



Reach Within to Embrace Humanity

# The Rotary Club of Brisbane Inc.

Founded 29 May 1923 Club 17787

*A global network of community volunteers*

31 October 2011



## The Rotary Club of Brisbane Inc.

23 Dean Road  
Alexandra Hills Qld 4161

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	Alistair Smith
President Elect	
Imm Past President	Basil Veal
Vice President	Keith Watts
Secretary	Bob Aldred
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.*

As most of you are aware I am currently on leave and sunning myself in the islands of Fiji. Whilst here I am hoping to have a bit more of a think about activities for the club over the next few months, so please let me know if you have any suggestions.

Otherwise I would just like to take this opportunity to remind you about the upcoming assistance needed for Donations in Kind, and I look forward to seeing you when I return.

*President Alistair*

**WHAT'S ON?**  
31 October:

TBA

### Date Claimers

#### Donations in Kind

We have been asked to help out with donations in kind. Assistance is required on 5th November at 8am, at 152 Freeman Rd, Durack, QLD, and we have been asked to send between 4 and 6 members. If you are able to attend, please let Alistair know as soon as possible.

### 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 24 October 2011

The Chairman John Smerdon introduced P Alistair who thanked the members for their assistance in making the Potential Member's special meeting such a pleasant and successful occasion, and hoped that it would encourage at least some of the attendees to join Rotary. Alistair reminded us that the Rotary Club of Brisbane was rostered for duty to load containers for Donations in Kind on Saturday the 5th of November and called for volunteers. He welcomed our speaker and a visitor, Sharon Sinclair-Hancocks from Brisbane Highrise.

Our guest speaker David Jones was a retired Government Auditor who now volunteers for duty at the Queensland Maritime Museum. He is an author and his current book – "Subs Down Under" has just been republished as a paperback. David gave an illustrated talk on the history of the US Submarine flotilla that used Brisbane as a base from 1942 to 1945. The submarine mother ship was self-contained and docked at the New Farm wharf. However as the war progressed they expanded on shore to use the New Farm wharf area, and their supply warehouses occupied the present site of Officeworks at Wilston.

The South Brisbane Dry Dock was large enough to accommodate the largest submarines, and Evans Deakin were involved in substantial repairs to damaged vessels. David showed where a damaged submarine that had collided with a Japanese ship in the dark, and had limped home with a badly bent bow, and had the repairs done in Brisbane. The first US Subs to arrive were old ex-World War 1 and very slow. They were not air conditioned and could not do more than two knots per hour underwater.

However as the war progressed the vessels and torpedoes improved and they became more successful. At the peak of the war 24 subs operated out of Brisbane. The US Submarine service lost 7 subs out of Brisbane with a loss of 426 lives. They sank a total of 117 Japanese vessels – 10% of all the Japanese ships sunk in the war. By the end of 1944 the US subs had effectively cut the Japanese supply routes and this contributed to victory. Brisbane based US subs were very active in transporting Australian commandos and Coast Watchers to and from Japanese occupied Pacific Islands throughout the war.

David said that most of the US sailors were very young, some teenagers, and even some Captains were under 30. They were grateful for the rest and recreation areas the US Navy established at Redcliffe and Toowoomba, and for the friendship and hospitality offered by Australian families, who offered a home atmosphere away from the horrors of war.

SAA Cam Bishop thanked David for his most interesting lecture and for reminding us of Brisbane's interesting war time history. He fined the Rugby supporters and welcomed Mel Evans home from New Zealand and congratulated Michael Stevens on the receipt of his Paul Harris Fellowship last week.

### 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

**31 October:**  
TBA

**7 November:**  
Russell Parker  
*The Kyeema Foundation::  
Rural Poultry in SE Asia  
Villages*

## Roster

### 31 October 2011

**President** A Smith  
**Chairman** M Kelly  
**Set Up/Away** P Ryan  
**Raffle** K Watts  
**Visitor Register** G Sellers  
**Attendance** B Esler,  
G Whitmore

### 7 November 2011

**President** A Smith  
**Chairman** P Little  
**Set Up/Away** R Scanlon  
**Raffle** M Winders  
**Visitor Register** C Shepherd  
**Attendance** B Esler  
G Whitmore

### 14 November 2011

**President** A Smith  
**Chairman** J Burton  
**Set Up/Away** G Sellers  
**Raffle** J Worrell  
**Visitor Register** J Smerdon  
**Attendance** B Esler  
G Whitmore

### 21 November 2011

**President** A Smith  
**Chairman** T Love  
**Set Up/Away** C Shepherd  
**Raffle** P Caragata  
**Visitor Register** L Stally  
**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*