



Community



Link

Providing a link between **your community** and **your local Rotary Clubs**. Issue 2, April 2012.

Mitcham's 50 Fabulous Years:

A local Rotary Club knocks up a half century of service



ALSO INSIDE:

- Victorian Bushfire Recovery - an Award Winning Effort
- \$5,000 available in Community Service Grants
- Group Study Exchange - Making Friends out of Strangers

DO YOU KNOW which of the world's creatures is responsible for the most human deaths?



A. Crocodile



B. Bear



C. Shark

or D. None of the above YOU'LL FIND THE ANSWER ON THE BACK PAGE ...

Mitcham's Magic Milestone

The Rotary Club of Mitcham has just chalked up a wonderful 50 years of service. Current and former members were joined by special guests at a magnificent celebration on March 23 2012 at the Glenelg Golf Club. The special guest speaker was former Channel 9 news presenter Rob Kelvin, who spoke of his experiences of 50 years ago as a young man in PNG. Two of the club's charter members, Lloyd Cranwell & Trevor Martin were in attendance, and received special recognition for 50 continuous years in Rotary.

The club has made many outstanding contributions to the community over these last 50 years, and many were illustrated in a photographic presentation. These include longstanding support for Bedford Industries, the donation of a community bus for Mitcham Council, the launch of an Indigenous Health Scholarships program and formation of the "Friends of the Urrbrae Wetland" to name a few.

Internationally it has supported a student at the School of St Jude in Tanzania for 9 years and helped two Vietnamese street boys as they trained as cooks in the KOTO program (Know One Teach One). Their interest in Youth has meant the club has hosted 23 Long Term Youth Exchange students and sent 32 local students to spend a memorable year studying overseas. Other local young people have benefited through leadership training courses and career advice.

It has chartered 3 other Rotary Clubs and many Probus and Senior Citizen Clubs in the district. The club's fundraising efforts to support these programs have included running the popular Rotary Fair in the Mitcham Reserve for 35 years and more recently have opened a second hand bookshop on Goodwood Rd.

Congratulations go to the current 42 members and all those 200 plus others who passed through the club, as they committed their time to "Service Above Self". Pictured to the right are 50 year Rotarians Trevor Martin (left) and Lloyd Cranwell (right) cutting the cake with organising committee member Mary Silver.



\$5,000 in Community Service Grants available

Do you have any plans for a project assisting the Mitcham community, but lack the funding or physical resources to make it happen? The Rotary Club of Mitcham is offering \$5,000 in Community Service Grants and/or 'hands-on' physical assistance from Club members.

Applications **closing May 16** can be sourced through our website at www.rotarynews.info/Club3763
Enquiries to mitcham.rotary@gmail.com or telephone **Robert Nottage** on **0407 717 313**.

The Rotary Club of Unley - Caring for Carers

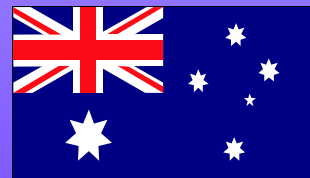
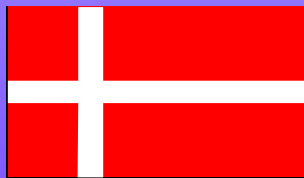
In South Australia there are 30,300 carers under the age of 25, with 14,800 of them under the age of 18. These young people take on a significant role and responsibility for the care of a sibling, parent or grandparent who is suffering from a chronic, physical or mental illness, disability or age frailty, or a member of their family who has an alcoholic or drug problem. In this role the young carer helps out with cooking, cleaning, shopping, dealing with services, transport and budgeting. They help with personal care which includes dressing, bathing, toileting and mobility. They often assist with purchasing and administering medication.

When Unley Rotarians learned that a three day retreat for 25 young carers had been scrapped due the removal of State government funding, the club decided to make this happen by contributing \$10,000. Rotary District 9520 also contributed a \$1,120 grant from The Rotary Foundation. A number of other local clubs also made cash contributions for the three day retreat at Hindmarsh Island, focusing on the 12-17 year age group, with the Goolwa club providing a beach BBQ on the last day.

It is vital that these young carers have a break from their caring role. They have networking opportunities, especially with those from remote areas, and also receive social and emotional support whilst learning how to carry out their caring role more efficiently. They are also put in touch with resources to receive some self help, and learn that they are not alone. Activities also include surfing, canoeing, high ropes and team games, many of which are undertaken for the first time.



Group Study Exchange



Making Friends out of Strangers

Sometimes we forget that Rotary International's second name is "International", but the Group Study Exchange program helps to remind us. This program is a way for young professionals to experience other cultures and observe how their own professions are practiced abroad. Led by an experienced Rotarian, young (non-Rotarian) men and women between the ages of 25 and 40 travel abroad as a small

team for 4 to 6 weeks to experience the host country's institutions and ways of life. The team is hosted by a series of Rotary clubs, usually for 4 or 5 days at a time, and members stay in the homes of Rotarians and get to experience their family life. A GSE team from Denmark recently arrived in our district and gave a presentation encompassing their own country, customs and professions to the Rotary Club of Brownhill Creek, one of the clubs hosting the team. Pictured above are the Danish team of Construction Manager Bertha Flensburg, Bank Manager Gitte Hammann Pedersen, Secondary Teacher Mai Bjorn Sandgaard-Laursen, Electrical Engineer Michael Villekjaer Fogh Nielsen, and team leader Rotarian Egon Jensen, a Physician specialising in stroke recovery. The team is flanked on the left by Rotary District 9520 Governor Bruce Richardson and on the right by Brownhill Creek President Mike Reilly. If you know a young professional who may be interested in participating in an outgoing exchange team, please contact your local Rotary club. Contact details on the back page.



I fell in love with a Rotarian, then I fell in love with Rotary.

Retailer, athlete, grandmother, and now Rotarian Briony Lyon shares some thoughts on her remarkable introduction to Rotary.

Briony has enjoyed a long and successful career in retail management, including jewellery and fashion in both Melbourne and Adelaide, and for the last 14 years has co-owned children's surf wear and accessories store "Surf n Stuff" with her sister-in-law.

She is also a sports nut, still competing nationally in masters athletics events such as javelin, discus, hammer and weight throwing, recently winning gold in javelin at the Australian Championships and setting W55 records in weight throw and the throws pentathlon. Briony also enjoys snow skiing, bush walking, bike riding, tennis, squash and netball.

Last year another chapter of her life commenced when she met Jerry Casburn, manager of a nearby supermarket. Jerry is a long serving member of the Rotary Club of Unley, and a senior Rotary leader at district level. In accompanying Jerry to numerous district and national level Rotary events, Briony was given an introduction to Rotary on a much broader scale than many members will ever see, including a leaders' seminar in Brisbane where she caught a glimpse of Rotary's global future. Briony was inducted as a member of the Rotary Club of Unley in February.

So what did Briony know about Rotary prior to meeting Jerry? "Service clubs were a bit of a blur to me. I thought Rotary was a local men's club that helped the community, but I never appreciated its internationality. After visiting Jerry's club it was like having a light switched on. These were my sort of people; men and women who were like minded individuals who enjoyed each others' company while doing good for others.

I love being a member of the Rotary Club of Unley. My current project is to revamp and increase the profitability of our Thrift Shop which provides the cash to support the major achievements of the club. I get a buzz from being with an international group that achieves major support for our local and international community, and also enjoy all the social activities the club has to offer."



Are you interested in joining the 1.2 million Rotarians worldwide who have fallen in love with Rotary? Call your local club now! Contacts on back page.



An Award Winning Recovery Effort

Our Rotary District (9520) has been recognised with the Victorian Premier's Fire Awareness Award for its Victorian Bushfire Recovery Project, managed by the Rotary Club of Brownhill Creek.

"What can we do to help?", was the question being asked by many local Rotarians in the aftermath of the devastating Victorian bushfires of 2009. Rotary conducted a survey of the affected regions in order to identify suitable projects to be financed by \$60,000 in accumulated District disaster funds donated by local Rotary clubs for bushfire relief.

Key aims for these projects were to assist as many people as practical and achieve the maximum possible value from the money pledged by utilising as many Rotary and community volunteers as practical in a hands on manner in a safe working environment.

The targeted areas included South Traralgon, Flowerdale, Callignee, Narbethong, Kilmore East, Alexandra, Wandong, Strath Creek, Kinglake and Pheasant Creek, where 5,000 km of fencing had been destroyed and many farmers had lost their livelihood.

In addition to building farm fences in conjunction with land owners, Rotarians worked on reinstatement and construction of a town walking trail, assistance with construction and installation of bird boxes, and offering assistance at an animal refuge centre.

The project was long and ambitious from its inception, but became more complex by its scale, distance between our local clubs and the affected region, the number of people involved, and the emotional toll of dealing with people who had suffered great and traumatic losses.

In total 530 volunteers were involved in \$1.2 million worth of fencing, construction and cleanup work, including 45 kilometres of fencing and the construction of three temporary dwellings.

District 9520 Rotarians demonstrated a remarkable ability to work with and form valuable community partnerships with other Rotary Districts, The Uniting Church and Landcare to achieve remarkable synergy and camaraderie in the process.

Pictured: (top) Rotarians collecting their Victorian Premier's Fire Awareness Award, (middle) working on one of many fencing projects, and (bottom) constructing temporary accommodation.





Due to malaria carrying parasites transferred by the mosquito, it is responsible for the deaths of more than two million people per year. In addition, mosquitos are estimated to transfer diseases to more than 70 million people per year.

SO, WHAT IS ROTARY DOING?

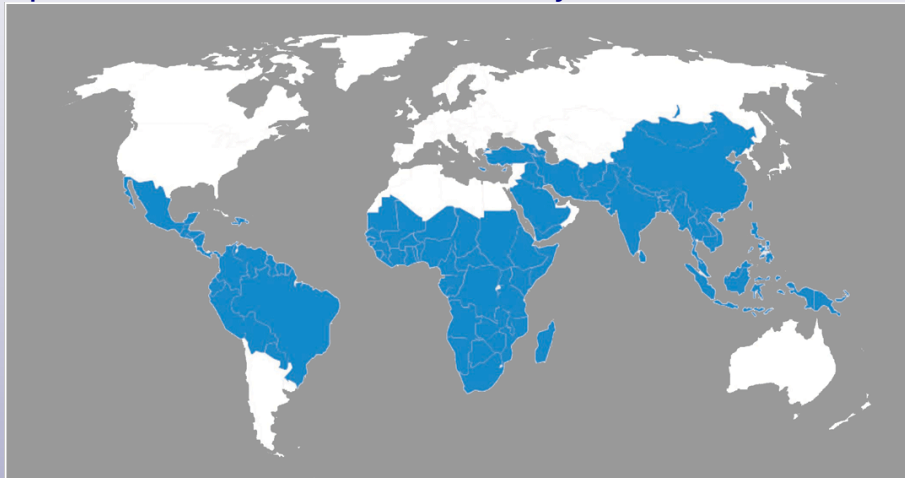
One of the best ways of preventing malaria is to avoid coming in contact with mosquitoes. This can be achieved by sleeping under a long lasting insecticide treated mosquito net. Treated bed nets have been shown to be over 70% effective in reducing the incidence of malaria in those areas in which they are able to be used.

Rotarians Against Malaria co-ordinates major bed netting and education programs in PNG and the Solomon Islands, and has also established village research facilities and malarial control programs. The "Adopt a Village" program was commenced in 2003, whereby Rotary Clubs or individual donors could sponsor the distribution of bed nets throughout an entire village, so every man, woman and child in the adopted village could sleep safely under a bed net each night. Since the inception of this program, contributions of over \$1 million have been received.

Its success in PNG has resulted in some areas of the country becoming virtually free of the disease. In the Western and Choiseul Provinces of the Solomon Islands where Rotary International provided focused grants, a reduction in the incidence of malaria occurred from about 330 cases per 1,000 head of population per year to less than 80 cases per 1,000 per year.

In addition funds will be available for the treatment of malaria victims using Artemisinin Combination Therapy or ACT. ACT is a very effective drug treatment but its widespread use is restricted by its cost.

April 30 is Malaria Awareness Day. To find out more or to donate, visit www.ramaustralia.org



Blue shaded areas indicate malaria endemic countries, and a PNG villager happy that his child will sleep safe under a bed net.

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!

Unley Rotary Thrift Shop

130 Unley Road, Unley Ph 08 8172 0900
Mon-Fri: 10am - 3.30pm, Sat: 9.30am - 3.00pm
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.

Community Link is produced by your local Rotary Clubs

Brownhill Creek

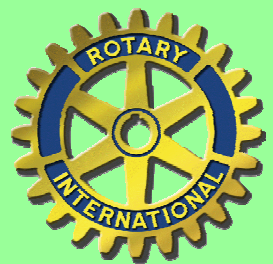
Meets Tuesdays 6.00pm at the Edinburgh Hotel, High Street, Mitcham
Contact President Mike Reilley 08 8278 5513 or Secretary John Cawley 08 8276 4259
Email jjcawley@bigpond.com

Mitcham

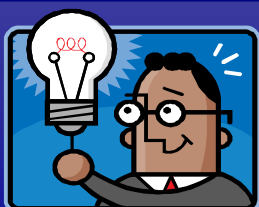
Meets Wednesday 6.00pm at the Edinburgh Hotel, High Street, Mitcham
Contact President Robert Nottage 08 8351 0760 or Secretary David Jones 08 8276 7615
Email mitcham.rotary@gmail.com

Unley

Meets Tuesdays 6.00pm at the Croquet Club, Unley Park Sports Centre
8 Northgate Street, Unley Park
Contact President Sheila Evans 08 8266 7435 or Secretary Janet Singh 08 8462 1054
Email unley.secretary@rotaryclub.org.au



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



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.