

THE UNLEY ROTARIAN

Meeting 3653 – 10 March 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
SECRETARY: Anne Wehr: 8357 0486
ADDRESS: PO Box 18, Unley SA 5061
EMAIL: unley.secretary@rotaryclub.org.au
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.	3653
Date	10 March 2009
Venue	Tiffins on the Park
Guest Speaker	Helen Bulis
Chairperson	Sheila Evans
Guests	Guy Manuell (from Melbourne)
Makeups	Martin Cooper 3/3 RC Remuera, NZ
Apologies	Anne Zada, Bob Mullins, Janet Singh, Mark Zada
Attendance	80%
Returning Rotarians	Martin Cooper
Birthdays & Anniversaries	Inductions: John Russell 13/3 Birthdays: Heather Kilsby 12/3, Reno Elms 16/3, Anne Wehr 17/3
Departing Rotarians	Heather Kilsby

SOCIAL EVENT REMINDER

RCU Beach Fish & Chips Party

When: Sunday 15th March at 3pm.

Where: Somerton Beach: If you go to the junction of College Road and the Esplanade there is a boat ramp down to the beach, just to the south of this is an area of beach which appears to be above the high tide line, we'll try to bag a space there.

Weather Outlook: Sunny. Winds from the WNW at 16 km/h, Temperatures: Low 18°C, High 20°C.

Cost: \$10 for a Fish and Chip supper which I will collect ready to eat at 5pm; BYO drinks. Fish and chips have been ordered for all those who indicated they are attending, so you are expected to be there and the cost is already committed at \$10 per head.

What to Bring: Tables, chairs, eating irons (if you don't want to eat the pommy way), sun block, bathers (if you are brave), your bucket and spade and any suitable beach games.

Toilets: There are toilets located at the John Miller reserve on the Esplanade, a few minutes' walk to the north of the boat ramp.

Parking: Ample street parking.

President's Announcements

1. **Martin Cooper** last week did a makeup at the Rotary Club of Remuera, New Zealand. He passed on Remuera Club President Terry's greetings to our club and presented our President Jerry with a Remuera Club banner.



Pres Jerry and Martin Cooper

2. I am again sending round the **Social Diary** for you to update. I need absolute numbers for Sunday as I have to order the fish and chips tomorrow, for them to have it all ready for Sunday. Please update the number, remember family and friends are welcome, we will arrange some games or you can simply relax for the afternoon. Please also place a tick against the number so I know you have confirmed attending. Unfortunately I will have to charge for any unclaimed meals. Later this week I will advise all attending the exact location of the Beach party, it will be somewhere between Brighton and Glenelg.

3. I have also been speaking to Lindsay, our Treasurer, in relation to payments made towards **Project Cleft** and concerns expressed by some members over the request to make the payment over to Cleft Palate rather than via the Rotary Trust. Lindsay and Tom Tirrell have spent a considerable time trying to get our accounts straight and at this stage they are updating the trust to get the trustees right and the mechanics for paying out of the fund. We do not have a cheque book for the account at this stage. The change was requested to allow three things, to get the monies to Cleft Palate quickly, to have a tax deductible receipt quickly and not to muddy the waters with the trust. I ask your forbearance in assisting Lindsay with this request.

4. **Unley Council** has invited members of local community groups to attend a meeting to review opportunities for activities in the area. Mavis Martin will be attending on behalf of Community Service and she is hoping to find two or three to go with her.

Sergeant's Session

Sergeant Greg McLeod fined our President a "bomb", and fined just about everyone else too. Anne Wehr won the Lucky Square and Bob Laws won the wine.

Spots

Stephen Baker sought an indication of which members will be playing **L A W N bowls** against the Mitcham Club next Tuesday night at the Sturt Bowling Club. Remember to bring any friends who are REALLY GOOD bowlers and would like to represent Unley and help Pres Jerry win the trophy back. The cost is \$22 per head.



1 = Sturt Bowling Club

Bob Laws: An **OSSAA film evening** fundraiser is being held on Sunday, 31 May at 5.30pm at the Chelsea Cinema at 275 Kensington Road, Kensington Park. The movie will be the newly released **"State of Play"** with Helen Mirren and Russell Crowe; it is a police detective mystery about the murder of a Congressman's mistress, so it has got everything in it! A light champagne supper will be provided. Tickets are \$16 each and can be purchased from Bob Laws, John Russell, Stephen Baker and Alex Jonson.

The next **Thrift Shop "culling and cleaning" day** will be this coming Sunday 15 March from 9.30am to noon. The plan is to "high grade" the stock and get rid of goods that don't meet our exacting standards. All Rotarians are welcome to come along and help.

Martin Cooper reminded members about the **RYPEN barbeque** at Woodhouse this Friday evening. All Rotarians are welcome to attend but please let Martin know if you will be attending so he can ensure there will be enough food for everyone.

During March the **new club flyer** will be distributed to Unley homes by a letterbox drop. The flyer has two objectives: Firstly, to promote the Thrift Shop so that people can donate to it, volunteer to work in it, or come and buy from it and, secondly, to promote membership in Rotary. The Salvation Army's appeal route maps will be used to assign areas to Rotarians for the letterbox drop. There are 32 areas and each one takes less than three hours to complete. So what we want to do is give every Rotarian an area to be letterboxed by the end of March. Your flyers and designated area will be delivered to your home during the coming week.

Guest Speaker: Helen Bulis - "An Overview of Australian Customs"

Introduction: Chairman for the evening Sheila Evans introduced our guest speaker Helen Bulis who presented 'An Overview of Australian Customs'. Helen is a career public servant with an Honours Degree in Sociology. She has worked in numerous places throughout Australia and has tutored at Central Queensland University. Helen recently completed a Graduate Diploma in Art History. She moved across to the Department of Customs and Border Protection from the Department of the Ageing. She is now Regional Director for South Australia for the Department of Customs and Border Protection. Helen is married, has three dogs, five horses, chickens and canaries and all live on a property near Mt Pleasant. She supports Geelong in the AFL.



Sheila Evans with Helen Bulis

Helen Bulis: Customs is Australia's primary border protection agency whose job is:

- Security and integrity of our borders;
- Facilitating the movement of legitimate travellers and goods;
- Collecting border-related duties and taxes;
- Protecting the community by detecting illegal drugs and firearms.

Customs uses intelligence analysis, computer-based analysis, detector dogs and other technologies to target high risk aircraft, vessels, cargo, postal items and travellers.

In South Australia Customs at any point of time has two officers on duty at Port Lincoln and Port Pirie to cover 1,000 kms of coastline. There once were up to ten officers covering the same area, but government "streamlining" of processes has seen this number reduced. Consequently Customs personnel need to be even more on the alert. Overall there are three officers covering Eucla to Whyalla and three between Adelaide, and Helen's staff cover from Port Adelaide to Port MacDonald. This level of resourcing leaves the coastline in South Australia fairly exposed.

Customs works in conjunction with other government agencies such as the Australian Federal Police (AFP), Quarantine (AQIS), Immigration (DIMEA), the Department of Transport and Regional Development (DTRD) and the Department of Defence (DOD).

Border Protection Command is a partnership between Customs and Defence that concentrates its activities in Australia's northern waters where there is more people smuggling and illegal fishing.

Across Australia Customs employs around 6,000 people but with government financial stringency this number is reducing. Ten years ago there were 400 staff in SA; there are now 200 and more reductions are expected in the next financial year.

Customs is divided into four divisions:

- Passenger Movement and Intelligence;
- Border Compliance and Enforcement;
- Cargo Regulation Trade Facilitation and Revenue Collection;
- Civil Maritime Surveillance and Response.

Customs comes within the Attorney General's Department under Minister Bob Devis. Customs provides the Minister with advice and the text of his speeches.

The addition of "Border Protection" to the Customs name was announced in December 2008 to recognise that Customs is now a lead agency in detecting people smuggling and intercepting illegal immigrants, particularly in our northern waters around Ashmore Reef.

Some statistics on Customs activities in 2007-08:

- Processed 24 million passengers (12 million in and out) and 2 million air and sea crew (often Customs' biggest headache)
- Detected 949 kg of ephedrine, 812 kg of cocaine, 70 kg of heroin, 73 kg of ecstasy and 248 kg of methamphetamine
- Detected 8,564 weapons
- Detected 258 tonnes of tobacco
- Screened 6.2 million imported air cargo consignments
- Processed 97% of incoming international air passengers within 30 minutes

Illegal tobacco is on the increase and comes in by the container load. Illegal weapons also arrive in a variety of guises, but are usually detected.

Sophisticated x-ray equipment is used to scan small hand luggage items up to full-sized containers on trucks.

People still attempt to bring in drugs on their bodies, but detector dogs are used to detect these. X-ray techniques are also used.

Tracking of imported illegal goods is difficult if goods are transferred to other vessels at sea. Members of the public can help by keeping their eyes open and reporting suspicious activity.

Communiqué from DG Peter Shipp: Victorian Bushfires Situation

I would like to take this opportunity to bring you up to date with where we are in regard to the Victorian bushfires.

I have been in touch with the District Governors (9780 and 9790) and they advise that at the present time they are not allowed into the affected areas, as they are still under Emergency Services and/or Police control either as a crime scene or declared disaster area. We have been asked to stand on the sidelines for the time being and perhaps concentrate our efforts on the financial side of things by raising money. Undoubtedly you will be, as I am, aware that the situation is not in the news every day as it was previously. This will make acquiring donations probably more difficult.

In regard to the issue of provision of treated pine posts for fencing, Governor Ted Gaffney (9780) has received information from the Department of Primary Industries that they have banned the use of these treated pine posts unless they are new and have been treated within the last two years. Apparently the previous formula for the "dip" had an arsenic base, and only in the last two years has the formula been changed to make them safe for use. This position in regard to the posts is also held by the Victorian Farmer's Federation (VFF). The VFF also believe that there is some 5,000 kilometres of fencing that has been lost, most of which will require steel posts as replacements.

I have been approached by Rotarian Barry Barratt, who heads up the Native Bird Nest Box Program. Rotarian Barry, in conjunction with the **Victorian National Parks & Wildlife Service**, is proposing to provide 1,000 generic type bird nesting boxes in order to attract wildlife back to the bushfire affected areas. I would ask, as a Club, that you give some thought and action to assisting Rotarian Barry with the daunting task of providing the 1,000 boxes. Material and plans will be made available via Barry and he can be contacted via the Rotary Club of Burnside. I trust we can get at least 1,000 – if not more! Let's not sit and wait – let's get under way and do something practical.

At the last District Management Committee Meeting (22nd February), the Committee ratified the use of the District Conference surplus funds for the disaster relief and up to \$20,000 from the Rotary District 9520 Disaster Fund at the discretion of the District Governor, if required. We are, at present, well short of the \$100,000 and would request that you forward any donation or raised funds as soon as possible to the District Treasurer in order that we know where we stand and can inform the Victorian Districts of what funds are available.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Peter F. Shipp

District Governor D9520

Pakistan, Afghanistan collaborate to end polio

By Brian Dixon – Rotary International News – 27 Feb 2009

Health officials from Pakistan and Afghanistan endorsed joint strategies for stopping cross-border transmission of the poliovirus during a 10-11 February meeting in Islamabad, Pakistan.

"We need to consider Pakistan and Afghanistan as one block when it comes to fighting polio," said Dr. Altaf Bosan, head of Pakistan's polio eradication program, during the meeting. "Our issues and challenges are the same, and thus their solutions are similar."

The meeting also included representatives from three of the spearheading partners of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative -- the World Health Organization, Rotary International, and UNICEF -- and other nongovernmental organizations. Among the participants were national PolioPlus committee chairs Abdul Haiy Khan of Pakistan and Dr. Ajmal Pardis of Afghanistan.

An important outcome of the meeting was an agreement to improve the condition and visibility of vaccination posts at border crossings. Dr. Rasheed Jooma, Pakistan's director-general of health, identified several strategies for achieving that objective, including:

- Joint appointment of community influencers to overcome security issues
- Micro-planning of immunization efforts and mapping of border areas by the two countries
- Regular contact between health officials and exchange of technical data
- Assessing the need for new vaccination posts in border areas

The agreement comes at a critical time for both countries - and the world - in the battle to eradicate polio. Pakistan's health secretary, Sibtain Fazal Halim, emphasized the importance of engaging key religious leaders and tribal elders to negotiate access to areas with unimmunized children.

"The polio teams continue to strive for opportunities to immunize children whenever there is an easing in the situation," he said. "Protecting the health of our children is a collective responsibility."



Members of the Rotary Club of Dadu, Sind, Pakistan, walk to boost awareness of polio in their community.

NT Indigenous Communities Christmas Gift Appeal

Reprinted from the District Governor's February Newsletter

This photo was taken at one of the many Christmas celebrations held in the N.T. within the Indigenous communities, and made possible through the combined efforts of Rotary, the Salvation Army, the General Practitioners Registrar and DIK. A total of approximately 15,000 children in the indigenous communities received a gift. Congratulations to all for a job well done!



Rotary Theme Logo 2009-2010

From Rotary International News - 19 January 2009

The 2009-10 Rotary International theme acknowledges the important role that individual Rotary clubs will play in shaping the future of Rotary.

Rotary International President-elect John Kenny unveiled the theme, *The Future of Rotary Is in Your Hands*, during the opening plenary session of the [International Assembly](#), an annual training event in San Diego, California, USA, for incoming district governors.



Group Study Exchange Hosting - Call for Expressions of Interest

The rotary Club of Unley has received a call for **Expressions of Interest to host a GSE Team** from District 5470, Colorado USA (from late September to late October 2009). Applications definitely close on Friday May 1st, 2009.

Clubs are asked to provide an outline of the type of program they can offer, including places of local interest, economic and/or historical. Clubs will need to ensure that they can provide five (5) families for the team from Colorado, plus at least one reserve as a backup. Clubs will be asked to plan a Rotary group meeting to include other non-hosting clubs. Two club members need to be appointed as coordinators of the Club's program and to work closely with the District Committee.

Clubs would need to budget between \$500-\$1000 to cover expenses to cover the cost of meals, transport and any entry fees for venues visited.

Clubs are also advised that there will be a call to host a team from Brazil later this year for an exchange in April/May 2010.

Selection of Host Clubs will be based on a combination of:

- Representation of clubs within each group, to offer the visitors a chance to experience a wide range of activities and environments within District 9520 boundaries;
- Most recent selection of hosting of GSE teams;
- Frequency of offers to host GSE teams; and
- Level of Contributions the Club has made to the Rotary Foundation in recent years.

Foundation Awards 30,000th Matching Grant

By Peter Schmidtke – Rotary International News – 3 March 2009

More than 20 children in India with congenital heart defects will soon benefit from the 30,000th Matching Grant awarded by The Rotary Foundation (TRF).

TRF approved a grant of US\$15,000 in December for the project, which is a collaboration between the Rotary clubs of Cochin Midtown, Kerala, India, and Sandbach, Cheshire, England. The grant will help fund surgeries to correct heart irregularities in children between the ages of three months and 18 years in southern and northern India.

The clubs have each contributed \$5,000 toward the project. Their districts, 3201 (India) and 1050 (England), have both provided \$5,000 from their District Designated Fund, for a total of \$35,000.

The project is being coordinated through [Gift of Life International](#), an organization supported by Rotary clubs worldwide. It's the latest development in the ongoing efforts of the Cochin Midtown club and District 3201 to provide open-heart surgeries to 105 children from indigent families by 2010, Rotary's 105th year.

During the past two years, clubs in District 3201 have organized four other Matching Grant projects for surgeries, and have independently funded several other surgeries as well.

"A child with heart disease who is born to poor parents puts an entire family of five or six persons in financial disarray," says Cochin Midtown club president V.J. John, explaining his district's decision to make the surgeries a priority.

Through the [Matching Grants](#) program, TRF provides a dollar-for-dollar match for every [District Designated Fund contribution](#) to a project, and a 50-cent match for every dollar of additional contributions.

Since 1965, TRF has matched contributions for international service projects in 199 countries at a cost of more than \$335 million. In 2007-08 alone, TRF approved \$43.8 million for 2,424 Matching Grant projects in 137 countries. ●



Children, recipients of a Rotary Foundation Matching Grant to correct heart irregularities, are all smiles at the Padre Francisco Da Motta school in Brazil. In December, the Foundation approved the 30,000th Matching Grant. *Rotary Images/Alyce Henson*

Jerry's Jottings

As mentioned in the announcement at Tuesday's meeting **Mavis Martin** attended a joint meeting of Community Groups hosted by Unley Council, I was also able to attend that session. The meeting was primarily to discuss opportunities for Neighbour's Day on Sunday 29th March and Reconciliation Week (27 May to June 3rd).

Neighbour's Day is to encourage residents to get to know their local community, perhaps with street barbeques or even something as simple as knocking on adjacent neighbour's doors to say hello. The feeling is that we live more and more of our lives in isolation with few opportunities taken to get to know local families and care about their wellbeing. Neighbour Day was established in 2003 by Andrew Hislop in response to the death of an elderly lady going undiscovered for two years. It has a simple aim to encourage better relationships with people next door and across the street. Discover more on the website <http://www.neighbourday.org/>. In discussion we suggested that Rotary might arrange a BBQ for a local needy group and we will pursue this and let you know the outcome.

The second element of the discussion covered **National Reconciliation Week** (27 May to 3rd June). For more information see <http://www.reconciliationsa.org.au>. National Reconciliation Week celebrates the rich culture and history of the first Australians. It's the ideal time for all of us to join the reconciliation conversation and to think about how we can help turn around the disadvantage experienced by many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Mavis and I suggested that Rotary might be able to arrange a display covering the history of the Indigenous Medical Student programme.

For either event we have an opportunity to work with other community organisations and I would welcome your thoughts as to how we might achieve this.

Finally, don't forget the beach party, the catering is organised but if you would like to come and haven't said yes, please just come and bring your own food.

Yours in Rotary,

Jerry



President Jerry

Our Upcoming Meetings

Date	Venue	Time	Occasion	Venue Set-up/ Plaque Board	Sergeant	Attendance Desk
17/03/09	Sturt Bowling Club	6 for 6.30pm	Annual RC Unley vs RC Mitcham Bowls Match	Stephen Baker	Greg McLeod	Janet Plumb & David Middleton
24/03/09	Tiffins on the Park	6 for 6.30pm	Lachlan McLaren: "Ex Rotary Exchange Student"	Natalie Bowen	Greg McLeod	Martin Cooper & Anne Zada
31/03/09	Tiffins on the Park	6 for 6.30pm	Fiona Godfrey: "It's a Girls World"	Martin Cooper	Greg McLeod	Anne Zada & Bob Mills
07/04/09	Tiffins on the Park	6 for 6.30pm	The Great Debate: "RC Unley vs RC Hyde Park"	Reno Elms	Natalie Bowen	Bob Mills & Bob Mullins

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
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	Family Fun Day & Fireworks from 3pm to 8:30pm	Wayville Showgrounds	Andy Hill

Saturday Thrift Shop Roster: March 2009

Week No.	Dates This Month	Early Shift: 9am to 11.30 am	Late Shift: 11.30am to 1.30pm
2	14/03/09	Stephen Baker, Greg McLeod & Kevin Rogers	Bob Laws & David Middleton
3	21/03/09	Glenys Ferguson & Neesha Nandasena	Bob Laws & Glenys Steedman
4	28/03/09	Sheila Evans, Chandra Sluggett & Kevin Rogers	Martin Cooper & John Peacham
5	NA	Reno Elms & Bob Mullins	Natalie Bowen & Joan Reed
1	04/04/09	Lindsay England & Rohan Singh	Mavis Martin & Stephen Westgarth

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

The Object of Rotary

The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

FIRST: The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;

SECOND: High ethical standards in business and professions, the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations, and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;

THIRD: The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;

FOURTH: The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

The Rotary Four Way Test

Of the things we think, say or do

1. Is it the **TRUTH**?
2. Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
3. Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
4. Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?



The Back Page

Swapping Jobs

A man was sick and tired of going to work every day while his wife stayed home. He wanted her to see what he went through so he prayed: 'Dear Lord: I go to work every day and put in eight hours while my wife merely stays at home. I want her to know what I go through. So, please allow her body to switch with mine for a day. Amen!'

God, in his infinite wisdom, granted the man's wish.

The next morning, sure enough, the man awoke as a woman.

He arose, cooked breakfast for his mate, awakened the kids, set out their school clothes, fed them breakfast, packed their lunches, drove them to school, came home and picked up the dry cleaning, took it to the cleaners and stopped at the bank to make a deposit.

He went grocery shopping then drove home to put away the groceries, paid the bills and balanced the check book. He cleaned the cat's litter box and bathed the dog. By then, it was already 1.00PM and he hurried to make the beds, do the laundry, vacuum, dust, and sweep and mop the kitchen floor, ran to the school to pick up the kids and got into an argument with them on the way home, set out milk and cookies and got the kids organized to do their homework, then, set up the ironing board and watched TV while he did the ironing.

At 4:30PM he began peeling potatoes and washing vegetables for salad, breaded the pork chops and snapped fresh beans for dinner.

After dinner, he cleaned the kitchen, ran the dishwasher, folded laundry, bathed the kids and put them to bed.

At 9:00PM he was exhausted and, though his daily chores weren't finished, he went to bed where he was expected to make love, which he managed to get through without complaint.

The next morning, he awoke and immediately knelt by the bed and said: 'Lord, I don't know what I was thinking. I was so wrong to envy my wife's being able to stay home all day. Please, oh please, let us trade back. Amen!'

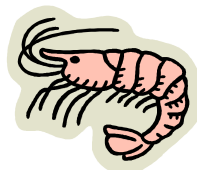
The Lord, in his infinite wisdom, replied: 'My son, I feel you have learned your lesson and I will be happy to change things back to the way they were. You'll just have to wait nine months, though. You got pregnant last night.'



The Worst Joke of the Year

Far away in the tropical waters of the Caribbean, two prawns were swimming around in the sea, one called Justin and the other called Christian. The prawns were constantly being harassed and threatened by sharks that inhabited the area.

Finally one day Justin said to Christian, 'I'm fed up with being a prawn; I wish I was a shark, and then I wouldn't have any worries about being eaten.'



A large mysterious cod appeared and said, 'Your wish is granted,' and lo and behold, Justin turned into a shark.

Horrified, Christian immediately swam away, afraid of being eaten by his old mate.

Time passed (as it does) and Justin found life as a shark boring and lonely. All his old mates simply swam away whenever he came close to them. Justin didn't realize that his new menacing appearance was the cause of his sad plight.

While swimming alone one day he saw the mysterious cod again and he thought perhaps the mysterious fish could change him back into a prawn. He approached the cod and begged to be changed back and lo and behold he found himself turned back into a prawn. With tears of joy in his tiny little eyes Justin swam back to his friends and bought them all a cocktail.

(The punch line does not involve a prawn cocktail - it's much worse)

Looking around the gathering at the reef he realized he couldn't see his old pal. 'Where's Christian?' he asked.

'He's at home, still distraught that his best friend changed sides to the enemy and became a shark', came the reply.

Eager to put things right again and end the mutual pain and torture, he set off to Christian's abode. As he opened the coral gate, memories came flooding back. He banged on the door and shouted, 'It's me, Justin, your old friend, come out and see me again.'

Christian replied, 'No way man, you'll eat me. You're now a shark, the enemy and I'll not be tricked into being your dinner.'

Justin cried back 'No, I'm not. That was the old me. I've changed.'.....

(You're going to love this.....)

'I've found cod. I'm a prawn again, Christian.'

In the cockpit, one of the blind pilots turns to the other and says, 'You know, Bob, one of these days, they're going to scream too late and we're all going to die.'

Catholic Shampoo

While shopping in a food store, two nuns happened to pass by the beer, wine, and liquor section. One asked the other if she would like a beer. The second nun answered that, indeed, it would be very nice to have one, but that she would feel uncomfortable about purchasing it. The first nun replied that she would handle it without a problem.

She picked up a six-pack and took it to the cashier. The cashier had a surprised look, so the nun said, 'This is for washing our hair.'

Without blinking an eye, the cashier reached under the counter, put a package of pretzel sticks in the bag with the beer and said, 'The curlers are on me.'

Thanks to Jerry Casburn

Two Blind Pilots

Two blind pilots enter the aeroplane. Both are wearing dark glasses and one is using a guide dog while the other is tapping his way along the aisle with a cane.

Nervous laughter spreads through the cabin, but the men enter the cockpit, the door closes, and the engines start up. The passengers begin glancing nervously around, searching for some sign that this is just a little practical joke. None is forthcoming.

The plane moves faster and faster down the runway and the people sitting in the window seats realize they're headed straight for the water at the edge of the airport. As it begins to look as though the plane will plough in to the water, panicked screams fill the cabin.

At that moment, the plane lifts smoothly into the air. The passengers relax and laugh a little sheepishly, and soon all retreat into their magazines, secure in the knowledge that the plane is in good hands.

Remember our Rotary theme for the year:

Make Dreams Real