



POCKET

FROM THE

HAND HEART POCKET
THE CHARITY OF
FREEMASONS QUEENSLAND

JUNE 2026

How a simple cuppa and a chat are changing lives on the Gold Coast

When Members of the Southport Masonic Lodge joined Rosies Friends on the Street for a fortnightly outreach at Baden Powell Park in Southport, they arrived with something simple to offer – their time, their company, and a reminder that someone cares.

Above: Roslynn Black (Hand Heart Pocket), Jayne Shallcross (Rosies), Mick McCluskey & Rosie (Southport Masonic Lodge), and Lacey Hennessy Overton (Rosies)



Above: Southport Masonic Lodge and Hand Heart Pocket visiting Rosies' headquarters in Murarrie

Rosies Friends on the Street has been walking alongside people experiencing homelessness and hardship for decades, built on a simple belief that everyone deserves friendship and belonging.

What began as a safe haven for young people during Schoolies Week has grown into a year-round presence at locations across the state, where volunteers show up week after week to offer something that costs nothing but means everything – genuine human connection.

A partnership built on shared values

When Members of Southport Masonic Lodge began volunteering alongside Rosies' outreach team, it quickly became clear that the two organisations share a common heart.

Members have been attending fortnightly outreach sessions at Baden Powell Park in Southport, serving refreshments and, most importantly, spending time connecting with patrons.

Visiting Rosies' headquarters

In April, Hand Heart Pocket's Board and team joined Members of Southport Lodge for a site visit to Rosies' headquarters in Murarrie, getting a firsthand look at the organisation's operations.

The visit included a tour of the facility, and time spent alongside Rosies volunteers packing supplies in the warehouse, before coming together over an afternoon tea to share stories about the work being done on the ground.

The partnership has been supported by a \$15,000 donation from Hand Heart Pocket, recognising the commitment of Southport Lodge Members, and helping Rosies continue its vital outreach services for people experiencing homelessness or hardship across the Gold Coast.

Hand Heart Pocket Manager Social Impact Partnerships, Roslynn Black said the foundation was proud to support the local community partnership and the impact it is having locally.

"Hand Heart Pocket exists to help people in need across Queensland," Ms Black said.

"The work Rosies volunteers do every week on the streets is extraordinary, and we are pleased to support both Rosies and the Southport Masonic Lodge as they come together to help people experiencing homelessness and social isolation."

Southport Lodge Member, Mick McCluskey, says the experience has been meaningful for everyone involved.

"Volunteering is about showing respect, building genuine connections and letting people know they are not alone," Mr McCluskey said.

Rosies CEO Jayne Shallcross said partnerships like this play an important role in sustaining frontline services.

"This partnership demonstrates how local organisations can work together to create meaningful change," she said.

"The support from Hand Heart Pocket and the commitment of the Southport Masonic Lodge will help ensure Rosies can continue providing a safe space for friendship and connection for those who need it most."

Supporting people in need is at the core of what we do at Hand Heart Pocket, and we're proud to be able to back Members and their local community partners to make that happen.

From the Chairman



Welcome to our Winter edition of From the Pocket. It was wonderful to see so many familiar faces at our celebration to recognise outgoing Chairman Alasdair Begley. Moments like that, where Members come together, share a conversation and reconnect, remind me of why this community is so special.

Our financial position

Our financial position remains strong, supported by proactive risk management amid broader economic pressures, a high priority given recent volatility in the energy and fuels markets.

This approach ensures we retain the capacity to sustain and direct meaningful support to communities across Queensland. As at March 2026, our net assets totalled \$233.78 million, and charitable giving for the financial year so far has reached \$3.11 million.

More young Queenslanders to have a safe place to call home

Hundreds more young Queenslanders will have a safe place to call home, after Brisbane, Ipswich, and Sunshine Coast were confirmed as the next communities to have a new Youth Foyer built for their young people.

The new sites join emerging Foyers in Cairns, Redcliffe and Hervey Bay, alongside established Foyers in Logan, the Gold Coast and Townsville – meaning young people facing homelessness across Queensland's highest-need regions will have somewhere to turn.

With eight new Foyers promised by the Queensland Government in 2024, the expanded network will create up to 320 new homes and support almost 3,000 young people over the next decade.

Community-focused responses

Over recent months our thoughts, and I know many of yours, have been with the people and communities affected by severe flooding in North Queensland. These events are a stark reminder of how quickly life can change, and how much it matters to have people standing ready to help.

With approximately 110 homes impacted, Hand Heart Pocket committed \$25,000 to GIVIT's relief efforts, ensuring affected residents can access the essential items and services they need to recover.

Board changes

I am pleased to announce that Chris Wilson has been appointed as Deputy Chair, and Chair of our Finance, Risk & Audit Committee. Having already served on our Board, Chris brings well-established legal and governance expertise to these new roles, and I look forward to working closely with him.

I am also pleased to announce that Jane Crombie has taken up the role of Investment Committee Chair. We have further welcomed Chris Wade to our Board, bringing his valuable expertise to our Investment Committee.

As previously communicated, Paul Reeve stepped down as a Board member and Investment Committee Chair in 2025. He has since been retained as an external advisor, contributing his expertise to our active investment strategy that underpins our strong financial position.

Board risk review

In keeping with our commitment to strong governance, the Board recently held a risk review workshop to test and update our approach to our ongoing risk management.

The Board stress-tested the risk register, identifying current risk priorities and actions to support strong oversight going forward.

This work ensures we are proactively managing risks while staying focused and resilient as we pursue our refreshed purpose-led strategy.

Chairman's Challenge

It has been genuinely heartening to see so many Members embrace the Chairman's Challenge, with a significant spike in Matched Giving applications from Members and Lodges within the first few weeks. When I see Lodges getting involved and rallying their communities, it reinforces what I've always believed, that our greatest strength lies in what we do together.

A special thank you to our Hand Heart Pocket Champions and Lodge Secretaries who have promoted the Challenge within their Lodges. Your effort behind the scenes makes all the difference. I look forward to sharing more about the outcomes in our next edition. Until then, thank you for everything you do.

Craig Reimers

Hand Heart Pocket partnered with the Foyer Foundation to initiate the Queensland FoyerInvest Working Group in 2024, bringing young people with lived expertise directly to government decision makers. The voices of young Foyer residents directly contributed to Queensland Government's decision to back the Foyer model.

When young people are given a genuine voice, real change follows.

That spirit of advocacy continues through our Youth Ambassador Program, co-designed with the Youth Advocacy Centre, where young leaders are sharing their insights in real forums that matter.

Recently, our Youth Ambassadors spoke at the Queensland Family and Child Commission Family Youth Summit, and took part in the Youth Housing Coalition Conference in Brisbane.



Above: Caitlyn, Foyer Ambassador and former Logan Foyer resident (Wesley Mission Queensland). Photo supplied by The Foyer Foundation.



Youth Foyers combine secure housing with wraparound support for young people aged 16-24 facing homelessness.



Within two years, over 80% of young people exit into safe and stable housing, and four in five move into education, employment, or both.

Latest Member-led giving

When Members dedicate time and energy to causes they care about, the community benefits. Through Matched Giving and Local Community Partnerships, we match donations, fundraising and volunteer hours to boost Member impact.

Local Community Partnerships



Above: Members of Tynwald Lodge have raised over \$23,000 to benefit Sandbag and Bracken Ridge Action Group

Tynwald Lodge continues to show what a long-term partnership can achieve, raising \$23,000 for **Sandbag and Bracken Ridge Action Group** since 2024, contributing more than 120 volunteer hours as part of their partnership.

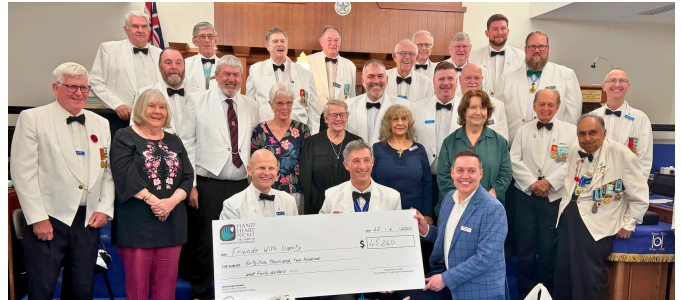
Members of **Hinchinbrook Cordelia Lodge** raised over \$8,000 for Ingham Meals on Wheels in their second year of their partnership.

Matched Giving



Above: Grand Master David Gray alongside Members of Tibrogargan Lodge at the annual charity banquet, raising funds for In the Paws of Angels Inc

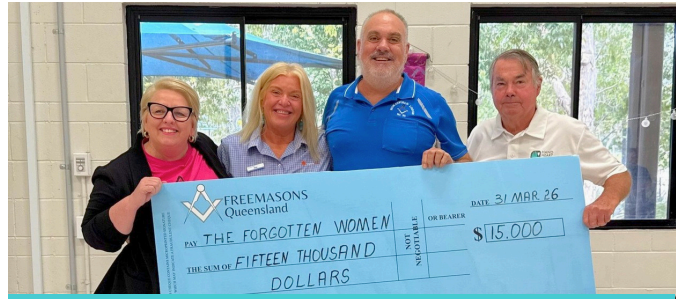
Members of **Tibrogargan Lodge** have been hard at work raising funds for **In the Paws of Angels Inc** through an annual charity banquet and raffle, and a recent day running the BBQ at Bunnings Caboolture.



Above: Members of Camp Hill Lodge proudly presented a cheque for \$45,240 to Friends with Dignity in April

Members of **Camp Hill Lodge** volunteered at the **Friends with Dignity** warehouse, donated over 430 pairs of pajamas for families in crisis during their annual pajama drive, and contributed a remarkable \$45,240.

Isis Masonic Lodge completed their partnership with **Forest View Care**, contributing \$20,000 to improve the mobility and independence of elderly residents of Childers.

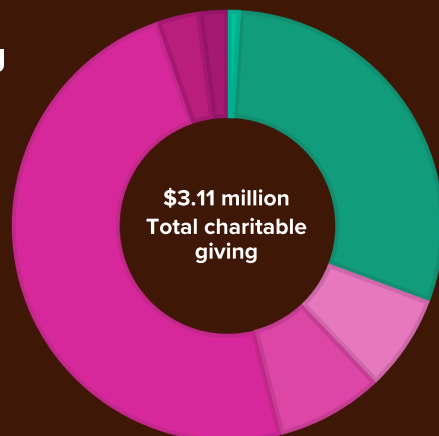


Above: Kerrie Breen from Forgotten Women, Karen Bennet from Burpengary Aquatic Centre, and Kerry Noble and Ken Warner of Morayfield Lodge

Members of **Morayfield Freemasons Lodge** made a life-changing donation of \$15,000 for **The Forgotten Women**, supporting women across Queensland facing housing insecurity.

2025-26: Our Giving

(as at 31 March 2026)



Giving distributed \$2,158,540

- 48.7% Strategic youth partnerships
- 8.1% Hardship assistance
- 7.3% Member-led local giving
- 3.2% Systems change
- 2.1% Disaster partnerships

Giving committed \$955,000

- 29.7% Strategic youth partnerships committed
- 1% Member-led local giving committed

Note: Our audited financials are published each year in our Annual Report and on our website.

Media guidelines for Members

As Members continue to support local community organisations, we want to help you to feel confident and prepared when engaging with media.

We have developed Member media guidelines to support you in sharing your community work accurately and consistently, including guidance on media engagement, social media use, promoting fundraising events, and some key messaging about our Member-led giving programs.

Key points to keep in mind:

- Members are encouraged to share Lodge activities and volunteer stories as authorised by your Lodge, but please make sure you are speaking on behalf of fellow Members, not on behalf of Hand Heart Pocket or the Board of Benevolence.
- Please contact the Communications team before approaching media so we can provide support, including quotes and key messaging.

Scan the QR code to download our media guidelines for Members:



‘Leadership and governance in the community’ workshop

In May, over 20 Members came together for our leadership and governance workshop, delivered at Hand Heart Pocket, alongside Directors Australia.

The session explored good governance principles, the role and duties of Board Directors, and the contemporary regulatory landscape for not-for-profit organisations.

The enthusiasm Members brought to the day was both clear and encouraging, a reflection of the talent and commitment that exists within our own community.



Above: Members gathered in May for a leadership and governance workshop held at Hand Heart Pocket

This time last year, Chris Wilson sat in the room as a Member, just like those who attended last month. Today, he serves as our Deputy Chair and Chair of the Finance, Risk & Audit Committee. It’s a powerful reminder of what’s possible when Members choose to step forward.

Member spotlight

Thanks to one of our Members, Haydn Jarvis from Redcliffe First Settlement Lodge, for reaching out to us to let us know about the impact that giving has had on his personal journey. We’re proud to work with our Members to support the causes that matter to them.



HAYDN JARVIS

“The Freemason Brotherhood and Hand Heart Pocket have shaped me and driven me to give myself in every way possible for the communities I’m a part of and I am proud for the work we all do. It’s just in the fabric of our being, the character of our brothers and as natural as taking the first step.”

Recent Lodge visit



Above: Hand Heart Pocket Board Director Lisa Siganto and team members Carly, Jemima and Roz visited the Tibrogargan Lodge in April to present on Member-led giving programs

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