



# The Rotary Club of Brisbane Inc.

Founded 29 May 1923 Club 17787

*A global network of community volunteers*

22 September 2014



## The Rotary Club of Brisbane Inc.

ABN 75 152 438 499

**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	Graeme Whitmore
President Elect	Phil Gresham
Imm Past President	Alistair Smith
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  
George Grant

Rotary International President  
Gary C K Huang

### President's Message

#### Welcome fellow Rotarians & Visitors

As noted last week a memorial service was held last Friday for our good friend Greg Sellars, the service was well attended by fellow Rotarians, and some of our past members who came to pass their respects.

A good service that highlighted the achievements and quiet efforts that Greg put into his business, and family life, as well as those achievements he put into our club.

Greg will be sadly missed by all who had been associated with him over a long period of time.

Greg is survived by his wife Susan & three children, Jillian, Catherine & William. Our sincere Sympathy and thoughts go to Susan and family in their sad loss.

Today was a fellowship day and to report back on some club business, unfortunately due to a number of our club members, who were committed to other business, our attendance numbers were a bit low. Nonetheless, some lively debate took place on a proposed membership drive and some forward planning on club activities and interaction with other CBD clubs.

I thank Rtn. Tony McKinnon in his offer to take on another role in the establishment of a membership and activity plan, if any member wishes to assist Tony, or has any ideas or suggestions on how we can improve our meeting attendance, increased activities both within the club and outside our club meetings, please submit to Tony or myself, all contributions will be given worthy consideration.



#### What's on? 22 September:

**Nigel Chamier**  
Chairman  
Commonwealth  
Games Gold  
Coast project

#### Date Claimers

**29<sup>th</sup> September:**  
**Terry Tolhurst**  
First World War  
commemoration  
project

#### 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

Our Contribution of \$5000.00 to The Farmers/ businesses of the Burnett Region has been dispatched to the Rotary Club of Taabinga, (\$4000 from sergeant's collections and \$1000 from independent Members personal contributions) this cash contribution is in addition to the goods and food parcels delivered previously by Rtn Stan Francis & his wife, which have already been acknowledged by the Rotary Club of Taabinga, and have been distributed to the farmers in need. We are still chasing a matching grant and I will advise on this as information comes to hand.

I have spoken to the secretary of the Taabinga Club and we will arrange a formal "large Cheque" to be handed over so that we as a club and Rotary in general will gain some PR out of our clubs effort, the local club will arrange news coverage.

### Current Topics:

- We have approval from Education Dept. for the relocation of the Sundial at Petrie State School, following this approval, we now intended to undertake this work during next school vacation, and we will be looking for member assistance, especially any member who has access to a Bobcat to relocate the concrete sundial to its new location, offers have been received from Rtn. Max Winders, & VP Keith Watts. I have undertaken to speak with a local builder for some material assistance.
- PP Wal Bishop has offered to arrange the Melbourne Cup Sweepstake, Tickets are being arranged and should be here next week, Tickets will be \$2 each and each member will be given 50 tickets to sell, prize for correct horse numbers is \$1000. If we sell all the tickets in the set we should make about \$2000+
- Following board approval to make an immediate start on the Mentoring Programme, Rtn Patrick Caragata and my self-attended a meeting with MP Tracey Davis and Saxon Rice.

- Patrick presented a case for mentoring for charities, The MPs' suggested that the best method of contributing to mentoring would be to gain a place on the local board of the charities, as most were having trouble in getting good board members. The Meeting closed with a semi-formal undertaking that the MPs would give us a list of those Charities that may need help.
- While I thought that I conveyed this to the club meeting today, it appeared that there is a misunderstanding of what we want to achieve and who we want to mentor. In view of this lively debate, I will ask Rtn Patrick Caragata to re-present his paper and gain approval and or consensus on what we wish to achieve.
- Finally next week 22nd of September, we have an opportunity to listen to the Chairperson of the Commonwealth Games Gold Coast Project, Mr. Nigel Chamier. This will be a very interesting Talk and presentation, therefore let us give our speaker the turnout he deserves, BRING A FRIEND should be a good talk.**

Yours in Rotary

Remember: LIGHT UP ROTARY

President Graeme

### Rotary Meeting 15 September 2014

The Chairman for the day was Clive Shepherd. After Rotary Grace, and toasts to the Queen of Australia and Rotary International, he introduced President Graeme Whitmore. Graeme's message is reported in detail elsewhere in the Bulletin.



## Calendar

## Roster

### 22 September 2014:

President	G Whitmore
Chairperson	M Evans
Set Up/Away	P Anderson
Raffle	M Winders
Visitor Register	W Walker
Attendance	J Smerdon D Schellbach

### 29 September 2014:

President	G Whitmore
Chairperson	C Shepherd
Set Up/Away	A McKinnon
Raffle	J Ryder
Visitor Register	G Holtmann
Attendance	J Smerdon D Schellbach

**6 October 2014:**  
NO MEETING  
LABOUR DAY

### 13 October 2014:

President	G Whitmore
Chairperson	M Stephens
Set Up/Away	S Dunlop
Raffle	D Henderson
Visitor Register	M Evans
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*



## Rotary Meeting 15 September 2014

In Rotary Spots, John Smerdon provided an update on RCOB's Benevolent Foundation. He was happy to report that the Foundation was in a sound financial position. He also reported on his activities with the ACNC.

PP Keith Watts focussed on membership with particular emphasis on membership development and attracting younger members. PP Keith also indicated that he had a DVD of the major presentations at RI's Sydney Convention and suggested that these could be played on future RCOB 'Fellowship Days'.

Phil Little canvassed members to see if there might be a job opportunity for a visitor from Nepal who is currently studying IT in Brisbane, and who desperately needs a job. Phil also spoke about the activities of his Foundation and the need to focus on wider issues than economics in social issues.

Dougal Henderson reported on the activities of previous member Darren Phillips, who would be moving to the US for a couple of years but who intended to visit us on his return to Australia.

PP bas Veal hoped that there would be a good attendance at next week's RCOB meeting because he had recruited a high quality speaker (Nigel Chamier, as advertised in the Bulletin for a number of weeks).

Tony McKinnon indicated that he was planning further social functions, including a Christmas dinner. In consultation with SAA Cam Bishop, he was also planning another charity wine sale and members would be provided with samples soon.

The remainder of the meeting was devoted to 'Fellowship' during which President Graeme chaired wide-ranging discussions. Topics covered included the need for increased attendances at RCOB meetings (especially when high profile speakers were scheduled), the proposed mentoring program, changed circumstances surrounding the needs of the Timor Dental Project

(RCOB had previously been prepared to assist with funding for additional dental staff), increased cooperation with other Brisbane RCs, and membership.

Finally Acting SAA Phil Gresham provided a good natured session...he suggested that members each 'contribute' \$5 in place of the normal fines. Bas Veal won the raffle, but did not draw the Joker from the deck...so the jackpot continues to grow and remains to be won...a real incentive for attending future meetings.

The meeting closed at 2.05pm.

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### Using social media to show the lighter side of Rotary

By Evan Burrell, a member of the Rotary E-Club of Greater Sydney  
Source: [blog.rotary.org](http://blog.rotary.org)

I like to present a lighter, more fun, more humorous side to Rotary on social media. I find it grabs people's attention, member and non-member alike.

I come up with new, sometimes silly, ideas that inspire people and make them laugh — like using photo editing software to post a picture of Paul Harris taking a selfie, or posting a video of Past RI President Ron Burton dancing Gangnam Style, or posting an eye-catching image using #WeAreRotary. It's all meant to get a response or reaction.



One of Evan Burrell's selfies from the Rotary International Convention in Sydney

We can use social media to show that not only are we making a positive difference in the world, but we are having fun doing it. This makes the idea of Rotary more relatable, especially to new generations, who may feel disconnected with some of the formalities of Rotary but are avid users of social media.

Posting inspiring messages, funny pictures, or fun facts gives Rotary members a chance to feel involved. But content needs to be sticky. Sticky content is content that people are actually interested in, want to share, and want to interact with. That's critical to maximizing the impact of the message. And it must come from a personal and honest place.

I had a lot of fun at the 2014 Rotary International Convention in Sydney, Australia, in June taking more than 250 selfies with Rotarians, Rotaractors, senior Rotary leaders, and even the pop vocal quartet Human Nature! I then compiled all the photos into a video and shared it over my social media networks. It generated such a great response from people who saw the convention in a different light. That little bit of extra fun and inspiration could be just what it takes to convince a person to start a project, knowing there is a huge network of supportive, helpful, friendly, and fun-loving individuals willing to help.

Social media also acts like a collective mind when it comes to sharing ideas and knowledge. Whereas before we might have had a roomful of Rotarians eating tasteless chicken, it's now possible to promote an idea by posting it on Facebook and have it seen by huge numbers of members all over the world. Without having to eat a bite!

In the end, all we are trying to do is use social media to connect and have FUN. I have incorporated this into Rotary and my life. Social media to me is, by definition, something that has no bounds. But we should also do our best to empathize the good qualities of our organization in a way that helps others relate to us as approachable, positive, and fun.



## **Growing up in the family of Rotary**

By Gabija Trimbel, a member of the Rotaract Club of Vilnius International  
Source: [blog.rotary.org](http://blog.rotary.org)

I have been around Rotary much of my life. My mother is a member of the Rotary Club of Vilnius International, Lithuania, and almost as early as I can remember, I have been helping with club projects.

When I entered ninth grade in 2009, I convinced a bunch of my friends to help me form the Vilnius International Interact Club, of which I became the charter president. We kept in touch with my mother's Rotary club, which was our host club, and did many projects with them, including serving as counselors at an annual camp attended by orphans and children from day care centers that served the poor.



Gabija Trimbel and other counselors of a summer camp run by the Rotary Club of Vilnius International.

As an Interactor, I learned about Rotary Youth Exchange, and was given an opportunity of a lifetime to spend a year in Taiwan that next year. I chose that country as my destination because no one from Lithuania had ever gone on an exchange there before and I wanted to stretch myself. I had been to the United States and I wanted to go somewhere exotic.

Well, Taiwan was certainly that. It is half the size of Lithuania but ten times more crowded. Since I had traveled before, my culture shock was not too bad, but it was an awesome experience learning a new culture.



## **Lasting friendships**

I made friends from all over the world, and became much more confident and outgoing. One of my favorite parts was a week-long trip around Taiwan with about 30 other exchange students being hosted by the same Rotary district. I met an exchange student from Sweden, and another from Mexico, who became one of my best friends. I have stayed in touch with both, meeting up with the Swedish student in Copenhagen, and linking up with my Mexican friend when she was visiting Warsaw. Thanks to Youth Exchange, I now have friends all over the world!

This year, it became time to take on a new challenge and launch a Rotaract club that would help my friends and I who were getting too old for Interact to stay in the family of Rotary. We also recruited heavily from alumni of a mentoring program run by the Vilnius International Rotary Club for the past eight years. We are excited to grow as a club and reach our full potential helping our local community, and communities around the world.

This fall, I am spending a few months studying abroad at the University of Illinois at Chicago, pursuing a degree in International Business. It has given me an opportunity to visit Rotaract clubs in the Chicago area, and I am convinced the experience will help our still very young club back home.

I can definitely say that thanks to Rotary, and its youth programs, I have become more independent. I've learned how to contact important people, and I have a newfound confidence networking with others.

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