



The Rotary Club of Brisbane Inc.

Founded 29 May 1923 Club 17787

A global network of community volunteers

30 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

Dear Fellow Rotarians

Rotary Club of Brisbane Annual Report 2012

I would like to thank all club members for their continued support throughout the past year. The club has been busy in a number of different areas, and this would not have been possible without member participation. I will now outline some of the major achievements for the last 12 months, as well as making brief mention of some of our goals for the future.

Community

In terms of community service, the club has supported a number of different projects in a significant way.

Our primary project for the year has been our ongoing involvement with Brisbane Youth Service. We have funded a further ten scholarships, and testimonial evidence from previous recipients is that this has made a substantial contribution to them, with many recipient being able to gain employment as a direct result of the qualifications they have obtained. We are seeking a formal report from Richard Langford of Brisbane Youth Service into the success of the scholarship program and will deliver this to members once received.

In addition to helping via scholarships, I'm pleased to be able to say that club members contributed in a significant manner to Brisbane Youth Service's "getting schmick" campaign.



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)



Award recipient Kura with President Alistair and Past President Wal Bishop

Club members also contributed their time to a range of different activities, including helping with Clean-Up Australia day, Donations in Kind, and the Fig Tree Pocket Jazz Concert for Flood Relief, for which we also helped secure the organizer a \$3,000 grant from City Council.



Club members with organizer Yvonne Li at clean up Australia Day

Our other major community commitment has been the finalization of the contribution to city hall, with confirmation that \$25,000 will be provided to the fund in early August. As a result, the club will be recognized as a Gold Advocate of the project, and we are also hoping to host a dinner in city hall when this re-opens.

Our major fundraising activity for the year has been the golf day, for which the club owes a great deal of thanks to now President Elect Graeme Whitmore, and Secretary Michael Stephens, for their dedicated organization. Thanks must also go to all those who participated and helped out on the day, as well as the generous sponsors.



President Alistair presenting a cheque to Richard Langford of Brisbane Youth Service at the golf day

Watts with his regular wine sales programs, the last round of which raised nearly \$3,000, largely due to the generosity of Sergeant-At-Arms Cam Bishop for the heavy discount offered to the club.

It is however increasingly apparent that the club relies heavily on the Benevolent Foundation, which continues to provide significant funds for club projects. The directors of the fund deserve our thanks for their continued efforts in ensuring the security of the fund and its returns, which in the last 12 months had net earnings of \$29,018, despite difficult economic times.

However, the club needs to do more in terms of fundraising. As a start, for the next 12 months the club has already purchased wine from Brian Carss for use in a Raffle. We are also planning to re-run the Golf Day, hopefully with a bigger turn out, as well as hosting the dinner at city hall once this re-opens.

Vocational

Our primary activity for the vocational category has been the Pride of Workmanship award, organized by Rotarian Greg Burnett. We were able to acknowledge the dedication and hard work of a number of individuals, who have excelled in their respective fields.

(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

30 July:
Eric Wood

6 August:
TBA

13 August:
TBA

Roster

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

20 August 2012:

President A Smith
Chairman M WInders
Set Up/Away C Muir
Raffle R Tamaschke
Visitor Register C Shepherd
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



Annual Report (continued)



Award winner Tyrone with club members Phil Little, Greg Burnett and President Alistair

Moving forward, we would like to be able to increase the scale of the event, and invite more non-Rotarian participants, for example from community groups and the like.

Club Operations

In terms of club operations, in some respect this year has been one of consolidation.

Treasurer Dougal has been working hard to bring the accounts and payments up to date. As a result, whilst expenditure has been greater than income this year, this was largely due to paying out on commitments from the previous year, and otherwise the club was operating at a slight surplus.

As of end of June, the balance for the club accounts was \$27,325.87, with major payments for the year including \$6,200 back dues to Rotary International Foundation, \$4,951 to the Brisbane Flood appeal based on donations from our international sister clubs, and \$11,665 payment to BYS.

We have had some disruption in the secretary role, with Bob Aldred taking over from previous secretary Darren Phillips, before having to leave the role himself, due to family commitments. However, Michael Stephens has now taken on the secretary mantle, so normal service has been resumed.

The club constitution whilst not finalized following delays in providing the draft at the district level, is well on the way, with a draft being recently prepared by Vice President Keith Watts.

Shortly before Christmas, we conducted a survey of club members, to seek their feedback on aspects of club operation, such as club meetings, communications, activities, projects and fellowship. It showed members were on the whole happy, although there is a definite desire to be involved in more projects and fund raising activities.

There was support for the current meeting format, and we have continued to host a variety of speakers, with highlights including high profile external speakers, such as David Barbagello, as well as some fascinating talks from club members. This has also included a Rotary segment, presented by Past President Brian Carss, which has provided a fascinating synopsis of the history of Rotary and our club.

At this point, I would like to extend specific thanks to the board members, and other individuals who help run the club on a day-to-day basis. Their continued dedication ensures the club continues to run smoothly and stands as a great example to us all.

Membership

Membership continues to be an ongoing issue for Rotary as a whole, and this club is unfortunately not immune to these difficulties.



Club members at a meeting in January

We had a strong focus on membership for the start of the year, hosting a potential new member's dinner targeted to over two hundred individuals. The dinner was a great evening, and was very strongly attended, for which members should be very proud. Particular thanks must go to Wal Bishop and Patrick Caragata for their assistance with this event, and whilst the dinner may not have attracted as many members as we had hoped, it certainly successful from a fellowship perspective.

Over the course of the year, as a result of this and introductions by existing members, we have inducted four new members. However, unfortunately we have had a number of members leave for differing reasons, including for health related and financial reasons. We have also sadly recently lost Rotarian Bob Esler, who will be greatly missed and yet remembered for his continued contribution to the club and its activities, including his years of service on the front desk.

Consequently, we are slightly down on numbers for the year. It is apparent that membership retention needs further work, and that we should continue to encourage new members to join.

Fellowship

My feeling is that this year has been successful from a fellowship perspective. Not only was the prospective new members' dinner very enjoyable, we have also had a number of excursions, including the brewery tour and vineyard excursion. Thanks must go to Rotarian Mel Evans for organizing these events, and Sergeant-At-Arms Cam Bishop and his family for hosting us at Sarabah Estate.



Club members at the XXXX Brewery Tour

Club meetings have also been generally well attended throughout the year and my feeling is that spirits within the club are high (and not just due to Keith's wine sales).

International

The club continues to remain engaged with our many sister clubs, and we are in the process of organizing a visit by the Rotary Club of Tapei Tatung, hopefully to coincide with the club's 90th Anniversary in May/June next year.



Annual Report (continued)

The club also contributed \$3,000 to the Rotary Club of Kobe East to assist with recovery in Japan following the tragic tsunami.

In terms of our involvement with the Rotary Foundation, we have not had any grant projects in recent years. However, following a small increase in club dues this year, we have been able to increase our foundation contributions to \$100 per annum per member, the target designated by Rotary International. We are also hoping to start work on organizing a grant project this year.

Conclusion

On the whole, I believe it has been a strong, although not necessarily spectacular year for the club. It is evident that with current membership levels the club will struggle to achieve what has been managed in previous years. However the club is in a reasonable position from a financial perspective, with a strong core of active members and directors who keep the club running well.

Moving forward, I hope that as we approach our 90th birthday in May next year, we can continue to go from strength to strength.



Club members celebrating the club's 89th Birthday

Yours in Rotary

Alistair Smith
President 2011-12
Rotary Club of Brisbane

Rotary Meeting – 23 July 2012

The Chairman Rick Tamaschke introduced P Alistair who welcomed our guests. Phil Little brought as his guest Edwin McKenzie, an Indigenous Affairs Co-ordinator, who has previously been a Rotarian, and is thinking of re-joining a local club. Our other guest was Kuo Jang Wen, known as Rotarian Antony, from the RC of Taipei Tao Chang. Antony is spending part of his time on business in Brisbane. We hope to see more of him. P Alistair welcomed back to the Club PP Mike Mauger and admitted him to Honorary Membership of our Club. Mike spoke on the donation of \$25,000 from our Club to the Restoration of the City Hall Project and plans for a presentation of a cheque to Lord Mayor Quirk at a formal function in the future.

As a Rotary Spot Treasurer Dougal Henderson moved acceptance of the financial statements that had already been circulated. Max Winders drew our attention to the matter of Christmas cakes and puddings as a fundraiser. After considerable discussion on alternative sources of supply and costs it was agreed to investigate this further and come back with recommendations. A sensible suggestion was that instead of small mixed lots, that were difficult to manage, members could order in carton lots and be responsible for distributing the contents to relatives and business associates.

There was no guest lecturer, and the business of this Change Over meeting was a detailed presentation from our continuing President Alistair of the achievements of our Club in the past year, and his vision and aspirations and goals for the year ahead. This detailed report is presented separately.

Comments to arise from this were:-

PP Brian Carss urged us to bring our web site up to date. P Alistair has this in hand and is looking for a volunteer to assist in keeping the web site current and helping with public relations.

Phil Gresham has agreed to assist Gerald Holtmann with membership promotion. Phil also wants us to get more publicity for the work we are doing in the community. Phil Little thought that our efforts to support Brisbane Youth Services was of much more importance than our efforts on behalf of the City Hall Restoration.

Chris Muir suggested that a direct appeal from the Club to members for donations to our own Benevolent Foundation would be an effective way of raising funds, as members could gain a tax deduction.

On the conclusion of his talk P Alistair was congratulated on the hard work he had done for the Club and thanked for taking on the difficult responsibility of President for another year by PP Bas Veal. Bas moved a vote of thanks to P Alistair, which was endorsed by acclamation.

SAA Cam Bishop told us of the tragedy of a large dry-cleaning business, owned by another family, that would probably not reopen after their second fire in four years. The first draw of the raffle was unclaimed, the second draw was won by Cam, who promptly donated it back to the Club. On the third draw the bottle of wine was won by Clive Morman. The lunch was attended by 23 members and 2 guests.