

Maybanke Matters



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May 2025



President's welcome

As with many parts of Queensland, the team at Maybanke had an eventful start to the year, weathering the impact of Cyclone Alfred. We're grateful to report that we managed well under the circumstances — and you can read more about our experience in this edition of the newsletter. We also hope that all our supporters and their loved ones came through the storm safely and without lasting damage.

Amid the challenges, we've also had a major highlight: the official opening of our new onsite unit. This has been a significant project that we've been working towards for the past couple of years, and it was incredibly rewarding to see it finally come to completion.

The Maybanke management committee very kindly chose to name this unit after me, as it is a project that has been close to my heart for some time.

Having this unit named after me is such an incredible honour, but this isn't just about me—it's about all of us.

This unit represents the hard work, dedication, and passion of everyone who believes in helping women rebuild their lives. It's a reminder of what we can achieve together and the difference we can make for those who need us most.

Within just 24 hours, the unit welcomed its first resident—a powerful reminder of how urgent the need is. I extend heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed to making this vision a reality.

While this new unit is a significant step forward, we still don't have enough accommodation to meet the growing demand. Our team has been actively engaging with local politicians to discuss our plans for further expansion.

We've received strong support and remain hopeful that our next accommodation initiative will gain momentum soon. We are very excited to start planning our next project, and can't wait to share more details when we can!

In this newsletter
you can expect:

President's
report

Housing update

Donation
information

Australia Day
awards

Diner en Rouge

Case study

Another ongoing concern is the difficulty families face in finding safe, affordable, and appropriate long-term housing once they are ready to leave our crisis accommodation. It's crucial that they're able to move forward when the time is right. If you have any ideas, or if you run a business that could offer support, we'd love to hear from you.

Jacky Burkett x



Cyclone Alfred

Maybanke's Manager shares how the residents and staff managed the challenge of dealing with the cyclone:

Before, during and after the Ex-Cyclone Alfred the team worked together to ensure the safety of every family, providing practical assistance with food vouchers, shopping, toys and activities for the children. This was achieved by clear communication with all team members, directed through our Manager we used mobiles, and Microsoft teams to ensure that everyone is on the same page and followed a coordinated strategy. We were flexible and adapted our plans as conditions changed. The safety and emotional wellbeing of staff and families was paramount, so we called each other and our residents at least daily.

We shared information about community responses and resources available, luckily, we didn't have any damage to our accommodation, but the families were without power for 3 days, which they handled amazingly. In a natural disaster, teamwork is about more than just getting the job done; it's about leveraging each person's strengths, keeping morale high, and maintaining clear communication to potentially save lives and minimise harm.


Donations

Christmas seems a long time ago but once again we were astonished to receive so many fantastic donations .

Do you know you can now donate online?

Another initiative our committee has delivered in the last 12 months, is an upgrade to our website that now accepts fully tax-deductible donations! Every dollar we receive goes directly to support the women and children in our accommodation. Some examples of what your donation will help contribute to, are:

- **Risk Assessment:** Identifying the level of danger and specific risks faced by the victim.
- **Safety Planning:** Developing personalised safety plans to protect women and children, including emergency contacts and safe places.
- **Counselling:** Providing access to individual counselling for emotional and psychological support.
- **Legal Assistance:** Helping with legal processes, including obtaining protection orders and navigating the court system.
- **Housing Support:** Assisting with finding safe and stable housing, including crisis accommodation and long-term housing solutions.
- **Advocacy:** Representing the interests of women and children in various systems, such as legal, housing, and social services.
- **Medical Support:** Connecting with healthcare providers for physical and mental health needs.
- **Wellbeing Programs:** Providing access to programs that promote overall wellbeing, such as fitness, nutrition, and stress management.
- **Educational Support:** Helping children with school enrolment, daycare, uniforms, supplies, and tutoring.
- **Employment Assistance:** Assisting women with job training, resume building, and job placement services.



Thank you so much for your support! Your donation helps ensure we can support as many women as possible fleeing domestic violence. Donations above \$2 are tax deductible.

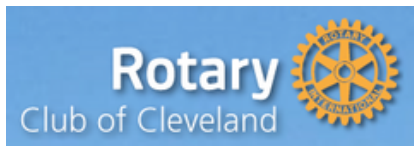
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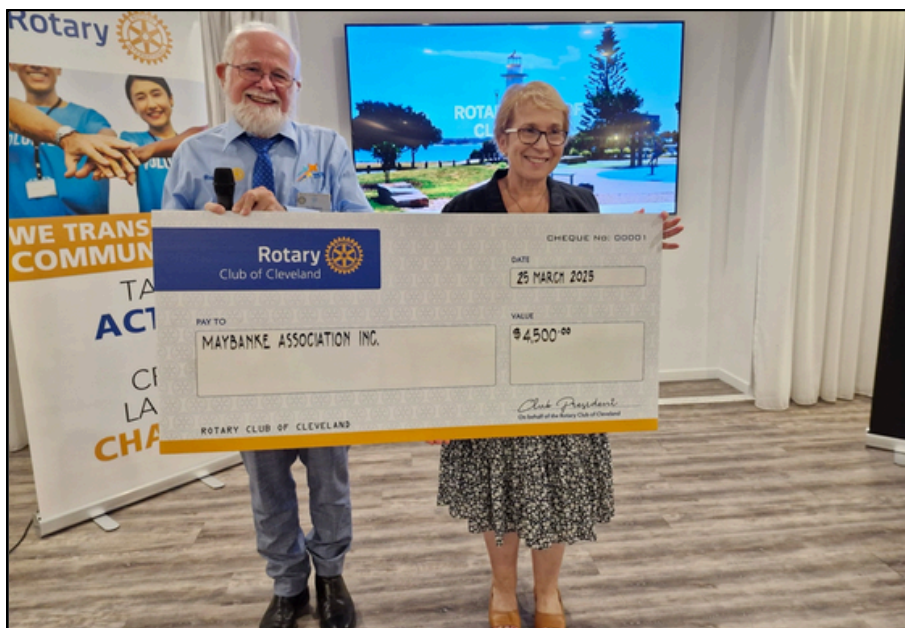
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Add Donation

www.maybanke.org.au



In March, our President Jacky was invited to speak at the Rotary Club of Cleveland and was warmly welcomed by their incredibly friendly members. She was thoroughly enjoying the evening when a wonderful surprise was announced—Maybanke would be one of the beneficiaries of their Charity Golf Day, to be held in Spring 2025. Her smile grew even bigger when she was presented with a generous cheque from the funds raised at the 2024 Golf Day. A heartfelt thank you to the Rotary Club of Cleveland for your support and generosity!



Redlands Coast Australia Day Awards 2025

We were delighted when our President, Jacky, was nominated in the Citizen of the Year category at the Redlands Coast Australia Day Awards. Thank you to SI Bayside for the nomination. Jacky was thrilled when she received a Highly Commended Award.

We were also delighted that Sandy Smith was honoured with the Citizen of the Year Award. Sandy is President of the National Council of Women Queensland, a Quota member and has been a supporter of Maybanke for several years, a very well-deserved honour.





Diner en Rouge – Saturday 31st May 2025

Maybanke has been a major beneficiary of the funds raised by Diner en Rouge. It was thanks to this initiative that we were able to redevelop the children's playground a few years ago. Details of this year's event are below, and we do hope you will be able to join us at this very special event, particularly so as our own Manager, Anne, will be a member of the guest speakers panel.

Dîner en Rouge, is Redland's most anticipated charity gala and will return on Saturday, 31 May 2025 at Redlands Sporting Club, raising vital funds to support victims of domestic and family violence. Hosted by the Redland Foundation, in partnership with Zonta Club of Wynnum Redland Inc and Zonta Club of Brisbane East Inc, Soroptimist International Bayside Inc, and the Rotary Club of Cleveland, this year's event will launch the Angela Petersen Emergency Support Fund—a new initiative providing instant financial assistance to victims through local support services.

Now in its 11th year, Dîner en Rouge is a powerful statement of solidarity, bringing together community leaders, advocates, and supporters for an evening of fine dining, world-class entertainment, and fundraising to make a real difference. This year's funds will contribute to the Angela Petersen Emergency Support Fund, as well as charities such as Share the Dignity & The Betterment Project, ensuring vital resources reach those in crisis and educate our future generations.

Tickets are now on sale, and include welcome drinks, three-course meal & beverages (beer, wine & non-alcoholic drinks), special guest speakers, live entertainment, and much more.

Tickets are available at: www.trybooking.com/CZMIR



Case study – May 2025

Demographics

- Mother aged 30 years who identifies as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander.
- Male child aged 2 years, born in Australia.

Our service responded to a referral from DV Connect for Jane, a single mother who fled domestic and family violence. Recognising the urgency of the situation, Maybanke promptly arranged intake to have Jane and her child accommodated and supported. Upon arrival, Jane was provided with Woolworths and Kmart vouchers to purchase essential items for her and her son. Case Workers checked in with Jane and her son the following day to speak about what supports they would benefit from.

Key Interventions and Outcomes

Access to Medical Support through Yurri Bala Ba

Recognising the need for culturally sensitive medical care, Jane and her son were referred to Yurri-Bala-Ba. This service now provides ongoing medical support for the family, ensuring their health needs are met in a culturally appropriate manner.

Enrolment in Day Care and Applying for an Inclusion Support Educator

Jane was assisted with having her son enrolled in Bayside Kindergarten and Day Care Centre, where he now attends three days per week. Recognising his additional needs, we advocated for the allocation of an inclusion support educator. This tailored support ensures her son has access to a safe and inclusive learning environment.

Formal ASD Diagnosis and NDIS Plan Approval

Jane was supported in navigating paediatrician appointments and has now obtained a formal diagnosis for her son, who was identified as having level two Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).

Specialist Services for Her Son

Jane was linked in with The Benevolent Society who have supported her in making an application for and managing an NDIS plan for her son. This application for an NDIS Plan has now been approved and Jane's son is engaging with an occupational therapist and a speech pathologist. These specialists are providing individualised interventions to enhance her son's development and communication skills.

Securing Housing through Department of Housing and Rent Connect

To address Jane's housing instability, we assisted her in applying for Department of Housing and Rent Connect services. Jane was approved for housing support, and we continue working towards acquiring either a private rental or DOH property.

Conclusion

Jane's progress demonstrates the transformative impact of comprehensive support and advocacy. By addressing immediate needs and empowering Jane to access vital resources, we have supported her in building a secure and nurturing environment for her son. Jane is now equipped with the tools and supports to continue fostering her family's stability and is eager to move on from our service in order to lead a life of independence.

Thank you for reading!