



# The Rotary Club of Brisbane Inc.

Founded 29 May 1923 Club 17787

*A global network of community volunteers*

12 December 2016



The Rotary Club of Brisbane  
Inc.

ABN 75 152 438 499

**GPO Box 2909  
Brisbane Qld 4001**

Meets 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
(Edinburgh Room)  
of the Brisbane Club  
Post Office Square  
241 Adelaide Street  
Brisbane

**MONDAYS**  
12.15 pm – 1.45 pm

## OFFICERS

|                           |                  |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| <b>President</b>          | Graeme Whitmore  |
| <b>President Elect</b>    |                  |
| <b>Imm Past President</b> | Phil Gresham     |
| <b>Vice President</b>     | Dr Keith Watts   |
| <b>Secretary</b>          | Michael Stephens |
| <b>Treasurer</b>          | Warren Walker    |
| <b>Sergeant-at-Arms</b>   | 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

Thank you Michael Stephens for filling in for me again last week

Back in Brisbane after a quick trip to Auckland for a funeral, and great to be back.

For those who complain about the traffic and house prices, may I suggest a quick trip along the Southern motorway into the city and any time of the day will make your drive into Brisbane a breeze.

As for house prices in the general areas of the eastern side of the city start at \$1m + and rise very quickly to \$5+ and these are not flashy houses, with some being what State houses, built in the nineteen forties, with lots of asbestos still prevalent.

Speaking with the past president of Howick Rotary Club he advised they have similar problems with getting members and getting them all to attend, while their annual costs are lower than ours, they do not include foundation payments, these are optional, but club does make up payments for those who do not contribute as individuals, and make payment as a club contribution.

He also advised that members pay their dues by an automatic monthly payment, no bad debts!!

## WHAT'S ON?

**12 December:**  
Fellowship

## DATE CLAIMER

**19 December:**

Annual General Meeting  
*Guest speaker: Magistrate  
Jacqui Payne*

**6 February:**

(joint meeting) Police  
Commissioner Ian Stewart  
United Service Club Wickham  
Terrace

**Postponed to February 2017:**  
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?





## President's message (continued)

Another very interesting point he made was that as they hire a hall and caterer for their meetings, those members who DO NOT ATTEND are levied as an automatic payment against their credit card, this ensures that the clubs administration expenses are fully covered. Perhaps this is an idea that our club should consider, given that it takes us approx. 50 full paying meals to pay for one freebee, or, for our speaker.

This week is a club fellowship day and a chance for members to raise any club issues and or suggestions, please attend as this is your club.

On the 16 December club members are invited to attend MID CITY final meeting and Xmas Lunch if members can make that lunch it would be great and reinforce that our club would like to work more closely for the overall benefits of Rotary.

Last Friday I attended Mid City with RTN Wal Bishop and Denise Schellbach and they had a very good speaker talking about the Breeding programme development of Bush Chickens in the Solomon Islands. Sounds like a worthwhile project to be involved in.

Finally our clubs Final meeting for the year is on Monday 19th December and our AGM and election of officers will take place. Denise has also obtained the services of a Queensland lady Judge to talk on that day so as this is our final meeting for 2016 come along and enjoy the company of your fellow members, and celebrate the new member growth this year.

## President Graeme

### Rotary meeting 5 December 2016

Chairperson for the day was Jacqui Page. In the absence of President Graeme Whitmore, she also acted as President for the day. After Rotary Grace, and toasts to the Queen of Australia and Rotary International she welcomed members and guests to the meeting. President Graeme's written message is detailed elsewhere in the Bulletin.

In Rotary Spots, Denise Schellbach indicated that there had been a positive response from members to help with the Eddie's Van initiative over the summer months...she was currently finalising the roster. She also publicized the meeting program for the coming weeks, and the duty roster (as outlined in the Bulletin).

After a period of 'Fellowship' Jacqui Page introduced the Guest Speaker, Trevor Evans MHR for Brisbane. Trevor spoke informally about a number of issues of interest including his background in retailing, his early experiences in Federal Parliament, including his early speeches, and his interests in community involvement and in behavioural economics. Among other matters, as politics had become increasingly volatile in recent years, greater stability and certainty was required to boost community confidence to focus more on longer term issues, with consequent implications for spending and jobs. Regarding the recent Federal elections, numerous comments had been made that the Senate was now more unworkable, given the lower quotas required in the double dissolution election. However relatively few crossbenchers had secured six year terms and the majority would therefore be up for re-election next time when normal quotas would apply.

This was an excellent and enthusiastic presentation much appreciated by the audience. Questions and discussion followed. Finally Trevor was thanked by acclamation. (For further information on Trevor's activities and background see: [www.aph.gov.au/Senators\\_and\\_Members/Parliamentarian?MPID=61378](http://www.aph.gov.au/Senators_and_Members/Parliamentarian?MPID=61378))

SAA Max Winders ran an entertaining session including some good jokes, while exacting the usual fines from members. PP Wal Bishop won the raffle but the joker is still in the deck and the jackpot remains to be won.

The meeting closed at 1.55pm.



## Calendar

### 19 December:

Annual General Meeting  
Guest speaker: Magistrate  
Jacqui Payne

### 23 January 2017:

Bernie Althofer (ex Police  
Inspector) bullying in the work  
force and other areas

### 30 January 2017:

Commonwealth Games  
Volunteers Program

## Roster

### 12 December 2016:

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

### 19 December 2016:

|                       |                           |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| President             | G Whitmore                |
| Chairperson           | R Tamaschke               |
| Set Up/Away           | M Evans                   |
| Visitor Register      | M Winders                 |
| Attendance/<br>Raffle | D Schellbach<br>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](mailto:secretary@brisbanerotary.org.au)



## Rotary is a family that unites

By Mark Wilson, Rotary Club of London  
Source: [blog.rotary.org](http://blog.rotary.org)

After a long flight from London, I arrived in Durban, South Africa, in 2011 to begin a short-term Rotary Youth Exchange, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Canterbury Sunrise and hosted by Westville Rotary. I did not know what or who would be greeting me, so I had a bit of anxiety which I can clearly remember to this day.

In hindsight, of course, I had nothing to fear as I stepped off the plane into King Shaka International Airport. What followed was an adventure like nothing I had ever experienced before. Enjoying many opportunities to volunteer made me feel as though I was making a contribution to the world. And taking time to listen to my hosts, I learned a lot about South Africa.



Mark Wilson during his Rotary Youth Exchange in South Africa..

### The meaning of kindness

But by far the most memorable part of the trip was the people. Rotary members and their families inspired me, and those interactions had a lasting impact on me. Rotarians showed me the meaning of kindness, generosity, and love. I thank Rotary and the wonderful people in South Africa for giving me first-hand experience of our shared core values. It was the best introduction anyone could hope to have into the global family.

Prior to my exchange, I had been a member of Interact since age 16, and then a member of Rotaract, twice president of both clubs. I had the opportunity to speak at many district conferences and visit many more Rotary clubs with the aim of encouraging Rotarians to continue to support young people.

### New member

In August of this year, at 26, I became a Rotarian, inducted into the Rotary Club of London. Not long after, RI President John Germ emailed me: "Mark: your story is a great one," encouraging me to share it.

The moral to my story is that we are a family and we should never lose sight of that. Not unlike any family that has lasted this long, we have learned that love and a common cause can unite despite our disparities. As we continue to grow, we must continue to embrace all who seek to serve humanity, regardless of age, gender, sexuality, ability, religion, race or otherwise. In a world that is becoming increasingly divisive, Rotary International must continue to shine, as it always has, as a beacon of peace, unity, fellowship, and friendship.



About the author: Mark Wilson is a university lecturer in London, England, a Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy, and member of the Rotary Club of London in District 1130, the first club chartered outside North America in 1912.

### It's not "your" project

By Dr. Francis "Tusu" Tusubira, a member of the Rotary Club of Kampala-North, Uganda  
Source: [blog.rotary.org](http://blog.rotary.org)



How many times do we hear Rotary members say, "we have our project in Kireberebe Kisunkaana?"

Let us get one thing right when dealing with economic and community development. And I will call this **lesson one**: it is not YOUR project.

It is a community project that you are supporting. Along these lines, I thought sharing a few experiential lessons is not a bad idea.

**Lesson two**: A community where disease is a challenge will lose so much time being sick that they cannot focus usefully on any other initiative that will help them develop

You cannot address economic and community development if you have not addressed basic health.

**Lesson three**: A community that does not have clean water, and which does not understand the relationship between "dirty water" and disease will have resultant health challenges: diarrhea, eye diseases, cholera, etc. You might as well have a comprehensive Water, Health, and Sanitation component as part of your project.

**Lesson four**: We all know that illiteracy can be a major barrier, if not a full block, to any efforts related to development. This really means economic and community development must also look at the literacy and numeracy environment (along with the ability to interpret, create linkages, and apply what is read to personal empowerment and development).

**Lesson five**: Poverty is state of mind. If you do not address the mindset of those that have accepted poverty as their lot, all the rest is a waste of time. This is an intangible challenge and the solution must be in addressing the mind.



Discussing an economic and community development project in Uganda

When the ground is fertile in terms of the elements above, enablers like skills development (chances are that these will relate to agriculture and other income generating opportunities in rural communities) can be introduced. Or all the elements can move simultaneously to create synergy. Microcredit, for example, is an enabler, not a solution. One realizes soon on in life (if one is lucky) that money is never a solution. Giving money to the poor does not make them rich: it makes them poor people with some transient cash.



What is clear is that in all the above, dedicated expertise will be required. So will partners with knowledge and experience in handling the different aspects. Cooperating organizations are now recognized as one of the key features of sustainable economic and community development. This does not mean Rotary members do nothing; they must also dig in and apply their skills. But being a Rotarian is not a full time job so we need a helping expert hand.

So you see, economic and community development is a totality approach, not a one-dimensional intervention. Which leads to one last lesson:

**Lesson six:** It is not the things we give to or put in communities that create sustainability. It is what the community does in response to what we do as Rotary members.

This is behavioral change. We are just catalysts, not part of the reaction. It is NOT our project. It is THEIR project. Lesson six is not so much a lesson, actually, as a truism.

*Adapted with permission from the Rotary District 9211 bulletin, The Wave.*