

 **HOT AIR**

25 December 2025 — Christmas Edition

hotair@rotarybrisbanehighrise.com

The President's Post

May I wish all our members and followers a very happy Christmas and New Year. I extend a very special thank you to all our members who give so much to ensure our Club remains strong and vibrant.

Six months of this Rotary year have now passed, and there has been a great deal of activity. The Art Committee has already met several times and is well on its way to ensuring even greater success for the 2026 Art Show. Special thanks to Murray and all committee members for their commitment and hard work.

Thank you also to our Board members, who have shown outstanding enthusiasm and dedication in their respective roles. I would especially acknowledge all members who have engaged so positively and energetically in our activities, including the Assembly discussion groups, which have been particularly stimulating and rewarding.

We now have six months ahead to hand over an even stronger and more engaging Club. I personally look forward to growing our membership during this time.

While it is difficult to single out individuals in such an involved and committed group, there are several members outside the Board who contribute enormously each week. My sincere thanks to Rosemary, who ensures our weekly meetings run smoothly and who maintains an exceptional photographic record of our activities; to Margot and Yvonne, who consistently ensure our social events are a great success; to Robyn, who oversees our commitment to Coffee Brigade; and to Steve, who ensures Hot Air is always of a high standard and delivered promptly each week.

Finally, congratulations to our Presidential Nominee, Anne Maree Buttner. My special thanks also for the patience, support, and dedication you bring to your role as Secretary.

I look forward to working with you all over the next six months and doing everything I can to ensure the continued health, strength, and wellbeing of this wonderful Club.

Greg Beard



The were on a #ett sandwich!



*The gang preparing sandwiches on Monday at Coffee Brigade. Lots of chatter and good fun. **Noela Phillis***

Upcoming Meetings & Events

~~Thu 01 & 15 Jan~~ **No Meetings – Christmas Break, USC Closed**

Thu 22 Jan Weekly Meeting @ United Service Club – [RSVP](#)

Thu 29 Jan Weekly Meeting @ United Service Club – [RSVP](#)
Art Show Sponsorship Discussion
Joint Meeting with Paddington Club

Thu 05 Feb Weekly Meeting @ United Service Club – [RSVP](#)
Clare Blake, QIMR Berghofer - Updates
on Clinical Trials at QIMR Berghofer

Thu 12 Feb Weekly Meeting @ United Service Club – [RSVP](#)
Wendy Mulcahy, DVERT - Domestic Violence
Education Relationship Training



*I hosted Bookclub at my place last week and for Christmas we all donated money for a charity nominated by me - which was, of course, Coffee Brigade! I did a big shop at Aldi! **Jane Andersen***

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we meet today, the Yuggera and Turrbal people, and pay our respect to their elders past and present.

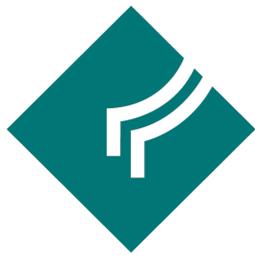
Rotary Grace: For the fellowship of Rotary, we give our thanks.

Last Week's Meeting — Kids' Christmas



Yvette Phillips received a PHF, and Santa made a visit for the little kids!

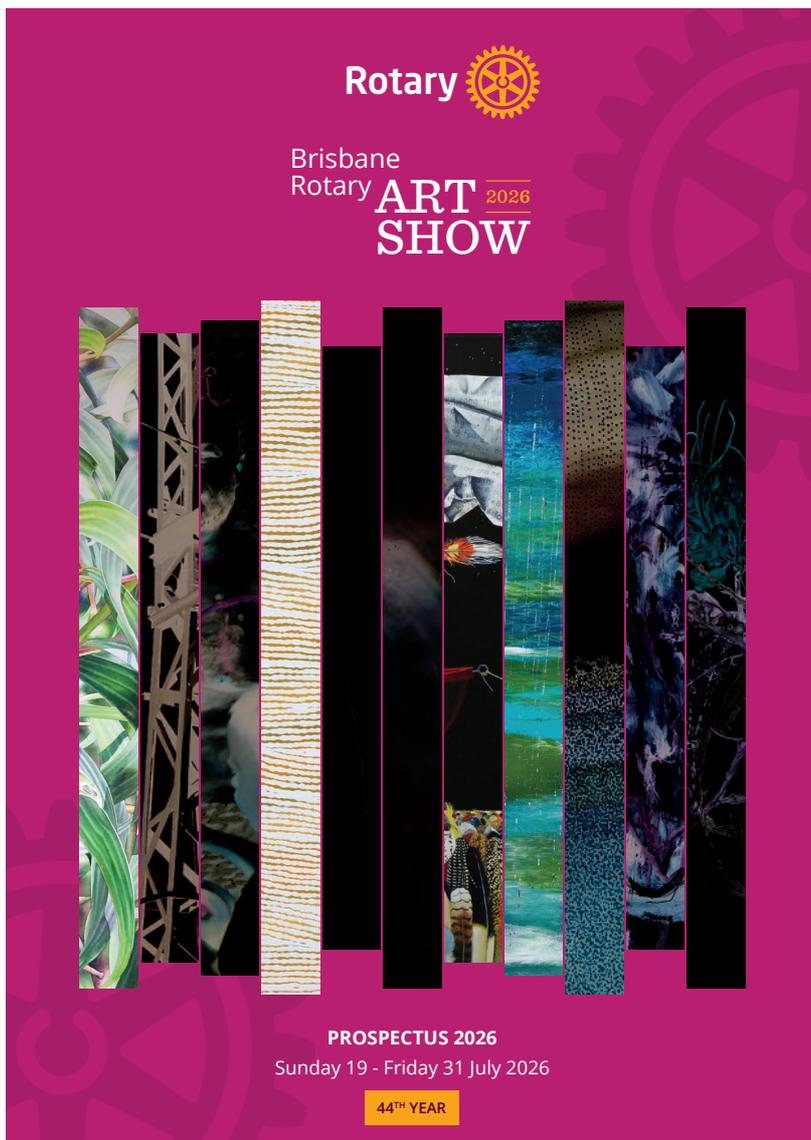




PITCHER
PARTNERS



Special Thanks to the Pronk Family, our very generous Major Donor



Planning for the 2026 show is well underway and Sponsors are signing up.

Now is the perfect time to become a sponsor.

Contact:
partnerships@rotaryart.au
to receive a copy of our Prospectus or to discuss packages to suit you.

Rotary Club of Brisbane High-Rise Calendar 2025-26

Activities outside of Club Meetings

DECEMBER <i>Rotary Disease Prevention & Treatment Month</i>	
Art Show 2026 Preparation	Kinross Cluster Meeting 4-Dec
Club Christmas Party 5-Dec 🎄	Last Day Early Rego Rotary Int Conf. 15-Dec
Coffee Brigade Sandwich Makers 15-Dec 😊	Family Xmas Party 18-Dec 🎁🎁🎁
QPAC Theatre Night "Spirit of Christmas" 18-Dec	Xmas Gift Wrapping Fundraiser for Act for Kids 20-Dec 🎄
Xmas Gift Wrapping Fundraiser for Act for Kids 21-Dec 🎄	Coffee Brigade Sandwich Makers 22-Dec 😊
Xmas Gift Wrapping Fundraiser for Act for Kids 22-Dec 🎄	Xmas Gift Wrapping Fundraiser for Act for Kids 23-Dec 🎄
Xmas Gift Wrapping Fundraiser for Act for Kids 24-Dec 🎄	

JANUARY <i>Rotary Vocational Service Month</i>	
Art Show 2026 Preparation	Coffee Brigade Sandwich Makers 19-Jan 😊
1st BHR Club Meeting Pls note new date 22 Jan 😊	Board Meeting 26-Jan
Combined Meeting w/ Paddington Club @ USC 29-Jan	Kinross Cluster Meeting 29-Jan

KEY:

	Major Projects
	Community Services
	Social
	Foundation
	Youth
	District Events, Conferences or Training

Board Members 2025-26

President	Greg Beard
Past President	Jane Andersen
President Elect	Cindy Kemp
Secretary	Ann Maree Buttner
Treasurer	Cindy Kemp
Community Projects	David Bunce
Marketing	Ann-Maree Bennett
Membership	Bill Phillips
Rotary Foundation	Susan Rix
Youth	Loretta Lynch
Assisted By:	
Fellowship	Margot Baillie
Speaker Program	Ann-Maree Bennett
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 25 Dec - 15 Jan	No Meetings – Closed for Christmas
Thu 22 Jan	Lindsay M Deb LeG
Thu 29 Jan	Ken M Lindsay M / Murray B
Thu 05 Feb	Loretta L Ken M
Thu 12 Feb	Kym McC Loretta L

Christmas amongst the Kangaroos

We were invited for lunch to *Christmas amongst the Kangaroos* to meet Holger Knaack, 2020-21 Rotary International President, and his wife Susanne.

Brisbane High-Rise member, and all-round Rotarian, Wendy Protheroe is currently hosting them in Australia whilst Holger is visiting here in his capacity as Chair of the Trustees for the Rotary Foundation 2025-27.

Lunch was held at Bostock House and there was a joke that there were more District Governors there than Rotarians.

Holger talked about the importance of the Rotary Foundation and the work it has achieved including the fight against polio. Rotary is now also turning its eye towards more funding for malaria, pneumonia and diarrhoeal diseases. **Anne-Maree Bennett**



Mark Williams (DG D9620 2025-26); Wendy Protheroe (BHR member, DG D9600 2018-19 and DG D9620 2021-22); Greg Beard (BHR President); Ann-Maree Bennett; Holger Knaack (Rotary International President 2020-21 & Chair of Trustees of Rotary Foundation 2025-27); Susanne Knaack; Bruce Mills (Rotary Club of Logan Treasurer); Darryl Iseppi (DG D9600 2019-20) and Greg Marlow (DG D9550 2018-19, DG D9560 2025-26, Arch Klumpf Society member).

United Nations and Rotary Celebrate 80th anniversary of UN charter

Rotary International and the United Nations reaffirmed their historic partnership during the 80th anniversary of the UN Charter signing. Leaders from both organizations recalled how, in the aftermath of World War II, Rotary helped shape the UN by serving as observers at the 1945 Charter Conference, contributing to agendas, resolutions, and mediation efforts.

Speakers emphasized that global cooperation is more vital than ever as the world faces conflicts, inequality, climate change, and technological risks. Despite challenges to multilateralism, progress offers hope: education access has expanded, poverty has declined, and health outcomes have improved worldwide. UN leaders stressed that such achievements result from sustained collective action.

Rotary's grassroots initiatives align closely with UN agencies in education, health, peacebuilding, environmental protection, and the fight against polio.

The enduring Rotary-UN relationship reflects a shared belief that peace is built through cooperation, service, and the everyday commitment of individuals choosing unity over division. [Click for pdf version.](#)

