



The Rotary Club of Brisbane Inc.

Founded 29 May 1923 Club 17787

A global network of community volunteers

7 November 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

Fellow Rotarians

My short message is being sent from Palm Cove in FNQ.

It is pleasing to record that with help from J Smerdon, P Robb, M Williams and VP K Watts, the truck driver and ground staff members uplifted approx. half of the chairs and tables from Springwood State High School and delivered them.

The remaining half have been scheduled for uplift next Thursday.

Thank you all for your help.

We may also have a further furniture donation from another school at the end of the year.

I understand you had a good speaker last week and it appears we have good support for upcoming joint meetings with RMC. I am a supporter of these meetings where we can work together to achieve our common aims.

I will be back on Monday

Yours in Rotary

President Graeme

WHAT'S ON?

7 November:
Greg Beard
Mater Foundation.

DATE CLAIMER

Wednesday 9th November
5.30 - 6.30pm, Membership
Drive in The Oak Room of the
Brisbane Club.

Postponed to February 2017:
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 minutes 31 October 2016

Chairperson for the day was PP Phil Gresham. After Rotary Grace, and toasts to the Queen of Australia and Rotary International he introduced PP Keith Watts, Acting President for the day in the absence of President Graeme Whitmore, whose message is detailed elsewhere in the Bulletin. Keith welcomed members, visiting Rotarians and visitors to the meeting, and attracted attention to the points raised in President Graeme's message.

In Rotary Spots, John Smerdon asked for help to pick up desks and chairs from Springwood State High School for transport to the DIK Depot in Oxley. Volunteers were asked to meet at the School at 8am on Thursday 10 November (not Friday 11 as initially advertised).

Jacqui Page advertised the planned 'Membership Drive' function scheduled for 9 November between 5.30pm and 6.30pm in the Oak Room, level 4 of the Brisbane Club. The first half of the meeting would be for networking, and the second half would consist of a number of short presentations on topical issues. Tony Pilkington would be MC. Members would be asked to participate and she hoped for a good attendance.

Denise Schellbach reminded members of the duty roster for the coming week. She also publicized the meeting program for the coming weeks, as outlined in the Bulletin.

Visiting Rotarian Mike Evans from RCOB Mid-City publicized a Mid-City meeting to be held on 2 December and hoped that it could be a joint meeting with RCOB.

After a short period of 'Fellowship' PP Phil introduced the Guest Speaker Darryl Iseppe, District 9600 Rotary Foundation Chair, who spoke on RI's Foundation. His talk was accompanied by numerous pamphlets and handouts. Established in 1917, The Rotary Foundation transforms gifts from Rotarians into projects that change lives both close to home and around the world.

'As the charitable arm of Rotary, we tap into a global network of Rotarians who invest their time, money, and expertise into our priorities, such as eradicating polio and promoting peace. Foundation grants empower Rotarians to approach challenges such as poverty, illiteracy, and malnutrition with sustainable solutions that leave a lasting impact.' (Full details may be obtained at: <https://www.rotary.org/myrotary/en/rotary-foundation>)

Wal Bishop is the Rotary Foundation Director at RCOB and will be looking for ideas for projects. One very prominent project proposed from District 9600 during Queenslander Sir Clem Renouf's term as RI President was the eradication of polio (On this see:

www.rotary.org/myrotary/en/document/wal-bishop-polio-rotarian-january-2014).

This was an excellent presentation much appreciated by the audience. Questions and discussion followed. Finally Darryl was thanked acclamation.

Acting SAA Steve Dunlop ran an entertaining session including some good jokes, while exacting the usual fines from members. Keith Watts won the raffle but the joker is still in the deck and the jackpot remains to be won.

The meeting closed at 2.05pm.

Polio survivors say 'thank you'

By Rotary staff
Source: blog.rotary.net

On 9 September, we received a visitor at Rotary International World Headquarters in Evanston, Illinois, USA, who reminded us just how important the fight to eradicate polio is.



Calendar

14 November:
Fellowship

21 November:
Saxon Mew – Brexit

28 November
John Lawrence -Shelter Box

5 December:
Federal Member for Brisbane,
Trevor Evans

Roster

7 November 2016:

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

14 November 2016:

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| President | G Whitmore |
| Chairperson | W Bishop |
| Set Up/Away | S Dunlop |
| Visitor Register | J Delahunty |
| Attendance/ Raffle | D Schellbach J Smerdon |

21 November 2016:

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

28 November 2016:

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| President | G Whitmore |
| Chairperson | T Pilkington |
| Set Up/Away | P Robb |
| Visitor Register | T Kung |
| Attendance/ Raffle | 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



Every year, fewer and fewer cases of polio are reported, bringing us one-step closer to a polio-free world. Before Rotary launched the Polio Plus program in 1985, some 350,000 people a year were infected with the disease worldwide. Carol Ferguson was one of those people.

She is also the founder of the Pennsylvania Polio Survivor's Network, an organization that provides resources for people living with post-polio syndrome, an illness that can affect polio survivors 10-20 years after being infected with the virus, and which also impacts their families.

As Ferguson built her organization, she often turned to Rotary for information about polio and ongoing eradication efforts. She soon discovered how much work Rotary, along with its partner organizations in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, have done. Knowing firsthand the effects polio can have, Ferguson set out to create a Collage of Gratitude to show Rotary how much she and other polio survivors appreciated the work of the End Polio Now campaign.

One grandmother, who included a picture of her grandson, said, "Thanks to Rotary, he will never know the pain of this disease."

What started as a small initiative to gather submissions from those the network serves in Pennsylvania, New York, and New Jersey quickly went global. Ferguson received stories from survivors all over the world, along with images of their leg braces, iron lungs, and ventilators. One grandmother, who included a picture of her grandson, said, "Thanks to Rotary, he will never know the pain of this disease."

Ferguson visited Rotary headquarters to present the Collage of Gratitude to Carol Pandak, Rotary's director of Polio Plus, on behalf of the network and polio survivors everywhere. Along with it came a letter that read in part, "Without question, we all share the prayer that with worldwide vaccination, death and disability from the polio virus will soon be gone...forever."



Carol Ferguson, right, presents the Collage of Gratitude to Carol Pandak, Director of PolioPlus for Rotary International.

I thought I'd never walk again

By Nancy Wright Beasley, a polio survivor and member of the Rotary Club of Brandermill, Virginia, USA

Source: blog.rotary.net

I thought I'd never walk again, but I did.

I thought I'd never talk about polio either, but I've regularly shared my childhood memories of the disease since joining the Rotary Club of Brandermill in 2005. I had been invited to speak about my first book, *Izzy's Fire*. That's where I first learned about PolioPlus, and decided — that day — to join Rotary International's fight to eradicate the disease. I often say that I'm the only speaker who gave a speech then never left.

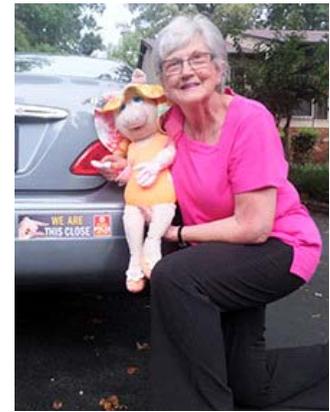
I contracted polio in the summer of 1952, in the middle of one of the worst epidemics in U.S. history.



Nancy Wright Beasley, who wrote *The Little Lion*, sits on one of the motorcycles used in the stage adaptation of her book during rehearsal at Swift Creek Mill Theatre. Photo by Clement Britt

Some 60,000 people nationwide were infected, killing 3,000 and paralyzing 21,000 others. My brother still remembers the summer day when he found me, the youngest of four children, unconscious under a snowball bush just beside our farm house in Christiansburg, Virginia.

A spinal tap at Roanoke's Memorial and Crippled Children's Hospital confirmed a diagnosis of polio. At 6, I had never spent a night away from my family, but I was isolated in a sterile room, seen only by medical personnel swathed in gowns and masks. I cried with joy the first time a nurse wheeled me into the sunroom where my mother placed her hand on a glass partition opposite mine. A prisoner of polio — I talked to her by telephone.



Nancy Wright Beasley with her favorite Muppet, Miss Piggy, spreading the word about polio eradication

When I was released months later, my parents were told I'd never walk again. Mama refused to accept that. She chopped wood to heat the water she lugged uphill from the springhouse, lowering me into a steaming tub and exercising my body beyond exhaustion. I'm fairly sure a home health nurse demonstrated the exercises, trying to stave off muscular atrophy in my legs. For months, Mama followed this routine twice a day, while acting as my substitute teacher; caring for my siblings, my father and grandfather; and helping with farm chores. With tears in his eyes, Daddy used to tell how Mama was so worried about me that he found her one day sitting on the bucket beside a cow and milking onto the stool.

Her hard work paid off — I eventually began to walk again, and though I had missed most of second grade except the last two months, I passed with flying colors.

My brother still remembers the summer day when he found me, the youngest of four children, unconscious under a snowball bush just beside our farm house in Christiansburg, Virginia.

I gleaned two important lessons from that experience: I never take walking for granted, and I approach difficult tasks as challenges to be overcome. When my third book, *The Little Lion*, was adapted for the stage by playwright Irene Ziegler, the world premiere was held at Swift Creek Mill Theatre in South Chesterfield, Virginia, in January.



I approached Tom Width, director of the Mill, as well as the play's artistic director, and he agreed to assist in a fundraiser for PolioPlus. Brandermill Rotarians joined with me to "Fill the Mill for PolioPlus" on 20 February 2016. Students, friends and Rotarians purchased tickets, some coming from as far away as New Jersey to help support the project, raising \$4,512 for PolioPlus.

DeJa View, a Richmond, Virginia, club whose members are polio survivors, was one of the welcoming audiences. The vast majority of members are physically compromised, and some have been stricken with post-polio syndrome. That didn't dampen their spirits, and one member managed to sell 13 tickets for the show. Several sent donations, even though they couldn't attend.

They, and the many individuals who helped, have inspired me to help carry RI's task to the finish line. After all, "We're this close."
