



## Rotary Club of Unley Inc.

### District 9520 - Chartered 17 April 1935

**President:** Ken Haines: 08 8332 5138 or 0417 896 261

**Secretary:** Greg McLeod: BH 08 8223 3999 or AH 0417 811 838

**Address:** PO Box 18, Unley SA 5061

**Email:** [unley.secretary@rotaryclub.org.au](mailto:unley.secretary@rotaryclub.org.au)

**Meetings:** Tuesdays at 6.00 for 6.30pm

**Venue:** Damien on Fisher, 123 Fisher Street, Fullarton SA 5063



President Ken Haines

## Our Last Meeting

|             |                                                                                                                    |
|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Venue:      | Edinburgh Hotel                                                                                                    |
| Event:      | <b>Quiz challenge with RC Brownhill Creek</b>                                                                      |
| Chairman:   | Lindsay Bowey BHC                                                                                                  |
| Apologies:  | Graham & Patsy Beckett, Lindsay England, Bob Laws, Mavis Martin, Bob Mills, Joan Reed, Lachlan Reid, Marlene Small |
| Guests :    | Anne Bills, Stephen Bone, Graham Ey, Jill Hill, Margaret Payne                                                     |
| Attendance: | 19 Members 5 Guests + plenty of Brownhill Creekers                                                                 |

BHC President Susan Westover opened their meeting number 1830 and welcomed our club.

## President Ken's Announcements

- Ken opened our meeting, thanked our hosts and welcomed guests.

## The Fabulous Quiz

After a very EDible meal, the contest began under quiz-masters Bob & Jan Trigg.

Briony Casburn, Trevor McGuirk and Geoff Hill displayed outstanding talent in winning 3 of the 4 raffle prizes.

The quality and range of questions was enjoyable but just a tad mean that we could not resort to what everyone uses these days, namely the I-things, to interrogate the web. Now some of us thought that the answer to *what is ichthyology* was the study of marriages which last for 7 years.....instead it is all about fish. Maybe that is what we all should do after 7 years of marriage.

Under extraordinary pressure to make this quiz a 3-peat (we have won the last two) and uphold the honour of the Prez, it is tearful to report that we fell short by 10 points (189 v 199). Some consolation was that the raucous table of David Middleton, Bob Mullins, and the Paynes (David, Margaret and daughter Anne Bills) had their points (which had presumably been deducted for bad behaviour) reinstated and they finished equal top table. The chocolates were suitable reward for us all.

*Great Fun!*



Jan & Bob



Chairman Lindsay



David, Bob, Margaret, David and Anne....looking at David M it is easy to understand why points may have been lost



Ken, hiding his pain with a smile, on the presentation of the fabulous quiz trophy to President Susan

The winners were warmly congratulated and the quiz trophy presented.

President Ken closed our meeting at 8.45pm after thanking and congratulating our hosts.

## Rotary News

# Surgeons from India bring relief to underserved patients in Rwanda

Jonathan W. Rosen The Rotarian 19 Sep 2016

Hundreds of people gather in an open-air courtyard at University Central Hospital in Kigali, Rwanda. Men in suits, women in flowered dresses, even prisoners in pink and orange gowns are waiting to find out if they will receive medical care. Some have no visible signs of injury. Others arrived on crutches, with arms in slings, or with catheters protruding from their clothing. Several have swollen, broken limbs: injuries that should have been mended long ago but were neglected because of the country's long surgical-ward backlog, or simply poverty.

Emmanuel Mugatyawe, 36, sits on the ground as a friend fills out his yellow admissions form. He has been waiting two months for an operation to repair a broken leg – now infected – that he sustained when a car plowed into his motorbike.



"These are not routine cases; there are very few fresh injuries," says Shashank Karvekar, an orthopedic surgeon and member of the Rotary Club of Solapur, India, after he and his Rwandan colleague Joel Bikoroti examine several dozen patients, scheduling many for surgery. Over the next eight days, a team of 18 specialized doctors (12 of whom are Rotarians) will perform surgeries on 268 Rwandan patients, including procedures in orthopedics and urology. The trip, initiated by District 3080 (India) and hosted by District 9150 (Central Africa), is funded by The Rotary Foundation with support from the Rwandan government. It's the fourth medical mission to Rwanda that the two districts have organized since 2012. This time, among the volunteers is K.R. Ravindran, the first sitting RI president to take part in the mission.

A few buildings down on the University Central Hospital's campus (referred to as CHUK), Rajendra Saboo, 1991-92 Rotary International president, is busy coordinating the last-minute logistics of the mission. The 82-year-old from Chandigarh, India, has done this many times. After finishing a post-presidential term on the Board of Trustees, Saboo and his wife, Usha, began to look for ways to participate in the type of hands-on service they had long encouraged of their fellow Rotarians.

They wanted to help India, a country that often receives outside assistance, make a stronger global contribution. It didn't take long for Saboo to focus on medicine. He found that many local doctors had trained or worked in limited-resource settings similar to what they would find in Africa. "Our doctors are medically very strong," Saboo explains. "And because India also does not have infrastructure of the highest level, they've learned how to innovate."

Saboo's first mission, to Uganda, took place in 1998 and focused on cataract surgeries and corrective operations to help disabled polio survivors. Organized with Rajiv Pradhan, a pathologist and past governor of District 3130, it consisted of doctors from Saboo's district (3080) and Pradhan's.

Today, Saboo recalls the mission as a life-altering experience – one so successful that the two soon arranged a trip to Ethiopia. That visit marked the start of an 18-year partnership that has brought more than three dozen surgical missions to 12 African countries, as well as Cambodia and six of India's least developed states. Over time, the missions have increased in frequency to four per year, while adding specialties such as plastic surgery, urology, and gynecology. Saboo has been on almost every trip. "Raja Saboo is absolutely full of energy," says Pradhan. "He's constantly thinking of new ways to support medical missions. Even at this age, he's working 12 hours a day."

Rwanda, a compact central African country with mountainous topography that often draws comparisons to Switzerland, is perhaps best-known for its darkest moment: the slaughter of up to a million citizens, mostly members of the Tutsi minority, in the 1994 genocide. Twenty-two years later, it's one of the fastest-growing economies in Africa. Kigali, its capital, is

among the tidiest cities on the continent. Since 1994, life expectancy has more than doubled in Rwanda while maternal and child mortality rates have fallen.

Rwanda still faces public health challenges, however. Access to surgery is among them. According to *The Lancet*, an estimated 5 billion people, including nine out of 10 residents of lower- and middle-income countries, do not have access to “safe, affordable surgical and anesthesia care when needed.” In these countries, the British medical journal notes, 143 million additional surgical procedures are needed every year. Although most Rwandans are covered by national health insurance, which gives them access to low-cost care, many people living in rural areas cannot afford to get to a public health facility. Moreover, surgery is only available in five of the country’s public hospitals, and many patients must wait to be referred from local health centers or district-level facilities.

Aside from a minority of patients who can afford private care, complex cases wind up at one of two public hospitals in Kigali: CHUK and Rwanda Military Hospital, which also hosted doctors from the mission. A persistent shortage of surgeons means there’s typically a long waiting list. According to Faustin Ntirenganya, who heads the department of surgery at CHUK, the hospital employs just 10 surgeons and three anesthesiologists – a staffing shortage that, at times, means a backlog of up to 1,000 cases. Despite a growing number of surgical residents at Rwanda’s national university, the lure of better-paying jobs abroad makes holding on to specialists difficult, Ntirenganya says. “Our biggest challenge is numbers,” he says. “Our limited team cannot handle the needs of the whole population.”

The Rotary mission helps meet the high demand. In four trips to Rwanda, Saboo’s teams have conducted nearly 900 surgeries. For some patients, the mission represents a final chance. Michel Bizimungu, who had been out of work since rupturing a patellar tendon playing soccer last October, was told his case could be handled only at Rwanda’s top private hospital, at a price far beyond his means as a cleaner. Then his case was referred to Asit Chidgupkar, an orthopedic surgeon and member of the Rotary Club of Solapur. Although Chidgupkar had never encountered this specific injury, and CHUK lacked some needed equipment, including biodegradable screws and suture anchors, Chidgupkar devised a plan. The next day, in a four-hour procedure involving three separate incisions, he repaired Bizimungu’s knee. Chidgupkar called the procedure an “absolute improvisation.” (He later presented the case at an orthopedic conference in India, and he keeps in touch with Bizimungu, who updates him periodically on his recovery.) “It’s one of my most memorable cases,” he says. The mission also provides training.

At a dinner in Kigali, he announced plans to invite 10 Rwandan doctors to India for three-month stints of training there – part of an effort to boost local capacity in a more sustainable manner. The next mission to Rwanda will also be smaller and focus more on teaching two in-demand specialties: reconstructive urology and anesthesiology. In addition, 20 Rwandan children will undergo open-heart surgery in Saboo’s home city of Chandigarh. With travel funds from the Rwandan Ministry of Health, 30 Rwandan children have already received such operations there. According to Emmanuel Rusingiza, one of only two pediatric cardiologists in Rwanda, the country’s high rate of rheumatic heart disease, which generally results from untreated cases of strep throat, means the country has a waiting list of more than 150 children. “A big number of them are passing away,” he says. “It’s a very hard situation.”

As the mission in Kigali winds down, Saboo is already looking forward to the next one. With more Indian districts interested in sending doctors, and African districts interested in hosting them, he expects the number of trips to increase, even if his own attendance becomes less frequent.

Many mission participants, both first-timers and veterans, say they plan to return, though it sometimes entails a significant personal and professional sacrifice. Karvekar, whose own son underwent heart surgery in India just days before he traveled to Kigali, is one of them. “I’d wanted to go on one of these trips for a while,” he says, noting that the mission was his longest absence from his family’s private clinic, where he’s the only orthopedic surgeon on staff. “There were a lot of challenging cases, but fortunately we were able to do them well and, I think, give the patients a good result.”

“It is totally a labor of love,” adds Saboo, speaking for himself as well as the team of doctors. “When they come here, there’s no compensation. They come purely because they want to extend their services to humanity beyond their own borders.”

## Our Upcoming Meetings

| Date   | Venue            | Time         | Speaker/Occasion                                           | Chairman | Set-up & Welcome | Sergeant | Attendance |
|--------|------------------|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------|----------|------------------|----------|------------|
| 4 Oct  | Damien on Fisher | 6 for 6.30pm | <b>John Honan</b> Hubert Wilkins Story                     | SEvans   | RCarnachan       | secret   | HKilsby    |
| 11 Oct | Damien on Fisher | 6 for 6.30pm | <b>Eric Felgate</b> Lucky Country?                         | JCasburn | RElms            | secret   | RLaws      |
| 18 Oct | Damien on Fisher | 6 for 6.30pm | <b>Neil Jericho</b> Microeconomics of running own business | GMcleod  | SEvans           | secret   | DLiddle    |

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

**Apologies to:** Wendy Andrews by **e-mail** to [wendyjoyandrews@gmail.com](mailto:wendyjoyandrews@gmail.com) or in an emergency on 8377 7830

**Meeting Chair Enquiries to:** Secretary Greg McLeod on 0417 811 838 or email to [unley.secretary@rotaryclub.org.au](mailto:unley.secretary@rotaryclub.org.au)

**Venue Set-up/Bar Enquiries to:** Bulletin Editor – Stephen Baker 8377 7156 or M 0403 687 015

**Attendance Desk Enquiries to:** Wendy Andrews by **e-mail** to [wendyjoyandrews@gmail.com](mailto:wendyjoyandrews@gmail.com) or in an emergency on 8377 7830



## Upcoming Events

**Thursday 13 – 15 October: Days for Girls membership drive at Unley Shopping Centre**

**Sunday 23 October: Car cruise trial**

**29 November: Christmas Function at the Bombay Bicycle Club.....book by 18 November with Patsy**

**16-21 March 2017: Terrific Trip to Tassie, the journey of a life time**

## Saturday Thrift Shop Roster

| Week | Dates     | Early Shift: 10am to 12.30pm    | Late Shift: 12.30pm to 3.00pm          |
|------|-----------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| 1    | 1 Oct 16  | David Middleton & Jerry Casburn | (Bob Laws) & Robyn Carnachan           |
| 2    | 8 Oct 16  | Greg McLeod & Stephen Baker     | Wendy Andrews & Mavis Martin           |
| 3    | 15 Oct 16 | Nathan White & Vera Holt        | Pam Trimmer & Ken Haines               |
| 4    | 22 Oct 16 | Bob Laws & Pam Trimmer          | Sheila Evans & Ken Haines              |
| 5    | 29 Oct 16 | Bob Mullins & David Pisoni      | Jerry Casburn, Lachlan Reid, Reno Elms |

**Rotarians, who are unable to attend as rostered, please arrange a swap or as a very last resort contact:**

Pam Trimmer (T) 8293 2612; (M) 0415 238 333; e-mail: [pamela.trimmer@bigpond.com](mailto:pamela.trimmer@bigpond.com)

## 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 31 October Morning shift: 8.30am – 12.30pm Afternoon shift: 12.30 – 5pm**

## The Back Page

### GOOD TASTE

The kids filed into class Monday morning. They were all very excited. Their weekend assignment was to sell something, then give a talk on salesmanship.

Little Sally led off. "I sold Girl Scout cookies and I made \$30" she said proudly. "My sales approach was to appeal to the customer's civil spirit and I credit that approach for my obvious success."

"Very good", said the teacher.

Little Debbie was next. "I sold magazines" she said. "I made \$45 and I explained to everyone that magazines would keep them up on current events."

"Very good, Debbie", said the teacher.

Eventually, it was Little Johnny's turn. The teacher held her breath.

Little Johnny walked to the front of the classroom and dumped a box full of cash on the teacher's desk.

"\$2,467," he said.

"\$2,467" cried the teacher, "What in the world were you selling?"

"Toothbrushes," said Little Johnny.

"Toothbrushes," echoed the teacher. "How could you possibly sell enough tooth brushes to make that much money?"

"I found the busiest corner in town", said Little Johnny. "I set up a Dip & Chip stand and I gave everybody who walked by a free sample."

They all said the same thing; "Hey, this tastes like dog shit!"

I would say, 'It is dog shit. Wanna buy a toothbrush?'

"I used a politician's method of giving you some crap, dressing it up so it looks good, telling you it's free and then making you pay to get the bad taste out of your mouth."

Little Johnny got five stars for his assignment. Bless his little heart!



Mexican toilet paper

Rotary

