



The Rotary Club of Brisbane Inc.

Founded 29 May 1923 Club 17787

A global network of community volunteers

9 March 2015



The Rotary Club of Brisbane Inc.

ABN 75 152 438 499

**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	Graeme Whitmore
President Elect	Phil Gresham
Imm Past President	Alistair Smith
Vice President	Keith Watts
Secretary	Michael Stephens
Treasurer	Warren Walker
Sergeant-at-Arms	Cameron Bishop

District 9600
Club Number 17787
Founded 29 May 1923

District Governor
George Grant

Rotary International President
Gary C K Huang

President's Message

Welcome fellow Rotarians & Visitors

Great speaker today Wolfgang Groud, a speaker with passion about his business, in the restoration and rebuilding of Classic Cars, he identifies them as "Sleeping Beauties".

After viewing what he started with and the resultant finished product, one can only share with pride that there are tradesmen, still available in Queensland, that can product world class quality products that can win the premier awards in this field overseas.

If you have a cool million, Wolfgang and his team can build you one of these magnificent cars, but you may have to wait a few years for completion.

For those members not able to attend, you missed an excellent presentation undertaken with passion and pride.

The **new Rotaract Club CBD** (official club name) has been formed in the city and it will be Jointly Chartered on Tues 31st March 2015, this is the start of getting young persons (18-30) involved in the CBD, which will hopefully lead to their involvement in Rotary clubs in the city at a later date. They start with a membership of approx. 9.

A second university based Rotaract club is also in the early stage of establishment. Both these clubs are and will be jointly guided by our cluster clubs of the City, Valley, & New Farm.



**What's on?
9 March:**

Fellowship

Date Claimers

16 March 2015:
RCOB Board Meeting

Ross McKinnon AM
*Retired after 42 years as
Curator Mt Coot-ha
Botanical Gardens*

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

All members are invited to the charter evening 31st March, at "Spring Restaurant" cnr Felix and Eagle Street, 6.30pm. Cost is by purchasing tickets at \$70 two course meal and pay bar.

Tony McKinnon has received a few helpers for ANZAC DAY parade, and further details will be provided later. It has been agreed that payment made for our help will be returned to our Rotary club, providing much needed funds for beneficial use.

IF you can help please contact Tony ASAP.

We have one Nomination for RYLA leadership training weekend, any club member who wishes to nominate a young person please see John Smerdon urgently as applications close with District 10th April.

My medical report on members confirms both Bas Veal and Max Winders on the mend and we continue to wish them both a speedy recovery to full strength, and their return to regular attendance.

Let Us continue to be a club that all members are welcome both as Rotarians and as common interest friends, where we care and support one another.
Yours in Rotary

Remember: LIGHT UP ROTARY

President Graeme

Rotary Meeting 2 March 2015

The Chairman for the day was Chris Muir. After Rotary Grace and toasts to the Queen of Australia and Rotary International, he introduced President Graeme Whitmore. Graeme's message is reported elsewhere in the Bulletin.

In Rotary Spots, Tony McKinnon gave a brief update on ANZAC Day arrangements for Marshals.

After a short period of Fellowship, Chairman Chris introduced the Guest Speaker, Wolf Grodd who spoke on 'Passion' as it relates to the restoration of classic cars, or 'Sleeping Beauties'. Among other matters, Wolf made the following points:

He commenced business some 26 years ago from an old factory with a 1935 Rolls Royce as his first restoration project.

The restoration work is an obsession born out of a passion to do the job properly or not at all.

Restoring cars is like marrying a woman... the car, like the woman, has to be one 'you cannot live without'.

Never restore an ordinary car because it will always be that and nothing you do can change that - no 'silk purse from a sow's ear'. The car should be an early, two door, sports car that allows the exercise of passion and gives much enjoyment.

He travelled down memory lane, reliving his win at Pebble Beach with his '1934 Mercedes Benz, Supercharged Cabriolet 380' automobile.

This lengthy talk was interesting, especially for car enthusiasts. Finally, Chairman Chris presented Wolf with a memento of the occasion.

As there was very little time left, SAA Cam Bishop did not develop a theme and contented himself with a "dragnet" fine on the assembled gathering. Wal Bishop won the raffle but the joker is still in the deck...so the jackpot remains to be won.

The meeting closed at 2.10pm



Calendar

May 1-3:

District 9600 Conference 2015

Roster

9 March 2015:

President G Whitmore
Chairperson W Bishop
Set Up/Away P Caragata
Raffle W Walker
Visitor Register S Dunlop
Attendance J Smerdon
D Schellbach

16 March 2015:

President G Whitmore
Chairperson M Evans
Set Up/Away P Ryan
Raffle M Winders
Visitor Register J Ryder
Attendance J Smerdon
D Schellbach

23 March 2015:

President G Whitmore
Chairperson R Tamaschke
Set Up/Away A McKinnon
Raffle P Gresham
Visitor Register D Henderson
Attendance J Smerdon
D O'Donoghue

30 March 2015:

President G Whitmore
Chairperson S Francis
Set Up/Away W Walker
Raffle P Little
Visitor Register C Muir
Attendance J Smerdon
D Schellbach

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's Membership

Gary C.K Huang

RI President

Source: Rotary International

Courtesy: <http://www.efashionline.org/>



It is great to be here in San Diego, where the weather is always beautiful — quite a change from cold, snowy Evanston. This is one of the reasons that we picked this great city to have our International Assembly! In this way, you can have a beautiful start of your year as DG.

More importantly, San Diego is also a city with a strong Rotary presence. If you look up Rotary San Diego on the website, you'll notice a catchy slogan against the backdrop of the beautiful city skyline. It's "We are everywhere." I like the tagline very much because it has captured the power and strength of Rotary.

Over the past two years, I've traveled across the world to meet Rotarians and visit Rotary projects. Wherever I went, whether it was in a big city or small town, in the United States or Denmark, or in Nigeria or Peru, it is true to say that Rotary IS everywhere. In some of the most remote corners, you can feel the presence of Rotary — Rotary logos are on the school buildings and on water wells.

With 1.2 million members in 206 countries and regions, we are everywhere. Our membership and our services are what make Rotary powerful and strong. To keep it strong, membership recruitment and retention have to be a priority for every incoming Rotary leader. That is also the topic that I'm going to address today. Let me share with you some of my observations.

First, I want to urge everyone here to maintain and expand the core of Rotary. As you probably know 70 percent of Rotarians are 50 years old or older. A large number of Rotarians have retired from their day jobs.

In comparison with the younger folks, people over 50 have more financial resources. We have wide business and community contacts. When it comes to giving back to our communities, we are the most willing and generous. We are wiser and more experienced. In other words, we are the most dedicated Rotarians. We are the backbone of Rotary.

I urge you to pay attention to this peer group and make some aggressive pitches. As an organization and as individuals, we need to embrace this core reality and maximize our strength.

With this core group of members as our strong backbone, I am suggesting to recruit younger members. It is important. I want to emphasize again that it is critical for us to set our eyes on young people who will bring energy and fresh ideas to our organization. They are our future.

Second, I would like to see more female Rotarians, especially women retirees, added to our ranks. In China, there is a popular saying: Women can hold up half the sky. This is certainly true in my own family. I was raised in a big family with six strong women — my mother, who is now 96 years old, and my five sisters. I can tell you that they hold more than half the sky.

As Rotary leaders, I'm sure you agree that this is also true for Rotary. Last October we had a Rotary Day celebration at the White House, where we honored a dozen U.S. Rotary Women of Action. I heard some powerful stories from the honorees. Some of them are leading the efforts to help with veterans, mentor women business leaders, provide much-needed health services to those in need, counsel battered women, and volunteer at schools. Others are launching programs to prevent trafficking and early marriage in India, teaching mentally challenged children in Russia, and offering medical care for people in Africa and Latin America. I was very touched.

Over the past few years, while the number of Rotarians in countries and regions has gone down, there is one bright spot: The number of women in Rotary has gone up. At present, one in five Rotarians is a woman. The 240,000 woman Rotarians worldwide have greatly strengthened and enriched our organization, bringing unique perspectives to Rotary. We have to build on that. We need to actively seek out those women in your community who are compassionate and willing to volunteer their time and efforts. We also need to ask our own family members to be involved.

Let me share a story with you. In October I visited District 7360. DG Jason Piatt, a young man who is not yet 40, served as a remarkable host. When I was going from Rotary meetings to projects, I noticed a lady who was always there, quietly and diligently helping DG Jason and making sure everything went smoothly. It turned out that the lady was Angela Piatt, DG Jason's mother. She has helped Rotary for many years, starting back when Jason's father was in Rotary. With such dedication, I was surprised that nobody had invited her to join Rotary. So I asked Jason's mother and his girlfriend, Elizabeth, "Are you willing to join Rotary?" They were so thrilled, and accepted. In fact, several Rotary clubs fought over them. Over the past several months, I have personally recruited several similarly remarkable women, including the first female principal of the oldest university in Sweden and the first vice president of Peru.

Now that we have identified our target groups for membership growth, how are we going to achieve our goal?

Based on my own experience, I have one simple suggestion: Don't be afraid to ask. Sometimes, all it takes is to ask when there is an opportunity. I always ask when I meet a new friend or when I'm invited to speak at an event. You would be surprised at how many qualified people are happy to join.



When I was traveling in California, Congressman Ed Royce came to a reception to honor Rotary for polio eradication. He said so many nice things about Rotary, I had to ask him, "Why are you not a Rotarian?" Guess what he said. "Nobody ever asked me!" I said, "I'm asking you now! I'll even give you my pin." He said, "OK!" And he joined on the spot.

And if you are thinking, OK, he just did that to be polite and he would never come again — no! A few weeks later, the district governor called me. He said, "Gary, I want to tell you, Congressman Royce paid his full dues!" Now, if you go to Washington, D.C., and you see him, you don't have to call him Congressman Royce. You can just call him Rotarian Ed Royce.

That was just one example. In Lusaka, Zambia, I invited the deputy mayor, Mulenga Sata, and he joined Rotary. I just learned that he's now the mayor of Lusaka and is a likely presidential candidate. In Turkey I met with the mayor of Istanbul. He said to me, "I love Rotary because I used to be a Rotaractor 20 years ago." I said, "So why are you not a Rotarian?" He said, "No one ever asked me!" I said, "I'm asking you!" And same thing — I gave him my pin.

In Rome we met with the minister of health. She is the youngest minister in the Italian government, only 39 years old. She told me she is very impressed by all of Rotary's good work in public health. So how come she wasn't a Rotarian? Nobody ever asked her.

You already know where the story ends. I lost another pin! If I don't ask all of you to help, I'm going to run out of my pins!

In China, which holds an important place in my heart because I was born there, I traveled last September to attend the second Rotary China Conference in Shanghai and map out a blueprint for Rotary's future extension there. More than 280 Rotarians representing 23 countries were there. We all witnessed the birth of China's third Rotary club, in the southwest city of Chengdu. In addition, we chartered five Interact clubs and two Rotaract clubs. Those young folks, our future Rotarians, are very active in China.

I want to thank the Rotary Board of Directors, which has ambitious goals for China. At its meeting last June, the Board approved chartering 10 more prospective Rotary clubs in China. Rotarians there are making the Board truly proud. As of today, I'm pleased to report that we have received applications from five provisional clubs there, including the first Chinese-speaking club, the Rotary Club of Shanghai West, which is scheduled to be chartered on 21 May. They have already lined up 35 members! This is truly exciting. I hope the Rotary extension effort in China inspires all of us to do more in our own countries.

It doesn't matter where you come from; there are many people in our communities who want to become Rotarians and who are waiting to join Rotary. We sometimes take things for granted and make assumptions without trying. You know the old saying: If you want something done, ask a busy person to do it. The more things you do, the more you can do. Well, all of you are going to be very busy people next year, and I urge you to make a habit of asking other busy people. Don't leave them out of Rotary. Maybe some of them will say no — OK! But I don't want any of them to say they are not Rotarians because nobody ever asked!

There is a rock musician, Amanda Palmer, who made more fans and money by giving away her music free of charge. She wrote a book called "Art of Asking." Her TED video was seen over 6 million times. She says, "I didn't make people do things. I just asked. When I asked, I connected with them. When you connect with them, they will take actions." She doesn't see asking as a risk. She sees it as a trust. I think there is a lot we can learn from her. You should trust your future Rotarians, connect with them, and trust them. Look straight into their eyes and say, "I would like you to be a Rotarian."

All of us are proud of Rotary. We want a Rotary that creates a huge, positive impact in this world. Well, we all know great things don't happen by themselves. They happen when we work hard, when we have strong clubs, and when we have Rotarians who love Rotary.

Let's embrace the roots and our core. Focus on people who have the time and resources to light up their candles. The light of one candle might be feeble. But when other members of our community join hands, Rotary will be lit up and the neighborhoods will be much brighter. Let's do it! And Be a Gift to the World.

Thank you.
