



Community Link

Providing a link between **your community** and **your local Rotary Clubs**. Issue 3, August 2012.



South Australia

Police Officer of the Year

Proudly sponsored by

Rotary Club of Unley

Honouring S.A.'s Finest: **Unley Rotary's Police Officer of the Year Award**



ALSO INSIDE:

- Rotary's Champion Fencing Team take on Monarto Zoo
- Indigenous Scholars presented at Government House
- Shelterbox - Rotary's Answer to Disaster

SA Police Officer of the Year Award



2011/12 President Sheila Evans, Rotary Club of Unley, with Carol Bristow & Assistant Commissioner Bryan Fahy.

Sergeant **Caroline Bristow**, the Murray Mallee Crime Prevention Section Supervisor stationed at Berri Police Station was announced as the recipient of the 2011 Police Officer of the Year award at a ceremony in Rundle Mall in May. During her 20 plus years in the Riverland, Carol has made major contributions to the Juvenile Justice Framework, Blue Light, and Neighbourhood Watch, and very often in her own time.

Carol was a driving force behind the successful "Calperum on the Land Program" which changes the lives of at risk juveniles through up skilling, lifting pride through success, and treatment for substance abuse. This program, which she continues to manage, was recognised with a Certificate of Merit at the 2011 Australian Crime and Violence Prevention Awards.

She was also the catalyst behind the establishment of E-business Watch which strengthens ties between local businesses and police and is contributing to more effective crime prevention.

This is the 34th year that the Rotary Club of Unley has presented the Police Officer of the Year Award. The club also held a formal dinner at the Glenelg Golf Club which was attended by Police Commissioner Mal Hyde, David Pisoni MP, former Police Officer of the Year awardees, and representatives of numerous Rotary Clubs.

Australian Rotary Health Indigenous Scholarship Presentation

The 2012 presentation of scholarships to SA indigenous students took place at Government House on Monday 28th May 2012. Many representatives of local Rotary



Clubs particularly those clubs that sponsor the students in the program were present. The Governor Kevin Scarce made the official presentations with Minister for Health John Hill and Minister for Indigenous Affairs Paul Caica in attendance.

The Indigenous Health Scholarship Program is a cooperative project between Australian Rotary Health and governments in Australia. It provides a scholarship of \$5,000 per year to assist indigenous students in health related professions - \$2,500 from Rotary with matching Government funds.



The project was first initiated by the Rotary Club of Mitcham through Geoff Bailey in 1999 to address the appalling health statistics of Australia's indigenous people and that having indigenous people trained as health care professionals to work with their own people may assist. In 2000 there were just 2 students sponsored. The program grew across other states and was officially adopted by Australian Rotary Health in 2003.

In 2012, 83 indigenous students across Australia are part of the scholarship program. Corporate partners in the program include Coopers Brewery, the Pratt Foundation and Woodside Energy.

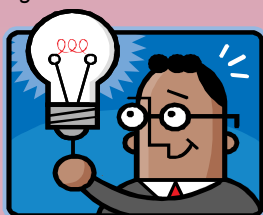
The concept of **Australian Rotary Health** is to raise donations and invest this money to provide grants for worthy research projects in the medical and health arenas.



Images - (Top) 2012 Indigenous students at Government House with Governor Kevin Scarce, Minister John Hill and Dick Wilson of ARH
(Right) - Project founder Geoff Bailey with his daughter Diane

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!



Got a bright idea? Let's hear it!

The best 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.



Penni for your thoughts...

Penni Hamilton-Smith, president of the Rotary Club of Mitcham, shares some of her thoughts on Rotary.

Penni first became involved in Rotary when she moved to Darwin in 2000. Not knowing too many people in her new home, it was her mother, a member of the Rotary Club of Eastwood, who suggested she give Rotary a go. After expressing an interest in joining the Rotary Club of Darwin North, a group of senior members met with Penni to explain how membership worked and answer all of her questions. One of these Rotarians was Earl James O.A.M., a well respected long time Darwinian who had been a surveyor and had surveyed most of the Northern Territory.

"I came to realise the calibre of people who are Rotarians, the kind of people who I would not come across in my daily life or in my profession as a Child Care centre manager.", says Penni. "It was a great honour to be accepted by this fine group of people. I was hooked. Rotary became the highlight of my week and my life. It was so much fun to be involved in community activities and to be a treasured member of such a wonderful group."

Penni returned to Adelaide in 2004 and her brother, an honorary member of the Rotary Club of Mitcham, introduced her to the club. Once again she was hooked. This club was very different, but with members who were just as warm, just as welcoming and just as special. *"Being a Rotarian is important to me. After my family and my work, Rotary comes next in my life. Because of Rotary I am able to assist the community in ways that I would never be able to alone. Because of Rotary I can have influence on the way that decisions are made about how and whom to assist. Because of Rotary my life is full of friends and of people who need me. I think of others rather than myself and am constantly challenged to become a better person. Rotary is an integral part of the community both locally, nationally and internationally, and that Rotarians all over the world are striving to make that world a better place."*

Penni works as an interviewer with Roy Morgan and is also a Civil Celebrant performing "hatch, match and dispatch" ceremonies.

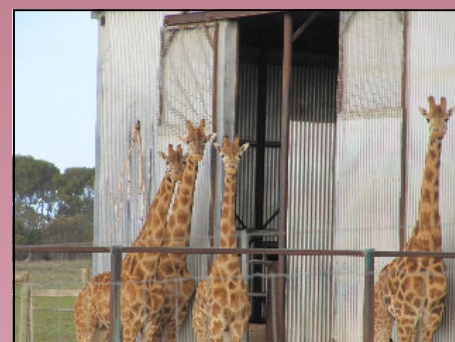
Rotary Fencing Team takes on Monarto Zoo

Rotarians from the Brownhill Creek Club have fencing in their blood. After co-ordinating a massive farm fence rebuilding effort in bushfire affected regions of Victoria, the club has thrown its support behind a long-term project at Monarto Zoo to restore and build on the region's original habitat. A secure feral free environment is vital to reduce pests such as feral cats, foxes and rabbits prior to the reintroduction of mallee fowl, dunnarts, pygmy possums and other species.

Two additions to the perimeter fence were purchased with a federal grant, but no provision was made for the erection of these fences and the job was too big a job for the many volunteers of the zoo. The Rotary Club of Brownhill Creek was approached to coordinate Rotarians for the task of installing upper and lower extensions to the 14km perimeter. Specifically, the task involved fitting around 150,000 clips securing the new fences to the old.

Rotarians started in April with a small number of people clipping manually, but later, with the use of two automatic clippers, and the assistance of members from other clubs, the team was able to complete much more in a day. The satisfaction of completing a day's work on a worthwhile project with old and new friends is what keeps Rotarians going.

So far the team have completed nearly 11 kilometres with less than 3 to go, and completion anticipated by the end of August. Over 1,000 hours of labour has been contributed by members of at least 6 clubs. This has been a wonderful project in a beautiful and tranquil location, with local animal and birdlife curiously watching on.



Unley Rotary Thrift Shop Makeover

Opening in October 1973, the Unley Rotary Thrift Shop has had several locations. Now at 130 Unley Road it has been the mainstay of fundraising for the club. Supported by Unley Rotarians and volunteers over its 39 years of operation, the shop has raised more than \$1.1 million and these funds have supported projects as diverse as building the Unley Soldiers Memorial Rotunda and bandstand, a joint project to build a day school for Northern Thailand Hill Tribes near Chiang Mai, the fight against polio and many, many more.

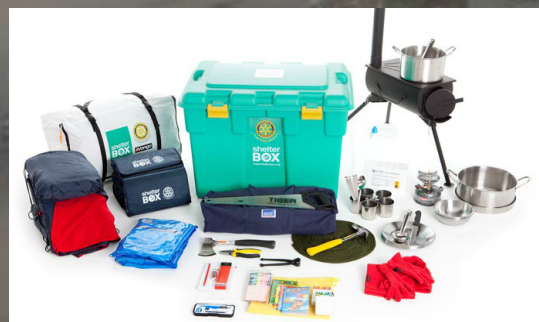
The shop has just undergone refurbishment with a freshly painted look, new carpet and shop fittings all donated or supported by Adelaide companies. The makeover will be completed in coming weeks with the repainting of the shop front. The shop is supported by donations from the public with a whole range of quality clothing, bric-a-brac, books, home wares and other items.

More information about the Thrift Shop can be obtained from the Unley Rotary website at <http://unley.rotaryclub.org.au/ThriftShop.htm>. The club welcomes enquiries from potential volunteers who could contribute some of their time to helping raise money for worthwhile humanitarian projects both at home and abroad.

Opening hours are Mon-Fri: 10am - 3.30pm, Sat: 9.30am - 3.00pm Ph (08) 8172 0900

When disaster strikes, Rotary is ready.

shelter
BOX



Shelterbox is an international disaster relief charity that delivers emergency shelter, warmth and dignity to people made homeless by disaster worldwide. It has grown from one club's adopted project to the largest global Rotary club project in the 107 year history of the organisation. Every year hundreds and thousands of families across the world lose everything when disasters strike. Through no fault of their own and often with no warning, families lose their homes, their possessions and their livelihoods. Every day they are faced with a battle for survival and our mission is to help them. We provide emergency shelter and lifesaving supplies for families around the world who are affected by disasters at the time when they need it the most. Rotary clubs all over the world sponsor Shelterboxes which are ready for deployment at a moment's notice. For more info please visit www.shelterboxaustralia.com.au

Community Link is produced by your local Rotary Clubs

Brownhill Creek

Meets Tuesdays 6.00pm at the Edinburgh Hotel, High Street, Mitcham
Contact President Lindsay Bowey 08 8276 6683 or Secretary John Rundle 0401 120 011
Email john.rundle@internode.on.net

Mitcham

Meets Wednesday 6.00pm at the Edinburgh Hotel, High Street, Mitcham
Contact President Penni Hamilton-Smith 08 8271 4314 or Secretary Andrew Atterton 0418 788 401
Email mitcham.rotary@gmail.com

Unley

Meets Tuesdays 6.00pm at the Public Schools Club, 207 East Terrace, Adelaide
Contact President Stephen Westgarth 08 8370 3969 or Secretary Mavis Martin 08 8178 0076
Email unley.secretary@rotaryclub.org.au

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