



Words from our outgoing President, Ray.

As we head into another end of Kiwanis year I would like to thank the current committee and members for all we have achieved in the past year. As a club we are involved in so many activities assisting children in need. Something that we should all be proud of.

The recent Kiwanis National Conference highlighted that each club is different in how we serve in the community but brand Kiwanis and a focus on children is ever present.

To the incoming committee headed by Kelli as club president, I know we will continue to work hard to achieve the aims of Kiwanis in our community.

On a personal note I am looking forward to the challenges of representing Division 2 as Lieutenant Governor.

Regards

Ray Behn



And thank-you Ray from all club members for your excellent leadership over this past year and our best wishes to you in your new role of Lieutenant Governor.

IN THIS ISSUE

Presidents Report.....	1
Guest Speakers.....	2
Sydney Convention.....	3
Promotions, Training, Committee.....	4
Kiwanis in the Local Community.....	5
Kiwanis Out & About.....	7
Kiwanis International.....	9
Brisbane Club Achievements.....	10

Committee for 2026/27

President:	Kelli Schuh
Vice-President	Ray Behn
Secretary:	Kerry Behn
Assistant Secretary:	Marie Simpson
Treasurer:	Mitz Wang
Newsletter Editor	Trish Madsen

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May 5th : Geoff Rosbrook, Hear and Say

Geoff Rosbrook from Hear and Say came to speak about fundraising's changing role at the centre, including changes linked to the NDIS. Kiwanis has been very involved with Hear and Say in the past but staff changes and changes to fundraising needs saw the interaction wane in recent years. However, Geoff explained that fundraising is absolutely vital to the centre being able to provide adequate assistance and resources to babies and children with hearing loss.

Following on from Geoff's talk, Kiwanians Pat and Ray took part in pamphlett deliveries in the Centre's Ashgrove area, although president Ray ended up worse for wear from a not too friendly dog, needing stitches for a hand wound. Fortunately Ray made a speedy recovery.



June 16th: Caroline Salisbury and Jim Lewis, Threads Across the Pacific

Caroline has spoken to the club previously in person and this catch-up she and Jim gave the club online feedback on their recent visit to Port Villa. Jim has written a manual on how to clean and maintain sewing machines and during the visit Jim trained the ladies on cleaning their old machines and getting them working again. It was a good result as they were able to get 8 of the 9 old machines working again. These rekindled machines plus some new ones means the group now has 16 sewing machines. Some of the sewing projects the group in Port Villa undertake include each Kiwanis member making a sewing uniform in Kiwanis colours and selling the skirts and shirts that they make at a small shop at the airport.

Sydney Convention

August 21st/22nd

Six Brisbane club members plus partners attended the Kiwanis Australia Annual Convention, held this year in Sydney. The keynote speakers were inspirational. Rev Bill Crews spoke of his journey from research physicist to church minister and of his work assisting homeless and abandoned youth. Kristy-Leah Goymour from Sydney Children's Hospital explained the impact comfort care cases have on families with sick or dying children. Tim Dawes from Kiwanis Echuca/Moama club explained how the money raised for bushfire relief in Victoria had been allocated. Nathan the lawn mower man explained some of his background, how he came to have over 5 million followers and his charity efforts inspired by his son Benji's open-heart surgery journey. The Convention was exceptionally well organized (thank-you Sydney Kiwanis Club) and a good celebration of recent Kiwanis achievements.



Promotions, Training and a New Committee!

The club is delighted that **Ray Behn** has been elected Lieutenant Governor Division 2 for the 26/27 year. We know he will do an excellent job. Well done Ray!

Mitz Wang has accepted the position of Heart Kids Liaison for Kiwanis Australia. Well done Mitz. We know that you too will do an excellent job.

Trish put up her hand to be the Editor of Australian Kiwanian.

So Kiwanis Brisbane punching above our weight in 26/27.

Kiwanis Amplify is an online professional development and leadership certification program offered by Kiwanis International designed to help members grow as leaders at home, at work, and in their communities. This year **Ray, Kelli and Trish** all registered for the program and are now Amplify Graduates!



And finally, at the August AGM the new committee for 26/27 was elected. Congratulations and thanks to **Kelli** (President), **Ray** (Vice-President), **Mitz** (Treasurer), **Kerry** (Secretary), and **Marie** (Assistant Secretary). The awesome crew are shown below.



Local School Support

Under 8's Day Darra State School - Members Ray, Kerry, Pat & Maxine thoroughly enjoyed their morning at Under 8's day where the Kiwanis team organized biscuit decorating for the kids to do.

Kiwanis also provides support via

Terrific Kids – Darra & Durack State Schools

Donation to Camp Fund - Durack

Breakfast Club - members provide man hours whilst the club provides financial support

Fruit Vouchers

Let's Give & Brisbane Youth Services

Kiwanis continues to support both these groups. Kerry and Ray did a recent shop for the **BYS** Pantry (July 9th) and the photo shows president Ray unpacking the pantry staples for our friends at **BYS**. \$500 worth of groceries that only last a week! And thank you too to Jane-Louise who often helps with the buying.



Let's Give undertook a Christmas in July toy drive and Kelli shopped for caps, balls, bubbles and some other bits and pieces which would have been very much appreciated by some lucky children.

Book Boxes

The book boxes continue to be very popular and in recent months there has been considerable demand for frequent restocking of the boxes.

Bunnings BBQs

Since last edition we've held a number of Bunnings BBQs, mostly on Fridays and ably lead by Marie and Graham Simpson.

The photo on the left below shows Jane-Louise with one of our new sausage holders. A big thank you to **Centenary Suburbs Men's Shed** for making these sausage holders for us. They make life so much easier, especially during the lunch rush! At our most recent BBQ Liam (Wayne's grandson) and Pazel (Mitz's son, photo on right) were wonderful help. So special thanks to our young helpers!



Community Events

There have been a number of community events that have requested the assistance of Kiwanis, including;-

- Brisbane City Council & **Wolston and Centenary Catchments** – Kiwanis ran the BBQ for their Community Tree Planting Day at Pooh Corner
- **Team Real Estate's Family Fun Day** – Kiwanis ran the BBQ which was excellent publicity for the club. Team Real Estate thanked us with a \$500 donation for the club's projects.

Bundamba Race Day May 30th

Ray, Kerry, Kelli and Ian went to Bundamba Race Day which celebrated 70 years of community service by Ipswich Meals on Wheels. The event featured a three-hour hospitality package, canapés, drinks, and networking for volunteers, supporters, and local leaders. The photo shows the crew and friend Glenda all dressed impeccably for the day.



Trivia Night Centenary Tavern

Centenary & Districts Chamber of Commerce hosted a trivia night in late March at which we won a \$100 voucher to local Pizza place, Proper Pizza. All credit must go to Kelli Schuh who got us over the line by remembering (from a 1992 Contiki Tour) the name of the unfinished church in Spain - Basilica of the Sagrada Familia. Construction began in 1882!



Kiwanians Out and About

Biannual Pickle Ball Competition at Wayne and Judy's – July 11th

Club member Wayne and his wife Judy invited club members to their lovely home that just so happens to have a pickle ball court. It was a great day with several hard fought matches before settling in for a delicious lunch. Huge thankyou to Wayne and Judy for their hospitality!



Bunnings Oxley Trivia Night

May 20th, Marie, Graham, Ray, Kerry, Kelli and Trish headed to Bunnings Oxley for a Trivia Night held as part of Volunteer Week celebrations. Unfortunately, none of us had studied our Bunnings facts and figures such as what year Bunnings started (1886 for anyone else who didn't know). So not a result to write home to mum about but we did definitely enjoy the night.



Just a short story that has an international flavour

In Ecuador, The Kiwanis Club of Semillitas de El Carmen, has found a lovely way to promote good values including love, respect and hope. The club has created coloring books for children with the characters, Kike and Danielito with stories that promote decent values.



Brisbane Club Achievements

For the 12 months to end August 2026, the Brisbane Kiwanis Club Members have volunteered 1,573 hours and raised \$15,265.

Causes the Brisbane Club Supports	2024/2026
4074 Community and Beyond - local community run group holding events to benefit charitable organisations.	✓
Brisbane Youth Service - provides food, clothing and support services to children in need.	✓
Darra State School Breakfast Club, Terrific Kids, Under 8s day	✓
Durack State School – Terrific Kids Program	✓
Hear and Say for Deaf Children	✓
Heartkids Australia - research into Children's heart disease	✓
Heartkids Queensland – supporting families with children affected by heart disease	✓
Kiwanis Australia District Charitable Foundation – provides grant funding for projects, initiatives and programs focussed on improving community health and wellbeing for those most in need and for improved life outcomes for the disadvantaged.	✓
Kiwanis Childrens Fund – various worldwide projects	✓
Let's Give - supplies packs containing essential items to children in need.	✓
MD Queensland -dedicated to people who live with muscular dystrophy and similar conditions and their families, throughout all of their lives.	✓
Micah Projects – a not-for profit social justice organisation that has a range of support projects.	✓
Threads Across the Pacific - provides sewing machines, fabric, and practical sewing workshops to women and marginalized groups—including women and girls with disabilities—across Vanuatu	✓
RSL Centenary Branch - offering advice and support to all current and former Australian Defence Force members and their families.	✓
Salvation Army - provides social services without discrimination to members of the community	✓
Mission Australia: have requested help with back to school needs	✓
Helping our Homies, Ipswich: Provides meals and other necessities to the homeless and less fortunate	✓