



The Rotary Club of Brisbane Inc.

Founded 29 May 1923 Club 17787

A global network of community volunteers

17 October 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 | Graeme Whitmore |
| 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

Unfortunately, President Tony McKinnon has resigned for medical reasons. We wish him well. The Interim President for the remainder of Rotary 2016/17 will be confirmed at today's meeting.

WHAT'S ON?

17 October:
Jacki Huestis
'Mercy Ships'

DATE CLAIMER

Monday 24th October
Visit of President Joseph, for the signing of a new Sister Club agreement between RCOB and his Club.

Sunday 30th October
Part A Rotary Leadership Institute 10

Sunday 20th November
Part B Rotary Leadership Institute 10

Tuesday 29th November
The Rotary Foundation Centennial dinner

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 10 October 2016

Meeting Opened: 12.45pm

Chairman: Peter Robb

Acting President: Vice President PP Keith Watts

The meeting was opened by Rotarian Peter Ross with a welcome to all and a formal toast to Queen and Rotary International. He also tried to seek favour with those from 'across the ditch' by suggesting a toast to the NZ Rugby team, however 'the motion failed in the absence of a seconder'.

Peter then introduced Vice President Keith to welcome visitors and present his address to the Club.

Keith welcomed the following guests:

- Rotarian Ken Ryan from the Rotary Club of Kenmore.
- Prospective member Daniel Dan-Kov.

He also acknowledged an apology from PP Don O'Donoghue.

VP Keith then proceeded to pass on several items of business as follows:

- Announced the membership resignation of President Tony McKinnon for medical reasons.
- Announced the Rotaract Conference is on this week-end (Oct 14 – 16).
- Gave an update on the Rotary Leadership Institute 9 that was attended by new Rotarians Terry, Mark and Peter along with himself.
- He advised that Rotary Leadership Institute 10 commences on Sunday 30th October. Cost is \$50pp which includes lunch, morning and afternoon teas along with a course handbook.
- President Joseph of the Rotary Club of Tsim Shat Sui will be visiting our Club on the 24th October to formalise/renew our Sister Club Agreement.
- The Membership Committee is to meet at Keith's house this Wednesday (12th October).
- VP Keith advised that he along with Rotarians Gerald Holtmann, Terry Kung and Mark Williams attended the Rotarian Foundation seminar on 18th September.

- VP Keith also advised that he attended the District AGM.
- Keith then provided an overview of the District Insurance arrangements/requirements for the members' information.

Chairman Peter then invited members for 'spots'.

A refreshed and vitalised PP Phil Gresham advised members that the Club website had been updated. He also passed on further detail and information regarding the upcoming Rotaract Conference which is expecting up to 230 attendees.

Rotarian Denise Schellbach passed on to members details regarding upcoming meetings and guest speakers. She also reminded the Club that assistance will be required with Eddie's Van again this year once the school kids go on holidays. Watch this space.

PP Mel Evans passed on to the Club that a formal thank you had been received from Aunties & Uncles following the Club's donation of \$6,000 as a result of the Wal Bishop Testimonial. Mel also gave a 'watch this space' in relation to the Aunties & Uncles Kids Xmas party to take place on Sunday 27 November at Doughboy Parade Hemmant. BBQ hands will be required.

Sec Michael Stephens passed on to the members that 'absent' members may be returning to the fold when time permits. Both Tony Love and Patrick Caragata are on the raider for visits.

VP Keith did a 'Dame Nellie' to point out to the members that the Rotary Club of Brisbane is now identified on the meeting Lunch Menu produced by The Brisbane Club.



Calendar

24 October:

Griffith University Research Centre
Music, Health & Wellbeing

31 October:

Greg Beard
Mater Foundation.

7 November:

Awaiting reply from guest speaker.

Roster

17 October 2016:

| | |
|------------------|--------------|
| President | G Whitmore |
| Chairperson | J Page |
| Set Up/Away | R Tamaschke |
| Visitor Register | P Ryan |
| Attendance/ | D Schellbach |
| Raffle | J Smerdon |

24 October 2016:

| | |
|------------------|--------------|
| President | G Whitmore |
| Chairperson | G Holtmann |
| Set Up/Away | T Kung |
| Visitor Register | S Francis |
| Attendance/ | D Schellbach |
| Raffle | J Smerdon |

31 October 2016:

| | |
|------------------|--------------|
| President | G Whitmore |
| Chairperson | A Smith |
| Set Up/Away | M Evans |
| Visitor Register | M Winders |
| Attendance/ | D Schellbach |
| Raffle | J Smerdon |

7 November 2016:

| | |
|------------------|--------------|
| President | G Whitmore |
| Chairperson | D Henderson |
| Set Up/Away | P Little |
| Visitor Register | P Ryan |
| 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



With no formal speakers for the day the meeting escalated into room of sporadic chat before being interrupted by the Chairman to welcome the Sergeant at Arms, who proceeded to extract from, entertain and lambaste members to accompanying sounds of coin on tin.

He was 'one-upped' by Denise with the following: 'Behind every successful man is a very surprised woman.'

Following that, all that remained to complete was the raffle draw with Daniel Van Kov failing his attempt of securing the joker.

The meeting was closed with Advance Australia Fair whilst contemplating the flag on top of Australia Post.

How Rotary is providing opportunities for a brighter future

By Carolyn Johnson, Vice-Chair of the Literacy Rotarian Action Group and member of the Rotary Club of Yarmouth, Maine, USA
Source: blog.rotary.net

Recently, I visited a small government school outside Kampala, Uganda. The school is located on the edge of a growing community, but most of these students live in a small nearby fishing village.

Many of the children were barefoot and dressed in what they could assemble of the school uniform. The school is basic: a concrete floor, block walls and a tin roof- but clean and neat, with all the children wearing broad smiles and clearly happy to be in school with caring and supportive teachers. The first time I visited this school, it was a very different sight.



School children in Kampala, Uganda.

Just three years ago, the school was a tiny building of three cramped classrooms – no doors and no windows. Each teacher taught two grades without books and education materials. That day, children weren't attending classes, but a cow had made itself at home in the school: tipping over benches, knocking down the old blackboard with its horns, and doing what cows do. It was not surprising that parents didn't enroll their children in school. It just didn't seem worthwhile.

Serving as role models

Enter the Kajjansi Rotary Club – Rotarians living or working nearby who clearly saw an opportunity. After talking with the teachers and education officials in the area, they made plans to build three new classrooms – basic rooms to provide a classroom for each grade level.

The Rotary members also understood that these children would benefit from role models to encourage regular attendance and commitment to studying. Each Rotarian mentors a student, as do local members of Rotaract. The club gave each child a backpack and some basic school supplies to help them with their studies. It wasn't a huge monetary investment and all funds were raised locally. But this investment is clearly yielding great dividends.

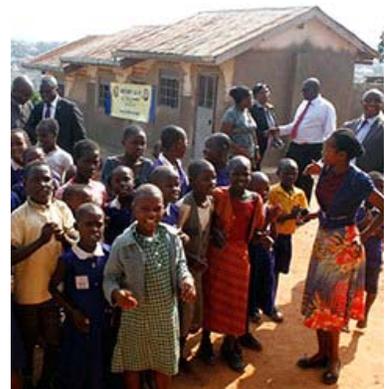


A child sports his backpack.

In return for the Rotarians' investment, the ministry fulfilled its commitment to provide a teacher for each grade level. The school now has some text books and a few teaching supplies.

And the results? Enrollment increased from 16 children three years ago to 96 children attending classes today!

My Rotarian colleagues recently took me to visit the school, see the progress, and meet the students. All successful business people dressed in business attire, they commented that this school reminded them of their own childhood: barefoot, walking to school, few resources, but committed teachers. One by one, and totally unplanned, each Rotarian shared their own story with the children. Their message: despite humble beginnings, the opportunity to attend school and receive an education was the key to their success.



The school Rotarians helped build in Kampala.

What is Rotary?

It was then my turn to talk to the students. Though education has been so important in my life, my experiences were so unlike the challenges these children face. Instead, I asked, "What is Rotary – and what do Rotarians do?" A young girl, perhaps ten years old, raised her hand and stood. "Rotarians," she said, "are people who give us opportunities for a better future."

What more is there to say? Through connections with our communities, Rotary service offers opportunities for so many. What better investment of resources or better impact of Rotary service could there be than supporting education to give opportunity for a better future?



How to promote your club by not talking about your club

By Quentin Wodon, Rotary Club of Capitol Hill, Washington, D.C., USA
Source: blog.rotary.net

Sometimes the best way to gain a little attention for your club is to not talk about your club, but about other worthy groups and volunteers you are working with.

Rotary members are becoming more aware of the need to tell their Rotary story. But here's the catch. It may be better to use local blogs or magazines in your community rather than your club or district's own channels. This is because typically, these external sources will have a much larger readership.

But how do you get local blogs or magazine to use your stories?

Once in a while, you may have a great story to tell about your club that the blog or magazine will accept. However, they are not going to want to repeatedly publish stories on so narrow a topic. This is where talking about other organizations comes into play.

As president of my club this year, I have started to write stories about our nonprofit partners, focusing on their work, but also inserting a few lines about our Rotary club in each story.



Volunteers from Capitol Hill Group Ministry assist the homeless. Photo courtesy Capitol Hill Group Ministry.

The main local blog for my club's community in Washington, D.C., is "The Hill Is Home." And the main magazine is Hill Rag, which is published monthly. So I started writing stories for both, again not directly about our club, but about the great work that our nonprofit partners are doing, and how we are working with them. At the bottom of each article or blog post I provide basic information on our club and when we have our regular meetings. So far I have published three articles for Hill Rag and a half dozen blog posts for the Hill Is Home.

It's all about visibility

This approach seems to be worthwhile not only to get our club slightly better known, but more importantly to give visibility to great nonprofits serving those in need. For example, one of the stories focused on Capitol Hill Group Ministry, which organizes teams of volunteers to check on the welfare of homeless, especially during extreme weather.

Our nonprofit partners are grateful when we write about them. They deserve the spotlight as they are truly at the frontline in helping the poor and those who are vulnerable in our communities. Hopefully, this strategy of writing about our nonprofit partners helps them and promotes volunteering in the community, while also mentioning in passing the role that our club plays in contributing to positive change.



About the author: Quentin Wodon is a lead economist at the World Bank. He holds PhDs in economics and in theology and religious studies, and has taught at universities in Europe and the U.S. He is a member of the Rotary Club of Capitol Hill, in Washington, D.C., and is involved in several innovative global grants. He is also author of the Rotarian Economist blog.