



Rotary Club of Brisbane High-Rise Inc.

R.I. No. 29520

2010-11

HOT AIR

District 9600
Serving the Heart of Brisbane
27 January 2011



FELLOW ROTARIANS

This is the first Hot Air for 2011 and somewhat belated for reasons we all know. I can just imagine how the 'flood clause' will be used as a let out in all sorts of situations – just think of all the tax records that have been lost in the floods! But of course it is the real business and personal losses that will capture our focus in the months and years to come. Our first concern has been for our own members whose lives have been affected by the flood in one way or another - among them are; Wendy P, Joy & Barry, John McG, Rob O'D, Bill L, Susan R, John L, Sharyn S-H, Russell P and the list goes on. If there is anything we (the Club) can do to help you please ask there are any number of people who have offered to assist in any way they can.

On Monday night the Board approved a contribution of \$5000 to the District 9600 *Flood Appeal Fund* and DG Eric has asked me to pass on his personal thanks. This is just the beginning.

In my recent emails I have indicated that we as a club need to pace ourselves. As Lord Mayor and Honorary Member of Brisbane High Rise Rotary, Campbell Newman said last week; 'This (flood relief) is a marathon not a sprint'. Once the emotional response to help has died away and life for most of us returns to normal it will be easy to forget the plight of those affected.

I was speaking today to Bill H of the Rotary Club of Stones Corner. He was a Member of the Legislative Assembly during the 1974 flood, among his many recollections is that in the months that followed the event there was a huge increase in the number of marriage break-ups often characterised by one partner simply walking away from everything because they just couldn't cope anymore.

And let's not forget the Bush; years of drought followed by a devastating flood, what will happen to the small businesses in rural Queensland? Perhaps we should look to some of the forgotten victims out West.

Please give it some thought and we will talk about it soon.

There is no Rotary this week but it will definitely be on next Thursday 3 Feb 2011 and the guest speaker is the Lady Mayoress Lisa Newman. I will advise the venue when I know myself; but it will probably be The Rugby Club as it is unlikely that the Polo club will be open. I will email everyone.

Looking to the future you will by now have seen the first flyer for the **Town Lunch** – the debate. Mark the date in your diary so that you don't miss it. **Friday 18 March 2011.**

Next week I will let you know about the progress we have made in organising the '**Bridges of Brisbane**' Cycle event – scheduled for **Sunday 22 May 2011.**

Watch your emails

Yours in Rotary,

Kit

GUEST SPEAKERS

Jan 27	No meeting
Feb 3	Lady Mayoress Lisa Newman, <i>Homeless in Brisbane- venue to be confirmed</i>
Feb 10	TBA
Feb 17	TBA

ROTARY DOWNUNDER - BUSINESS DIRECTORY

RDU have been overwhelmed by the positive response to their proposed *Rotarians in Business* directory that they hope to have up and running early this year. To recap, it will be a professional services & trades directory of Rotarians for Rotarians. It will be an internet-based directory housed on the Rotary Down Under website. Listing will be free to any Rotarians wishing to advertise their business.

It is not compulsory and RDU will not, under any circumstances, provide this information in bulk to any third party. As part of a web-site listing, naturally it will be a public document, but Rotary Down Under never sell or give away database information. **Please note that this information must come to RDU through the club secretaries – please contact Kym for an application form.**

ROSTER 27 Jan 3 Feb 10 Feb 17 Feb

CHAIRMAN	Diana G	James G	Elena G
SET UP	James G	Elena G	Ros H
	Elena G	Ros H	John K
CLOSE	Ros H	John K	Steve K
	John K	Steve K	Mark L

NEW RI GENERAL SECRETARY

The RI Board of Directors have announced that John Hewko, formerly an international partner with the law firm Baker & McKenzie and, more recently, the Vice President for Operations and Compact Development at the Millennium Challenge Corporation, will officially replace retiring General Secretary Ed Futa on July 1, 2011.

John Hewko, an international partner from 1992 to 2004 in the international law firm of Baker & McKenzie (B&M). At B&M, he specialized in international mergers and acquisitions, privatizations and other international corporate matters, participated in the development of the firm's Moscow office, and was the managing partner of its offices in Kyiv and Prague. While in Ukraine in the early 1990s, he assisted in the development of the initial draft of the new Ukrainian constitution and was a charter member of the first Rotary club in Kyiv.

In 2004, John left Baker & McKenzie for public service. He joined the Millennium Challenge Corporation, where John was responsible for the development and negotiation of foreign assistance agreements with 26 countries in Africa, Asia, South America, the Middle East, and the former Soviet Union.

MEMBER INTEREST - DATE CLAIMERS – REMINDERS

SUBSCRIPTIONS - Please note that subscriptions for January to June 2011 are now due.

SHOP.ROTARY.ORG

<http://shop.rotary.org> has a 10% discount on purchases – offer ends 31 January - enter promo code **BBL10OFF** at checkout. Good on one-time purchase only.

HIGH-RISE FUNDRAISING EVENT - TOWN LUNCH – 18 MAR 2011

The Rugby Club, Eagle St

Tickets \$125 per person, includes an auction of interesting political memorabilia. Proceeds will go to the Flood Appeal and the Grey Man Foundation

D9600 CONFERENCE – THEME: *Enjoy Rotary – Spread Happiness* - 25 – 27 MAR 2011

The Events Centre, Caloundra

Electronic registration available on website: www.rotary9600.org

ROTARIANS AGAINST MALARIA – 2011 RAM NATIONAL CONFERENCE – Sat & Sun 14 -15 MAY 2011

St Columban's Catholic Secondary College

Caboolture

Quote from RAM Newsletter, Vol 2, No. 2: *"If you think you're too small to make a difference, try sleeping in a room with an active mosquito."*

RUGBY WORLD CUP ACCOMMODATION

Are you considering going to the Rugby World Cup this year? NZ Rotarians have an accommodation deal well worth considering with funds raised from this project to be contributed to Rotary's 200 Million Dollar – End Polio New Challenge. For more information visit:

www.rotarynzrugbyhosting.org

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

At its November 2010 meeting, the RI Board approved a number of recommendations and actions to reinforce the priorities and goals of the RI Strategic Plan. The changes, which include endorsing the concept of flexible attendance and meeting requirements and allocating US\$4 million for Public Relations Grants, are designed to keep Rotary vibrant and attractive to current members and prospective members from younger generations.

"By focusing on strategic issues throughout the week, the Board was able to reach consensus on several strategic decisions, which constitute progressive moves by the RI Board," says RI President Ray Klinginsmith. Among other actions, the Board:

- Agreed to the concept of amending RI policy on meeting attendance, meeting options, and member termination in order to support and strengthen clubs by allowing them more flexibility. The changes will require revisions to the RI Constitution and the Standard Rotary Club Constitution in the form of legislation submitted to the 2013 Council on Legislation.
- Agreed to fund US\$4 million in PR grants annually, starting in 2011-12 for at least three years, to advance the strategic priority of enhancing public image and awareness.
- Supported the creation of an annual Rotary Citation beginning in 2012-13 that would replace future Presidential Citations. The new citation would be based on clubs achieving predetermined goals that are aligned with the clubs' and RI's strategic direction.
- Agreed to transform RI programs to a "resource and support" model to help clubs and districts in their service efforts and advance the strategic priority of focusing and increasing humanitarian service.
- Agreed to replace the vision statement in the RI Strategic Plan with a core essence statement, which uses more contemporary language and better expresses what Rotary is and does.
- Agreed to conduct four new pilot programs -- associate member, corporate member, satellite clubs, and innovative and flexible Rotary clubs -- to promote membership diversity and improve recruitment, beginning 1 July. Two hundred clubs will be accepted for each three-year pilot.
- Encouraged districts with more than 100 clubs and over 4,000 members to split into two or three new districts as early as 1 July 2012.

The Strategic Planning Committee suggested many of the changes to help move the organization toward an emphasis on active and engaged membership.

"Rotary must change its culture from one of attendance to one of engagement," says RI Director Stuart B. Heal, Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee. "It is our belief that in the next decade this must become our culture as we become more innovative and continue serving around the world."

Says Klinginsmith: "It was a historic week for Rotary."

(Source: *Rotary International News* / Courtesy : *eFlash_Rotary* via *D9600 Secretaries Group*)