



**BUDERIM
FOUNDATION**
Our Foundation... Our Future



SUMMER NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2023 - ISSUE 48

2024 DIARY DATES

February

Friday 16th

Happy Hour

March

Saturday 30th

Buderim Easter Fair stall

April

Friday 19th

Happy Hour – Buderim
Foundation’s 20th
Anniversary

June

Wednesday 12th

Breakfast function



A Message from our Chair

Welcome to the last issue of our Newsletter for 2023 and what a challenging year it has been for the Foundation: a new Strategic Plan, four significant Thompson Charitable Fund Grants, a record number of Community Grants, Back to School vouchers, new Board Members and Committee Chairs and a range of special events.



We have also had sad experiences with the passing of two special people from the Foundation family: Robyn Edwards in May (which I mentioned in the Spring Newsletter) and more recently, in September, our previous Chair Russell Stitz. More on the valuable contribution that Russell made to the Foundation is included on p2 in this Newsletter.

For so much of the Foundation’s work, we rely on the generosity of our volunteers and donors. I sincerely thank all those who contribute so much to the Foundation, enabling us to enrich the lives of people in Buderim and the broader Sunshine Coast.

Special thanks also to our sponsors: Buderim Pharmacy, Edenlea on Buderim and Sunshine Toyota. Again, we rely on their generosity to help us meet our operating expenses.

Finally, I would like to thank the Board for the support they have given me during my first year as Chair of this great community organisation.

As the year draws to a close, I wish everyone a peaceful, relaxing Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Rod McKinnon - Chair, Buderim Foundation

Buderim Christmas Fair

There was an abundance of tasty treats and craft items at the Foundation’s stall at the Buderim Christmas Fair in November. A big thank you to all those creative people who donated biscuits, slices, cakes, rum balls, fudge, marshmallows, coconut ice, jams, chutneys, sauces, relishes and sewing items. Almost all the products were sold on the day. Thanks also to those who staffed the stall. Congratulations to Ann Morris who was the lucky raffle winner of the Christmas hamper.



Ros O’Brien, Brenda Devers, Marg Thursby



Ros O’Brien with granddaughter Zara Wood

Harnessing the power of giving ...

Tribute to Dr Russell Stitz, AM, RFD

It was with profound sadness that we learnt of the passing of Russell Stitz on 25 September. Russell had served as Chair of the Foundation for five years, from 2017 to 2022. During that time, he initiated improvements in the Foundation's structure and governance, and led the integration of the Thompson Charitable Trust into the Foundation's operations. Under his visionary leadership, the Foundation grew to be the sixth largest community foundation in Australia.



Russell's interest in community philanthropy reflected his strong view that with privilege comes responsibility to care for people who, for whatever reason, are less fortunate or in need of support. He thought that as a society we needed to enhance our philanthropic culture and that the Buderim Foundation was a great model for that.

In his role as Chair, Russell took an inclusive approach, consulting widely to consider different points of view, always respectfully and thoughtfully. He was also well known for his tendency to explain issues at some length, often to the amusement of his audience.

Prior to his involvement with the Foundation, Russell had a distinguished 45 year medical career, chiefly as an esteemed colorectal surgeon, pioneering new techniques that improved patients' recovery and quality of life. Quite a number of Buderim residents credit Russell with saving their lives, or the life of one of their family or friends.

Russell's many prestigious offices reflected the esteem in which he was held by his colleagues. He held positions as President of the AMA Queensland and Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, Director of the Australian Medical Council, Chair of the National Lead Clinicians Group for the Federal Government, Health Quality and Complaints Commissioner in Queensland, Board Member of the Wesley Institute of Research, Honorary Member of the American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons and Association of Coloproctology of Great Britain and Ireland, and, as a reservist, Colonel in the Royal Army Medical Corps.

The Wesley Hospital's \$20 million Operating Theatre Complex, opened in 2015, was named the Dr Russell Stitz Theatre Complex in his honour.

Russell was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia in 2008. He was also a Knight of the Order of St John.

Russell was married to his beloved wife Anne for over 54 years and they raised three wonderful children, Kate, Claire and William. His grandchildren, Seth, Coco, Suki, Calypso and Violet were the light of his life.

A private ceremony, at the request of his family, was held for Russell at St Mark's Anglican Church on 30 September, but was livestreamed and is available to view at <https://digitalbarista.com.au/whiteladyfunerals-stitz/>

Those who had the good fortune to know Russell will remember him as a warm, compassionate, generous and humble man, the epitome of decency. A highly respected member of our community, he will be sorely missed.

Vale Russell

THOMPSON CHARITABLE FUND GRANTS

The Foundation recently awarded grants from the Thompson Charitable Fund to two local organisations: Aus Living Support and Gateway Care.

Aus Living Support, the local charity committed to preventing homelessness by providing temporary rental relief, was awarded a grant of \$50,000.

The charity supports individuals and families across the Sunshine Coast, making payments as supplements for rents directly to landlords, not to the clients themselves.

Support is given for a period of up to six months, with regular assessments conducted. Up to 200 families are expected to benefit from this grant.

Aus Living Support received a similar grant from the Thompson Charitable Fund last year. The charity operates op shops in Nambour and Maroochydore to help support its operations.



Gateway Care, the Caloundra-based community resource centre, was awarded a grant of \$101,500. Gateway Care aims to provide "a hand up, not a hand out" to people in need. The grant is designed to support high demand for food and other items over the Christmas and new year period for families in crisis or living in poverty.

Up to 150 families weekly are expected to benefit from this grant over three to four months. Gateway Care recently tripled the size of its Food Centre to cater for increased demand and has plans for a new Connect Centre to support its community of 15,000 members.

Gateway Care received a previous grant from the Thompson Charitable Fund earlier this year for the purchase of food for individuals and families in need.



The Foundation was particularly pleased to be able to award both of these grants in time for the Christmas period.

COMMUNITY GRANT SUCCESS



Guests with some of the Lifesaver Rescue Helicopter team

SLSQ Westpac Lifesaver Rescue Helicopter Service

Ambassadors and friends enjoyed a fascinating morning at the Caloundra base of Surf Life Saving Queensland's Westpac Lifesaver Rescue Helicopter Service recently. The Service received a Foundation Community Grant this year for a new aircrew helmet. Flight helmets are a requirement when flying rotary wing and are used to keep pilots and crew safe. The Alpha Eagle Flight Helmet is compatible with night vision goggles (NVG) and can be configured with Active Noise Reduction (ANR) for enhanced protection against low frequency cockpit noise. The helmets have a service life of approximately eight years.

With helicopters at the Sunshine Coast and Gold Coast, the Service conducts coastal surveillance along a 350 kilometre stretch from Rainbow Beach to Rainbow Bay. Pilot Dave O'Brien explained the Service's proactive approach that focusses on prevention of rescues. By flying "low and slow", pilots can spot people in trouble in the water and alert relevant surf living saving centres, reducing the need for rescues.

The Service is effectively the Sunshine Coast community's eyes in the sky with the helicopter at Caloundra patrolling beaches every weekend and during peak periods, including school holidays.

The Service is also used for emergency response, searches and rescues, working in conjunction with emergency service organisations. The Service operates



Dave O'Brien with Alpha helmet

in a lean manner, with a small team of pilots, aircrew and support staff, most of whom are volunteers.

Guests were able to inspect the helicopter and look around the hangar while enjoying morning tea with the Service team. It's pleasing that the Foundation is able to support such a valuable service that helps keep residents and visitors safe on our beaches.



Steven Cottingham, Bee Driscoll, Lesley Johnston

EVENTS

Fashion Parade

The Foundation's major fundraising event for the year, the Spring Splendour Fashion Show, was held on a warm Sunday afternoon in October. Two hundred people gathered at the Buderim War Memorial Hall to see the latest fashions from boutiques in Buderim (Yellow Oak, Onyx Poppy, Curly's Menswear, Dress Me Kat, Sandy Aslett Milliner and Sedgwick's Online), Palmwoods (Little Layla), Forest Glen (Hey Layla) and Caloundra (Belle le Chic). Male and female models showed off a range of smart casual and evening wear, with many of the male models exhibiting their now-expected showmanship!

Guests were welcomed by the Sunshine Coast Grammar School's String Quartet before the start of the parade. Some students also acted as doormen and helpers as guests were seated. Comperes Rosanna Natoli and Todd Kelly provided entertaining commentary throughout, interspersed with lucky door prizes and raffle draws. Afterwards, guests enjoyed drinks and sumptuous savouries on the lawn outside.

Many local businesses and individuals were very generous with donations for raffle prizes. Samuel Fairbank provided photographic services for the afternoon. State Member for Buderim Brent Mickelberg and Saltbush Capital provided financial support for the event.

The sell-out event raised more than \$14,000 for the Foundation, a wonderful achievement and a credit to all those involved. A big thank you to the organising committee, local businesses, boutiques and all the volunteers who helped before and during the event. It was a wonderful example of community involvement and cooperation for community benefit.



SCGS String Quartet



Raffle prizes



Nerida Davis, Marilyn Holness



Aspen and Adelina Williams



Brett Green, Jason Miezio, Lily-Margot Miezio, Samantha Miezio, Alison Kruger



Anne Godfrey, Mary Glover, Rosanna Natoli, Paula Richardson, Susan Wordsworth



Marg Thursby, Sue Stirton, Julia O'Reilly, Jenny Carroll

... a community to be proud of



Guests in the Hall



Sandy Aslett Milliner



During the parade



During the parade



Nikki Miller, Jan Brydges, Rosanna Natoli, Sarah Roberts, Ros O'Brien, Rod McKinnon, Anne Hertel, Jenny Cant



During the parade

INVESTMENT COMMITTEE PROFILE



Jody-Ann Alexander, Jayne Graving, Graham Tamblyn, Allen Hertel, Swain Roberts (Geoff Sawyer absent)

The Investment Committee is one of the Foundation's eight committees, responsible for investing and managing the Foundation's funds for both annual earnings and growth over the long term.

A snapshot of the Committee members:

Jayne Graving (Chair)

Jayne is the Director/Owner of an Australian Financial Services Licensee company and owns an Independent Financial Planning practice, Arch Financial Planners, in Maroochydore. She specialises in providing unbiased, objective and timely research for her clients. Jayne holds a Graduate Diploma in Financial Planning, is a Certified Financial Planner (CFP) and SMSF Specialist.

Jayne moved to Buderim with her husband Rod Hurst in 2014 and has been involved with the Foundation since 2018, becoming a Director and the Investment Committee Chair in 2020. Jayne enjoys bush walking and gardening, as well as her role as a parent and grandparent.

Jody-Ann Alexander

Jody-Ann is the most recent addition to the Investment Committee. She has a Bachelor of Commerce majoring in Financial Planning and Accounting from the University of the Sunshine Coast and now works as a Financial Planner alongside Jayne Graving in Arch Financial Planners.

Jody-Ann has lived on the Sunshine Coast for most of her life. She enjoys running, cycling and swimming with a goal of completing local triathlon events throughout 2024. She often does her early morning running training with her young daughter Jordan.

Allen Hertel

As well as his role on the Investment Committee, Allen is also the Treasurer of the Foundation, a role he has held since 2012. He is a Fellow of The Royal Institute

of Chartered Accountants and a Registered Company auditor. Allen has years of professional experience in audit, taxation and business management and is the Director of Focus PG Chartered Accountants. He's been involved with various community organisations over many years. Allen and his family moved to Buderim in 1998.

Swain Roberts

Swain is the General Counsel of the University of the Sunshine Coast. He is a lawyer and governance professional with more than 30 years' legal experience, nationally and internationally, with significant experience in the higher education and health sectors.

Swain graduated from the University of Queensland in 1985 with a Bachelor of Commerce and a Bachelor of Law. He has also completed a Graduate Diploma in Education and a Graduate Certificate in Business (Not for Profit Studies).

Apart from the Buderim Foundation, Swain has also been involved in a range of community organisations over many years.

Geoff Sawyer

Geoff has worked in senior sales and marketing management during his professional career. He currently serves on the Foundation's Finance Committee as well as the Investment Committee. Geoff enjoys a round of golf as often as he can.

Graham Tamblyn

As a long-term Buderim resident with a strong interest in philanthropy, Graham has been involved in the Foundation for many years. He's held roles on numerous committees, served as Deputy Chair and still acts as the Foundation's Public Officer. A professional engineer, Graham was a former Chairman and Director of Cardno Consulting Engineers. More on Graham is included in the special item about his recent UniSC Senior Fellow award on p8.

... a community to be proud of

NEW DIRECTOR PROFILES

Linda Bolton

Linda is a seasoned Management Consultant and CPA Accountant, with a wealth of experience in governance, risk management, compliance auditing, and cyber/data management. With a strong record in technology, sales, marketing, and innovation, she's also a certified Business Leader in Sustainability Management from Cambridge, with a focus on sustainability, community, economic, and environmental impacts. Linda serves as the Chair of the Grants Committee.



Michael Hurley

Michael has played prominent roles in Strata and Community Title Management, co-founding Strata Care Australia (SCA) and Place Community Management (PCM) in the UAE. Leaving as Managing Director of SCA in 2015, Michael remained a director of PCM until 2021. As Vice Chair, he represented the industry on the Government Property Industry Reference Committee and has earned numerous prestigious awards. Additionally, Michael has held positions on boards and as Chair of Bloomhill. Michael looks after the Foundation's business relations.



Charlie Morris

Charlie was born in Sydney and studied at Macquarie University. His lifelong passion for flying was inherited from his father and Charlie has 45 years of aviation experience, including 42 years in airlines and 26,000 flight hours. Settling in Buderim in 1983, he met wife Ann and raised three children in the community. As a long-term Buderim resident, now retired, Charlie actively supports the Buderim Foundation as Chair of Philanthropy, and also sits on the Grants Committee.



Time and Talent are treasure

It's good to remember that philanthropy is more than the act of giving money. It can also include the giving of time, specialised talent and positive support. We'd love you to consider becoming involved in the Foundation's activities.

For more information visit:

www.buderimfoundation.org.au/get-involved/

'Tis the season for Giving!

Donating to the Buderim Foundation is your philanthropic gift to help build an even stronger community.

For as little as a coffee a week as a regular giver, or as a one off or yearly donation, your gift will be well looked after and keep giving for generations to come.

It can be as much or as little ... or as often as you like.

Consider what works best for you, then jump on the "How to Give" page on the Foundation's website www.buderimfoundation.org.au or scan the **QR code** below that will take you straight there!



BUDERIM
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Our Foundation... Our Future

... from little gifts big things grow!

CONGRATULATIONS



Graham Tamblin with UniSC Chancellor Sir Angus Houston and Vice-Chancellor and President Helen Bartlett

Congratulations to Graham Tamblin, the Foundation's Public Officer and former Deputy Chair. Graham received an honorary award of Senior Fellow of the University of the Sunshine Coast (UniSC) at a recent graduation ceremony. The award recognises Graham's significant contribution to the University over the last twenty years. Graham's contribution to regional and infrastructure development, by championing environmentally sustainable principles and practices, was also recognised.

With his background in civil engineering, Graham established an annual Engineering Scholarship for third year Civil Engineering students at UniSC from 2010 until his retirement in 2019.

Graham has been Chair of the University's Foundation Board since 2014. He is a Visionary member of The 1996 Society, a member of UniSC's Founders' Circle and a Chancellor's Associate.

Congratulations to Graham on a very well-deserved award.

Remember to like us on Facebook and follow us on Instagram



PHILANTHROPIC SPIRIT

Thank you

BATS Theatre Company has again generously donated the first night's proceeds from their recent play, *An Inspector Calls*, to the Foundation. A number of Ambassadors and friends attended the premiere in September.

This is the fifth year that BATS has made a donation of this kind to the Foundation and we thank them for their ongoing generosity and community spirit.



Rod McKinnon with BATS President Alice Rea

THANK YOU

Sponsor Acknowledgement

The Buderim Foundation acknowledges the longstanding generosity of our three major sponsors: Buderim Pharmacy, Edenlea on Buderim and Sunshine Toyota.

These sponsors cover most of our operating expenses, enabling our Money In, Money Managed, Money Out structure. Our sincere thanks for their ongoing support.

Contact us

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