

Our Last Meeting

Meeting No.	3408
Date	27 April 2004
Venue	Unley Community Sports Club
Occasion	Richard Thorn - Community Banking
Guests & Visiting Rotarians	Pat McNiffe, Susan Westgarth
Apologies	Don Emmett, David Payne, Darrol Foote, Lou Barteletti, Joan Reed, Ken Daly, Neville Hightt, Robert Birnie, Maeve Swinden, Rex Martin, Michael Tait, Norm Wallace
Make Ups	Don Emmett (Thrift shop), David Payne (District Conference)
Percentage	69%
Sick List	None
Returning Rotarians	None
Departing Rotarians	None

From President John

The **District Conference** held at Swan Hill last weekend was attended by about 620 people, including 16 Unley members and partners and our exchange student Netta-Riina Salila.

Pres. John felt that one of the most interesting speakers at the conference was Dr. Sekai Shand, who was deputising for Tim Costello and is a Director of World Vision. She comes from a small village in Zimbabwe and spoke of the devastating effects of HIV AIDS in Africa. Currently there are over 12 million orphans in Africa as a direct result of this problem. She instanced cases in her own village and in her own family.

Another speaker with a very strong message was Adelaide businessman Peter Marshman who started the Youth Opportunities Association. This association runs programs in schools located in low socio-economic areas and targets "problem students". The aim has been to generate a will to succeed in life – in some cases a will to continue life. It was very refreshing to hear of the Association's successes in seeking to help those at the bottom of the ladder.

Several Rotary "heavies" gave reports and updates on

Rotary matters and programs and there were reports on the activities of the 57 clubs in the District. The Unley Club was mentioned for the Police Officer of the Year award and the increase in our membership over the last two years.

The **next District Conference** is to be held at Port Lincoln from 21st to 24th April 2005. One of the keynote speakers at the Conference is to be Kirsty Sword-Gusmao, the First Lady of Timor Leste (East Timor).

Young Achievers Australia called Pres. John today seeking business people to mentor about six students from Pulteney or Walford who are doing a program of training to assist them with entering the workforce. The training will be done at U.C.S.C. on Mondays from 4 - 6 pm, starting very soon and tailing off towards October. Anyone interested in helping please see Pres. John.

The **new Salvation Army officer** replacing Denis White will be Reneu Helms. He will visit us fairly soon to talk about the Red Shield Appeal. He is likely to join our Club later this year when the Army's house in Unley becomes available.

On the Spot

Gary Tonkin: A new web page describing the Indigenous Health Scholarship Program has been added to the web site.

Gary repeated last week's call for additional volunteers to help transport elderly citizens to the Senior Citizens Concert next Sunday. Two more members offered to help.

Ian Pearson conducted a raffle to raise money for a most worthy cause. The prize of a dozen bottles of chardonnay attracted keen interest in purchasing tickets.

Wayne Ross reminded members of the Police Officer of the Year Dinner on 11 May and asked all members attending to please bring their money (\$26 per head) to next week's meeting.

Ron Schubert: The District Assembly will be held on 23 May at the Unity College in Murray Bridge at 9:00 for 9:30am until 3:15pm. All Board members and Chairs and Deputy Chairs of committees are encouraged to attend.

The Board and Committees for next Rotary year are now on the Club's web site at <http://unley.rotaryclub.asn.au> in the Members Area, so remember to login first.

Kaylene Kranz: Dr Geoff Symons, son of John Symons, has called to inform the Club that John is no longer able to attend Rotary meetings. Kaylene thanked all members for the support they have given John to enable him to come to Rotary and fulfill his obligations as a Rotarian with dignity and self-respect and to leave under his own banner.

Sergeant's Session

The Sergeant for the evening was David Middleton. Jim Newall won the Lucky Squares Draw and Kevin Rogers won the Wine Raffle.

Guest Speaker – Richard Thorn

Jim Newall introduced our guest speaker Richard Thorn, a retired Adelaide businessman and a member of the Goodwood-Highgate Community Bank Committee. Richard is a former Councilor for Unley Park Ward and has resided in Unley Park for 27 years. He has had a varied career in finance, insurance, real estate, property development, furniture manufacturing and music and furniture retailing, and is patron of the SA Chess Association.

Community Banks established in conjunction with the Bendigo Bank are locally owned, locally staffed and locally managed. The profits of the community bank are distributed to shareholders and to local community groups and organizations. Bendigo Community Banks have been successfully established at West Beach and Virginia.

The Steering Committee with which Richard is involved is seeking to establish two new banks at Highgate and Goodwood where major bank branches have recently closed. Joan Reed is also a member of this Steering Committee, which has a target of raising \$500,000 to cover the establishment costs of the new banks.

Individual shareholders can subscribe for a minimum of \$500 up to a maximum of \$5,000 and all members and guests were invited to subscribe. The Unley Council has helped with the costs of marketing and the feasibility study. Bendigo Bank is a large publicly listed company capitalized at around \$1.4 billion with a share price of about \$10.60.

Richard said that the two Community Banks will provide old-fashioned face-to-face service, including on Saturdays, and will add to the vibrancy of local communities.

Our Next Meetings

Date	Venue	Time	Occasion	Chairperson	Venue Set-up	Sergeant	Plaque Board	Attendance	Apologies
04/05/04	U.C.S.C.	6.00 for 6.30pm	Committee Meetings	John Russell	Ken Haines	David Middleton	Ron Schubert	Ken Daly	To Ken Daly
11/05/04	U.C.S.C.	7.00 for 7.30pm	Police Officer of the Year Dinner	Wayne Ross	Adrian Sobels	David Middleton	Chandra Sluggett		8179 5650
18/05/04	U.C.S.C.	6.00 for 6.30pm	Club Assembly	John Russell	Geoff Howland	Bob Laws	Adrian Sobels		
25/05/04	U.C.S.C.	6.00 for 6.30pm	Paul Munn – Winter Lawns (TBC)	TBA	Lucien Parent	Bob Laws	Dean Swinden		

The following articles are reprinted from *Rotary World* April 2004.

Polio Eradication Fund Contributions Exceed Expectations

Rotarians Worldwide stepped forward at a critical time in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative to raise funds to purchase polio vaccine and help cover operational expenses and polio surveillance. The ongoing one-year fund raising campaign, fulfilling Our Promise: Eradicate Polio, netted US\$119,220,260 in cash, commitments, District Designated Fund contributions, and government matching funds as of 31 December 2003 – surpassing the original goal of US\$80 million.

Merging Public Safety with Job Opportunities in India

A unique project in Chennai (formerly Madras), Tamil Nadu, India, is helping to safely transport children to school while putting women in the driver's seat in an occupation dominated by men. Sponsored by the Rotary clubs of Madras, India, and Cortland, New York, USA, the project provides 10 motorised rickshaws and training for 10 underprivileged women to learn to drive them. The project received a US\$10,000 Rotary Foundation Matching Grant.

The Association for Non-traditional Employment for Women (ANEW) played a key role in helping to carry out the effort. ANEW obtained the aid of Bajaj Auto Ltd., the largest manufacturer of three-wheeled rickshaws, to redesign the vehicles to each carry eight children comfortably. The modifications were based on suggestions made by the Chennai City Traffic Police.

The Madras Club coordinated the project locally and the Cortland club oversaw international efforts. Each also contributed US\$5,000 in funding. An estimated 1,000 school children benefited from the project, thanks in large part to the Rotarians' treatment of Foundation funds as a sacred trust at every stage. The Rotarians carried out other important elements of stewardship, including maintaining competent and thorough project oversight, following standard business practices, implementing the project as approved by the Foundation, and conducting a financial review.

"Joining the (training) course . . . has turned out to be a good fortune that cannot be enthused over enough," a project beneficiary named Kalairani told *The Hindu*, an Indian national newspaper. Deserted by her husband, she now helps support her child by driving an auto-rickshaw that takes children to and from school.

Peace Scholars gain from Rotary programs experience

Previous participation in Rotary programs has helped a number of Rotary World Peace Scholars shape their career goals.

"The experience of living in a different country had a large impact on my life," says Steven Abels, a scholar at International Christian University in Tokyo, Japan, sponsored by District 6690 (Ohio, USA). Abels was a Rotary Youth Exchange student in Germany in 1988-89. "That year reinforced for me the importance of gathering different views to get a better picture." Abels was also a member of a Group Study Exchange (GSE) team that visited Germany in 2002.

Modesta Lugos of the Philippines, a scholar at the University of California, Berkeley, in California, USA, visited Tennessee and Virginia, USA, as a GSE team member in 1995. The study tour helped her form the goal of developing peace education, which she spoke about at the 2003 district conference of her host, District 3770 (Philippines).

A GSE visit to New York, USA, likewise provided Lilian Pedrosa of Brazil valuable exposure to another culture, adding to her effectiveness as an advocate of international understanding. Pedrosa is also a scholar at the University of California, Berkeley, sponsored by district 4610 (Brazil). For the past several months, she has been working as an intern at the San Francisco Foundation to help "develop civic unity, community participation, and better understanding among different groups."

This is a great opportunity for me to further develop techniques and knowledge in fostering peace and understanding in diverse communities," she says.

Thrift Shop Duty

Date	Rotarians
01/05/04	Helen Richter and Ken Haines
08/05/04	John Russell and Greg McLeod
15/05/04	Joan Reed & Ron Schubert
22/05/04	Ken Haines & Stephen Westgarth

Ladies Auxiliary

The next meeting of the Ladies Auxiliary will be held at the home of Eunice Pascoe, Unit 38 Victoria Grove, 254 Greenhill Road, Glenside, on Monday 24th May at 11am. Enter Victoria Grove off Greenhill Road through Gate 3.

The Unley Rotarian 2003/2004

Meeting 3408 – Tuesday 27 April 2004

Rotary Club of Unley Inc

Chartered 17th April 1935 – District 9520

**The Club meets every Tuesday at the
Unley Community Sports Club, Oxford Terrace, Unley
at 6.30 pm. Fellowship at 6.15 pm**

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“Lend a Hand”