

THE UNLEY ROTARIAN

Meeting 3752 – 1st March 2011

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

March is Literacy month

Our Last Meeting

Meeting No.	3751
Date	1 st March 2011
Occasion	Rohan Singh and Nathan White: "New Members' Background Briefings"
Venue	Tiffins on the Park
Apologies	Stephen Westgarth, Wendy Andrews, Sheila Evans, Peter O'Neil, David Middleton
Anniversaries & Birthdays	Wedding: Stephen Westgarth 1/3
Attendance	66%

President's Announcements

1. A reminder that next week is the dinner with RI President Ray Klingingsmith. It should be a great night. We have 15 members and partners going. It is 7 for 7.30pm at the Adelaide Convention Centre
2. Thank you to Sheila for her help last Sunday assisting me in the catering for the DG training day at the Unley Civic Centre.
3. We are now in possession of the new Rotary Flags and I would like to thank the team of Rotarians who erected it this evening.
4. On the 19th of March the Rotary Club of Kent Town are having a fundraising event. VIEWING OF THE BIG BANG FIREWORKS, on the roof of the Moneyworks Office building. Your ticket includes a light meal and a soft drink. Cost is \$35 for adults, \$10 for children or \$90.00 per family (2 adults and 2 children). Please bring along your family and friends as we're aiming for 70 people to attend. Tickets will be available from event coordinator Chris Harris chris@moneyworkspl.com.au or club secretary Greg 041 240 5176 or from club members.



President Joan

Proudly sponsored by: Money Works Financial Planning www.moneyworkspl.com.au and Conetopia 329 The Parade Beulah Park.

5. I intend to have a drefief about the Christmas Carols at the Club assembly in April which will also be timely following our next major fundraiser.

Spots

Stephen Baker: Mad March is upon us and we have the big debate as well as the bowls challenge on the 16th. We need to get as many bowlers as we can to try and get the trophy back.

Jerry Casburn: Reminded members about the Foundation Boxes and asked for someone to cover his roster at the Thrift shop

Bob Laws: The next culling day will be on the 19th of March and not the 12th as rostered. Members are asked to be there at 1.30 pm to assist.

Diary Dates

Month	Day	Date	Activity Details	Venue	Enquiries
March	Wednesday	09/03/11	RI President Ray Klinginsmith	Adelaide Convention Centre	Joan Reed
	Sat /Sun	26-27/03/11	Come Out Festival BBQ	Elder Park	Sheila Evans
May	Sunday	1/5/11	Senior Citizens Concert	Citizens Centre Unley	Wendy Andrews

Guest Speakers – Rohan Singh & Nathan White:

New Members' Background Briefings

Chairman Greg McLeod introduced guest speakers Rohan Singh and Nathan White, the club's two newest members, to brief fellow members on their life and career backgrounds.

First speaker was **Rohan Singh** with a PowerPoint presentation that included photos of family events and travels to Malaysia. Rohan described his family background: His mother is from Irish-Catholic stock and his father's side of the family have their roots in Malaysia and are of the Sikh religion, hence the Singh surname. Rohan's parents met at the Royal Adelaide Hospital where his mother was studying to be a nurse. Born in 1966, Rohan is the middle of three brothers, all of whom attended St Ignatius College Junior School in Norwood and Senior School in Athelstone. He graduated from the University of Adelaide with a BSc in 1988 and was awarded his PhD by Latrobe University in 2003. Rohan met Janet while studying at Latrobe and they married in June 1990.

A photo of Rohan dressed in a lab coat at Latrobe University was representative of Rohan's career as a research scientist in which capacity he currently works for the University of Adelaide at the Waite Institute. He continued his talk by showing a number of photos of him participating in various Rotary events over the years, including District conferences and the Carols.

Next to speak was **Nathan White** who eschewed visual aids to provide a précis of his life. He was born in Adelaide in 1976, but before his first birthday had moved with his parents to Sydney for a period of ten years. During this time at the age of eight he was briefly enrolled at PAC, for a morning, before his mother decided they still liked Sydney better. Late in 1988 the family relocated to London where Nathan found Australians were not as popular as they had been given to believe, and his Australian accent was hard to lose.

Nathan completed his university studies in the UK, initially signing-up to do quantity surveying, as the "logical alternative" to doing medicine, including 18 months of accounting studies. In the final stages of these studies he helped out at his older sister's law firm and decided he would like to study law. He continued with the same law firm until it merged with another firm and Nathan decided to move on. After a stint in property management interspersed with attempts to get back into legal practice, the family decided to move back to Australia.

Blending back into Australia was difficult, but Nathan finally was admitted to the bar in 2009 and subsequently got a job as a lawyer with Adelaide Robert Chruszcz & Associates. He is now happily a member of Rotary now that he doesn't have to just study and work and now has some time to do other things. Nathan likes travel and cooking and hopes to go on some long bike rides, including a trek up to Blinman (and back presumably).

Chairman Greg thanked Rohan and Nathan for their entertaining talks and the members thanked them in the usual Rotary fashion.

Sergeant's Session

Bob Mullins managed to fine members for some misdemeanours, and Jim Newell won the lucky square

Rotary News

New Zealand Rotarians responding to Christchurch earthquake

Rotary International News -- 25 February 2011

Rotarians in New Zealand are doing what they can to assist victims of the devastating earthquake 22 February in Christchurch, where more than 100 people have been killed and at least 200 are still missing.

As efforts move from search-and-rescue to recovery, responses from Rotarians offering assistance have been pouring in. Authorities are requesting that donations in kind or noncash items not be sent to Christchurch, as the government, local agencies, and NGOs have sufficient emergency and second phase supplies for the ongoing needs of the community.

Rotary New Zealand World Community Service, a group of Rotarians dedicated to international service projects in New Zealand and the South Pacific, has set up an earthquake appeal fund [<http://www.rotary.org.nz/information.cfm?ID=1340>].

"New Zealand is a small country and everyone knows someone in Christchurch, so this is truly a national disaster," said Past RI President William B. Boyd, a native of New Zealand. "I know that the six districts [there] will work together to rebuild the spirit of the city. Best wishes from Rotarians from around the world have reminded us once again that we are a family and that in difficult times, families come together."

The incoming Rotary Foundation trustee-chair added: "The Rotary Foundation has an important place in the family of Rotary, and our Foundation will play its part as Christchurch rebuilds."

According to a press release on the Rotary Zone 7B (New Zealand and Pacific Islands) website, Rotarians are offering to host traumatized residents so that they can get away to rest before trying to rebuild their lives. The effort is being coordinated within Rotary and through welfare agencies.

"We are OK but very stirred and shaken. Aftershocks are still continuing," assistant Rotary coordinator Ross Skinner wrote in a post on the site. "We have power and water (it seems) but no waste water or flushing of toilets."

Leanne Jaggs, past governor for District 9920 who lives in Auckland, posted on Tuesday that she was in Christchurch on business when the earthquake hit. "I was just about to jump out of my rental car for a meeting, when it felt like the car was moving," she wrote. "Our hope is that everyone we know is safe."



The March issue of Rotary Down Under will include coverage of the Christchurch earthquake.

A tailor-made opportunity for India's weavers

Rotary International News – 14 February 2011

While a 2005-06 Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholar in India, Hannah Warren gave a child laborer money to buy a dress. She remembers wishing she could have done more to help the girl.

During her scholarship, which was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Loves Park, Illinois, USA, Warren learned to speak Hindi and tutored illiterate women.



Hannah Warren with Maheshwar weavers and seamstresses.

In 2008, Warren returned to India to photograph sari weavers in Maheshwar, Madhya Pradesh, part of a project funded by the Royal Society for Asian Affairs. She had planned to shoot portraits of the women wearing their hand-woven garments, but none of them could afford to own the exquisite saris they wove for others or even to buy the raw materials. So instead, Warren gave the women funds to purchase materials to make their own saris. In their portraits, she says, the weavers "looked so beautiful and proud" wearing the first saris they had designed for themselves.

The experience motivated Warren to found Jhoole, a fair-trade social entrepreneurship. The enterprise, based in Maheshwar, provides impoverished women with training, materials, and an international market for hand-woven goods so they can earn a living wage.

In 2010, a US\$12,500 Rotary Foundation Matching Grant provided Jhoole with looms and other equipment, 1,500 pounds of cloth and thread, and funds to cover office expenses, publicity, and website design. It also covered the cost of training in weaving, sewing, and personal finance from the Indore School of Social Work. The grant was supported by the Loves Park club and four others in District 6420, including a \$7,500 contribution from the District Designated Fund. The Rotary Club of Khargone in District 3040 also provided funding.

By cultivating partnerships with designers and distributors, including Chicago-based Mata Traders, Warren has created a direct market for dresses, skirts, and handbags. The weavers frequently produce items from recycled materials, such as scarves made of scraps of fabric donated by Pratibha Syntex.

Jhoole gives 20 percent of its profits to Chetanya Sewa Sansthan, which aids elderly women and people with disabilities. Warren estimates that more than 300 people have benefited from both organizations' programs.

In addition to the grant, Jhoole has received support from the Rotary Club of Maheshwar and others, which has helped fund two Jhoole fashion shows. The club is also donating \$2,000 and land for another training facility in nearby Manpur.

Our Upcoming Meetings

Date	Venue	Time	Occasion	Chairman & Scribe	Plaque Board	Sergeant	Attendance Desk
Wednesday 09/03/11	Adelaide Convention Centre	7 for 7.30pm	Dinner with RI President Ray Klinginsmith	REMEMBER: Take your DINNER PLAQUE with you!			
Wednesday 16/03/11	Sturt Bowling Club	6 for 6.30pm	Annual Bowls Competition vs Rotary Club of Mitcham	TBA	J Peacham	N/A	D Middleton & R Mills
Wednesday 23/03/11	Tiffins on the Park	6 for 6.30pm	Annual Debating Competition vs Rotary Club of Hyde Park	TBA	J Russell	N/A	R Mills & R Mullins
29/03/11	Tiffins on the Park	6 for 6.30pm	Danielle Ghezzi: "Indigenous Health Scholarship"	S Baker	J Singh	C Schirmer	R Mullins & J Newall

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 when access to the club's meeting paraphernalia is required. Please remember to gather up all items at the end of the meeting and return them to the storeroom.

Saturday Thrift Shop Roster: February-March 2011

Week No.	Dates	Early Shift: 10am to 12.30pm	Late Shift: 12.30pm to 3.00pm
1	05/03/11	David Middleton & Jerry Casburn	Mavis Martin & Stephen Westgarth
2	12/03/11	Stephen Baker & Greg McLeod	Wendy Andrews & Bob Laws
3	19/03/11	Glenys Ferguson & Joan Reed	Neesha Nandasena & Nathan White
4	26/03/11	John Peacham & Chandra Sluggett	David Mackrell & Sheila Evans
5	N/A	Reno Elms & Bob Mullins	Natalie Bowen & Joan Reed

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

The Back Page

A Proud Senior Moment

A 98 year-old lady actually wrote this letter to her bank. The bank manager thought it amusing enough to have it published in The Irish Times.

Dear Sir,

I am writing to thank you for bouncing my cheque with which I endeavoured to pay my plumber last month. By my calculations, three 'nanoseconds' must have elapsed between his presenting the cheque and the arrival in my account of the funds needed to honour it.

I refer, of course, to the automatic monthly deposit of my Pension, an arrangement which, I admit, has been in place for only thirty eight years. You are to be commended for seizing that brief window of opportunity, and also for debiting my account £30 by way of penalty for the inconvenience caused to your bank.

My thankfulness springs from the manner in which this incident has caused me to rethink my errant financial ways.

I noticed that whereas I personally attend to your telephone calls and letters, when I try to contact you, I am confronted by the impersonal, overcharging, re-recorded, faceless entity which your bank has become.

From now on, I, like you, choose only to deal with a flesh-and-blood person. My mortgage and loan payments will therefore and hereafter no longer be automatic, but will arrive at your bank by cheque, addressed personally and confidentially to an employee at your bank whom you must nominate. Be aware that it is an offence under the Postal Act for any other person to open such an envelope.

Please find attached an Application Contact Status which I require your chosen employee to complete. I am sorry it runs to eight pages, but in order that I know as much about him or her as your bank knows about me, there is no alternative. Please note that all copies of his or her medical history must be countersigned by a Solicitor, and the mandatory details of his/her financial situation (income, debts, assets and liabilities) must be accompanied by documented proof.

In due course, I will issue your employee with a PIN number which he/she must quote in dealings with me. I regret that it cannot be shorter than 28 digits but, again, I have modelled it on the number of button presses required of me to access my account balance on your phone bank service.

As they say, imitation is the sincerest form of flattery.

Let me level the playing field even further. When you call me, press buttons as follows:

1. To make an appointment to see me.
2. To query a missing payment.
3. To transfer the call to my living room in case I am there.
4. To transfer the call to my bedroom in case I am sleeping.
5. To transfer the call to my toilet in case I am attending to nature.
6. To transfer the call to my mobile phone if I am not at home.
7. To leave a message on my computer (a password to access my computer is required; a password will be communicated to you at a later date to the Authorised Contact).
8. To return to the main menu and to listen to options 1 through 8.

To make a general complaint or inquiry, the contact will then be put on hold, pending the attention of my automated answering service. While this may, on occasion, involve a lengthy wait, uplifting music will play for the duration of the call.

Regrettably, but again following your example, I must also levy an establishment fee to cover the setting up of this new arrangement.

May I wish you a happy, if ever so slightly less prosperous, New Year.

Your Humble Client



Remember our Rotary theme for the year:

BUILDING COMMUNITIES
BRIDGING CONTINENTS