



The Rotary Club of Brisbane Inc.

Founded 29 May 1923 Club 17787

A global network of community volunteers

19 August 2013



The Rotary Club of Brisbane Inc.

**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 – 1.45 pm

OFFICERS

President	Graeme Whitmore
President Elect	Graeme Whitmore
Imm Past President	Alistair Smith
Vice President	Keith Watts
Secretary	Michael Stephens
Treasurer	Dougal Henderson
Sergeant-at-Arms	Cameron Bishop

District 9600
Club Number 17787
Founded 29 May 1923

District Governor
Dai Mason

Rotary International President
Ron Burton

President's Message

Fellow Rotarians

This week was a quiet but robust meeting at Rotary, quiet due to a drop off in numbers and robust in the content of discussion and banter and fellowship. Apologies received from 5 due to medical recovery, or business commitments, we all wish those recovering members a speedy return to our club.

We welcomed the return to Australia from South Africa of visiting Rotarian Denise Schellbach, and members assured her of a continuing welcome.

A prospective member visited today and we welcomed Isaac Ayodeji for lunch, his application will be submitted for approval in due course, along with another prospective member nominated by PP K Watts.

Due to an unfortunate miss communication we did not have a speaker but we PP B Veal taking over the duty of arranging speakers I believe we are back on track.

An enlightening article of news from the world of Rotary was received from the Rotary Foundation Polio Eradication, A district 9600 Initiative,

I note some worthwhile points for all members review:

- Since 1988 there has been a reduction in the number of Polio cases by 99.9%
- In 2012 there were fewer than 250 cases reported, down from 350,000 in 1985
- In 2012 there nearly 430million children vaccinated in that year alone
- Rotary International will have contributed over \$650 million by the time the world is scheduled to be free of Polio in 2018

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Date Claimers

27 September:
Rotary Lunch
Combined DG Visit with
Brisbane Mid City

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 Message - continued

- A new global eradication effort which sees the Melinda & Bill Gates Foundation contribute \$2 for Every 1 Rotary dollar, could raise a further \$us 525million
- The Australian Government is committing \$80 million over 4years (2015 to 2018 to help finish the job and achieve Worldwide eradication)

Clubs in our district are to raise funds for Polio Eradication, and Raise Community Awareness of the End Game to eradicate this terrible disease

Of Real concern is that 70,000 Australian Children are not fully vaccinated (AMA President Steve Hambleton April 11 2013)

We must all do more to help raise the necessary funds!!

Yours in Rotary

**REMEMBER: ENGAGE ROTARY
CHANGE LIVES**

President Graeme

Rotary Meeting – 12 August 2013

The Chairperson of the day was Heidi Bauer, recently returned from Amsterdam, where she attended a meeting of her old Club, and our sister Club, Amsterdam International. Amsterdam International is keen to keep cooperating with our Club on future projects, particularly involving supporting young people in their University studies. Heidi introduced P Graeme who welcomed our regular visitor Denise Schellbach from Brisbane Planetarium RC. Denise has recently returned from visiting her newest grand-child in Johannesburg, South Africa. P Graeme also made welcome a prospective Rotarian Isaac Ayodeji, who has been working in Brisbane for two years as the Procurement Officer for a gas company.

P Graeme tendered apologies on behalf of Tony McKinnon, who had a make- up, as he had attended a Board Meeting of Brisbane Youth Services, on our behalf, and will report back to us in due course. Apologies also from PP Alistair Smith who is recovering from surgery, Wal Bishop who is recuperating after cardiac bypass surgery, and SAA Cam Bishop who had to supervise contractors at Sarabah Estate. P Graeme also had to apologise for the late cancellation of today's scheduled speaker Terry Tolhurst on "The History of the Brisbane Club". He thanked PP Bas Veal for accepting the role of finding guest speakers for our meetings.

P Graeme reminded us that Membership Month was approaching, and to make an effort to invite a guest to our Club. He spoke of how proud he was of the wonderful work that Rotary had done in reducing 358,000 cases of polio infection in 1985, to 250 cases in 2012, of the 430 million children who received polio vaccinations last year, and the realistic expectation that the world could be polio free by 2018. He was encouraged by the efforts of Rotarians who had so far contributed \$650 million, and by the generosity of the Gates Foundation who had kicked in \$520 million, with a further pledge to match future contributions from Rotary on a \$2 for \$1 ratio.

In the absence of SAA Cam Bishop Acting SAA Phil Gresham came prepared with a list of fines that quickly confiscated all our petty cash. Members were fined for:-

- Watching sport over the weekend.
- Not volunteering to be the Public Relations consultant for the Club.
- Not supporting the wine industry by having a wine at lunch.
- Those formally dressed in a tie.
- Those with more than five grand-children.

ROTARY GRACE

O Lord and giver of all good
We thank You for our daily food
May Rotary friends and Rotary ways
Help us to serve You all our days.

Calendar

26 August 2013:
TBA

2 September 2013:
No Meeting

9 September 2013:
Job Talk - TBA

Roster

19 August 2013:

President G Whitmore
Chairperson P Caragata
Set Up/Away G Burnett
Raffle D Zhang
Visitor Register D Smith
Attendance J Smerdon
J Charlton

26 August 2013:

President G Whitmore
Chairperson A Gillespie
Set Up/Away S Francis
Raffle S Francis
Visitor Register D Zhang
Attendance J Smerdon
T McKinnon

2 September 2013:
No Meeting

9 September 2013:

President G Whitmore
Chairperson D Zhang
Set Up/Away M Kelly
Raffle M Evans
Visitor Register A Gillespie
Attendance J Smerdon
T McKinnon

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



Acting SAA Phil also spoke of his pride in the work of Rotary in eliminating polio, with recollections of childhood friends in his youth who were struck down with this horrible illness.

The raffle was won by the luckiest and most consistent serial winner in our Club, John Smerdon. John has won at least 5 times in the past few months, including the Grange wine super draw in June. However not even John was lucky enough to draw the joker, so the cash Jackpot is now above \$600. Only 14 of our Club members attended the meeting, and two guests, making a total of 16. This is a serious problem for our Club's future, and members are urged to make a special extra effort to attend our meetings.

Surplus equipment saves lives

By Chris Offer, past governor of District 5040 (British Columbia, Canada)
Source: <http://blog.rotary.org/2013/08/12/offer/>

There is something almost magical about loading an infant incubator, which has kept hundreds of newborn babies alive in Canada, on board a ship and knowing it will continue to help children in Chile.

I recently had the opportunity to load a 40-foot sea container with medical and dental supplies to be shipped to Iquique, Chile.



Members of my Rotary club joined other clubs in Metro Vancouver, British Columbia, in filling the container with 30 hospital beds, nine manual and two electric wheelchairs, a full dental office with instruments and chair, an infant incubator, two ultrasound machines, and numerous boxes of medical supplies and equipment.

Hospitals, medical centers, senior facilities, and dental offices in Vancouver donated the used equipment and surplus supplies. Rotary volunteers picked up the items, sorted them, and applied bar code labels.

We work Rotary club to Rotary club. The Rotary club in Iquique decides where the equipment is donated. They ensure it is not resold, but used by people who need it. The humanitarian aid will assist indigent and low-income people, equipping a primary care clinic and eight smaller clinics in and near Iquique, a coastal city in northern Chile with a population of about 200,000. The region includes many low paid miners

The cost of shipping the container was US\$8,000. The estimated replacement value of the 16,000 kilograms of aid is in excess of \$200,000. Funds for the shipping costs came from several Rotary clubs in Metro Vancouver and a grant from The Rotary Foundation. The container was shipped by Rotary World Help, a charity run by local Rotary clubs.

This is one of many medical equipment shipping projects Rotary clubs are involved in around the world. Each is exceptional and each changes the lives of the recipients. The opportunity to load the container and have a personal connection makes these projects unique and memorable.

The power of Rotary on display in Africa

By Marion Bunch, Rotarians for Family Health and AIDS Prevention (formerly RFFA)
Source: <http://blog.rotary.org/2013/08/14/healthdays/>

For three days in May, Rotarians from 365 clubs fanned out across Uganda, Nigeria, and South Africa to help medical professionals and government workers provide free health services to 250,000 disadvantaged people.

Rotary Family Health Days, the third event organized by Rotarians for Family Health and AIDS Prevention (RFHA), was an incredible success!

The program, initially developed to address the critical issue of HIV/AIDS in Africa, has always included other health care services. This year, we conducted polio and measles immunizations, dental and eye clinics, family counseling and screening for HIV, diabetes and hypertension, breast cancer, and cervical cancer.

Why I got involved

In 1994, I lost my second born child, Jerry, to AIDS early in the American epidemic. At that time, the disease was so stigmatizing, I felt quite lonely not being able to discuss Jerry's illness with anyone outside my family. I never thought I'd do anything about it until one day, three years after his death, I felt a tap on the shoulder and a voice in my ear said "mom, get up and get going, you haven't done anything, and it's been three years."

It was an epiphany of a moment that completely altered the course of my life.

In 1998, I was propelled into taking the first step to begin a project in my Rotary club. The fact that our club president said 'yes' to my idea made me a passionate Rotarian for life! From the start, I realized that finding partner organizations in the field of HIV/AIDS would be important because Rotarians are not AIDS experts. I created a partnership program with a local AIDS service organization whereby together, we provided AIDS education in the middle schools of Georgia. This sobering program has now been seen by 450,000 students!

My interest ultimately took me to Africa in 2001, where I quickly realized the huge disparities between America and the developing world. I was struck by the hugeness and the filth of the slums in places like Nairobi, Kenya. I realized that there are 20 million orphans living there now because their parents died of the consequences of AIDS.



They have little to eat, they are often shunned by their community, and they drop out of school because they don't have the funds to pay the schools fees or get uniforms.

I was also amazed at the reception given me in African countries by fellow Rotarians who were so glad to welcome an American Rotarian woman who was interested in working on this issue. The year was 2001. I ultimately began a Rotarian Action Group recognized by the RI Board of Directors in 2004. It was so rewarding to meet thousands of Rotarians out in the world that had an interest in doing something about this disease!

Incredible journey

Today, I look back and realize what an incredible journey I have been on since then. I gained ideas from public health experts, and I met people that I'm sure God put in my path because I didn't have the knowledge or good sense to even know that I should be meeting them. I have gained mentors in many parts of the world on this issue. I got to thinking that the 'partnership' concept was the right way to approach helping the children and their families. We can't do things alone but must work together to really get something done.

Rotary Family Health Days has demonstrated this principle in action. Since 2011, RFHA has partnered with the Coca-Cola Africa Foundation, which contributed US\$450,000 for this year's event. Other partners have included South Africa's Department of Health, South Africa Broadcasting Corporation, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, USAID, Delta Airlines, and Nampak (a producer of sanitary pads).

Through the power of public/private partnerships, each partner has a defined role and set of responsibilities, and that's why it works. Rotary serves as the catalyst organization because of the power and (political) neutrality of our brand and the respect we receive worldwide for our ability to mobilize communities into action.



Volunteers provide counseling and share information about breast cancer at a booth in Zandspruit, South Africa.

I'm certainly not a genius and have faced many challenges along the way. But I have never lost my passion because I remember all the challenges that my son realized when he was alive. That drives me as it would most moms. But most importantly, I have been able to achieve this work because of the power of Rotary's brand and the respect it receives everywhere. I am so proud to be a part of this organization!!