

THE UNLEY ROTARIAN

Meeting 3735 – 19th October 2010

Website: unley.rotaryclub.org.au

2010 - 2011



Rotary Club of Unley Inc.

DISTRICT 9520
CHARTERED 17TH APRIL 1935



PRESIDENT: Joan Reed: 8379 8470 or 0401 714 499
SECRETARY: Mavis Martin: 8178 0076 or 0408 399 834
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.	3735
Date	19 th October 2010
Venue	Tiffins on the Park
Occasion	Michelle Hollis - 2009 Police Officer of the Year
Sergeant	Bob Mullins
Apologies	Alex Jonson, Anne Wehr, Jim Newall, Reno Elms and Stephen Baker
Guests	Stephanie De Longueville, Nathan White and Rohan Singh
Returning Rotarians	Mavis Martin
Visiting Rotarians	None
Anniversaries and Birthdays	Inductions: Natalie Bowen and Joan Reed on the 22 nd and Colin Schirmer on the 25th
Make Ups	Stephen Baker
Attendance	53%

President's Announcements

1. Board Meeting next Wednesday night at Jerry's 6 for 6.30pm
2. The District Governor Malcolm Lindquist's visit is on the 16th of November. Also on this night we will be holding the Annual General Meeting.

Spots

David Mackrell: Next meeting is at the Warrawong Sanctuary. Numbers are required so please fill in the list going around this evening. More instructions in the bulletin.

Sheila Evans: There is a meeting following tonight's meeting to go through details of the Sausage sizzle at Government House.

Mavis Martin: Gave us an account of her visits to Rotary during her trip overseas.



President Joan

Conference Report: District 9520 Conference 7-10 October 2010

By Jerry Casburn

What a conference! We were royally entertained and enthralled for the whole time we were there.

Attending from Unley were President Joan Reed, PE Sheila Evans, Chandra Sluggett who continued to be a pest all weekend, Janet and Rohan Singh and yours truly, feather duster. Jenn was unable to go, a late scratching with the shop getting in the way.

We arrived on Thursday afternoon in time for an opportunity to get over the drive, register and then attend the opening of the conference at the Bendigo Town Hall. The refurbished hall was a great venue to start and Bendigo and its council made us very welcome. They hosted drinks and snacks for all conference attendees.

The conference was at the All Seasons Conference Centre which catered for us admirably. We were in a motel, the Golden Reef, which was immediately opposite the venue.

The conference started in earnest on Friday with conference sessions until 1pm on each day of the conference and followed by a free afternoon to sightsee or just relax. The conference opening included a further welcome to Bendigo, recognition of Past Governors present and the parade of flags from Youth Exchange Students attending.

A candle ceremony was held to remember Rotarians who had passed to higher service, with President Joan bearing a candle to mark Geoff Howland's service to Rotary. Each Rotarian's name was read out with a summary of their time and achievements in Rotary.



Conference Attendees L to R: Chandra Sluggett, Janet Singh, Jerry Casburn, Joan Reed, Rohan Singh and Sheila Evans.

The conference sessions were made up of an array of top flight speakers ranging from the RI representative Noel Trevaskis, through the following:

Justice Rod Burr, who spoke on his part in establishing codes of practise across the world, particularly in Asia, to stop the trafficking of children. A harrowing presentation which leaves it hard to understand how anyone can do these things.

Ilyasi Siraji a refugee from the Congo and now a Rotaractor through Thebarton Senior College. A young man with amazing determination who is really making the most of his opportunity to live here and return something to the community.

Dr Bill Griggs who spoke on his first hand experience in Banda Aceh, dealing with world crises, such as the Tsunami. A graphic presentation which leaves you in awe of the people who are able to deal with the human tragedy and help the locals.

Valerie Broad with her story of the Bendigo Youth Choir an internationally acclaimed group providing opportunities to sing, no-one is refused a place.

John Magrath, Chairman of Beyond Blue who recounted his own experience of a son with depression who committed suicide, and his part in developing Beyond Blue assisting those afflicted in this way.

Moiria Kelly, an amazing woman who has helped hundreds of children around the world. Starting her work with Mother Teresa and now running a farm funded by Rotary and Rotarian benefactors in Victoria, which houses needy children. Most notable of course for the recent separation of the Siamese twin girls, Trishna and Krishna, who were both at the conference.

Tania De Jong, founder of a group called "Pot Pourri" who performed at the Conference dinner. Tania also founded a group of community choirs designed to help people to network and find assistance, mostly people new to the country.

Dr Greg Lane, one of the original attendees at the Youth Science Forum in Canberra. Greg spoke of the opportunity given to him by Rotary, his career and the successes achieved by others attending those Forums.

District Governor Alan Anderson (D9790) spoke about the Victorian fires and the assistance given by Rotarians from all over Australia after the event. Particularly thanking the D9520 teams who went to help and those clubs, Unley included, who provided nesting boxes.

Dr Alex Buchanan the final speaker was an Ambassadorial Scholar who went to the U.S., supported by Rotary, his experience and the experiences of others supported by the Foundation

Two sessions during the conference entitled Rotary Soapbox gave many clubs an opportunity to showcase their clubs programmes and projects.

The only business session was feedback by PDG Ian Oliver on the Council of Legislation changes and a vote on their acceptance.

Two evening events, on the Friday "Conservatory Capers" had great music, finger food and an opportunity for fellowship, the second, the conference dinner featuring "Pot Pourri" as previously mentioned.

All neatly wrapped up with a final BBQ put on by the Rotary Clubs of Bendigo.

This was one of the best conferences I have attended and amazing value at just \$200 per head. The Rotary Club of Brownhill Creek are to be congratulated on achieving a remarkable event.

So, Mildura in 2011; **BE THERE!!!!!!!!!!!!**

WARRAWONG VISIT Tuesday 26th October

Next week (Tuesday 26 October), we've been promised a wild time up at Warrawong Sanctuary. We need to meet up there at 6.00 p.m. and that will give us time for a meal, before we take the dusk walk at 7.30. Low heels are probably advisable along with warm clothing and – just in case – mosquito deterrent. We've been given a special meal package. You'll have a choice of fish or beef schnitzel for just \$10.90. If you want dessert (you don't have to), it's another \$5. Filtered tea and coffee is \$2.50. Wine and beer at bar prices. Then the guided walk at dusk is \$22.50, which is \$5 less than usual. So all up; with one course, hot beverage and the walk, it's \$35.90 + drinks. With two courses, hot beverage and the walk, it's \$40.90 + drinks. If you haven't already, please indicate if you'll be joining us and if anyone else is coming with you by calling or emailing David Mackrell (whomac@bigpond.net.au or 0417 054 402) by **NOON ON FRIDAY 22 October**.

DIRECTIONS FROM ADELAIDE Follow the Princes Highway (Freeway) out of Adelaide to the hills and take the Stirling exit (B33). At the very first roundabout in Stirling, just as you come off the freeway, turn right into Avenue Road (Warrawong is sign posted on this corner). Continue for 5 km along Avenue Road, which becomes Longwood Road, past Heathfield High and Heathfield Primary, before turning left into Stock Road. Warrawong is 300 metres along Stock Road, on the left. See the map on the last page of the bulletin.

Guest Speaker – Michelle Hollis: “Police Officer of the Year”

Chairman for the evening Heather Kilsby introduced our guest speaker Michelle Hollis who was our recipient of the 2009 Police Officer of the Year Award. Michelle had just returned from holidays overseas and was getting prepared to return to work. She gave us a very detailed account of her life in the police force and her life prior to joining the police. She has proven to be a very worthy recipient of the award. Here is the text of her speech.

Michelle Hollis – 2009 Police Officer of the Year

As mentioned my name is Michelle Hollis and I appreciate this opportunity to share some of my experiences with you.

I'm feeling a little bit nervous today but not as much as this time 19 years ago. Yesterday marked 19 years as a police officer.

Policing wasn't something I had thought about doing when I was growing up. It was only something I had thought about once I was already in the work force.

I finished year 12 in 1986 and it was only in the last few months of that year that I decided to apply for a banking position. I was already working part time at Hungry Jacks but I didn't want to make that my life long career. I was fortunate enough to be accepted at Bank SA but the start date was uncertain. In the end they said I definitely had a position but I may have to wait 9 months. That's when I decided to look for temporary employment. Landing a position at GMH as a spot welder in Plant 4 wasn't what I expected, but it was a job nonetheless. As it worked out not long after starting there I got an earlier start date for the bank - but there was still a gap. So I made the most of this unusual career path for me at GMH and as a fresh young 17 year old I was never short of someone to sit with at smoko with all the men that worked there. My friends took it upon themselves to call me Irene Cara (she played a welder in the movie Flashdance) and they seemed to get a laugh out of that.

So moving into April 1987 I started work at Elizabeth North Bank SA – unbeknown to me it was customary to play pranks on the new trainee and on my first day on the job I found myself in the Commonwealth Bank asking for a long wait (spelt weight). I was referring to a scale weight to weigh coins but I was told to take a seat and after waiting what seemed a lifetime I realized that even though I left empty handed I had received a long WAIT (spelt WAIT) after all, and I was the victim of a practical joke.

I loved my 4½ years that I spent in the bank – I enjoyed meeting new people, but I also really appreciated interacting with my regular customers. Banking was a lot different back then and quite predictable, for example Wednesday was pension day and Thursday was when the teachers got paid. I soon found myself getting a bit bored and was looking for a new challenge. I had quite a few friends that were police officers and they used to visit me in the bank. I remember thinking what a great job it must be – outside all day in the sunshine just driving around. I realized I didn't want to work indoors anymore so I decided to apply for the police force at the age of 21. It was a bit of a process but after 9 months I was walking through the gates of the Fort Largs police academy.

As I said I was very nervous but that didn't last long. I spent the next 12 months training to be a police officer. Part of the course involves doing on the job training at a metropolitan station. I did my first stint at Elizabeth. It was on my first day of patrols, my first job that I realized that going to jobs involving dead bodies was not going to be my cup of tea. My shift started at 7:00 am and at 7:05 am we received a report of a male suicide – by hanging. I remember later that night lying in bed and I looked over and I saw that my wardrobe door was open and I could see my clothes hanging up. It was weird because it reminded me of the job that I had gone to that day and I was so affected that I had to get up and close the door.

After graduating in 1992 I was transferred to Holden Hill speed detection. I was one of the first groups of police to operate the new speed cameras. My job wasn't very appealing and I was quite pleased when one of the cameras malfunctioned and recorded telegraph poles speeding. The cameras were taken off the road for further testing but were later reinstated and obviously are still in operation today.

I completed 6 months at Holden Hill and was then transferred to Tea Tree Gully. I loved my time there and the job that I quite often think about was when I had to go to a house only a few days before Mother's Day where a man in his 60's had just lost his wife from a heart attack. Her death came as a complete shock to him and he was devastated. I remember as a young probationary officer sitting next to him in his lounge room as he recalled his life with her. I couldn't help but cry with him and I remember being very affected by this job for some time. I even went back and visited him on a few occasions to make sure he was doing okay.

I left Tea Tree Gully and went to Elizabeth where I spent the next 10 years. A policing career is very diverse and you never know what each day will bring. I found myself experiencing many facets of policing including community constables, domestic violence section, sexual assault section and general patrols. As I said you never know what each day can bring and whilst at Elizabeth I was unfortunate to be the first patrol to arrive at the scene of two murders, one of which is still unsolved today. The other murder involved a doctor who went to make a house call and was attacked whilst doing so. Upon receiving the initial call for a check on welfare – which is a common job – I didn't think too much of it. But upon arriving and not being able to get a response, both myself and my partner had a gut instinct that something was wrong. Not happy just to resume we did some door knocking in the area and called in our CIB. Within a few hours it was evident that there had been foul play and unfortunately the doctor had been murdered. The offenders, mainly juveniles, were arrested the same day but as the story unfolded I felt very burdened for this poor innocent man and the pain his family would have to endure.

From Elizabeth I went to Norwood and also did some undercover work but after a few years I wanted to return to Elizabeth. It was there that I landed a position at Community Programs. This was the beginning of my most fulfilling role at SAPOL – a community police officer. The experience I gained whilst working at Community Programs paved the way for my next venture – I became the Suburban police officer for Salisbury North. From the onset I knew that I had found my niche – I am a real people person and love to help out whenever I can and to get paid for it is just a bonus. During the time I had this role I worked a lot with local schools and forged some great relationships, not only with the staff but also with many students. It was within this role that I won the award that your organization sponsors and it was a real honor to receive this award back in May 2010.

I have recently commenced a new role as a supervisor for a new policing concept, Neighbourhood Policing Teams. This is a trial program for 12 months but I am sure that it is only going to expand in the future. It is a very personal style of policing, similar to my



Police Officer of the Year Michelle Hollis with Chairman Heather Kilsby

suburban police officer role, except we work in a team environment. The purpose of this concept is to increase the community's confidence in police and we endeavor to do this by engaging with them, and listening to their concerns. Already we have had some great responses and I am excited about this new role and the opportunity it provides.

I was so thrilled about my new job that I decided to celebrate with another passion of mine – holidaying overseas. I have just recently returned from a 6 week holiday in the US. I first went to USA in 2008 where I spent 10 weeks working in a Christian summer camp. I don't know why but they hired me to teach tennis – believe me – I'm no tennis pro. It was a great challenge and to get to spend that long at a camp with kids that just want to have fun in their summer holidays was a fantastic experience. Outside of work I'm a bit of a sports fan so once again to get paid for something I love doing was a bonus. I have always enjoyed sports and have been involved in it from a young age. At the age of 6 I started Judo followed by Little Athletics and then I moved into Karate. Now as I'm getting a little bit older I enjoy going to the gym and walking. In my free time I love spending time with friends, going out for tea, watching movies and I am very involved with my church. I love watching football and I am an avid fan of the Crows and Central Districts.

Having just used up all of my annual leave for 2010 and half of 2011 I don't know what the future holds for me..... but it probably won't be travel! On a personal note I have always thought that I would marry when I was 40. Well I turn 41 in four weeks and I guess there's still time – but it's not highly likely. I guess it's a good thing that I have been fortunate enough to have a job that on most occasions I have enjoyed going to each day. The average career for a female in SAPOL is 7 years – well I'm nearly up to 3 times the average and still relishing my role.

As far as career aspirations go I have never been one to seek after rank – but job satisfaction. I believe that my current role provides that to no end and I would be happy to continue with this role for my remaining years at SAPOL. I know policing can be difficult at times and I have shared some of the experiences that have impacted me the most, but it is one of the most rewarding jobs and I know that it has been the perfect career for me.

Thank you very much for listening to my story this evening and for your ongoing support to the community and SAPOL.

The following is the text of Michelle's acceptance speech, which will refresh members as to the type of work she does and for which she was recognised.

Michelle's Acceptance Speech:

Although this is an individual award it really has been a team effort. I am very fortunate to have a solid support group at my current posting at Elizabeth. I am quite often asked why I like working there. My answer to that is the people. Without a doubt the camaraderie at Elizabeth is second to none. As I mentioned I quite often work solo but I am still attached to a team within the Elizabeth Uniform Tactical Team. The team fully supports me in my role - even if sometimes they may not always understand what I'm doing – they are just happy to help out whenever I need it. As I am a people person and love the team atmosphere – their support means a lot – so do my team mates – thank you.

I would also like to thank the Senior Management of the Elizabeth LSA for the full support they give towards the Suburban Police Officer project and my specific role. Even when I am faced with particular issues in the community the management continues to encourage me to keep up the good work and they don't focus on the negative, but only offer help if needed.

I would also like to acknowledge my family and friends who have always been there for me and encouraging me in all that I do. At times policing can be stressful and to have independent people to vent to is very much appreciated.

In closing I would like to acknowledge the community of Salisbury North and the various agencies that continue to provide support to me in the role of Suburban Police Officer. I love helping people and to be appreciated as I am by this community has made my job one of the most rewarding in my policing career. Thank you."

Diary Dates

Month	Day	Date	Activity Details	Venue	Enquiries
October	Tuesday	26/10/10	Tour of Warrawong and Meal	Warrawong Sanctuary	David Mackrell
	Saturday	30/10/10	BBQ Sausage Sizzle	Heywood Park	Jerry Casburn
November	Sunday	07/11/10	BBQ Fundraiser	Government House	Sheila Evans
	Tuesday	30/11/10	Petanque in the Park	TBA	David Mackrell
December	Tuesday	07/12/10	Christmas Dinner Meeting	Rydges Adelaide	David Mackrell
	Sunday	12/12/10	Christmas Carols	Unley Memorial Gardens	David Middleton
	Wednesday	22/12/10	Christmas breakfast Meeting	TBA	

Saturday Thrift Shop Roster: October-November 2010

Week No.	Dates	Early Shift: 10am to 12.30pm	Late Shift: 12.30pm to 3.00pm
4	23/10/10	John Peacham & Chandra Sluggett	David Mackrell & Heather Kilsby
5	30/10/10	Reno Elms & Bob Mullins	Natalie Bowen & Joan Reed
1	06/11/10	Lindsay England & David Middleton	Mavis Martin & Stephen Westgarth
2	13/11/10	Stephen Baker & Greg McLeod	Janet Plumb & Wendy Andrews
3	20/10/10	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: steedman@senet.com.au

Our Upcoming Meetings

Date	Venue	Time	Occasion	Chairman & Scribe	Venue Set-up/ Plaque Board	Sergeant	Attendance Desk
October Theme: Vocational Service							
26/10/10	Warrawong Sanctuary	6 for 6.30pm	Visit Warrawong Sanctuary and Dinner – Partners and Friends	D Mackrell	W Andrews	NA	N Bowen & S Westgarth
02/11/10	Tiffins on the Park	6 for 6.30pm	Dean Griffiths - Australian Army Band	R Elms	G McLeod	Colin Schirmer	S Westgarth & M Martin
09/11/10	Tiffins on the Park	6 for 6.30pm	Jackie Mc George - Macular Degeneration	S Evans	C Sluggett	TBA	M Martin & J Russell
16/11/10	Tiffins on the Park	6 for 6.30pm	DG Malcolm Lindquist Visit & AGM	G McLeod	L England		B Mullins & C Sluggett

Apologies To: Wendy Andrews by **e-mail** to unley.attendance@rotaryclub.org.au or in an emergency on 8377 7830

Meeting Chair Enquiries To: Stephen Baker on 8379 7105 or email to unley.vocational@rotaryclub.org.au

Venue Set-up/Plaque Board Enquiries To: Bulletin Editor

Attendance Desk Enquiries To: Wendy Andrews by **e-mail** to unley.attendance@rotaryclub.org.au or in an emergency on 8377 7830

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.

ROCK 'N ROLL & QUIZ DANCE NIGHT

FEATURING THE IRRESISTABLE DANCE MUSIC OF CHOCOLATE RUSH

To be held at the Unley High School Assembly Hall, Kitchener Street, Kingswood, on October 30, 2010, 7pm for 7:30pm sharp quiz start.

\$25 per head, includes supper, great prizes and a PAYG bar.

Half price drinks 7pm to 7:29pm. Tables of ten.

Phone Richard on 0408 080 471 or Rob on 0419 999 163 for more details.

A project of the Rotary Club of Hyde Park Inc.

On the Back Page

Loud Music

I was in a restaurant yesterday when I suddenly realized I desperately needed to pass gas. The music was really, really loud, so I timed my gas with the beat of the music.

After a couple of songs, I started to feel better. I finished my coffee, and noticed that everybody was staring at me....

Then I suddenly remembered that I was listening to my iPod....so, how was your day?

Remember our Rotary theme for the year:

BUILDING COMMUNITIES

BRIDGING CONTINENTS

Directions to Warrawong Sanctuary



Directions from Adelaide

Follow the Princes Highway out of Adelaide to the hills and take the Stirling exit (B33).

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