



Community



Link

Providing a link between your community and your local Rotary Clubs. Issue 6, July 2013.

The Changing Face of Rotary: Female Rotarians leading the way.



Also inside:

- Providing Life Saving Surgery for Children
- Daw House Hospice Pergola Project
- Rotary up and running in the Maldives

No longer a male dominated organisation.

Wendy Gaborit was recently appointed as the first female District Governor for our Rotary District. District 9520 is a region of 53 Rotary clubs stretching from Victor Harbor, through the Adelaide Hills, southern and eastern metropolitan Adelaide, Murray Mallee, Riverland, Sunraysia, and up to Broken Hill.

Rotary spent its first 75 years as a male only organisation. Whilst it is undeniable that women have always played an important role in supporting their Rotarian husbands and friends in serving the community, female membership was strictly out of the question. In 1976, the Rotary Club of Duarte in California admitted three women as members in blatant defiance of Rotary International's constitution. In 1978 after this club refused to remove the women from membership, Rotary International revoked the club's charter. The Duarte club filed suit in the California courts, claiming that Rotary Clubs are business establishments subject to regulation under California's **Unruh Civil Rights Act**, which bans discrimination based on race, gender, religion or ethnic origin, and in 1987 the United States Supreme Court confirmed the Californian decision. In 1989, at its first meeting after the 1987 U.S. Supreme Court decision, Rotary's Council on Legislation voted to eliminate the requirement in its constitution that membership in Rotary clubs be limited to men.

So 24 years later, how are we tracking in gender equality? Today, women make up approximately 17% of Rotary's membership base in Australia. That figure is clearly far too low, but why? There are a number of possible reasons, but by far the most likely is that so many people still see Rotary as an organisation for men only. It's a perception we are constantly battling to overcome. What's most interesting however, is the encouraging recent trend of women taking on leadership positions in our district. Almost half of our 53 clubs have women presidents, half of the eight Assistant Governors are women, and our newly appointed District Governor is for the first time a woman. We sincerely hope that the rapidly increasing proportion of women in our leadership positions will start to dispel the myth that Rotary is just for men, but we are starting to notice the added bonuses of women in leadership.

In the private sector, a link is increasingly being drawn between gender diversity in senior positions and performance. Studies show companies with higher levels of gender diversity outperform their competitors. Put simply by a former chairman of the US Securities and Exchange Commission, William Donaldson, ***"monolithic backgrounds are destined to foster monolithic thinking. Women add a differing and complementing perspective to that of men, allowing more innovative ideas to develop"***.

Involving women in Rotary is a lot more than simply a matter of gender equality. The benefits to Rotary of recruiting and retaining women members include improved club performance, enhanced relevance in our communities, and the increased attraction and retention of volunteers. An increase to member diversity also leads to an increase in project diversity. Female Rotarians have proven time and time again an ability to recognise differing areas of need within our community, needs which previously have remained unmet.



Wendy welcome in top job.

Wendy Gaborit is a Regional Manager with Housing SA, responsible for the strategic development of housing services and programs in southern Adelaide, ensuring the day to day management of approximately 8,000 properties, access to and provision of housing services for the community and oversees the wellbeing of some 63 staff. A typical work day involves numerous meetings and correspondence, a large email inbox, and plenty of travel from her home in Murray Bridge to and from Adelaide.

Wendy was introduced to Rotary through her stepfather who was a member of two Rotary Clubs, first Thebarton, and later Tea Tree Gully. She often found herself speaking to Rotary Clubs on Public Housing policy, programs and issues well before becoming a member. In 2003 following an unsuccessful bid to enter politics, Wendy made the decision to return to work in Murray Bridge and to connect with community, which meant joining a service club.

Rotary was the only option Wendy considered, she joined the Rotary Club of Mobilong in 2004, and was Club President in 2006/07.

We asked Wendy what she brought to this role as a woman. ***"I think everyone brings to the role their own skills and abilities, but women have a tool box full of soft skills, which I suppose my background as a social worker adds to. Women are known to be and acknowledged as great listeners, I think I have the capacity to listen, hear and reflect back, I have a consultative style."***, remarked Wendy.

"Appointment to the role of District Governor is very much an honour and one which places me as spokesperson for Rotary District 9520. I am mindful that I only occupy this role for 12 months, but I hope in that time the difference I bring will see Rotarians more engaged in the programs and opportunities open to them, and through their participation and service, to quote RI President Ron Burton, 'Able to do more, be more and give more to make their lives mean more. That's what Rotary does for us'."

RI President Ron Burton talks about the family of Rotary and the need for family to feature in and be part of one's Rotary experience. So where she can, Wendy invites her family to participate by sharing her travels via Facebook and up till now, every other Tuesday night has been family night. ***"I try to ensure special events are scheduled into the calendar and that there is time on weekends for catch-ups. Meetings in Adelaide are times to enable a pop in and cuppa with my 90 year old mother. But it is a constant juggle, and I am blessed with a very accepting family."***



You're invited to join the Rotary Club of Hyde Park for a **Bottomless Glass Wine Tasting Experience** at Maxim's on the Parade

(upstairs opposite Norwood Town Hall)

Sunday, August 11 from 2.00pm to 6.00pm.

Cost only \$10.00 to support the Rotary Club of Hyde Park's Leukaemia Project.

For more info please ring

Sam Savis on 0407 828 455 or Sandy Matz on 0414 747 657

Sergeant John Illingworth named SA Police Officer of the Year



(L-R) Rotary District Governor Roy Armstrong, Stephen Baker and President Stephen Westgarth (Unley Rotary), Sergeant John Illingworth & Deputy Commissioner Grant Stevens



Sergeant John Illingworth of the SAPOL Road Safety Section has been named SA Police Officer of the Year for 2012.

The Rotary Club of Unley has been presenting the Police Officer of the Year award annually since 1978. This 35th ceremony coincides with SAPOL celebrating its 175th birthday.

The purpose of the award is to provide a means by which members of the public may bring to notice outstanding acts of courtesy, kindness, understanding, compassion, courage or devotion to duty by any member of the South Australia Police. It is also a celebration of Australia's finest.

Sergeant John Illingworth joined the Force in 1979 and after some years of patrol work became a Police prosecutor. In 1988 he was promoted to Sergeant and handled prosecutions for a large area of the State from the Port August Station. In 2007 he was appointed as the Road Safety Program Coordinator.

His first task was to restore effective communications with the public through the media, which he managed particularly well with courtesy, understanding and humour. New programs were initiated dealing with better understanding of the road rules and human factors which affect driving performance. He has played a key role in guiding legislation to do with Street Racing and Graduated licensing. Road safety displays have been set up across the State including remote localities such as Moonta. Voluntary breath testing stations were set up at the Schoolies Festival 2012 which prevented 37 novice drivers taking to streets while under the influence of alcohol.

State Government programs such as its Road Safety Strategy 'Towards Zero Together', 'Living Neighbourhoods' which is about creating people friendly and safer roads, and 'Way2Bike Ed' have all benefitted from his advice and assistance

He is now in charge of the new SAPOL Road Safety Centre which he helped to design and which will play an important role in childhood road safety education. Recently he teamed up with Humphrey B Bear to develop a kids' road safety video. He has worked with the Royal Institute of Australia to meld road trauma case studies with science to achieve a better understanding of dangerous driving – secondary school science teachers are being used to sell the message in our schools. No demographic group in the state has escaped his efforts to improve road safety and drive down the death and injury toll.

He has been described as an excellent communicator through plain speaking and appropriate humour, an outstanding networker, inspiring, innovative, tireless, a team player, always helpful and highly effective.

Roving Lifestyles - 21st Century Fundraising...



Roving Lifestyles is an online shopping centre, raising funds for Rotary Clubs as commissions are earned from all sales.

Consumers enjoy special prices, merchants promote their products for free and Rotary benefits.

Roving Lifestyles is open to everyone seeking to shop well and help Rotary. For more info call (08) 7071 7298 or visit our website www.rovinglifestyles.com.au

RovingLifestyles

Live Well, Give Well

The Roving Lifestyles Wine Cellar is being launched this month with great deals from local boutique wineries. Delivery to your door is guaranteed!

Unley Rotary Thrift Shop

Let us put your unwanted goods to use to help others less fortunate. Items needed include: Books & Magazines, Toys, Clothing, Jewellery, Sporting Equipment, Cookware (no electrical goods thankyou), Crockery, Cutlery, Household Goods, Soft Furnishings, Handyman & Garden Tools, Records, CDs, DVDs, Ornaments & Bric a Brac and Haberdashery.

130 Unley Road, Unley Ph (08) 8172 0900 Open Mon - Fri: 10am - 3.30pm, Sat: 10.00am - 3.00pm



Rotarian Brian Huffen with Tomas and Uncle Pedro at Cleland Wildlife Park.



Rotary Oceania Medical Aid for Children (ROMAC) provides medical treatment for children from developing countries in the form of life saving and/or dignity restoring surgery not accessible to them in their home country.

ROMAC and the Rotary Club of Brownhill Creek are currently sponsoring Tomas from East Timor, who needs life saving surgery to remove a Wilms Tumour.

ROMAC accepted the challenge and together with the Rotary Club of Brownhill Creek took on the task of looking after 5 year old Tomas and his carer Uncle Pedro. They arrived in mid May to a very cold wintery reception and were taken to Samuel Way House at the

Women's and Children's Hospital (WCH) where they have been accommodated for the duration of Tomas's treatment.

On Medical examination including CT scans and a biopsy it was revealed that Tomas had in fact a very large kidney tumour and would have to have some very serious chemotherapy and radiotherapy treatment over the next 6-7 months, with an operation to remove his kidney and the tumour after the initial 6 weeks of chemotherapy treatment.

Tomas is a very fragile little boy whose world has been thrown into turmoil. To further complicate matters, his uncle Pedro had to return home recently and was replaced by Tomas's father Mariano, but Mariano cannot speak a word of English and as a result we have had to use interpreters in every discussion including how to use money and how to shop and use a telephone.

Mariano has taken a little while to settle in but is slowly coming to grips with things, having lived a subsistence existence in a remote mountain village about 4 hours drive from Dili.

Tomas has moved into Ronald McDonald House for the balance of his stay, and the Rotary Club of Brownhill Creek, together with some other clubs will look after their welfare by providing the financial assistance and taking them on excursions to places of interest around Adelaide. Tomas was enthralled by the kangaroos and koalas at Cleland Wildlife Park.

Rotary is saving Tomas's life with this treatment. ROMAC is and paying for the whole procedure including airfares and accommodation, and the Rotary Club of Brownhill Creek as the sponsor club, ensures that the day to day things are looked after. Find out more about this amazing work at www.romac.org.au

Mitcham Rotary Bookshop

All your reading needs for a long cold winter await you at our Secondhand bookshop at very LOW prices.

You will find something for all ages and from:

- General Fiction
- Classics
- Australian Authors
- Mystery
- Travel
- Hobbies
- Crime
- Animals
- Gardening
- Science Fiction
- Cookery
- History

Recent donations include LP records (\$1 each), Musical Scores and Sheet Music. **Come, browse, chat and buy!**

Supporting local Rotary projects for Local Schools, Bedford Industries and Daws Rd Hospital and overseas projects in New Guinea, Timor Leste and Tanzania and Polio Eradication.

Shop 2, 448 Goodwood Road, Cumberland Park
Ph 0458 918 507 rotarymitchambooks@gmail.com
Mon to Fri 10.00am – 4.30pm & Sat 10.00am – 4.00pm

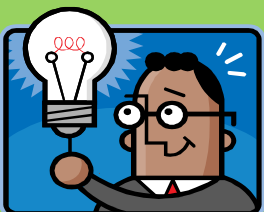


Need a hand with your catering?

The Rotary Club of Hyde Park can provide a BBQ Trailer complete with 2 cooks. Standard hire (including cooks) is \$75 per hour (minimum 3 hour charge of \$225).

THIS DOES NOT INCLUDE FOOD OR BEVERAGES. Other arrangements can be negotiated, but trailer is not available without Rotarians in attendance.

For more info phone Robert Cox on 0439 823 680.



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.



(L-R) Barb Adams, Rotary International President Sakuji Tanaka, District Governor Roy Armstrong, Don Will, Jack Garrett and Ahmed Ranesh on Villingili Island, Maldives.

Rotary - the greatest gift you can give a country.

The Nasandhura Palace Hotel on the foreshore of Malé Harbour was the location of the charter of the first Rotary Club in the Maldives, an event that would never have happened if not for the Rotary Club of Eastwood. This occasion was certainly one of the most significant in the Rotary World this year, as around 50 international Rotarians, including the Rotary International President Sakuji Tanaka, shared the excitement of 30 newly inducted Maldivian Rotarians embarking upon their career in Rotary service. The Maldives is the 207th country to become part of Rotary's international family. Four Rotarians from the Eastwood Club together with then District Governor Roy Armstrong, had the pleasure of being in attendance. It all started in 2011 when Maldivian student Ahmed Ranesh, studying in Adelaide, was invited to speak at the Rotary Club of Eastwood. The club was astonished to learn that there were no Rotary Clubs in the Maldives, and a number of members started the wheel in motion. Within 18 months their dream has been realised, working both from afar and also visiting the delightful island country in the middle of the Indian Ocean.

Despite the international image of a tropical paradise, there are many critical humanitarian needs in the Maldives. Many island communities are without safe drinking water. The improvement in education of marginalised students and resourcing of schools is also a priority. Now with local Rotarians to manage and ensure sustainability of any assistance that Rotary can provide, a new horizon has been opened up for International projects.

A desalination project to provide water for an island community of around 750 people has been conceived already, and with the financial assistance of the Rotary Foundation, and the Rotary Clubs of Eastwood, Magill Sunrise and Brownhill Creek, a total of over \$35,000 was found secured prior to the charter function. Subsequently other Rotary Clubs and private individuals are committing funds for another water project involving the repair work and training of an operator for a desalination plant on Keyahdoo Atoll which had been built, but sat idle for over four years. Australian Rotarians also recognised a need for rehabilitation equipment at a school providing education for several classes of disabled students alongside those more able. The Eastwood club is planning an innovative funding project for this school, and details can be found on that Club's website www.eastwood.rotaryclub.org.au

Rotary provides a new Pergola for Daw House Hospice.

The passing of a former President of the Rotary Club of Brownhill Creek led to that club contributing to the recent renovations at the Daw House Hospice. As a result of Berridge Hume-Phillips spending some weeks at the hospice, it was brought to light that its facilities were in need of funds for ongoing improvements.

Contributions made at the funeral of Berridge were directed by his wife Maralyn to the hospice, but the Brownhill Creek Club thought it could do more. An approach was made to Leanne Tripodi of the Daw House Hospice Foundation, to find out that plans were being developed to renovate many of the hospice facilities. In consultation with Leanne, the club agreed to put effort and funds into the replacement of the pergola to create a more suitable relaxation area for patients in all weather conditions.

The pergola was erected in March, and Rotarians started the preparation and painting of the outside area. With input from other Foundation sources the pergola area was rendered, painted, paved and furnished, changing it to an attractive relaxation centre. Brownhill Creek Rotary raised the \$6,500 it contributed through cooking BBQ's, selling Community Lottery tickets, car boot sales, and personal contributions from members.

The Daw House Hospice provides a positive and meaningful quality of life for people where cure is no longer possible. The Rotary Club of Brownhill Creek was delighted to contribute to such a cause instigated through one of its own members.



Rotary Helps Establish the Rosefield Men's Shed



It was a proud moment when Hyde Park Rotary President Sandy Matz handed over a cheque to John Carrangis at the official opening of the Rosefield Men's Shed on June 25.

After many months of discussions and meetings between Disability Services, Rosefield Uniting Church, The City of Unley and the Rotary Club of Hyde Park, this joint venture of the Rosefield Men's Shed, operating within the Highgate Park (formerly Julia Farr Centre) Main Building was opened by The Hon. Tony Piccolo MP, Minister for Disabilities.

The Men's Shed has been developed in order to support people in the surrounding community and at Highgate Park, to have a place to go to gather regularly, share friendship, and work with their hands to create and make small projects.

The Men's Shed is located on the ground floor of the main building and is very well equipped with excellent power and hand tools.

The Rosefield Men's Shed invites any interested person to join them on Tuesday mornings between 10.00am and 12.00pm. For further information please phone John Carrangis on 7073 1470 or 0478 074 238.

I believe in dreaming big. That's why I joined Rotary.

**Rob Pennicott,
Tasmanian of the Year, 2012**

Rob Pennicott is a Tasmanian Rotarian and founder of the award winning tourism business, Pennicott Wilderness Journeys.

Sustainability is a big part of Rob's business philosophy. He donated \$100,000 to a project to eradicate a feral species from Tasman Island, saving 50,000 seabirds annually.

In 2001, Rob circumnavigated Australia in a 5.4m rubber dinghy raising over \$290,000 for conservation, and helping Rotary's End Polio Now campaign. Like Rob, you can join Rotary to make a difference.

There's a club near you.



Community Link is produced by your local Rotary Clubs

Brownhill Creek

Meets Tuesdays 6.15pm at the Edinburgh Hotel, High Street, Mitcham
Contact President Judy McAdam 0417 821 011 or Secretary John Rundle 0401 120 011
Email brownhillcreek@rotaryclub.org.au Website www.brownhillcreek.rotaryclub.org.au

Eastwood

Meets Wednesdays 7.00am at the Royal Coach Motor Inn, 24 Dequetteville Terrace, Kent Town
Contact President Nhiem Lu 0415 863 220 or Mark Redmond 0400 560 251
Email eastwood@rotaryclub.org.au Website www.eastwood.rotaryclub.org.au

Hyde Park

Meets Wednesdays 6.00pm at the Hyde Park Tavern, Cnr Park Street & King William Road, Hyde Park
Contact President Sandra Matz 0414 747 657 or Secretary Gordon Wilkinson 0413 614 644
Email hydepark@rotaryclub.org.au Website www.hydepark.rotaryclub.org.au

Mitcham

Meets Wednesday 6.00pm at the Edinburgh Hotel, High Street, Mitcham
Contact President Sam Camporeale 0401 990 936 or Secretary Andrew Atterton 0418 788 401
Email mitcham@rotaryclub.org.au Website www.mitcham.rotaryclub.org.au

Unley

Meets Tuesdays 6.00pm at the Public Schools Club, 207 East Terrace, Adelaide
Contact President Greg McLeod 0417 811 838 or Secretary Mavis Martin 0408 399 834
Email unley@rotaryclub.org.au Website www.unley.rotaryclub.org.au

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

