



The Rotary Club of Brisbane Inc.

Founded 29 May 1923 Club 17787

A global network of community volunteers

13 March 2017



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

Another great speaker last week, pity our numbers were a bit lower than recent times, If you don't come you will miss all the great speakers that Denise rounds up, which is no mean feat.

Our Golf day has been finalised at Virginia, bit closer to the city so, hope to attract more players. Date May 12th which is a Friday with a start time of 8.15am. Breakfast, game, lunch all in price, this is a Major charity event so get behind it.

Emergency Trailer Contribution:

Negotiations are continuing under the watchful eye of Clive Shepherd and PP Phil Gresham.

I attended a cluster meeting on Tues morning with our area fellow presidents, and some interesting titbits.

Our Club inducted more members this month than the other five clubs and a Rotaract Club, not gloating but reflects the efforts of our membership drive. It is pleasing to note that another 2 prospective members are close to induction.

The Favours Auction is travelling well and B Hi Rise are using it to tag on and raise some funds. This is scheduled for Friday 24th March.

Our Annual Dues are not much higher than two other clubs, but higher than those in New Farm and the Valley

Fortitude Valley Club are currently going through a phase of varying the classes of Membership, I will present a report to the board on this, while meaningful I am not sure in my mind if some of the classes would meld into our club.

WHAT'S ON?

13 March 2017
Orange Sky
Laundry
Nick Marchesi and
Lucas Patchett
Young Australians
of the Year for
2016

DATE CLAIMER

24-26 March
9600 District Conference
2017, Caloundra Events
Centre

22 April (D1) and 21 May (D2)
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)

I have asked for your ideas on New Projects for remainder of this Rotary year (up to June) and for the following six months. Georgina has suggested that we include helping a school Library in Vanuatu details of the request will be provided next week.

If you have any Pet Projects that you would like to pursue please nominate along with a proposal for fundraising to see its completion.

Please read your bulletin as we have another good team of speakers, the founders of Orange Sky Laundry, and young Australians of the year. Should be very interesting.

As our membership increases, come to our meetings a few minutes early and enjoy the fellowship with our new members, provide them with an insight to our great club.

See you all at 12.15 PM Monday at our usual venue, read your bulletin and if you are on duty please attend or arrange another member to fill in for you.

President Graeme

Rotary meeting 6 March 2017

Chairperson for the day was Daniel Vankov. After Rotary Grace, and toasts to the Queen of Australia and Rotary International he introduced President Graeme Whitmore. Graeme welcomed members and visitors to the meeting. His message is detailed elsewhere in the Bulletin.

In Rotary spots, Daniel Vankov reminded members to join the RCOB LinkedIn network he had established

Denise Schellbach publicised the excellent guest speaker program she had assembled. She asked those on the duty rosters to make every effort to attend, or arrange for others to take their place (Speaker program and rosters are as detailed in the Bulletin).

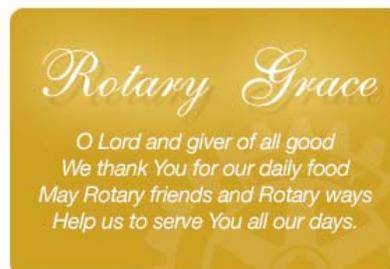
Russell Postle, President of RC Brisbane High Rise, publicised two of his Club's forthcoming events: A Cocktail Party to support the School of St Jude on 22 March and an Anzac Day 'Long Weekend' to be held at Fraser Island (For further details see: www.rotarybrisbanehighrise.com)

Following a short period Fellowship Daniel Vankov introduced the guest speaker Dr John Gardner, Scientist CSIRO. His topic for the day was 'Energy' focussing on Australia. His talk was supported by a detailed PowerPoint presentation. Among others matters, John addressed the major issues currently facing Australia's interconnected electricity system, as it is progressively being modified from a fossil fuel (mainly coal-fired) system towards the use of renewables, including solar, wind and water. In so doing, key policy aspects of cost, reliability of supply and environmental aspects were discussed, including rapid advances in battery storage (with implications for solar energy). Besides electricity, developments in the Australian gas market were also mentioned, including cost pressures on domestic prices resulting from existing export contracts, and restrictions on coal seam methane exploration and production in some State jurisdictions. In turn, higher gas prices impacted on the costs of electricity generation in gas-fired plants and appear to have been one contributing factor in recent South Australian experience.

This was an excellent presentation. Questions and discussion followed. Finally John was presented with a memento of the occasion (pictured).

'Ad Hoc' acting SAA Mel Evans provided interesting session while exacting the usual fines. Russell Postle 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

20 March 2017
Fellowship/board meeting

27 March 2017
Stephanie Bennett - Gatton murders

3 April 2017
Associate Professor Mia Woodruff QUT, Leads the Biomaterials & Tissue Morphology Group (3-D printing)

Roster

13 March 2017:
President G Whitmore
Chairperson G Bishop
Set Up/Away P Robb
Visitor Register J Delahunty
Attendance/ Raffle D Schellbach J Smerdon

20 March 2017:
President G Whitmore
Chairperson J Frew
Set Up/Away P Little
Visitor Register P Ryan
Attendance/ Raffle D Schellbach J Smerdon

27 March 2017:
President G Whitmore
Chairperson J Page
Set Up/Away T Kung
Visitor Register G Holtmann
Attendance/ Raffle D Schellbach J Smerdon

3 April 2017:
President G Whitmore
Chairperson K Watts
Set Up/Away M Evans
Visitor Register T Pilkington
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



More than friends, Rotary Peace Fellows are a family

By Hermanto Hasan, A Rotary Peace Fellow at Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand
Source: <https://blog.rotary.org/>

When I found out I was accepted for the Rotary Peace Fellowship at the prestigious Chulalongkorn University in Thailand, I was filled with happiness and also surprise. I had applied for several fellowships in the past, but all required a university degree, which I do not have.

I had started working while I was still a high school student as a humanitarian worker to help victims of conflict in my homeland of Aceh, and gave up the opportunity to go to university because I wanted to help my people in the middle of an escalating war. The fact that the Rotary Peace Fellowship valued my experience working in conflict over a formal university degree was unexpected to me, and I am extremely grateful and exited for this opportunity.

Unlike many people who choose to work in conflict-affected societies professionally, I grew up in the midst of one, in a province that faced an armed separatist conflict for 30 years. My hometown of Idi, in East Aceh, was one of the areas where the conflict was most intense. By the time I reached high school, I could no longer ignore the suffering of people around me — villagers displaced from their homes forced to live in camps, mosques, and schools; children who lost their parents; and mothers who lost their sons.



Rotary Peace Fellow Class 22 at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok.

Humanitarian work kept me very busy, and I could not leave Aceh for years. I started my own humanitarian organisation and had the responsibility to lead and manage the organisation I created.

Now that I am outside of Aceh, I finally have the opportunity to think about the conflict from a new perspective and critical distance, while learning new concepts and theories. Just in the past few weeks, the course has helped me understand how the conflict in Aceh has transformed from open conflict to political conflict.

This is helping me think more clearly about how to best respond to these transformations through my hope to develop conflict and peace education curriculum in Aceh.

Thanks to this journey we are on together, I now have friends from so many parts of the world. I feel like we are already more than friends, we are a family.

The opportunity to study with classmates from 16 other countries is priceless, helping to open my knowledge and giving me the chance to learn about so many conflicts in other parts of the world. It is also a great experience to be in a class together with so many smart and wonderful people from different cultural backgrounds and histories. I am learning that people from all over the world have their own cultural and personal uniqueness.

For example, I have been fascinated by the sheer diversity of personalities among my African classmates — from Hope's expressiveness, to Jane's gentle and soft-spoken calmness. Never did I imagine I would study alongside professors Goran and Simon, or become classmates and friends with a police officer, Andy, or that a police officer could be one of the nicest gentlemen I have met. On top of everything we are learning in class, we are learning so much from each other — sharing stories, experiences, and laughs.

Thanks to this journey we are on together, I now have friends from so many parts of the world. I feel like we are already more than friends, we are a family. For someone who grew up witnessing how conflict can devastate and fragment communities and even turn sons against their fathers, this spirit of family means the world to me. Through this spirit we plant and cultivate the seeds of humanity.

Editor's note: There is also a Rotary Peace Centre at the University of Queensland, St Lucia Campus.

Good news for Ghana sanitation efforts

By Mohamed Keita, RI staff, Administrative Coordinator, Areas of Focus, Programs and Grants
Source: <https://blog.rotary.org/>

In January, a new government came into office in Ghana and set a different tone in addressing access to water and public sanitation in the country. President Nana Akufo-Addo announced the creation of a Ministry for Sanitation and Water Resources. It is the first time an administration has dedicated the centrepiece of an executive cabinet agency to public sanitation.

Ghanaian Rotarians who are involved in the rollout of the Rotary-USAID International H2O Collaboration, a \$4 million initiative to support lasting, positive change to water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) initiatives in Ghana, have welcomed the move.

"A major challenge facing our country is access to water to our people. Indeed, 'water for all' is one of our slogans for our 2016 manifesto," the president declared in the press. "We also made a slogan 'a toilet for all' and these are matters we take very seriously."

Previously, WASH related issues in Ghana fell under the purview of the Ministry of Water resources, Works and Housing. President Akufo-Addo said the change was necessary because of the major challenge facing the country with respect to access to water and sanitation.

Both local and international stakeholders involved in WASH activities in Ghana have applauded the creation of the new ministry. "This is like being alone in a boat which is struggling to go upstream and suddenly getting another person to help with the rowing," Ako Adotei, chair of the Host Committee of the Rotary-USAID partnership in Ghana, told me. The partnership, which involves 36 Rotary clubs, Global Communities, USAID's implementing partner in Ghana, and the government via the Community Water & Sanitation Agency (CWSA), is preparing to roll out activities to improve water and sanitation conditions in 165 rural communities.



Rotary and USAID are creating Tippy Tap devices to encourage good hygiene in remote areas. The devices use a simple foot paddle to tip a water container so people can safely wash their hands.

Beyond simply building infrastructure, the Rotary-USAID partnership involves peculiar aspects that are unusual in most Rotarian projects: empowering communities in: a) financial self-sustainability to support infrastructure maintenance b) advocating with local authorities for equitable resource allocation c) developing innovation from lessons learned. To this effect, about two dozen Rotarians participated in a training workshop on advocacy in mid-January in the capital Accra.

In Ghana, the poorest communities rely on local government and outside support for funding maintenance and operations costs for sanitation infrastructure. However, funding gaps and delays at the local district assemblies prevent the resources allocated by the Ghanaian government to trickle down to the neediest communities.

“Holding the district assemblies to account – that is really the greatest challenge,” says Peter Aniglo of the Rotary Club of Sunyani Central. Aniglo feels the workshop made clearer the pertinence of understanding the laws and regulations in order to train communities to understand their rights, the importance of helping communities organize self-funding methods, and the need to engage decision makers at the district assemblies.

The Rotarians came to the workshop with no prior experience with advocacy, but went away with a better understanding of its value in elevating the work of Rotary. Beatrice Baiden of the Rotary Club of Accra Dzorwolu, says “the training made me gain better understanding of the WASH sector with regards to policy and guidelines available, challenges of the WASH program, and how we could use advocacy to address the challenges as Rotarians.”

Aniglo notes the advocacy training is going a long way in helping sustain projects.