



The Rotary Club of Brisbane Inc.

Founded 29 May 1923 Club 17787

A global network of community volunteers

12 September 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 – 1.45 pm

OFFICERS

| | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| President | Anthony (Tony) McKinnon |
| President Elect | |
| Imm Past President | Phil Gresham |
| Vice President | Dr Keith Watts |
| Secretary | Michael Stephens |
| Treasurer | Warren Walker |
| Sergeant-at-Arms | Max Winders |

**District 9600
Club Number 17787
Founded 29 May 1923**

District Governor
Alan Stephens

**Rotary International
President**
John Germ

President's Message

Fellows,

This week is an assembly when our club has the chance to review the progress made during the year to date and workshop solutions to the fundraising challenges we face. I propose that the service committees will each take a separate table, discuss fundraising options and come up with a list of workable projects to be implemented in coming months.

Also I announce that regular social events will start again. These occasions will be opportunities where members, their families and friends can enjoy an outing or informal gathering in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. Watch this space for notices of upcoming events.

Yours in Rotary

Anthony McKinnon
President

WHAT'S ON?

12 September 2016:
Club Assembly

DATE CLAIMER

Sunday 18th September:

Rotary Foundation and Grants Seminar, District Annual General Meeting and Youth showcase, St Columbans College

Sunday 9th October:

Part B Rotary Leadership Institute 9 - RI D9600 Centre, North Lakes

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 5 September 2016

Chairperson for the day was Michael Stephens. After Rotary Grace, and toasts to the Queen of Australia and Rotary International he introduced President Tony McKinnon who welcomed members and guests to the meeting. Tony's message is provided elsewhere in the Bulletin.

In Rotary Spots, Denise Schellbach publicized the speaker program that is outlined in the Bulletin and urged members to attend.

PP Phil Gresham indicated that he was delighted with the outcomes of the Wal Bishop Testimonial Dinner...some \$20, 000 had been raised for charity.

PP Keith Watts outlined key forthcoming D9600 events that are advertised in the 'Date Claimer' section of this Bulletin, and urged as many members as possible to attend. He also emphasized the role of the Rotary Foundation and co-funding of projects with its help.

PP Wal Bishop thanked all those that had been involved in organizing his testimonial dinner. He had enjoyed the function very much and also thanked those who had attended. In his role of RCOB's newly appointed Rotary Foundation Director, Wal indicated that he would be contacting members to discuss potential funding initiatives.

After a short period of 'Fellowship', Michael Stephens introduced Club Auditor Phillip Fitzgerald (supported by Elissa). He is a Director of Integrated Audit Service Pty Ltd, and also Director of Chhora Chhori Children's Foundation (CCCF) during 2015/16. CCCF specializes on providing food, education and other essentials to orphans and needy children in Nepal. Phillip's talk focused on his experiences in Nepal with the organization... Elissa focused on the fund raising aspects. A little money can go a long way in Nepal...for example meals cost around USD0.2 per meal.

This was a very interesting presentation appreciated by members. Questions and discussion followed. Finally Phillip and Elissa were thanked by acclamation. (Further details may be obtained from Phillip at Integrated Audit Service Pty Ltd.) SAA Max Winders ran an entertaining session while exacting the usual fines. Phil Little won the raffle, but the joker is still in the (new) deck.

The meeting closed at 1.50pm.

Rotary Youth Exchange tour reunites 25 years later

By Emma Naas, a former Rotary Youth Exchange Student from Sweden
Source: blog.rotary.net

In the summer of 1991, 377 Rotary Youth Exchange students boarded eight buses and journeyed around the American continent for five weeks. Those weeks were for all of us unforgettable, and a fantastic end to our exchange year. The time we spent on those buses was so special, it created an unforgettable bond between us and a wonderful memory. We never thought we would ever meet again. But we were wrong.

Five years ago, we started a closed Facebook group with about 30 members. We helped each other track down and find as many members of that tour as possible. Today we are 278 strong.



Rotary Youth Exchange students from 1991 reunite 25 years later.

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

19 September:
Speaker to be confirmed

26 September:
Tony Pilkington (ex ABC announcer)

3 October:
Queen's Birthday Public holiday

10 October:
Fellowship

Roster

12 September 2016:

President T McKinnon
Chairperson J Page
Set Up/Away P Little
Visitor Register P Ryan
Attendance/Raffle D Schellbach
J Smerdon

19 September 2016:

President T McKinnon
Chairperson G Whitmore
Set Up/Away S Dunlop
Visitor Register J Delahunty
Attendance/Raffle D Schellbach
J Smerdon

26 September 2016:

President T McKinnon
Chairperson M Williams
Set Up/Away G Holtmann
Visitor Register K Watts
Attendance/Raffle D Schellbach
J Smerdon

3 October 2016:

No Meeting
Queen's Birthday Public Holiday

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



On 21 July through 24 July, about 100 members of the 1991 tour met again for the first time in 25 years. The reunion was held in Spain with former exchange students flying in from 24 different countries as far away as Australia, the Philippines, Chile, Argentina, Brazil, USA, and Japan, to join many from the European countries.

During those four days we realized that the trust we based our friendship on 25 years ago is still there. We help each other in big and small ways. We network. We won a European Language award. And during the reunion we all signed a letter addressing the governments in each of our countries asking them to support exchange programs.

This is just the beginning of what we can accomplish together. Rotary joined us together 25 years ago, and we are still here, celebrating a year that forever changed us. We stand for trust and friendship across borders, across differences cultures, languages, and religions. We are the world, just a smaller and more peaceful one.

We say Thank You Rotary. We are eager to tell our story so Rotary knows, and the world knows, the power of Rotary Youth Exchange.

How to identify your club's membership problem

By Richard Cunningham, Rotary Club of James River, Richmond, Virginia, USA
Source: blog.rotary.net

My club is a relatively young club (10 years) and does not carry some of the baggage older clubs do, although we certainly have had our problems. The club had dwindled down to just four members at one point before I transferred into it in 2012.

Near the end of 2012, a small team embarked on a structured and planned process of cultural change. Under the umbrella of "Service-Centered Leadership," we have been able to achieve some amazing results. The club has grown to 24 members and is on its way to stabilizing at 40 active members, at which time we will look to seed another club.

What is the secret of our success? We take a strategic, not tactical approach.



Members of the Rotary Club of James River, Richmond, Virginia, USA.

Our core membership message mirrors RI President John Germ's recipe for growth: engage members in community activities. We have dynamic projects in both basic education and literacy, and maternal and child health. Every one of our last five new members has a connection with either the medical field or education, or both. One new member was a transfer, who switched because their previous club was not involved in any major projects. We have also reached out to the recently retired; two of our newest members just retired this year.

I say all this not to brag, but to share what can be achieved with a vision, a plan, high volunteer expectations, and a solid, sustained team effort. Almost every member of our club is engaged. We do not settle for less in a new member, and have been committed to this approach for three years now.

We've shared our message at zone meetings and in discussion forums. When coaching leaders how to help a club with membership issues, we always advise they first take a hard look at what they are dealing with. The first step to problem-solving is always identifying the real problem. We've often found it to be one or more of the following:

- A deeper root problem. In almost all cases, there are several other areas of club operations and leadership that aren't going well. Declining membership is usually the symptom of a deeper dysfunction, not the root problem.
- Lack of a sustainable strategy. These are clubs with few plans for keeping a pipeline of future leaders. They may be led by a group of mostly inexperienced Rotarians with less than three years in Rotary, or by a highly experienced group who like the prestige of leadership but have long since lost their passion for steadily improving the club.

- Mired in status quo. The club may have been dysfunctional so long that the leadership team has no experience of a vibrant club. All they have seen is the current state and they don't actually know what "good" looks like.
- Lack of knowledge. The leadership team has never honestly diagnosed the problem. They have a lot of guesses, but no facts. It could be retention, a lack of prospects, an inability to close the deal on prospects, lack of curb appeal, the existence of "toxic" members, or something else.
- Lack of history. The leadership team doesn't have a sense of the club's membership trends. They don't know how many members have joined or resigned in the past decade, or seen any patterns in the club's membership.

The first step to addressing your club's membership problem, or helping another club, is to do some fact finding. Pull whatever membership history is available and see what it tells you. Even if it doesn't provide answers, it should tell you the questions you need to be asking as you engage your club in solving the problem.

Armed with facts, or at least questions, you can begin to develop intentional strategies to create a culture of membership growth.