



The Rotary Club of Brisbane Inc.
 Founded 29 May 1923 Club 17787

A global network of community volunteers

25 January 2016



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's meeting will be a club forum, last week's meeting was an informal "pre board meeting" discussion that was an excellent forerunner to this. The details are in the meeting report, everyone had a say and the matters discussed will lead to a better club in the future. I thank Secretary Michael for his initiative in making this happen and chairing the meeting. Club discussion is good for the club and we need more of it, I would like to see one meeting a month to discuss current and new projects and membership.

When was the last time you suggested a new project, proposed a new member or bought a good speaker to club? It is your club, over the past 92 years we have achieved so much but as Bob Dylan sung, "the times they are a changing" and we need to change to make ourselves a more "now" club. If you look at the clubs that are going places they are not doing the same old same old and expecting to get different results. Not everyone is going to want or like change but anything that the club does will be after rational discussion, it's up to you.

Denise is doing a stellar job with Eddies Van, for more than a decade she has been involved, last Wednesday was my first experience. Denise seems to know most of the customers and runs it with an "iron fist" she had two friends to assist and Dougal was there in business attire right down to the cufflinks. Rick and Clive were assisting the day before and you can see by Denise's right "shoe" that a major foot reconstruction wasn't going to slow her down! **(Photos at end of Bulletin)**

Yours in Rotary

Phil Gresham
President

WHAT'S ON?

25 January 2016
 Club Forum

Mystery Event



DATE CLAIMER

January 2016:
 RCOB participation in
 the 'Eddie's Van
 Initiative' continues

April 29 to May 1, 2016:
 District 9600
 Conference'

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
18 January 2016

Chairperson for the day was Clive Shepherd. After Rotary Grace, and toasts to the Queen of Australia and Rotary International, he introduced President Phil Gresham, who welcomed members to the meeting. Phil's message is presented in detail elsewhere in the Bulletin.

After a period of Fellowship, Secretary Michael Stephens led a wide ranging discussion on a number of key issues including:

- Meeting procedures
- Lunches and venues
- Board participation

Discussions on meeting procedures canvassed a number of options to make meetings more interesting and boost attendances.

Discussions about lunches centred on containing lunch costs, including various cost cutting options from the Brisbane Club, and alternatives from the United Service Club, whose offerings looked cost wise more attractive and also included free parking. There was some support for the status quo but also for the USC. One member suggested that the USC was outside the RCOB's designated locality (by about 100 metres) and should not be considered. As a matter of interest, **Article 3 of the Club's current Constitution and Bylaws (April 2015) states simply that: 'The locality of this club is as follows: Brisbane and surrounding areas.'**

Tony McKinnon also promised to obtain additional quotes from Tattersalls Club.

Discussion on Board participation centred on the size of the Board relative to RCOB membership and that Board membership should be focussed on individuals who actively worked to meet the objectives of the Club.

Further discussion and action would be required on all aspects. There was no SAA session and no fines, but members had contributed generously to the raffle, which was won by Michael Stevens. However the joker is still in the pack, so the jackpot remains to be won. The meeting closed at 2pm.

A Rotary Passage to India

By David Goodstone, Rotary senior writer
Source: blog.rotary.org

As a writer, I'm always looking for metaphors and similes, especially in unfamiliar places, searching for the right phrase to tell a story.

On my first Rotary trip to India with Rotary Polio Ambassador Minda Dentler, the story I was seeking to tell was the work of Rotary members and the Global Polio Eradication Initiative. My task was easy. For in India's sights, objects, and even signs, rich metaphors are abundant.

Take this sign on the back of a ubiquitous Tata truck: "Obey the Traffic Rules."

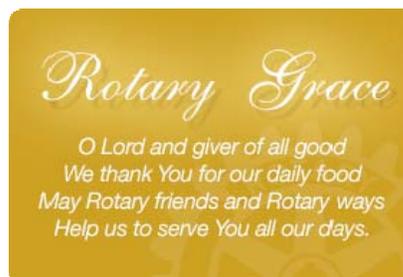


Tata truck in India

As any traveler on India's roads soon learns, vehicles routinely drive on the wrong side of the carriageway to overtake others or to use a stretch of tarmac not devastated by the monsoon rains, resulting in hair-raising face-offs with oncoming traffic.

But I saw rule-breaking in different ways. The rules of public and even expert opinion dictated that a country of India's size, population, and sanitation challenges could never become polio-free.

Despite the odds, India achieved that milestone last year, and I had the opportunity in November to see the polio eradication program in action during a Sub-National Immunization Day.



Calendar

1 February:
To be finalised

Roster

25 January 2016:

- President** P Gresham
- Chairperson** W Bishop
- Set Up/Away** R Tamaschke
- Raffle** G Evans
- Visitor Register** M Stephens
- Attendance** D Schellbach
J Smerdon

1 February 2016:

- President** P Gresham
- Chairperson** K Jenkins
- Set Up/Away** J Delahunty
- Raffle** T Kung
- Visitor Register** P Caragata
- Attendance** D O'Donoghue
D Schellbach

8 February 2016:

- President** P Gresham
- Chairperson** D Henderson
- Set Up/Away** M Evans
- Raffle** S Francis
- Visitor Register** A Gillespie
- Attendance** D Schellbach
J Smerdon

15 February 2016:

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

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



I've written about Rotary's work to eradicate polio for almost a year, but a field visit brings home not just the scale of the project, but the people behind the work keeping India's 172 million children age 5 and under safe from the disease.

I met dedicated Rotary members such as Deepak Kapur, India PolioPlus Committee Chair. As we ascended a freight elevator at his printing factory in Delhi, it dawned on me watching staff dashing to meet production deadlines just what kind of a sacrifice is involved in committing to end polio.

Here was a businessman, running successful operations in his humming factory, filled with stacks of printed books, pamphlets, and papers, who somehow finds the time to pull together all the threads required to ensure that one of the most populous countries in the world will never again fear the threat of polio.



Deepak Kapur and Minda Dentler

Thousands more like Deepak live out Rotary's creed, which is why the polio effort has been such a success.

There's the Rotarians from District 7730 who joined Minda and me for the immunization day in Delhi:



A valiant attempt to keep a straight face while sporting a fetching new End Polio Now fedora

In particular, there are also the female health workers who we had the pleasure to meet, who embody the dedication responsible for driving polio out of India. I plan to write a lot more about this trip than I can squeeze into this one blog post.



Minda Dentler with female health workers, ready for a door-to-door immunization drive with Rotarians from District 7730.

But I'll leave you with another sign, this time an advertisement, which serves as the perfect metaphor for my time in India, and the enriching experiences of working for Rotary:

What 30-Somethings need to know about Rotary

By Michael Bucca, a member of the Rotary Club of Central Ocean Toms River, New Jersey, USA
Source: blog.rotary.org

You might think that I, a 32-year-old member of a 110-year-old organization, would be preoccupied with trying to modernize my club's way of doing things. But remarkably, my experience in Rotary is teaching me to spend more energy convincing my generation – which keeps trying to reinvent everything – that there is much to be gained in the lost art of personal connection.

We all use social media in our daily lives. Without a doubt, Twitter, Facebook, text messaging, etc. has great value in our social and professional circles. But long before there were Wi-Fi connections, laptops, or smartphones, a man named Paul Harris came up with the idea of professional leaders getting together face to face to make a difference in their community. The organization that arose from this modest idea took its name from the early practice members had of rotating meeting locations between their offices.

In an era of instant communication defined by not-so-blind carbon copies, accidental "reply-alls," and desperate attempts to "recall" an email, many people seem to have lost the ability of competent verbal and non-verbal face-to-face communication with other human beings. Making good eye contact and managing a well-timed handshake are becoming endangered skills.

At a Rotary meeting, no one is trying to make a good impression via a text message. We are communicating with fellow members, community leaders, and guest speakers in person. We are networking in the way that was standard long before an Ethernet cable was a household commodity.



The Central Ocean Toms River Rotary Club during a recent meeting

Think of this as a real-life Facebook status combined with a weekly GoFundMe campaign

Does my Central Ocean Rotary Club in Toms River, New Jersey, use texts and emails? You bet. We are always using these tools to organize events, set up meetings, and handle various other tasks. When we aren't all together, we turn to technology to get the job done.

However, for one hour and 15 minutes every Tuesday, we turn our phones off, hold our meeting, and enjoy camaraderie with fun activities such as "Happy Bucks." One member at a time gives several dollars to the club and speaks about topics they are personally happy about. Think of this as a real-life Facebook status combined with a weekly GoFundMe campaign — except instead of "liking" a post, people listen and sometimes break out in applause.

Joining an organization like Rotary is a smart way to meet business leaders in your community and enjoy the opportunity to help people in need. Becoming a member lets you practice life skills that no social media site will ever provide: interpersonal communication. You might meet someone who will change your life. You may even change theirs. But instead of sending a friend request, you will walk right up to them and say "hello."

