



# The Rotary Club of Brisbane Inc.

Founded 29 May 1923 Club 17787

*A global network of community volunteers*

**21 January 2013**



## 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

After the lack of a Mayan apocalypse, I hope you and your families all had a great Christmas and New Year and are now feeling refreshed and ready for 2013.

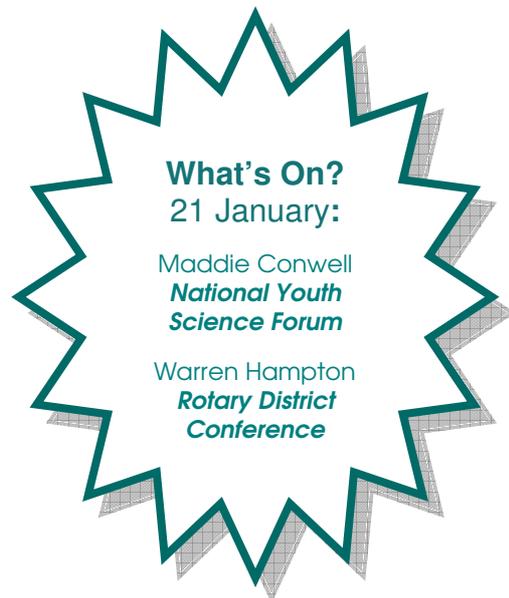
Our first meeting of the year will be on Monday, and Maddie Conwell will be attending to provide an update on her time attending the National Youth Science Forum. Warren Hampton (past member and current president of the Rotary Club of Samford Valley) should also be in attendance to provide an update on developments surrounding the district conference.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank those who have agreed to take on board positions from July 2013, particularly Graeme agreeing to take on the President Elect role so he can do a double stint as President. It is great to know the club will be in safe hands for the next two years.

I'm currently overseas enjoying the "delights" of a U.S. winter, but flights and weather permitting, I look forward to seeing you all on Monday.

Yours in Rotary

**President Alistair**



### 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 – 17 December 2012

The Chairman Phil Gresham introduced P Alistair who welcomed our guests, Tony McKinnon, a guest of Max Winders, and an overseas Rotarian Dick Hammond from Chichester in the UK. P Alistair exchanged banners with Dick. Dick is visiting relatives in Wondai for a family wedding and is then off to Hamilton Island for Christmas, and then down to Sydney and Melbourne before heading home in January.

P Alistair encouraged members to donate to the Christmas fund to benefit the clients of the Brisbane Youth Services, either directly through their website, or if they wished to get a tax benefit, donations could be routed through our Club's Benevolent Foundation. The Club had received a letter from Maddie Conwell, our nominee for the National Science Forum in Canberra, expressing her appreciation and saying she will get in touch with our Club early next year after she has attended the meeting. The Club had also received a warm letter of thanks from PP Ron Barnwell in appreciation of his being made an Honorary Member of the Club. D G Dai and Sue Mason had also sent Christmas good wishes to all members of our Club. P Alistair reminded members that the next meeting of the Club would be on Monday the 21st of January 2013.

In Rotary Spots Secretary Michael Stevens announced that as there had been no winner of our Melbourne Cup Trifecta the Club had made a profit of \$2,640 on the project. Michael also announced that SAA Cam Bishop was the only member of our Club who had achieved a 100% attendance record at our meetings this year. Congratulations Cam. There were another 10 members whose attendance was in the nineties and high eighties percentile.

Patrick Caragata reported on meetings, and potential meetings, with influential Academics at U of Qld, Griffith and the Qld University of Technology to progress the proposed mentoring programme in the new academic year. Once again Patrick stressed the importance of advancing slowly and planning carefully.

Phil Little reported on a Melbourne Solar Energy Congress he had attended recently. He maintained that we were stuck with 19th century technology with our reliance on wires and the grid, and that 53% of the cost of electricity involved delivering it to the house. He once again said the days of solar households and solar cars had arrived. Max Winders brought up the interesting point of gated and retirement communities where golf carts were the prime method of transport being ideally suited to solar energy. Graeme Whitmore told of large modern shopping malls, where the roofs were covered in solar panels, being largely energy self-sufficient.

There being no guest speaker the main business of the day was a Special Meeting to elect the Board Members and Office Bearers for the coming Rotary Year. The results of this election are tabulated elsewhere in this Bulletin.

SAA Cam Bishop welcomed our guests Tony McKinnon and Dick Hammond. He also welcomed our member Darren Phillips, who we have not seen for a while, and congratulated Darren on the recent arrival of his fourth son. Cam also congratulated Phil Little on his 36th wedding Anniversary. Cam brought the newspaper article on the naked wine maker to our attention and assured us he was not going to follow his example. In the absence of Brian Carss he advertised the superior produce of the Sarabah Vineyard. The raffle was won by Don O'Donoghue. A total of 23 attended our successful and pleasant Christmas meeting. The next meeting of the Club will be on Monday the 21st. January 2013.

### 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

## Roster

To be advised in due course

**28 January 2013:  
No Meeting**

*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*



## Two sides to the polio eradication effort

By Tim Ryan, a member of the Rotary Club of Toledo, Ohio, USA



I was in Abuja, Nigeria, last month as part of a team taking part in National Immunization Days (NID). I danced with nurses at lunchtime. I had lots of fun. I did not want to leave.

The entire team met committed doctors, saw lots of polio victims (mostly children), and took many photos. Experience has shown that by aiding polio victims from the local infected communities, Rotarians help the families become the best advocates for polio immunization.

With this in mind, Indian Rotarians sent a medical team of physicians and other support, all working for free to perform polio-corrective surgery on children. The goal was 300 children, but the actual number was more than 500. These Rotarians put in long, long hours. The Nigerian government provided facilities at two hospitals in a MASH type environment. All services and costs were kept to an absolute minimum. These children would not have received such care without the substantial support of Rotary. The Indian doctors were also training their Nigerian counterparts.

Last year, I also took part in a NID trip to India. Comparing the two, many things were the same. The Rotarians, healthcare workers and government workers were equally committed and hard working. But there were some important differences. In India, mothers seemed to be dragging their kids to us for vaccination. In Nigeria, we were generally accepted, but a significant number of people refused to allow their kids to be immunized. I was told that, they thought, the vaccinations were a plot to sterilize their children. It is a very big problem.

Sadly, while there, we learned that there was a polio victim in Abuja. Statistically, that means there are 200 other people who caught the virus and may not know it. The area needs to be flooded with vaccine.

I observed the seriousness of the Nigerian response. The government, Nigerian Rotarians and others jumped into action. Many of our fellow Rotarians are volunteering four days or more a month. They could not have been more focused, committed and determined. When I am in the States, I forget that there are two sides to this equation; what we do to bring awareness and raise money and what Rotarians in infected countries do to make it happen.

I am glad I went to Nigeria. I am proud that my team vaccinated thousands of children. It was a lot of work for the team and the healthcare workers. It really was Rotary in action.



Source: [blog.rotary.org](http://blog.rotary.org)