



Community Link

Providing a link between **your community** and **your local Rotary Clubs**. Issue 1, January 2012.



On top of the world:

Local Rotarians making a difference in Nepal

ALSO INSIDE:

- Rotary's Global Push to Eradicate Polio
- Pedal for a Purpose
- Sensational "Sensory" Garden for the Repat
- Another memorable Carols by the Rotunda

SA Police Officer of the Year Award



The **Rotary Club of Unley** is again seeking nominations for the **Police Officer of the Year Award**.

Since its inception in 1978, the annual South Australia Police Officer of the Year Award has sought to highlight the service provided to our community by the South Australia Police and recognises outstanding acts of courtesy, courage, kindness, understanding, compassion and devotion to duty by any member of the SA Police Department.

Each year's winner is chosen by the Rotary Club of Unley from nominations received from individuals and groups in the community.

For more information or to download a nomination form please visit unley.rotaryclub.org.au



SA Police Officers of the Year for 2010 Senior Constable Monique Anderson and Senior Constable First Class Ian Skewes

Making a Difference in Nepal

David Rusk, from the Rotary Club of Brownhill Creek, has an unwavering passion for the people of Nepal. The retired school principal recently led a group of Rotarians and their partners on a Rotary Friendship Exchange to this amazing country.

Whilst this was David's fourth trip to Nepal, it was a new and challenging experience for most of the touring party, who were hosted by members of the Rotary Club of Dillibazar, with whom the Brownhill Creek club has developed a sister club relationship. Kathmandu is very confronting, with much poverty, poor sanitation, persistent smog and deteriorating infrastructure.

The group arrived during the festive season of Tihar and shared in the celebrations and observed temples and rituals associated with the Hindu and Buddhist religions.

With Rotary's support, there are some dedicated people making a significant difference in running schools and orphanages, including a group of Nepali teachers who had previously been sponsored to visit Adelaide to learn from our Australian teaching practices. While in Nepal, David conducted a workshop for 270 local principals on school management & strategic planning issues.



David Rusk with Nepali student Akash

Rotarian sponsorship to the tune of \$200.00 per year is making a tangible difference to the school life of a number of local students, and a number of the visiting Rotarians were able to meet up with their sponsored students.



Nepali Rotarian, Prem Oli, founded the Blue Sky Public School in 1996, which now has 300 students and staff. Despite the challenging conditions students are immaculately dressed and constantly smiling. The population dance and sing at any celebration and their clothing is most colourful at festival times.

With the assistance of a Rotary Foundation Humanitarian Grant, the Rotary Club of Brownhill Creek supplied the school with a number of whiteboards and pin up boards, all of which were locally manufactured. David will be taking a group of students from Pulteney Grammar School to visit Blue Sky Public School in October, 2012. There are also more Rotarians from Dillibazar who would like to visit Adelaide on a Friendship Exchange in the future. His next project is to raise \$130,000 to erect a school at an Orphanage for Dalit (Untouchable) children.

Carols at the Rotunda



It's the Rotary Club of Unley's gift to the community...

The annual Carols at the Rotunda on December 11 in the Unley Memorial Gardens was again a sensational event. A crowd of around 1200 children, mums and dads filled the gardens to create a real sense of community participation. The program included magicians, clowns, face painting, a bouncy castle, the engaging Ticklish Allsorts, the fabulous Australian Army Band and their singers, the wonderful Australian Girls Choir, regular emcee Matt Noble, and of course there was the special appearance by Santa Claus with gifts for the children. The crowd was fed by a delicious sausage sizzle, soft drinks and espresso coffee provided by Unley Rotary and commercial partners.

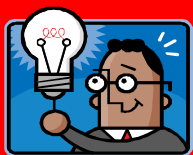
Pedalling for a Purpose: a ride from the MCG to Mitcham.



The Rotary Club of Mitcham are proud supporters of the "Pedal for a Purpose" cycling event, where from January 24 to February 2, 12 cyclists from Smallacombe Real Estate's Mitcham office, including Mitcham Rotarian John McRostie will be cycling from Melbourne to Adelaide to raise vital funds for Bedford Industries. The 1,079 kilometre course will take in the spectacular Great Ocean Road, raising awareness and funds for Bedford Industries to provide independent living facilities for its employees.

Welcome Home Party

The Rotary Club of Mitcham are also participating in an event to welcome the riders home on February 2 at the Soldiers Memorial Gardens on Belair Road (cnr Angas Rd) from 6.00pm. Contact Andrew Friebe 0407 811 662 for further details.



Got a bright idea? Let's hear it!

The most incredible projects usually originate from ONE SIMPLE IDEA.

How can Rotary help YOUR community? What needs do YOU think should be addressed? Have a think about putting YOUR Rotary Clubs to work. *Contact details on back page.*

Rotarians are ordinary people doing extraordinary things. People like Tony.

The Rotary Club of Brownhill Creek has recently inducted **Tony Ogbeide**. Tony was born in Nigeria in 1963, the first of 11 children, and migrated to Australia in 2003. He has worked in management positions in agribusiness and livestock industries in Nigeria and Australia, and also in the rubber industry with the Nigeria based Michelin Plantation Group as a senior manager. During his PhD studies at the University of Adelaide, he worked with the department of Immigration and citizenship and the Australia Taxation Office here in Adelaide. Tony has several qualifications including two Master degrees in Agribusiness and Business Administration, and is a member of the Nigerian Institute of Management.



Rotary arrived in Nigeria some 40 years ago and has since spread to all the states and cities in the country. Tony is a former member of the Rotary Club of Oregbeni. The contributions of Rotary in Nigeria are numerous and diverse at local and international level. It has been in the fore front in the polio eradication campaign in Nigeria. It is involved in the provision of potable water supply to communities and building future leaders through assistance in the formation of Rotaract Clubs in educational institutions. Other contributions include provision of traffic signs, wheel chairs and other mobility aids to disabled persons, donation of domestic/food items to charity and orphanage homes, building of Bus-stop and provision of scholarship to indigent scholars.

"I personally enjoy two things about Rotary...", says Tony, "The services it renders to humanity and the fellowship amongst members. It provides a forum to interact, gain and share experiences that are relevant to self development and to provide services to mankind through financial and intellectual contributions."

I love Australia particularly for the multicultural nature and for the level of its political maturity that allow the people to determine who rules them." Tony is married to Blessing with three children.

What extraordinary things could you do with your life? Rotary needs you!

Contact your local Rotary Club for more information. Club contacts are over the page.

A new "Sensory Garden" at the Repat, thanks to the Mitcham Rotary Club!

When the Rotary Club of Mitcham were approached by Judi Van Onsen, Allied Health Assistant at the Repat, to help with a sensory garden, the first question was, "What is a Sensory Garden?" Judi spoke at the Club and explained the concept was aimed at creating "garden therapy" for Ward 18 patients, who suffer from both psychiatric illness and dementia, often leading to behavioural problems. The club approved a budget for a 3 phase project through discussions with Judi and visits to the site. Phase 1 was the planting of fruit trees, phase 2 was planting masses of colourful plants, many with distinct aromas providing unique sensory stimuli. Rotarian Helen Gooley accompanied Judi on shopping expeditions for each of these phases. Phase 3 was concreting sections of the area to enable wheelchair access. A number of members including Club President Robert Nottage were out concreting on a 40°C day. Tables and chairs will also be purchased and an official opening is planned in March.



Unley Rotary Thrift Shop

130 Unley Road, Unley Ph 08 8172 0900
Mon-Fri: 10am - 3.30pm, Sat: 9.30am - 1.30pm
Let us put your unwanted goods to use to help others less fortunate. Items needed include: Books & Magazines, Toys, Clothing, Jewellery, Sporting Equipment, Cookware, Crockery, Cutlery, Household Goods, Soft Furnishings, Handyman & Garden Tools, Records, CDs, DVDs, Ornaments & Bric a Brac and Haberdashery.

Rotary Club of Brownhill Creek Car Boot Sale

at PASADENA HIGH SCHOOL OVAL
Daws Road, Pasadena
Second Sunday of the Month
Buyer entry: 8.00 am – 12.00 noon
Seller entry: 7.00 am – 8.00 am
Car seller \$10; Car+ trailer seller \$15

CONTACT Jock: 8278 7773
or Rob: 8379 9431

Rotary Club of Mitcham Secondhand Book Shop

Shop 2, 448 Goodwood Road,
Cumberland Park Ph 0458 918 507
Opening hours Mon-Sat 10.00am - 4.30pm
Come in and browse for Fiction, Mystery, Crime, Reference, Magazines, Hobbies, CDs, DVDs, Audio Cassettes, Videos
ALL REASONABLY PRICED
Donations of goods gladly accepted!

The Fight to Eradicate Polio

Thanks to Rotary and its partners, the world has seen polio cases plummet by more than 99 percent, preventing five million instances of child paralysis and 250,000 deaths. When Rotary began its eradication work, polio infected more than 350,000 children annually. In 2009, fewer than 1,700 cases were reported worldwide.

Rotary began immunizing children against polio in 1985 and became a spearheading partner in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) three years later.

Since 1988, Rotary International and its GPEI partners — the World Health Organization, UNICEF, and the U.S. Centres for Disease Control and Prevention — have worked to wipe polio from the face of the earth. A volunteer service organization of 1.2 million men and women, Rotary's main responsibilities are fundraising, advocacy, and volunteer recruitment. To date, Rotary has contributed more than US\$900 million to the polio eradication effort.

With over 33,000 clubs in more than 200 countries and geographical areas, Rotary is able to reach out to national governments worldwide to generate crucial financial and technical support for polio eradication. Since 1995, the advocacy efforts of Rotary and its partners have helped raise more than \$8 billion from donor governments.

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation is working closely with Rotary International in the fight to eradicate polio. It recently awarded US\$355 million in challenge grants to Rotary, which has pledged to raise \$200 million in response. The resulting \$555 million will support critically needed polio eradication activities.

Rotary clubs also provide "sweat equity" on the ground in polio-affected communities, which helps ensure that leaders at all levels remain focused on the eradication goal. Rotary club members have volunteered their time and personal resources to reach more than two billion children in 122 countries with the oral polio vaccine.

But the polio cases represented by that final one percent are the most difficult and expensive to prevent. Challenges include geographic isolation, worker fatigue, armed conflict, and cultural barriers.

That's why it's so important to generate the funding needed to End Polio Now. To fail is to invite a polio resurgence that would condemn millions of children to lifelong paralysis in the years ahead.

The bottom line is this: As long as polio threatens even one child anywhere in the world, all children — wherever they live — remain at risk.

For more information about Rotary's Polio Eradication campaign, or to donate, please visit www.rotary.org/endpolio

"If we all have the fortitude to see this effort through to the end, then we will eradicate polio."

Bill Gates, co-chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

Community Link is produced by your local Rotary Clubs

Brownhill Creek

Meets Tuesdays 6.00pm at the Edinburgh Hotel, High Street, Mitcham
Contact President Mike Reilly 08 8278 5513 or Secretary John Cawley 08 8276 4259
Email jjcawley@bigpond.com

Mitcham

Meets Wednesday 6.00pm at the Edinburgh Hotel, High Street, Mitcham
Contact President Robert Nottage 08 8351 0760 or Secretary David Jones 08 8276 7615
Email david.jones3@auspost.com.au

Unley

Meets Tuesdays 6.00pm at Tiffins on the Park, cnr George & Greenhill Road, Parkside
Contact President Sheila Evans 08 8266 7435 or Secretary Janet Singh 08 8462 1054
Email randj@adam.com.au

Enquires about this publication to Mark Huddleston Ph 0402 346 994 Email mark@sugarfreezone.com.au

