

 **HOT AIR**

14 May 2026 — Youth Service Month

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The President's Post

On Saturday, Ann-Maree and I attended our District's Interact Conference, held at Kawana Waters State College in Bokarina on the Sunshine Coast. It was hosted by the school's Interact Club and sponsored by Rotary Club of Mooloolaba.

The conference included:

- keynote and guest speakers
- leadership and personal development sessions
- breakout workshops
- a "House of Friendship" showcasing Rotary youth programs and service opportunities
- networking between Interact clubs across District 9620.

Rotary International runs the Interact program as its youth service and leadership arm for students aged roughly 12–18. Interact clubs are usually based in high schools and are sponsored by a local Rotary club, which provides mentoring and support together with teaching staff, while students run their own projects and leadership structure.

The word "Interact" comes from "international action."

Interact Clubs are expected to complete:

- local community service projects, and
- projects that promote international understanding or global awareness.

Typical Interact activities include:

- fundraising for charities
- environmental clean-ups
- volunteering at community events
- leadership training
- public speaking
- school and community service campaigns
- connecting with students from other countries.

Students elect officers such as president, secretary and treasurer, giving them practical experience in leadership, teamwork and event management.

Interact is often describe as a strong pathway into volunteering and leadership development.

This year's conference also celebrated the 40th anniversary of the Rotary Club of Mooloolaba's Interact partnership with Immanuel Lutheran College.

It was inspiring to hear Interact clubs' presentations about their activities and fundraising. At least one club has over 100 members!

Greg Beard

SHELTERBAGS

After our meeting last Thursday, Jane Andersen, Anne Maree Buttner, Ann-Maree Bennet and I met the new CEO of 3rd Space, Matt Carney (Matt will be our guest speaker on the 4th of June).



We also were there to make two deliveries: Jane with clothes and all of us representing our club with 20 Shelter Bags.



Greg Beard



Upcoming Meetings & Events

- 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](#)**
Matt Carney, 3rd Space
- Thu 11 Jun Weekly Meeting @ United Service Club – [RSVP](#)**

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



Technology for Ageing & Disability Queensland



Guest Speaker Maureen O'Brien-Stone from TADQ & Dyls Bertlesen



Lindsay Marshall & Andrew Albury



Mothers Day Raffle

And the winner was...Greg Beard!

Thanks to everyone for your support - we raised \$900.

Margot Baillie.

Mothers Day Flower Deliveries – Supporting St Judes

Flower deliveries for Mothers Day on behalf of Maisen Fleur were spread over three days. We had a willing bunch of volunteers each day to effect the deliveries in an efficient and caring manner. All up deliveries were about 60 and unlike Valentine's Day these deliveries needed to be made by vehicle. Deliveries were spread around the city, covering both inner and outer suburbs. The furthest was out to Springfield Lakes entailing an 80k round trip (thank you Bill!).

Funds raised will augment funds already collected via Valentines Day and the raffle on the occasion of the St Judes' breakfast meeting. With the Mother's Day funds in total we will have about \$5K collected so far. We still have the raffle/sale of the tanzanite ring to go. Once that is completed we will have more than enough to fund a project nominated by St Judes. \$8K is required to fund Student Welfare Support for 12 months.

A St Jude's education includes not just academics, but also making sure students' basic needs are met so they can focus on learning. A donation in this area helps cover essential items for students from the most disadvantaged backgrounds who rely entirely on the school for their care and education. Our support will help cover the welfare items and special diets for students with dietary requirements that are not met at home due to financial constraints on the families.

Welfare items: AU\$5,000 – supports hygiene supplies, staple food items and emergency welfare needs.

Special diet support: AU\$3,000 per year – provides tailored meals for students with dietary requirements or nutritional needs, helping them stay healthy and engaged.

Bill & Noela Phillips



ROTARY IN ACTION – ARUSHA, TANZANIA

Maternity Africa Care Packs

4WD Ambulance Grant

Thankyou Brisbane High-Rise for continuing to fund the provision of Care-Packs at Maternity Africa's Kivulini Maternity Centre, Arusha, Tanzania. Below are more stories about grateful recipients.

Noela Phillips.

Neema Peter

This is Neema Peter, a fistula patient from Babati. MA supported her with food due to her condition at home and after a long counselling session, where she explained her situation.



Valentina

Valentina, a Fistula patient from Mwanza, was supported with food due to her situation at home following conversations with our social worker team. She has had an extremely hard life. The care pack provides a boost to help her run a small business to take care of her kids



Sara Joseph

She is a Mama in great need. She has several disabilities and required crutches to walk. She takes care of other children sometimes, however this is very low paid work. After discussing with the team, we supported her with social pack but also we gave her family planning supplies. She was happy and very thankful.

Weema

This is Weema from Wire. After having a long discussion with the team leader, we decided to involve and contact her husband too. The husband is working in the market carrying luggage, and with her new baby Weema is unable to work at the moment. The environment at home is not good, and while sometimes neighbours help them with food or maize this is rare. We supported her to ensure her new baby receives good nutrition at this early stage where Weema is currently breastfeeding.



Rotary
Australia & New Zealand



Rotary Club of Balwyn Centenary Grants

Kivulini Maternity Centre Ambulance (4WD)

To celebrate the 100th anniversary of Rotary in Australia in 2021 the Rotary Club of Balwyn will donate a significant portion of its annual income generated from its Camberwell Sunday Market to assist other Rotary Clubs in Australia in their humanitarian endeavours.

We applied for, and have been awarded, a grant for \$50,000 to provide a 4WD Ambulance to the Kivulini Maternity Centre – her's part of the application:

In Sub-Saharan Africa, more than 200,000 women die each year during pregnancy and childbirth simply because they do not have access to safe maternal healthcare.

In Australia around three women die for every 100,000 births, while in Sub-Saharan Africa the figure is more than 450 deaths per 100,000 births.

Death is not the only risk. For every woman who dies, many more suffer lifelong injuries such as obstetric fistula, often resulting from prolonged labour without access to skilled care.

The Kivulini Maternity Centre, a Maternity Africa project, is helping to change this reality by providing free, evidence-based maternal healthcare to vulnerable and marginalised women in and around Arusha, Tanzania. Since opening in 2018 with capacity for 2,500 deliveries per year, the centre has expanded its reach significantly. In 2025, Kivulini supported 3,765 safe deliveries, performed 235 fistula surgeries and 199 other gynaecological surgeries, and provided training for 40 midwives, strengthening sustainable maternal healthcare across the region.

However, many women still cannot reach the hospital in time. An ambulance will enable more women to access skilled care during pregnancy, labour and birth, ensuring that distance and lack of transport are not the difference between life and death.

The purchase of the ambulance will be managed by the Barabara May Foundation in Sydney. The expected cost is \$60,000 so there is a gap we need to fill to make this happen – let me know if you would like to help.

Thankyou Rotary Club of Balwyn!

Bill Phillips.

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

Rotary Club of Brisbane High-Rise

Calendar 2025-26

Activities outside of Club Meetings

MAY

Youth Service Month

| | |
|---|--|
| Tri-District Rotary Conf. Gold Coast 1-3 May 🌴🌴🌴 | Art Show 2026 Preparation 🎨 |
| Interact Conference (Kawana Waters) 9/5/2026 | Mothers Day Flower Deliveries 🌸🌸🌸 8/5/26 - 10/05/2026 |
| EPIC DAY of SERVICE Global Event 16/5/2026 | Coffee Brigade Sandwich Makers 18/05/2026 😊 |
| Hamilton Club Race Day - Volunteers for Raffle Tickets 23/5/2026 | Board Meeting 25/5/2026 |

JUNE

Rotary Fellowships Month

| | |
|---|---|
| Kinross Cluster Meeting 11/6/2026 | Art Show 2026 Preparation 🎨 |
| Rotary International Conference TAIPAI 13/6/2026 | Coffee Brigade Sandwich Makers 15/06/2026 😊 |
| 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

| | |
|-------------------|----------|
| Thu 14 May | Roly W |
| Thu 21 May | Matt W |
| Thu 28 May | Andrew A |
| Thu 04 Jun | Jane A |
| Thu 11 Jun | Margot B |

Chair

| |
|----------|
| Craig W |
| Roly W |
| Matt W |
| Andrew A |
| Jane A |

Rotary Club of Paddington

CREATE LASTING IMPACT

Changeover Dinner 2026

Saturday 27 June

6:00pm for a 6:30pm start

📍 **The Ship Inn, South Bank**

- Thai Buffet Dinner & Dessert
\$60 per person
Cash Bar

Dress Code: Smart Casual

Celebrating what we've achieved—and what we will build next.



Scan to book

RSVP by 16th of June

<https://www.trybooking.com/DLMA>



International Toast

This week we are celebrating:
The Rotary Club of Poza Rica, Mexico



Within hours of deadly floods and landslides that struck Mexico in October, Rotary members were responding. In hard-hit Poza Rica, Rotary and Rotaract members brought residents to safety, plowed mud-laden streets, and moved house to house to clean properties.

The effort was supported by clubs throughout District 4185 and by neighboring districts and others abroad. **The Rotary Club of Poza Rica** joined the nonprofit [Planet Water Foundation](#) to install four water towers and a water block in the neediest area and deliver purified water elsewhere. The club also coordinated with [World Central Kitchen](#) to provide hot meals.

Still, “we desperately need help to get back on our feet and return to our normal lives,” says club member Pepe Badillo. “The houses were a total loss. Everything was destroyed, from a single plate to the bedrooms on the second floor.”