



The Rotary Club of Brisbane Inc.

Founded 29 May 1923 Club 17787

A global network of community volunteers

4 February 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

For those of you unable to attend, the first meeting of the year was a well attended, lively and enjoyable affair. We had great talks from Maddie Conwell, who seems to have thoroughly enjoyed her time at the National Youth Science Forum, as well as a run down from past member Warren Hampton on district conference and the Signatures Fine Art Exhibition. At the meeting it was confirmed that Anthony McKinnon will be joining our club, and that Heidi Dahles has also applied for membership, so this is a great start for the year.

Unfortunately however, we received some sad news this week, with the passing of Past District Governor Walter Buchanan. I was unfortunately unable to make the funeral, but on behalf of the club I would like to extend our sympathies to Walter's family and friends, and recognise his commitment to Rotary.

For any of you with an eye on social media, apparently District now has both a Facebook page and a Twitter account. I'm afraid to say I have no idea about either medium, but for the more social media literate amongst you, I think these links will take you to the relevant sites:

<https://www.facebook.com/rotary9600>

<https://twitter.com/RotaryD9600>

I've been contacted by Colin Dash, who is the Rotary District Probus Chair, inviting me to attend Brisbane City Probus Club's upcoming AGM, which I believe will be held on 19th February. If anyone else is interested in attending with me, please let me know.

**What's On?
4 February:**

Mercedes Staff
*Legacy Way
Tunnel*

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?





President's Message (continued)

We have received a number of requests for assistance, on various projects, and I am outlining some of these below:

- Rotarian David English, member of the Godoy Cruz Rotary Club in Mendoza Province, is seeking assistance in providing drinking water to families in north-eastern Mendoza province (see attached power point)
- Community Friends, who provide assistance to homeless people and people at risk of homelessness in inner Brisbane, CBD, West End, Highgate Hill, South Brisbane, and Fairfield, are interested in receiving men's and women's joggers "in good condition, clean with no holes and with shoe laces" or second-hand reading glasses. Whilst this seems like an odd combination, if anyone has any joggers or glasses, let me know.
- On a hopefully unrelated matter, YoungCare (www.youngcare.com.au), who assist young Australian living in aged care due to high care needs, are organising a fun run on Friday 22nd March, the theme of which is "Budgie Bolt", in which male participants encouraged to wear red 'budgie smugglers'. We've been asked if we would be able to assist running a sausage sizzle, perhaps an unfortunate choice of phrase given the theme of the event. In any event, I've asked for some more details, including confirmation that we won't be required to follow suit on the dress code and I'll update members in due course.
- Drug Arm (via the Rotary Club of Brisbane Planetarium) are seeking \$2,500 for an Alcohol Awareness project directed at Backpackers (details accompanying the bulletin). Having participated in clear-up Australia day near the youth hostels, I can safely say alcohol is one thing backpackers are very much aware of, but jokes aside, please let me know if you would like to assist.

That is all for this week, and I look forward to seeing you on Monday.

Yours in Rotary

President Alistair

Rotary Meeting 21 January 2013

The Chairman Phil Gresham introduced P Alistair Smith who was still jet lagged after his recent return home from the USA. P Alistair welcomed our two guest speakers Maddie Conwell and PP Warren Hampton. He also welcomed his partner Louise Grayson and our two prospective new members Heidi Dahles and Tony McKinnon. P Alistair commended to members the importance of adequate travel insurance recounting how his travelling colleague was hit with a bill for \$50,000 for a two day hospital stay and emergency surgery for kidney stones in the USA.

He introduced our new Rotary Theme for the year - "Engage Rotary - Change Lives".

P Alistair announced that the sale of tickets in the Grange Wine Raffle would begin in February. It had been decided to sell 200 tickets at \$100 each.

In Rotary Spots Patrick Caragata spoke of his impending discussions with the Heads of the three University Business Schools in Brisbane. Patrick has refined and polished his documentation, and e mailed it to members. Members are asked to study this again in detail so that they are aware of its contents and its importance to the future of the Club. Patrick is looking for a volunteer to assist him and Graeme Whitmore to vet the Charities we propose to assist as part of his plan.

Phil Little spoke briefly on the concept of Co-Operatives and the international success of the concept of the Mondragon Corporation.

(continued next page)

ROTARY GRACE

○ 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

11 February 2013:
Fellowship

18 February 2013:
James Tilbury
Consultant Business

25 February 2013:
To be advised

Roster

4 February 2013:

President	A Smith
Chairman	G Sellers
Set Up/Away	B Carss
Raffle	M Stephens
Visitor Register	M Evans
Attendance	J Smerdon G Whitmore

11 February 2013:

President	A Smith
Chairman	C Shepherd
Set Up/Away	D Smith
Raffle	P Caragata
Visitor Register	C Morman
Attendance	J Smerdon G Whitmore

18 February 2013:

President	A Smith
Chairman	S Francis
Set Up/Away	B Veal
Raffle	W Bishop
Visitor Register	H Dahles
Attendance	J Smerdon G Whitmore

25 February 2013:

President	A Smith
Chairman	J Worrell
Set Up/Away	K Watts
Raffle	K Hamburger
Visitor Register	G Holtmann
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



Rotary Meeting 21 January 2013

Our first speaker Maddie Conwell thanked members for sponsoring her attendance at the recent Science Forum in Canberra. Maddie's full report is presented elsewhere in this Bulletin. As a result of her experience in Canberra she is now confident of her future career path in the disciplines of Neuro-Science and Chemistry, after completing Grade 12 at the Girl's Grammar School this year.

Our next Speaker Warren Hampton is a Past President of the Rotary Club of Brisbane and is now the President of the Rotary Club of Samford Valley. Warren urged members to attend the next Rotary District Conference to be held at the Twin Waters Resort at Mudjimba on the Sunshine Coast from the 22nd to the 24th of March 2013. Warren detailed the list of prominent speakers who would address the Conference. The star performer will be Li Cunxin, the author of "Mao's Last Dancer" - which was made into a movie. Li is now the Director of the Queensland Ballet Company, and according to all who have heard him a most interesting speaker.

PP Warren as President of the Rotary Club of Samford Valley then invited members to attend The Signatures Fine Art Exhibition to be opened at 7 pm on Friday the 8th of February 2013 at Topiaries, Beaumont House, 961 Eatons Crossing Road, Samford. P Warren will either e mail or post an invitation with full details of the function to members with lists of the featured artists. The major beneficiary of the night is to be Rotary's Polio Plus Campaign.

SAA Cam Bishop welcomed our guests and entertained us with jokes and fines. He warned members of the dangers of being conned by unscrupulous business people, after an unfortunate personal encounter with a dodgy purveyor of sail cloth awnings. P Alistair was the lucky winner of the bottle of Sarabah Estate wine. A total of 24 persons attended our first lunch of the year.

Maddie Conwell's speech 21 January 2013

Good afternoon President Alistair, Chairman Phil, Members and Guests.

Yesterday I arrived home from the National Youth Science Forum. You may remember me giving a presentation last year asking for your support of my application, of which I am so grateful as it has allowed me such an invaluable experience.

Over the twelve days I visited some amazing sites of scientific interest in Canberra, met wonderful people from all across Australia as well as from overseas and participated in lively discussions about topical scientific issues.

So firstly I'll tell you a bit about the National Youth Science Forum. It is designed to give selected students with an interest in science some direction for the future and to broaden their minds to further career and study options. There are three sessions each year, two in Canberra and one in Perth, each with about 150 students. I was on Session A and we stayed at the Australian National University. The program consists of a mix of scientific, formal, social and personal development activities. These include laboratory visits, seminars on communication, forum debates and cultural visits.

Throughout the 12 days we were fortunate enough to go on lab visits to places including the Australian Defence Force Academy, the School of Physics at ANU, the Therapeutic Goods Administration and CSIRO. We also went to places of scientific interest like the Tidbinbilla Tracking Station and Questacon. My personal favourite was the Tracking Station. We learnt about its relationship with NASA and how it is one of only three deep-space communications facilities around the world. We saw the 26-metre antenna Deep Space Station 46, which was the antenna that received the first images of Neil Armstrong walking on the moon when it was located at the Honeysuckle Tracking Station in the south of Canberra.

What I found particularly interesting was that a section of their display was dedicated to rebutting the various conspiracies about the moon landing.

There were also many opportunities to engage with the other budding scientists. What I found great was that, not only were we meeting new people and forming life-long friendships, but we were also conversing with potential future colleagues and leading scientists. Bringing together so many enthusiastic science lovers meant that discussions were sparked about lots of different issues and we had the chance to hear new perspectives on topical subjects.

This leads me into talking about the more organised discussions we had, the forum debates. There were several forums in total over the twelve days, which meant that many thought-provoking points were raised. We covered topics such as the link between obesity and sugary foods; whether the International Criminal Court should be able to prosecute for crimes against the environment; and whether the government should be funding scientific research when there are arguably more pressing issues at hand.

People from all different kinds of backgrounds had interesting and often opposing views to each other which made the debates very exciting. It was also really great to hear from the international students we had with us. There were four Canadians, three New Zealanders and three Germans. It was wonderful to hear their perspectives and even their country's perspectives on certain issues during the debates. For example, when we were debating whether the government should be funding scientific research, the Canadians explained that last year their government actually did cut funding, and that this sparked debate and protests in Canada.



Maddie Conwell's speech (continued)

As I mentioned earlier, the NYSF aims to broaden our minds to further career and study options. It does this by exposing us to different ways you can pursue a career in science. For example, some of the scientists we met on our lab visits had jobs we didn't even know existed! There was also an Industry Partners Day, where partners of the program had the opportunity to speak with us and also to put on a display at the expo. This was a great opportunity to see and talk about our options for university study as well as possible career paths for the future. Before I went to the NYSF all I knew was that I liked studying chemistry and psychology. Over the course of the 12 days I narrowed down psychology to neuroscience, as I realised that I enjoyed the more technical aspects and the functioning of the brain. At Industry Partners Day I had the opportunity to talk to many university students who are studying science, as well as past NYSF students. I asked for their advice about choosing a course and found out where I could study neuroscience. Upon talking to them about my interests I was opened up to new ideas and areas of study. For example, a past NYSF student on the University of Newcastle stand suggested I could study Pharmacology and then look at the effects of certain drugs on the brain – a perfect combination of chemistry and neuroscience!

Something that was emphasised on the forum was the great need for scientific research in the future. Many world problems like overpopulation, finding renewable energy sources, poverty and global warming are becoming big issues and more scientists are needed to work on solving these problems. One of the biggest things I have taken away from the NYSF is motivation. After hearing from leading scientists and talking about these issues with fellow science lovers I am so inspired to contribute and help find solutions.

Throughout the forum the Rotarians played a big part in providing us with food and pastoral care, including Home Hospitality day at a local Rotarian's residence. I look forward to my continuing relationship with Rotary. I'd love to help with fundraising this year and also assist you in selecting another student for NYSF, if you find you are in the position to support one again next year.

So I would like to thank you again for your support. I learned so much at NYSF and I am very grateful to have had this opportunity.

Rotary on the world stage at World Economic Forum

By RI General Secretary John Hewko



I recently had the privilege of representing Rotary International at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland.

Every year, the economic forum brings together in Davos several thousand of the world's leading figures from the private sector, government, and academia. The forum also invites a select group of 40 non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Following the concerted efforts of senior Rotary leaders, Rotary has been fortunate to be chosen as one of those NGO invitees.

The four-day event involved a non-stop program of meetings, receptions, and networking opportunities, which represented an incredible opportunity to introduce Rotary to a very select audience. In all, I was able to have a substantive conversation with almost 120 individuals about Rotary and our efforts to eradicate polio.

In addition, because of my prior US government experience with the Millennium Challenge Corporation, I was asked to participate in a number of discussion sessions dealing with international development and health issues. This afforded a further opportunity to showcase the work of Rotary and the polio eradication effort.

For more than two decades, Rotary has been taking the lead in the global effort to eradicate polio. We are This Close to finishing the job. To have Rotary be a part of such a collection of distinguished world leaders at the economic forum further underscored that Rotary is a major player on the international stage.

This of course could not have happened without the commitment and dedication of the 1.2 million Rotary members worldwide – men and women who have worked so long to bring us to the threshold of our ultimate goal: a polio-free world.