

THE UNLEY ROTARIAN

Meeting 3761 – 10th May 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

Our Last Meeting

May is District Assembly month

Meeting No.	3761
Date	10 th May 2011
Occasion	Frank Gratton: "Lions Hearing Dogs"
Venue	Tiffins on the Park
Returning Rotarians	Ken Daly
Guests	Judy Rosser, Lalita Lopez
Apologies	Mavis Martin, Colin Schirmer Lindsay England, Sheila Evans (Sheila is overseas) and Nathan White
Make ups	Mavis Martin
Attendance	62%

President's Announcements

1. District Assembly this Sunday a Waikerie. We have 5 members going.
2. There is the joint meeting with the Prospect club with Unley hosting on the 24th of May
3. There are still some vacancies in the Thrift shop during May and June Dates will be forwarded.
4. Don't forget to support Reno with the Red Shield appeal this month



President Joan

Spots

Bob Laws: reminded members that this Saturday is culling day at the Thrift Shop; all members who are free from 1.00pm are welcome to come along and join in.

Stephen Baker: Police Officer of the Year is on the 17th of May. The presentation is at 12 noon in the Mall followed by dinner at night at 7 for 7.30pm at Glenelg Golf Club. Stephen has been collecting money next week (\$40 per head) so any members who would like to pay in advance should get in touch with Stephen.

Guest Speaker – Frank Gratton: "Lions Hearing Dogs"

Frank Gratton was introduced by Rohan Singh. Frank has been a member of Lions for fourteen years. He has been on the Lions' Hearing Dogs Committee for two years and is currently the Committee's Secretary.

The Lions Hearing Dogs program started in 1982, leading to the opening of the only Hearing Dogs' Centre in Australia at Verdun.

Dogs are sourced from the Animal Welfare League and the RSPCA. Dogs between 8 and 24 months are selected. Any dog breed can be a hearing dog provided it is receptive to sound.

Each dog selected undergoes a rigorous testing process. Suitable dogs are given a thorough veterinarian assessment (micro-chipped and de-sexed if needs be) and placed in the Centre's quarantine kennels for two weeks before commencing a six month training program.

During their time at the Centre, the dogs have regular trips to shopping centres, rides on public transport and are familiarised with places they will encounter once delivered to the client's home.

The dogs are trained in home situations to recognise familiar household noises including the telephone, doorbell, and smoke alarm. The dogs are trained to tap the leg of the owner and take the client to the source of the sound. For the smoke alarm, the dog pats the client's leg and drops on the ground where the client is.

Once the trainer is confident that a dog will graduate, it is assigned to an applicant from the waiting list. Every attempt is made to meet the applicant's wish for the type of dog.

Anyone can apply to have a hearing dog. An application to the Centre is accompanied by a report from the client's GP/audiologist stating that the client has a hearing deficiency. The applicant must be able to walk, wash, look after the dog, pay vet costs and provide a secured yard, with no other dogs allowed on the client's premises.

Once the dog is in its new home, the trainer spends one week with the client to ensure the dog becomes familiar with its new surroundings. To help the dog further acclimatise to its new environment, a local Lions' member will take on this training responsibility with regular visits to the client's home for a further three months.

The trained dogs are shipped all over Australia and are provided free of charge. The cost associated with each dog is approximately \$30,000 from the time it is collected from the animal shelter and issued to the client. Most of the funding for the program comes from Lions' clubs and other donations.

The dogs have the same status as Guide Dogs and can travel on public transport, enter shopping centres and restaurants, etc. Severe penalties under Anti Discrimination and Dog Acts apply when access is denied.

Dogs that do not meet the selection criteria are sold as domestic pets; they are never returned to either the Animal Welfare League or the RSPCA. Your own pet cannot be trained as a hearing dog.

A short DVD was shown, detailing clients' experiences with their hearing dogs in their homes and their communities.

Frank was asked many interesting questions, and Rotarians thanked Frank for his informative presentation in the usual manner.

The Community Service Committee agreed unanimously to make a \$500 donation to the Lions' Hearing Dog Program.



Guest speaker Frank Gratton with Rohan Singh

Sergeant's Session

Bob Mullins again was the Sergeant for the night. David Middleton won the lucky square and carried the can.

Rotary News

Rotary and Oikocredit launch strategic partnership

Rotary International News – 13 April 2011

The Rotary Foundation Trustees have reached an agreement with Oikocredit International, a Netherlands-based cooperative financial institution that promotes socially responsible investing, to form the first strategic partnership under the Foundation's Future Vision Plan.

Through the partnership, the Foundation will offer packaged grants for Rotary clubs and districts to work with microfinance institutions within the Oikocredit network. Together, these institutions and Rotarians will identify local needs, develop effective approaches, and structure training programs to improve entrepreneurs' business skills.

"This strategic partnership with Oikocredit enables Rotary to work with a globally recognized leader in the field of microfinance in order to make a meaningful contribution to poverty reduction," said Foundation Trustee Chair Carl-Wilhelm Stenhammar. "It allows Rotary club members to directly contribute their valuable expertise and skills without administering the loans directly."

Individual Rotary clubs have worked successfully with Oikocredit partners in the past. In 2009, clubs in Kenya and the Netherlands received Foundation funding to upgrade dairy farms and establish training farms belonging to an Oikocredit-supported milk cooperative near Nairobi. The result was an increase in the quality and quantity of milk production.

What does Oikocredit offer Rotary?

Oikocredit is a cooperative financial institution that offers loans or investment capital to microfinance institutions, cooperatives, fair trade organizations, and small- to medium-size enterprises in the developing world. Investors earn modest financial returns and the knowledge that their money is being used to fight poverty and promote fair trade in an environmentally responsible manner.

Founded in 1975, Oikocredit has US\$684 million (€480 million) invested in over 800 organizations in more than 70 countries, benefiting more than 20 million people through its microfinance partners.

"Knowledge and training are as important as financing," explained Tor G. Gull, Oikocredit's managing director. "Oikocredit's financing relationship with local entrepreneurs and microfinance organizations means we also see the need to help them strengthen their capacity to develop further, both economically and socially. Rotary funding and expertise from volunteers will greatly facilitate this effort."

Rotary Foundation Global Grants support large, international projects with sustainable, high-impact outcomes in Rotary's areas of focus. Packaged global grants developed by the Foundation and Oikocredit align with the area of economic and community development. Because the administrative work of designing the project and finding a cooperating organization has already been done, Rotary clubs and districts can focus on identifying beneficiaries, providing technical expertise or direct service, and publicizing the project.

One hundred districts are participating in the Future Vision pilot, a three-year test of the Foundation's streamlined grant structure, which began 1 July. All districts will begin using the model on 1 July 2013.



A dairy cooperative in Githunguri, Kenya. In 2009, clubs in Kenya and the Netherlands received Foundation funding to upgrade dairy farms and provide vocational training for the Oikocredit-supported milk cooperative near Nairobi.

Diary Dates

Month	Day	Date	Activity Details	Venue	Enquiries
May	Sunday	15/05/11	District Assembly	Waikerie High School	Sheila Evans
	Tuesday	17/05/11	Police Officer of the Year	Rundle Mall	Stephen Baker
	Friday	20/05/11	Hat Day in aid of the Australian Rotary Health Research Fund		www.hatday.com.au
June	Saturday	4/06/11	Celebrating Women in Rotary	Adelaide Oval Members Dining Rm	AG Kim Harvey
	Tuesday	28/06/11	Change Over Dinner	Kooyonga Golf Club	Stephen Baker

Our Upcoming Meetings

Date	Venue	Time	Occasion	Chairman & Scribe	Plaque Board	Sergeant	Attendance Desk
17/05/11	Glenelg Golf Club	7 for 7.30pm	Police Officer of the Year Dinner; Partners Event	S Baker	N White	N/A	J Singh & R Singh
24/05/11	Tiffins on the Park	6 for 6.30pm	Joint Meeting with Rotary Club of Prospect Adrian Francis: "The Kalahari Experience"	S Baker	W Andrews	C Schirmer	R Singh & C Sluggett
31/05/11	Adelaide Planetarium Building P, Uni SA, Mawson Lakes Blvd, Mawson Lakes, then Cafe Primo	6 for 6.30pm	Visit to Adelaide Planetarium; Partners Event	D Mackrell	S Baker	C Schirmer	C Sluggett & A Wehr
10/05/11	Tiffins on the Park	6 for 6.30pm	Bill Holmes: "Lions Hearing Dogs"	TBA	S Westgarth	C Schirmer	J Russell & J Singh

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: May-June 2011

Week No.	Dates	Early Shift: 10am to 12.30pm	Late Shift: 12.30pm to 3.00pm
2	14/05/11	Stephen Baker & Greg McLeod	Mavis Martin & Stephen Westgarth
3	21/05/11	Glenys Ferguson & Joan Reed	Neesha Nandasena & Wendy Andrew
4	28/05/11	John Peacham & Chandra Sluggett	David Mackrell & Sheila Evans
5	N/A	Reno Elms & Bob Mullins	Natalie Bowen & Joan Reed
1	04/06/11	David Middleton & Jerry Casburn	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: steedman@senet.com.au

On the Back Page

The Importance of walking

Walking can add minutes to your life. This enables you at 85 years old to spend an additional 5 months in a nursing home at \$4,000 per month.

My grandpa started walking five miles a day when he was 60. Now he's 97 years old and we have no idea where the hell he is.

I like long walks, especially when they are taken by people who annoy me.

The only reason I would take up walking is so that I could hear heavy breathing again.

I have to walk early in the morning, before my brain figures out what I'm doing...

I joined a health club last year, spent about 250 bucks. Haven't lost a pound. Apparently you have to go there!

Every time I hear the dirty word 'exercise', I wash my mouth out with chocolate.

Remember our Rotary theme for the year:

BUILDING COMMUNITIES
BRIDGING CONTINENTS