

FORUM LIFE

April 2025

President's Pen

'Together Celebrating Forum' Conference

5th September and 6th September 2025

Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron
578 Royal Esplanade, Manly QLD 4179



Forum Communicators Association Inc. feels good for all of us. Forum is strong and passionate about developing confident speakers. As Forum grows we change and the conference program is taking superhero Innovative Steps, with a big smile on our faces

- ✓ Shaping a fantastic program that celebrates Forum's former success
- ✓ Celebrates current success
- ✓ Celebrating our core values and what is important to us.
- ✓ We are creating what brings us back, what lights us up.

Forum needs us all and needs your participation at the 'Together Celebrating Forum' Conference. We will be hearing brilliant stories on Forum's success from 2007-2025. Followed by collective 'Confidence Talks', figuring out:

- ✓ What is important to us
- ✓ What we can do to improve growing, turning the page
- ✓ Shaping up what we want to grow into, collectively prioritising & building our future.
- ✓ We are the authors of FORUM Communicators Association Inc.

To enable all members to attend, the Forum Management State Committee will reduce registration costs by paying for the ROYAL QUEENSLAND YACHT Squadron Conference ROOM on the SATURDAY 6th of September 2025 from 8.30 a.m. to 9.30 p.m. The conference may also be extended to commence on Friday 5th September from 12.30 p.m. to 5 p.m. We will keep you updated on the Conference Program.

Innovation & Intelligence = Inspiration

Forum supports the NCWQ Bursary Program

The 2025 Bursary Program

Applications open on 12 April and close on 2 June.

A wide range of bursaries are available to Queensland women seeking support to pursue their education.

Applicants must address the specific eligibility criteria related to the bursary. Applicants may apply for more than one bursary if they meet the criteria.

The NCWQ will release the bursary information and criteria via the NCWQ website on the 12 April 2025 when applications open. With 38 bursaries available in 2025 there is an opportunity available for applicants.

Please encourage members of your community to research and apply for the NCWQ bursaries.

For bursary enquiries, please contact the Bursary Manager, Kathy Cavanagh, on 0407 117 378 or bursaries@ncwq.org.au



Our Forum clubs have been busy! Forum Online

Forum Online (e-Forum) welcomes members to meetings on the second Monday night each month for one hour. Forum Online has a wide reach into the community, with members who join from near and far.

Are you interested in joining Forum Online

Just send an email to Pam Tranter: pamtranter46@outlook.com and she will put you on the email to receive the Zoom link each month.

Check out the Syllabus for what's happening each month for the interesting topics discussed.

Visitors are always welcome.

Cleveland Forum

Cleveland – Public Speaking and Social Gatherings

We still have visitors trickling in and another induction at the next meeting. Yippee! This is thanks to an ongoing advert in our local paper and also the wonderful regular posts on Facebook by President Adelia. Big thanks to Rosie Arnold, Forum's Website Coordinator for setting up our new ***Cleveland Forum for Public Speaking*** Facebook page. It's working well. Please look at it and "Like" it to follow.

The social aspect of Cleveland Forum continues to grow in strength. Members enjoyed the recent social day with lunch at local coffee shop and a movie. There was 2 movies starting at the same time, some members went to one movie and some to the other movie.

Pam Tranter sent a sincere thank you to all her Forum friends for their well wishes on her recent OAM. The flowers, letters and cards were greatly appreciated.

Chermside Forum

Australian Authors were the focus of Chermside Forum in the month of March 2025.

The authors were Josephine Moon, Jane Gleeson-White and Banyo Patterson. Most well know is Andrew Barton (Banjo) Patterson, who was a poet, solicitor, journalist and soldier. His legacy lives on in Australian literary culture.

Josephine Moon, successful author of 8 books, lives in Cooroy and tackles complex social issues in the community. For example, one of her books "The Wonderful Thing About Phoenix Rose", is about a neurodivergent woman living in a neurodivergent family.

Jane Gleeson-White's books are about literature, economics and the natural world. Her book "Double Entry Bookkeeping, How the Merchants of Venice Shaped the Modern World " is an international best seller. This book explained how double entry bookkeeping allowed merchants to actually measure the worth of their business.

Great meeting, enjoyed by all.

Bremer Forum

At Bremer Forum, we have tried to "mix things up" by having speeches in different formats, rather than just to a given fortnightly subject. We are conducting interviews of our Forum members. This is a great skill to have with the additional benefit of learning something we may not have known about our members.

Lastly, we have also introduced the *Liars Club*, two members are given an envelope with the same word and one member must provide the true meaning, while the other member can fabricate a lie. The group must vote on who has told the truth vs lie. It's fun and provides a different focus for the speaking.

One of our goals this session is to have another *"Speakers Corner"* as it was a great success last year. We are also pursuing the Ipswich Show Society who facilitate the Ipswich Twilight Markets. The markets are well attended and will give Bremer members the opportunity to speak in front of a captive audience.

Bayside Forum

Bayside Forum and guests were treated to a Networking meeting facilitated by member Di Hill. This was an interesting concept on different types of networking that we all can practise in our daily lives.

Networking is not just for promotion or for businesses to make new contacts, it can be as simple as sharing a table with a stranger over coffee or having a talking point which then has people asking questions.

She also highlighted the importance of NAME CARDS, with phone number, if you don't have a business card. The card can include a QR code which links directly to a website. These cards can be exchanged with new acquaintances. Di stressed the importance of follow up, an invite to coffee or to meet somewhere.

Let's get networking!

Forum Building Skills - Training

On Saturday 29 March, Bremer Forum members Julie and Rosie attended the Ipswich City Council Community – Grant Writing Workshop.

The facilitator for these workshops was Gigi Lacey from Instinct Organisational Development. Gigi has extensive experience and expertise with grant writing processes over the past 20 years. Gigi is a skilled presenter who ensured the audience remained engaged throughout the day.

Gigi has vast knowledge and has worked in a wide range of management committees and boards in the areas of advocacy, disability, mental health and multicultural organisations in direct service delivery and organisational support.

It was a fun filled day, with a lot to learn and plenty of hints and tips to make a grant application successful.

Many Local Government Councils (eg Brisbane, Ipswich and Redland) offer free training programs to assist Not for Profit and Community groups.

It was also a fabulous opportunity to promote Forum in the wider community.

"Please let us know of any workshops coming up in your area that could be of benefit to our organisation".



**Forum Communicators
QR Code**

forum
BE CONFIDENT