

Rotary Club of Unley Inc.

DISTRICT 9520
CHARTERED 17TH APRIL 1935

THE UNLEY ROTARIAN

2006 - 2007

Meeting 3566 – Tuesday 19th June 2007

The Club meets every Tuesday
at the Public Schools Club
207 East Terrace, Adelaide
at 6.30pm. Fellowship at 6.00pm

PRESIDENT

Stephen Westgarth: 8278 6300 *or* 0419 279 928

SECRETARY

Sheila Evans: 8266 7435

PO Box 18, Unley SA 5061
unley.secretary@rotaryclub.org.au
<http://unley.rotaryclub.org.au>

Our Last Meeting

Meeting No.	3566
Date	19 th June 2007
Venue	Public Schools Club
Chairperson	Stephen Westgarth
Guest Speaker	"Food Genetic Engineering" - Rohan Singh
Club Guests	Rohan Singh
Guests & Visiting Rotarians	Valerie Bye, Daniel Browne, Jenn Casburn, Colin Schirmer (RC of Norwood – Travel Services)
Apologies	Neville Highett, Norm Wallace, Chandra Sluggett, Sheila Evans, Joan Reed, Greg Love, Kaylene Kranz
Make Ups	Chandra Sluggett – Indigenous Health Scholarship Committee
Attendance	64%
Sick List	Rex Martin, Sheila Evans
Returning Rotarians	Nil
Departing Rotarians	Nil
Birthdays	Jerry Casburn (23/6)
Induction Anniversaries	Ron Schubert (22/6)
Anniversaries	Janet & Rohan Singh (23/6)
Family News	Nil

Announcements from President Stephen

1. We have received newsletters from Teen Challenge, the Australian Maxillo-Cranial Facial Foundation and Orana, all of which I'll pass on to Reno Elms if any one would like to have a look at them.
2. The Rotary Club of Port Pirie has invited Unley members to attend their Change Over on 7 July, and the Brownhill Creek and Glen Osmond clubs have invited President Elect David Middleton to attend theirs.
3. Past District Governor Jeff Norman thanking the club for the sympathy card sent to him following the recent death of his wife. Thank you Bob Mullins for sending the card on the club's behalf.
4. There will be a brief gathering of Board members to distribute correspondence after tonight's meeting.
5. Finally, a reminder that we will have our last Board meeting for this Rotary year following next week's meeting.

Spots

President Stephen gave the Almoner's Report:

- **Joan Reed** has been laid low by a cold hence President Stephen giving the report.
- **Sheila Evans** is back home and has been visited by a number of Rotarians. She is still very sore from the heavy bruising but on the mend.

Mavis Martin thanked the club for attending the PHF dinner and apologised for the absence of speakers who were beneficiaries of the programme.

Bob Laws advised the club of the need for donations of blankets to the Thrift Shop and a carpet sweeper to assist in the cleaning of the shop. Bob also sought opinion on a proposal to have regular working bees at the Thrift shop to clean and maintain the premises. The club supported the suggestion and Bob will start scheduling regular working sessions from next week.

David Middleton gave a reminder to the club for the club of the changeover dinner at the Edinburgh Hotel in two weeks and sought numbers and names for those attending. If you were not present at the meeting please advise David of your intent to go and bring monies for the dinner at the next meeting. The cost is \$38 per head.

David also circulated copies of the organisation and committee structure for the 2007/08 year. He advised his intent to adopt the new Rotary Board structure which elevates membership and Public Relations to the Board plus consolidates service committee structures under one head. A copy of the new structure is shown on the next page.

Diary Dates

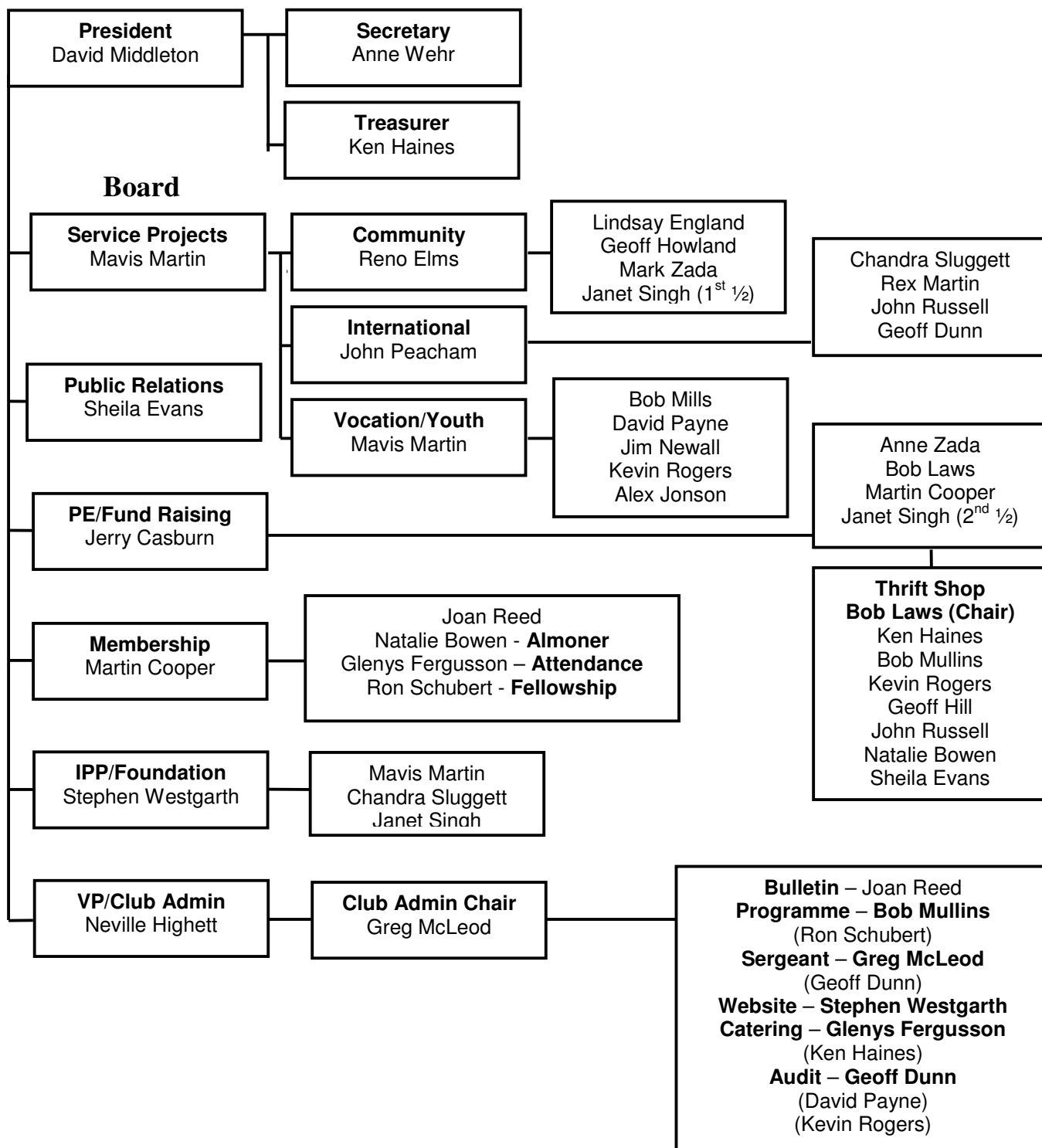
Tues 3 July Changeover Dinner (6.30pm for 7pm), Edinburgh Hotel. – Cost \$38 - **Partner's Night**
Tues 6 Nov: Melbourne Cup Day Lunch – Edinburgh Hotel
Fri 12th to District 9520 Conference, Westminster School, Alison Avenue, Marion

Notice of Election

Notice is hereby given that **Anne Wehr** has been nominated to take on the position of Secretary for the 2007/08 Rotary Year and that this appointment is supported by the Board. A formal election will take place at our meeting on Tuesday 26th June 2007.

Rotary Club of Unley

Proposed Organisation Chart 2007-08



Ladies Auxiliary

A meeting of the Ladies Auxiliary will be held at the home of **Margaret Payne, 4/35 Bevington Road, Glenunga, 5034** at **11am** on **Monday 25th June 2007**.

Sergeant's Session

Our Sergeant for the evening **John Russell** took no prisoners and promptly relieved members of a few dollars to swell the coffers. Winner of the **lucky squares** was **Alex Johnston** and the **wine** was **David Middleton**

Quote of the Week

"If all the economists in the world were laid end to end, they wouldn't reach any conclusion." *George Bernard Shaw*

“Food Genetic Engineering” – Dr. Rohan Singh

Our chairman for the evening **President Stephen** introduced **Rohan** to the club. Rohan needed little introduction, as the wife of Janet he is already a regular attendee at meetings and other functions. The middle of four brothers, Rohan was born in Adelaide and attended St. Ignatius College. He completed his education at Adelaide University where he gained a B.Sc and a Ph.D.

Rohan's work is involved in genetic engineering with crops. The research is designed to create strains of crop appropriate to the environment in which they are grown. For example, in Australia, crops with high yield but which are drought resistant are highly desired.

In the past, crops would be cross pollinated and grown to determine if the end product would meet the requirement, a process which could take up to 14 years to find the right relationship.

DNA, the building block of life, can be analysed to determine the components that result in certain characteristics. Predicting the outcome shortens the process but still has to be field tested by developing the product and growing it, however, development time is halved to some 7 years. Unlike any human tests, the strains which do not contain the necessary DNA characteristics can be eliminated.

The process involves isolating the gene and then manipulating the DNA to obtain the desired result. While there are many fears with GM modified foods Rohan explained that we can develop crops which result in major savings to the farming industry. As an instance, frost resistant strains are now grown in Victoria and South Australia saving \$130 million in lost crops. GM cotton has resulted in a reduced need for pesticides.

Four staple crops, soybean, maize, cotton and canola are now in widespread use in 22 countries by 10.3 million farmers. Australia is 11th in the world table for the production of GM crops.

Rohan was ably assisted by wife Janet. Now is she really looking intently at the presentation or just having a few Middleton ZZZZZs??

Rohan was thanked by President Stephen for the talk as well as his flexibility in allowing the session to be rescheduled on a number of occasions.

Joke for the Week

A big city lawyer went duck hunting in rural Saskatchewan. He shot and dropped a bird, but it fell into a farmer's field on the other side of a fence. As the lawyer was climbing over the fence, an elderly farmer drove up on his tractor and asked what he was doing.

The litigator responded, "I shot a duck and it fell in this field, and I'm just going over to retrieve it."

The old farmer replied, "This is my property, and you are not coming over."

The indignant lawyer said, "Listen, I'm one of the best trial attorneys in Canada and, if you don't let me get that duck, I'll sue you and take everything you own."

The old farmer smiled and said, "Apparently, you don't know how we settle disputes in Saskatchewan. We settle small disagreements like this with the 'Saskatchewan Three Kick Rule'."

The lawyer asked, "What's the 'Saskatchewan Three Kick Rule'?"

The farmer replied, "Well, because the dispute occurs on my land, I first kick you three times and then you kick me three times and so on back and forth until someone gives up."

The attorney quickly thought about this rule and decided that he could easily take the old codger. So he agreed to abide by the local custom.

The old farmer slowly climbed down from the tractor and walked up to the attorney. His first kick planted the toe of his heavy steel-toed work boot into the lawyer's groin and dropped him to his knees. His second kick to the midriff sent the lawyer's last meal gushing from his mouth. The barrister was on all fours when the farmer's third kick to his rear-end sent him face-first into a fresh cow pie.

The lawyer summoned every bit of his will and managed to get to his feet. Wiping his face with the arm of his jacket, he said, "Okay, you old coot. Now it's my turn."

(I love this part....)

The old farmer smiled and said, "Naw, I give up. You can have the duck."

Our Next Meetings

Date	Venue	Time	Occasion
26/06/07	Public School's Club	6.00pm for 6.30pm	Professor Lowieja Donoghue "A Fireside Chat"
03/07/07	Edinburgh Hotel	6.30pm for 7.00pm	Changeover Meeting
10/07/07	Public School's Club	6.00pm for 6.30pm	Adrian Edgar - "Highs and lows of conducting the Jacob's Creek Golf Tournament"

Rostered Rotarians

Date	Chairperson	Venue Set-up	Sergeant	Plaque Board	Attendance Desk
26/6/07	TBA	Joan Reed	Ken Haines	Bob Mullins	Jerry Casburn & Anne Zada
3/7/07	Not Applicable (NA)	John Peacham	NA	Jim Newall	Chandra Sluggett & Lindsay England
10/7/07	Not Applicable (NA)	David Payne	TBA	Lucien Parent	Glenys Ferguson & Reno Elms
10/7/07	Not Applicable (NA)	Lucien Parent	TBA	David Payne	Bob Mullins & Mavis Martin

To Rotarians who are unable to attend as rostered, please arrange a swap or contact:

Sergeant-At-Arms: John Russell on (h) 8271 7178 or e-mail: barbjohn@chariot.net.au

Venue Set-up or Plaque Board: Greg McLeod (w) 8223 3999, (m) 0417 811 838 or e-mail: gmcLeod@lam.com.au

Attendance Desk: Janet Singh (w) 8226 4131, (m) 0421 052 893 or e-mail: singh.janet@saugov.sa.gov.au

Members are urged to diarise when they are required to serve and then they will be unlikely to overlook their rostered service duty.

For those members rostered on Venue Set-up and Plaque Board, the relevant paraphernalia can be found in the cupboard behind the Ladies toilets at East Terrace. John Russell and Greg McLeod have keys to the cupboard. Venue Set-up materials can be found in a large plastic box and immediately in the vicinity of that box (eg. the flag and the Rotary wheel). The box is marked with the Club's name. Please remember to gather up all items at the end of the meeting and return them to the cupboard.

Apologies

To: **Sheila Evans** **OR** **Janet Singh**
 (m) 0432 047 711 (w) 8226 4131

Club Website

Members are again reminded that a wealth of local, national and international Rotary information is available to them by visiting the club's website at <http://unley.rotaryclub.org.au>. A list of members and roster details can also be found. Please contact Stephen Westgarth with any comments about the website or if difficulty is experienced in accessing it. Updates to information on the website will be made progressively by Webmaster Stephen as time permits. Those members preparing and maintaining rosters are requested to provide soft copy information to Stephen for posting on the website for the benefit and information of all members.

**Remember our Rotary
theme for the year**

LEAD THE WAY

Thrift Shop Roster

June-07

DATE	FULL DAY	10.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.	1.00 p.m. - 3.30 p.m.
WED 20		G & N Dunn /Jenny Noske	
THUR 21		P Richards / M Schaefer	J Calder / F Nettelbeck
FRI 22		D & M Payne	E & R Birnie
SAT 23		K Rogers, Ken Haines	S Westgarth, Ken Haines
MON 25	J Moore / D Menkins		
TUES 26		H Lithgow/B Russel	G Howland/J Russel
WED 27	J Job / C Marcos		
THUR 28		A Jonson / H Weston	J Calder / N Highett
FRI 29			
SAT 30		K Rogers R Singh 1 needed	K Haines 1 needed