

THE UNLEY ROTARIAN

Meeting 3668 – 23 June 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.	3668
Date	23 June 2009
Venue	Tiffins on the Park
Guest Speaker	Dr Sheik Saiful Islam
Chairperson	Chandra Sluggett
Sergeant	Bob Mullins
Visiting Rotarians	Peter O'Neil (RC Adelaide)
Guests	Jenn Casburn, Rohan Singh, Ken Daly
Apologies	Alex Jonson, Heather Kilsby, Natalie Bowen, Neesha Nandasena
Make Ups	Neesha Nandasena (Thrift Shop), Martin Cooper (GABR)
Anniversaries	Birthdays: Jerry Casburn (turned 60 on 23/6), Joan Reed (27/6) Wedding: Janet & Rohan Singh (23/6) Induction: Ken Daly (29/6)
Attendance	81%

President's Announcements

1. I did make mention of the fact that last week's speaker was the last arranged by **Bob Mullins** I would now like to ask the club to put their hands together and thank Bob for his commitment and a job very well done.
2. We have very low numbers for the dinner at the Glenelg Surf Life Saving Club, can I get a show of hands if anyone has changed their minds or decided that they can attend. If the numbers are low I will postpone to a later date.
3. We need to start to get numbers for the **Change Over at Kooyonga** on July 7th I'll circulate the list can you please indicate if you are attending and if you will be bringing a partner and/or other guests. Please be prepared to bring money with you next week to avoid us having to collect on the night.
4. District is seeking nominations from Rotarians interested in leading a **GSE to Brazil**. Nominations close on Friday July 24th. Details will be published in the next Bulletin.



President Jerry

5. **Operation Cleft:** Our participation has been an amazing success with 176 operations completed through donations via District 9520. This club also made a substantial contribution to the number. Certificates and receipts have been received from Operation Cleft - Bangladesh (a RAWCS project) for those who donated goods and cash to raise funds of \$2,355 at our International Night on February 17th 2009. The recipients are Bob and Genese Mullins, Bob Mills, David Payne, Geoff and Rose Howland, Greg McLeod, Heather Kilsby, Janet and Rohan Singh, John and Barbara Russell, Ken and Pauline Daily, Mavis Martin, Sheila Evans, Stephen Baker, Jerry and Jenny Casburn and Chandra Sluggett from the Rotary Club of Unley and Roksana Bari, Dr R Islam, and Nazrul and Fazilam Islam from the Bangladeshi Community. Operation Cleft has also sent a letter of appreciation for the Club [see Rotary News].

Spots

Joan Reed Read out an email she received just recently from **Leena Kasurinen**, our incoming exchange student, in which Leena expressed her excitement and enthusiasm for coming to Australia and to Adelaide in particular. Leena's arrival date has not yet been confirmed. Concordia College are looking forward to Leena's arrival.

Any Rotarians who expect to be taking care of Leena for any extended period will be required to have a police check done; Joan has the necessary forms for this.

Joan will also be keeping the 'master' diary of Leena's activities, outings, engagements, etc., so Rotarians will need to liaise with Joan to confirm Leena's availability.

Remaining stocks of **Christmas cakes and puddings** are 'selling like hot cakes and puddings' in the Thrift Shop to customers wishing to celebrate Christmas in July. They are attractively priced to Unley Rotarians at \$14 [vs. \$15.50 in the Thrift Shop], so see Joan to get yours now.

Andy Hill: The **catering arrangements with Tiffins on the Park** have been changed whereby Andy will now advise the restaurant at 6.25pm as to how many main meals will be required, so there will be no further need for members to notify him of their non-attendance by Monday night. However, timely notifications of any guests who will be attending will still be required and the courtesy of apologies will be appreciated. The restaurant will set places for 34 at each meeting unless advised otherwise by Andy.

Bob Laws: The date of the **annual morning tea** for our Thrift Shop volunteers has been moved back from Sunday 19 July to Sunday 2 August. This means that the monthly culling day will be moved to Sunday 9 August.

Chandra Sluggett: The glasses donated by Passport Eyewear have been collected and stored by Pres Jerry. Subsequently the Koonibba Health Service, which services the Anangu Pitjantjatjara lands, have now collected their share of the glasses and begun distributing them to aboriginal people in Ceduna. Their thanks have been passed on to Pres Jerry and the Club.

Chandra has begun collecting **blankets for aboriginal people** sleeping in the bush, i.e. people living outside of town camps. A club from District 9500 has agreed to arrange to transport the blankets to Ceduna, another club is getting blankets at reduced prices and other clubs are donating blankets. Chandra advised Rotarians who would like to donate a blanket(s) that the Thrift Shop is the collection point and she will arrange for the blankets to be sent to Ceduna.

Guest Speaker – Dr Sheik Saiful Islam: “Bangladesh Briefing”

Introduction: Chairperson Chandra Sluggett introduced Dr Sheik Saiful Islam who presented a briefing on Bangladesh. This briefing was a follow-up from the Club's last International Night at which Dr Islam was to have spoken but was prevented from doing so by technical difficulties with video and sound equipment.

Dr Islam was born in India (formally known as Western Bangladesh). He has a MSc degree in Entomology and a PhD in Insect Taxonomy (1984) from Aligarh Muslim University in India. He spent a several years at New Zealand's Lincoln University studying and working on plant protection.

During his career Dr. Islam has worked in different government and non-government organisations in Bangladesh and internationally including:

- United Nations Volunteer - as an Insect Control Specialist in FAO/UNDP assisting the Government of Botswana
- Product Officer in Beximco Agrochemicals Ltd.
- Bangladesh, Senior Agriculture Officer
- Govt. of Botswana, Farm Manager
- Research fellow and tutor at Aligarh Muslim University.

Recently, Dr. Islam moved to Australia from New Zealand with a vision to start his own business and joined the Bangladesh Australian Society of South Australia (BASSA). From day one, Dr. Islam has contributed significantly to BASSA's activities and was elected the President of the Association in recognition of his work in SA's Bangladeshi community.

Dr Islam began his briefing with a short video about Bangladesh and then provided an overview of the country's geography, people, agriculture, religions, architecture and economy.

Bangladesh is a land of enchanting beauty. Located on a tropical delta in South Asia This country of grace and greenery is spread across an area of 147,570 square kilometres. The population currently stands at around 140 million. The country is bordered on the east, west and north by India, by the Bay of Bengal on the south and a border strip with Myanmar on the south east.

The land mass is largely a deltaic formation of three big rivers; the Ganges, the Brahmaputra and the Meghna. A network of numerous rivers and canals contribute to the creation of alluvial and fertile agricultural land. Besides the vast green plains lie the hilly terrains, meandering waterways and tracts of forest.

Known as the habitat of ancient Austro-Asians, the country still carries relics belonging to numerous races. The Dravidians had come from Central India and the Aryans from Central Asia. People from other races and places also contributed to this fusion, enriching the language, heritage and culture of this land. Their presence, etched in history, can be found all over the country.

It was from the 15th century onwards that the Europeans entered the region as traders exerting an economic influence over the region. British political rule over the region began in 1757 when the last independent Muslim ruler of Bengal, Nawab Siraj Abdullah, was removed from power by the British East India Company. A hundred years later Bengal and other parts of British India were brought under the Viceroy of the British Crown.

Lindsay England: Money donated by members to The Rotary Foundation's **Centurion Program** has been forwarded to the appropriate authorities; receipts should be received by Centurions prior to the end of June.

Sergeant's Session

Bob Mullins wrapped-up his exemplary duty as a Sergeant for this Rotary Year with a comprehensive range of fines. Wendy Andrews won the Lucky Square and Norm Wallace won the wine.

In 1947 British India was partitioned forming the Indian Union and Pakistan. But a movement for the autonomy of the eastern wing of Pakistan, or East Bengal, started within a couple of years because of language, cultural and geographic barriers and political and economic disparity between the two wings. The language movement of 1952 and the recognition of Bangla as the state language was the first definitive step towards the creation of independent Bangladesh. It became independent in 1971 after a nine month long war against the Pakistani occupiers.

Dhaka is the capital of Bangladesh, a combination of modern metropolis and historical attractions. It is known as the City of Mosques; its Islamic heritage is visible at places such as the Baitul Mukarram National Mosque and the Star Mosque of Old Dhaka. The Lalbagh Fort built by Prince Azzam, a son of Moghul Emperor Aurangzeb, and the Ahsan Manzil, home of the Nawabs of Dhaka, have been renovated and turned into museums. Dhaka is now a familiar name worldwide as the political, administrative and cultural hub of Bangladesh.

Bangladesh is mainly an agrarian economy. Rice, jute, potato, wheat, pulses, tobacco and sugar cane are the main agricultural products. Apart from padi, jute crops are cultivated in a vast tract. Agriculture is the single largest sector in the economy producing about 25% of GDP and employing about 60% of the total labour force. Today the country is well on the way to attaining self-sufficiency in food grain production.

All Districts are connected by the country-wide road network and about one third of the total area of Bangladesh is effectively covered by the State-owned railways. The opening of the Jamuna multipurpose bridge has linked the eastern and western parts of Bangladesh and enabled ready access from Dhaka and Chittagong to the rest of the country. The State-owned airline provides internal as well as international air transport services.

The economy of Bangladesh is moving towards hi-tech industries, electronic and electrical products. However, Bangladesh is yet to move into the call centres and IT outsourcing that has emerged in nearby Calcutta. The average per capita income of the country has doubled over the last 10 years.



Chairperson Chandra Sluggett presented an Unley Rotary pen to Dr Saiful Islam

Natural gas is in abundant supply in Bangladesh and now meets the major portion of the country's energy needs. Quality jute products such as carpets, ceramics and processed foods are valuable exports. The ready-made garment sector is the country's principal export income earner and is very competitive internationally on both price and quality.

Jerry's Jottings

I would like to start by thanking those who made my coming of age such a terrific evening and thanks also to the many who wished me many happy returns. It would seem that my family isn't so sure they want me to see the year out as President as they collectively contributed to my completing a free fall tandem sky dive. I have got butterflies already.

We are two weeks away from the Changeover at Kooyonga and I hope to see as many as can make it there on the night. Please let me know if you will be there.

Yours in Rotary,

Jerry

Rotary News

Operation Cleft - Letter of Thanks

25 May 2009

Dear Unley Rotarians

Thank you for your gift to Operation Cleft of \$1,510.00 received on 25 May 2009. We greatly appreciate the generosity of your support and wish to assure you that your donation will contribute to our next program of cleft lip and palate surgery in Bangladesh.

The people who receive this life changing surgery are some of the world's poorest and the average cost of \$250.00 (Australian) is far beyond their family's means. By assisting us in funding this surgery, you are giving them a great gift - the *gift of a smile for life*.

Until recently we have been able to maintain the cost of surgery at around \$200.00 however due to the economic crisis and the devaluation of the Australian dollar the cost of each surgery has now increased to between \$240 - \$260. This is still a very reasonable amount when you consider the extraordinary impact the surgery has on the children's lives.

If you would like more information about Operation Cleft or to discuss other ways in which you could get involved, please contact me on info@operationcleft.org.au or visit our website <http://www.operationcleft.org.au>.

Yours sincerely

Julie Stein

Manager, Operation Cleft

Some of the Children Helped by Operation Cleft

Operation Cleft provides free cleft lip and palate surgery and speech therapy for impoverished children in Bangladesh. The children pictured at right were photographed just 24 hours after surgery; from the top they are Jahid, Kaum and Matakhaabbir.



Martin 'Croc' Cooper Reports from the Great Australian Bike Ride (GABR)

Our first taste of Darwin was a beach side sunset dinner with our host Sally Thomas, ADG Sandy Olroyd, and their partners.

The next day Judge Thomas entertained us to lunch in her chambers before taking us on a tour of the NT Supreme Court. This year sees a dramatic change in my dealings with the authorities; in May I had police officers asking me to take their pictures, rather than demanding to take mine; a Judge hosting me to lunch, not despatching me to the cells; and I have not yet been declared persona non grata under the Bikie laws.

Sunday 7.45am we were collected by a pair of Black Panthers and taken to Crocodylus Park for the Darwin Sunrise changeover meeting. As you can see there was not a jacket or tie amongst them; but they do appear to have their own Ken Haines. Also note the number of 100% attendees.

Angie thought I should have one last ditch attempt at recruitment, watch out Sergeant David, little snapper here will bite back.

The GABR riders arrive Thursday lunchtime and from then on the pace will pick up until we depart Darwin on Sunday morning.



Martin Cooper exchanged banners with Darwin Sunrise Pres Quentin



Angie Cooper befriended a crocodile



Darwin Sunrise 100% attendees



Fanny Bay Sunset

On the ground for peace in Timor-Leste

By Dan Nixon - Rotary International News -- 21 June 2009

Izabela Pereira has seen a dramatic change in the lives of people in the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste since she arrived there in April 2008 as a democratic governance officer with the United Nations Integrated Mission.

"I came just after the attempt that almost killed the president," said Pereira, who studied as a 2005-07 Rotary World Peace Fellow at Universidad del Salvador in Buenos Aires, Argentina. "I remember the more than 60 internal displaced-persons camps all over the [capital] city. There are no camps anymore in Dili."

Pereira, one of more than 100 peace fellows attending the second Rotary World Peace Symposium in Birmingham, England, 18-19 June, monitors the country's main government institutions and advises on how they can operate democratically to best serve the people.

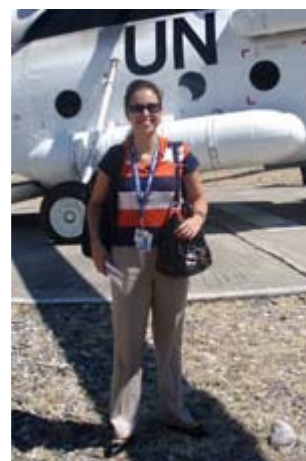
Her experience as a peace fellow prepared her for the work. During her fellowship, she served as an electoral observer with missions through the Organization of American States in Colombia and Nicaragua. While in Nicaragua in 2006, she saw former combatants join together to achieve a common objective.

"They demanded the same rights and denounced the same injustices," Pereira says. "It was an honor to participate in this historic moment of a nation, where the Nicaraguan people built their democracy in the wake of many civil wars and shocking poverty."

Pereira also explored conflict-prevention strategies in Senegal with the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) and observed the country's 2007 national election.

"The regional director of UNIFEM liked my contributions and sent me on a UN peace-building mission for women in Côte d'Ivoire," Pereira says. "I helped raise awareness of the need for women to participate in building peace and suggested strategies to coordinate women's organizations to achieve a united movement."

Today in Timor-Leste, Pereira sees the toll exacted by decades of conflict, with much work remaining to be done in rebuilding the country's infrastructure, increasing its literacy rate, and providing jobs. But she is thankful for the opportunity to help and "for the outstanding support of The Rotary Foundation, which has opened so many doors of opportunity," she says. "Timor-Leste is only seven years old. Where else could I literally assist in building a country?"



Izabel Pereira

Our Upcoming Meetings

Date	Venue	Time	Occasion	Venue Set-up/ Plaque Board	Sergeant	Attendance Desk
30/06/09	Tiffins on the Park	6 for 6.30pm	Robert Bentley: "The Great Australian Bike Ride"	Bob Mullins	Bob Laws	Janet Singh & Jim Newall
07/07/09	Kooyonga Golf Club	7 for 7.30pm	Change Over Night	Neesha Nandasena	Bob Laws	Jim Newall & Joan Reed
14/07/09	Tiffins on the Park	6 for 6.30pm	Mike Hawkins: Eastside Business Enterprise Centre	Jim Newall	TBA	Joan Reed & John Russell
21/07/09	Tiffins on the Park	6 for 6.30pm	Birendra Bhandari: "My RYLA Experience"	David Payne	TBA	John Russell & Lindsay England

Apologies To: Andy Hill by e-mail to unley.attendance@rotaryclub.org.au or on 8271 5028 or 0403 910 161.

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: Andy Hill by e-mail to unley.attendance@rotaryclub.org.au or on 8271 5028 or 0403 910 161.

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
June	Tuesday	07/07/09	Change Over Night at 7.00pm TBC	Kooyonga Golf Club	Jerry Casburn
			Kooyonga Golf Club Dress Rules: Gentlemen: Jacket and Tie; Ladies: No denim		
August	Sunday	02/08/09	Thrift Shop Volunteers Morning Tea	Unley Civic Centre	Bob Laws

Saturday Thrift Shop Roster: June-July 2009

Week No.	Dates	Early Shift: 9am to 11.30 am	Late Shift: 11.30am to 1.30pm
4	27/06/09	John Peacham, Chandra Sluggett & Kevin Rogers	Martin Cooper Bob Laws & Sheila Evans
5	NA	Reno Elms & Bob Mullins	Natalie Bowen & Joan Reed
1	04/07/09	Lindsay England Stephen Baker & Rohan Singh	Mavis Martin & Stephen Westgarth
2	11/07/09	Stephen Baker Lindsay England, Greg McLeod & Kevin Rogers	Janet Plumb & David Middleton
3	18/07/09	Glenys Ferguson & Neesha Nandasena	Joan Reed & Bob Laws

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

Rotary Club of Coromandel Valley

SPRINGTIME IN THE FLINDERS

Tag-along Tour

18th to 21st September 2009

Proceeds to Rotary Shelter Box and Dental Care to Share

Be amongst the first to experience the scenic wonderland of our new secluded bush campsite.

Off the beaten track, in the Southern Flinders, we can offer you the normal Coromandel Valley 'bush tag-along experience' in a new more isolated setting.

Timed to get the best out of the spring bush flowers (weather dependent) we are confident that participants will have a truly wonderful time and enjoy spectacular sightseeing on either the 4 or 2 wheel drive tours led by our experienced guides.

Choose either 4 Wheel Driving or bring the Family Sedan

Prices: 4 Wheel Drive \$295 per vehicle & driver (early bird \$265)
2 Wheel Drive \$215 per vehicle & driver (early bird \$190)
Additional per passenger \$45 (early bird \$40)

(Price includes evening meal on Saturday, all camping and access fees to parks & private roads and tracks plus MUCH more)

Registration: For early bird discount prices, registration forms together with \$30 non-refundable deposit **must** be received by Friday 28th August 2009

For further details phone Bill Spraggs on 0400 887 166 or email spraggs@picknowl.com.au



The Back Page

You Don't Say

Here's a quote from a government employee who witnessed a recent interaction between an elderly woman and an anti-war protester in a railway station in Sydney.

There were protesters on the train platform handing out pamphlets on the evils of Australia. I politely declined to take one.

An elderly woman was behind me getting off the escalator and a young (20-ish) female protester offered her a pamphlet, which she politely declined.

The young protester put her hand on the old woman's shoulder as a gesture of friendship and in a very soft voice said, "Lady, don't you care about the children of Iraq?"

The old woman looked up at her and said, "Honey, my father died in France during World War II, I lost my husband in Korea and a son in Vietnam. All three died so you could have the right to stand here and bad mouth our country. If you touch me again I'll stick this umbrella up your arse and open it."

God bless Australia.

When Words Fail.....

"My friends, we live in the greatest nation in the history of the world. I hope you'll join with me as we try to change it."

Barack Obama

Never Lose Your Grandchildren

A small boy was lost at a large shopping mall.

He approached a uniformed police officer and said, 'I've lost my grandpa!'

'The police officer asked, 'What's he like?'

The little boy hesitated for a moment and then replied,

'Johnnie Walker Black Label Whisky and women with big tits.'

Get Out of the Car (supposedly a true story)

An elderly Florida lady did her shopping and, upon returning to her car, found four males in the car in the act of leaving with her vehicle.

She dropped her shopping bags and drew her handgun, proceeding to scream at the top of her lungs, "I have a gun and I know how to use it! Get out of the car!"

The four men didn't wait for a second threat. They got out and ran like mad.

The lady, somewhat shaken, then proceeded to load her shopping bags into the back of the car and got into the driver's seat. She was so shaken that she could not get her key into the ignition.

She tried and tried, and then she realised why. It was for the same reason she had wondered why there was a football, a Frisbee and two 12-packs of beer in the front seat.

A few minutes later she found her own car parked four or five spaces farther down.

She loaded her bags into the car and drove to the police station to report her mistake.

The Sergeant to whom she told the story couldn't stop laughing. He pointed to the end of the counter where four pale men were reporting a carjacking by a mad, elderly woman described as white, less than five feet tall, glasses, curly white hair and carrying a large handgun.

No charges were filed.

Moral of the story?

If you're going to have a senior moment ... make it memorable.



Remember our Rotary theme for the year:
Make Dreams Real