

THE UNLEY ROTARIAN: Meeting 3963 – 14 July 2015

Website: unley.rotaryclub.org.au

## **Our Last Meeting**

Venue	Public Schools Club
Occasion	Jo McLaren – "Soiree Francais"
Chairman	Valerie Bonython
Apologies	Mavis Martin, Bob Mullins, John Russell, Pam Trimmer
Returning Rotarians	Nil
Visiting Rotarians	Jo McLaren is a member of RC Adelaide
Guests	Beverley Baker, Linda England, Kathy Foster, Maria Mills, Margaret Payne, Glenyss Steedman, Susan Westgarth
Departing Rotarians	Nil
Attendance	22 members and eight guests

## **Rotary Club of Unley Inc.**

#### District 9520 - Chartered 17 April 1935

President: Stephen Baker: 8379 7105

or 0403 687 015

Secretary: Greg McLeod: BH 8223 3999 or AH 8271 8409 or 0417 811 838

Address: PO Box 18, Unley SA 5061

Email: unley.secretary@rotaryclub.org.au

Meetings: Tuesdays at 6.00 for 6.30pm

Venue: Public Schools Club

207 East Terrace, Adelaide

#### President Stephen's Announcements

- 1. Bon Soir 14 July is Bastille Day, celebrating the storming of a prison and the formation of a French Federation in 1789 and 1790 respectively. Maybe best known to Australians for the highly efficient Madam Guillotine!
- 2. Yesterday a very peasant time was spent at the Bunnings BBQ with Jerry, Briony and the Casburn tribe, Ken Haines, Valerie and Sheila.....and last night the Membership Committee met at Jerry's.
- 3. Nominations are being called for the Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA) program to be held on 26 September to 2 October an excellent program for those with leadership potential.
- 4. Group 6 Presidents meet at AG Bob Cooper's house on Thursday night.
- 5. A brief Board meeting will be held following this one.
- 6. A Rotary Global Rewards scheme has been launched but is still in its infancy......check out rotary.org/globalrewards
- 7. Who would like to help with the bulletin? David Middleton is happy to be the meeting recorder but would like another person to scan the international rotary news and perhaps incorporate some of my excellent jokes.



President Stephen Baker



## Guest Speaker - Jo McLaren: Parlez Vous Français?

Valerie introduced the guest speaker Jo McLaren who works for Phil Hoffman Travel. Jo gave an entertaining talk after admitting she didn't speak French and she didn't really know terribly much about the French Revolution or Bastille Day (other than you don't wish French people a happy one). She did inform us that we came within a bee's whisker of being French and (evidently) so did New Zealand. If we were French we would likely sound better and eat netter, but that would be at the expense of our current proud military history. The question about how many Frenchmen it takes to defend Paris remains unanswered as it has throughout eternity.

Jo then used tenuous connections to unfortunate nations previously invaded and occupied by France as an excuse for an extended travelogue that allowed her to entertain the audience with pleasant slides of castles, churches, gardens and French sticks being produced in developing countries.



Various options for travel were displayed and there were a number of questions that were answered fulsomely.

The Unley Rotarian 1 14 July 2015

## and a report on the evening

After the speaker, members and guests were treated to some French fare including desert and enjoyed an extended period of fellowship before the meeting was called to order for spots and the closing formalities. The majority of the members got into the spirit of the evening dressing in the French fashion or simply by sporting clothing in the hues of the tricolour. Joan was awarded the prize for the best outfit worn by a woman despite being earlier laughed at by her daughter and granddaughter. Ken was resplendently turned out as always and was appropriately rewarded.







## **Spots**

**Briony** read from an American in Paris by Charles Glass that made reference to a Rotary club in Paris at the time of the German occupation – this was interesting and a little bit disturbing at the same time.

**Stephen W** reminded members that if they wanted a DVD of the Ballarat Conference plenary programme they should let him know promptly so he can put one aside for them. They normally have an extraordinarily high price tag due to the quality of the production but they are free to members of Unley.

**Lindsay** advised the Thrift Shop committee meeting scheduled for next week would be delayed due to us not being at the normal location next week. He felt it would be the following week and the members of that committee would be wise to assume that is the case until notified differently.

**Ken** reported it had been very cold for the Bunnings barbecue yesterday, but it had been financially rewarding nevertheless providing a profit in the order of \$800.

**Patsy** urged those booked to attend the show in Tailem Bend to pay on line as instructed in the email already sent to them. She also advised that it isn't too late for others to attend but it's getting close to being so. If interested, they should contact Patsy forthwith. President Stephen reinforced the urgency of paying, referring provocatively to body parts.

#### Sergeant's Session

After Glenyss Steedman won the lucky seat prize. **Sergeant Heather** correctly fined President Stephen for his lapse in judgement in failing to introduce the lovely Beverley. She then cleverly (and also quite rightly) fined everyone who had ever visited France, thus putting the whole evening into perspective. Geoff Hill won the money and a Phil Hoffman umbrella, and in a supplementary draw Maria Mills was the lucky winner of a Phil Hoffman bag.

## **Rotary News**

## Illiteracy traps adults, and their families, in poverty

By Arnold R. Grahl - Rotary News -- 9 July 2015

Around the world, millions of adults are unable to read or write, and therefore struggle to earn a living for themselves and their families.

Even in the United States, with its considerable resources, there are 36 million adults who can't read better than the average third-grader, according to the international nonprofit ProLiteracy. In Detroit, Michigan, a widely cited 2003 survey conducted by the National Institute for Literacy found that almost half of residents over age 16 were functionally illiterate -- unable to use reading, speaking, writing, and computer skills in everyday life.

Kristen Barnes-Holiday, director of program outcomes for Reading Works, an organization tackling adult illiteracy in Detroit, says the agencies -- many of them underfunded and understaffed -- that have been trying for years to address the problem there have made little progress.

Illiteracy affects all areas of life. Those with low literacy skills are far more likely to live in poverty, face health problems because they can't read prescription labels or instructions, and grow isolated in a world increasingly dependent on computers. And the lack of a skilled workforce, Barnes-Holiday notes, has slowed Detroit's economic revival.

But she worries most about the impact on future generations.

"A lot of children are raised in households where parents are low-skilled or illiterate, and we all know only a certain amount of learning happens in the classroom," she says. "We are raising this generation with the expectation that if we pour a certain amount of dollars into their education, we will get better results. But that is only partially true if we do nothing to address the households they are coming from."

Rotary member Mark Wilson, who also has been involved with Detroit literacy efforts, agrees that adult literacy is not receiving the attention it deserves.

"It doesn't pull at the heartstrings the same way as when you see a child who can't read," says Wilson, a member of the suburban Rotary Club of Grosse Pointe. "But, in fact, it's a vicious cycle and it perpetuates itself."

Wilson's club, along with other Detroit-area Rotary members, partnered with ProLiteracy Detroit to raise money to recruit and train more tutors. Also, members have collected 261,000 books and 587 computers to donate to literacy agencies throughout the city.

A grant from The Rotary Foundation brought a team of literacy experts from Australia to Detroit, to share their expertise with those who are training the tutors. The grant helped launch a weekly program on local television to raise awareness and broaden corporate and community support.

Through the efforts of the volunteer tutors, more than 500 adults raised their reading levels by three grades, according to testing by the Michigan Adult Education Reporting System.

Margaret Williamson, executive director of ProLiteracy Detroit and a member of the Rotary Club of Detroit, said the project has produced benefits even beyond initial expectations.

"Not only do we look at reading, but we look at building the skills the individual will need for employment," she says. "And what happened was that, through the Rotary network, [these adults] had access to people who knew other people who were willing to give them an opportunity. We had people call



A student attends a literacy program at the Mercy Education Project in Detroit to build her reading skills. The agency offers free educational programs to improve the lives of low-income girls and women

us and say, "Do you have a person who would be good for this entry-level position?' "

The Rotary members have become better advocates for adult literacy, influencing policymakers at several levels, adds Williamson. Among the results of that advocacy: A financial institution donated a banking center for vocational training, and ProLiteracy received more money for tutor training and has expanded its network of partners.

"The ripple effect is still benefiting us," she says.

Wilson also talks about ripples: "When you teach somebody how to read, they have that for a lifetime," he says. "It ripples through the community, one by one. And that was our goal."

#### Our Upcoming Meetings

					Set up &		Attendance
Date	Venue	Time	Speaker/Occasion	Chairman	Welcome	Sergeant	Desk
21 Jul	Food Bank & The Avoca	6 for 6.30pm	Vocational Visit to Food Bank 377 Cross Road, Edwardstown then The Avoca Hotel, Melrose Park	P Beckett	W Andrews	N/A	N/A
28 Jul	PSC	6 for 6.30pm	<b>Sergeant Paul Scicluna</b> - SA Police Officer of the Year for 2014	S Westgarth	G Beckett	J Reed	C Schirmer J Singh
4 Aug	PSC	6 for 6.30pm	Club Assembly	S Baker	P Beckett	J Reed	J Singh C Sluggett
11 Aug	PSC	6 for 6.30pm	<b>District Governor's Visit</b> DG Dick and Liz Wilson	S Baker	V Bonython	J Reed	C Sluggett M Small

Venue: PSC = Public Schools Club, 270 East Terrace, Adelaide

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

Meeting Chair Enquiries To: Secretary Greg McLeod on BH 8223 3999 or M 0417 811 838 or email to unley.secretary@rotaryclub.org.au

Venue Set-up/Bar Enquiries To: Bulletin Editor - David Middleton on BH 8377 7795 or M 0417 835 564

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

## **Diary Dates**

Year	Month	Day	Date	Activity Details	Venue
2015	Jul	Tue	21	Visit to Food Bank	377 Cross Road Edwardstown
	Aug	Sun	9	Tailem Bend Variety Show	Tailem Bend Pub & Community Hall
	Sep	Sun	27	Bay to Birdwood Classic	Starts at Barrett Reserve, Adelaide Shores

#### Bunnings Mile End Barbeque

ALL the Bunnings Mile End Barbeque dates are the last Monday of the month from 8am to 5pm

Next Date: Monday 27 July Morning shift: 8.30am – 12.30pm Afternoon shift: 12.30 – 5pm

# Saturday Thrift Shop Roster July 2015

Week	Dates	Early Shift: 10am to 12.30pm	Late Shift: 12.30pm to 3.00pm
3	18 Jul 15	Glenys Ferguson & Joan Reed	Nathan White +
4	25 Jul 15	Bob Laws & Pam Trimmer	Sheila Evans & Ken Haines
5		Bob Mullins & Reno Elms	Stephen Westgarth & David Pisoni
1	1 Aug 15	David Middleton & Lalita Lopez	Bob Laws & Stephen Westgarth
2	8 Aug 15	Greg McLeod & Stephen Baker	Wendy Andrews & Mavis Martin

Rotarians, who are unable to attend as rostered, please arrange a swap or as a very last resort contact: Lindsay England (T) 8445 8552; (M) 0408 857 775; e-mail: lengland@senet.com.au

#### On the Back Page

#### Last Request

Father O'Grady was saying his goodbyes to the parishioners after his Sunday morning service as he always does when Mary Clancy came up to him in tears.

Mary replied, "He said, 'Please, Mary, put down the gun...'"

#### **Temptations**

An Irish priest and a Rabbi found themselves sharing a compartment on a train.

After a while, the priest opened a conversation by saying, "I know that, in your religion, you're not supposed to eat pork... Have you actually ever tasted it?"

The Rabbi said, "I must tell the truth. Yes, I have, on the odd occasion."

Then the Rabbi had his turn of interrogation. He asked, "Your religion, too... I know you're supposed to be celibate. But..."

The priest replied, "Yes, I know what you're going to ask. I have succumbed once or twice."

There was silence for a while. Then the Rabbi peeped around the newspaper he was reading and said, "Better than eating pork, isn't it?"





Be a gift to the world

<sup>&</sup>quot;What's bothering you so, dear?" inquired Farther O'Grady.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Oh, father, I've got terrible news," replied Mary.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Well what is it, Mary?"

<sup>&</sup>quot;Well, my husband, passed away last night, Father."

<sup>&</sup>quot;Oh, Mary," said the father, "that's terrible. Tell me Mary, did he have any last requests?"

<sup>&</sup>quot;Well, yes he did father," replied Mary.

<sup>&</sup>quot;What did he ask, Mary?"