

THE UNLEY ROTARIAN

Meeting 3638 – 18 November 2008

unley.rotaryclub.org.au

2008 - 2009

Rotary Club of Unley Inc.

DISTRICT 9520
CHARTERED 17TH APRIL 1935



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ADDRESS: PO Box 18, Unley SA 5061
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MEETINGS: The Club meets every Tuesday at The Old Orphanage Function Centre
Corner Goodwood Road & Mitchell Street, Millwood at 6.30pm.
Fellowship at 6.00pm

Our Last Meeting

Meeting No.	3638
Date	18 November 2008
Venue	The Old Orphanage
Guest Speaker	Bob Cleland: "WorkCover Changes in SA"
Sergeant-at-Arms	Bob Mullins
Chairperson	Jerry Casburn
Guests & Visiting Rotarians	Bob Cleland (RC of Port Macquarie), Darren Wilson, AG Roy Armstrong
Returning Rotarians	None
Apologies	Bob Mullins, Lindsay England, Heather Kilsby, Martin Cooper, Ron Schubert
Make-ups	None
Sick List	Ron Schubert
Attendance	72%
Birthdays & Anniversaries	Wedding: Bob Mullins 18/11; Birthday: Bob Laws 19/11
Departing Rotarians	None

President's Announcements

1. We were due to hold a Quiz Night next week for Partners and Friends. We have been unable to organise this session and are therefore postponing it until early next year, we'll announce a date and programme soon.
2. We have been advised by Margaret our caterer that the lease on the Orphanage restaurant will likely come to an end at the end of January. We have to look for somewhere new that fits our needs. At this stage I intend forming a small committee made up of Bob Mullins, Chandra Sluggett and myself to look at alternatives. Thus far we will relook at the Sturt Club and the Town Hall. If you have any suggestions for alternatives they would be welcome, bear in mind we do not have long.
Please, when considering alternatives, see if it passes three simple tests:
 - a) Would you enjoy meeting there each week?
 - b) Would you be proud to invite guests?
 - c) Is it large enough to house the majority of club functions?
3. A reminder to Board members a Board meeting will be held on Thursday 20th November 2008 to be held at the home of Linda and Lindsay England.
4. Our Annual General Meeting will be held on Tue 2nd December 2008. The requisite notice has been given in the Bulletin.

Spots

Chandra Sluggett: After members put their names on the order form for fruit cakes for the **PolioPlus Challenge** fundraiser last week, some members suggested to Chandra that they would like to donate to the Challenge directly through our club, which has tax deductible status, as well as contributing by buying cakes. The Board has supported Chandra's proposal for raising money directly. Chandra circulated a revised order form with space for members to indicate a desire to donate to the Challenge directly and/or buy fruit cakes. Chandra and some friends have designed a campaign logo that combines the aims of the Polio Support Group and of Rotary, featuring purple drops that indicate a child is free from polio (a child's finger is dipped in purple dye when they have been immunised). This logo would be used during a Polio Awareness Week when additional fundraising would be done through the sale of purple ribbons and holding lunches, etc. Chandra also circulated additional information about PolioPlus for the benefit of our newer members.

Joan Reed distributed the winnings from the **Melbourne Cup sweeps** conducted on 3 November. Cash prizes went to the drawers of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd placed horses while the drawers of the last placed horses received chocolates. The Reeds, Schuberts and Dalys had a profitable Spring Carnival. The substitute for Sue Middleton's scratched horse won her 1st prize in one of the RAH sweeps. Joan says that now she has been to "sweep school", next year's event should happen more smoothly.

Joan also announced the annual **Rotary Christmas Cakes and Puddings** fundraiser. Joan circulated a form for members to order cakes and puddings. She has ordered 10 cases of cakes (i.e. 60 cakes) and six cases of puddings (i.e. 36 puddings) but more can be obtained if needed. Shortly the cakes and puddings will also be on sale at the Thrift Shop. See the advertisement on the last page of the bulletin.

Bob Laws made a further appeal to members to locate donations of **books and bric-a-brac for the Thrift Shop**. He also encouraged members to look at the list of vacancies in the mid-week Thrift Shop roster and to think of friends, relatives and acquaintances who might like to fill one or two slots. Please call "the lovely Glenyss" if you have someone who is interested.

Australia's answer to "Gone with the Wind", Baz Luhrman's \$130 million blockbuster **"Australia"** is being screened as an OSSAA fundraiser on 30th November at the Chelsea Cinema. Anyone wanting tickets at \$15 ea. please see Bob before they are all sold out.

Vocational Report – Stephen Baker

Stephen brought us a report on recent happenings within the Vocational Committee. Recently the committee met with people from the Trade Schools for the Future program at Hamilton College. The committee proposes that this club assist the program in at least one area that we could do well. When youngsters are involved in apprenticeships and traineeships they are required to prepare a strategy plan for getting a job.

Part of that process is writing a job application and attending a job interview conducted by people coming in from outside, which is where Unley Rotarians can help. This [the interview process] happens about once a year, out of the 12 schools in the Southern Region Stephen thinks we could handle 4 or 5 interviews a day at one of the schools.

Sergeant's Session

Sergeant Bob Laws stood-in while Brevet Sergeant Bob Mullins was AWOL for his 48th wedding anniversary seeing Andre Rieu, for which AWOL Bob was fined in absentia. Everyone with grey hair was fined and Reno Elms surprised everyone by admitting to having one or two grey hairs and voluntarily shedding a dollar. Ron Schubert won the wine and Alex Jonson won the Lucky Square.

Guest Speaker – Bob Cleland: “WorkCover Changes in SA”

Pres. Jerry introduced his old friend Bob Cleland, a former member of Jerry's former club, the Rotary Club of St Ives and currently a member of the Rotary Club of Port Macquarie, to speak on “Changes to WorkCover in South Australia”. Bob is a director of Employers Mutual Ltd who were appointed in 2006 as sole agents to manage injury claims for WorkCover SA. He was coming to Adelaide for a board meeting this week and mentioned to Jerry that he'd like to do a make-up at Unley; then Jerry suggested he sing for his supper as our guest speaker. Bob is married with three children.



Guest Speaker Bob Cleland

Bob began by talking about Employers Mutual Ltd (“EML”), a company that began in a small way in New South Wales in 1910 to look after the interests of the Master Bakers, Master Plumbers and Master Carriers Associations who were being “ripped off” by the insurance giants from England in the early 1900s. Bob became involved with EML following 36 years in the road transport industry and joined the Board of EML in 1983 when it was a very small insurer. In 1997 Bob chose to move out of the trucking industry and decided to join the management of EM to make a difference and improve the way the business was run. Since then there have been enormous changes in EM and workers compensation in NSW and, hopefully, the same thing is starting to happen in SA and in fact across Australia.

The NSW Experience

Much of Bob's talk focused on the benefits that changes in workers compensation have brought in NSW, with the hope that these same benefits can be translated into SA. In NSW there were 14 workers compensation claims agents and the administration of claims was largely just the ticking of boxes and re-approval of compensation payments and collecting a management fee, but with little focus on getting injured workers back to work as quickly as reasonably possible; no-one was interested in outcomes. The NSW government decided something needed to be done and funded four pilot schemes, one of which was given to EML who were allowed to “think outside the square” and do things differently. EML achieved a 14% reduction in claims costs and lost time in a one-year program but, because workers compensation costs are long term, this meant that the long-term gains would be even greater. By 2005 EML had reduced the cost of claims to 70% of the NSW average with the nearest other agent at 90%. EML worked out that if they invested more, managed claims and communicated they got results. It was helped that WorkCover NSW offered a percentage of the claims reduction as an incentive; but this meant investing up-front to get the financial benefits.

The South Australia Experience

SA had four companies doing claims and injury management while WorkCover SA collected premiums and were involved in

overseeing claims settlements. When WorkCover SA went to tender for claims agents again, EML decided to bid but as sole agent, because they felt that was the only way to bring about the cultural and systemic changes needed to turn the SA scheme around; WorkCover SA accepted that proposition. EML has a higher operating cost base as it employs a lot of people with quasi medical qualifications, such as occupational therapists, physiotherapists, ‘exercisologists’, indeed anyone who can talk to a doctor meaningfully. EML aims to manage claims rather than just process them. The SA WorkCover scheme collects approx. \$640 million per year in premiums and there are about \$2.3 billion in outstanding claims, which are underfunded by about \$1 billion, and this situation was deteriorating.

The WorkCover scheme in SA was a ‘pension scheme’ where many injured workers remained on compensation payments virtually for the rest of their working life; employers may have taken the opportunity to get rid of a less than satisfactory employee or manipulate second quality workers out onto the scheme rather than find another [ethical] way of getting rid of them. Bob and EML believed that the real savings would come from getting people back to work.

Bob said, ‘If you get someone back to work they get their life back. As long as someone is on long-term compensation they don't fit into the community. People on workers compensation had to front up to a doctor to get a medical certificate saying they were unfit for work and, even if they weren't all that bad, before long it [their condition] deteriorates and psychologically it's not good for the community and it's not good for them. So getting people back to work is a real positive. It not only saves money for the scheme, but invariably people get back to the sort of lives they had before.’

Changes Coming in SA

The SA culture of WorkCover being a pension scheme had to change. Bob said that, from next year a Work Capacity Review will be undertaken so that if you're capable of working and earning an income then, if you choose not to, EML will deem that you are capable of earning an amount of income and deduct it from your compensation payments and if that leaves a shortfall the shortfall will be paid; it won't allow you to sit around doing nothing, getting long-term payments from the government, which is detrimental to both SA and the individual.

Employers will be encouraged to bring people back to work before they are fully fit and to find them alternate duties until they are. EML will aim to see people return to the same employer and same work, or the same employer and different work, or a different employer and the same work, or a different employer and different work, whichever works best to get the person back to work.

Of the \$600 million collected in premiums each year in SA only \$100 million is paid out in the first year with the balance being paid out up to four or more years later. Minimising compensation costs and reducing unfunded liabilities depends on the successful management of claims and the cooperation of all concerned.

Pres Jerry thanked Bob for his talk and presented him with an Unley Rotary pen.

Jerry's Jottings



Nearly half way through the year, time flies when you are having fun.

December 2nd is our Annual General Meeting and next week I'll give a little more information on the format of the evening and the positions open for election. Anne Wehr will have nomination forms for Board positions; if you would like to have a go or think you know someone who would, please come armed with nominations. Please feel free to call me if you need to discuss the duties, etc.

Just to update the club on the Fireworks and Fun Day, you will know that **Colin Schirmer** was going to lead the initiative; however, due to increased commitments with his travel organisation, **Colin** is going to be out of town a good deal and has let me know that he would like to rethink his role. Accordingly, I am pleased to let you know that **Andy Hill** has stepped in to mastermind proceedings. **Colin** will still be active on the committee and he will be joined by **David Middleton** who will help us get the added sponsorship funds. **Janet Singh** will also be active in her PR role. This is a huge undertaking and will need support from the whole club so please be prepared to lend a hand.

Finally, on Sunday 21st December from 3pm onwards, **Jenn and I** would like to invite everyone, plus partners, for pre Christmas drinks and nibbles at the unit in Glenelg. The format will be casual come and go when you like, just enjoy a relaxing afternoon with friends. Our new address is in the latest Club Directory. Please put the date in the diary.

Yours in Rotary,

Jerry

Diary Dates

Tue 25 Nov White Ribbon Breakfast
Tue 16 Dec Christmas Dinner at Mt Osmond Golf Club
Wed 24 Dec Joint Breakfast Meeting with Hyde Park and Eastwood Clubs at the Sturt Club; 7 for 7.30am

Rotary News

Reprinted from the DG Peter Shipp's November Newsletter



Rotary on Show

By Malcolm S Elliott

Fairy floss, cheese tasting, ferris wheels, cattle judging, wood chopping and Rotary, all the fun of the Royal Adelaide Show in 2008. This year we had a stand at the Show paid for by both Districts and by Shelter Box, with information available about many club projects and activities, Shelter Box and Rotary in general.

Rotarians came to help from Goolwa, Yankalilla, Gawler Light, and many metropolitan Clubs. We had young people from an Interact Club on many shifts, a youth exchange student from Sweden and a recipient of an Indigenous Medical Scholarship.

We handed out brochures, sold cakes and ropes and had a person roll off enough \$50 notes to buy a Shelter Box. We took names of possible future Rotarians and helped many passing Rotarians feel good about their organisation. It was a jolly good show!

Help Prevent Malaria

One of the most sobering facts about malaria is that it can be prevented simply by sleeping under an insecticide-treated mosquito net.

These nets can last five years and cost about US\$10—expensive to families who survive on less than \$1 a day but, thanks to Rotarian efforts, now accessible to many of them.

FACTS ABOUT MALARIA

- A child dies of malaria every 30 seconds. More than one million people die of malaria every year, mostly infants, young children, and pregnant women.
- About 40 percent of the world's population is at risk of malaria.
- Malaria is both preventable and curable.
- In countries with intense transmission, malaria causes an average loss of 1.3 percent in annual economic growth.
- More than 500 million people become severely ill with malaria every year. Most cases and deaths are in sub-Saharan Africa, but Asia, Latin America, the Middle East, and parts of Europe are also affected.

November is Rotary Foundation Month



The Mission of The Rotary Foundation is to enable Rotarians to enhance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through the improvement of health, the support of education, and the alleviation of poverty. The Foundation is a not-for-profit

corporation supported solely by voluntary contributions from Rotarians and friends of the Foundation who share its vision of a better world. "Our" Foundation receives no part of our Rotary

International dues, so is entirely reliant upon donations from those of us who care, and who seek a better world.

If we believe in these ideals surely "Our" Foundation deserves support as our preferred charity. Donations are tax deductible through the Australian Rotary Foundation Trust. Clubs and individual Rotarians are encouraged to give serious consideration to making their donation to The Rotary Foundation during this very special month in the Rotary calendar.

Hundreds Attend UN Rotary Day

More than 900 people, including Rotarians, Rotaractors, and Interactors from more than 44 countries, attended Rotary International Day at the United Nations in New York City on 8 November. The day featured panel discussions on water, literacy, health, and hunger. Speakers came from within Rotary, the UN, and other partner nongovernmental organizations, illustrating how organizations can work together to tackle these challenging issues.

Speaking on one of the panels, Martin Silink, president of the International Diabetes Federation (IDF), said that half of the 440,000 children with diabetes worldwide lack access to the insulin they need to live. Silink encouraged Rotarians to undertake diabetes projects and noted that the UN passed a resolution in 2006 creating World Diabetes Day, observed on 14 November.

C. Wayne Edwards, a past district governor and member of the Rotary Club of Tallahassee, Florida, USA, described how he was inspired by his diabetic wife to raise money for diabetes causes during his year as governor. The result was a \$106,000 project that, with help from IDF, provided a diabetes camp for children and established seven clinics in Bolivia.

Other highlights of the day included an address by Grace Agwaru of Uganda, who in 1975 was the first heart surgery patient treated under the Gift of Life program, a Rotarian-supported initiative.

Some of the loudest applause of the day went to Anand Balachandran, interagency coordinator of the World Health Organization, who cited the effectiveness of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative by contrasting today's four remaining polio-endemic countries with the more than 125 that existed when the initiative was launched in 1988. "This work could not have happened without Rotary," he said.

Other Rotary service projects spotlighted during the day included Adopt-a-Village, which addresses health, hunger, and education needs in impoverished communities in Africa; Reach Out and Read, which makes literacy promotion a standard part of pediatric care; Rotary Books for the World, which collects and sends books to impoverished communities in southern Africa; and The Seed Program, which sends vegetable seeds to people in the developing world and teaches them to grow their own food.

Summing up the significance of the day, RI President-elect John Kenny said: "If we look sensibly at the problems and work together toward the solutions, our world will be better than it was before. All of us are here today because we want to be the ones to work toward the solutions."



RI President Dong Kurn Lee meets Jonathan Olunga of Uganda, the 10,000th Gift of Life patient. Rotary Images/Alyce Henson

Our Upcoming Meetings

Date	Venue	Time	Occasion	Venue Set-up/ Plaque Board	Sergeant	Attendance Desk
25/11/08	Old Orphanage	6 for 6.30pm	Graeme Smith: "Business Opportunities for Boomers and Beyond"	Mavis Martin	Bob Mullins	Janet Plumb & Jim Newall
02/12/08	Old Orphanage	6 for 6.30pm	Annual General Meeting	Heather Kilsby	Bob Laws	Neesha Nandasena & Joan Reed
09/12/08	Old Orphanage	6 for 6.30pm	Darren Lehman: "Life After Cricket"	Alex Jonson	Bob Laws	John Peacham & Joan Reed
16/12/08	Mount Osmond Golf Club	7 for 7.30pm	Christmas Dinner Meeting Partners Event	Geoff Howland	Bob Laws	John Russell & Ron Schubert
Wed 24/12/08	Sturt Club Oxford Tce	7 for 7.30am	Joint Christmas Breakfast with Hyde Park & Eastwood	Geoff Hill	Bob Laws	Janet Singh & Chandra Sluggett

Apologies To: Anne Wehr on 8357 0486.

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

Sergeant-At-Arms: Bob Laws: 8223 6403; (M) 0438 865 305; e-mail: unley.sergeant@rotaryclub.org.au

Venue Set-up or Plaque Board: Bob Laws: 8223 6403; (M) 0438 865 305; e-mail: unley.sergeant@rotaryclub.org.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, the relevant paraphernalia can be found in the servery area of the Function Centre. Please remember to gather up all items at the end of the meeting and return them to the top of the cupboard.

Saturday Thrift Shop Roster: November-December 2008

Week No.	Dates This Month	Early Shift: 9am to 11.30 am	Late Shift: 11am to 1.30pm
4	22/11/08	Sheila Evans, Chandra Sluggett & Kevin Rogers	Martin Cooper & John Peacham
5	29/11/08	Reno Elms & Bob Mullins	Natalie Bowen & Ken Haines
1	06/12/08	Lindsay England & Rohan Singh	Mavis Martin & Stephen Westgarth
2	14/12/08	Stephen Baker, Greg McLeod & Kevin Rogers	Ken Haines & David Middleton
3	21/11/08	Glenys Ferguson & Anne Wehr	Joan Reed, Ron Schubert

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

Bob Laws: 8223 6403; (M) 0438 865 305; e-mail: unley.sergeant@rotaryclub.org.au

Jokes of the Week

The 84-Year-Old Bride

The local radio station was interviewing an 84-year-old lady because she had just got married – for the fourth time.

The interviewer asked her questions about her life, about what it felt like to be marrying again at 84, and then about her new husband's occupation.

'He's a funeral director,' she answered.

'Interesting,' the newsman thought.

He then asked her if she wouldn't mind telling him a little about her first three husbands and what they did for a living.

She paused for a few moments, needing time to reflect on all those years.

After a short time, a smile came to her face and she answered proudly, explaining that she first married a banker when she was in her early 20s, then a circus ringmaster when in her 40s, later on a preacher when in her 60s, and now, in her 80s, a funeral director.

The interviewer looked at her, quite astonished, and asked why she had married four men with such diverse careers.

'Easy son,' she smiled.

'I married one for the money,...two for the show,...three to get ready,...and four to go!'

Hooker

Ed and Dorothy met while on vacation and Ed fell head over heels in 'Like' with her. But after a couple of weeks wherein Ed took Dorothy out to various dance clubs, restaurants, concerts, etc., he was convinced that it was true love. And so, on the last night of his vacation, the two of them went to dinner and had a serious talk about how the relationship would continue.

'It's only fair to warn you, I'm a total golf nut,' Ed said to his new lady friend. 'I eat, sleep and breathe golf, so if that's going to be a problem, you'd better say so now!'

'Dorothy took a deep breath and responded, 'Since we're being honest with each other, here goes ... you need to know that I'm a hooker.'

'I see,' Ed replied.

He looked down at the table, and was quiet for a moment, deep in thought ... then he added: 'You know, it's probably because you're not keeping your wrists straight when you tee off.'

Rotary Christmas Cakes & Puddings Now on Sale

It's that time of the year again when we look at ways to reduce our Christmas dinner workload and for gifts to give loved ones. Perhaps a Rotary Christmas Cake or Pudding shall suffice! Cakes and puddings cost only \$15.50 each and our Club makes a small profit on all sales.

To place an order, contact Janet Singh 8462 1054 (business) or email to singh.janet@sharedservices.sa.gov.au. Christmas Cakes and puddings will also be on sale at the Thrift Shop shortly.



Headache Remedy

The doctor said, 'Joe, the good news is I can cure your headaches. The bad news is that it will require castration. You have a very rare condition, which causes your testicles to press on your spine and the pressure creates one hell of a headache. The only way to relieve the pressure is to remove the testicles.'

Joe was shocked and depressed. He wondered if he had anything to live for. He had no choice but to go under the knife. When he left the hospital, he was without a headache for the first time in 20 years, but he felt like he was missing an important part of himself. As he walked down the street, he realized that he felt like a different person. He could make a new beginning and live a new life. He saw a men's clothing store and thought, 'That's what I need... a new suit. That'll make me feel a little better.'

He entered the shop and told the salesman, 'I'd like a new suit.'

The elderly tailor eyed him briefly and said, 'Let's see...Size 44 long.'

Joe laughed, 'That's right; how did you know?'

'Been in the business 60 years!' the tailor said.

Joe tried on the suit.... it fitted perfectly.

As Joe admired himself in the mirror, the salesman asked, 'How about a new shirt?'

Joe thought for a moment and then said, 'Sure.'

The salesman eyed Joe and said, 'Let's see, 34 sleeves and 16½ neck.'

Joe was surprised. 'That's right, how did you know?'

'Been in the business 60 years,' he said. Joe tried on the shirt and it fitted perfectly.

Joe walked comfortably around the shop and the salesman asked, 'How about some new underwear?'

Joe thought for a moment and said, 'Sure.'

The salesman said, 'Let's see, Size 36.'

Joe laughed, 'Aha! I've got you; I've worn a size 34 since I was 18 years old.'

The salesman shook his head, 'You can't wear a size 34. A size 34 would press your testicles up against the base of your spine and give you 'One hell of a headache.'

New suit \$800, new shirt \$56, new underwear \$10, second opinion PRICELESS.

If Cats Could Speak



Remember our Rotary theme for the year:

Make Dreams Real