

THE UNLEY ROTARIAN

Meeting 3648 – 3 February 2009

unley.rotaryclub.org.au

2008 - 2009

Rotary Club of Unley Inc.

DISTRICT 9520
CHARTERED 17TH APRIL 1935



PRESIDENT: Jerry Casburn: 8295 8227 or 0407 646 396
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MEETINGS: The Club meets every Tuesday at "Tiffins on the Park",
176 Greenhill Road, Parkside (Cnr George Street) at 6.30pm.
Fellowship at 6.00pm

Our Last Meeting

Meeting No.	3648
Date	3 February 2009
Venue	Tiffins on the Park
Guest Speakers	Kym Hulme
Sergeant-at-Arms	Bob Mullins
Chairperson	Martin Cooper
Guests	Ken Daly, Barbara Russell, Ray Cooper
Apologies	Neesha Nandasena, Natalie Bowen, Heather Kilsby
Returning Rotarians	David Payne
Attendance	69%
Departing Rotarians	John Peacham (going to Bali)

Pres. Jerry's Announcements

- Only 2 weeks to go to our 100% Attendance Meeting!**
Given 100% attendance, Pres. Jerry will put a bottle of wine on each table. He is hoping for tables of 25. To help ensure a 100% attendance, if you won't be able to attend our International Night, please make sure to organise your make ups within the next two weeks.
- The International Committee is seeking items to be auctioned as a fundraiser at the International Night. Some members have already made donations and any Rotarians who can assist in this regard should please see Chandra Sluggett.
- DG Peter Shipp has returned home after a stint in hospital. Any further news will be published as it is released to club presidents.

- As advised in last week's Jerry's Jottings, the Board has decided to accept Ken Haines' resignation from the club. He will be transferring to the Kent Town club.
- Pres. Jerry reminded members of the interclub meeting with the Murray Bridge and Mount Barker clubs is on 24 February. He asked members to indicate their wish to travel to Murray Bridge by bus at an estimated cost of \$20 per person if we fill a 20 seat bus. As there was insufficient interest to justify hiring a bus, members will need to arrange to travel by car.

Spots

Stephen Baker: Next week we will be visiting the **SA Police** Communications Centre and seeing a Star Force demonstration. At 6.00pm we will be dining at the Saracen's Head Hotel at 82 Carrington Street, and at 7.00pm gathering at the Police Communications Centre at 20 Carrington Street. This is a **partners night**.

Stephen distributed **Police Officer of the Year** posters for members to display in their places of businesses. Please let Stephen know if you'd like a poster for display.

Chandra Sluggett recirculated a list for members to confirm attendance numbers and menu selections for the **International Night** on 17 February. Some members were yet to indicate their attendance. At present about 60 people will be attending, of whom 18 are from the Bangladesh community.

Sergeant's Session

February's Sergeant Bob Mullins kicked-off his month by fining all single sex tables and levying an 'employment tax' on all members who have a job because all self-funded retirees will be eating grass from now on (an allusion to his 'eat my grass' joke). John Peacham won the Lucky Square and Geoff Howland won the wine.

John Peacham: "It's about me..."

Rotarian John Peacham gave members a brief outline of his life story. John was "Made in England" and born in Tasmania where he lived until the age of four. He and his family then moved to "the mighty State of Victoria, the home of AFL football" (he supports St Kilda). All of John's education was completed in Victoria and he gained a degree in accounting, but he declares he is not an accountant.

He moved to Western Australia and worked in the mines as a mine surveyor; while there he got involved in investing in mining businesses through the stock market (not entirely successfully). John had thought of retiring next year but with current market conditions that isn't going to happen.

John has black belts in three martial arts, which he began when he was 10 and continued until 32 when he dislocated his knee and he hasn't been able to do it since; it was also the end of his football career.

John left Western Australia to work as an accountant with General Motors (GM), which he did for 10 years but quit accounting because accountants "don't have a sense of humour." Information Technology (IT) was just starting to evolve at that



time, mainframe computers were in force and people were just starting to move away from punched cards. John then moved into IT and spent many years as a programmer writing payroll and accounting systems at GM in Dandenong; even in IT he couldn't get away from accounting!

GM then bought a company called EDS, a large US outsourcing company, and all GM's IT people moved across to EDS. Not long after, EDS won a contract at Uncle Toby's at Corowa-Wahgunyah, near Albury. Following a divorce John took the opportunity to make some changes in his life and went to Corowa to transition the new account across to EDS; it was a very pleasant place to live and he was there for seven years. His lifestyle changed considerably with lots of golf and bowls, and importantly he met his partner Linda.

John came to Adelaide when EDS took on the SA Government's IT outsourcing contract. After 15 months of a three-month stint he was moved to the SA contract for a three-year term, but has been here in SA now for 14 years. John still works in IT, currently for Vectra Corporation in the field of credit card security, which in recent times has been undergoing important and significant changes. Credit card fraud is a significant risk and cost to banks and potentially affects all of us. And John still supports St Kilda. ■

Guest Speaker – Kym Hulme: “National Motor Museum”

Chairman Martin Cooper introduced our guest speaker, Kym Hulme, by favourably comparing our National Motor Museum at Birdwood with the UK's National Motor Museum, Beaulieu (250 exhibits) and Sparkford Motor Museum (400 exhibits). In Martin's opinion the Birdwood museum outclasses the UK examples because of the spread of coverage of the development of motor vehicles since the late 1800s, taking in cars, bikes, trucks and road trains, from early steam powered vehicles through to the modern vehicles of today.

Kym Hulme began his working life as a Gunnery Seaman Sailor in the Royal Australian Navy, largely responsible shooting and blowing things up and teaching others how to do it, and travelled over much of the southern hemisphere. Kym then spent three years as a custodial officer with the SA Prison Service. Wanting to stay out of prisons, Kym then became the Business Operations Manager of Carrick Hill, one of Adelaide's iconic houses. In 2004 he was able to get to work in his passion of transportation and was appointed Director of the National Motor Museum at Birdwood. Besides his love of cars, Kym is into football (favourite team unknown), is an ex rugby player and is a motorcyclist.

Using a PowerPoint presentation, Kym described how the National Motor Museum is a unique institution in Australia and is the recognised centre in Australia for the research, recording and preservation of all aspects of Australia's road motor transport history. With a collection comprising 400 cars, motorcycles and commercial vehicles, the National Motor Museum is home to an internationally acclaimed collection of vintage, veteran and classic vehicles. But the collection is about more than the vehicles; it is also about the people behind the vehicles. The owners, drivers and designers of vehicles as well as those who helped build and sell them. Kym showed photographs and described some of the vehicles that helped to shape both Australia's motoring and social history and related some of the unique stories behind them.



Regent Station Replica

Kym talked about one of the most interesting and historically important vehicles in the collection, the 1899 Shearer, the oldest Australian built vehicle still running. Built at Mannum, this bulky steam-powered car was probably the first vehicle manufactured in South Australia.

Also, the Talbot, which first crossed the continent from south to north in 1908, is featured in a display tracing the epic 51 day journey from Adelaide to Darwin. And Kym talked about the famous Tom Kruse and the mail run he operated on the Birdsville Track in a Blitz Wagon and a Beaver truck, which has been fully restored and has been donated to the museum.

As you enter the museum you encounter the rebuilt Regent Service Station. From 1928 until 1976 it served the Adelaide public from the corner of Anzac Highway and South Road. The reconstructed service station is the museum's souvenir shop.

The museum runs a number of regular events including the Rock and Roll Rendezvous, The Birdwood Classic, the Bay to Birdwood Run, the Birdwood Music & Ute Festival and numerous community events. Local car clubs mount displays to promote their activities and add variety to the permanent displays. Rotary is invited to run fundraisers at the museum. The National Motor Museum is operated by the History Trust of South Australia, a division of Arts SA. About 60% of the exhibits are owned by the museum and 40% are on loan.

After Kym had responded a number of Rotarians' questions, Chairman Martin thanked Kym for his wide-ranging and informative talk and presented him with an Unley Rotary pen as a memento of his visit to the Club. ■

Jerry's Jottings

February is “World Understanding” month and this month's International night will give us a window into the plight of some of our near neighbours and the issues they face. Chandra and her team will be raising money, through the event, for Cleft Palate and we hope to contribute significantly to this charity. Lot's of hard work has been and will be put in by the International committee and the night promises to be exceptional. If we can also achieve our 100% I will be in need of charity as I will be a lot poorer. Remember if you are unable to make it on the night to do a make-up before hand, that way we will be able to claim the 100% on the night. Chandra is seeking support for the auction and has, as noted in the President's Announcements, asked for contributions. We can support the International team either by making a contribution or alternatively buying something on the night.

On a more formal note I am concerned that, at times, we are failing to give the respect required to speakers at the club, whether the main speaker or one of the spot speakers. I would ask that we all pay attention to what is being said and not interrupt the sessions with side conversations.

Next week we are away from home on what promises to be a very interesting vocational visit. See you all there.

Yours in Rotary,

Jerry



Kym Hulme



President Jerry

Bill Gates announces new US\$255 million grant for ending polio

By Arnold R. Grahl and Dan Nixon Rotary International News -- 21 January 2009



Bill Gates announcing grant to end polio

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation has awarded US\$255 million to Rotary International in the global effort to eradicate polio, bringing the total committed by Rotary and the Gates Foundation to \$555 million. Shortly after meeting with incoming district governors from the four countries where the wild poliovirus is endemic -- Afghanistan, India, Nigeria, and Pakistan -- Bill Gates announced the new grant on Wednesday morning at the International Assembly in San Diego, California, USA.

"Rotarians, government leaders, and health professionals have made a phenomenal commitment to get us to a point at which polio afflicts only a small number of the world's children," Gates said. "However, complete elimination of

the poliovirus is difficult and will continue to be difficult for a number of years. Rotary in particular has inspired my own personal commitment to get deeply involved in achieving eradication."

"We are going to end polio now," affirmed Robert S. Scott, chair of RI's International PolioPlus Committee.

In response to the new \$255 million Gates Foundation grant, Rotary will raise \$100 million in matching funds. In November 2007, RI received a \$100 million Gates Foundation grant, which Rotary committed to match by raising \$100 million. The two Gates Foundation challenge grants now total \$355 million. Rotary International's matching effort in response is called Rotary's US\$200 Million Challenge, which must be completed by 30 June 2012.

The \$255 million grant is one of the largest challenge grants ever given by the Gates Foundation and the largest received by Rotary in its 104-year history. Rotary will spend the grant in direct support of immunization activities carried out by the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, which is spearheaded by RI and its partners, the World Health Organization, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and UNICEF. Rotary will distribute the funds through grants to WHO and UNICEF.

The participation of Rotary clubs and individual Rotarians in Rotary's US\$200

Million Challenge remains crucial to its success. Rotary has raised nearly \$73 million toward this amount: \$62 million in contributions and \$11 million in commitments. Each club is being challenged to organize a public fundraiser annually for the next three years. In October, The Rotary Foundation Trustees approved special Paul Harris Fellow Recognition, which begins 1 July, featuring a certificate with the End Polio Now logo.

Polio eradication has been Rotary's top priority since 1985, with more than \$1.2 billion contributed to the effort. Bill Gates praised Rotary for providing the volunteers, advocates, and donors who have helped bring about a 99 percent decline in the number of polio cases. "The world would not be where it is without Rotary, and it won't get where it needs to go without Rotary," he said.

RI President-elect John Kenny said, "The final hurdle still is ahead. This grant shows that the Gates Foundation is just as committed as Rotary to ridding the world of this disease."

In addition, the governments of the UK and Germany announced they have respectively committed \$150 million and \$130 million to eradicate polio, which will not count toward Rotary's challenge. ■

Rotary clubs provide clean water to 30,000 people in remote villages in India

Rotary International News

As the United Nations estimates 2.1 million children die before the age of five each year due to a lack of clean water, Rotary clubs are collaborating with the public and private sector to provide sustainable, clean drinking water to 30,000 people in 20 villages.

Rotary clubs in India and France are together providing INR 3.2 million (USD \$68,000) to build four water dams in the Alwar/Sikar region, located in the state of Rajasthan in western India. "These dams will transform this region from a poor and famished land to green fields where people and animals will have enough water to drink and enough food to eat," said Sushil Gupta, president of the board of trustee of the Rotary India Water Conservation Trust (RIWCT).

As part of a grassroots effort on water management established by Indian Rotary clubs, the RIWCT is working with local communities, governments and the private sector to construct dams, and build reservoirs and shafts for rainwater harvesting. Under the leadership of RIWCT, Rotary has successfully funded the following projects:

- The Kaladeh Wala Dam will benefit eight villages (Kishanpura, Avinashi, Neem ka Thana, Bhagwanpura, Maujmed, Sodhala, Math ki Dhani and Sanwalpura) with a total population of 6400. It is reported that with the benefit to livestock the milk yield has virtually doubled. The project is jointly supported by Rotary clubs in France and India for a combined total of Rs INR 12,30,000 (US \$ 30,000)
- The Buja Wala Dam will benefit two villages (Brahmanon Ki Dhani and Telia Ki Dhani) comprised of 1,160 people – along with an additional 260 residents in two nearby villages, and 4,800 heads of livestock. This project is jointly supported by Rotary clubs in France and India for a combined total of: INR 716,592 (US\$ 15,342).
- The Girati Wala Dam will directly benefit two villages (Girati Ki Dhani and Loharavas) comprised of 1550 people – along with an additional 280 residents in two nearby villages, and 3,000 heads of livestock. This project is jointly supported by the Rotary clubs

of France and India for a combined total of: INR 666,872 (US\$14,239).

- The Kemra Wala Dam will benefit five villages (Mishrala Ki Dhani, Advanya Ki Dhani, Teeba Bassi Ki Dhani, Lohia Ki Dhani and Rajgarh) comprised of 2,350 people – along with an additional 70 families in two nearby villages and 5,000 heads of cattle and other livestock. This project is jointly supported by the Rotary clubs of France and India for a combined total of: INR 954,639 (US\$ 20,517).
- The Tapkeshwar Wala Dam will benefit five panchayats consisting of 20 villages with a population of approximately 20,000 people. The long term benefits from this project will result in the increase in level of the sub soil water and thus filling up wells in the area.. Rotary contributed INR 848,186 (US\$ 18,438) exclusively to support this project.

In 2003, Rotary in India adopted the Delhi Declaration, which aims to promote proper water management throughout India by:

- Creating public awareness of water management,

- Educating school children and stake holders at various levels on the importance of water management,
- Disseminating knowledge about water conservation techniques including the traditional methods,
- Encouraging community participation in integrated and sustainable water management,
- Promoting the National Perspective Plan for interlinking of rivers for development in water scarce areas.

As part of this nationwide effort, Rotary and the Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC) will open a water kiosk in the city for pedestrians, along with sanitation facilities. In addition, Rotary signed a memorandum of understanding with the KMC to provide separate sanitation facilities for girls in 108 KMC schools across the state.

The projects in India add to the growing list of collaborative water projects between local governments, communities and Rotary. "These partnership projects

demonstrate how government, business and the NGO community can engage to solve global water problems in innovative ways," said Gupta.

Rotary clubs worldwide are involved in an estimated 6,000 projects in rural areas of Africa, Latin America, and South and Southeast Asia - all aimed at addressing the lack of access to safe water and sanitation that claims more than two million lives each year, a majority of them children. ■

Membership Issues Raised for Discussion by District Governors Australia & New Zealand 2008-2009 at the Rotary International Institute in Christchurch

Continued from Last Week's Edition:

14. Promote that Rotary and Rotary clubs have changed.

We should support a national approach and encourage districts to support Australia wide efforts to promote Rotary. It is critical to membership development. Districts and clubs should budget adequately for marketing and promotion.

The Rotary International Public Image Resource Group works to enhance Rotary's public image by assisting districts and clubs to tell Rotary's success stories to all media, local government officials, communities, civic leaders and similar entities, and to advance the internal and external recognition and public image of Rotary International.

15. Presidents becoming dictatorial.

Leadership in Rotary is an issue. Autocratic and weak leadership can be very damaging for different reasons and can adversely affect membership. Both clubs and district nominating selection committees need to take the matter seriously when selecting presidents and district governors.

One of the best ways for clubs to overcome the problem of autonomy or autocracy is for their club to be involved with the visioning process known as Rotary Club Vision Facilitation. This programme assists key leaders and interested members of a Rotary club to achieve continuity, consistency and leadership. All club members present contribute freely to achieve a vision for the whole club. The Club Leadership Plan fits in with the visioning process and through member involvement helps overcome the potential problem of autocratic members or leaders who won't make a decision or find it hard to lead.

The Club Vision facilitation programme will help clubs to develop their long range

plan within the Rotary framework and will strengthen the Club Leadership Plan to provide consensus, continuity and consistency. It is voluntary to clubs, but it is recommended that it be made available to clubs in every district.

Club autonomy is fundamental to the structure of Rotary. We are not going to change that but need to help it work better. This depends on education, training and communication to keep clubs involved and aware of the wider world of Rotary. A district may sometimes consider itself autonomous and resist outside influence, but a district has very little authority to consider itself autonomous, it is an administrative grouping of clubs (members) of Rotary International, with a single officer appointed by Rotary International, and its sole reason for existence is to help clubs advance the Object of Rotary. Counter to this an incorporated district is a legal entity under state/national law. A competent district governor will recognise this and make use of Rotary International, its staff and volunteer representatives to keep the district and its clubs on the Rotary path subject to local culture and circumstances.

A club is not an autocracy, it is under the control of a board of directors who should be able and prepared to guide (or if needed control) the club president when appropriate. The president's task is to demonstrate leadership rather than authority. The annual change of club leaders will prevent one person gaining long term ownership of the position but the club needs to guard against ownership developing of other club positions. It is hoped (& recommended) that the collective wisdom of the board will modify adverse effect of a dictatorial or weak leader.

16. Enervating small clubs <30

Clubs that have become complacent or lack drive or motivation need to use a

Club Assessment Tool with all members involved. They should also be encouraged to look at becoming involved with the Club Vision Facilitation as this process will provide the club with a clear vision for the future. Most districts in Australia and New Zealand have people trained as facilitators of the Club Visioning programme; an approach for assistance should be made through either the district governor, assistant governor or the district membership chair.

17. Imparting Rotary knowledge to all Rotarians.

- The e-learning centre on the RI website and also accessible through the membership website is an excellent tool for Clubs to use for the education of their membership. There are power point presentations and downloads available for club presentations.
- Clubs should set aside a minimum of five minutes at each meeting or at least every alternate meeting for the purpose of learning about Rotary. Rotarians who have just joined Rotary will want to learn about Rotary as quickly as possible and the e-learning centre gives them the opportunity to do that.
- Clubs can set aside one meeting program each month and have four members give a five minute presentation each on a different programme or aspect of Rotary. All members are included in the presentation roster, which requires that they do some research on Rotary.
- Chairs of the district committees can be invited to present to clubs as the guest speaker.
- The club bulletin should be used to impart Rotary knowledge every week.
- Clubs have a quiz or trivia night where the questions all relate to programmes of Rotary. ■

Our Upcoming Meetings

✱ The full 2008-09 Meeting Program can be seen on the club's website at: <http://unley.rotaryclub.org.au/MeetingProgram.htm>

Date	Venue	Time	Occasion	Venue Set-up/ Plaque Board	Sergeant	Attendance Desk
10/02/09	Dinner at Saracens Head Hotel 82 Carrington St, Police Comms Ctr 20 Carrington St	6.00pm 7.00pm	Visit to Police Communications Centre and Star Force Demonstration; Partners Event		Bob Mullins	Jim Newall & Neesha Nandasena
17/02/09	Tiffins on the Park	6 for 6.30pm	International Night ; Hieu Van Le and Saiful Ismail; Partners Event	Chandra Sluggett	Bob Mullins	John Peacham & Janet Plumb
24/02/09	Murray Bridge Golf Club on Ritter St, Murray Bridge	7 for 7.30pm	Interclub Meeting with RCs of Murray Bridge & Mount Barker; Prof. David Paton: "The Environment of Lower Lakes and the Coorong"	Anne Wehr	Bob Mullins	Joan Reed & John Russell
01/03/09	Tiffins on the Park	6 for 6.30pm	Akhtar Esmail-Zadeh: "My Life in Iran"	Norm Wallace	Greg McLeod	Colin Schirmer & Janet Singh

Apologies To: Anne Wehr on 8357 0486; e-mail: unley.secretary@rotaryclub.org.au.

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: Martin Cooper on 0403 910 161 or e-mail unley.membership@rotaryclub.org.au.

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

Members rostered on Venue Set-up and Plaque Board should see Tiffins on the Park staff to gain access to the club's meeting paraphernalia. Please remember to gather up all items at the end of the meeting and return them to the storeroom.

Diary Dates

Month	Day	Date	Activity Details	Venue	Enquiries
February	Tuesday	17/02/09	International Night ; Hieu Van Le, Chairman of the SA Multicultural & Ethnic Affairs Commission and Saiful Ismail, President of the SA Bangladesh Association; this is a Partners Event	Tiffins on the Park	Chandra Sluggett
	Saturday	21/02/09	World Rotary Day Celebration (Foundation Day 23/2/1905)	Unley Shopping Centre	Martin Cooper
	Friday	27/02/09	Ten Pin Bowling at 6pm followed by dinner Bowling: \$21.50 (two games, plus shoes) Meal: \$30 (2 courses - entrée and main)	Cross Road Bowl Hyde Park Tavern	Jerry Casburn
March	Friday night to Sunday afternoon	13/03/09 to 15/03/09	Rotary District 9520 Youth Program of Enrichment (formerly RYPEN). BBQ on Friday evening to be provided by RCU - all Members welcome	Woodside Scout Camp, Piccadilly	Stephen Baker
	Sunday	15/03/09	Beach Fish and Chip Party Fish and Chips: \$10. BYOG	Brighton Beach	Jerry Casburn
April	Sunday	26/04/09	Botanical Gardens Visit and BBQ Admission: Free, BBQ: \$10-\$15, BYOG	Adelaide Botanical Gardens	Jerry Casburn
June	Sunday	07/06/09	Fireworks and Fun Day from 3pm to 8:30pm	Wayville Showgrounds	Andy Hill

Saturday Thrift Shop Roster: February-March 2009

Week No.	Dates This Month	Early Shift: 9am to 11.30 am	Late Shift: 11am to 1.30pm
1	07/02/09	Lindsay England & Rohan Singh	Mavis Martin & Stephen Westgarth
2	14/02/09	Stephen Baker, Greg McLeod & Kevin Rogers	Ken Haines & David Middleton
3	21/02/09	Glenys Ferguson & Neesha Nandasena	Bob Laws & TBA
4	28/02/09	Sheila Evans, Chandra Sluggett & Kevin Rogers	Martin Cooper & John Peacham
5	NA	Reno Elms & Bob Mullins	Natalie Bowen & Ken Haines

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

Duties of Wives

Three men were sitting together bragging about how they had given their new wives duties.

Terry had married a woman from Greece.

He bragged that he had told his wife she needed to do all the dishes and housework. He said that it took a couple days but on the third day he came home to a clean house and the dishes were all washed and put away. Jimmie had married a woman from Italy.

He bragged that he had given his wife orders that she was to do all the cleaning, the dishes and the cooking. He told them that the first day he didn't see any results, but the next day it was better. By the third day, his house was clean, the dishes were done, and he had a huge dinner on the table.

The third man had married an Australian girl.

He boasted that he told her that her duties were to keep the house cleaned, dishes washed, laundry and ironing twice a week, lawns mowed, windows cleaned and hot meals on the table for every meal.

He said the first day he didn't see anything, the second day he didn't see anything, but by the third day most of the swelling had gone down and he could see a little out of his left eye, just enough to fix himself a bite to eat, load the dishwasher, and call a handyman.



Voted the best Australian Joke of 2008

A bloke's wife goes missing while diving off the West Australian coast.

He reports the event, searches fruitlessly and spends a terrible night wondering what could have happened to her.



Next morning there's a knock at the door and he is confronted by a couple of policemen, the old Sarge and a younger Constable.

The Sarge says, 'Mate, we have some news for you, unfortunately some really bad news, but, some good news, and maybe some more good news'.

'Well,' says the bloke, 'I guess I'd better have the bad news first?'

The Sarge says, 'I'm really sorry mate, but your wife is dead. Young Bill here

found her lying at about five fathoms in a little cleft in the reef. He got a line around her and we pulled her up, but she was dead.'

The bloke is naturally pretty distressed to hear of this and has a bit of a turn. But after a few minutes he pulls himself together and asks what the good news is.

The Sarge says, 'Well when we got your wife up there were quite a few really good sized crays and a swag of nice crabs attached to her, so we've brought you your share.'

He hands the bloke a sugar bag with a couple of nice crays and four or five crabs in it.

'Geez thanks. They're bloody beauties. I guess it's an ill wind and all that... So what's the other possible good news?'

'Well,' the Sarge says, 'if you fancy a quick trip, me and young Bill here get off duty at around 11 o'clock and we're gonna shoot over there and pull her up again!'

Just as you think you're ahead.....

A man is waiting for his wife to give birth. The doctor comes in and informs the father that his son was born without torso, arms or legs. The son is just a head! But the father loves his son and raises him as well as he can, with love and compassion.

After 18 years, the son is now old enough for his first drink. Dad takes him to the bar, tearfully tells the son he is proud of him and orders up the biggest, strongest drink for his boy. With all the bar patrons looking on curiously and the bartender shaking his head in disbelief, the boy takes his first sip of alcohol.

Swoooooosh! Plop!! A torso pops out! The bar is dead silent; then bursts into whoops of joy. The father, shocked, begs his son to drink again. The patrons chant 'Take another drink!'

The bartender continues to shake his head in dismay. Swoooooosh! Plip! Plop!! Two arms pop out.

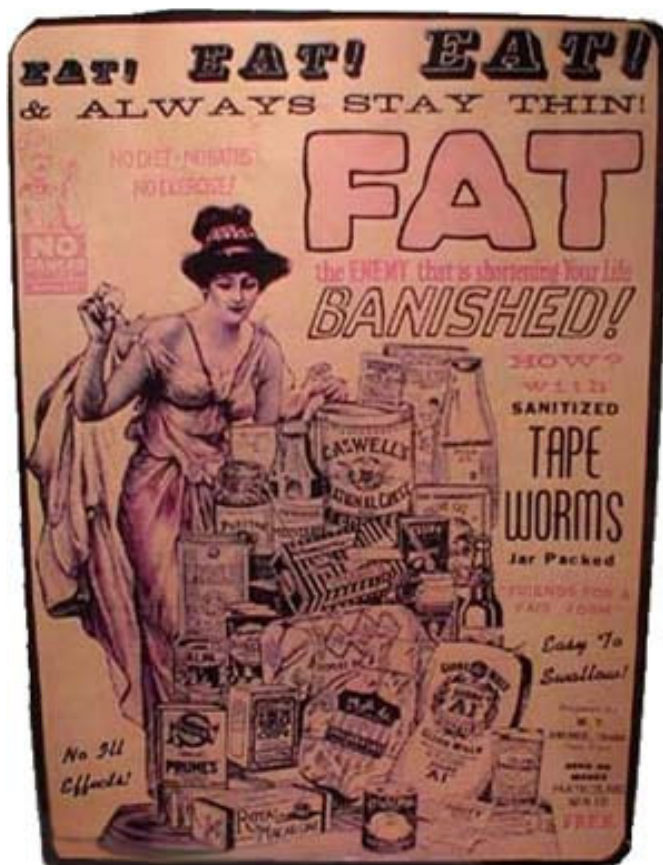
The bar goes wild. The father, crying and wailing, begs his son to drink again. The patrons chant, 'Take another drink! Take another drink!!' The bartender ignores the whole affair and goes back to polishing glasses, shaking his head, clearly unimpressed by the amazing scenes.

By now the boy is getting tipsy, but with his new hands he reaches down, grabs his drink and guzzles the last of it. Plop! Plip!! Two legs pop out. The bar is in chaos.

The father falls to his knees and tearfully thanks God. The boy stands up on his new legs and stumbles to the left then staggers to the right through the front door, into the street, where a truck runs over him and kills him instantly. The bar falls silent.

The father moans in grief. The bartender sighs and says, 'He should've quit while he was a head!'

An Advertisement from the 1930s



Remember our Rotary theme for the year:

Make Dreams Real