



ROTARY CLUB OF BRISBANE HIGH-RISE

HOT AIR

District 9600
Serving the Heart of Brisbane



18 October 2007

Steve's Spam

Walk to Cure Diabetes, the major fund raising event of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, attracted a large crowd of participants as well as High Rise Helpers to enjoy a pleasant Sunday stroll on the periphery of Victoria Park. The participants walk had a few unique features in traversing a section of the Inner Northern Busway, which was closed from operation during the event, and crossing of the City Valley Bypass Landbridge.

A large contingent of members attended this event to assist with administration and marshalling duties which included consumption of considerable Chocolate éclairs in the case Tila, Jennifer and Lindsay. Notable bad behaviour was exhibited on the Day by Greg Pearson. He brought along a fake ID and tried to gain VIP privileges as well as other senior management perks. Too much Chaser for Greg, who was quickly put in his place by our in house constable Kit. Award of the Day goes to Peta and Grace who had the unenviable task of giving away the pre-used "New Water". Bit of hard sell for Peta who wasn't quite up to the taste test. In summary, a very successful event well organised from a club perspective by Steve Knight.

On Sunday afternoon a large group of members gathered at Grinstead Park to farewell Tila. It was a great fellowship occasion which I'm sure Tila appreciated as an opportunity to say goodbye to her club mates. A few tears were shed in the heart felt parting comments which acknowledged the close friendships and bond she has with the club, its members and Rotary's work. We will all miss Tila although I'm sure we will hear from her in the not distant future through electronic means and our roving global ambassadors in Frank, Rob and Jennifer. My thanks to Susan and Russell for organising this event at short notice.

Last week's guest was Megan Cairney who brought the club up to date on the operation of RACQ Care Flight. This organisation provides emergency medical evacuation by helicopter to Queensland hospitals and is an integral part of the medical support network we tend to take for granted. An interesting feature of the service is the provision of Lear Jets to transport overseas patients which is comforting knowledge for all those who travel to near Pacific destinations.

President Steve

Upcoming Speakers

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| 18 Oct | John Kerr, Rotary Foundation Permanent Fund |
| 25 Oct | Bev Ryan Editor & Publisher of Honestly Woman Magazine (TBC) |
| 1 Nov | Ben Pennings, Executive Director of Australia's CEO Challenge (Queensland) – speaking on White Ribbon Day (campaign against domestic violence) |

Upcoming Events

- | | |
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| 18 Oct | Monthly Fellowship – Kerri Craig's Emporium Brisbane Arcade – 10am |
| 10 Nov | Working Bee - Albert Park Flexi School |

Birthdays & Anniversaries October

Birthday: Nigel Foser 1 Oct, Louise Arvier 3 Oct, Mark Postle 5 Oct, Kristin Hielscher 7 Oct, Stewart Settle 8 Oct, Kit Bennetts & Elenor Leveritt 11 Oct, Alexandra Settle 14 Oct, Noela Phillips & Vic Morrissey 16 Oct, Colin Beckett 17 Oct

Wedding Anniversary Elena & Peta Gosse 5 Oct, Diana Girdle & Greg Sweatman 15 Oct

Announcements

RAFFLE FOR CEO CHALLENGE

Currently working with CEO Challenge a charity in support of Domestic Violence. CEO Challenge is currently running a raffle that will be drawn at Rotary Breakfast on 1st November 2007. For tickets please contact Gordana.

PHANTOM OF THE OPERA TICKETS

Phantom of the Opera tickets for 20th March 2008 will be booked shortly. It is the Thursday before Easter. Those interested in tickets please contact Phil.

2007 PAUL HARRIS SEMINAR 27 Oct 9am – 5pm

UQ Centre, Queensland Uni. RSVP by 22 October to Clarie Pomery 33649544 or email: c.pomery@uq.edu.au

PEACE SCHOLARS FAREWELL BBQ 27 Oct
 5.30 – 7.30pm Rotary International President's Park,
 Keith St, St Lucia Price: \$10 per head. RSVP: Judy
 Magub 38705675 or email jmagub@ozemail.com.au
 Hosted by Rotary Club of Brisbane Planetarium

Highlight of the Week

The first encounters between two classmates in the Rotary Peace and Conflict Studies program were anything but cordial.

From July through September 2006, Raveendra Pathiranage and Thevananth Thevanayagam participated in the program's inaugural session at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok, Thailand. For weeks, they argued about the long-standing conflict in their native Sri Lanka.

"But we talked about our problems and gradually understood each other," says Thevanayagam, program manager for the Tamil Refugees Rehabilitation Organization in Sri Lanka, who was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Jaffna, Northern Province. The agency provides food, shelter, rehabilitation, and other assistance to displaced Tamil refugees.

"We erased the hard feelings and went on to What can we do to solve the problem? What can we contribute?" says Pathiranage, senior state counsel in the attorney general's office in Sri Lanka, who was sponsored by District 3220.

He was especially moved by Thevanayagam's stories of children who had been orphaned or couldn't go to

school. In November, when conflict forced the main road into the Jaffna peninsula to close, Pathiranage asked, "Theva, can I do anything?"

Thevanayagam explained that the region was barely surviving on twice-monthly dry rations and many people, including his two young children and the rest of his family, were suffering from Chikungunya, a disease that causes high fevers, rashes, and joint pain. Pathiranage used some of his personal connections to get a month's supply of dry milk and medicine to Thevanayagam for his family.

In June, the two men traveled together to the first Rotary World Peace Symposium in Salt Lake City, Utah, USA, held just before the 2007 RI Convention, to see their former classmates.

"The link between myself and Theva will be very important in the future to discuss the peace-related issues [in Sri Lanka]," says Pathiranage, who sees a direct connection between what he learned in the Rotary Peace and Conflict Studies program and his work.

Club Statistics

Attendance for 11/10/07:

Number of Members: 33

Number of Guests: 2

Attendance Percentage: 64.71%

Please advise makeups to Jennifer Eathorne
 (jceathorne@ozemail.com.au)

Duty Roster

Position	18 October	25 October	1 November	8 November
Chairman	Jacque B	Kit B	Gordana B	Philip B
Set Up	Kit B	Gordana B	Philip B	Rod C
Set Up	Gordana B	Philip B	Rod C	Joy C
Close Down	Philip B	Rod C	Joy C	Barry C
Close Down	Rod C	Joy C	Barry C	Jennifer E

Rotary Grace

O Lord and giver of all good, we thank you for our daily food.
 May Rotary friends and Rotary ways help us to serve you all our days.

International Toast

The Rotary Club of Kandy, Sri Lanka, Central Prov, (District 3220) meets on Wednesday at 1830 at Queen's Hotel

Apologies and Visitor Notification

Please notify Ros Harris (email : oceanwave102@primusonline.com.au)

