



Rotary Club of Brisbane High-Rise Inc.

R.I. No. 29520

2010-11

HOT AIR

District 9600

Serving the Heart of Brisbane

31 March 2011



FELLOW ROTARIANS

When Lindsay M sent the 'Official Serviette' around back in September (or was it October?... my how time flies when you're President and having so much fun!), you will recall it was for the terrible flood disaster in Pakistan where nearly 200 died and seven million people were affected. The response from the club was overwhelming and we funded much needed Shelter Boxes required by the more than a quarter of a million people left homeless.

Isn't it odd that this disaster almost pales into insignificance? We hardly remember it when we consider a few names that have since become etched into the collective consciousness; Sendai, Fukushima, Grantham, Christchurch, Yasi, Fairfield and even Depot Hill (You remember Depot Hill – the suburb in need of a dental practice... have I gone too far?).

It seems that Tsunami's are now an event of absolute dread – as if the Boxing Day 2004 Tsunami wasn't enough. Remember it killed more than 300,000 people. The Tsunami came back to haunt us in 2011 with what was called an 'Inland Tsunami' (incidentally, a phrase that has entered the lexicon courtesy of High-Rise honorary member Commissioner Bob Atkinson).....and then Japan.

When I suggested earlier in the year that we would likely suffer 'disaster fatigue' I had no idea what else was in store for us: but Rotarians have clearly not lost their empathy, energy and enthusiasm to be a part of the rebuilding of the lives of people they will almost certainly never meet. And at High Rise you have been no exception.

When the 'Official Serviette' went around again last week you were all so generous; yet again. I would like to say; 'I promise I won't send it around again for the remainder of my Presidential year' and that is certainly my intention. But just look at what has happened since it went around in support of the flood victims in Pakistan.

Interestingly however, the money we raised last week begins the restocking of Shelter Boxes in readiness for the next disaster and sadly we will not be surprised when it strikes.

But enough of this.....

Without being at all political; it dawned on me that the other Honorary Member of High Rise is (at least at the time of writing) The Lord Mayor of Brisbane. Perhaps the Premier of Queensland should be an Honorary Member!

Yours in Rotary,Kit

PAYPAL

MEMBERS can now prepay their meetings, subscriptions etc. via the Club's website:
<http://rotarybrisbanehighrise.com/members.htm>

MEMBER INTEREST - DATE CLAIMERS – REMINDERS

FIG TREE POCKET EQUESTRIAN EVENTS – Sun. 3 APR 2011
 BDO Tent, Competition starts 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

GUEST SPEAKERS

Mar 31 *Det. Sgt Naomi Cornish, Organised Crime*
 Apr 7 Art Show Opening or make-up table
 Apr 14 Tom Davison, Beef Research Board
 Apr 21 David Rynne, Economist, Qld Resource Council

ROSTER **31 Mar** 7 Mar 14 Apr 21 Apr

CHAIRMAN	Deb LG	Barbara L	John L
SET UP	Barbara L	John L	Frank L
	John L	Frank L	Bill L
CLOSE	Frank L	Bill L	Elizabeth L
	Bill L	Elizabeth L	Heather M

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

Kenney & Finckenauer's 1995 textbook *Organized Crime in America* state's that Mario Puzo's 1969 book *The Godfather* "had more influence on the public mind and the minds of many public officials than did any library filled with scholarly works that argued for the true nature of organized crime".

Many know the characters of Don Vito, Michael & Sonny Corleone played by Marlon Brando, Al Pacino and James Caan in the movie *The Godfather*. With this in mind, the international toast this week is to the Rotary Club of **Corleone** (District 2110) that meets on Saturdays in Corleone, Sicily.

MAKE-UPS

MEMBERS PLEASE EMAIL DETAILS OF MAKE-UPS TO:
make-ups@rotarybrisbanehighrise.com

ATTENDANCE – 24 Mar 2011

MEMBERS	38	VISITING ROTARIANS	3
GUESTS	3	ATTENDANCE	67%

717 Fig Tree Pocket Road, Fig Tree Pocket (near Lone Pine)

For more information please contact Russell P

ART SPECTACULAR – Thurs. 7 to Sat. 16 APRIL 2011

OPENING NIGHT COCKTAIL PARTY – Thurs. 7 APRIL 2011

Riverside Centre, 123 Eagle St, Brisbane, Open daily between 8am - 6pm, Weekends 9am - 4pm

For more information please contact Barbara L.

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC LIVE CURIOUS QUIZZ NIGHT – NOAHS ARK FUNDRAISER – Fri. 8 APRIL 2011

Theme: Travel (Prize for best dressed), 6:30 p.m. for a 7 p.m. start

22 Qualtrough St, Wooloongabba

You are invited to an evening of fun and games for raising funds to support Noah's Ark. A light meal and nibbles plus BYO drinks.

Tickets \$30 per person. **For more information please contact Rosemary M**

ROTARY CLUB OF CABOOLTURE – ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF DAY – Fri. 15 APRIL 2011

Caboolture Golf Club, 7 a.m. Shotgun Start

A person Ambrose Medley, cost \$30 per player. Get yourself or a group in Quick! **Phone: Phil 0438 730 056, Bob 0412 644 628 or Chris 0410 492 022**

HOMELESS CONNECT – Wedn. 11 MAY 2011

Volunteers are needed to help at the above day at the RNA Showground. It is a day organized by Brisbane City Council where

1,000+ homeless come and connect with the various service providers, and get access to various services. **For more information**

please contact Ross G.

OVERVIEW OF D9600 CONFERENCE

Kit,

I would like to just give a quick report on the above that was attended by John & Kay Ker and myself at the weekend. It was fantastic. I have been in Rotary for a number of years and last weekend I learnt so much about the different things that Rotary does, and came away very proud to be a Rotarian.

I would strongly recommend to all members that they attend next year. Whilst we are one of the biggest clubs in the district we could have been better represented, and all of our members would have gained so much, and had a great time.

The venue was good (but seats a bit hard), and the jam packed program flowed well from 7am till late at night. On Saturday they had 2 comediennes Sandy Thorne, and Denise Drysdale who had us laughing so much we were crying, and the program was interspaced with performances by Storm the Stage. There were many excellent presentations but the ones I appreciated most were:-

- PDG Bruce Allen – gave a simple excellent presentation, on what the Rotary Foundation is and what it is achieving – we are trying to get Bruce to come and address our club later in the year,
- Buzz Green – Learn*Grow – an appreciation of local food crops & nutrients – via simple hand books to allow local farmers to be self sustaining in crops foods they know, but do not appreciate, rather than impose western methods & foods. (having lived in Asia I identify with this)
- Peace Scholars – a very passionate presentation by a young Iranian American girl at breakfast who grew up watching her musician father having to burn his piano, and his violinist friends getting their hands cut off, then going to live and work in the USA, amongst the orphans who are on the street. She asked why are we spending billions in the defense industry to kill people when at home people are starving.
- Under One Roof – Fortitude Valley RC, are effectively coordinating the work of the various agencies assisting the homeless of Brisbane. Plan to go & meet with them.
- Operation Cleft – Box Hill RC, have so far performed 6,000 operations @ \$250/procedure to fix the cleft palate problem in Bangladesh (300,000 in total)
- Rotary Youth Driver Awareness – Michael Cullen gave a good description, District Coordinator is our Gordana Blazevic
- Vocational Training Team – outgoing & incoming to Louisiana. These guys were really outstanding and this program is now very targeted and achieving results. Theme was the various effects and activities during natural disasters, of which both areas have suffered too many and are now re-building.

These are to name but a few.

Also met Toowong Rotary Club who are sending 1st yr med students to remote places to encourage an interest in these students going there after graduation.

Regrettably there was strong competition for the Rotary International Bylaws Meeting and our PDG John Ker missed out to PDG Rob Wylie

DG Eric is to be complimented on such a wonderful conference. Whilst I will not be there on Thursday pls compliment DG Eric.

Regards,
Ross G