

Rotary Club of Unley Inc.

DISTRICT 9520
CHARTERED 17TH APRIL 1935

THE UNLEY ROTARIAN

2007 – 2008

The Club meets every Tuesday
at The Old Orphanage Function Centre
181 Goodwood Road
Millswood (enter of Mitchell St)
at 6.30pm. Fellowship at 6.00pm

PRESIDENT

David Middleton: 83731099

SECRETARY

Anne Wehr: 8357 0486

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<http://unley.rotaryclub.org.au>

Meeting 3611 – Tuesday 13th May 2008

Our Last Meeting

Meeting No.	3611
Date	13 th May 2008
Venue	Public Schools Club
Chairperson	Bob Mills
Guests Speaker	Police Officer of the Year Presentation Sergeant Michele Smith
Guests and Visiting Rotarians	Acting Deputy Commissioner Tony Harrison, Julie Harrison, DG Elect Peter Shipp, Bill Rojas, Sergeant Michele Smith, Robin Pole, Jenny Casburn, Genese Mullins, Margaret Payne, Sue Middleton, Pauline Daly, Angie Cooper, Maria Mills
Apologies	Janet Singh, Mavis Martin, Natalie Bowen, Geoff Hill, Bob Laws, Norm Wallace, John Russell, Chandra Sluggett, Shirley Emmett, Ray and Fay Emmett, Janet Pearce, David Pisoni Member for Unley, Richard Thorne Mayor of Unley
Make Ups	Mavis Martin District Assembly, David Payne Thrift Shop.
Attendance	76%
Sick List	Battered and bruised Martin Cooper
Departing Rotarians	Bob Laws, John Russell

President's Announcements

1. Club Assembly next week at the Orphanage
2. 25th of May is the Red Shield Appeal and also the Membership Drive. See further in the Bulletin for details

Spots

Reno Elms: 4th Volunteers are requested to assist with the Red Shield Appeal on the 25th May. Unfortunately even though this classes with the membership letterboxing please try and give your support.

Bob Laws: Thrift Shop roster still has vacancies please help fill the voids. Also there are now some weekday positions available if anyone can help. ALSO PLEASE NOTE Colleen Marcos will now do 4th Monday all day from May onwards.

Midweek volunteers for the following slots are required for June:

Wednesday 25th of June afternoon shift

Stephen Westgarth: The Paul Harris night is on the 3rd of June at a Thai restaurant in Belair. This is in keeping with a support of the club gives to Chang Mai in Thailand. More details later. A reminder for all members that subscriptions are due. If making a payment by a bank transfer please give Stephen a copy of your receipt so he knows what has been aid.

Martin Cooper: Leaflet drop, Treasure Hunt and Pizza Party

When Sunday 25 May

Time 2:30 pm onwards

Where Unley area

Cost \$5 for pizza dinner, BYO drinks

What is required: RCU Members and partners to deliver membership flyers into Unley resident's letterboxes. Distribution areas are based on maps used for the Red Shield Appeal and will not be too onerous to undertake. If you find it hard to make time for exercise, this is a great opportunity for fresh air and fellowship. For those who like a challenge, a treasure hunt will be incorporated into the flyer distribution and to continue along the fellowship theme, from around 5:00 pm enjoy yummy homemade pizzas, to fill the void that the exercise created! A list will be circulated at the next meeting to ascertain numbers of those interested in participating in these activities. Your fellowship and support would be greatly appreciated.

Jerry Casburn: The entertainment books are selling well. We have sold over 60 at this stage.

Sergeant's Session

Jim Newall emceed the evening. There was no Sergeant's session.

Police Officer of the Year Presentation

This year's winner of the Award is Michele Smith from Port Pirie. Northern Operations Service Assistant Commissioner Graeme Barton congratulated **Sergeant Michele Smith** of North East LSA on being named South Australia Police Officer of the Year at a ceremony in Rundle Mall on Tuesday, 13 May 2008.

Sergeant Smith is the 30th recipient of the annual award, presented by the Rotary Club of Unley for outstanding courtesy, kindness, understanding courage and devotion to duty as well as community involvement and voluntary work.

Nominated by Country Health SA and the Port Pirie Victim Support Service, Sergeant Smith was recognised for her contribution to the local community, particularly through with the Mid North Drug Action Team. She is also chairperson of the Mid North Rape and Sexual Assault group, Port Pirie Road Safety Committee and Port Pirie Liquor Licensing Accord, as well as working closely with key community health and welfare agencies.

Most recently she was the driving influence behind the '30 Lives' exhibition, a road safety awareness initiative featuring the personal stories, photographs and belongings of 30 local road accident victims. The display was acclaimed throughout the mid north where around 2000 people viewed it.

Assistant Commissioner Barton said Sergeant Smith had made a very significant contribution towards improving the lives of those within the North East LSA community. "Whether the issue is road safety, preventing sexual abuse or illicit drug activity she has been a tireless worker and is a very deserving winner of the award."

Michele's response: Rotarians, SAPOL members, distinguished guests, Ladies and Gentlemen -

Again my thanks to the Rotary Club of Unley for the sponsorship and co-ordination of this award, I can only repeat that this is a very humbling experience. My experience with Rotary Clubs goes back a long way. My late Grandfather, Fred Smith was a past President and Paul Harris Fellow and I clearly remember going 'to Rotary' with him in Port Pirie as a young child – it was a very special night and he had to get through 14 grandkids, so it was also a very rare night. The Rotary service followed with my late father, John Smith, who was a past President of the Port Augusta chapter and continues today with my uncle Paul Smith, who is also a past President and again a Paul Harris Fellow. Since joining the South Australia Police and traipsing around the countryside, I have also been invited to sing for my supper at local Rotary Clubs along the way.

But this is a special night.

My dad actually resigned from Rotary in protest when the vote was taken to allow women to join. Let me tell you, that time saw some very heated and passionate debate in our home. And whilst I (so very) did not agree with his view, his decision to resign taught me to have the courage of my convictions. If I was going to take a stand about something – then I needed to be ready to put my money where my mouth is. And I believe that is why I am here tonight. My passion is country communities, in particular, my communities of the Mid-North region of South Australia. And they are mine, because I know that, as a country copper, what I do can have a direct impact on the world where my family and I choose to live, work and play. So I don't like that border at Gepps Cross and I refuse to let it mean that people in the country should have to accept a lower standard of service. And I don't just mean this for the police service. I believe all agencies need to work together to ensure our standards of service are the best they can be. In particular in the area of rape and sexual assault, we have worked really hard with police, health and social services, to ensure that victims of these offences are offered the same standard of service and range of options they would receive in the city.

When I talked with Rotarian Bob, it came as no surprise to me to learn that in the 30-year history of this award 20 of the recipients, myself included, had come from country areas of SA. I think this is really indicative of the way country police officers integrate and work in partnership with their communities. Your race, sex or gender really doesn't matter. What matters is if you are willing to put in the effort and be an integral part of your community. Policing in regional, rural and remote South Australia is challenging, exciting, diverse, scary, lonely, frustrating and the most wonderful thing you could ever choose to do. But for those who choose to take up that challenge and don the khaki uniform, you never look back. The men and women who police those wonderful regions north of Gepps Cross are very proud to wear this uniform and we can become quite parochial about how crucial country policing is. Quite often the town's solitary police officer is the only government representative for miles around and we stand at the front of every community event, both good and bad. We take very seriously our responsibility to keep safe our communities and our responsibility does not stop when we take off our uniform at the end of a long day. You are always, first and foremost, identified as a police officer in every public and private action you take. Often when it is all going pear shaped – you are it. Specialist assistance or backup can be literally hours away and those who have called you automatically assume you have all the answers. Problem solving takes on a whole new meaning at 3 am in the middle of nowhere!

But country people will repay you tenfold for the effort you put in. You are not a faceless uniform they interact with and never see again. What affects your community affects you. It affects your kids' school, your sporting teams, your streets, your roads, your home. What you do to improve things impacts directly on you and your community. And those positives come back to you in a 1000 different ways from a 1000 different directions. This award today is one of them.

Thanks again to my husband Robin, who shares my vision and our belief in living life on the land.

On a professional level there are way too many dedicated, professional and caring country coppers who have led by example and been wonderful mentors and role models – but they have all at some point in their careers worn khaki and no matter where they have ended up, they have never been able to quite shake the dust out of their boots. The philosophy behind Rotary is the same as the philosophy behind policing: A group of caring people with a common purpose, who come together to make the world in which they and others live a better place. So it is really fitting that your club has sponsored this award since its inception in 1979.

I look forward to coming back in 12 months time and sharing some more of my career with you. Thankyou again.

A very deserving young lady.

Diary Dates

Tues 3 rd June	Paul Harris Fellows Recognition Dinner Partners Night *****SEE DETAILS BELOW
15-18 June	Rotary International Convention
16 th – 19 th Oct	District Conference in Mt Gambier

PAUL HARRIS NIGHT:

Start - 6 for 6.30pm

Members and partners night

Guest speaker - John Peacham (TRF MG with RC of Chaing Mai project, Thailand & RC Unley)

Venue: House of Zen

6 Main Road, Belair (adjacent to the Main Road entrance to the Belair Vines

Shopping Centre) ph 8370 2333

Costs: \$25.00 per head (meal only)

In keeping with the Thai theme of the evening, a two course Thai meal of entree (3 different dishes served to the table) and main course (4 different dishes served to the table) will be served, and includes tea and espresso machine coffee served to the tables. The curries will be fairly tame. The cost of the meal is \$25.00 per head. Drinks are extra and may be ordered from waiting staff from 6.00pm onwards.

Our Next Meetings

Date	Venue	Time	Occasion
20/05/08	The Orphanage	6pm for 6.30pm	Club Assembly
27/05/08	The Orphanage	6pm for 6.30pm	Stephen Westgarth - Learn to explore the website
03/06/08	House of Zen, Belair	6pm for 6.30pm	Paul Harris Night
10/06/08	The Orphanage	6pm for 6.30pm	Dr R Faggotter "The Looming Energy Crisis"
17/06/08	St Peter's Cathedral	TBA	A visit to St Peter's Cathedral North Adelaide

Rotarians Roster

Date	Venue Set-up	Chairperson	Sergeant	Plaque Board	Attendance Desk
20/05/08	Joan Reed	President David	Greg McLeod	Natalie Bowen	Joan Reed and Colin Schirmer
27/05/08	Reno Elms	President David	Greg McLeod	John Peacham	David Payne and Chandra Sluggett
03/06/08	Martin Cooper	President David	Greg McLeod	Geoff Howland	John Russell and Anne Wehr
10/06/08	Jerry Casburn	President David	Greg McLeod	Martin Cooper	Reno Ems and Geoff Hill

Please arrive on time for your delegated duties

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

Sergeant-At-Arms: Greg McLeod: (W) 8223 3999; (M) 0417 811 838; e-mail: gmcleod@lam.com.au

Venue Set-up or Plaque Board: Greg McLeod: (W) 8223 3999; (M) 0417 811 838; e-mail: gmcleod@lam.com.au

Attendance Desk: Glenys Ferguson (H) 8379 8821

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. Greg McLeod and Glenys Ferguson have keys to the cupboard. Please remember to gather up all items at the end of the meeting and return them to the cupboard.

Apologies To: Glenys Ferguson on 8379 8821 OR Anne Wehr on 8357 0486

JOKE OF THE WEEK

I was walking down the street when I was accosted by a particularly dirty and shabby-looking homeless woman who asked me for a couple of dollars for dinner. I took out my wallet, got out ten dollars and asked, "If I give you this money, will you buy wine with it instead of dinner?"

"No, I had to stop drinking years ago", the homeless woman told me."

"Will you use it to go shopping instead of buying food?" I asked.

"No, I don't waste time shopping," the homeless woman said. "I need to spend all my time trying to stay alive."

"Will you spend this on a beauty salon instead of food?" I asked."

"Are you NUTS!" replied the homeless woman. I haven't had my hair done in 20 years!"

"Well, I said, "I'm not going to give you the money. Instead, I'm going to take you out for dinner with my husband and me tonight."

The homeless woman was shocked. "Won't your husband be furious with you for doing that? I know I'm dirty, and I probably smell pretty disgusting."

I said, "That's okay. It's important for him to see what a woman looks like after she has given up shopping, hair appointments, and wine."

Thrift Shop Roster

	EARLY SHIFT 9am to 11.30 am	LATE SHIFT 11am to 1.30pm
17/05/08	Kevin Rogers and Lindsay England	Ken Haines
24/05/08	Joan Reed and Ron Schubert	David Middleton and Ken Haines
31/05/08	Anne Wehr and Glenys Ferguson	
07/06/08		Stephen Westgarth

Remember our Rotary
theme for the year

ROTARY SHARES
