



The Rotary Club of Brisbane Inc.

Founded 29 May 1923 Club 17787

A global network of community volunteers

6 May 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

As you have all hopefully now seen, invites for the 90th Anniversary dinner have now been sent to members, as well as the Lord Mayor, District Governor Dai Mason, Assistant District Governor Lisa Bateson (our cluster leader), and President's and members of the cluster clubs. I will also be sending invites to immediate past members, as well as our sister and daughter clubs. If you haven't received an invite, or if you believe I have missed anyone out, please let me know.

On the subject of invites, I know some members have received an invite to a Commemorative Service to Honour General Sir John Monash on Tuesday 4 June at 10 am from Churcie. If anyone hasn't received an invite but is interested in attending please let me know.

We have also received an invite from Rotary Australia World Community Service seeking volunteers to assist with projects in PNG, and details are attached in case anyone is interested.

I will be attending a cluster meeting next week, so please let me know if there are any issues you would like me to raise.

At Monday's meeting we had the pleasure of Lisa's company from the Woodlands Rotary Club in Texas (<http://woodlandsrotary.org/>) and a photo of the banner exchange is below.

(continued on next page)



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?





Presidents Message (continued)



Finally, just a reminder to everyone, keep selling those Raffle tickets and don't forget the Golf Day on 15 May 2013.

Yours in Rotary

President Alistair

Rotary Meeting – 29 April 2013

Eventually 19 members and 2 visitors arrived so that Phil "Flash" Grisham was able to bring the meeting to order as the Chairman of the day. He professionally led members in Rotary grace followed by a toast to the Queen. Before moving on to toast RI, he detoured to offer a toast to Scotland as Dougal is such a nationalist, and then continued in the normal politically correct manner to toast RI. He introduced our 2 visitors for the day, Lisa Ayer (Fidelity Investments) from Texas, who exchanged club banners, and Damian Joseph visiting once again. It was a great meeting in that we had 2 attractive ladies present.

President Alistair said that he was in the final stages of listing the invitees to the 90th Anniversary Dinner which will take place on the 5th June. What followed was a long "chat among yourselves" time before the meeting Chairman called for spots.

Mike Kelly obliged by reminding members of the Bolshoi Ballet event on the 4th June (the night before the Anniversary Dinner). Tickets are \$149 and he needed names of potential attendees pronto.

Dougal Henderson pleaded with members that had not paid their dues to unzip their wallets. He also reported that the raffle for the day had raised \$71.

Michael Stephens updated numbers for the Golf Day (71). There is still plenty of room for more, so you might like to consider it. How about roping in some of your friends?

While all this was going on the meal was served. It took the form of a square slab of pork belly – lots of fat with a thin sheet of meat underneath. The salad bowl placed on our table didn't go anywhere.

We were then entertained by Phil Little who spoke about many things including the Dept of Fair Trading and BoysTown, and the need to engage these youngsters in a worthwhile activity such as manufacturing. He suggested that building houses was a good idea and he sought the Club's support. Are you any the wiser?

Our inimitable sergeant Cam took over and reported on his sister's 40th birthday party at which he drank a reasonable amount of champagne. Enough so that he found it difficult to get out of bed before noon on Sunday. He one-upped all other members by kissing the 2 ladies and fining everyone for not having kissed him – yuck!!!

He could not let the opportunity pass to mention doings at 'Sara's Bar & Winery' by saying that the floor of his function tepee was made of timber sourced from PNG. At least nothing was said about the wine or functions. The sergeant really struggled to raise funds and to find engaging jokes this week. I guess he was still suffering from the weekend.

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

15 May 2013:
Golf Day

4 June 2013:
Bolshoi Ballet event

Roster

6 May 2013:

President A Smith
Chairman TBA
Set Up/Away TBA
Raffle TBA
Visitor Register TBA
Attendance TBA

13 May 2013:

President A Smith
Chairman TBA
Set Up/Away TBA
Raffle TBA
Visitor Register TBA
Attendance TBA

20 May 2013:

President A Smith
Chairman TBA
Set Up/Away TBA
Raffle TBA
Visitor Register TBA
Attendance TBA

27 May 2013:

President A Smith
Chairman TBA
Set Up/Away TBA
Raffle TBA
Visitor Register TBA
Attendance TBA

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)

Dougal Henderson won the raffle and did not take the wine. He still has 11 bottles left of the dozen that he bought and was not keen to add more.

The meeting ended on time with a lustrous singing of the National Anthem.

Passing the torch for polio eradication

By Nilanjan Dutta, past president of the Rotary Club of Ramgarh, Jharkhand, India

From July to December of last year, Rotarians in District 3250 (Bihar and Jharkhand, India) set two torches in motion, one to the northern clubs in our district and the other to the southern clubs, under the direction of our district governor, Rakesh Prasad. The polio eradication awareness torches were accompanied wherever they went by a week of celebrations and rallies raising awareness for polio eradication.



We undertook this district project with a couple goals in mind; to celebrate India being polio-free, to avoid complacency in the effort to eradicate polio from the world, and to mark the 50th anniversary of the Rotary Club of Ramgarh.

The variety of events during this six months was amazing; school children took part in speech, debate, and painting competitions; people joined together in any number of outdoor rallies; Rotarians took to the airwaves to share the end polio message; polio corrective surgeries were performed at medical facilities to coincide with the torch's arrival; and the "flame" was passed through countless schools and clubs.

By the time the two torches reunited at the district conference 21 December, we had raised about US\$4,000 for the polio eradication effort. The torches traveled more than 3,000 kilometers, with 52 clubs taking part.



The project had a profound impact on many of the participants. Here's what some of them had to say.

"After receiving the polio flame, we felt elated and privileged, It was a feeling that can never be described in words. A simple act of holding the flame places you in the company of legends who have put their effort into removing this dreaded disease from the world," Supriyo Sengupta, president of the Rotary Club of Chanakya, Bihar.

"What an incredible journey it has been for all of us. By holding the torch, we felt very proud to be a part of a country that is polio-free. Be we are not going to sit idle." Rajesh Kumar, president of the Rotary Club of Patna South, Bihar.

"The rally ignited tremendous enthusiasm in the Rotarians and goodwill among the people who we are serving. Though the week was hectic and tiring, it was immensely invigorating." Dr. Madhurendu K. Gupta, president of the Rotary Club of Ranchi North, Jharkhand.

Source: blog.rotary.org

Eye camps help schoolchildren in Mumbai

By Pankaj Jethwani, president of the Rotaract Club of the Caduceus, Mumbai, India. The club's project, Vision Six by Six, was selected as the 2013 Rotaract Outstanding Project Awards international winner.

In June of last year, I was interacting with a group of kids at a school health camp in Dharavi. There, among uninterested and bored kids, I met Payal. She was bright, talkative, and a lot of fun! But I was surprised with her teacher's feedback: Payal hated studying.

A quick vision test revealed she had myopia in both eyes. After organizing eye camps in low-resource schools in the area, we learned that 15 out of every 100 of the kids we tested couldn't see clearly.

Children with undiagnosed vision problems often aren't aware that this isn't normal, and thus don't complain of the symptoms. At a young age they can develop an aversion to attending school. The motivation behind our Rotaract club's project, "Vision Six by Six," was that this aversion could be prevented.

Since its inception, the program has provided primary eye care to over 10,000 low-income schoolchildren. The intervention is inexpensive (US\$1.50 per child including treatment) and we have observed that 92 percent of the children adhere to the recommended treatment.

In this amazing journey, we did a few things right, but also made a lot of mistakes!

Skilled manpower wasn't the program's limiting factor, since our Rotaract club includes 135 doctors and medical students. The challenge was funding. But our club members worked together through crowd-funding to raise over \$15,500 from more than 1,000 donors via a stand-up comedy fundraiser.

We defined our goals when we started and collected relevant data at each camp. At every step, we communicated impact to our funders and team. This kept our team motivated, and supporters happy to help again. A lot of great initiatives don't share the amazing work they're doing - we found that sharing our story always helped!

In retrospect, we would save so much time if we engaged the right partners sooner. Don't spend time doing things someone else does better. At first, we struggled with school outreach and permissions. Then, we began partnering with NGOs already working with local schools. This helped us focus on program delivery rather than initial outreach.

Finally, we learned that you don't have to solve all of mankind's problems. Whenever we were tempted to do more than what our program permitted, our quality suffered. It is important to define your program well, and not let your scope creep. Keep it simple!