



# The Rotary Club of Brisbane Inc.

Founded 29 May 1923 Club 17787

*A global network of community volunteers*

**19 November 2012**



## The Rotary Club of Brisbane Inc.

**GPO Box 2909  
Brisbane Qld 4001**

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

**MONDAYS**

**12.15 pm – 1.45 pm**

### OFFICERS

President	Alistair Smith
President Elect	Graeme Whitmore
Imm Past President	Basil Veal
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  
Sakuji Tanaka

### President's Message

Welcome Rotarians and friends.

It has been a quiet week from a Rotary perspective this week, so I don't have much to report, other than to mention we have a board meeting on Monday, so please let me know if there are any issues you would like to discuss.

Further to last week's message, I have not received an indication from anyone as to whether they can join me in meeting with Shinya on 24th November, so I will see if he can make an alternative time.

I also have not received an indication that anyone is able to attend the AGM on Sunday, so have submitted a proxy on the clubs behalf.

In the meantime, have a great weekend and I look forward to seeing you on Monday.

Yours in Rotary

**President Alistair**

### Rotary Meeting – 12 November

The Chairman Patrick Caragata opened the meeting and introduced our President. P Alistair welcomed a PP of our Club Ron Barnwell and an HLM of our Club Ray Wilkie. He also extended a warm welcome to visiting Rotarians Malcolm Campbell from Amsterdam International, Denise Scheilbach from Brisbane Planetarium, Ralph Praeger from Sunnybank Hills, and Andrew Bailey, a guest of Phil Little. He extended a special welcome to our Guest Speaker, Michael Knox, who is a friend of Patrick Caragata.

### What's On? 19 November:

Fellowship  
*Discussion on  
Young Leaders  
Program*

### Date Claimer



**Wednesday  
5 June 2013**

Celebration of the  
**90th Anniversary  
of the Charter  
of the Rotary  
Club of Brisbane**

### 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?





## Rotary Meeting – 12 November (continued)

P Alistair asked for any member who could attend the District AGM on Sunday the 18th of November at 9 am at Caloundra to contact him please, as he will be unable to attend. If anyone is available for drinks and dinner with a visiting Rotarian, Shinya Kizaki on Saturday the 24th of November please let P Alistair know.

In Rotary Spots John Smerdon asked members to check their Melbourne Cup Trifecta tickets as no one has yet come forward with the winning ticket. PP Michael Kelly reminded members of the Club's big 90th Anniversary Celebrations on Wednesday the 5th of June 2013. Visiting Rotarian Ralph Praeger informed members that his Club was organising a working trip to Tonga to paint a school and to set up a water works on the Island. If you could not be involved personally, donations would be appreciated.

Our Guest Speaker Michael Knox spoke on "My Father and Admiral Nimitz". Michael is an Economist with a BB and an MBA. He is a former Australian Trade Commissioner in Saudi Arabia and Indonesia. He speaks Arabic. Michael was an Economist with the stockbroker Morgans in Melbourne. He is the current Chairman of the Economic Society of Australia (Qld), and currently advises various organisations on financial and economic matters.

Michael's father was raised in Dalby. In 1941 he enlisted in the Army and was posted to "Drayton Harbour" on the darling Downs for training. As part of an air-raid drill they had to take cover in a slit trench. Being a good sprinter Michael's father got there first and the rest of the squad piled in on top of him. Injuries sustained in this incident left Michael's father unable to walk and he was honourably discharged with a pension. His old unit was subsequently posted to Singapore where most became prisoners of the Japanese and suffered terrible privations. After two years on the pension he had recovered sufficiently to be now able to walk. He felt guilty in still accepting the pension and tried persistently, and unsuccessfully, to get the Authorities to cancel his benefits.

After many attempts he was eventually successful and his repeated approaches to many levels of the Administration convinced a lot of important people that he was an honest man of principle. To support himself he started a business and made a living as the Shell Agent in Southern Queensland. Petrol was strictly rationed and in short supply. It was imported in four gallon tins- which were as much as a man could comfortably carry. Theft and corruption was rife on the waterfront, and Mr Knox had to personally supervise the unloading of the cargo to minimise pilfering. Because his business, and the reputation he gained for honesty and integrity, he found himself invited to a dinner in Brisbane, where the guest of honour was Admiral Chester Nimitz, who was then in charge of the US Pacific fleet, and the only person in Australia of equal rank to General Douglas Mac Arthur. The crux of the story was that Nimitz had just come from a tense meeting with Mac Arthur, where MacArthur had exerted considerable pressure on Nimitz to provide ships, planes and marines for a proposed invasion of Hollandia and PNG, but Nimitz had other priorities and calls on his limited resources. Michael found it paradoxical that his father, as a very young former private in the Australian Army, could have brushed shoulders and had a private conversation in a social setting, with one of the most important players at such a crucial time in our nation's history.

As an interesting aside in the conversation at our table after the lunch, Wal Bishop related to Malcolm Campbell, whose father Allan Campbell was on MacArthur's staff in a PR role, that General MacArthur was a regular luncheon diner at the original Brisbane Club, with both of their fathers during his time in Brisbane during World War 2.

### 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 November:

Peter Dawson  
*Business in China – Part 2*

### 3 December:

TBA

### 10 December:

TBA

## Roster

### 19 November 2012:

**President** A Smith  
**Chairman** P Anderson  
**Set Up/Away** C Shepherd  
**Raffle** J Worrell  
**Visitor Register** P Dawson  
**Attendance** J Smerdon

### 26 November 2012:

**President** A Smith  
**Chairman** C Muir  
**Set Up/Away** C Muir  
**Raffle** R Tamaschke  
**Visitor Register** C Shepherd  
**Attendance** J Smerdon

### 3 December 2012:

**President** A Smith  
**Chairman** H Monaghan  
**Set Up/Away** P Little  
**Raffle** M Evans  
**Visitor Register** A Gillespie  
**Attendance** J Smerdon

### 10 December 2012:

**President** A Smith  
**Chairman** C Shepherd  
**Set Up/Away** B Carss  
**Raffle** M Kelly  
**Visitor Register** C Morman  
**Attendance** J Smerdon  
G Whitmore

*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*



## Rotary Meeting 12 November (continued)

SAA Cam Bishop welcomed all our visitors and extracted appropriate fines. In the absence of PP Brian Carss he pointedly refrained from mentioning Sarabah wines. The raffle, a bottle of Sarabah Shiraz, was won by PP Mel Evans. A total of 29 attended a very informative and pleasant lunch.

## Helping the forgotten people hurt by Hurricane Sandy

By Joe Clark, past governor of District 7230 (Bermuda, part of New York, USA)

Hurricane Sandy has left its mark. In lower Manhattan, many elderly, infirmed, homeless and single parent families are suffering. They have no power, food, water, blankets, or warm clothing to get by, and with harsh weather approaching, they don't have heat or other essentials to keep them going. They are at risk of illness or death from exposure.

Many of these people are invisible to the rest of us, hidden by the brick, steel, and concrete of shelters that hide them from public view. They are fighting to get by one day at a time. They visit the Bowery Mission and the Nazareth House, two charity organizations, on a daily basis to see what they can get to provide for themselves and their families.

### Left homeless

When we made our deliveries to the Bowery Mission, we noticed that the chapel was filled with people who had been left homeless trying to get a warm meal and in out of the cold. They thanked us profusely as we unloaded supplies.

Caitlyn Clarke, president of her Boston Rotaract Club, observed, "the efforts and passion of the Rotarians and Rotaractors who were present are a true testament to the spirit of Rotary. It was our pleasure to be a part of helping to rebuild. The disaster resonated within all of us."

At the Nazareth House we saw lines of people waiting in the bad weather just to get a few supplies. Kazumi Hasegawa, secretary of the Rotary Club of Wall Street New York spoke with an elderly Chinese lady who asked her for just one apple so she could share it with her family. Mothers were there to get diapers and formula for their babies. Father Michael, executive director of the Nazareth House, told us about people who had their electricity restored but who will not have heat for up to a month because their boilers were ruined. We also heard about elderly people trapped in upper floors of high-rise apartment buildings who have not been able to get out for supplies. We met people who were bringing them food and blankets to keep them warm. This is what Rotary and Rotaract are all about. Our club was honored to participate in helping those affected by Hurricane Sandy.

Many have lost homes, furniture, and prized possessions. It will take a long while to rebuild. They are in need of things we take for granted such as a bed to sleep in, food, diapers, baby food, milk, formula, blankets, warm clothing, furniture, and heat.

### Help needed now

We need to reach out to these people and address their needs and provide them with help. NOW.

The Rotary Club of Wall Street New York is coordinated relief efforts and help coming in from Rotarians, Rotaractors, Interactors, and Rotary alumni from around the world. Rotarians have been there providing immediate support after the hurricane hit and are still working to meet their daily needs. Plans are being put together to provide more long term relief. Please join in helping these forgotten people by sending a donation to the Rotary Club of Wall Street Foundation c/o PDG George Camp, 14 Emwilton Place, Ossining, NY 10562. You can also donate online through our secure page on PayPal.

Source: <http://blog.rotary.org>

