



The Rotary Club of Brisbane Inc.

Founded 29 May 1923 Club 17787

A global network of community volunteers

13 July 2015



The Rotary Club of
Brisbane Inc.
ABN 75 152 438 499

**GPO Box 2909
Brisbane Qld 4001**

Meets 4th Floor
(Edinburgh Room)
of the Brisbane Club
Post Office Square
241 Adelaide Street
Brisbane

MONDAYS
12.15 pm – 1.30 pm

OFFICERS

President	Phil Gresham
President Elect	Tony McKinnon
Imm Past President	Graeme Whitmore
Vice President	Keith Watts
Secretary	Michael Stephens
Treasurer	Warren Walker
Sergeant-at-Arms	Cameron Bishop

**District 9600
Club Number 17787
Founded 29 May 1923**

District Governor
John Leddy

**Rotary International
President**
K.R. (Ravi) Ravindran

President's Report

It was a great honour last week to be inducted as your President for 2015-2016 in our club's 92nd year, 50 years in fact after, Sidney Gresham, my father's first cousin, was the club President.

This year the board and I are planning a year of membership growth, engagement, retention and most importantly, for us all, experiencing a strong sense of fellowship and fun. Please see the attached pdf which outlines the club goals for the year. It is my firm wish that everyone will be involved this year in helping to strengthen our club.

I know just how easy it is to get into the habit of not attending meetings, but I want to remind everyone that, as with all organisations, the more one 'puts in' the more benefit you as an individual will gain. And the same is true for your Rotary club. Of course ill health or being away on holidays or business is a different matter and remember, there are multiple ways to meet your Rotary commitments with 'make ups', club projects or attendance at club events.

It was terrific to see so many partners at last Monday's meeting as well as visiting Rotarians Kevin Stevens from Adelaide, Melanie Packer the President of Rotaract Brisbane CBD and Yvonne Williamson from Tianjin, China. I was interested to learn that Queenslander, Yvonne is the principal of the Tianjin International School and is involved in the re chartering the Tianjin Club. Coincidentally, Tianjin RC was originally chartered some 10 days before our own club in 1923. RI pulled out of China in the 50's and this will be the third club in China behind Beijing and Hong Kong. Kevin from Adelaide has experience mentoring and has been involved in Rotary projects with young people in his home town.

WHAT'S ON?

13 July 2015
Fellowship

DATE CLAIMER

20 July 2015
Dr Michael Carroll
Principal St Joseph's
College
Gregory Terrace

3 August 2015
Denise & Bruce
Morcombe
*Daniel Morcombe
Foundation*

4 WAY TEST

Of the things we think, say or do:

1. Is it the TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?





President's Report

Please remember to check the roster and if for some reason, you can't make the meeting please find your replacement. Remember, no meeting for us tomorrow, but don't forget the joint meeting with Brisbane Mid-City this Friday the 10th at 12.15. Monday 13th July is a club meeting as usual. I look forward to seeing you there!

Yours in Rotary

Phil Gresham

Rotary Meeting 29 June 2015

The Chairperson for the day was Mel Evans. After Rotary Grace and toasts to the Queen of Australia and Rotary International, he introduced President Graeme Whitmore. Graeme's message (his last after an illustrious two years as President) is reported in full in the 29 June Bulletin.



Graeme also delivered a comprehensive Report that summarised the major events and achievements that had occurred during his Presidency and thanked all those that had supported him. His full Report is attached.

At the end of President Graeme's presentations, SAA Cam Bishop had a short 'transition session' in which no fines were imposed. He thanked President Graeme for his major contributions to RCOB over the two years of his Presidency. This was strongly supported by acclamation.

SAA Cam introduced the incoming President for 2015/16, Phil Gresham, and President Graeme handed over to President Phil (pictured)



Next President Phil provided an enthusiastic presentation outlining his goals and strategies for 2015/16. His presentation is provided in full in the attached slides.

PP Graeme Whitmore won the raffle but the joker is still in the deck.

This had been a very enjoyable function that had been well supported, auguring well for the coming year.

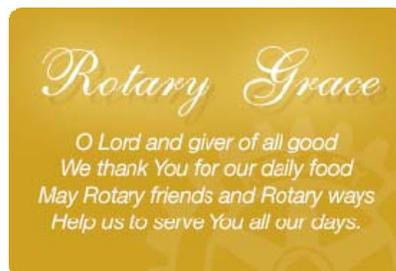
The Changeover Meeting closed at 2.15pm.

Perhaps a fifth test: Is it fun?

By David Postic, a member of the Rotaract and Interact Committee and a past president of the Rotaract Club of Norman, Oklahoma, USA

Source: blog.rotary.org

We all know and love The Four-Way Test. In many ways, it's an improvement on the age-old golden rule that you should treat others the way you wish to be treated. It's a guide for living, a tool for decision making, a moral code. While Rotary has been served well by these four questions, they may not be enough in an era in which Rotary is trying to appeal to more people and have a broader impact.



Calendar

20 July 2015:

Dr Michael Carroll,
Principal St Joseph's College
(Gregory Terrace)

27 July 2015:

Speaker to be confirmed

3 August 2015:

Denise and Bruce Morcombe
Daniel Morcombe Foundation

Roster

13 July 2015:

President P Gresham
Chairperson K Watts
Set Up/Away J Delahunty
Raffle W Bishop
Visitor Register P Caragata
Attendance D Schellbach
D O'Donoghue

20 July 2015:

President P Gresham
Chairperson D Henderson
Set Up/Away M Evans
Raffle S Francis
Visitor Register A Gillespie
Attendance D Schellbach
D O'Donoghue

27 July 2015:

President P Gresham
Chairperson G Holtmann
Set Up/Away S Dunlop
Raffle P Little
Visitor Register T McKinnon
Attendance D Schellbach
D O'Donoghue

3 August 2015:

President P Gresham
Chairperson G Whitmore
Set Up/Away P Ryan
Raffle J Ryder
Visitor Register M Winders
Attendance J Smerdon
D Schellbach

Please forward any dates or articles of interest that you would like to see included in future Bulletins to the Bulletin Editor at:

secretary@brisbanerotary.org.au



There is another crucial question that we as Rotary members must always ask ourselves, and it is this: Is it fun? This is the question I ask myself with everything I do. If it isn't fun, I don't do it. Some people may scoff at that mentality, but in my mind, life is too short to waste on things I don't enjoy. There are a hundred other organizations I could be a part of. If Rotary isn't fun, why should I join? And if I am already a member, but I'm not having fun, why should I stay?

Of course, I speak for myself, and perhaps I can also presume to speak for other young people. But I imagine that how I feel is also how many Rotary members feel all over the world. We all want to have fun while serving the sick, the impoverished, the embattled, and the hungry. And in my experience, Rotary can be the most fun part of my life.



David Postic, left, and other members of the Rotaract and Interact Committee had fun posing for this photo in December at Rotary's headquarters in Evanston, Illinois, USA. Rotary International/Alyce Henson

But often, clubs become so entrenched in their habits that they forget to have fun. If Rotary isn't fun, how can we light a fire in the hearts of our members? How can we increase our membership? How can we survive? We must constantly ask ourselves: Is what we are doing fun?

This may not be a question fit for enshrining in the codes of Rotary, and perhaps it doesn't even warrant recitation at weekly meetings. However, it's probably the most important question we can ask ourselves when making decisions in our clubs. What we do in Rotary is not primarily for our own benefit, but people must enjoy Rotary if it is to survive. This is the real golden rule of Rotary clubs: If what we do isn't fun, then it's not worth doing.

Stories that are changing the world

By Kiran Singh Sirah, a 2011-13 Rotary Peace Fellow and president of the International Storytelling Center in Jonesborough, Tennessee, USA.
Source: blog.rotary.org



I recently had a chance to reconnect with my fellow Rotary Peace Fellows at a Rotary Peace Symposium in São Paulo. I was in the company of many talented friends and colleagues, including representatives from organizations like the World Bank and the United Nations, as well as global peace consultants and specialists in health, government, peace, security, and education. It was an incredible group of some 80 interdisciplinary peace advocates and Rotary members from all over the world.

Of course, I approached our conversations through the lens of story. I was there not just as a Rotary Peace Fellow but also as a representative of storytelling and the International Storytelling Center (ISC). (I even led a workshop on using storytelling as a tool in collaborations.) As I moved around the conference, talking with other Rotary members, I shared ISC's vision of building a better world through storytelling. But as a folklorist, I couldn't resist the opportunity to collect stories, too. What I found was that everyone had a story to tell about what originally inspired them to work for peace.

Cafe stories

In the World Cafe that was part of the symposium, I spoke to people who, like me, have felt called to serve in places far from home. Juliana, a Ugandan peace fellow who's now located in Sudan, told me about the very moment she became committed to working for peace. She was in Kampala, Uganda's capital, enjoying a quiet moment that she realized was marked by the lack of a familiar sound: gunfire. She wanted everyone to be able to experience that feeling.

I also learned about the experiences of Jewish and Muslim fellows who had worked on interfaith projects in war-torn Sierra Leone. I heard from people working with Syrian refugees, people studying the aftermath of Ebola in Liberia, and people working to build peace in Myanmar, Somalia, and Cambodia. I spoke to two friends based in the Amazon rainforest who are establishing a peace center that supports indigenous cultures and communities. Through tears, a fellow Brit told me about the reason he works for peace: his two granddaughters. I also listened to a Brazilian Rotarian, a shy man who shared a powerful personal story of growing up in extreme poverty and losing his father at a young age. That hardship had inspired him to build a better world for others.

Building a better world

Taking in these stories, I was struck by how these different regions around the world share a deep connection through story. As Rotary Peace Fellows, we are all people who have dedicated our lives to building a better world in the best way we know how. While there is no one strategy that will accomplish this, I saw how important it is to share best practices across locations and disciplines to inspire innovation and promote creativity. Sharing our personal narratives strengthened our fellowship and will no doubt influence our work.

Human rights and global peace are huge — and even intimidating — topics, but they are not larger than life. This work starts at the local level. As Gandhi once said, to achieve peace in the world, we must start with ourselves. By sharing stories at home or at conferences, we establish the connections we need to work for larger change. To share a story is a gift of love. Listening to my fellow Rotary members, I understood it is a gift that is changing the world.