



The Rotary Club of Brisbane Inc.

Founded 29 May 1923 Club 17787

A global network of community volunteers

20 May 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	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

Firstly, many apologies for missing Monday's meeting, but some urgent matters arose at work that required my attention. No doubt Sergeant Cam will fine me suitably for the transgression.

Fortunately, I was able to find some time on Wednesday and went along and enjoyed my first round of golf. Calling it a round of golf is probably somewhat charitable though as it mainly involved me digging large holes in the fairway with a golf club and occasionally foraging through the rough after I'd, by some coincidence, managed to hit the ball. Fortunately, my fellow team members were both understanding and had a plentiful supply of spare balls, so we had a great time. As always, the day was well attended and extremely well organised, so thanks to Graeme and Michael for their tireless efforts and organisation in this regard. I would also like to thank the sponsors for their generous donations, without which the event could not have taken place. The upshot is that significant funds have been raised for the club, and the club has been provided with great exposure amongst the business community.

Following last week's message, I just wanted to remind members regarding the 90th anniversary dinner to be held on 5th June, and the Mayor's cocktail reception to be held prior to the dinner. If you would like to attend the dinner, but have not already done so, please let Michael Stephens know as soon as possible, and please let me know if you would like to attend the cocktail reception.

(continued on next page)



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?





Presidents Message (continued)

With the dinner on the horizon, we also need to remember that the wine raffle will soon be drawn, so please get those tickets sold, and if you can't then make sure you let Michael know as soon as possible so we can arrange for Sergeant Cam to buy them at a suitably inflated price.

As always, I look forward to catching up on Monday.

Yours in Rotary

President Alistair

Rotary Meeting – 13 May 2013

We had a very disappointing turnout with only 14 members attending

There was no President, Chairman or Speaker so it fell on the shoulders of Brian to fill all these roles.

It so happens, he is reporting meetings while Don O'Donoghue is on holiday in Europe.

There were 2 Spots; Graeme Whitmore who gave the latest updated figures for the golf day. There has been some ups and downs, but it seems to have settled at about 68. Graeme also called for some help on the registration desk on Wednesday morning.

Michael Stephens advised members that about 115 tickets had been sold in the Penfolds wine raffle.

He still had about 50 tickets and there were some 45 in members' hands to be sold. He encouraged members to do their utmost to sell the remainder before the 6th June deadline.

Cam found it possible to fine everyone for about anything. There was no report on the doings of 'Sara's Bar & Winery' this week. Clive Morman won the raffle and drew the 7 Hearts. The meeting finished right on time even though it started very late.

Microcredit program helps small businesses in Northern Illinois

By Narayan Murarka, chair of the microcredit committee for the Barrington Breakfast Rotary Club, Barrington, Illinois, USA

For several years, microcredit projects have been helping eliminate poverty by providing small loans to poor women in developing countries. But the need isn't always overseas. Sometimes, it's a lot closer to home.



My club launched a program in 2010 that focuses on small businesses in our area which are facing a short-term credit challenge. We have provided financing to several businesses in the last three years, some of which have matured and been paid back in full with interest.

Here is testimony from one small business, which needed help last fall to restock their store shelves with specialty gift items like lotions, soaps, and candles for the Christmas season.

"We sold pretty much everything we brought in," said Judy Zabielski, co-owner of Acacia Organics, which specializes in health, wellness, nutrition, and beauty. "(The financing) was timely to fill our store with healthy gifts. The personal care they showed us was so touching and we are very appreciative that they are helping to spread the word about our valuable services."

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

27 May 2013:

Gary Burke
Identity Theft

3 June 2013:

Dinah Zhang
Job Talk

4 June 2013:

Bolshoi Ballet event

10 June 2013:

J Gough
William St Development

Roster

20 May 2013:

President A Smith
Chairman K Hamburger
Set Up/Away A Gillespie
Raffle S Francis
Visitor Register TBA
Attendance J Smerdon
G Whitmore

27 May 2013:

President A Smith
Chairman C Shepherd
Set Up/Away G Holtmann
Raffle P Little
Visitor Register TBA
Attendance J Smerdon
G Whitmore

3 June 2013:

President A Smith
Chairman R Tamaschke
Set Up/Away B Carss
Raffle P Caragata
Visitor Register TBA
Attendance J Smerdon
G Whitmore

10 June 2013:

President A Smith
Chairman M Evans
Set Up/Away A McKinnon
Raffle K Hamburger
Visitor Register TBA
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



We started our program with businesses in the local Barrington area but have now extended it to the area served by Rotary District 6440 (Illinois, USA). A limited number of loans (maximum amount of US\$5,000) are granted at modest interest rate (prime plus two points) with full expectation of payback. It is exclusively for entrepreneurial activity – not personal consumption (such as food, rent, medical expenses etc.).

The working capital for the program was raised through the generous support from our local community foundation, banks, businesses and individual Rotarians.

Our motivation is to provide opportunity – not charity – for people who wish to start or expand an income generating business venture by offering seed money in the form of a loan. This project is about helping those who are trying to help themselves. It addresses and responds to the entrepreneurial spirit of individuals who need a helping hand.

A key difference between our loans and a normal bank loan is that once the credit is granted, our club assigns a club member to serve as a mentor. The mentor will frequently talk with the loan recipient, assess progress, and offer advice or support as appropriate.

We've posted a YouTube video describing the program and welcome questions from clubs wishing to replicate our program or start a similar one of their own. Email us at info@barringtonbreakfastrotary.org. Through Rotary, we can help others, strengthen local economies, and make our communities stronger.

Source: blog.rotary.org

Santa's helper leverages dollars for polio eradication

By Bruce Templeton, a member of the Rotary Club of St. John's, Newfoundland, Canada

While I know that RI President-elect Ron Burton's theme is "Engage Rotary: Change Lives," I would like to add the thought that we can multiply the dollars we raise engaging Rotary before we turn them over to those who change lives.

I live in St. John's Newfoundland, Canada. I am a Rotarian but also a good friend of Santa Claus and he and I have travelled together for 34 years. We make about 50 visits a year to children's groups, seniors' homes, parades and children's hospitals. Some of the visits are very happy and some will break your heart.

Last year, I wrote a book called "The Man in the Red Suit." It was printed four times and made the best seller list in Canada. But the Rotary connection was when my wife said "why don't we donate our writer's first printing proceeds to Rotary's PolioPlus fund?"



I thought about that for a while and then set about to take what we would donate and see how much I could leverage through matched funding from local companies before the money went to RI. That was a great deal of fun and within a few days, we turned \$5,000 into \$30,000. Then the Government of Canada matched the \$30,000 and so did the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. So \$5,000 "engaged by Rotary" turned into \$90,000, and we can now buy the vaccine for 150,000 children to "change lives."

When I sat with Dr. Bruce Aylward of the World Health Organization, who was visiting here in Newfoundland from Geneva, we talked about his mandate to eliminate polio in the world. I went home that night thinking about the 150,000 children.



I don't know whether the children are in Pakistan, India, Afghanistan, or Nigeria. But they are out there somewhere and the proceeds of a little book (and a Rotary wife's suggestion!) will "Engage Rotary and Change Lives."

Source: blog.rotary.org