



 **HOT AIR**

07 May 2026 — Youth Service Month

hotair@rotarybrisbanehighrise.com



The President's Post

Finding or Renewing Purpose and Passion

This month, as we celebrate Rotary Youth Month, we recognise and honour more than 350,000 young people worldwide who are actively engaged in Rotary Youth Programs. Their energy, commitment, and vision for the future continue to inspire us all.

Youth was a clear and powerful focus at the weekend's Tri-District Conference—and what an experience it was. Hearing firsthand from participants in programs such as Interact, Rotaract, Windward Bound, Rotary Youth Exchange, and Rotary Peace Fellowships was both uplifting and energising. Their stories and presence brought a vibrancy to the conference that made an already outstanding weekend truly memorable.

Our opening keynote speaker, Milton Dick MP, spoke passionately about strengthening young Australians' understanding of democracy. His initiative, which has already taken him to nearly 200 schools across the country, is a powerful reminder of the role education plays in shaping informed and engaged citizens.

Rotary Conferences always leave a lasting impression, and this one was no exception—in fact, it stands among the best. The opportunity to connect with Rotarians from across the state and beyond opened the door to fresh ideas, meaningful conversations, and inspiring perspectives. Among the many highlights were:

The impactful "Family and Domestic Violence" project from Mackay—an initiative making a real difference in its community.

The Paddington and Honiara Rotaract "Rise" project, which is building and stocking a school library in Su'u, Solomon Islands—a project we are proud to have supported.

Emerald's RFDS Transfer Station project, a remarkable undertaking that has grown from an initial concept of a few hundred thousand dollars to an expected investment exceeding \$1.5 million. (And yes, it was great to see glimpses of our own Russell Postle AM featured in the presentation.)

Six of our members had the privilege of attending this exceptional conference, and in the coming weeks, we look forward to sharing their experiences and insights at our meetings.

Moments like these remind us why we do what we do—fuelling our purpose, renewing our passion, and strengthening our commitment to service above self.

Greg Beard

Mothers Day Flower Deliveries

Sunday is Mothers Day and, once again, we are assisting Maison Fleur with their flower deliveries this time on **Friday, Saturday and Sunday**. We get paid for this so it's a fund raiser for our club. Delivery is via vehicle and it's best if the driver has an offsider to actually make the delivery.

Can you help?

As it stands we pretty much have Saturday and Sunday covered but what we **need is two more vehicles on Friday** just to avoid too much of a load on those already committed to helping out.

If you can spare say three hours on Friday please let me know.

This applies even if you don't have a vehicle but are happy to exercise your navigational skills. **Bill Phillips – 0418 780 663**

LAST CHANCE Mothers Day Raffle

Tickets On Sale This Week

At this week's meeting we will be selling tickets in our Mother's Day Raffle. The prize is this beautiful pearl necklace valued at \$700 and generously donated by Margaret Rix.



Tickets are 3 for \$10 or 20 for \$50 and the winner will be drawn at our meeting this week, 7th May.

Pay Cindy at the desk, deposit online (make sure to put a suitable reference) or pay cash to me at our meetings. Raising funds for our club projects - Pride of Workmanship and RYLA.

Margot Baillie.

Upcoming Meetings & Events

- Thu 07 May Weekly Meeting @ United Service Club – [RSVP](#)**
Maureen O'Brien-Stone, TADQ
Technology for Aging & Disability Qld
- Thu 14 May Weekly Meeting @ United Service Club – [RSVP](#)**
Wendy Protheroe, The DNA of Rotary
- Thu 21 May Weekly Meeting @ United Service Club – [RSVP](#)**
Jeanette Johnstone, Teacher In A Box
- Thu 28 May Weekly Meeting @ United Service Club – [RSVP](#)**
Club Assembly
- Thu 04 Jun Weekly Meeting @ United Service Club – [RSVP](#)**
Dr Amy Cahill PhD, 3rd Space

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.

RIDEWEST

Charity Cycle Brisbane to Longreach in Aid of the Royal Flying Doctor Service



Thursday dinner with the RFDS crew in Longreach the night before the riders arrive.



Friday, meeting up in Barcardine for lunch on the last day of the ride.



Nearly there: At the Wellshot Hotel, only 27km from the finish.



At the finish!

Extraordinary connections and impact for those in the outback

- 36 riders plus crew (so over 50).
- 8 days cycling
- 1311 kms
- Willowbank to Longreach via Charleville
- Alex and another did over 1400 kms.

They expect to raise well over \$700k for RFDS Well Being Out West Program.

Of course Alex did the Longreach Parkrun the next morning (Sharon and I walked) then revisited Wellshot Hotel at Ilfracombe as we began our journey home.

Lindsay Marshall



Tracey Hatch, Wellshot Hotel, Dr Tim Driscoll RFDS, Head of Mental Health Services, and Alex.



At the dinner Friday night: RFDS manager Donna and team member Christine flanking RiseWest rider and board member John Sloman and Russell.



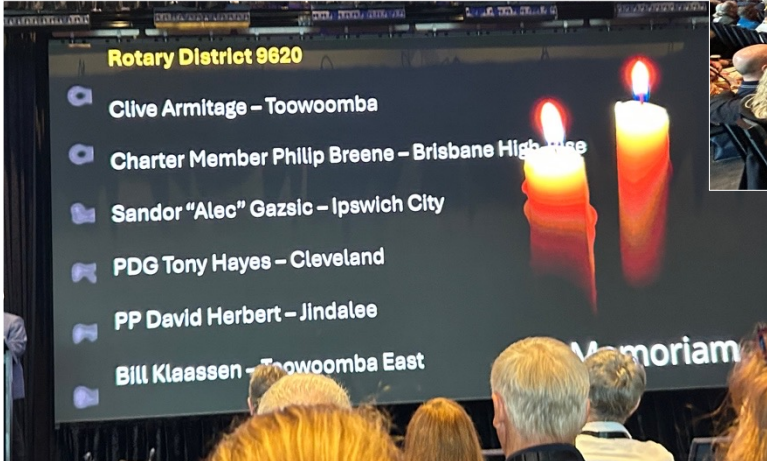
Sunday Parkrun and a return to the Wellshot Hotel



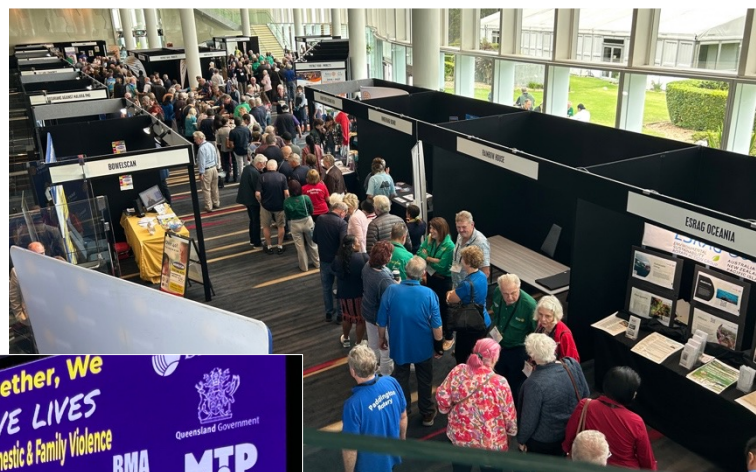
Rotary
Districts 9560, 9620 & 9640
TRI-DISTRICT CONFERENCE



Wendy speaking on The Foundation



Recognition of Phil Breene



House of Friendship



Fun at the Gala



RC Mackay's presentation: No to Domestic and Family Violence

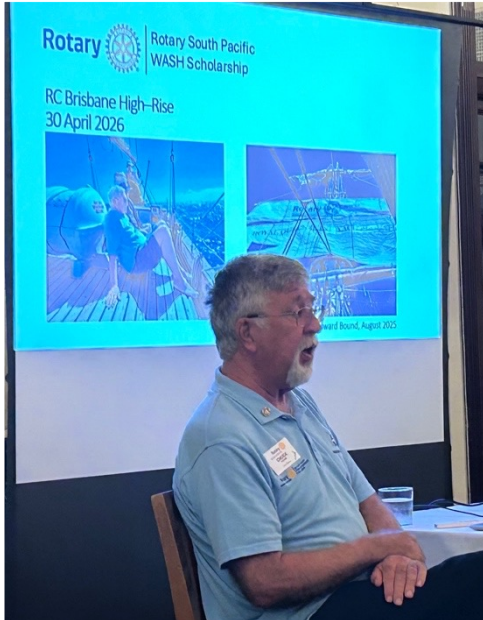


Conference participation: Cindy's back of coaster drawing of Wendy



The High-Rise crew

Last Week's Meeting



Guest Speaker Chuck Fisher. Picture behind is Rob O'Donovan recovering on the Deck of the Windward Bound

Rotary  E-Club of WASH D9999



Rod O'Donovan, stand-in Greeter and Chairman, and Cindy Kemp



Guest Atlanta Lloyd & Greg Beard



Margot Baillie selling Mother's Day Raffle tickets



Steve Knight & Chuck Fisher



SAVE the DATE!
Brisbane High-Rise Change Over
 Join us for a relaxed
High Tea
 Riva Kitchen and Events
 Hamilton
Sunday, 21 June, 2-4pm
 \$50 per person

Ros's Icelandic Roamings



Hallgrímskirkja in the heart of Reykjavik is the largest church in Iceland



Gullfoss Waterfall is fed by the powerful Hvita River which originates from the Langjokull Glacier, dramatically plunging over the two-tiered cascade



Blue Lagoon - world-renowned geothermal spa, famous for its milky-blue, mineral-rich waters located in a black lava field on the Reykjanes Peninsula



SPONSORS



**PITCHER
PARTNERS**



**HUTCHINSON
BUILDERS**

Established 1912



Dedicated to a better Brisbane



watch

Baihn Construction

wtw

BOOKKEEPING
Institute of Australia

STEELE WROBEL

WVO
WIN WIN OUTCOMES

mgd.
Total Wealth Management

**CAROLINE
BROWN**
Property

DRIVELINE
SERVICES AUSTRALIA

charlie.
we find a way

shadforth



CBRE
In support of ISPT

GYMPIE WEB DESIGN

Worldwide
Design. Print. Innovate.
South Brisbane

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

Rotary Club of Brisbane High-Rise

Calendar 2025-26

Activities outside of Club Meetings

MAY <i>Youth Service Month</i>		JUNE <i>Rotary Fellowships Month</i>	
Tri-District Rotary Conf. Gold Coast 1-3 May 🌴🌴🌴	Art Show 2026 Preparation 👨🍳	Kinross Cluster Meeting 11/6/2026	Art Show 2026 Preparation 👨🍳
Mothers Day Flower Deliveries 🌸🌸🌸	Coffee Brigade Sandwich Makers 18/05/2026 😊	Rotary International Conference TAIPAI 13/6/2026	Coffee Brigade Sandwich Makers 15/06/2026 😊
EPIC DAY of SERVICE Global Event 16/5/2026	Board Meeting 25/5/2026	Brisbane High-Rise Changeover High Tea 21/6/2026	Board Meeting & Dinner - Incoming & Outgoing Board 22/6/2026

KEY:

	Major Projects		Foundation
	Community Services		Youth
	Social		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 07 May	Craig W	Steve S
Thu 14 May	Roly W	Craig W
Thu 21 May	Matt W	Roly W
Thu 28 May	Andrew A	Matt W
Thu 04 Jun	Jane A	Andrew A



Rotary Youth Leadership Awards

RYLA 2026 is on from Sun 31st May to Sat 6th June 2026, at Camp Cooby, North of Toowoomba.

Brisbane High-Rise wants to sponsor attendees. Please invite leaders and potential leaders between ages 20 - 30 in your network to apply.

The program provides participants with an unforgettable experience in life, learning and laughter in a regional setting.

Find out more at <https://www.ryla9620.org/> and if you want to apply for sponsorship email Loretta at lorettalynch1@gmail.com

International Toast

This week we are celebrating:
**The Rotary Club of Pietersburg 100,
Polokwane, South Africa**



In April this year, club member Loretta Lynch visited Rotarian host families she stayed with in 1988 while on Rotary Exchange in Polokwane, Limpopo Province, South Africa.

She attended a meeting of her old club **Pietersburg 100**, which chartered in 1987, the year of the centenary of the town (its name changed to Polokwane in 2005).

Loretta was their very first exchange student and they continue to tell her she was the best one they ever hosted.

They have no female Rotarians (don't want to change) and meet each Thursday evening at the local cricket club for a formal meeting with dinner and plenty of fellowship afterwards.

Extremely active with local fundraising, their priority project (for them and the other Rotary club in town as well as the local Harley Davidson chapter) being the "Our Home" Rotary Retirement and Aged Care facility which they envisioned and built 20 years ago. It is home to 146 elderly citizens who rely on not-for-profit organisations and the generosity of community members for support and care.

TOGETHER WE SEE A WORLD
WHERE **PEOPLE** UNITE AND TAKE ACTION
TO **CREATE** LASTING
CHANGE ACROSS THE GLOBE
IN OUR COMMUNITIES AND IN OURSELVES