



The Rotary Club of Brisbane Inc.

Founded 29 May 1923 Club 17787

A global network of community volunteers

15 May 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

Rotarians & Friends

Back in the fold last Monday and it was great to see a good turnout for our Speaker Brigadier Bruce Scott, while he is an ex-army person, he is a valued member of the Rotary Club of Townsville.

Bruce also reminded us that Townsville Rotary club was chartered by our club, and will celebrate 90 years since charter in September, and we are all invited.

It is good to see our children return to the Mother club.

Bruce gave a great presentation on a rotary Charity project called Kits 4 Kids. (full detail of this project is attached for your information) but in summary, what started as a Mates 4 Mates project for returned service men to visit and meet with Service men in Timor, resulted in the provision of an exercise book, pencil and ruler in a plastic folder for school children, these cost \$2.00 per child.

The scheme is fully funded (by donations) until the end of this year but requires approx. \$6,000.00 per quarter in 2018. The scheme has merits and could be introduced in many of our Island dependencies, and perhaps is worthy of consideration as an international project.

Our Club made a presentation to Damien Topp who represented the PA Foundation with a Cheque for the sum of \$15,000, as our first contribution for the clubs Rural Endoscopy Training Initiative, this was received with thanks and Damien stressed the importance of this initiative and the work of our own Professor Gerald Holtmann.

An invitation to arrange a further visit to the research centre was also given.

WHAT'S ON?

15 May 2017
Fellowship/Board meeting

DATE CLAIMER

Saturday 17 June

Monty Python and the Holy Grail of Rotary Fundraising.

Venue:

Cnr Mobray Tce & Wellington Rd, East Brisbane 6.30 pm.

Sunday 30 July

Stan Francis Testimonial luncheon

Regatta Hotel, 12 for 12: 30 pm.

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)

Additional visitors last week included Rod Thorburn from R C of Mid-City and Adam Cole from the Salvation Army Emergency Services unit.

My apology to Daniel Vankov for spelling his Christian name incorrectly two weeks in a row, sorry about that.

By the time you receive this bulletin, our Golf day will be on or over, hopefully we will have a fine day, numbers a bit low but financial and player support from club members and sponsors has been gratifying. Although our overall numbers are low this year, our return on our investment will be ok. Michael and I will be able to report on the outcome next week.

This week is a Fellowship and general business meeting and we will have up to 5 new member inductions, subject to all paperwork being finalised. We hope these will long term active members of our club in future years.

The Date and Venue has been set for the Stan Francis Testimonial lunch as: 30TH JULY 2017 at the Regatta Hotel Coronation Drive timing to be advised, put this in your diary now and make this a great social event.

We have been advised that the stage 2 district training programme noted in our last week's date claimer has been cancelled due to insufficient enrolment numbers.

I wish to advise that Max Winders has taken a six Month Leave of absence, due to pressure of business commitments and his legal involvement to protect the quality and quantity of water at his Feed lot, which has been affected by the coal seam gas contamination problems. We will therefore be calling for stand in Sergeant any volunteers (must be very good at extractions, and have a good sense of humour)

Weekly reminder to read your bulletin, if you are on duty, please attend or arrange another member to fill in for you.

To All members please come and share in the fellowship of our great Club, welcome in our newest members of Rotary, and build great friendships. Your attendance is appreciated.

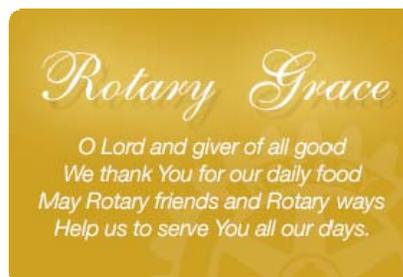
President Graeme



Rotarian Bruce Scott from the RC Townsville with President Graeme after presenting their clubs Kits4Kids project, a fantastic initiative for the remote and impoverished school children in Timor Leste



President Graeme with Damian Topp, the Chief Executive Officer at Princess Alexander Hospital Research Foundation, receiving a cheque for \$15,000 for the club's Rural Endoscopy Training Initiative in Queensland. Training rural doctors and nurses at the PA in Endoscopy procedures. Prior to this many patients have to travel large distances to major centres to have the procedure done. Reducing bowel cancer problems by getting diagnosis much earlier.



Calendar

22 May:
Rotary Mental Health, Vicki Stewart, Chair 9600

29 May:
Lord Mayor Councillor Graham Quirk

5 June:
Julian Mather, ex ABC-TV & book publisher

Roster

15 May 2017:
President G Whitmore
Chairperson L Marshall
Set Up/Away G Holtmann
Visitor Register S Francis
Attendance/ Raffle D Schellbach J Smerdon

22 May 2017:
President G Whitmore
Chairperson B Grieve
Set Up/Away K Watts
Visitor Register P Little
Attendance/ Raffle D Schellbach J Smerdon

29 May 2017:
President G Whitmore
Chairperson C Gibson
Set Up/Away D Vankov
Visitor Register M Williams
Attendance/ Raffle D Schellbach J Smerdon

5 June 2017:
President G Whitmore
Chairperson R Muller
Set Up/Away G Bishop
Visitor Register P Robb
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



My path into Rotary

By Kay Fisher, a member of the Rotary Club of North Mecklenburg, North Carolina, USA

Source: <https://blog.rotary.org/>



Growing up in the suburbs of Atlanta, I never learned how to swim, how to play the piano, or how it would feel to go to church on Sunday mornings. The opportunities were there. The new YMCA offered swim lessons, my grandparents bought me a new piano and offered to pay for lessons, and churches were close to my house. But these were all things my dad felt only “plastic people” did.

That was his word for those whose education afforded them a seemingly easy white collar life. My father had dyslexia, a condition not well understood in the 1950's, and because of it he struggled in school. His insecurities growing up in a college town led him to drinking at an early age. As a plumber, he felt someone who didn't get their hands dirty working was too self-absorbed on appearances and achievement to care about anything or anyone else.



Kay Fisher, bottom row far right, with her Interact Club in Clemson, South Carolina, USA.

When I was 13, my mother and I left him in the middle of the night. We moved to the hometown they both shared — Clemson, South Carolina, to live with my grandparents. It was a culture shock to go from suburban Atlanta to a small college town but gave me insight into my dad's adolescence. Although I felt I was betraying him with my new facade, I decided being accepted in this new environment was more important and I wanted to join the group of kids whose parents he would have called plastic.

In high school, the most popular extracurricular club was Interact. I joined and developed a love of service. Our club was active and there was a service project almost every week. We tutored elementary students, cleaned highways, visited nursing homes and a few of us went to a battered women's shelter. I saw these kids as friends who cared about other people and other things greater than themselves.



Fisher's high school yearbook photo.

At the end of the year, our sponsoring club hosted the Interactors at their weekly lunch meeting. We had learned Rotarians were leaders, professionals, business owners and well respected community members. I loved Interact and wanted to learn more about this Rotary Club which had provided me opportunities to serve our community. I read aloud The Four-Way Test and learned Rotary was about Service Above Self. I met Rotarians who were welcoming and took an interest in me. They wanted to know about our club and the projects we had done. The experience forever changed the trajectory of my life and my image of leadership.

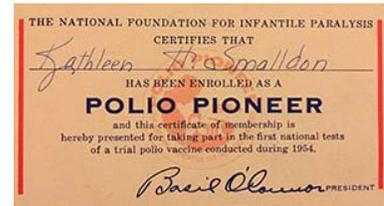
I graduated from Clemson University and now run a real estate business with my husband in Cornelius, North Carolina. I am a board member of the Rotary Club of North Mecklenburg, Davidson Lands Conservancy, and Our Town Habitat for Humanity. I am humbled by the opportunities to serve my community and am grateful to those Rotarians who created Interact. A moment of goodwill has the power to change the next generation of leaders.

My mom was a Polio Pioneer

By Richard J. Fox, Rotary Club of Charlotte-Shelburne, Vermont, USA

Source: <https://blog.rotary.org/>

Since joining Rotary in 2011, I have been impressed by its commitment to eradicating polio from the world through its End Polio Now campaign. That said, polio never resonated with me as a significant cause.



I was generally aware of polio's impact throughout history: Franklin D. Roosevelt and the March of Dimes, iron lungs, and the polio panic here in the United States. But it wasn't personal to me; it was something of the previous generation, abstract, to which I had no emotional investment.

And then my mom went and showed me how wrong I was.

A couple of weeks ago she handed me a small piece of cardboard and said “Since you're in Rotary and its always talking about polio, I thought you might want this.” The cardboard was my mother's “Polio Pioneer” card, marking her as one of hundreds of thousands of children throughout the United States who, in the summer of 1954, participated in the largest clinical trial ever conducted.

For most of us born after 1954, I suspect the idea of hundreds of thousands of parents across the nation volunteering their children to test an unproven vaccine for polio is a bit mind blowing. After all, today when we hear about vaccines it is usually in the context of parents asserting the right to not vaccinate their children due to personal or religious beliefs. Yet imagine a public so overwhelmingly fearful of a disease that it offered up its children to try to stop it. Little wonder so many born before 1954 understand the need to eradicate polio, and why Rotary has embraced this as its signature cause.

Today, parents worldwide offer up their children to be vaccinated not just out of fear of polio, but with the hope that the vaccine tested by the “Polio Pioneers” in 1954 will save their children today, allowing future generations to live ignorant of polio's long shadow. And through Rotary, every dollar contributed, every mile walked, and every teddy bear purchased goes to support that hope.



As with anything, the cause or position to which we have a personal commitment is often the one we support most strongly. Personal connections make abstract issues into important concerns, but we cannot limit ourselves to trying to understand or supporting only those concerns to which we have a connection. The key, it seems, to understanding other's concerns and (equally importantly) helping others understand yours is to tell stories.* It is not enough to share objective data or historical fact – both are important, but not entirely compelling on their own. Advocacy, through story-telling, can bridge the gap between data and engagement.

So with this, I share a story I never knew I had. Thanks to my mom, I better understand why Rotary is so focused on polio and why so many see its eradication as being so important. This further cements my admiration of, and commitment to, Rotary and the great Rotarians worldwide who work so diligently to make our world a better place.

**Grateful acknowledgment to Shirley-Pat Chamberlain, a fellow Rotarian from British Columbia, who presented this thesis at the 2017 NorthEast PETS.*
