

 **HOT AIR**

26 February 2026 — Peace Building & Conflict Resolution Month

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**International Toast:**  
*The Rotary Club of  
Budapest-Margitsziget,  
Hungary*  
See Page 4

**The President's Post**

This week we celebrate the 1905 founding of Rotary International.

World Rotary Day is observed each year on February 23. On this day, people around the world recognise the vision of Paul Harris who, 121 years ago, started the first Rotary club in Chicago with the goal of bringing professionals together for friendship and community service. What began as a small gathering has grown into a global network of over a million members dedicated to making a positive difference.

This day helps us emphasise Rotary's core areas of focus including promoting peace, fighting disease, providing clean water, supporting education, saving mothers and children, growing local economies, and protecting the environment.

One of Rotary's most significant achievements is its ongoing effort to eradicate polio through the PolioPlus program, working alongside global partners to immunise children worldwide.

In our club we are busy being part of that worldwide network and our current programs include support of various homeless organisations in Brisbane, mothers and babies in Africa, youth development programs, schools in Brisbane and Africa, and infectious disease research. We generate much of our funding through the *Brisbane Rotary Art Show*, one of the largest art shows in South East Queensland, and we are currently seeking sponsors – please help us find them.

World Rotary Day serves as a reminder that through service above self, individuals can unite across cultures, countries and professions, to create lasting change in communities around the world.

**Greg Beard**

**Upcoming Meetings & Events**

- 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
- Sat 07 Mar** **Act For Kids Working Bee** – [Register](#)
- 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
- Thu 26 Mar** **Weekly Meeting @ United Service Club** – [RSVP](#)  
Club Assembly
- Thu 02 Apr** **Weekly Meeting @ United Service Club** – [RSVP](#)  
Prof Roly Sussex – Topic “Bullshit”

**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.

**Working Bee**



The next **Act for Kids Working Bee** is on **Saturday 07 March 9am-Midday at Woolloowin**. Please remember to wear comfortable, enclosed shoes and to bring a hat and water bottle.

Tasks will be:

- sanding and staining timber
- pressure cleaning the exterior
- assembling a sandpit and water table
- doing a general outdoor tidy & grounds

Use the QR code above to register or click [here](#). If you do not like on-line forms, please feel free to [email](#) me or SMS/WhatsApp me.

It would be great if you can submit your response by 26 Feb 2026.

I will send you the exact address and re-confirm timings via email a few days prior to the event.

If the weather is bad and we have to cancel I will text message you before 8:20am on the day of the event.

**David Bunce**

**THEATRE NIGHT**

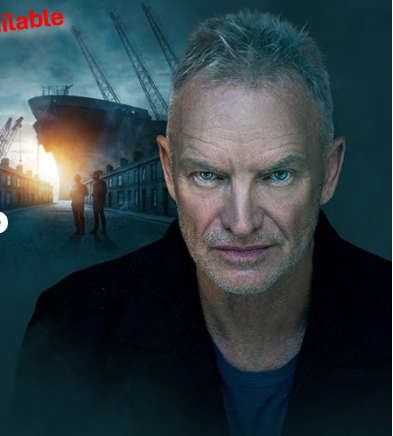
**LAST CHANCE!**  
Only has 2 tickets available

Sting performs in  
**THE LAST SHIP**

THE MUSICAL

7:30pm, Thursday 16 April  
Glasshouse Theatre

Contact [Susan Rix](#)



## Last Week's Meeting



Jane Andersen, John Sharpe (Guest Speaker),  
Ann Maree Buttner & Dyls Bertlesen



Jeremy Seward (RC Honiara) & Bill Phillips



Rob O'Donovan & David Bunce



Virginia Brooks  
& Greg Beard



Kym McCluskey not winning  
the Joker Draw

## Rotary Foundation in Action



Recently I was at a function with RI President Elect Yinka Babalo and his wife Precy Babalao; RI CEO John Hewko and Foundation Trustee Dennis Shore.  
Wendy Protheroe

## Pride of Workmanship Awards 2026

The Annual **Pride of Workmanship Awards** will be presented at our meeting on Thursday 16 April 2026.

This is your opportunity to recognise and celebrate those in your workplace or the wider community who deliver outstanding service with dedication, commitment and pride in a job well done.

So, take a few moments to reflect on those deserving of public recognition – perhaps you already have someone in mind!

[Click to download the Nomination Form.](#)

For more information please email me at: [apologies@rotarybrisbanehighrise.com](mailto:apologies@rotarybrisbanehighrise.com)

**Rosemary Meadows**





# 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"

## 🍷 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

*Rotary Peace Building & Conflict Resolution Month*

Art Show 2026 Preparation	Phil Breene's Funeral - 11am St Peter & Paul's Church, Balmoral
Valentine's Day Flower Deliveries 14/2/2026 🌸🌹	<b>Coffee Brigade Sandwich Makers</b> 16/2/2026 😊
Board Meeting 17/2/2026	Fellowship Dinner - Paddington Curry House 19/2/2026
<b>Rotary's Anniversary 121 years 23/2/2026</b>	Kinross Cluster Meeting Date TBA

#### MARCH

*Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Month*

Art Show 2026 Preparation	Act For Kids Working Bee 9am-12noon 7/3/2026
Wine Tasting Newer Australian Varieties 🍷🍷 15/3/26 3.30-5.30pm	<b>Coffee Brigade Sandwich Makers</b> 16/3/2026 😊
Club Mtg w/ Gemma Sisia School of St Jude 19/3/2026	Board Meeting 17/3/2026
Kinross Cluster Meeting TBA	Rotary Peace Fellows Talks UQ - 10.30am-6pm 28/03/2026 🕒🕒
<b>Pre-Registration Discount ends Rot. Int Conference 31/3/2026</b>	

#### 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
<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

<b>Thu 19 Feb</b>	Ros M	<b>Chair</b> 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
<b>Thu 19 Mar</b>	Russell P	Bill P

## Anzac Day 2026 Project



Resting peacefully on the eastern beach of K'gari / Fraser Island is the wreck of the TSS Maheno.

During WW1 the Maheno was a hospital ship, arriving at Anzac beach on the morning of 26 August 1915. There the crew did the first retrieval of the wounded Australian and New Zealand soldiers.

The Rotary Club of Brisbane High-Rise coordinates the Anzac Day service.

Anzac Day is Saturday 25 April 2026.

Are you able to assist with the Anzac Day service this year?

If so please contact me so I can secure your accommodation options:

M: 0419 703 581

E: [russell.postle@bdo.com.au](mailto:russell.postle@bdo.com.au)

**Russell Postle**

## International Toast

This week is we are celebrating the:

***The Rotary Club of  
Budapest-Margitsziget, Hungary***



A charity wine auction by the **Rotary Club of Budapest-Margitsziget** in November sold off over 100 bottles. Local wineries and three other clubs — Berlin-Gendarmenmarkt, Milano Sud-Ovest, and Paris-Quai d'Orsay — donated signature wines from their countries.

The fundraiser's attendance nearly doubled from 2024 and helped raise about \$17,000 for the Fellegajtó Nyitogatók Foundation, which is constructing a residential home for children with disabilities.

"We are delighted by the outcome, which far surpassed our expectations," says Ferenc Szénási, the club president. "It is a great joy to see how the strength of community can bring real change."