

THE UNLEY ROTARIAN: Meeting 3991 – 1 March 2016

Website: unley.rotaryclub.org.au

Our Last Meeting

| Venue: | Unley Salvation Army Hall |
|----------------------|--|
| Guest Speaker: | Major Reno Elms: "Where Life, Faith & Service Connect" |
| Chairman: | Pam Trimmer |
| Apologies: | Heather Kilsby, Bob Laws, Stephen Westgarth, Nathan White |
| Returning Rotarians: | Wendy Andrews |
| Visiting Rotarians: | None |
| Guests: | Roslyn Elms, Maria Mills, Margaret Payne, Richard Taylor, Lachlan Reid, Dennis Liddle, Margaret Blake, Matthew Buckley plus Maryanne Kohlberger and Wendy Marshall |
| Attendance: | 28 members and 8 quests |

Rotary Club of Unley Inc.

District 9520 - Chartered 17 April 1935

President: Stephen Baker: 8377 7156

or 0403 687015

Secretary: Greg McLeod: BH 8223 3999

orAH 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: Damien on Fisher

123 Fisher Street, Fullarton SA 5063

President Stephen's Announcements

- 1. Thank you Reno for hosting this dinner it is a great pleasure to be at the Salvos where so much good is achieved for those less fortunate than ourselves.
- 2. The Board has decided to budget \$4000 for improvements to the front of the Thrift Shop.
- 3. Trevor McGuirk's Peru project is being progressed.
- 4. Next week we are planning to induct Diana Maneva and Suresh Kumar.
- 5. Many thanks to those who helped with the Bunnings BBQ.

President Stephen Baker

Guest Speaker – Major Reno Elms: Where Life, Faith & Service Connect

When we had settled at our tables in the courtyard of the Unley Salvation Army Worship and Community Centre, Pam Trimmer introduced Rotarian Major Reno Elms to take control of the agenda for the evening. Reno is well known to all of us having been a member of the club since 2005. It's a tradition that the Corps Officer of the Salvo's in Unley is a member of our Rotary Club, and those from the past that your editor has known have all been crackingly



good and nice people who move on to other stints after a period (that in retrospect always seemed short). The period in Reno's case has been longer than normal – something we are all pleased about.

Pam expressed some frustration in Reno's reticence to provide biographical details and was unaware that Roslyn Elms would have been available to 'share all the dirt' had she been asked. But Reno did provide Pam with a copy of the publication 'Barbecue to Boardroom' that features successful South Aussies including Reno. In short, Reno had an unconventional and difficult time growing up in Victoria (including growing in Victoria) and was introduced to the local Salvation Army children's programme to straighten him out. Some might resent such an arrangement, but it resonated with Reno and while things remained difficult at home and he was forced out at the tender age of 16 he became more involved with the Salvation Army, and one gets the sense it became his family.

As with many who talk to groups of people for a living, Reno is an engaging presenter and he shared some of the history of the Unley Corps that's been at its current location for 132 years. Adelaide was an early adopter of the Salvation Army when two Salvationists from East London met for the first time in Adelaide and set up at the Botanic Gardens assisting the homeless, including many prostitutes, who lived in the precinct. This seems to typify what the Salvation Army is all about – reaching out to the downtrodden and the disadvantaged, including those who are often shunned or ignored by the community generally.

The Unley Rotarian 1 March 2016

The Unley Corps have a mission to share Life, Faith and Service – and they deliver from their premises in Marion Street. The original building was all but destroyed in the 1954 earthquake and had to be reconstructed. Over time they went through a process of increasing their real estate footprint and now have a number of facilities on the site including the chapel itself, the community lounge, a family room, a thrift shop, a kitchen, a working room, a community shed, and even a small playground located on a narrow patch of land that was previously unused. You could say that not an inch of usable space is wasted.

We were split into two groups and given the tour, with Maryanne taking the other.

The Salvo's offer several programmes along with the normal religious activities of prayer, education and worship. These include the well-attended Coffee 2 Connect opportunity that occurs on Mondays to bring together those who are often disconnected for one reason or another, offering them fellowship and a free meal. They served Christmas lunch to 132 people this year. They offer courses on lots of topics. For example, our own Pam Trimmer teaches a bit of English there, and Sheila also helps out. For a moment I was concerned that Sheila was teaching people to speak English but it seems she helps out as a leprechaun, a role for which she is uniquely qualified.

We were the guests of the Salvation Army for dinner, something that some members were a little awkward about given that we aren't disadvantaged and we didn't want to draw on the Corps' limited resources. Nevertheless, Reno was keen to make a gesture to thank the club for our support over the years and the club will no doubt find a way of being worthy of that recognition.

The meal, by the way, was delicious.

Reno was thanked by Pam and given a pen that he passed on to Wendy Marshall, the cook for the evening.



Unley Rotarians and guests in the Chapel listening intently to Salvation Army Major Reno Elms

Spots

Jerry Casburn told the club of the Membership Helping Hands project at the Unley Shopping Centre 17th to 19th March. He distributed a roster so members could donate their time and will undoubtedly follow us up until the roster is filled.

Lindsay England announced a short Thrift Shop committee meeting and advised that the current work experience volunteer is available to help on some Saturdays if a Rotarian is unavailable.

Alex Jonson promoted the OSSA fundraising screening of the Lady in the Van movie at the Mitcham Wallace theatre complex. The movie and a champagne supper for \$20 is great value and members were encouraged to attend. See the advertisement on page 4.

Sergeant's Session

There was no Sergeant's session to follow the Major's session.

The meeting closed at 8pm + 27 minutes.....but who's counting!

Rotary News

Goodwill games

By Sallyann Price - The Rotarian - 25 Feb 2016

The fierce July sun beat down on us as we approached the field where the match was to take place. It wasn't much of a soccer pitch, with its uneven terrain and rusty poles for goalposts, but the local teens we had met came ready to play. They guided us over the piles of bricks and broken tiles that separate their neighborhood community center from the field behind it and took their positions.

Much like any schoolyard competitors, incursions from grazing cows notwithstanding, players stretched and warmed up, took turns retrieving out-of-bounds balls, and, after the final goal, lined up to exchange highfives. The Vietnamese handily contingent outscored our group of American Rotary volunteers, but the defeat was far from bitter. The five Rotarians. Interactors, and two 20something alumni Rotary Youth Leadership Awards had already achieved what they had



come to Vietnam to do: distribute durable soccer balls to promote play and to spread Rotary's message of service and goodwill.

The community center sits on the outskirts of Hoi An, a resort town on the South China Sea. Orange and fuchsia bougainvillea blossoms spill over stalls selling scarves and spices at one of Vietnam's oldest marketplaces, and along the banks of the Thu Bon River, food vendors serve aromatic *pho* (noodle soup) and *banh mi* (sandwiches). By night, tourists dine under glowing silk lanterns at the seaside restaurants and hotels.

The kids we met in Hoi An have a few soccer balls on hand, but are just as likely to kick around rocks or bundles of banana leaves. Tim Jahnigen first observed this phenomenon in 2006 as he watched news footage of a refugee camp in Darfur, Sudan. The children on the screen were playing soccer using a bundle of trash tied with twine. Struck by the evidently universal tendency of children to play no matter how difficult the circumstances, Jahnigen set out to develop a soccer ball tough enough to endure the harshest conditions.

Almost 10 years later, One World Play Project – the company Jahnigen founded with his wife, Lisa Tarver – has provided more than 1.5 million durable soccer balls in over 175 countries. The ball itself is made of a proprietary foamlike blend that bounces like a soccer ball but won't puncture, deflate, or otherwise fall apart.

"Play is vital for humans to thrive," Tarver says, echoing recent research. "Play is one of the most effective therapies for any kind of trauma or hardship, whether in refugee camps or inner cities afflicted with gang violence – anywhere kids have suffered human rights abuses or the effects of poverty or natural disasters. Play is what allows them to recover and connect with their community."

Our team of Rotary members and youth program participants from the San Francisco Bay Area brought to Vietnam 2,400 of these balls, bound for schools and community centers. We traveled south from the capital, Hanoi, through the mountains and along the scenic coastline to Ho Chi Minh City and the villages of the Mekong Delta. In each community we visited, we met with local officials, handed out balls, and challenged the recipients to a game – no translation required.

"Play is the universal language," Tarver says. "You go somewhere and you may not be able to talk to the people, but if you pull out this ball, you'll be connected, because it's intuitive. The ball is the connector between the visitors and the community."

There are no Rotary clubs in Vietnam; they were disbanded in the 1970s. Since 1994, however, when the U.S. government lifted the trade embargo that had been in effect since the Vietnam War ended, Rotary clubs have worked with government approval on several successful projects with local charities.

Sue McKinney, a member of the Rotary Club of Oakland Sunrise, has divided her time between Ho Chi Minh City and her native California since 1994. A lawyer by training and a serial entrepreneur in practice, McKinney has worked on 21 projects in Vietnam, coordinating Group Study Exchange trips, organizing wheelchair distributions and medical camps, hosting dozens of visiting U.S. Rotarians, and tapping into her extensive in-country network to promote Rotary's work.

The collaboration with One World Play Project also has its roots in McKinney's Rolodex. She once hosted a GSE participant from California's District 5170 named Ingrid Fraunfelder, and the two kept in touch. When Fraunfelder went to

work for One World Play Project as a program manager, McKinney saw a natural fit for the district's Interact program. She presented the idea to the district and reached out to contacts at Aid for Kids and Football for All in Vietnam, two local nonprofits that provided logistical support and helped coordinate distribution events.

McKinney also saw an opportunity to expand Rotary's network and build goodwill through cultural exchange. "Group Study Exchange was my introduction to Rotary 30 years ago," before clubs accepted female members, she recalls. "I went to Holland on an all-female GSE team, and I'm still in touch with those women. Those connections are for life. It's a way of networking, and it helped recruit me into the organization. Once I'd seen Rotary at work on the world stage, I wanted to be a part of it."

For Gloria Garing, a member of the Rotary Club of Freedom, Calif., the trip was an opportunity to honor her late husband, Ward, who served in Vietnam in the late 1960s and died of cancer in 2006. Midway through the trip, Garing made a solo detour down the coast from Hoi An to Cam Ranh Bay, where Ward had been stationed, to deliver soccer balls at a school.

"I wasn't sure about what it would be like going to a communist country," Garing says. "Growing up in the 1950s and '60s with a father in the Navy, the whole idea of communism was, 'They're the enemy.' There was a lot we didn't know, of course, but there was a real fear."

Garing met students, teachers, and families in Cam Ranh. "I was surprised by how welcoming everyone was," she says. Vietnam, she says, is beautiful and interesting, but there was more to the trip: "When we do service work, it's about the people we meet and the connections we make."

Vu Dinh, a member of the Interact club at Mount Eden High School in Hayward, Calif., until his graduation last spring, was born in Vietnam, but his family moved to the United States when he was a baby. He had returned to Vietnam only once since then, on a family trip 10 years ago.

"It's weird to think that one turn of events can change your whole life," he said as we left a secondary school in Hanoi where he had addressed students in hesitant Vietnamese. "I'm sitting across from these kids, thinking how I could have been in their seats, meeting these American visitors, but instead I'm coming to their school on a tour bus." Later, after he had reconnected with family members outside Da Nang, he said, "I'm glad my parents came to America, but I'm also glad I have the chance to come back to Vietnam, to spend time with my parents' brothers and sisters, and see what the world looks like from the back of their motorbike."

Dinh joined Interact during his sophomore year. He met new friends across the district, participated in leadership development programs such as RYLA, and served as club president in his senior year.

"In high school it's often repeated that grades stay on your transcript forever. But these clubs teach you that the impact you make stays on these people's lives forever," Dinh says. "Interact has given me the opportunity to grow as a person, gain leadership skills, and give back. In Interact we have a structure and a network that allows participants to branch out in different communities and move toward a global community. That's what sets Rotary apart."

The way he sees it, our group is bringing that message of inclusion and opportunity to everyone we meet in Vietnam. "We're giving away these soccer balls, but we're also giving the opportunity to play and grow as a community through sports," he says, "and we have the opportunity to let people know Rotary is important."

The nearly indestructible soccer balls will go on conveying that message, says inventor Jahnigen. "When you go into a community and leave a ball behind, it reinforces the bonds and messages that came with it," he says. "As long as it's there being played with, it keeps the connection alive."

Upcoming OSSAA Fundraiser





STARRING: MAGGIE SMITH, ALEX JENNINGS, JIM BROADBENT, FRANCES DE LA TOUR. ROGER ALLAM

Wallis Theatre, Mitcham Shopping Centre

Sunday 6th March 2016 at 5:45 for 6:30pm

Tickets include a light supper and champagne

Cost: \$20.00 per person

For tickets contact: Alex Jonson; Mob: 0412 993 737

Our Upcoming Meetings

| Date | Venue | Time | Speaker/Occasion | Chairman | Set-up & Welcome | Sergeant | Attendance |
|--------|---------------------|-----------------|---|-------------|---------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| 8 Mar | Damien on Fisher | 6 for 6.30pm | Grey Nomads Rotary Club | J Casburn | V Bonython | J Reed | J Russell M Small |
| 15 Mar | Edinburgh Hotel | 6 for 6.30pm | Group 6 Membership Meeting | G McLeod | B Casburn | J Reed | M Small P Trimmer |
| 22 Mar | Damien on Fisher | 6 for 6.30pm | Pam Trimmer: "Teaching English a la Professor Higgins?" | M Small | J Casburn | J Reed | P Trimmer S Westgarth |
| 29 Mar | Damien on Fisher | 6 for 6.30pm | Cassandra Attwood: "A Road Less Travelled" | B Casburn | R Elms | J Reed | S Westgarth N White |
| 5 Apr | Damien on Fisher | 6 for 6.30pm | Ben Ernst: "Unley Young Professionals" | S Westgarth | L England | H Kilsby | N White W Andrews |

Usual Meeting Venue: Damien on Fisher, 123 Fisher Street, Fullarton SA 5063

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

Saturday Thrift Shop Roster

March 2016

| Week | Dates | Early Shift: 10am to 12.30pm | Late Shift: 12.30pm to 3.00pm |
|------|-----------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 | 5 Mar 16 | David Middleton & Jerry Casburn | Bob Laws & Stephen Westgarth |
| 2 | 12 Mar 16 | Greg McLeod & Stephen Baker | Wendy Andrews & Mavis Martin |
| 3 | 19 Mar 16 | Joan Reed & Nathan White | Pam Trimmer & Ken Haines |
| | | | |
| 4 | 26 Mar 16 | Bob Laws & Pam Trimmer | Sheila Evans & Ken Haines |

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

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 28 March Morning shift: 8.30am – 12.30pm Afternoon shift: 12.30 – 5pm

Diary Dates

| Year | Month | Day | Date | Activity Details | Venue |
|------|---------------------------------------|-----|--------------------------|------------------------------------|---|
| 2016 | Mar | Tue | 15 | Group 6 Clubs Membership Seminar | Edinburgh Hotel, Mitcham |
| | Apr Wed 6 | | 6 | Schools Youth Program Presentation | Royal Coach Hotel (Breakfast Meeting) |
| | | Sun | 10 | PENTS Seminar | TBA |
| | 28 Apr-1 May District 9520 Conference | | District 9520 Conference | Renmark | |
| | May | Sun | 15 | District Assembly | TBA |
| | | Tue | 17 | SA Police Officer of the Year | Unley Soldiers Memorial Gardens & Kooyonga Golf Club |

The Back Page

The Senior Prenuptial Agreement

An elderly couple reaching their 70s are about to get married, but before they say their vows, the woman wanted to talk

She said: "I want to keep my house."

He said: "That's fine with me."

She said: "I want to keep my Car."

He said: "That's fine with me."

She said: "And I want to have sex six times a week."

He said: "Put me down for Fridays."

Divorce Dialogue

A judge was interviewing a woman regarding her pending divorce, and asked, "What are the grounds for your divorce?"

She replied, "About four acres and a nice little home in the middle of the property with a stream running by."

"No," he said, "I mean what is the foundation of this case?

"It is made of concrete, brick and mortar," she responded.

"I mean," he continued, "What are your relations like?"

"I have an aunt and uncle living here in town, and so do my husband's parents."

The judge said, "Do you have a real grudge?"

"No," she replied, "We have a two-car carport and have never really needed one."

"Please," he tried again, "is there any infidelity in your marriage?'

"Yes, both my son and daughter have stereo sets. We don't necessarily like the music, but the answer to your questions is yes."

"Ma'am, does your husband ever beat you up?"

"Yes," she responded, "about twice a week he gets up earlier than I do."

Finally, in frustration, the judge asked, "Lady, why do you want a divorce?"

"Oh, I don't want a divorce," she replied. "I've never wanted a divorce. My husband does. He says he can't communicate with me."





Be a gift to the world