



Reach Within to Embrace Humanity

The Rotary Club of Brisbane Inc.

Founded 29 May 1923 Club 17787

A global network of community volunteers

2 April 2012



The Rotary Club of Brisbane Inc.

GPO Box2909
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	
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
Carolyn Krueger

Rotary International President
Kalyan Banerjee

President's Message

Welcome Rotarians and friends

Last weekend was the district conference, and this was attended by Rotarians Frank Alpert, Keith Watts, and myself. The conference was interesting and had a good mix of different speakers, with some inspiring stories, including PDG Jamaluddin (Jamal) Miah, from the Rotary Club of Narayanganj Midtown, Bangladesh, who described the success they have been having with providing low cost housing in Langalbanch, near Dhaka.

On Monday, Bas and I met with Nigel Chamier from the City Hall Restoration Fund. The meeting was very positive, with Nigel expressing how important he felt our contribution was to the fund, particularly given the nature of Rotary, and also that there was no immediate need for the funds. Nigel also suggested that in terms of the fundraising dinner, we might wish to consider hosting this in City Hall early next year once the restoration is sufficiently complete, and that with suitable media attention, this could be a way of ensuring our contribution is recognised, as well as publicising the club.

On another note, as circulated by Secretary Michael, we have received an invite to attend the civic reception dinner for RI President Kalyan Banerjee on Thursday 24th May at the Gabba. Could those of you interested in attending please let Secretary Michael know as soon as possible.

Finally, this Monday, we are looking forward to a visit from Richard Langford from Brisbane Youth Service, and he will be bringing along Josh Blake, one of the scholarship recipients. It will be great to hear from Josh and how the scholarship program has assisted him, and in the meantime I look forward to seeing you all on Monday.

Yours in Rotary,

President Alistair

What's On? 2 April:

Speaker:
Richard Langford
Brisbane Youth
Service

Date Claimers

24th April:
Annual Golf Day
Northlakes Resort Course
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?





Rotary Meeting 26 March 2012

The Chairman Phil Gresham introduced P Alistair who welcomed our guests Emanuel Spitzer and David Degnan to our meeting. Alistair gave a report to the meeting on the Rotary District Conference which was also attended by Frank Alpert and PP Keith Watts.

PP Brian Carss gave his Rotary Spot on the Symbols of Rotary which is reported in full later in this Bulletin.

PP Keith Watts reminded us of the wine promotion and urged more support. He supplied tasting samples to prospective buyers. Keith also spoke of his experiences at the Conference and urged our Club to try to do more to encourage female members to join our club by becoming more female friendly.

Treasurer Dougal Henderson spoke of the importance of asking our friends to join us in Rotary. This is why he joined. Dougal spoke of his discomfort in drinking the loyal toast. His response was not to join in this toast. However he felt that Rotary Rituals were not enough to put anyone off from joining Rotary if they believed in the Rotary ethos.

Graeme Whitmore now has 72 starters for the Golf Day – but more are needed.

PP Wal Bishop made another appeal and reminder for toiletries and money to buy toiletry kits through James Delahunty to support the Brisbane Youth Services campaign to provide the homeless and youth on the streets with these essential items.

Our speaker today was our new member Rohan Johnson. Rohan only arrived in Brisbane ten weeks ago from Melbourne to open the Brisbane office of Rojay Advertising. Rohan is married with 6 year old twins and a 2 year old. He asked the question " Why pick Rojay Advertising?" The answer was that they could provide the client with the best impartial advice – even if it was not possible to implement it.

They prided themselves on the high calibre of their work. They were responsive to client needs.

They delivered when they said they would. His firm had a real interest in brands and branding. They were involved in company start-ups and strived to integrate all the elements in advertising and branding so that they were all streamlined and moved in the right direction from the beginning. Rohan's talk was a power-point presentation and he showed several illustrations of before and after advertisements that Rojay had undertaken for clients. In a lot of the before copy the advertisement was cluttered and tried to convey too much information. After the Rojay remake the advertisement was simpler, more attractive to look at, grabbed the reader's attention, and yet still conveyed the essential message. The lecture was followed by an extensive question and answer session. Some members felt that there was a generation gap and a gender gap and that was why we found it so difficult to attract and keep female members. Phil Gresham related his business experience that most of his new customers now came through the web site and e mail rather than from other advertising. PP Keith Watts suggested that he thought that it would be worthwhile for the Board of our Club to work with Rohan to see if we could utilise his professional expertise in the marketing and branding of Brisbane Rotary. Once again Rohan's lecture showed the high level of expertise and professional skills and resources that exist within the members of our club.

SAA Cam Bishop again showed his new efficiency and organisational skills by not only entertaining us with jokes and extracting our fines, but also by getting us out the door not on time but actually early. Frank Alpert won the raffle. 27 men attended the lunch.

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

2 April:
Fellowship

9 April:
Easter Monday

16 April:
*M O'Donnell
Mount Kilimanjaro Trek
(tentative)*

Roster

2 April 2012:

President A Smith
Chairman P Caragata
Set Up/Away F Alpert
Raffle C Morman
Visitor Register M Stephens
Attendance B Esler
G Whitmore

9 April 2012: NO MEETING

16 April 2012:

President A Smith
Chairman R Tamaschke
Set Up/Away K Watts
Raffle K Hamburger
Visitor Register K Watts
Attendance B Esler
G Whitmore

23 April 2012:

President A Smith
Chairman J Delahunty
Set Up/Away C Shepherd
Raffle R Johnstone
Visitor Register W Bishop
Attendance B Esler
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 Segment – 26 March 2012
Rotary rituals
By Brian Carss

If you look at this month's 'Rotary Downunder' magazine, which you all should have received by now, you will see that there is an article devoted to the results of a survey taken about whether Rotary grace is an appropriate way to start a meeting. There were just 700+ responses from a possible 25,000 answering the question Rotary Grace: Yes or No? Apparently, this is regarded as a representative sample of the whole and therefore the answers can be considered as acceptable.

The results show that 81% replied saying that their club began the meeting with grace and of these some 9 % used some other kind of invocation. When asked the question whether Rotary grace was an appropriate way to begin the meeting just on 60% agreed that it was. The arguments for and against are set out in the article on page 27 of the magazine.

This whole thing raised another larger problem for me as to all the rituals that we have adopted over the years, and continue to practice without questioning their relevance to modern day society. All Rotary clubs are faced with the continuing battle of maintaining their members. Some are lost unfortunately because they drop off the perch, but other cease to be active members for a whole host of reasons. I believe that the slavish adherence to ritual may be one that turns off new and younger members who have grown used to a freer communications world. In our own club we subscribe to Rotary grace, the Royal toast, the SAA and singing the national anthem. These are our rituals and from the survey of members that President Alistair conducted earlier we see that we wish to keep grace or something very similar, we wish to toast the Queen and RI as well as sing the national anthem. In other words, we are a club that is bound by rituals, and I am a little concerned that this may be a big turn-off for potential new members of the Gen Y generation. But what to do about it is a big question.

Under Past-President Mike Mauger we did change the format of our meetings with the guest speaker taking pride of place and speaking first without any of the rituals mentioned earlier. The setup of the meeting room was as for a conference. After the talk members broke for a sandwich lunch. In this meeting format, which was held once a month, members were better able to organize their business appointments so as to hear a good talk, have a sandwich and go. This worked well for a while, and I think is worth trying occasionally now. However we need to get speakers of the quality of David Barbagallo to make this really work. In response to PP Bas's request for ideas, I suggested that we should have regular speakers on topics such as current political issues, sporting events, economic developments, job talks, matters of general interest and of course Rotary.

To get this idea rolling how about the following potential speakers on:

Political matters: Paul Williams; Paul Syvret; Steven Wardill; Dennis Atkins, Terry Sweetman and Madonna King
Light hearted matters: Mike O'Connor to recount some of his approaches to survival

Wine: T.E. Morris of SIRROMET Winery to talk about his wines and Queensland wines in general.

Food: The owners of Baguette, Aria, Ecco etc.

Job Talks: We have a wealth of talent in the Club. How about members bringing us up to date about what is going on in their area (Economics, Sport, Property)?

In the past we have had lunches devoted to a wine tasting, whisky tasting, a visit to the Police Headquarters, courtesy of Past President Mike Kelly, and a visit to one of the Tall ships visiting the Brisbane River.

There were times too, when the main part of the meeting was devoted to our various subcommittees working through what they planned to do during the year in round table discussions.

Each subcommittee was required to give a report on their decisions. We have even held quizzes on Rotary matters. So you see we can do things differently and still be good Rotarians.

TRF trustee Jackson San Lien Hsieh in Philippines

AFTER Rotary International (RI) fully eradicates polio and its debilitating effects worldwide, it will focus the attention and energy of its 1.2 million members and its 32,000 clubs worldwide on eradicating three equally pressing problems confronting the world: illiteracy, lack of clean water and child mortality. Rotary Foundation trustee Jackson San Lien Hsieh, who is here in the Philippines as the representative of RI President Kalyan Banerjee to the District Conference 2012 of RI District 3810 (covering Manila, Pasay City, Cavite and Occidental Mindoro), is of the thought that eliminating these three grave problems will become the thrust of RI and its Foundation in the years to come.

In a media brief issued on his behalf, Hsieh was quoted as saying: "After PolioPlus succeeds, illiteracy, clean water and reducing children mortality should be given priority as our worldwide goals... as they are the biggest stumbling block in the path of progress and prosperity. I consider illiteracy to be the most important issue because a literate world could solve essentially all the problems in the world."

Other thoughts of Hsieh:

1. "If we want to see Rotary remain relevant in this century, the most important thing we should do is to bring in as many young members as possible. There should be effective ways and means to achieve this. I have become involved in the discussions on the "Every Rotarian, One New Member" drive and I think we should consider this and adopt it into our daily ventures and goals.



TRF trustee Jackson San Lien Hsieh in Philippines (continued)

2. "To my understanding, the Four Way Test remains to be a practice by individual Rotarians and Rotary clubs across the world. The Four-Way Test is the most crucial part of Rotary's vocational service; as Rotarians, we all practice it daily. It is intended to develop and maintain high ethical standards in human relations and is the basic requirement of Rotary membership.

3. "Rotary will definitely remain relevant. The object of Rotary is held in high esteem in our community and our services such as polio eradication, alleviation of poverty and reducing children mortality. Furthermore, we have a good and effective leadership structure, namely the RI Board of Directors, which always leads Rotary worldwide in good directions.

4. "My message to Rotarians is: We must be united in service, dedicated to Rotary." Hsieh, a Rotarian from the Rotary Club of Taipei Sunrise, a past district governor and a past RI board director, answered questions from select members of the Philippine media at the start of District 3810's annual conference at a press briefing at the Sofitel Hotel. I moderated this briefing as a member of RI's PR group for South Pacific. With Hsieh at the press conference was District 3810 Governor Ernesto Yao Choa and Past District Gov. Lyne Abanila, the current public relations chair of RI's South Pacific Region. The press conference was one of the highlights of District 3810's Discon 2012.

Source:

<http://www.goldstardailynews.com>

Courtesy: www.eflashonline.org

ShelterBox in Madagascar

Here is latest from ShelterBox... PP Ron Nethercutt ROTI Chair 07-09 RC Mabalacat D 3790 Angeles City, Philippines

'Certificate of Thanks' for ShelterBox in Madagascar. Local authorities in Madagascar have presented ShelterBox with a 'Certificate of Thanks' for delivering shelter, warmth and dignity to hundreds of families made

'We thank you so much for your concern,' said Mr Lahiniiana Fitiavana Ravelomahay, the Civil Administrator for the Brickaville District. 'Our people are so grateful for your kind action to the victims of the recent disasters.'

ShelterBox Response Teams (SRT) have distributed a total of 600 tents, 1,000 mosquito nets and eight SchoolBoxes in the eastern region of Brickaville over the past six weeks, bringing the deployment to a close.

One beneficiary, Helene Genevier, was living in her house with her husband and three children when Cyclone Giovanna struck on 14 February:

'As soon as we ran out of the house, the winds flattened it. We slept afraid under the stars for a while but now we have this beautiful tent and we feel safe again. We are now rebuilding our home. Thank you very much to everyone who made this happen.'

ShelterBox has had logistical support from local scouts, Rotary and the country's National Bureau of Risk and Disaster Management (BNGRC), making collaboration key in the tent distribution.

We at Rotary Club Tamatave are very proud of the cooperation between the local scouts and the ShelterBox Response Teams that have come from far abroad to join forces here for the sake of our Malgasy communities,' said Tamatave's Rotary President Sam Riaz Fidaly.

The same local Rotary club has also raised sufficient funds for eight ShelterBoxes so far this year, which is a great achievement considering the average income in Madagascar is one Euro per day. SRT member Angelo Spencer-Smith, who was part of the final team on the deployment, said:

'The work of ShelterBox plays such a vital role in helping people take the first step on their journey to recovery. I have seen first-hand how donations are so welcomed by the people in need.'

Kind regards,
Coralie Farren
International Affiliates Manager
ShelterBox