



The Rotary Club of Brisbane Inc.

Founded 29 May 1923 Club 17787

A global network of community volunteers

5 November 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	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.

Firstly, many thanks to members who attended on Monday, it was a good turnout, and hopefully impressed our guests. I would like to keep this momentum going and in this regard, we should have a good talk the next couple of weeks with Rotarian Russell Postle speaking about the Royal Flying Doctor Service and Michael Knox speaking about his father and Admiral Nimitz.

On Tuesday morning we had a cluster meeting with the presidents of High-Rise, Mid-City and Fortitude Valley clubs. Plans are being firmed up for a function for members of the cluster clubs, with a view to this being held, probably in the New Year. The cluster has also targeted involvement in the upcoming Peace Forums in May next year, whilst the other cluster clubs have also expressed an interest in joining our upcoming anniversary celebrations. I will keep members informed as these matters progress.

Recently, district held a meeting to seek feedback from members regarding issues that are preventing greater involvement from those within the Gen X and Gen Y age brackets. This was run by Assistant District Governor Alan Stephens, who many will remember was in charge of our cluster last year. I am summarising some of Alan's findings at the end of this message, and Alan would of course be interested in any further feedback we can provide. One of the things I think is particularly interesting about these conclusions is that many of these issues are in fact pertinent to all of us and not just the younger generations.

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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)

Of course, any thoughts members have on how we could best address these issues would be much appreciated, and I will relay these back to Alan.

I would also remind you that Patrick Caragata is seeking details of charities we believe would be worthy of inclusion in the Social Entrepreneurs Mentoring program, and that Greg Burnett is waiting for suggestions as to additional material for inclusion on the website. Again, member feedback would be appreciated.

Finally, I am attaching a copy of the City Hall Restoration fund newsletter mentioned in Monday's meeting, which includes details of our cheque presentation to the Lord Mayor, the Right Honourable Graham Quirk.

Yours in Rotary

President Alistair

Gen X and Gen Y Membership Issues

A list of bullet points discussed at the recent Seminar. These are not necessarily in any order of priority:

- Weekly Meeting Commitment – it was clear that this was seen as a deterrent to joining a Rotary club. Younger members are looking to get involved but with greater flexibility, perhaps a mix of meetings and projects.
- Club Structures and the way some operate were also seen as inflexible
- Rotary Cost was seen as an issue for many younger members. FYI this is also becoming an issue for older Rotarians, as more and more move into retirement and find their income levels drop quite substantially.
- Meeting Venue's whilst this was not a big issue it was a concern.
- Meeting format was also raised as many found it off-putting to attend a meeting and sit there to hear NO REPORT after NO REPORT and wondered if the better alternative was to report only when the directors actually had something to report.

- Involvement - it was made clear that younger members wanted to get involved especially in project based activities and also that their talents were put to good use.
- Rotoract – I found this discussion very interesting and quite eye opening in particular the analogy of joining a youth based political arm of a political party. This was fascinating and extremely thought provoking to me.
- The Product of Rotary as it is today is still clearly an issue right throughout the entire population. A couple of participants advised of family and friends reaction to them joining Rotary which clearly demonstrated the perception Rotary has in the general population.
- Social Media in its various forms will clearly be one of the mediums Rotary needs to use to embrace change and communicate now and in the future.
- It was made quite clear that younger people really do want to contribute to improving the community, but it needs to be very much a project base rather than the stereotypical service club.

Rotary Meeting – 29 October

Our Chairman PP Mel Evans introduced P Alistair, who welcomed our guests. They were Rotarian Anthony from the RC of Taipei Taichang, and Russell Postle from Brisbane Highrise. Heidi Dahles from Amsterdam International RC ,who visited us last week, was with us again . P Alistair had as his guest a work colleague Kath Allen. Phil Little had Greg O'Brien as his guest.

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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

12 November:

Michael Knox
My Father and Admiral Nimitz

19 November:

TBA

26 November:

TBA

Roster

5 November 2012:

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

12 November 2012:

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

19 November 2012:

President A Smith
Chairman P Anderson
Set Up/Away C Shepherd
Raffle J Worrell
Visitor Register P Dawson
Attendance J Smerdon

26 November 2012:

President A Smith
Chairman C Muir
Set Up/Away C Muir
Raffle R Tamaschke
Visitor Register C Shepherd
Attendance J Smerdon

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 – 29 October

P Alistair noted that a photo of our Club's presentation of a cheque for \$25,000 to the Restoration of the City Hall Appeal had been published in the City Hall Restoration Newsletter. He reminded members to give Patrick Caragata any suggestions for worthy charities we wanted to support through our developing plan to encourage mentoring of future community leaders. He had had recent communications with Drug Arm which could be a candidate. He had also received an e mail from District looking for half a dozen volunteers to help build an orphanage in Kenya. Any takers?

In Rotary spots Greg Sellars reminded all members to return the proceeds of their sale of tickets in the Melbourne Cup Trifecta by next Monday's meeting at the latest. He reported that he had already received enough to cover the first prize of \$1,000.

Treasurer Dougal Henderson advised any member who had not yet paid their Rotary Dues that they were now overdue and to please pay him as soon as possible.

As there was no speaker members enjoyed fellowship.

SAA Cam Bishop fined Clive Shepard whose phone rang at the wrong time. Wal Bishop gave a generous payment for the very extensive coverage given to the Wallace Bishop jewellery stores on their celebration of their 95th year in trading in the Business section of this morning's Courier Mail. Cam could not help himself and had to mention the name of a now well-known Canungra vineyard several times in his presentation. Gerald Holtmann won the raffle prize of a bottle of Sarabah shiraz.

PP Mel reminded members that Michael Knox would speak on the subject "My Father and Admiral Nimitz" on Monday the 12th of November and suggested it would be a good day to invite guests.

Attendance improved today with 23 of our own members and 5 visitors present, a total of 28.

Australian Rotaractors raise awareness for polio eradication

By Kate Campbell, president of the Rotaract Club of Canberra, Australia



Standing alongside my fellow Australian Rotaractors and Rotarians in front of Parliament House in Canberra 21 October to raise awareness for the End Polio Now campaign was a truly exhilarating moment.

The event aimed to show support for the amazing work done by RI and their partners in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative and encourage the Australian government to continue supporting the fight against this deadly disease.

The notoriously fickle Canberra weather had kindly obliged and delivered some glorious spring conditions — soaring blue skies, warm sunshine, and a brisk breeze that showcased the huge Australian flag above Parliament House at its best. It was a moment that made me immensely proud to be a part of the Rotary family and the effort to eradicate polio.

We were assembled for a photo shoot that was to be the finale of the Australian Rotaract Conference held over the weekend. Spirits were high and the excitement was contagious. We wore End Polio Now T-shirts and our little fingers were painted with purple nail varnish to symbolize the purple dye used to mark a child's finger once they have been immunized against polio.

Two experiences before and after reminded me why we need to keep raising awareness for polio eradication. A few weeks before, I was talking excitedly about the event when an acquaintance expressed genuine confusion why I would get all worked up about getting rid of a harmless sporting event.

He had confused polio, a crippling disease, with polo, a popular pastime.

Sitting on the bus home from the event, an elderly lady inquired what event I was coming from. When I told her, she expressed surprise. "Polio?" she queried, "wasn't that wiped out years ago?" Both responses are somewhat understandable when you consider that polio has been wiped out in the western world for some time. Australia was officially declared polio-free in 2000.

But while the virus remains anywhere, it remains a threat to children everywhere. Campaigns such as Rotary's End Polio Now and the Global Poverty Project's The End of Polio are doing an admirable job of keeping the issue on the agenda.

The end of polio is within reach, and there is something intrinsically exciting about that prospect. The prospect of being "This Close," of being on the brink of such an unprecedented, incredible opportunity makes my heart beat a little faster and my mind race. I think "How can I be a part of this? How can I help?" While I personally cannot go to India or Pakistan to administer polio vaccine, and my capacity for giving is considerably less than the likes of a Bill Gates, I and my fellow Rotaractors and Rotarians certainly can raise awareness and encourage advocacy.

The Australian Rotaractors who gathered in front of Parliament on 21 October were proud to be doing their bit. The message we were advocating is simple. Polio can be defeated. The world is "This Close." Now is the time to join the fight and ensure momentum is not lost and the hard-won successes are not wasted. If we continue in our support, when the time comes and polio is finally vanquished, we will be able to stand up proudly and say "We were part of that. We helped win the fight."