



HOT AIR

28 May 2026 — Youth Service Month

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The President's Post

As we approach the end of **Rotary Youth Month**, I want to once again celebrate the extraordinary value of **Rotary's youth programs and projects** — the very reason I became a Rotarian.

This past Saturday, I had the privilege of attending our District's **Rotary Youth Exchange Selection Weekend**. Applicants and their parents took part in their first face-to-face interviews, a genuine two-way introduction to the program and its expectations. It marked the beginning of the selection process for both Short-Term (3-month) and Long-Term (12-month) exchanges.

The energy in the room was unmistakable. It reminded me just how profoundly life-changing our youth programs are.

When we talk about Rotary, we speak of Service Above Self, building peace, and fostering understanding between people and cultures. **Rotary Youth Exchange** embodies all of these ideals — not as abstract concepts, but in the lived experiences of young people every single day. And it's not just Youth Exchange. **Every Rotary youth program** has the potential to transform lives.

Through our programs, young people step beyond their comfort zones and into new ways of seeing the world. They graduate more confident, more compassionate, and more capable of leadership. While I see these programs as a vital investment in Rotary's future, their impact reaches far beyond our organisation. They help shape future leaders grounded in **ethics, character, and wisdom**, who will make meaningful contributions to their communities.

For these reasons, I firmly believe that **"youth" should always have a voice on Club Boards**. The perspective enriches our decision-making and ensures Rotary remains vibrant, relevant, and forward-looking.

Greg Beard

Upcoming Meetings & Events

- 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](#)**
Christine West, Moreton Bay Wildlife Hospital
- Thu 18 Jun Weekly Meeting @ United Service Club – [RSVP](#)**
Chris Dickons, Health Serve Global
- Sun 21 Jun High-Rise Changeover High Tea – [RSVP](#)**
2-4pm, Riva Kitchen and Events, Hamilton
- Thu 25 Jun Weekly Meeting @ United Service Club – [RSVP](#)**
Club Assembly

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.

Update - Former YES Emilie



Our former inbound YSE student Emilie has exciting news - she and her British partner, Tom, have bought a spacious 85 sqm flat near Copenhagen, after living in a 40sqm shoe box together for 2 years. Emilie is doing well in her role in aged care and running a pilot program for in home care and Tom works as an analyst with CBRE. She sent me this photo of a recent family get together. A photo of Emilie and I doing a fun run years ago came up on social media. We have many fond memories of her time with our club on exchange. So nice to keep in touch! **Margot Baillie**

It's LESS THAN 4 WEEKS until the 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

RSVP to: [Yvonne Robson](#)



Last Week's Meeting

Our Guest Speaker this week was Jeanette Johnstone from Teacher In A Box:



In many rural villages in developing countries there is no internet, and even in places where there is internet it may be unreliable, or the cost limits people's use. Teacher in a Box (TIB) is a huge interactive library of community and academic resources that can be accessed without internet. A server, pre-loaded with a huge range of quality educational and training materials, is provided with a local wifi service that allows teachers and students to connect with computers and smartphones.

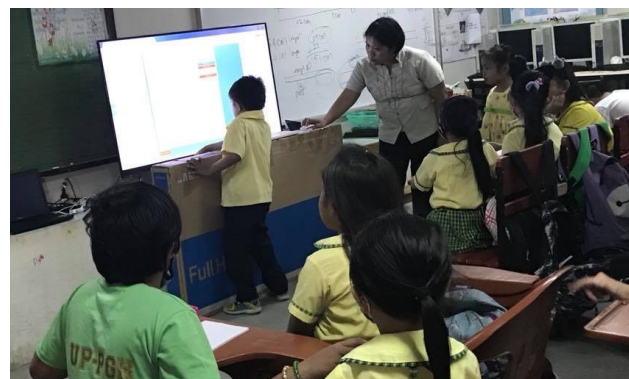
Teacher in a Box has a huge positive impact where there are limited teaching resources or teachers with limited training or education themselves. The TIB servers support self-paced learning as well as classroom teaching.

<https://www.teacherinabox.org.au>

Rotary
E-Club of Change Makers



Teacher in a Box



Rotary & Art Show Supporters



The group that went for coffee after Rotary last Thursday were at our usual café – **SAVOUR** a coffee shop in **Merthyr Village New Farm** – and were very pleasantly surprised to be presented with a voucher!

We now have a great prize for the Silent Auction - this voucher plus one each from boutiques **ViaVai** and **Differente**.

All together these will make a great **New Farm** experience!

Jane Andersen



DIFFERENTE
BOUTIQUE

Invitation to become a Rotary Peace Fellow Counsellor 2027

Rotary Peace Fellow Counsellors are required for Class XXV who will arrive early in February 2027.

Being a counsellor is an extremely rewarding experience and an opportunity to meet these Fellows from many other countries of the world. The average age of our Peace Fellows is 30+ years and they have varied but interesting backgrounds in their previous field of work. The period of their study at UQ is 18 months.

Counsellors are required to attend Cultural Sensitivity training – on Saturday 28th November 2026. This will equip you with all the information you need to assist you in the role of a counsellor.

Your role as a Rotary Peace Fellow Counsellor

- correspond with them by email before their arrival, providing information about Brisbane, yourself and family.
- invite them to stay with you or a fellow Rotarian until suitable accommodation is found (around 2 weeks).
- assist them with finding accommodation (be aware of their budget requirements).
- give them as many websites about Brisbane, most importantly accommodation and suburbs of Brisbane near to the university or bus routes.
- find out their date of arrival, flight details and arrival time.
- meet the student (and others who sometimes may accompany them) when they arrive in Brisbane and assist them with their orientation to Brisbane.
- take them to the University, assist in opening a bank account (A scholarship payment would have been forwarded to them), assist with setting up their mobiles and assist them to obtain their student ID card.
- invite them to your Rotary Club Meetings particularly for special occasions. Lectures for Peace Fellows usually commence around 5.30 pm and go to 8.00 pm or 9.00 pm.

If you are interested please contact me, Leslie Smith, or Michelle Davis, for further information:

Eric Wood – Tel 0418 789 951 or ericwood@bigpond.com

Leslie Smith – Tel 0403 069 841 or lesliesmith2121@outlook.com

Michelle Davis – Tel 0433 152 063 or mishandkim@gmail.com

Eric Wood, Host Area Coordinator for the Peace Fellows



Seb Update



The School of St Jude



Sebastian Godwin Mollel has been awarded a **100% fully funded scholarship to attend UWC Red Cross Nordic in Norway**, where he will study the IB Diploma for two years. The scholarship is valued at NOK 905,000 (approx. TZS 244 million / AUD 133,000) and covers the full program.

This opportunity came through the UWC Tanzania National Committee after a competitive national selection process. After that Mr. Malisa, Denis, Mussa, and I worked with Sebastian throughout the application and testing, which happened in Dar last month. We could not have done this ourselves; we thank the academic team who have been very supportive of him and my team.

Gemma Sisia

High-Rise & Seb: In January 2015, our Rotary trip to St Jude's provided a wonderful opportunity to meet Sebastian, a Standard 1 student with albinism. It was easy for Louise Arvier and myself to take Seb under our "wings" as we were both working in Brisbane with students requiring additional support. Seb's eyesight is extremely poor. In Australia, he would be termed legally blind.

On my multiple trips to St Jude's, and with Louise's expert advice, I was able to deliver special large print resources, slope boards, non-bleed pens etc. Not available in Tanzania. To help Seb access the curriculum, High-Rise Rotary members generously provided Seb with a first-class laptop with a great range of accessibility features. This was a game changer.

Together with a new iPad Pro, the Technology Department at St Jude's, Admin support, Dr Gordon Mor's advice (Brisbane GP and member of the yearly medical team), staff encouragement and frequent Zoom Meetings with a small support team in Brisbane, over the years, Seb has soared academically and personally, scoring a perfect 7A's in his recent Form 4 (Year 10) exam. Incidentally, he is a Tanzanian debating champion!

What a great example Seb has set for his fellow St Jude students and to the staff. It just shows that talent and determination is universal. Success is about providing the right opportunities in an encouraging environment. In Seb's case, with the barriers removed, he was able to achieve extraordinary results.

End note: On each visit to St Jude's, Seb has become an integral part of the St Jude student team who show our Rotary members and friends around the campus. Photo at right shows Rob and Seb together. Seb never fails to say "please thank Brisbane High-Rise Rotary for their support". Your generosity will remain in Seb's heart. Of that, I am certain. **Noela Phillips**



REMINDER – Coffee Brigade

A Reminder - Coffee Brigade has run out of Cup of Soups - please add some to your shopping list and bring them to our meeting.

They are also happy to receive the usual items they always need:

- Small tins of tuna
- Small tins of baked beans
- Small tins of spaghetti
- Muesli bars
- Coffee sachets

Jane & Robyn



COFFEE BRIGADE - it's not just the coffee & food - it's the kindness

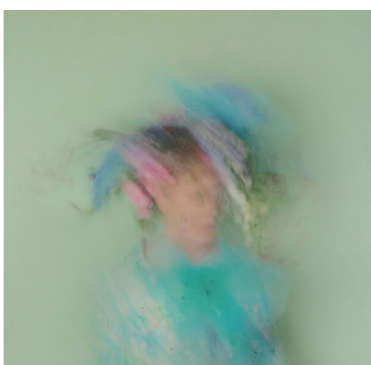


MAKE YOUR MARK

FUNDRAISING GALA
6 JUNE 2026
PORT OFFICE HOTEL

Fundraising for the Book It Forward Project providing books and supplies to rural schools in Fiji

Rotaract Club of Brisbane Rivercity



Rotary

Brisbane Rotary **ART SHOW** 2026

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

EXHIBITION JULY 20-31
GALA EVENT JULY 21
ARTICULATE JULY 26

WWW.ROTARYART.AU

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
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
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 28 May Andrew A	Matt W
Thu 04 Jun Jane A	Andrew A
Thu 11 Jun Margot B	Jane A
Thu 18 Jun Kit B	Margot B
Thu 25 Jun Dyls B	Kit B

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.*

RSVP by 16th of June

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



Scan to book

Rotary



PEOPLE OF ACTION

International Toast

This week we are celebrating:

The Rotary & Rotaract Clubs of Riga International, Latvia



The monthly soup kitchen at Saint Saviour's Anglican Church has been a mainstay in Latvia's capital since 2001. For the past several years, the **Rotaract Club of Riga International** and, more recently, its sponsor Rotary club have supported the initiative, which serves as many as 60 visitors per session.

"One shift prepares large pots of soup, porridge, and warm tea while another welcomes and serves guests when they arrive," says Kim Leandersson, a past president of the Rotary Club of Riga International.

"Ingredients are planned and purchased by our members, with our club covering the modest costs and occasional donated products from bakeries adding something extra. It's regular, hands-on service where you see the impact immediately. Cooking, serving, and sharing a meal may sound small, but for many of our guests it means warmth, dignity, and being seen."