.00 — RSVP to Susan.Rix@bdo.com.au

We can meet prior and have dinner together.

Susan Rix

International Toast

This week is we are celebrating the:

Rotary Club of Oamaru, New Zealand



On Saturday 12 April the Rotary Club of Oamaru celebrated 100 years with a Centennial Dinner Celebration at the Brydone Hotel.

Club President Malcolm Walker said for a service club to achieve 100 years of operation was a remarkable achievement. "This year is a significant year for both the club and its members," Malcolm said.

"This week, on behalf of the Rotary Club of Oamaru, I have handed over two special donations; the first of \$2000, equivalent to 100 food parcels, to the local Foodbank, and the second, also valued at \$2000, comprised 100 winter packs of pyjamas, a warm blanket and tubes of toothpaste, to the Salvation Army.

"The significance of 100 packs to each organisation celebrates the 100 years of the Rotary Club of Oamaru," he said.

"The centennial gifts were very well received by both the Salvation Army and Foodbank and I know they will similarly be well received by the recipients."

<https://www.oamarurotary.com>