

GIANT STEPS

Annual Gala Ball

14 JUNE 2025

30 YEARS OF IMPACT

Impact can take many forms. It can be found in something as simple as a small act of kindness—an encouraging word, a moment of understanding, or a helping hand when it's most needed. These seemingly small gestures often have a profound effect, helping someone through a difficult day or a challenging moment. Kindness creates impact, and that impact ripples outward in ways we may never fully see.

How we measure kindness and impact varies greatly. For some, it's marked by clear milestones—an outstanding achievement, a job well done, or the ability to uplift others.

But for many, impact is deeply personal. It lives in the quiet victories and the unseen efforts that make a lasting difference.

At Giant Steps, making a difference is at the heart of everything we do. And the impact we see stretches far beyond any one student—it touches siblings, parents, extended families, and entire communities. The stories families share when they arrive at Giant Steps are often filled with pain: stories of rejection, fear, isolation, and a profound lack of understanding. But they are also stories of hope—because they've found a place that sees, understands, and embraces their child with care, expertise, and heart.

We welcome children and young adults with complex needs—many of whom arrive having been turned away elsewhere. Some cannot speak, others live with severe anxiety or behavioral and sensory challenges. What we offer is not only education, but understanding. We look beyond the individual to support the whole family, recognizing the many layers of impact they carry.

From the very first meeting, we let parents know they are not alone. They are joining a community built on deep professional expertise—from music, speech, and occupational therapists, to teachers and educational support staff. Even more than that, they are joining a family. A family of other parents who've walked this road, of supporters who believe in our mission, and of staff who celebrate every step forward—no matter how small.

One of the hardest things we do is ask for help. Even when we know people care and want to make a difference, it's never easy. That's why it means so much when help is simply offered—when someone reads a story, makes a donation, or shares their time or skills. Those acts of kindness fuel everything we do.

Because of your support, Giant Steps continues to grow. We continue to walk alongside our students as they build independence, gain life and vocational skills, and become active, valued members of their communities. Each one of those achievements—each Giant Step—is made possible by you and for that, we are endlessly grateful.

Barry Irvin AM
Chairman, Giant Steps Australia

14 June 2025 1



Celebrating 20 Years of Making a Difference In Business and Beyond

At Quay Business Services, we're proud to celebrate two decades of helping businesses thrive and lives transform. This milestone is more than a number – it reflects our commitment to people, purpose, and progress.

Supporting **Giant Steps** has been close to our hearts for many years.

As a major sponsor of the annual Ball, we're deeply connected to its mission – especially through our director, Slavko Visevic, whose son Lucas has flourished at the school for over a decade and is now thriving in his third year with Adult Services.

With a dynamic team of professionals from diverse industries, Quay offers a full suite of services – from virtual CFO support to complete finance department outsourcing. We're not your standard accounting firm. Everything we do is personalised, practical, and focused on helping you reach your goals.

Whether you need support with accounting, property investment, superannuation or finance, we'll partner with you to unlock your financial potential and set a clear path to personal success and freedom.

Our Passion for Property offering has helped clients build lasting wealth by securing exclusive, off-market property opportunities across NSW, QLD and VIC. We're by your side from the first conversation to the final settlement.

At our core, we're accountants with a mission: to maximise your financial position and empower your future.

If you'd like to explore how we can support you, we'd love to connect.
Reach out to our founder and director,
Slavko Visevic, on 0422 888 592
or find us online at
www.quaybusiness.com.au

CORPORATE SPONSORS

GOLD SPONSORS





dero

SILVER SPONSORS





AUSTRALIAN VINTAGE



















EVENT SPONSORS











EVENT SUPPORTER



14 June 2025 3



Goldman Sachs

Gives

Through a donor-advised fund, Goldman Sachs Gives is committed to fostering innovative ideas, solving economic and social issues, and enabling progress in communities globally.

www.goldmansachs.com/community-impact/goldman-sachs-gives



BALL PROGRAM

6.50 pm	Pre-dinner drinks in foyer
7.20 pm	Doors open and guests seated
7.35pm	Entrée service commences
7.45 pm	Welcome by Rob Rossano, MC
8.00 pm	Celebrating 30 years of Giant Steps Barry Irvin, Giant Steps Chairman Pledge appeal
8:35pm	Main Course service commences
9.05pm	Rob Rossano, MC Giant Steps film accompanied by Carter Barnes and Andrew Ross
9.25 pm	Live Auction, Jason Kazanis Auctioneer Dessert, coffee and tea service commences
9.55 pm	Dancing with The Glassbreakers
10.55 pm	Raffle winners announced Silent Auction closes at 11 pm Dancing with Glassbreakers until 12.15 am
11.50 pm	Bar closes
12.15 am	Band finishes
	Good Night and Thank You!

MENU

FNTRÉF

Axel vodka cured Tasmanian salmon with pepperberry, herb and citrus infused buttermilk dill sauce, pickled green apples, yuzu gel, red radish, munyeroo, salmon pearls and furikake wafer (contains seafood).

*Dietary Entrée

Textures of beetroot with corella pear, vegan feta cheese, pickled pearl onions, coastal succulents, mandarin foam, caramelised Kootingal organic pecan nut crumbs GF VE CF contains nuts

MAIN

Slow braised Riverina beef cheek, creamy polenta, pepperonata, zucchini flowers, asparagus, gaufrettes potatoes and mustard jus GF

*Dietary Main

Root vegetable pave, braised mung beans, Garlicious Grown black garlic, grilled seasonal mushrooms, charred onion, shaved asparagus with mushroom jus and parsnip chips ${\sf GF} \ {\sf VE} \ {\sf CF}$

Pescatarian main alternative available only if pre-ordered 14 days prior

DESSERT

Shared mini desserts consisting of ...

- Tiramisu mascarpone mousse, Seven Mills roasted coffee almond praline, coffee cremeux, chocolate tuile (contains nuts).
- Malfroy's Gold honey cake, caramel glaze, white chocolate cream
- Passionfruit and Copper Tree Farm butter caramel tart, coconut wafer

*Dietary Dessert

Shared mini desserts consisting of ...

- Chocolate and Alto olive oil cake, bitter chocolate mousse, raspberry gel, coconut sorbet GF VE
- \bullet Strawberry cremeux tart, strawberry foam and lemon balm GF, VE
- Mango passionfruit curd, coconut sponge, mango gel GF, VE

BEVERAGES

SPARKLING - Craigmoor Chardonnay Pinot Noir NV, Central Ranges, NSW WHITE WINE - Tyrrell's Semillon Sauvignon Blanc, Hunter Valley & Orange, NSW RED WINE - Secret Garden Shiraz, Murray Darling, NSW

BEER - 4 Pines Pacific Ale and Asahi Super Dry

ALCOHOL FREE – Sobah and Peroni 0% alcoholic free beers and McGuigan Zero alcohol free sparkling wine are available from all bars

Selection of juice, mineral water and soft drinks

House made botanical water

GLUTEN FREE = GF VEGAN = VE CARBON FRIENDLY = CF

The Auction is conducted live on the night. The highest bidder will be the purchaser of the item. The Auctioneer's decision will be final.

The successful bidder will be asked to complete a payment card at the end of the sale of the item. All items must be paid for on the night by cheque, cash or credit card. Purchase receipts (non-tax deductible) will be sent to the buyer shortly after the Ball.

LOT ONE -

4 HOUR SYDNEY HARBOUR CRUISE ON LUXURY SAILING YACHT

Experience the ultimate in luxury on Sydney Harbour with up to 10 friends aboard *Oroton*Drumfire.

Enjoy 4 hours aboard this beautifully crafted 24-metre luxury European sailing yacht with beer, wine, non-alcoholic drinks, and snacks included.

Drumfire first took part in the Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race in 2018 and is based in Sydney at the Cruising Yacht Club of Australia (CYCA).

This prize is valid for 12 months from the date of purchase, so you can plan this special occasion at your convenience.

Don't miss out on this majestic experience!

Date and time to be arranged to co-ordinate with yacht's sailing program.

Value: Priceless

Kindly donated by Will Vicars



Dumfire



LOT TWO -

HOLIDAY IN NICE, FRANCE

Luxury accommodation for 6 people to stay for 7 nights in a spacious and architecturally designed apartment in Nice, France. Includes Flight Centre voucher to the value of \$5,000.

Located in the famous Place Garibaldi, it is a perfect location to explore Nice. Located at the entrance to the Old Town you will be surrounded by restaurants, cafes and boulangeries, along with an easy



walk to the beach, the port, the hilltop 'chateau' and all city galleries and attractions. With tram stops for both tram lines, Garibaldi links you directly to the airport and train station, as well as all of Nice's main shopping areas.

The space

Bright, open and freshly renovated, 4m high ceilings, oak parquet flooring and whitewashed walls. 3 bedrooms, each with an ensuite and premium amenities, fully equipped Miele kitchen, Carl Hansen dining furniture, linen sofas, 3 balconies and a large open lounge room, this is a luxurious retreat to come home to when visiting Nice. Airconditioning is zoned individually in each room for your comfort. Enjoy a glass of champagne on the balcony watching the activity below in Place Garibaldi.

Guest access

Located on the 2nd floor (with elevator) in the heart of Place Garibaldi, a gateway to the Old Town. 5 min walk to the Port, 10 mins to the beach.

Two tram lines in the square, one taking you directly to the airport in less than 30mins, the other line linking you to the shopping around Place Massena and the Nice Ville train station (giving easy access to locations outside of Nice like Monaco, Cannes, Antibes, Villefranche-sur-Mer. Ezé etc.)

Vehicle access to the building's front door is also available for the unloading of luggage if you arrive by car. Lockable garage parking is available within a 3 minute walk of the apartment for €15/night.

Valid until December 2026. Currently 2026 has great availability (including school holidays at this stage), so the winner is encouraged to book as soon as possible to secure their preferred date.

Kindly donated by the family of Gus Mackay
Flight Centre voucher donated by the Giant Steps families



Giant Steps sincerely thanks RYOBI for this generous donation

*Lot 3 Live Auction

LIVE AUCTION

LOT THREE

RYOBI PRIZE PACKS 2 PACKS AVAILABLE VALUED AT \$12,500 EACH

There will be two (2) lots of this prize on offer during the Live Auction, each valued at \$12,500. Both packs can be purchased by the same winner. Imagine owning the ultimate tool shed, garage,



workshop or garden shed, full of all the tools you've been dreaming about. Build a comprehensive package of RYOBI products up to the value of \$12,500 to use in your home, in the garden, as well as for hobbies. Talk about endless possibilities! Think of the fun you could have constructing every conceivable DIY project or creating a garden your neighbours will envy. How about starting (or finishing) an automotive project? Whatever you choose, RYOBI has the power tools and garden equipment you need!

Kindly donated by RYOBI

INFORMATION & TERMS

- 1. Each RYOBI Prize Pack is valued at AUD\$12,500 (RRP).
- 2. The winner may choose from a dedicated range of RYOBI products up to the maximum value of AUD\$12.500 (RRP).
- 3. RYOBI promotional items are excluded from the RYOBI Prize Pack.
- 4. There are more than 200 RYOBI products to choose from.
- 5. The RYOBI Prize Pack is not transferable.
- 6. The RYOBI Prize Pack is not redeemable for cash.
- 7. No item in the RYOBI Prize Pack is redeemable for cash.
- A dedicated RYOBI Account Manager will be assigned to work with the winner to assist with choosing the RYOBI products and finalising the RYOBI Prize Pack as well as providing support with any queries the winner may have.

- 9. The winner may be eligible for an extended warranty on some of the RYOBI products but that will depend on what RYOBI products are chosen and the winner must register the products in the RYOBI Prize Pack on the MyRYOBI website within 30 days of receiving the RYOBI Prize Pack to receive the extended warranty.
- 10. The RYOBI Prize Pack must be claimed by 30 July 2026.
- 11. Once the RYOBI Prize Pack products are selected, changes will not be permitted.
- 12. The RYOBI Prize Pack includes delivery to an Australian or New Zealand street address of the winner's choice.

14 June 2025 11

LOT FOUR — CROATIA TRIP

One week's accommodation staying at the luxurious Villa Riva. Includes Flight Centre voucher to the value of \$5,000.

Perfectly located, Villa Riva is situated in the village of Kut on the opposite side of the Island of Vis' harbour from where the ferry arrives (Vis town). This is the quieter, more private side of the bay. Despite the tranquillity, it is only a short walk from the house to beaches, restaurants /bars, supermarket and car hire.

Luxurious and relaxed, it's a perfect getaway for those who love the beauty and history of Europe, crave the relaxation of a seaside



location, and want a comfortable, private retreat from which to enjoy it all. Vis lies between Italy and Croatia, about 50 kilometres southwest of Split. It's the outermost inhabited island amongst the myriad of Croatian islands that make up Dalmatia.

Villa Riva is a beautiful, four-storey 200 year old Venetian villa, set on a small square facing the lapping waters of the Adriatic. It comfortably accommodates 6 people in 3 bedrooms with 3 bathrooms and offers stunning views of Vis and its harbour from the main bedrooms and terraces.

There are daily flights into Split from European capitals, and 2-3 ferries a day to Vis (1.5 -2.5 hours) from Split.

The owners will provide their personal recommendations for where to eat and how best to enjoy the island and they have a local manager on hand also.

The prize is for one week's accommodation staying in the Villa, subject to availability (excluding July and August). Valid until 31 December 2028 (but extension highly negotiable if needed). Does not include any transfers.

www.villarivavis.com

Kindly donated by the Ferrarin and Hetherington Families Flight Centre voucher donated by the Giant Steps families

LOT FIVE

ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME SAILING EXPERIENCE ON SUPER-MAXI MASTER LOCK COMANCHE!





If you love high-performance sailing, don't miss this chance to join Comanche—a 100ft, \$30 million racing yacht—for a full training or race day ahead of the 2025 Sydney to Hobart.

You and a friend will join three-time World Champion and Sydney to Hobart winner James Mayo, alongside four-time Sydney to Hobart winner, Matt Allen, and their world-class crew aboard Comanche. As one of the fastest and most decorated monohulls in racing history, Comanche guarantees an unforgettable experience.

The sail will take place on a weekday or weekend in November or December 2025, with the exact date subject to change based on weather or boat conditions.

Value: Priceless

Kindly donated by Matt Allen and James Mayo from Mayo Group

LOT SIX -

A PRIVATE FUNCTION AT A PRESTIGIOUS WATERFRONT RESIDENCE ON SYDNEY HARBOUR

Enjoy a luxurious lunch or dinner at an exclusive private residence on prestigious Wolseley Road, Point Piper. Overlooking Felix Bay with sweeping views to Shark Island and Manly, the property offers serene alfresco spaces, a sunlit terrace, and direct access to Lady Martin Beach. Designed by a leading Sydney interior designer, it features bespoke finishes and high-end craftsmanship, blending elegance and opulence in one of Sydney's most sought-after harbour front locations.

Select from:

- 1. Indulgent five-course seated lunch or dinner for 14 guests, prepared by a private chef, inclusive of beverages, or
- 2. An exclusive, fully catered private event for up to 20 guests perfect for a Christmas celebration or standing cocktail party catered by a private chef for a maximum of four hours, including all food and beverages.

Each option allows for a maximum of four hours, scheduled at a mutually agreed time with the property owner, between the period of 12:00pm and 10:00pm.

Valid until December 31, 2025

Kindly donated by James Mayo











LOT SEVEN —

PRIVATE 4-HOUR SUPERYACHT CHARTER ON LEGACY FOR 40 GUESTS

Step aboard the impressive M/Y LEGACY for a 4-hour private charter on Sydney Harbour, tailored for up to 40 guests. With capacity for up to 105, LEGACY is ideal for scaling your guest list. This exclusive prize includes a dedicated crew and waitstaff to ensure a seamless luxury experience from start to finish. Gourmet catering by a private chef and premium beverage packages can be added to elevate your event. With multiple entertaining areas, sophisticated interiors, and panoramic harbour views, LEGACY is the ultimate setting for corporate functions, milestone celebrations, or stylish social gatherings.

Terms & Conditions:

- Valid for 40 guests
- 4-hour private charter
- Crew and waitstaff included
- Food, beverages, and chef can be added at extra cost
- Additional guests (up to 105 total) can be added for a fee
- Valid for 6 months
- Available Sunday to Wednesday only
- Subject to availability
- Not valid on public holidays or major Harbour event days
- Charter departs from Sydney Harbour

Value: \$18,000

Kindly donated by Michael Barakat and Ahoy Club







LOT EIGHT -

HENRI MATISSE "CUTOUT SERIES", 1958

Two colour lithographs after paper cut-out and gouache from Matisse's "Les Dernieres Oeuvres de Matisse" portfolio. In his late sixties, when ill health first prevented Matisse from painting, he began to cut into painted paper with scissors to make drafts for a number of commissions. In time, Matisse chose cut-outs over painting, and he had invented a new medium in combining the method with lithography.

Kindy donated by Chase Gallery





This colourful mixed media work on a framed canvas has been created by the students of Giant Steps with the assistance of our talented Art Therapist, Pamela Honeyfield. It has been beautifully framed and would look great in any home or boardroom.

Kindly donated by Giant Steps and Pamela Honeyfield



SILENT AUCTION

Tonight we are using Galabid electronic bidding system. Just use your own smart phone or tablet to bid!

The Silent Auction will close at 11.00 pm SCAN THE QR CODE TO REGISTER!



Or visit: www.galabid.com/gsball/

HAPPY BIDDING!

WHAT IF YOU WIN?

If you are the successful highest bidder at the end of the auction, around 11.00 pm, you will recieve a link from Galabid.

CLICK ON THE GALABID LINK TO MAKE YOUR PAYMENT BEFORE HEADING TO THE AUCTION AREA TO COLLECT YOUR PRIZE.

Show an attendant in the Auction area your digital receipt to collect the item.

LUCKY DIP

Purchase a Lucky Dip token and you will get a fantastic Lucky Dip prize. The tokens will be on sale from the start of the evening until 10.45 pm or until they are sold out. Tokens can be purchased from the Lucky Dip counter in the foyer, where you must go to collect your prize, and from Lucky Dip volunteers who will be circulating.

PLEASE NOTE Prizes are not interchangeable.

All wine received as a prize is not to be opened or consumed on the premises due to regulations.

REGISTER FOR OUR NEXT EVENT

Join us as we climb to the top of Tower One on Sunday 3 August.







Giant Steps Celebrating 30 Years 16 14 June 2025 17

PLEDGES

GOAL - TO RAISE \$150,000

TO GET OUR NEW ÉLANÓRA HEIGHTS SITE FULLY OPERATIONAL

Giant Steps is very excited to have purchased a new site at Elanora Heights this year. This beautiful 5.184-hectare sanctuary, surrounded by a native bushland reserve, presents incredible opportunities for our students, adult participants, and their families.

Formerly used as a communityfocused conference and retreat facility, the site holds great potential. To ensure it fully meets the needs of our community and can be enjoyed to its fullest potential, it requires some upgrades.











Giant Steps plans to:

- Offer overnight respite by providing overnight accommodation on an individualised basis with weekday and weekend availability. A night away from home, which may not otherwise be possible, will provide respite to many struggling families and help participants get ready for living independently.
- Expand our Adult Autism Services program to meet the increasing demand.
- Provide a safe and tranquil location for outdoor education programs including swimming, bushwalking and rock climbing, as well as community access opportunities for all Giant Steps school-aged students and adult participants, including opportunities to attend camp.
- Offer weekend retreats for Giant Steps students and their families, where the
 entire family can relax and enjoy the benefits of the site in a safe and
 supportive environment.

We need your support to transform Elanora Heights into a fully operational haven for our students, adult participants, and their families.

Giant Steps Celebrating 30 Years 18 14 June 2025

ENTERTAINERS

MC - ROB ROSSANO-

I am an experienced and well-rounded Senior Consultant with 15 years of experience in facilitation, training, coaching and managing organisational change.

I also have a daughter at Giant Steps. Since starting at Giant Steps we have seen a big change in Roxie. She comes home happier than ever, is making a lot more

sounds and has improved her attention span and focus. She is even slightly more tolerable of her little brother!

At **Phuel**, we create and deliver world-class learning experiences that ignite passion, inspire change, and address major challenges of people to drive growth and transformation.

PASSIONATE. ENGAGING. ENCOURAGING. www.phuel.com.au/people/rob-rossano/

VOCALIST - CARTER BARNES-

Carter Barnes is a 14-year-old singer-songwriter and pianist who performs regularly as both a soloist and with his school band. He appears in the ABC docuseries The Piano, hosted by Amanda Keller and featuring Harry Connick Jr. In 2024, Carter was named Junior Singer of the Year at the prestigious Sydney Fisteddfod

Inspired by artists like Justin Bieber, Elton John, and Billy Joel, Carter blends pop sensibilities with classic piano-driven songwriting. He spends his weekends in the studio writing and recording and is set to release his original music later this year.

Carter is proud to again perform in support of Giant Steps and is honoured to be part of such a meaningful cause.

ENTERTAINERS

BAND - GLASSBREAKERS



Glassbreakers, the party band brainchild of award winning, platinum selling singer songwriter and producer, Ilan Kidron. Best known as the lead singer of Australia's groundbreaking dance act The Potbelleez, known for their slew of hit singles including Are You With Me and Don't Hold Back.

Ilan is joined by Sydney's finest musicians, who over the years, have shared the stage with the likes of Grace Jones, Matt Corby, Tim Minchin, Hugh Jackman, Missy Higgins, Charlie XCX, Branford Marsalis, James Morrison and Vince Jones.

Harnessing all this experience, Glassbreakers has become a tight, energetic powerhouse of party brilliance performing breathtaking new takes on old world classics and wicked twists on the new.

PIANIST - ANDREW ROSS

Andrew is a Musical Director, Vocal Coach and Singing Teacher who has worked with artists across the globe. He was the Vocal Coach on Baz Luhrman's film Moulin Rouge and, for over 30 years, toured the world with Barry Humphries as co-writer, musical director and onstage pianist. He continues to teach and mentor emerging artists while running community choirs

and volunteering.



SILENT AUCTION & LUCKY DIP DONORS

Auction and Lucky Dip prizes have all been donated. We would like to thank the individuals and companies for their generous donations. For a full list of our prize donors please visit www.giantstepsball.net.au/our-sponsors/

































chase

gallery







































BRŐMIC









H ICKINBOTHA M





























THANK YOU

Thank you to our guests and everyone who has helped make tonight possible. Your support of our children means a great deal.

Giant Steps warmly thanks the following people and businesses for their generosity tonight:

Giant Steps Ball Committee Members Including the Giants Steps families and the Giant Steps Fundraising Team.

Giant Steps Community

The Giant Steps parent body for its help in obtaining prizes, helping with Ball preparations and for supporting the Ball and the Giant Steps staff and Board for their on-going support and assistance.

Graphic Design Services

Petra Daley for designing the fantastic invitations, program and all printed and online documents.



Printing Services

Grant Shortland of Vital Paper for supplying all the paper and for organising all the printing to be donated.



MC

Rob Rossano

Auctioneer

Jason Kazanis

Vocalist

Carter Barnes

Pianist

Andrew Ross

Volunteers

All the volunteers tonight as well as those who assisted with set up and in the weeks leading up to the Ball. This includes Giant Steps parents and siblings and our lovely staff and family and friends.

Photographers

HomePix Photography



Rebecca from Lulu & Lotti Event Styling



Photo Booth Inthebooth.com.au



Anniversary Logo **VMDesign**





FOUNDING PARENTS

Tonight's Celebrating 30 Years Gala Ball is dedicated to our original founding families. Each of these parents made significant contributions and Giant Steps could not have been established without their sacrifice, hard work, and persistence.



Steve and Sue Anthony
Julie and Ralph Chiaverini
Peter and Carolyn Dodds
Mark and Sandra Dutch
Meril Lindsay
Robert Llewellyn-Jones and Susan
Creek

Richard Proctor and Eva Meland

Mark and Jenny Purcell Ivan and Karen Schwartz Liz and Peter Skerrett and Craig and Catherine Wallace





GiantStepsSydney











