



The Rotary Club of Brisbane Inc.

Founded 29 May 1923 Club 17787

A global network of community volunteers

19 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,

Last Monday the club had an interesting club assembly, during which we discussed very important topics affecting the club's functioning and wellbeing. If you were not able to attend please make every effort to come in November. Your opinions and suggestions are important.

As I have said previously, we must focus on how to raise funds to operate the club at a minimum cost to members and to support worthy service projects. Like it or not, it is always easier to identify worthy service projects and respond to calls on our charity than to come up with fundraising initiatives that compete with other fundraisers for the public's ever decreasing, discretionary disposable dollar. We need to consider how the club can attract contributions from the corporate and government purse rather than continue to make appeals to our membership.

Five members attended the leadership seminar on the weekend at the North Lakes district headquarters. The content was worthwhile but, given that a two day presentation was compressed into one, the tempo of topics meant that the amount of material was difficult to absorb in the time allowed. Our club should nominate more experienced members for the programme in future.

The Club Bacchus has been resuscitated. A club social function will be scheduled for each month starting in October 2016. Watch this space for notice of further events.

WHAT'S ON?

19 September 2016:

Thomas Allison
*Rotary Exchange
Student to Denmark*

DATE CLAIMER

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

Sunday 30th October
Part A Rotary Leadership
Institute 10

Sunday 20th November
Part B Rotary Leadership
Institute 10

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?





Our outbound overseas exchange student will be visiting the club on Monday. Come along and meet with him and hear how he proposes to spend his time in Denmark.

Yours in Rotary

Anthony McKinnon
President

Rotary meeting 12 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. She also urged members to consult the duty rosters in the Bulletin.

Bulletin Editor Rick Tamaschke asked for help with taking meeting minutes for those meetings when he was 'on the road'. Mel Evans, Phil Little and President Tony McKinnon offered to help...Tony had helped over the couple of years as had Clive Shepherd. This way, it was possible for Rick to continue editing the Bulletin while away.

After a period of Fellowship, the meeting switched to the 'Club Assembly'. Discussions were led by President Tony, and various key matters were raised. Fund raising remains a critical issue... Rotary is not primarily a social club...its focus is on charity and fundraising. Worthwhile projects that also encouraged member participation were essential. As a first step we should focus on worthy projects that had been suggested and evaluated earlier in 2016, and that required further development/action (including the provision of assistance to rural communities).

Members should be prepared to accept invitations to join project committees...it is essential that the burden of executing projects and the necessary fundraising is spread rather than resting heavily on the efforts of one or two members (as with the recent Wal Bishop testimonial dinner). Otherwise there was a real risk of 'burnout'. Besides major projects, various 'operational methods' (e.g. buy a steer as a part of the food chain, and changing the raffle format to boost participation) should also be considered.

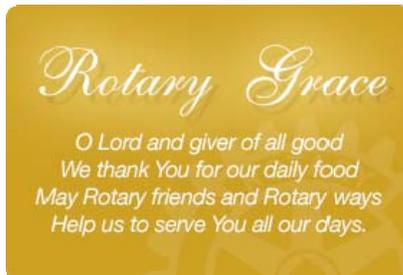
PP Keith Watts focused on membership and attracted attention to the alternatives under the 'Join Us' menu on RCOB's website www.brisbanerotary.org.au/ Increased membership was a major issue. As previously reported in the 29 August Bulletin, the target was 50 members by 30 June 2017, including a significant increase in female members.

PP Keith also informed members that: the members-only page on the website has now been set up (the password may be obtained from Secretary Michael Stephens) and; RI has now issued the revised Manual of Procedure 2016, containing the revised Standard Club Constitution. This is available on:

www.rotary.org/myrotary/en/document/manual-procedure-035-en.

As discussions had gone much longer than expected, no time was left for the SAA session and members were simply asked to contribute \$5 each in place of the usual fines. In the raffle the joker is still in the deck and the new jackpot remains to be won.

The meeting closed at 2pm.



Calendar

26 September:

Tony Pilkington (ex ABC announcer)

3 October:

Queen's Birthday Public holiday

10 October:

Fellowship

17 October:

Jacki Huestis 'Mercy Ships'

Roster

19 September 2016:

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

26 September 2016:

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

3 October 2016:

No Meeting
Queen's Birthday Public Holiday

10 October 2016:

President	T McKinnon
Chairperson	P Robb
Set Up/Away	P Little
Visitor Register	T Kung
Attendance/	D Schellbach
Raffle	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



Making peace, one exchange student at a time

By Marcellin Niset, Rotary Youth Exchange Student from Belgium to Alaska
Source: blog.rotary.net



Belgian Exchange Student Marcellin Niset in Alaska

The Italian-American author and actress Vanna Bonta wrote, "There's no hospitality like understanding." That quote stuck with me as a Rotary Youth Exchange student to Alaska in 2015-16. I arrived in Alaska, a wilderness filled with beauty and love, determined to make my exchange purposeful and beneficial for myself, my host community, and the world.

An exchange is not only about a student going abroad, it is about all the people that make this exchange possible, and the ones that are impacted, directly and indirectly.

I come from a small village in rural Belgium and the exchange is a unique chance to accomplish something bigger than myself. To be selected as an ambassador for Rotary and my country meant being the custodian of national values and beliefs.

Sometimes, the mission was easy. I brought happiness to people by making countless Belgian waffles. I presented facts about my homeland to my host club and community. But going deeper, and sharing what makes people from my country unique, explaining why we think and behave differently, without judging, is harder. There is not just one way to do things, and one way isn't better than another, just different.

At my first orientation with the other exchange students in Alaska, our coordinator told us that the Rotary Youth Exchange motto was to "Make peace in the world, one student at a time." I only understood the real meaning of this sentence later in my exchange.



Niset is using his exchange year as an opportunity to promote tolerance and respect

Terrorist attack

On 22 March, Belgium became the target of a terrorist attack. I saw the last place I had been in my country, the airport, blown up by people who didn't understand differences. I saw a symbol of globalization exploded and my beliefs harmed. I had a friend from France, two from Indonesia, one from Germany. All of them felt the weight of terrorism. It oppresses you, makes you fearful, sad, and angry.

How in a world interconnected, multicultural, and full of exchange students, can terrorist attacks still happen?

But then it suddenly made sense to me why I was on exchange at this time. I realized how I could explain the values my country stands for, and show how Rotary members and exchange students can work together to help solve the world's problems. Rotary members already have a drive to change the world. Exchange students promote tolerance and respect.

Thanks to my exchange, I had the opportunity to share my values, my beliefs, my identity. I try to make the world stronger, one speech at a time, and am inspired to strive for greater things.

This is the power of Rotary Youth Exchange. And it can be the pride of Rotary, too.

Living a Rotary dream

By Binish Desai, a member of the Rotary Club of Bulsar, India, and a former Rotary Youth Exchange student
Source: blog.rotary.net



Binish Desai and the brick his company makes from industrial waste.

India is my Nation
Valsad is my Station
Helping is my Aim
Binish is my Name

I'll never forget the introduction I used as an exchange student.

This year, I have had the outstanding opportunity of not only meeting other youth exchange students from around the world, but of being recognized by my Rotary community as an outstanding alumnus. My youth exchange took place in 2009-10 almost six years ago, and yet my Rotary experience feels like it's just beginning.

During my exchange to Waukegan, Illinois, I searched for opportunities to be a part of the community and help out. For this I took up a challenge called the Polar Bear Plunge, which involved jumping into a frozen Lake Michigan in the heart of winter! I collected the highest amount any individual had ever collected for the event to support Special Olympics. In recognition of my community service, the town of Waukegan gave me their ambassador pin, and my host school district awarded me with a Superintendent's Leadership Award. I was most honored to be named a Paul Harris Fellow by my host club.

But it's not the recognition that drives me. You could say I've been serving my community since I was young.



At the age of 11, I had an urge to invent things that would help society. I created a brick made out of paper waste and chewing gum that is one of eight patents I own.



Binish Desai takes part in the Polar Bear Plunge

Just a few years after my exchange year, I started my own company to provide low cost eco-friendly building materials and today I am chairman of the BDream Group of Industries. We take industrial waste and process it with a specially formulated base, then form it into bricks that are dried using solar power.

My inventions help recycle a large amount of industrial waste every day and provide low cost houses and toilets to rural India. We also provide subsidized toilets to local Rotary projects. Giving back to Rotary in this way is important to me.

I joined the Rotary Club of Bulsar in 2015 because I believe in what Rotary does. I was honored to be nominated by my district and selected as one of the zone winners of the Rotary Alumni Global Service Award. Being one of the youngest youth exchange students to be nominated for this award humbles me, and I can't wait to see what the future holds.

My father is an active Rotarian, so I grew up around Rotary. I live a dream every day; a dream I started at age 11, that was made a reality as a Rotary Youth Exchange student, and that I have lived ever since.



The toilets are stronger, cheaper, and more durable than conventional ones