



The Rotary Club of Brisbane Inc.

Founded 29 May 1923 Club 17787

A global network of community volunteers

23 July 2012



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	
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.

For those of you who missed last Monday's meeting, I am pleased to be able report that Bob Aldred attended so we could thank him for his contributions to both Rotary as a whole and our Club, by offering Bob honorary membership. I'm pleased to say that Bob has accepted, and we look forward to his ongoing involvement with the club over the next 12 months.

We also had a board meeting last week, which covered a range of different issues. The major points included that the update of the club constitution and rules is progressing well, and a draft should be presented to the club soon for approval. Treasurer Dougal presented on the club finances, the key point being that outstanding payments (such as Rotary Foundation payments) are now up to date, and that whilst the club outgoings exceeded income last year, this was primarily due to pre-existing payment commitments, and otherwise the club would have run without loss. In terms of membership, whilst last month was disappointing with a few members leaving for different reasons, we believe this was an aberration, and hope to be able to induct a few members moving forward. Secretary Michael will be handing over the membership director's role to Gerald Holtmann, who will enlist the assistance of other members to help with this task as required.

We have concluded the purchase of wine from Brian Carss, and will shortly organise to raffle this to raise funds for the club.

What's On? 23 July:

Changeover Meeting

Date Claimers

19th August:
Membership Seminar

9th September:
Public Relations and Media
Training Seminar

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)

Our current thinking is that drawing of the raffle will coincide with a visit from Taipei Tatung Rotary Club, which we are hoping to coincide with the clubs 90th Anniversary in May next year. On other fund raising activities, we are currently investigating options for the heart of business dinner, and an update on this will be provided in due course. Finally, the Sarabah Wine promotion concluded successfully, with the club raising just under \$3,000 for the club. Thanks must go to Past President Keith for organising this, as well as to Sergeant-At-Arms Cam Bishop for offering the wine to the club at well under half cost price.

In addition to nominating Bob Aldred for honorary membership, it was also agreed by the board to make similar offers to Mike Mauger as well as the Lord Mayor Graham Quirk, on which we will report further in due course.

On to other matters, I would like to remind you that Monday will be our formal change over, during which I will introduce the board, as well as presenting my annual report for the last twelve months and outlining some of our plans for the next 12 months, so it would be good to see as many members there as possible.

Finally, in terms of district events, I would like to remind you regarding the upcoming Membership Seminar scheduled for Sunday 19th August, and also the Public Relations and Media training seminar to be held on Sunday 9th September 2012. As all of our members who were assigned to PR have sadly resigned (for unrelated reasons I might add), if anyone would like to take over this role, please let me know.

Yours in Rotary

President Alistair

Rotary Meeting 16 July 2012

The Chairman of the day Michael Kelly introduced P Alistair, who welcomed our guest Madalyn Conwell, who is in Grade Eleven at Brisbane Girl's Grammar School. Our Club intends to sponsor Madalyn's application to attend the National Youth Science Forum in Canberra. PP Brian Carss introduced Madelyn to the members and she spoke of herself and her reasons for attending this prestigious event. She impress as us all as a confident, well qualified, and suitable candidate. Her address is reported in full elsewhere.

PP Keith Watts alerted members of the availability of mixed cases of red and white wine from Southern Highlands Winery. Please contact Keith if you have any interest in this offer for more details.

P Alistair then welcomed as a special guest our longstanding former member Bob Aldred. He informed Bob that the RC of Brisbane had elected him to Honorary Life Membership, and assured him that we were all looking forward to seeing him at our regular meetings as often as he could make it comfortably. P Alistair moved a vote of thanks to Bob for his long service to Rotary and in particular to our Club as Secretary. Bob responded and thanked P Alistair and the Club for the Honour. He had joined Rotary in Albury in 1978-79 as a young Minister in the Church of Christ. He recounted some of the stories of life in a provincial city. When he took up a new position in Brisbane with the Alcohol and Drug Foundation he joined the RC of Stones Corner. He was a member of this Club for many years until a former President of our Club, John Blake, persuaded Bob to transfer to the RC of Brisbane.

(continued next page...)

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

23 July:
Changeover Meeting

30 July:
Eric Wood

6 August:
TBA

Roster

23 July 2012:

President A Smith
Chairman J Delahunty
Set Up/Away L Stalley
Raffle P Cluff
Visitor Register F Alpert
Attendance G Whitmore

30 July 2012:

President A Smith
Chairman G Burnett
Set Up/Away H Milne
Raffle D Phillips
Visitor Register B Veal
Attendance G Whitmore

6 August 2012:

President A Smith
Chairman M Evans
Set Up/Away F Alpert
Raffle C Morman
Visitor Register M Stephens
Attendance G Whitmore

13 August 2012:

President A Smith
Chairman P Anderson
Set Up/Away J Smerdon
Raffle J Worrell
Visitor Register P Dawson
Attendance 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 (continued)

He was Secretary of this Club and very involved at all levels until his retirement. When Bob retired he was living at Alexandra Hills, so for convenience he then joined the Redlands- Sunrise Breakfast Club. He was his usual active self at this Club. He raised \$27,000 in a community raffle, and ran ROMAC and a very successful Bowel Scan programme in the Redlands area. However he still missed the friendships he had made in the RC of Brisbane, so a few years ago he decided to come home to our Club. In all Bob has been an active Rotarian for 32 years. I am sure we all be pleased to welcome him to our meetings in the future. As there was no guest speaker the members enjoyed fellowship until SAA Cam Bishop was called. Cam fined members efficiently. The raffle was won appropriately by our new Honorary Life Member Bob Aldred. The meeting was attended by 23 members and one guest.

Providing sanitation, artificial limbs in Lagos

By Suman Ramesh, president of the Rotary Club of Lagos-Palm Grove Estate, Lagos State, Nigeria



At the Shyllon primary school in Lagos, students lacked proper toilet facilities, using the grounds of the school for their sanitation needs. The smell was often unbearable, and the girls found it embarrassing to use an open toilet. Water is scarce, making the environment very unhealthy and disease-prone.

Learning of this situation, my Rotary club undertook a project to provide 10 toilets and a water tank to provide adequate water during the day. On the day the toilets were commissioned, there was much celebration. Children and teachers joined together in a short dance and singing to mark the occasion.

A working committee has been established to maintain the toilets and keep everything in working order.

It has also brought our club much joy to help manage an artificial limb center. The limbs provide patients who have lost their legs due to accident or disease with the means for mobility and independence. Our club donates about 20 artificial limbs a month. The patients stay at the center free of charge for a few days while their limbs are customized and fitted.

One young boy who lost his leg at a very young age received an artificial limb, and is now learning to play soccer.

Through efforts like these, Rotary is making a difference in the world. Your contributions to The Rotary Foundation help make projects like these possible.

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

Helping save kids' lives in northern Rwanda

By Dr. Alexandra Vinograd, a former Rotary Scholar and Youth Exchange Student

I just returned home from two years living and working as a physician in rural Rwanda.

Like the other times I have returned home from abroad, I welcome the familiarity of things. I love understanding the subtleties of language and knowing how to greet someone without seeming awkward. I like the hot showers and my spring mattress and the coffee shop on the corner.

But, inevitably I miss what has become my home away from home.

This time, I miss the hospital on the terraced green hill-top in northern Rwanda.

As any returning exchange student can attest, the most common question you are asked upon returning home is: "How was it?" I struggle to come up with a few words or a phrase to sum up my last two years in Rwanda.

It was amazing and challenging and inspiring and tragic and beautiful and frustrating all at the same time. I want to tell you about the thousands of hills in northern Rwanda and the green and blue and purple hues that light them at sunset and the gorillas that play in their forests.

I want to tell you about the children who must never have been told that the yellow jerry cans of water they carry home every day are heavy because they lift them with such ease. I want to tell you about the women in their bright clothes balancing rainbow colored umbrellas and baskets of pineapples piled high upon their head all while climbing up and down impossibly steep mountain trails.

I also want to tell you about my patients. I want to tell you about the infants who would have died if that hospital was not there. They are now learning to coo and babble and crawl and toddle. I want to tell you about Alice and Axel and all of the other children who died despite our best efforts. They remind us to try harder. I want to tell you about the sorrow on a father's face when he hears that there is nothing we can do for his son except control his pain as he dies. I want to tell you about the doctors and nurses I worked with who keep trying and keep learning in spite of these tragedies in hopes of saving more lives.

Instead, while those images and emotions and memories wash over me like a tidal wave, I tell you, "It was great." And it was.

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