



HOT AIR

30 Jan 2025 — Vocational Service Month

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International Toast:
Rotary Club of
Chimbote Buenos
Aires, Argentina
See Page 4

The Presidential Point:

I'm writing this in the early hours of the morning waiting for a flight to laguzu Falls. Deb and I have been in Chile and Argentina for well over a week. We will be on board the boat to Antarctica by the time you read this.

I have just realised we hadn't seen or heard a reference to Rotary until the recent Hot Air was distributed - great to see all the photos of our Rotary experiences toward the end of 2024 and hope you all had a great break over Christmas.

It's terrific we are delivering the flowers for Valentines Day once again and for those who are new to the Club if you enjoy walking and a few laughs see Margot and put your name down to help.

Welcome back home Hugh and I'm sure everyone will love hearing your stories (those that you are willing to tell) when you can attend one of our Thursday meetings.

Jane Andersen

Upcoming Meetings & Events

- Thu 30 Jan** Weekly Meeting @ United Service Club - [RSVP](#)
Club Assembly
- Thu 06 Feb** Weekly Meeting @ United Service Club - [RSVP](#)
Katja Fisher, Scabies Lab, QIMR Berghofer
- Thu 13 Feb** Weekly Meeting @ United Service Club - [RSVP](#)
Craig Wappett
- Fri 14 Feb** Valentines Day Flower Delivery - [RSVP](#)
Deliveries in the city, 8am start
- Thu 20 Feb** Weekly Meeting @ United Service Club - [RSVP](#)
Gemma Sisia & John Stanley, School of St Jude
- Thu 27 Feb** Weekly Meeting @ United Service Club - [RSVP](#)
Club Assembly

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 30 Jan	Dyls B	David B
Thu 6 Feb	David B	Ann Maree Bu
Thu 13 Feb	Ann Maree Bu	Tom D
Thu 20 Feb	Tom D	Robyn D



Australia Day Honours



BIG NEWS!

Our very own **Russell Postle** has been recognised in the 2025 Australian Day Honours as a **Member of the Order of Australia (AM)**.

To read more about Russell's commitment to service over so many years click [here](#).



Also recognised was Mu'ooz restaurant founder Saba Abraham for her service to African communities in Australia.

For more info on the awards and full list of recipients visit the website:

<https://www.gg.gov.au/australia-day-2025-honours-list>

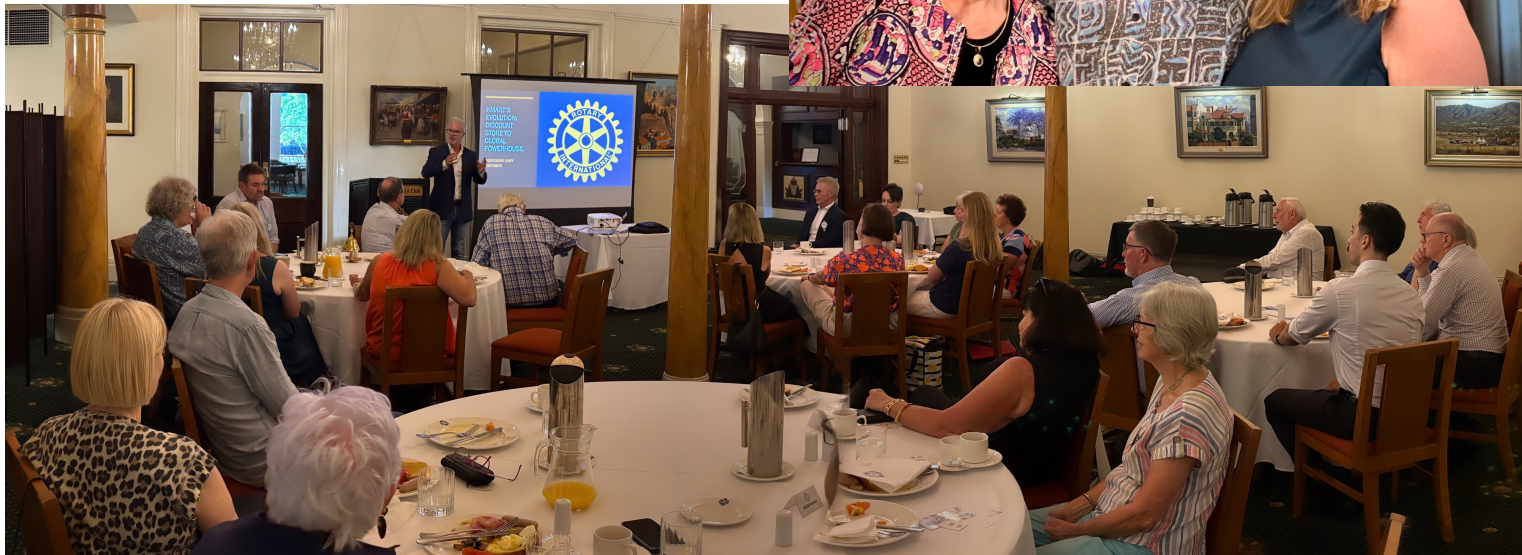
Rotary Grace: For the fellowship of Rotary we give our thanks.

Last Week's Meeting

A great meeting & really good presentation by Gary Mortimer – it will make us all think about what we are buying and where we are buying it.

Alex, a potential new member, attended & we look forward to seeing him again soon.

Susan Rix had visitors from Stratford-Upon-Avon - Jacqué, first met Susan's family when she came to Ballina on a Rotary Group Study program in 1999 and this is her 6th visit to Australia.



Valentines Day Flower Deliveries

When: Friday 14th February

Time: 8am for Induction, Deliveries commence 9am

Location: Queen Adelaide Building, 90-112 Queen St
Via Burnett Lane.

Bring: Good walking shoes, a hat and a water bottle

The delivery dock area will again be available for vehicles to be able to load. Let Margot Baillie know if you can help.

Maternity Africa Care Packs Project – Bill & Noela's Visit



Bill and Noela with Dr Doreen (seated) and Magdellene (standing) the Social Worker who will be responsible for distributing the care packs.

Copenhagen & new addition to the (Rotary) family

Heather and I have been freezing in Copenhagen from the beginning of the year, meeting the new addition to our family, Ian & Rachael's daughter Sadie (our first grandchild), and travelling a little. Zoe also joined us for part of the time.

We also took the opportunity to catch up with Jonna, who was the inbound exchange student from Sweden back in 2007. She is now a Vet in Sweden, has 2 children, and came over to Copenhagen for a quick catchup visit. **Steve Knight**



Jonna, Zoe & Heather beside a canal in Copenhagen, with a rare clear afternoon and sunset.

Top right: Ian, Jonna and Sadie

St Jude's Christmas Card



Dear Secretary McManus and all at
Rotary Club of Brisbane High Rise

My name is Gerald and I am a community
Service Year (CSY) volunteer in Math's
& ICT department here at St Jude's.

Thank you for supporting the Beyond
St Jude's Scholarship Program, which
has made it possible for my friends
and me to pursue higher education.
During my CSY placement, I've learned
so much about giving back and working
with others to strengthen our community.

May your Christmas season be filled
with peace, love, and joy!

With warm regards,
Gerald and all the students and
staff at St Jude's!

Last Week's Storm over Brisbane



Photos by Bill Leveritt of the 24 Jan storm over Brisbane



International Toast

This week we are celebrating the:
Rotary Club Chimbote Buenos Aires, Argentina



A historic day for the Rotary Club Chimbote Buenos Aires, as we have achieved the roof raising of our long-awaited institutional premises.

This important step has been achieved during the period of our president Flor Tamayo, with the valuable support of the partners Luis Rengifo, Nico Gordon, Jorge Benites and all the members of the club, as well as the joint work with Rotaract and Interact Chimbote Buenos Aires, who with their energy and commitment has been key to making this dream a reality.

We are closer than ever to having a space of our own to continue building hope and solidarity! [Link to view their facebook page](#)



2025 marks the 50th Anniversary of 3rd Space and we would like to invite you to celebrate this momentous occasion with us at our **Gala Dinner on Thursday 27 March 2025 at The Calile Hotel.**

Enjoy an evening filled with entertainment, raffles and auctions.

Our Anniversary Gala Dinner will be an opportunity for us to not only recognise the achievements of 3rd Space over the past 50 years, but also raise much needed funds to continue the activities provided by 3rd Space to those experiencing, or at risk of, homelessness.



150TH JUBILEE

ORDER OF EVENTS

COSTS TO ATTEND:
 FRIDAY EVENTS & SATURDAY DAY TIME EVENTS: \$40
 SATURDAY EVENING ONLY: \$100
 WHOLE WEEKEND OF EVENTS: \$130

FRIDAY 11TH APRIL

1.30-3.00PM	SCHOOL VISIT, WALK AROUND SCHOOL & SPECIAL ASSEMBLY
6.00PM ONWARDS	REGISTRATIONS AT MAHENO HALL WITH DRINKS & SUPPER PROVIDED

SATURDAY 12TH APRIL

11.00AM	LATE SIGN IN FOR REGISTRATIONS
12.30PM	LUNCH
1.00PM-4.00PM	PHOTOS, CAKE CUTTING, TREE PLANTING & AFTERNOON TEA
6.00PM ONWARDS	DINNER AT THE LOAN & MERC WITH SPEECHES & OPEN MEMOIRS

SUNDAY 13TH APRIL

9.00AM	CHURCH SERVICE AT ST ANDREWS
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Our 20 Feb meeting will be a not-to-be-missed special event:
Gemma Sisia with her 2019 alumni and emerging entrepreneur John Stanley will be speaking.
Invite your family and friends – get the message out now!

We also need donations of raffle prizes – bring them to our meetings up to Thursday 13 Feb



The School of St Jude

Fighting poverty through education

In 2002, Gemma Sisia opened The School of St Jude, a 100% charity-funded school in Arusha, Tanzania to bring the opportunity of a free, quality education to children experiencing poverty.

A St Jude's scholarship provides everything our students need for a successful education, including nutritious meals, boarding, transport, and much more. Students' academic success is supported through a robust, holistic curriculum, including clubs, arts, and sports programs to foster skills development.

By January 2020, St Jude's had grown to three schools with 1,800 students including a girls only secondary school. By opening up the opportunities for girls, the school directly tackles the imbalance seen in Tanzanian education, where girls from disadvantaged backgrounds typically receive only four years of schooling.

St Jude's support for students also expanded into tertiary scholarships through the Beyond St Jude's Scholarship Program (BSJSP) that supports 100's of scholars every year in university.

22+

Years of operation
as of 2023

1,000+

Form 6 graduates

360+

BSJSP scholars
in the Tertiary
Program as of 2024

400+

Graduates of
tertiary education

80%

Tertiary graduates
employed

Since the graduation of our first Form 6 (final year of secondary school) cohort in 2015, St Jude's has celebrated over 1,000 alumni. From 2018, over 400 St Jude's alumni have graduated from tertiary studies. They are now entering or in the workforce as Tanzania's doctors, engineers, tradespeople, entrepreneurs, and teachers.

Soon to join them is a cohort of over 360 scholars supported through the BSJSP who are currently studying in 45 higher education institutions within Tanzania and internationally.

None of this would have been possible without our incredible staff of over 300 employees, 98% of which are Tanzanian.

Our impact continues to grow each year thanks to the continued generosity of our donors and sponsors. Together we have been able to support almost 3,000 families through our scholarships since we first opened our doors.



**The School
of St Jude**

Gemma Sisia

St Jude's Founding Director

Gemma grew up as the only girl in a family of eight children on a 100,000-acre property in Armidale, New South Wales, Australia. Her childhood involved mustering sheep, horseriding, swimming and fishing in the waterfalls at the family property.

After completing a science degree at The University of Melbourne, Gemma followed up with an honours program and a Diploma of Education through the University of New England in Armidale.

At 22 years old, Gemma travelled to Uganda to put her qualifications to good use, volunteering as a teacher at a girls' centre. This experience fostered her belief that education is the right of all children and the strongest weapon in fighting poverty. During this time, Gemma also met Richard, who would later become her husband in neighbouring Tanzania.

Upon returning to Australia, Gemma began fundraising to build a school that would provide a free, private education to those in poverty, which would eventually become The School of St Jude. With help from her father, Gemma spoke to local Rotary Clubs, friends, school, and churches and the support for her school began to grow, eventually raising enough to build the first classroom. She has toured Australia to tell the story of St Jude's almost every year since.

After 20 years of fundraising and building St Jude's from its foundations, today St Jude's provides free, quality education to 1,800 primary and secondary students and support hundreds of tertiary scholars every year. St Jude's is more than a school. Gemma and her team have developed a successful model to combat poverty, with each scholarship alleviating financial strain resulting in significantly improved economic outcomes for families and local community.

Outside of St Jude's, Gemma runs a safari company with her husband, Richard, and they enjoy spending time with their four children, Nathaniel, Jacob, Isabella and Louisa.

Awards and Recognition



Member of the Order
of Australia (AM)
2007



ABC TV documentary
program Australian
Story
2005, 2009



Sapphire Paul
Harris Fellow,
Rotary International
2000, 2019



Finalist New South
West Australian
of the Year
2012



**The School
of St Jude**

John Stanley

St Jude's Class of 2019 and Emerging Entrepreneur

John Stanley is a Tanzanian entrepreneur, speaker, environmental advocate, and a proud alum of The School of St Jude. His academic journey began in 2007 when he joined St Jude's in Standard 1, and he spent the next 13 years growing within the school's supportive environment.

During his time at St Jude's, John demonstrated strong leadership and a passion for environmental conservation. He was elected as the Environment Prefect in the student government, served as president of the Malihai Club (a club focused on environmental conservation and wildlife management), and excelled academically, winning awards as the Best Student in Geography and General Studies in his final year.

John's outstanding academic achievements and community service track record earned him a prestigious scholarship to the African Leadership University in Mauritius. While at university, he co-founded Zona Enterprise, an environmental conservation start-up revolutionising waste management and agriculture practices in Tanzania.

In December 2023, John received two prestigious awards - Environmental Sustainability and Entrepreneurial Spirit - at the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Award Gala. That same year, he was selected as one of the top 100 youth at the Youth4Climate Change event in Rome followed by more international awards and funding to expand his work.

Currently, John is back in Tanzania, driving the growth of his start-up by pioneering solutions that convert food and organic waste into high-quality organic fertilizers. Beyond his entrepreneurial pursuits, John is a passionate mentor, empowering young people to pursue entrepreneurial ventures and advocate for environmental sustainability. His influence has directly impacted over 3,000 young people, and he has helped more than 450 secure externships with Fortune 1000 companies in the U.S.



www.schoolofstjude.org

Help our club GROW >>> Facebook - LinkedIn - Instagram

To grow as a club we need to grow our membership, and to do that we need to let people know who we are and about the good that we do in the world, whilst enjoying ourselves!

One of the best ways to get our message out is via social media - Facebook, LinkedIn and Instagram - and to invite people to follow those pages. So, if you do not already follow us on those pages then please do that now, and then invite your friends or associates to follow us.

Note the slight difference in format for our name on each platform:

Rotary Club of Brisbane Highrise on LinkedIn

Rotary Club of Brisbane High-Rise on Facebook
rotarybrisbanehighrise on Instagram

Anne-Maree Bennett

FACEBOOK

Step 1 - Pic 1:

Like the page then press the **3 dots** (...)

Step 2 - Pic 2:

Press **Invite friends** which will come up with the names of all your Facebook friends and you can select who to invite. Facebook will tell you if you have reached a limit for the day and then you can invite more later.

5:43



← Rotary Club of Brisbane Hi...

View as admin



Rotary Club of Brisbane High-Rise

High energy, community minded people who creat change in the world, while networking, learning & enjoying ourselves.

Civic and Social Organizations •
Spring Hill, Brisbane City, QLD • 46
followers • 0-1 employees

Katinka & 40 other connections
follow this page

Invite

✓ Following

Home About Posts Jobs Pe



LinkedIn



Step 1:

Press **Follow** if you are not already following.

Step 2:

Invite your LinkedIn connections. You are allowed 250 invitations per month. If any of those then Follow us, you will be able to invite the same number people who have accepted your invitation within that month. You can then invite 250 more people the next month and so on.

INSTAGRAM



Step 1:

Search for **rotarybrisbanehighrise**

Step 2:

Press **Follow** to receive Instagram updates

3:36



< rotarybrisbanehighrise



143 posts 130 followers 41 following

Rotary Brisbane High-Rise

Rotary Club of Brisbane High Rise is a diverse club that works internationally and locally to create a better world.

🔗 www.rotarybrisbanehighrise.co

📍 Rotary Club of Brisbane Hig...

Followed by
mr_beardy_
lisa.kehoe.589 and 14
others

Following

Message



Rotary Club of Brisbane High-Rise

910 likes • 1K followers



Brisbane High-Rise is a vibrant breakfast club that meets at the United Services Club. We aim to make a difference in our local community, Australia & overseas.

👍 Liked

💬 Message



2:27



< Rotary Club of Brisbane High-...

📄 Report Page

🔒 Help Rotary Club of
Brisbane High-Rise

🚫 Block

🔍 Search

👤 Invite friends

📁 Following

🔗 Share profile

Rotary Club of Brisbane
High-Rise's Page Link
<https://facebook.com/brisbanehighrise>

