

 **HOT AIR**

12 February 2026 — Peace Building & Conflict Resolution Month

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**International Toast:**  
*Rotary Club of Saigon  
International, Vietnam*  
See Page 4

**The President's Post**

**Is this Brisbane High-Rise Rotary ?**

Our city is increasingly defined by vertical living and busy professional life. Connection, increasingly, does not come easily.

Brisbane High-Rise Rotary has existed to bridge this gap—uniting people who live or work in the city.

This year's Rotary's theme, **Unite for Good**, further speaks to the purpose and spirit of the Brisbane High-Rise Rotary Club. We can bring together individuals who may otherwise remain disconnected. Our program is built by meeting where our members are—both geographically and professionally—we endeavour to remove barriers to participation and create opportunities for meaningful engagement, flexible meeting expectations, hands-on service projects, and partnerships with local organisations.

**This is our opportunity** to foster deeper connection in a vertical city. By uniting people across buildings, industries, and backgrounds, Brisbane High-Rise Rotary turns connection into positive action—growing the club and creating lasting good for our community and beyond.

**Greg Beard**

**Valentine's Day Flower Deliveries**

Again this year we are assisting Maison Fleur with flower deliveries on Valentine's Day, Sat 14 Feb. This is a fundraiser for the club and everyone involved also gets a buzz out delivering to happy recipients!

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered and thank you to those who let me know that they can't help.

Maison Fleur are still uncertain as to the delivery requirements but their best guess at this stage is:

|        |          |         |             |
|--------|----------|---------|-------------|
| 8.30am | 1 x car  | 9.00am  | 4 x walkers |
| 9.30am | 2 x cars | 10.00am | 2 x cars.   |

So, we still need more walkers and vehicles. For the vehicles it is best if you have a buddy. Too many people is good - it means the deliveries are spread and the load is lightened.

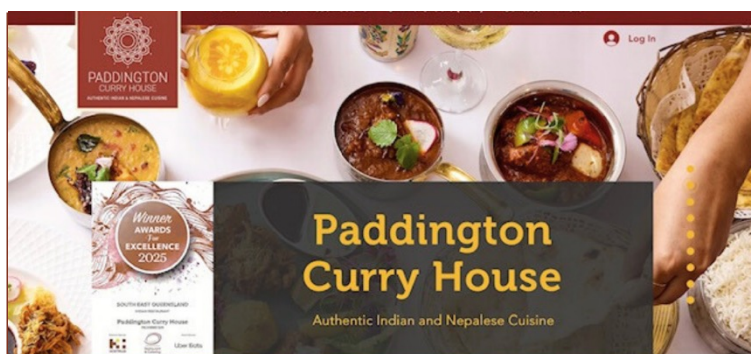
Pick up of flowers will again be from the Royal on the Park in Alice street.

Please give this some thought; if you can assist it would be appreciated.

**Bill Phillips**

**Upcoming Meetings & Events**

- Thu 12 Feb Weekly Meeting @ United Service Club – [RSVP](#)**  
Wendy Mulcahy, DVERT - Domestic Violence Education Relationship Training
- Sat 14 Feb Valentines Day Flower Deliveries**
- Thu 19 Feb Weekly Meeting @ United Service Club – [RSVP](#)**  
John Sharpe, Specialist Adventure Experiences
- Thu 19 Feb Dinner @ Paddington Curry House – [RSVP](#)**
- Thu 26 Feb Weekly Meeting @ United Service Club – [RSVP](#)**  
Club Assembly
- Thu 05 Mar Weekly Meeting @ United Service Club – [RSVP](#)**  
Anthony Carrigan, CEO The Little Kings Movement Addressing Gaps in Social Inclusion
- Thu 12 Mar Weekly Meeting @ United Service Club – [RSVP](#)**
- Thu 19 Mar Special Meeting @ United Service Club – [RSVP](#)**  
Breakfast with Gemma Sisia, School of St Jude



**It's time for us to catch up over a great meal**

**Who:** Rotary Club of Brisbane High-Rise members & Guests

**When:** Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> February at 6.30pm

**Cost:** Banquet \$55 including corkage - BYO

**Where:** Paddington Curry House, 3/147 Latrobe Terrace, Paddington

RSVP to Deb by 12th February - payment to Cindy by 12th February

|                            |                      |                       |
|----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>STARTERS (One each)</b> | <b>MAINS</b>         | <b>ACCOMPANIMENTS</b> |
| Chicken Malai Tikka        | Chicken Tikka Masala | Sweet Mango Chutney   |
| Vegetable Samosa           | Butter Chicken       | Saffron Rice          |
| Onion Pakora               | Beef Goan Curry      | Mixed Naan            |
|                            | Paneer Butter Masala |                       |
|                            | Dal Makhani          | <b>DESSERT</b>        |
|                            | Eggplant Pasanda     | Homemade Mango Kulfi  |

**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



Clare Blake speaking to us about malaria research – half the world's population is at risk from malaria with children the higher proportion.

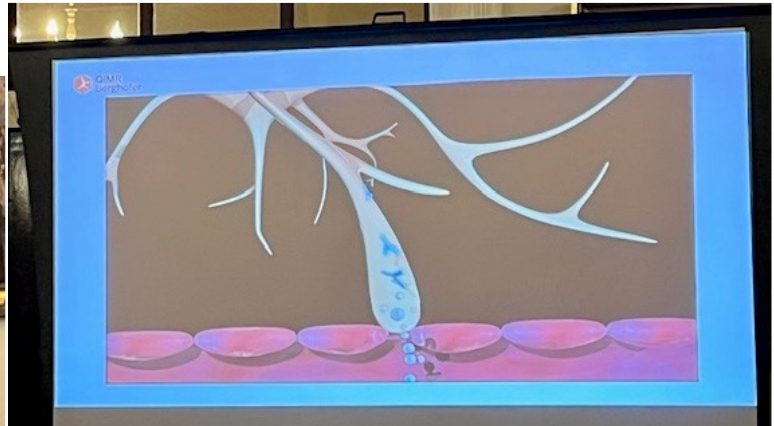


Our Guest Speaker, **Clare Blake** from QIMR Berghofer, updated us about the amazing work being done there - click on the topics below to find out more:

- [Blood cancer drug to boost survival in malaria cases](#)
- [Tiny hearts to one day help repair heart disease damage](#)
- [Potential new drugs for Alzheimer's disease](#)
- [World-first RNA discovery could lead to breast cancer therapy](#)



Assistant/Area Governor Bruce McNaught



A new ultrasound treatment creates a temporary opening in the blood vessel wall allowing drugs to cross the blood/brain barrier.



Deb Le Garde & Clare Blake drawing the Joker Draw raffle with Ken Maisey.

David Bunce not winning the Joker Draw.



## Queensland Volunteering Awards

### The 2026 Queensland Volunteering Award nominations are now open!

The awards celebrate all Queensland volunteers and the immense impact they make on individuals, communities and the state.

Every single volunteer, whether in a formal or informal setting, deserves thanks from the Queensland community. The Queensland Volunteering Awards highlight the people behind this immense positive wave, which embodies the spirit of mateship and togetherness.

This is your opportunity to nominate a volunteer, volunteer manager, or a volunteer involving organisation that you think has had a significant impact on the community.

Held in celebration of National Volunteer Week (18-24 May 2026), the Queensland Volunteering Awards recognise the significant impact of volunteering across all sectors in Queensland. As the peak body for volunteering, Volunteering Queensland is proud to host the Awards.

Nominations close 5:00 pm, 31 March 2026.

Finalists will be notified at the end of April, and the 2026 Recipients will be awarded at the formal ceremony on Friday, 15 May 2026, in Brisbane.

[Click here to find out more](#)

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



# THE ROTARY CLUB OF BRISBANE HIGH-RISE INVITES YOU TO...

*A story to remember...*

## A BREAKFAST WITH GEMMA SISIA

Founder of the School of St Jude, Tanzania



In a country where the average number of *adult years at school is 7.5 and 75% of secondary school-aged children are out of school*, here is the miracle of St Jude's:

- 1,800 of the poorest, brightest students receive an education every year
- 100% of students receive free, quality education
- 98% of Form 6 graduates enroll in tertiary education
- 100% of secondary students are in safe & secure boarding
- 23,000 Government School students receive volunteer teaching from St Jude's Form 6 Graduates.
- 97 cents of every \$ donated, directly supports the school



Meet the team: Gemma, Faith and Johnson

\$40pp

Date: **Thur 19<sup>th</sup> March, 2026**

@ United Services Club, Wickham Terrace  
Parking-enter off Upper Edward Street

6:45am arrival for a 7:15am start, finishes 8:30am.  
RSVP by Mon 16<sup>th</sup> March to Bill Phillips 0418 780 663

THROUGH EDUCATION™

"FIGHTING POVERTY

## HOT NEWS – 2027 Trip to Tanzania!

We are looking at organising another group trip to Tanzania in late January 2027.

The School of St Jude will be celebrating its 25th anniversary in late January 2027. It has been an incredible journey and High-Rise has been along for the ride for most of those years. It will be a celebration to treasure. The celebratory week will be 24-29 January and so the trip will be set around those dates. The itinerary will include a safari of course; maybe a visit to Mamba school, certainly a visit to Maternity Africa's hospital near Arusha. Noela will be visiting St Judes in May this year for the Year 6 graduation celebrations. She will take that opportunity to review options to ensure the January group visit is as special as it always has been.

What we'd like now are expressions of interest in joining us on this trip. For booking purposes we will need a final decision by the end of March.

If you would like to meet up to discuss, feel free to let me know. **Bill Phillips.**

## Unite for Bondi – Bondi Terror Attack Appeal



Rotary, in collaboration with the NSW Government and the Jewish Board of Deputies, has set up the **Unite for Bondi - Bondi Terror Attack Appeal** to provide benevolent relief and support to injured survivors and direct next of kin of those deceased following the fatal shootings which occurred in Bondi NSW on Sunday 14 December 2025.

As Rotarians we stand united in our values of compassion, peace, and community with the victims and survivors of the Bondi shooting tragedy. Our hearts and thoughts go out to the victims, their families, and all impacted by this devastating event.

The effects of the tragedy will be far-reaching, impacting the survivors, victims and their immediate families for months and years to come.

Individuals who are adversely affected will be identified and be given financial relief including bereavement costs, medium-term recovery support, and longer-term needs such as medical care, counselling and rehabilitation. It is our priority to get funds quickly to those who are in need to help them with their future. Some funds may also be used for long term support.

More Info: <https://directory.rawcs.com.au/49-2025-26>

Donate: <https://donations.rawcs.com.au/49-2025-26>

By donating individually, you will receive a **tax deductible** receipt - if you pay the donation to our club, and the club forwards it to RAWCS, then it is **NOT tax-deductible.**



# International Toast

This week we are celebrating the:  
**Rotary Club of Saigon International, Vietnam**



The Rotary Club of Saigon International participated in two global grant projects with District 3740 in Korea that have corrected congenital heart disease for 100 Vietnamese children since 2023.

The \$125,000 Heart-to-Heart project helps low-income families bridge the gap between what the government covers and what they're able to pay out of pocket. "We chose paediatric heart surgery because, with a relatively small contribution of \$1,500 from us, we can quite literally save a child's life" says Hoa Nguyen, president-elect of the club.

Rotary contributions are matched by the VinaCapital Foundation and the Vietnamese government. The impact on livelihoods is significant, Nguyen notes, as caregivers are able to return to the workforce after their child's recovery.

## 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     |
| <b>Assisted By:</b> |                   |
| 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

|                   | Setup, Greeter & Closedown | Chair     |
|-------------------|----------------------------|-----------|
| <b>Thu 12 Feb</b> | Kym McC                    | Loretta L |
| <b>Thu 19 Feb</b> | Ros M                      | Kym McC   |
| <b>Thu 26 Feb</b> | Suzy M                     | Ros M     |
| <b>Thu 05 Mar</b> | Rob O'D                    | Suzy M    |
| <b>Thu 12 Mar</b> | Greg P                     | Rob O'D   |

## Join Us for an Exquisite Wine Tasting Afternoon!

Embark on a delightful journey exploring four exciting new Australian wine varieties in the enchanting setting of Anne Maree Buttner's beautiful riverview apartment.

**Date:** Sunday, 15th March

**Time:** 3:30 PM – 5:30 PM

**Location:** Anne Maree Buttner's Riverview Apartment

**Cost:** \$40 per person (including nibbles)



Spaces are limited, so be sure to secure your spot! Kindly RSVP by 5th March to ensure your participation in this exclusive event.  
 Cheers to a great afternoon of wine, views, and laughter!

## Rotary Club of Brisbane High-Rise Calendar 2025-26

### Activities outside of Club Meetings

| FEBRUARY<br><i>Rotary Peace Building &amp; Conflict Resolution Month</i> |                                                                    | MARCH<br><i>Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Month</i>                    |                                                                 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Art Show 2026 Preparation                                                | Phil Breene's Funeral - 11am<br>St Peter & Paul's Church, Balmoral | Art Show 2026 Preparation                                              | Act For Kids Working Bee<br>9am-12noon<br>7/3/2026              |
| Valentine's Day Flower Deliveries<br>14/2/2026 🌸🌹                        | <b>Coffee Brigade Sandwich Makers</b><br>16/2/2026 😊               | Wine Tasting Newer Australian Varieties 🍷🍷<br>15/3/26 3.30-5.30pm      | <b>Coffee Brigade Sandwich Makers</b><br>16/3/2026 😊            |
| Board Meeting<br>17/2/2026                                               | Fellowship Dinner - Paddington<br>Curry House<br>19/2/2026         | Club Mtg w/ Gemma Sisia<br>School of St Jude<br>19/3/2026              | Board Meeting<br>17/3/2026                                      |
| <b>Rotary's Anniversary 121 years</b><br>23/2/2026                       | Kinross Cluster Meeting<br>Date TBA                                | Kinross Cluster Meeting<br>TBA                                         | Rotary Peace Fellows Talks<br>UQ - 10.30am-6pm<br>28/03/2026 🕒🕒 |
|                                                                          |                                                                    | <b>Pre-Registration Discount ends Rot. Int Conference</b><br>31/3/2026 |                                                                 |

### KEY:

|            |                                          |
|------------|------------------------------------------|
| Yellow     | Major Projects                           |
| Green      | Community Services                       |
| Light Blue | Social                                   |
| Blue       | Foundation                               |
| Orange     | Youth                                    |
| Purple     | District Events, Conferences or Training |