



The Rotary Club of Brisbane Inc.

Founded 29 May 1923 Club 17787

A global network of community volunteers

31 August 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 – 1.30 pm

OFFICERS

| | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| President | Phil Gresham |
| President Elect | Tony McKinnon |
| Imm Past President | Graeme Whitmore |
| Vice President | Keith Watts |
| Secretary | Michael Stephens |
| Treasurer | Warren Walker |
| Sergeant-at-Arms | Cameron Bishop |

Directors, Main Committees

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Club Admin | Rick Tamaschke |
| Membership | Tony McKinnon |
| Public Relations | Denise Schellbach |
| Rotary Foundation | Graeme Whitmore |
| Service Projects | Patrick Caragata |

District 9600
Club Number 17787
Founded 29 May 1923

District Governor
John Leddy

**Rotary International
President**
K.R. (Ravi) Ravindran

President's Message

This week our guest speaker is Paul Quilliam who with his wife Gabrielle initially had the vision for Hummingbird House, Queensland's only children's hospice.

It will operate as an 8 bed, 24/7 medical facility, providing physician and nursing support and pain and symptom management. They will offer scheduled family breaks and emergency respite care as key features of their services.

Please make sure you attend this meeting, Hummingbird House is a great story <http://hummingbirdhouse.org.au/home/> DG John Leedy wife Barbara is very enthusiastically supporting this good cause for 2015-2016.

Last week Patrick prior to the meeting hosted a meeting for the Rotary Club of Brisbane's "Mentors for Charities Program". Attendees from Aunties & Uncles Queensland, BestLife Foundation and Australian College of Community Services. Mel, Clive and Denise are mentors and they have strong support from Rotaract members from the two city clubs who also attended the meeting.

Monday the 14th of September all will be revealed with the three charities telling their stories, make sure that you have it in your diary, especially those members that we haven't seen for a while.

I will be away this week taking a well-deserved 4.5 day break on a motorcycle trip to south of the Blue Mountains, VP Keith will be in the chair this Monday.

Yours in Rotary

Phil Gresham
President

WHAT'S ON?

31 August 2015
Hummingbird
House

DATE CLAIMER

7 September 2015:
Surprise Guest Speaker

14 September 2015:
Inauguration of RCOB's
Mentors for Charities
Program

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 August 2015

The Chairperson for the day was James Delahunty. After Rotary Grace, and toasts to the Queen of Australia and Rotary International, he introduced President Phil Gresham.

Among other matters, Phil welcomed Guest Speaker Dr Ashok Raj, and three Rotaract members Riley Thornton, David Stevens and Nick Elsworth. Riley, David and Nick, along with two other Rotaract colleagues Alex Moore Jeremy Houghton had attended a meeting with Patrick Caragata, Clive Shepherd and Mel Evans on the charities project, on which work with the three charities is beginning. The project is scheduled to be inaugurated at the RCOB meeting on 14 September.

Phil also advised of a District 9600 membership meeting to be held at St Columban's College Caboolture on Sunday 30 August, beginning 8.30am. Keith Watts and Tony McKinnon would be attending, and he invited others to join them.

President Phil's message is presented in detail elsewhere in the Bulletin.

After a short period of Fellowship, the Chair introduced Dr Ashok Raj, who is currently completing a PHD, in conjunction with Gerald Holtmann at the University of Queensland. Ashok gave a fascinating talk on non-alcoholic liver disease or steatohepatitis/fatty liver. The presentation, which was illustrated with PowerPoint slides, showed where the liver was located, what its function was and how it could be adversely impacted (similar to cirrhosis) if fat accumulated in the liver. This issue was growing within the population, partly due to increased obesity. Research is trying to pin down causes, such as leaky gut, and their effects. Diagnosis is usually through blood tests and can be followed with a biopsy. However a biopsy is problematic due to bleeding issues, so further tests, using ultrasound to determine the stiffness of the liver, are being developed. This was an excellent talk. Questions and discussion followed. Finally Ashok was presented with a memento of the occasion (pictured).



SAA Cam Bishop conducted an entertaining session and extracted the usual fines.

The meeting closed as scheduled.

The elephant in Rotary's living room

By Terry R. Weaver, governor of District 7750 (South Carolina, USA)
Source: blog.rotary.org

In my travels as a newly fielded district governor, I've run into a misperception that several clubs have told me is getting in the way of membership growth.

The elephant in the living room? ATTENDANCE.

Let's step back. Several years ago, Rotary's Council on Legislation declared that almost ANY legitimate Rotary activity qualifies as a make-up. This includes not only attending another club's meeting, but also a committee meeting or board meeting, working on a project (some clubs say for at least one or two hours), etc. "Etc." means anything that can reasonably be called a Rotary service activity. Now, of course to get "credit" for a make-up, the member has to report that qualifying activity to the club secretary. Most clubs use a sign-in sheet at a committee meeting or project and then forward the whole list to the secretary.



Calendar

14 September:

Inauguration of RCOB's Mentors for Charities Program. Presentations by 3 Charities (Aunties & Uncles, Bestlife, ACCS)

Friday 18 September:

Joint meeting with RC Brisbane Mid-City

Roster

31 August 2015:

| | |
|------------------|---------------------------|
| A/President | K Watts |
| Chairperson | W Bishop |
| Set Up/Away | M Evans |
| Raffle | A Gillespie |
| Visitor Register | S Francis |
| Attendance | J Smerdon D Schellbach |

7 September 2015:

| | |
|------------------|---------------------------|
| President | P Gresham |
| Chairperson | P Little |
| Set Up/Away | S Dunlop |
| Raffle | T McKinnon |
| Visitor Register | G Holtmann |
| Attendance | D Schellbach J Smerdon |

14 September 2015:

| | |
|------------------|---------------------------|
| President | P Gresham |
| Chairperson | G Whitmore |
| Set Up/Away | C Shepherd |
| Raffle | C Muir |
| Visitor Register | W Walker |
| Attendance | D Schellbach J Smerdon |

21 September 2015: NO MEETING

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



Measuring engagement

Why did the Council do that? Because the point of tracking attendance is not to make people come to meetings. When measured this way, it's a measure of engagement — a key performance indicator of how your Rotary club is doing at involving members in Rotary activities. Believe me, we have the data to prove that when a member isn't engaged and involved in the club, it's a short trip to a resignation letter. Look at your members' attendance percentages. Those at the bottom of the list are thinking about resigning. What can you do to get them engaged, involved, and — hopefully — passionate about something the club is doing?



Rotarian Bib Grazio and District 7750 Past District Governor Bruce Baker give students practical information about the working world during a recent Junior Achievement program. Some clubs count participation in a service project toward attendance.

More importantly, tracking engagement (attendance is a surrogate) is an important way of ensuring that members get the return on their Rotary investment that they deserve. Members who don't show up for club activities aren't getting the benefit of Rotary, and if we can identify those folks early, we can intervene and get them involved in something they're interested in.

Participation versus attendance

So, let's not only treat attendance as a key performance indicator for engagement but let's explain it the same way to prospects. Rather than, "You have to attend four meetings a month," say, "We expect you to participate in some Rotary activity four times a month — you pick the activity that works for you, and you pick the time." I think that's a whole different message, and actually what we're attempting to promote and measure.

It's not about making people come to meetings. It's about offering them a platform where they, in their own ways and based on their own preferences, can Be a Gift to the World.

Friendship and networking: That's why I stay in Rotary

By Chris Offer, Rotary Club of Ladner, British Columbia, Canada
Source: blog.rotary.org

One of the difficult decisions I made recently was to change Rotary clubs. I had moved from the city of Vancouver to the suburb of Ladner. I had continued commuting for a few years, 45 minutes each way, to my Rotary meeting. When I finally decided to join a club only 10 minutes from my home, I left friends of many years behind and was introduced to new friends. The network of friends in my old club and the new friends in my current club are why I stay in Rotary.

My network of Rotary friends goes far beyond my Rotary club. I have made Rotary friends from many countries. Rotary has taken me to every corner of the world. Rotary conventions and opportunities for volunteer service have extended my network of friends from Sudan to Russia to India to Australia. Social media keeps me connected to this extended network of Rotary friends.

I experienced firsthand at a recent Rotary meeting the opportunities offered by the Rotary network of friends. My local Member of Parliament (MP) is a member of my club. Not surprisingly, Rotarians often have questions and advice for her.



Students at St. Mary's Academy in Rawalpindi, Punjab, Pakistan, display the books they received from the Rotary Books for the World program and the Hashoo Foundation.

Even after the bell rang to end the meeting, a table of eight members continued their discussion with our MP for another 20 minutes. I know that not everyone at the table will vote for the MP's party. This was an open conversation on local and national issues.

For our MP, it was an opportunity to hear from her constituents, and for members of my club, it was the chance to talk to their federal representative candidly as a Rotary member.

There is no better place than a Rotary club to meet people from diverse backgrounds who offer friendship and networking opportunities. Every Rotary club in the world, no matter how big or small, has one common trait — friendship.

To me, Rotary friendship means standing outside a grocery store in December selling calendars to raise funds for community projects. Friendship means attending club social events at a member's home. It means supporting a club member who is ill. It means giving polio drops to children in India.

Local and global networking and friendship are the reasons I stay in Rotary. They are the reasons that being a Rotarian is such an exciting and gratifying experience.