



# The Rotary Club of Brisbane Inc.

Founded 29 May 1923 Club 17787

*A global network of community volunteers*

5 May 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	Graeme Whitmore
Imm Past President	Alistair Smith
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**  
Trevor Taylor

**Rotary International President**  
Ron Burton

### President's Message

#### Welcome fellow Rotarians

Great meeting today, full of good fellowship, merriment, and discussion, we had an "off the street" speaker today due to a misunderstanding between PP Bas Veal and myself, nonetheless an interesting talk on Arthritis, a health problem that sneaks up on many of us, and though research is being done, little is known about its root cause, and is generally difficult to treat.

I attended this week a "Ground Breaking" Ceremony for a new Respite Centre for Montrose Access (previously the Crippled Children Association Qld), an organisation this club was a major contributor during its establishment many years ago. The current project valued at approx. \$2.6m is due to commence construction late may for completion towards the end of the year. It was announced that an anonymous benefactor donation of \$1.3 m has allowed this project to get off the ground after 5 years in planning. The facility of domestic construction comprises six bedrooms, and is located at Yeerongpilly, close to the train station and Tennis Centre.

A young lass who has been using respite centres since she was 10 years old, and has used these centres provided by Montrose for 13 years, approx. 4 times a year, spoke and advised how she and others love to get together at these centres to socialise and get out for entertainment, and was looking forward to being able to use this new facility when complete.

*Continued next page*



### Date Claimers

9 May 2014  
Rotary Golf Day

1-4 June 2014  
Rotary International  
Convention, Sydney

### 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

She also put in a plug for her employment, a bright sparkling lass who unfortunately is wheel chair bound, she did however advise she drives a car, but it took her 4 years to get her "P" plates. There is no holding her back.

As previously advised I would like to see our Club involved with Montrose Access, and I will put forward a proposal in the near future.

PP BAS has arrange for our very own Rotarian Clive Shepherd to speak next week (5th May) on his life with Rio Tinto and the Aluminium Industry, please make an effort to attend as Clive travels from the Sunshine Coast to address us and enjoy our fellowship.

A Meeting is scheduled with Brisbane Youth Services after Rotary on the 5th May at BYS office in the valley, where we will have an opportunity to speak with some of our scholarship recipients, PP Wall Bishop, and R Phil Gresham have indicated their intention to meet with them, all welcome.

### GOLF

Our Charity Golf Day is scheduled for the 9th May next Friday, hopefully all the rain will have gone by then. We have been fortunate in receiving generous support from of own Rotary club Members and our external sponsors and it will be a great day and a very financially rewarding day for our club.

Through the efforts of Secretary Michael Stephens and a large number of our club Rotarians we are reaching our magical target of 100 players, only 9 places vacant, and we would like to fill these during the week, drag out those old clubs, talk to your mates and join us at North lakes Resort Golf Club next Friday, late morning for an afternoon of great fellowship, competition, finished off with a few drinks and full BBQ Buffet Dinner with Prize Giving.

**LIKE THE SHOW EVERY BODY WINS A PRIZE,** generously donated by our sponsors

WE still will accept any sponsorship, and or goods for the daily prizes and for Multi draw Raffle table.

**PLEASE DO YOUR BIT FOR THE CLUB AS THIS IS ONE OF OUR MAJOR FUNDRAISERS**

Yours in Rotary

**Remember: ENGAGE ROTARY CHANGE LIVES**

**President Graeme**

## Rotary Meeting 28 April 2014

Chairman for the day Wal Bishop welcomed members to the meeting. After Rotary Grace, and toasts to the Queen of Australia, Rotary International and the Rotary Club of Taipei Tatung, he introduced President Graeme Whitmore. Graeme's message is reported in detail elsewhere in the Bulletin.

In Rotary Spots, Secretary Michael Stephens reminded members to provide their details for the Members Directory if they had not already done so. He also indicated that the April RCOB Board meeting would be postponed to 21st May.

PP Bas Veal provided a progress report on the speaker program. Among other matters he noted that Mike Evans would speak to RCOB on 12th May. He hoped that there would be a good attendance that day.

PP Keith Watts spoke enthusiastically about the RC Taipei Tatung 30th Anniversary celebrations that he had attended, strongly supporting the very positive comments by Secretary Michael reported in the 14th April Meeting Minutes.

### 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

### 12 May:

Speaker: Mike Evans  
*China Projects*

### 19 May:

Speaker: Dr Ross Dunn  
*Dental work assistance program in East Timor*

### 26 May:

*Fellowship*

## Roster

### 5 May 2014:

**President** G Whitmore  
**Chairperson** G Burnett  
**Set Up/Away** D Zhang  
**Raffle** W Walker  
**Visitor Register** S Dunlop  
**Attendance** J Smerdon  
J Charlton

### 12 May 2014:

**President** G Whitmore  
**Chairperson** M Evans  
**Set Up/Away** W Walker  
**Raffle** M Winders  
**Visitor Register** W Walker  
**Attendance** J Smerdon  
J Charlton

### 19 May 2014:

**President** G Whitmore  
**Chairperson** M Mauger  
**Set Up/Away** A McKinnon  
**Raffle** J Ryder  
**Visitor Register** G Holtmann  
**Attendance** J Smerdon  
J Charlton

### 26 May 2014:

**President** G Whitmore  
**Chairperson** D Phillips  
**Set Up/Away** P Ryan  
**Raffle** S Francis  
**Visitor Register** P Gresham  
**Attendance** J Smerdon  
J Charlton

*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.*



## Rotary Meeting 28 April 2014

To mark the occasion, PP Keith also presented a \$5,000 cheque from RCOB to RC TT for a Rotary project to be determined...RCOB was the only visiting club to make such a gesture. In PP Keith's view RC TT is a happy club and 'knows how to put on a good party'. He felt that if we put on parties like that, we would have people 'kicking at the door'. Denise Schellbach also made very positive comments about the hospitality extended to her at the RC TT function.

After a short period of fellowship PP Wal introduced the guest speaker Dr David Thomas. David provided a very interesting talk about osteoarthritis, its causes and possible preventative measures. He also spoke about the inter-relationships between arthritis, obesity, diabetes, kidney and heart disease. While a range of 'preventative measures' are still controversial, regular exercise often seemed beneficial. Members thanked David by acclamation. David is an accomplished speaker and is capable of providing presentations on numerous medical topics. Interested members may contact David by email on [ddt@ecu.sg](mailto:ddt@ecu.sg)

SAA Cam Bishop provided another lively and profitable session. Peter Anderson won the raffle and then succeeded in drawing the joker from the pack, thereby winning the cash jackpot. Congratulations Peter.

The meeting closed at 1.55pm. 21 members and one guest were present.

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## Rotary Youth Exchange shaped my life

By Denise DiNoto, Rotary Club of Colonie-Guilderland, New York, USA  
Source: [blog.rotary.org](http://blog.rotary.org)

In August 1990, I left my hometown in rural upstate New York, for a year as an exchange student to Tasmania, Australia. The experience helped shape my adult life, as it has for many other exchange students. However, my situation was unique because I was one of the first students with a mobility impairment to participate in Rotary Youth Exchange.

At the time of my exchange, I was able to walk short distances but used a manual wheelchair for the majority of my community mobility. I was unable to independently climb stairs, stand from a low chair, climb into a bathtub, or pick myself off the floor if I fell, which I did quite gracefully about once every month.



Denise and Samantha during Samantha's exchange year

There were people who doubted how well I would do in an exchange because of my disability. They questioned how I would thrive in a foreign country and if I could ask strangers for help. Some wondered how I would participate in exchange activities, such as the nearly month-long tour around Australia – a highlight of the exchange. A few even suggested I excuse myself from the tour because I might be a burden on other students with my need for regular assistance.

But Rotarians believed in me, selecting me to be a representative of my country and Rotary. When others questioned my decision to leave home at age 16 and live for a year on the other side of the world, Rotarians gave me a chance to live my dream. Rotarians supported and encouraged me throughout my year abroad. Because Rotarians believed in me, I became more confident in my abilities.

Lessons I learned during my exchange still resonate. Independence is not doing everything on your own. It is recognizing that asking for help can increase your opportunity to fully engage in the activities of your choice. Strength is not the ability to climb Kings Canyon with 80 other exchange students. It is advocating for your rights when facing discrimination from those in power.

Home is not just the place you were born. Home can be wherever you find love and friendship.

Rotarians supported and encouraged me throughout my year abroad. Because Rotarians believed in me, I became more confident in my abilities.

As part of the arrangement with Tasmania, my home club also welcomed an exchange student with a disability. Samantha "Sam" Brundle was born with a rare congenital heart defect and came to New York on exchange in 1995. My parents hosted Sam, and her year started her on a course she could never have imagined. Returning to Australia, she went to work for Club Med, met the love of her life, married, and settled in Sydney. Her family was told at birth she would live just a few years. Samantha died in 2006 at the age of 30.

I will always be grateful to those special Rotarian supporters, in the United States and in Australia. I hope they fully understand how much their confidence transformed me into a confident, well-rounded adult. Now that I am a Rotarian, I am honored to be back in the Rotary family, performing service for others.

*Denise DiNoto works as an outreach advocate for people with disabilities at Consumer Directed Choices and has held title and leadership roles with the Ms. Wheelchair America advocacy program. Active in the community, she is president of The College of St. Rose Alumni Association and a member of the Colonie-Guilderland, New York, Rotary Club.*

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