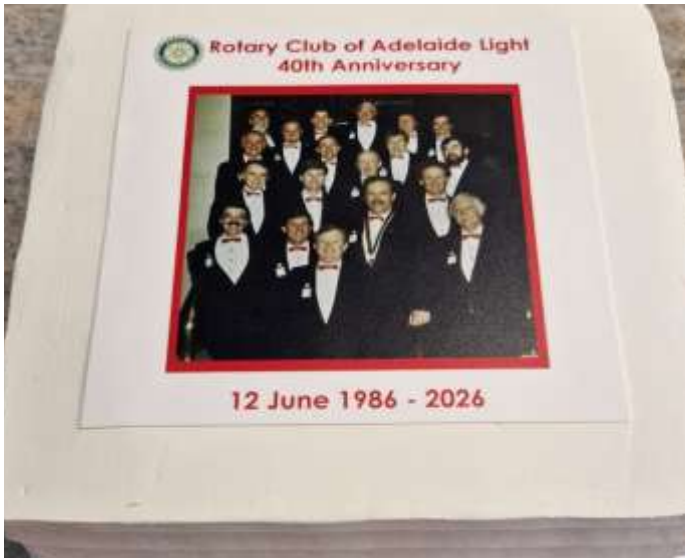




**Adelaide Light celebrates 40th Anniversary of Club Charter
and progress in completing our
three-village potable water project at Haemanu, Timor Leste**



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Logo top:

**Rotary International Theme
2025-2026**

Photo above:

**ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT
Francesco Arezzo**

Photo below:

**DISTRICT 9510 GOVERNOR
Rajeev Kamineni & Priya**



IMAGES FRONT PAGE

Top (see story P15):

- 40th Anniversary Cake with edible photo showing Adelaide Light Charter members and President Anthony (Tony) Reade—a few members were missing from photo due to non-attendance at the Charter breakfast.
- The Club's 40th Anniversary Celebrations were held at our annual Robert Burns Dinner—held two days prior to our actual Charter anniversary date of 12 June 2026. Cutting the cake (l-r) John Wotherspoon, Richard Jarrett, President Yvette Reade, Helen Smith, Paul Ensor and Rob McLennan.

Bottom (see story P10-11):

- Timor Leste's Sulamali project—now called the Haemanu project in its newly designed three-village form—is nearing completion. The Lo'oqueu Foho segment of the clean potable water system is now complete and supplying easy-access water to the villagers through a system of taps throughout the village and local school. The Haemanu three-village system with its two concrete storage tanks and pumps is almost complete with laying of the distribution pipework yet to be finished. A long wet season delayed the project's timeline.
- Each village household has agreed to contribute US\$50¢ per month towards system maintenance - Sulamali has 587 people (125 households) and Lo'oqueu Foho 355 people (89 households), Haemanu and another tiny nearby village (household numbers unknown). All the villagers are working together to help build the new water project, with the assistance of the Timor Leste Rotary and Rotaract Clubs.

2025-2026 EXECUTIVE TEAM AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS



L-r John Wotherspoon, Rob McLennan, Richard Jarrett, Ian Delaere, Kirsti Kankkanen, Bruce McDonald, Di Lane, Yvette Reade

President	Yvette Reade
President-Elect	Kirsti Kankkunen
Secretary	Di Lane
Treasurer	Bruce McDonald
Immediate Past President	Yvette Reade

COMMITTEE DIRECTORS

Club Administration	Richard Jarrett
Community Service	Kirsti Kankkunen
Vocational and Youth Service	Ian Delaere & Richard Jarrett
International Service	John Wotherspoon
Fundraising & Fellowship	Rob McLennan
Rotary Foundation	Di Lane
Membership	Rob McLennan
Public Relations	Yvette Reade
Master of Ceremonies	Rob McLennan
Rotaract Liaison	Ian Delaere
Newsletter Editor	Di Lane
Webmaster	Richard Jarrett
Child Protection/Public Officer	Di Lane

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2025-2026

Rotary is a worldwide network of more than 1.2 million people of action who tackle the most persistent problems in our communities while building professional and leadership skills through meaningful connections.

As I finish my third year in a row as President, I would like to acknowledge all the great work that each member of the RC of Adelaide Light has achieved thus contributing to the success of our Club, its projects both at home and internationally, and how we help to feed and clothe the local community in these trying times. It not only benefits the community – as we all get a great deal of joy in helping others.

With a proud **40 year Club history** – celebrated just a month ago – Adelaide Light has been active in a range of local and international projects including feeding those in need through Fred's Van on a three-week roster; providing the means for William's Wardrobe to provide much needed warm clothes and bedding to those on the streets; helping our migrant community with networking and conversation to help their chances of gaining employment while studying English in Adelaide schools; participating in "Rotary Says No to Domestic Violence" walks and events; supporting Afghan Cultural Days and Refugee support; and contributing a safe, calming haven to the many Catherine House women who have undergone domestic abuse.

Our Club is also active in forging new paths for today's youth – our Club supplies much needed funding to send young people to Rotary Youth Enrichment programs, Rotary Youth Leadership Awards, Rotary Youth Sailing Challenges, the National Youth Science Forum, indigenous health scholarships, and, last but not least, supporting Rotaract's young members. One of our upcoming projects will be a Youth Engagement Strategy idea formulated by our newest member who is also Youth & Vocational Director Ian Delaere; we're looking forward to enacting this initiative of Ian's.



Internationally, we are just about to complete our \$AUD70,000 (\$US50,000) project to provide **potable water in Timor Leste** – which is now benefitting three villages with clean water through a series of taps throughout their streets and into their schools – instead of the villagers having to walk up to a kilometre or two to their nearest water wells. All the details will be in our Annual Report, but I'd especially like to thank the four people who made this three year dream a reality. Firstly, three years ago, Kirsti Kankkunen told the Club about a Timor Leste tour being organised by Northern Australian-based Rotary District 9560. As a Past District Governor of 9650, Kirsti's father (and very active mother) were due to tour Timor Leste villages that were in need of financial help for various projects for schools, hospitals and villages in south-east Timor Leste. International Director John Wotherspoon, Kirsti and Rob McLennan decided to join this tour and the start of several toe-dipping projects began. This original tour resulted in our Club taking on two much needed infrastructure projects including a multi-function sports facility for a school, and a continuous water supply into a Birthing Clinic. Our current major project is providing potable drinking water to Haemanu's three-Villages in south-east Timor Leste. John Wotherspoon decided to engage the interest of the RC of Mitcham and Queensland's RC of Hervey Bay Sunrise, as well as our Club, to provide around \$AUD8,000 each to start the process of paperwork towards a

District Grant and then Global Grant - for which we have to thank our fourth person, the former Director Paul Jupp - who spent a great deal of time filling in the original submission, which was then passed on to John Wotherspoon. Our Timor Leste's three-Village tap system to supply clean continuous water is a project that all three Rotary Clubs in Australia should be pleased to have contributed funds to; we also had a great deal of assistance through the RC of Dili Lafaek and the Rotaract Club of Covalima in Timor Leste.

Our membership... Membership Director Rob McLennan will happily tell everyone that this year's membership was made up of 54% women/46% men plus five Honorary members, and with a balance of younger and older members. Our Club meet ups are at three different venues for breakfast, morning Coffee Catch-ups and a dinner each month plus our participation in wonderful projects such as tree planting and Cuppa Conversations with migrants - designed to suit every one of our members and "Friends"; and we have a diversity of projects for everyone to find their "niche" to help our various local and global communities.

On 28 February, we mourned the passing of one of our vibrant and resilient Rotarians, **Don Tindale**, who had been an active member for 40 years. Vale Don.

On the brighter side, we've had an exciting and fulfilling year.

In late May, under **Community Services**, we had a wonderful multi-bus trip to the Barossa Valley with migrants who attend our Cuppa Conversation monthly catch-ups (shown below). Organised by Kirsti Kankkunen and Lili Osario, our bus participants were from Colombia, Peru, Chile, Sri Lanka, India, Brazil, China and



Centre column top: I-r Paul Jupp and International Director John Wotherspoon holding the plaque to be placed near one of the tanks being built for the three-Village Haemanu water project.

PRESIDENT 'S REPORT 2025-2026 contd.

Greece – all of them loving the opportunity to leave the city and explore the delights of a Lavendar Farm, winery and the beautiful scenery of the Barossa. It's always so good to see these connections growing, people of all nationalities sharing stories and laughter while we learn about their countries and they learn about Australia from us.

Our **fundraising**, led by Rob McLennan with help from John Wotherspoon, has been outstanding. Without funds, our projects wouldn't be possible, so I wish to thank everyone for volunteering to sell Christmas Tree, promote wine sales, and cook and serve at our Bunnings BBQs. I also wish to thank our volunteers who staffed Fred's Van to feed the homeless; and the continuation of mentoring our two Afghan families.

We also **donated \$11,000** to important programs such as End Polio Global Fund, "New Dawn" Ukraine Crises fund, Australian Rotary Health, Rotary Oceania Medical Aid for Children, Shelterbox, Afghan Girls Learning, the Afghan Culture Day Celebration, and the Naloio Childbirth Hospital in Zambia. A further \$2,500 went towards our Indigenous Health Scholarship.

I'm sure we're all looking forward to another exciting year of Rotary action. But along the way, we'll have great social events so that all our members can have relaxing and fun get-togethers at Quiz Nights and dining events.

I wish to thank our Rotary partners and "Friends of Rotary" who continue to support our Club throughout the year.

My thanks for the honour and privilege as serving you as President of this Club; it has truly been my pleasure to work with such a Board of Directors, Secretary and Treasurer and other Office Holders who make this Club run like a Swiss Watch.

I thank all the members sincerely for their ideas, encouragement and unending support.

I look forward to passing the Presidency on to Kirsti Kankkunen and the Incoming Board of Directors, and know that the future of Adelaide Light Club is in good hands.



Above and top right: At last year's Changeover, we were delighted to welcome visiting Rotarian Dins Sumerags, his wife Dzenifere and 3yo son Rodrigo to our dinner. Having emailed each other, I found out that apart from being an Ear, Nose and Throat surgeon, Dins was an opera singer and Dzenifere was an accomplished jazz pianist. They both happily agreed to perform at the Changeover dinner—and they were a huge success. Rodrigo was the perfect little gentleman—he was obviously very used to sitting quietly while mum and dad were performing!

Photo bottom right: Pet Portrait artist Yvette (in her spare time) presented Deborah (and John) Wotherspoon with a portrait of their dog and daughter's dog as a thank you for allowing Rotary Board meetings to be held in their home every second month—as it was far more central venue for the majority of Board members to attend.



CLUB ADMINISTRATION

by Richard Jarrett, Director

Club Service covers all aspects of club administration and relies on input from a number of our members.

For the last year, the Club has been meeting for breakfast on the second Thursday of each month at the South Terrace Croquet Club, and then on the fourth Thursday of each month for dinner at the Kent Town Hotel. This has proved to be an excellent move. Across 25 meetings for the year, attendance from 1 June 2025 to 30 June 2026 fluctuated from 6 to 14 members, averaging 10 per meeting, a little down on last year.

Our Club maintains an online presence across several platforms. Our webmaster, Richard Jarrett, maintains our formal club website on ClubRunner, where member records, photos and stories are maintained. This includes an extensive list of Friends.

This allows us to maintain email contact with members and friends and is where Di Lane does an excellent job as Editor of our weekly Newsletters. Our Newsletter is currently sent to 98 members and Friends.

John Wotherspoon maintains our more outward-looking website at rotaryadelaidelight.org, while several others (usually Kirsti Kirkkunen, Paige Honor and Lili Osario) post regularly to our Facebook page. Lili also maintains the WhatsApp group associated with our monthly Cuppa Conversation meetings on, generally, a Saturday morning, as well as special activities such as an annual bus trip to a special tourist location an hour or two from Adelaide.

A regular supply of speakers is provided by Helen Smith, while Rob McLennan maintains the links with our venues and also takes and collects orders for our breakfast meetings. Yvette Reade makes up our croissants for the monthly breakfast meetings.

My thanks to all these members for their contributions to the smooth running of the Club.

Club Service is also responsible for keeping a record of volunteer hours across the year.

Hours for the following activities are shown (estimates in some cases) with a total of 1,354 volunteer hours across the period 1 June 2025 to 30 June 2026, almost the same as last year:

- **Barbecues:** For the period, the Club ran 14 barbecues and participated in 12 joint barbecues with RC of Norwood at Bunnings Mile End (756 hours).
- **Christmas Tree Sales:** This year trees were sold over three weekends at just one venue, Bunnings Kent Town (90 hours).
- **Fred's Van:** has become a regular activity, with four people involved on a Wednesday evening every three weeks (216 hours).
- **Mentoring:** Members spent time with our refugee families, primarily in English language practice (156 hours).
- **Cuppa Conversation:** This is our welcome program for recent arrivals in Australia and has been held on seven occasions, with Lili Osorio undertaking the organising over most of the last year (136 hours).

Photos, clockwise from top:

- Guest speaker Warren Vance spoke on his restoration work on an old Mintaro cottage to house his imminent Museum of Early Cinema. Warren, a mixed-media artist, has been collecting old projectors, cameras and illustrative posters on the early days of cinema to display in the Museum due to be opened in mid to late 2026.
- A well-earned break for our ultra-busy 2nd BBQ shift at Bunnings Mile End.
- The Coffee Catch-up venue (the White Picket Café, Dulwich) where we meet informally two or three times per month. L-r Secretary Di Lane, International Director John Wotherspoon, President Yvette Reade, Fundraising & Fellowship Director Rob McLennan, member Elaine Reade, Honorary Member Graham Smith, and Honorary Member Don Tindale.
- One of our Breakfast meetings in the clubrooms of the South Terrace Croquet Club.



CLUB ADMINISTRATION contd.



A quick snap-shot of our Rotary year

Clockwise from top left:

- Paul Jupp (second from left) and John Wotherspoon (right) liaising with South Coast Timor Leste villagers on future projects
- One of the many delightful Cuppa Conversations
- Tree planting with Cuppa Conversationalists and member Bruce McDonald (standing) at the Bonython Park tree planting project
- Sipping wine at Gibson's Wines in Barossa Valley—a special Cuppa Conversation bus trip to this idyllic valley
- Members Lili Osario and John Wotherspoon (at right) with one of our Cuppa Conversationalists at Gibson's Wines
- DGE Rajeev Kamineni and President Yvette Reade with guest Rotarian Dins Sumerags, his wife Dzenifere (centre) from Riga, Latvia
- Visiting Rotarian Michael Eustace from RC Dublin Fingal, Ireland. Michael and his wife Penny "jumped ship" in Adelaide on their 93-day cruise to attend our Club meeting and became the night's guest speakers on Michael's Life & Times.



COMMUNITY SERVICE

by Kirsti Kankkunen,
Director

Overview

The Community Service Committee continued to strengthen community connections and deliver meaningful service throughout the year. Activities focused on migrant and refugee support, homelessness services, domestic violence awareness, community engagement events, and partnerships with local organisations. The committee maintained a strong hands-on approach while exploring new opportunities to address emerging community needs.

Community Connection and Inclusion

Cuppa Conversation Program

The Cuppa Conversation initiative continued to provide a welcoming environment for migrants to build social connections and practise conversational English.

Several successful gatherings were held throughout the year at various venues across Adelaide, attracting participants from Colombia, Peru, Chile, Sri Lanka, India, Brazil, China, Greece and several cultural backgrounds. Attendance remained strong, with many new participants joining



throughout the year, and feedback received was positive.

The highlight of our Cuppa year was our day trip to the Barossa Valley with stops at the Whispering Wall, Lyndoch Lavendar Farm and Gibson Wines. This trip was attended by 24 migrants and 10 Rotarians and was a very enjoyable day out.

We now have a strong organising committee comprised of Lili, Alison and Pricilla, a previous Cuppa attendee and friend of the club, and for the year ahead are looking to further broaden our diversity of attendees, encourage more Rotary clubs in the area to join us, and continue a mix of Saturday and Sunday activities including coffees, but also hiking, a Haigh's tour and another day trip.

Cuppa has truly been a successful and unique project that sets our club apart from others, and I am very proud to have been a part of it from the start.

Fred's Van



Support for Fred's Van remained one of the committee's core service commitments.

Achievements included:

- Maintaining a volunteer roster throughout the year, including recruitment of new volunteers.
- Consistent participation in meal service operations.

- Regularly serving between 50 and 90 companions at each shift.
- Distribution of 70 Christmas gift packs on Christmas Eve, which were warmly received.

Ongoing collaboration with community partners and corporate volunteers.



The committee continued to observe increasing demand for homelessness support services, particularly during the summer period.

William's Wardrobe Partnership



A significant new partnership was established with William's Wardrobe, a small not-for-profit organisation that clothes and provides toiletries and bedding to the homeless and disadvantaged in the city. It began just after Mother's Day in 2020, as a legacy to part-founder Cathy Cunningham's son, William, who lived on the city streets for two years and sadly took his life in February 2020.

A range of support options were investigated and it was agreed in consultation with William's Wardrobe that the club would provide an annual monetary donation over three years to support the running and servicing of the William's Wardrobe second-hand van. Members also generously donated bars of soap on Christmas Eve, an item in need by all who access the van and usually

Left column top: Alison, Paul, Gibson Wine's staff and Rob enjoying the convivial atmosphere at Cuppa Conversation Barossa Valley

Left below: Eight of Cuppa's migrant attendees enjoying one of the many reds and whites offered for tasting before boarding the buses back to Adelaide.

Centre and top right : Fred's van volunteers Pat, Liz and Paul J, and Liz with a RCAL volunteer

Above: Kirsti receiving a Certificate of Appreciation from Cathy Cunningham and a volunteer



COMMUNITY SERVICE contd.

needing to be purchased.

The partnership aligns closely with the committee's commitment to supporting vulnerable members of the community and complements its work through Fred's Van.

Catherine House Partnership

The committee maintained its long-standing relationship with Catherine House.

Activities included:

- Completion of a volunteer gardening working bee involving ten volunteers.
- Ongoing communication regarding future volunteer opportunities.

Exploration of furniture and garden improvement projects, including a new low-maintenance garden makeover project, whereby financial and volunteer support is being sought.

The committee recognised the value of maintaining an active relationship with Catherine House while supporting practical projects that improve the living environment for residents.

Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention

The committee remained actively involved in initiatives supporting domestic violence awareness and prevention.

Rotary Says No to Domestic Violence Walk



Our club participated in the annual Domestic Violence Awareness Walk in October 2025. It attracted approximately 650 participants and generated strong community engagement, positive feedback, and some media coverage. The event also saw increased participation from community organisations and was effectively delivered with the support of Rotary volunteers, including Rob, our resident MC.

The committee also continued support through:

- Collection and donation of mobile phones for women escaping domestic violence.
- Participation in metropolitan Rotary

events focused on domestic violence prevention.

Engagement with organisations supporting women and families affected by violence, particularly Catherine House.

Refugee Support and Afghan Cultural Day



The committee continued to stay connected with Erfan Abidi's and his brother's families as they further settled into the community. The club sponsored Erfan's niece 16yo Rasa's participation in the Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment (RYPEN) and the committee celebrated her scholarship to attend St Michael's College. Erfan's nephew Musadiq (15yo) also successfully transitioned to Roma Mitchell High School.

In February 2026, the club sponsored the Afghan Cultural Day. Members who attended described the event as an outstanding celebration of Afghan culture, history and community. The sponsorship was formally recognised during the event, strengthening relationships with the SA Afghan community.

With the help of Erfan and his connections via his work at the Australian Refugee Association (ARA), we have started to explore new projects including refugee swimming lessons (given that a large proportion of people who drown in SA are of migrant/refugee backgrounds) with Afghans over-represented. Our club is also considering how we, in conjunction with others in the district, can support the ARA Drive Program. This program has a long waiting list (~100 people) and aims to give refugees access to cars and trained volunteers to build up driving practice.

Cultural Cooking Class

Planning has commenced for the next cultural cooking class designed to promote social connection and cultural understanding. An Afghan cooking class was selected as the next event, building upon our established friendship with the Abidi family and club members wanting to know more

about how to cook delicious Afghan food. This event will be held on Sunday 16 August 2026.

Tree Planting

Our annual tree planting morning with The City of Adelaide was held in the Bonython Parklands (see photo below) with a large contingent of Cuppa Conversation members attending to help on the day. Afterwards, we transitioned to the Parklands Café for something warm to eat and drink.

Summary and Looking Ahead

The year was characterised by strong community engagement, practical service and meaningful partnerships through a diverse range of projects. We have continued to make a positive contribution to the lives of migrants, refugees, people experiencing homelessness, women affected by domestic violence and other vulnerable members of the community.

The committee thanks all Rotary members, volunteers, partner organisations and community participants whose commitment and generosity made these achievements possible.

As we look to the 2026-2027 Rotary year we hope to continue and expand our established projects and partnerships, as well as develop some new ideas and projects targeting the needs of the local community. Continuing to identify opportunities for collaborative Rotary service projects will also be a focus.

Rotary Says No to Domestic Violence Forum dinner

Photo left column: Six members and a guest from Catherine House attended the DV Forum to listen to guest speakers Sally Willoughby (abused by family member over many years) of the RC of Murray Bridge, Paul Della (RC of Glenelg) and current Chair of the D9510 DV Walk Committee, Emboden's Stacey Nelan and The Hon Katrina Hildyard, Minister of Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence.

Tree Planting at Bonython Park

Photo below: Volunteers from Cuppa Conversation joined Rotary members to help plant hundreds of trees and shrubs.



INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

by John Wotherspoon, Director



Our focus this year remained on our Timor Lesté projects with construction activity in earnest as tropical weather allowed. The \$66,399 of project funds involved \$19,080 of Global Grant (USD12,000), \$15,900 as District 9510 Grant (USD10,000), \$7,950 as District 9560 Grant (USD 5,000) and three Club donations of \$7,823 each from RC Mitcham, RC Hervey Bay Sunrise and our own project coordinating Club (RC Adelaide Light).

Timor Lesté

From 2-10 October 2025, Paul Jupp and John Wotherspoon organized a second Timor Lesté Study tour, escorted by Dili Lafaek Rotarians. We visited the village water supply projects near Suai on the south Coast, inspecting other project possibilities at every stop along the way. Each time, local folk plied us with their pressing needs, assuming we'd brought an open cheque book. Paul and I decided we must compile a list of each such project with its estimated cost and once back in Dili, we presented it to Dili Lafaek Rotary Club, expecting them to prioritise these as future tasks (no feedback as yet).

Sulamali and Lookeu Foho village water: after former project manager Mersu's untimely death, his business partner, José took over this work. In doing so, the Sulamali water system task was reimagined to include nearby Haemanu village and another small village. As those three villages are close together, the villagers wanted to include them in the project. When project leader José and Dili Lafaek Rotarians examined it, they concluded it could still be done and still remain within budget. So, the Sulamali project is now called the Haemanu project in its newly designed three-village form. Work proceeded

throughout the year with supervision by José and his team with help from villagers whenever the weather and worker availability allowed. However, wet season rains delayed work for prolonged periods. The Lo'oqueu Foho water system is now complete and supplying easy-access water to the villagers. The Haemanu three-village system with its two storage tanks was almost complete with laying of the distribution pipework yet to be finished.

Project Background

During the time of occupation by Indonesia and up until now, the Sulamali, Haemanu and Lo'oqueu Foho villagers have not had access to near-by clean water. Village communities and all local leaders sought help to find a solution to this problem. The Sulamali community had only one existing water well.

The community leaders of Sulamali and Lo'oqueu Foho and all their communities have agreed on creating a more accessible water system, working together to help build a new water project, fully understanding its aims and benefits.

As the project beneficiaries, villagers are working with Dili Lafaek Rotarians and Covalima Rotaractors to complete the project. Village communities have committed to work together and take responsibility for all future water maintenance to sustain a healthy life for them all. Each village household has agreed to contribute US\$50¢ per month towards system maintenance - Sulamali has 587 people (125 households) and Lo'oqueu Foho 355 people (89 households).

How has water been provided? In each village a 15m deep water well with good quality water about one kilometre from the village would be capped and fenced to minimise later pollution risk. After Chlorine bombing to cleanse the well, a submersible pump was installed in each and connected to 40mm poly pipe laid underground by the villagers under supervision by RC Dili Lafaek about 200 metres up to an elevated 5,500kL tank on a nearby hill. From that tank another 40mm poly pipe was laid underground about one kilometre, providing gravity feed to public taps installed at regular intervals along the village roadside and to each school.

The villagers will be trained to operate the pump, maintain the whole water system and gather the US\$50¢ household contributions.

Local government has agreed to provide and pay for electricity to run the pump at each village; this commitment was confirmed with Dili Lafaek Rotary and Covalima Rotaract, and



*Top left: John Wotherspoon and Paul Jupp with southern coast villagers
Above: Preparing to lay pipes*

Photos Page 11—

*Top: Form-work for Lo'oqueu tank
Below Adelaide Light-produced stainless steel plaque being fitted in front of Haemanu's second tank*

during a meeting with Adelaide Light and many other study tour Rotarians in May 2024.

Other donations to International projects by our Club in 2026-26 were:

- Rotary World Community—New Dawn UK Crisis \$1,000
- Afghan Girls Learning \$1,000 and Afghan Culture Day Celebration \$500
- Naloio Childbirth Hospital in Zambia \$500
- ShelterBox \$1,000
- ROMAC \$1,000
- to a total of \$5,000.

INTERNATIONAL (contd)



PHOTOS TAKEN AT LAST YEAR'S CHANGEOVER



Changeover dinners are a great way to celebrate all the achievements of the year—especially if you are visited by international guests from a town near Riga, Latvia – Rotarian Dins Sumerags, his wife Dzenifere and 3yo son Rodrigo (photo at top)—and having these professional musicians playing and singing on the night.

(Above clockwise from left) Handing out “Certificates of Thanks” to Erfan Abidi, Lili Osario, Paige Honor and Angus Tuck; Paul Ensor and Linda Sampson; Paul Jupp singing the “Toast to Australia”.



Left and below: DGE Rajeev meets Rotarian members and guests; plus various photos of members and guests mingling before and after the Changeover event.



YOUTH AND VOCATIONAL SERVICES

by Ian Delaere, Director (& Richard Jarret, Co-Director for first six months)

2025-2026 has been a year of consolidation across our established youth programmes alongside the early development of a broader strategic approach to youth engagement. The committee extends its thanks to immediate past Director Richard Jarrett and President Yvette Reade for their continued support during the transition.

Rotaract



Richard Jarrett, Yvette Reade and Erfan Abidi represented Adelaide Light at the Adelaide City Rotaract Club changeover on 27 July 2025, maintaining our strong partnership with the club we founded in September 2012. Several guest speakers spoke on Peace Poles (Grant King, Adelaide), Talk Out Loud (Mary Galouzis and TOL camp/program attendee Montana). Nic Egan was congratulated on becoming Rotaract Australia Chair 2025-26; and Steph is taking on the role of District Rotaract Liaison this year.

Above: Photo of newly elected President Chetana Ananthanarayanan with PP Steph Hopkins.

Rotary Youth Sailing Challenge

The Club registered its interest in sponsoring a student for the September 2025 voyage aboard the "One & All", but did not receive a response from the programme coordinators. We remain open to participating in future years and will follow up proactively ahead of the 2026 intake.

RYPEN – Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment

The RYPEN residential camp was held Friday 29 August to Sunday 31 August 2025 at Nunyara Conference Centre.

Adelaide Light was pleased to sponsor Rasa Abidi as a participant. Rasa, joins the growing list of young people whose lives our Club has touched through this program.



RYLA – Rotary Youth Leadership Awards



RYLA 2025 was held Saturday 20 September to Friday 26 September. This year Adelaide Light sponsored Madhav Aiyappa, who was identified and interviewed by Ian Delaere and Alison Carter at one of our Cuppa Conversation events—a pleasing example of our community programmes could be used to feed into our youth pathways.

Richard Jarrett and Alison Carter (shown above with Madhav) attended the RYLA graduation to celebrate Madhav's achievement. The Club contributed \$1,150 towards this sponsorship.

NYSF – National Youth Science Forum

Adelaide Light contacted the NYSF to offer sponsorship for the January 2026 programme. Unfortunately no response was received and the sponsorship did not proceed this year. We intend to re-engage earlier in the 2026-2027 cycle to ensure a student can benefit from this outstanding science leadership experience.

Indigenous Health Scholarship

The Club continues its five-year commitment to the Australian Rotary Health Indigenous Health Scholarship programme, co-funded with the SA Department of Health (\$2,500 per annum). This year we sponsored Sarah Browne, who is undertaking a Bachelor of Paramedicine at Flinders University. Ian Delaere and Kirsti Kankkunen serve as joint mentors, though engagement with Sarah is yet to commence and will be a priority for the coming months.

Gilles Street Primary School

Following the success of last year's Beach Safety program sponsorship (\$500), Adelaide Light again signalled its willingness to support Gilles Street Primary School's activities with their predominantly migrant and ESL student community. No request has been received to date, but the relationship remains active and the offer stands.

Looking Ahead: Youth Engagement Strategy

The committee has begun scoping a broader youth engagement strategy for the Club, with the aim of building a more structured and self-sustaining pipeline for engaging Adelaide's 20–30 year old demographic. Early thinking is centred on leveraging the Club's most distinctive asset: structured access to established professional networks—something that digital platforms and peer networks cannot replicate. More detail will follow as the strategy develops during the year ahead.

MEMBERSHIP

by Rob McLennan, Director

Alison Carter and myself attended a Membership Strategy Forum that highlighted clubs need to be much more flexible, less formal and place a much greater emphasis on projects rather than meetings if they wish to survive. I think our Club has addressed the first two suggestions and now need to tackle the third point.

This is much more of a challenge as we still need a very attractive reason for people to want to become a Rotary member, take responsibility in joining a Committee, and attend some meetings (not just the actual projects).

On a positive note, our incoming President Kirsti—who was originally a Rotaract member and is still in her 40s—will hopefully translate into younger people being attracted to joining Adelaide Light.

Members are the core strength of what we have achieved this year, and will,

achieve in the future. Younger aged members are essential for the club's future for our projects, taking on Board positions and re-invigouring our Club with innovative project ideas and enthusiastic support.

Over the past 12 months, our membership dropped from 30 to currently 23 members which was disappointing as no new members joined and, during the year, we conferred Honorary Member status on two of our Charter Members PP Barry Grear and PP Don Tindale. Sadly, we mourned the passing of Don Tindale on 28 February 2026 after a courageous battle with Myeloma for the past 17 years (see article below).

Resignations were received from PP Julie and PDG John Campbell (now living in Goolwa), Yulieth Gonzales and Katey Halliday (work commitments), and Stuart Marshall and Pat Welke (health issues); they all remain "Friends" of the Club.



Above: Members Liz Tilley, Paige Honor and Kirsti Kankkunen are shown above attending the Afghan Culture Day celebrations. Member Erfan Abidi and his extended families were also in attendance.

VALE DON TINDALE

Michael Donnison (Don) Tindale was born 11 January 1947 in South Africa, and was 79 when he passed away on 28 February 2026. Don was a member of our provisional Club in 1985 and a very active Charter Member of Adelaide Light when our Club Chartered on 12 June 1986.

Growing up in South Africa, Don completed his South African national military service and began working in London during the late 1960s where he met Ellen who was also there on a working holiday from Ireland. They met, married and subsequently migrated to Australia around 1969; Don to a role as senior bank teller in Adelaide. Don and Ellen later owned and managed a small supermarket near Salisbury but, eventually, Don's IT skills resulted in a senior role with EDS for many years and later he assisted the Festival Centre with its IT transitioning before he retired. Don was highly organised with a strong moral compass and could always deliver an entertaining story on a wide range of topics - making him very compelling company.

So, it's not surprising that he'd be attracted to Rotary, where he gave 40 years of service, becoming President in 1992-1993 as well as 2016-2017. Don was awarded a PHF in 1999 and made an Honorary Member of the Club on 19 June 2025.

When diagnosed with Myeloma, Don drew upon the grit and determination to undergo 17 years of chemotherapy to battle the cancer (doctors expected he'd have just four years of life at the time), but evolving medical treatment helped Don to battle on. These weekly treatments didn't stop Don from putting his hand up to be Club President for a second time in 2016. Even in his last weeks (when doctors said there was no more they could do) he took a great deal of pleasure attending our Coffee Catch-ups to chat with his long-time friends - never wasting a minute of his exemplary life.

Don's resilience, tenacity and love of life endeared him to all. Vale, Don.



FUNDRAISING & FELLOWSHIP

by Rob McLennan, Director

Fundraising

This financial year our club, very optimistically, budgeted to raise \$40,000 and as at the end of June, we had made a net profit of \$31,946.64—a little under last year's profit of \$33,221.

Our monthly Monday barbecue revenue at Bunnings Mile End is complimented by assisting the RC of Norwood once a month on a Friday, which realised a combined net profit of \$16,226.61 (compared to last year's \$18,255).

We also had three very successful wine sales this year. Mitchell's Alcatraz Riesling and their Kalmar Shiraz which has sold out and Jim Barry's "The Nurse" Shiraz which is currently being sold. Sales for the year for the three wines have provided a combined net profit of

\$10,639.53 compared to last year's \$9,857.

Our third largest fundraising activity is the annual sales of Christmas trees at Bunnings at Kent Town which this year provided a net profit of \$4,798 which included Christmas tree stands.

Thank you to all the regular club volunteers and the many "Friends" of the club who enable us to provide much needed funding for our International, Community, Youth and Vocational Service projects.

Fellowship

I consider that all our meetings and events, which includes our Coffee Catch-ups, breakfasts, dinners, monthly barbecues, annual Christmas tree selling or undertaking tree planting, gardening at Catherine House accommodation can all be

classified as great opportunities for fellowship and socialising.

Another very successful socialising activity is our monthly Cuppa Conversation held on a Saturday morning which is pitched at relatively new younger overseas arrivals, thanks to Lili's enthusiasm in organising them.

Christmas Croquet Challenge

Our annual Christmas Croquet Rotary/Rotaract Challenge at the South Terrace Croquet Club continues to be very popular. The Silver Teapot Challenge with members of the Adelaide City Rotaract Club provides an additional element of fun; special thanks to Paul Ensor for organising the use of the premises throughout the year and for leading the fun competition with the help of other "croquet masters" John, Pat and Rob.



Left: Sales of Christmas trees and BBQs provide the funds for our community, international, youth and environmental projects—and we have a great deal of fun and camaraderie while we're at it!

FUNDRAISING & FELLOWSHIP contd.

Adelaide Light's 40th Anniversary Celebrations/ Rabbie Burns Dinner



40th Year Celebrations (l-r) John, Richard, Yvette, Helen, Paul E and Rob collectively cut the celebratory cake—featuring an edible photograph of the original members who were able to attend the Charter meeting on 12 June 1986.

Our third annual Robert Burns Dinner held on Wednesday 10 June 2026 at the Edinburgh Hotel was, this year, combined with Adelaide Light's 40th Anniversary celebration of our Club's Charter on 12 June 1986. President Yvette gave a speech on our first years of the Club—coincidentally, Yvette's late husband Tony Reade OAM was Adelaide Light's Provisional and also Charter President. Missing from the celebrations on the night was Barry Grear who was one of the "gang of four" members - David Rowe, Phil Harding, Barry Grear and Tony Reade—who left the sponsoring Adelaide

Rotary Club to form Adelaide Light. President Yvette dropped in to give Barry some of the delicious dark chocolate/ raspberry cake the next day while he was at home recovering from an operation.

Organised by John Wotherspoon, the Rabbie Burn's celebration and 40th Anniversary evening was very entertaining. Yvette also made up the whisky sauce to complement the haggis entrée for the 45 guests.

Guests dressed up in family kilts or tartan scarves or trews (trousers) and enjoyed the theatrics of the "Piping in of the Haggis", an ode "To a Louse" and other



Burn's Scottish poetry recited on the night, as well as the "Immortal Toast to Rabbie Burns".

Rob McLennan did an excellent job as Master of Ceremonies, and Ethan Miotti was once again delightful on bagpipes and his theatrical stabbing during his "Address to the Haggis"!

Cuppa Conversation Barossa Trip

In early February, our Club organised a Cuppa Conversation bus trip for 23 migrant friends and accompanying Rotarians to enjoy the delights of the Barossa Valley—an outstanding success.

We enjoyed the acoustic delights of the Whispering Wall, had tea/coffee at the Lavender Farm, partook of wine tastings at Gibson's Wines under a beautifully shady verandah and trees, as well as other highlights for our Cuppa migrants and accompanying Rotarians to enjoy.

Our thanks to Duncan and Kerrie Irvine (RC of Adelaide Parks) who drove (and navigated) the 25-seater bus, and Yvette

Reade who drove the 12-seater (dubbed the "party bus") as Latin American music was being played from Lili's phone playlist and choristers on-board abounded!

Beautiful weather, and the excellent tour planning of Community Services Director



Kirsti Kankkunen (and attendee follow-up by Lili Osario) ensured a well run event.

Thanks to everyone – including our hosts at the Lavender Farm and Gibson's Wines - who helped make this a fantastic day-tour of the stunning Barossa Valley.



ROTARY FOUNDATION, DONATIONS and RECOGNITIONS

by Di Lane, Director

The Rotary Foundation is the charitable arm of Rotary International. It was founded in 1917 by Rotary's sixth president, Arch C. Klumph, as an endowment fund through which Rotarians could "do good in the world." It has grown from an initial contribution of \$26.50 received from the Rotary Club of Kansas City to more than \$4.4 billion in total assets.

The Rotary Foundation is Rotary International's global philanthropy organisation. It transforms gifts into service projects that change lives both close to home and around the world. The Rotary Foundation has nine affiliate bodies around the world and **Rotary Foundation Australia** is one of these. Rotary Foundation Australia enables people and organisations in Australia to make contributions that are tax deductible in Australia.

Rotary Foundation Australia shares The Rotary Foundation's mission of enabling Rotarians to advance world understanding, goodwill and peace through the improvement of health, the support of education and the alleviation of poverty.

There is a very large number of worthwhile community projects in Australia and overseas that Rotary could choose to support. However, The Rotary Foundation has chosen to focus on seven critical causes:

- Promoting Peace
 - Fighting Disease
 - Providing Clean Water
 - Supporting Education
 - Saving Mothers and Children
 - Growing Local Economies and
 - Protecting the Environment
- along with ending polio and responding to disasters.

These causes align closely with the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

The Impact of One Donation

- For as little as 60 cents, a child can be protected from polio.

- \$50 can provide clean water to help fight waterborne illness.
- \$500 can launch an antibullying campaign and create a safe environment for children.

The Rotary Foundation's District Grants are a significant portion of their program awards, with the 2025-26 budget allocation a substantial amount for this purpose. Specifically, the Rotary Foundation approved \$71.89 million for the District Designated Fund which is used for program awards including District Grants. The World Fund also allocated \$33.447 million for program awards, including grants.

In 2025, Australian Rotary clubs received \$1,539,347 which is the amount distributed by Australian Rotary Health. These grants support a variety of community initiatives and scholarships. District Grants are typically used for small-scale, short-term activities that address community needs.

The Foundation is solely supported by voluntary contributions from members and allies.

This year 2025-26, Adelaide Light has donated to the Rotary Foundation (AUD\$):

- End Polio Global Fund \$2,500
 - Rotary World Community –New Dawn Ukraine Fund \$1,000
- as well as other Rotary projects:
- ARH Indigenous Health Scholarships \$2,500
 - Australian Rotary Health \$1,000
 - ROMAC (Rotary Oceania Medical Aid for Children) \$1000, and
 - Shelterbox \$1,000

PHF AWARDS



At last year's Changeover dinner, the Club was pleased to congratulate (above) Paul Ensor shown with President Yvette and District Governor-Elect Rajeev Kamineni pinning on a Paul Harris Fellow recognition for BBQ volunteering and Croquet Clubhouse duties and instruction; and (below) Paul Jupp was awarded a PHF (1 Sapphire) for his work as former Director International on our Club's Timor Leste water project (including the Global Grant paperwork!).



Above: Long time member and procurer of guest speakers extraordinaire, Dean Sullivan received a PHF (1 Sapphire); and (below) Richard Jarret was awarded a PHF (4 Sapphires) for his multiple roles as Web Master, Admin Director, Youth & Vocational Director and Rotaract Liaison.



TREASURER'S REPORT

The Club's Financial Statements are for the financial period from 1 July 2025 to 5 July 2026.

The Club has once again ended the year on a solid financial footing with funds continuing to grow with total funds now on hand of \$49,848.77, comprised of \$45,064.17 in Fundraising and \$4,784.60 in Club Funds. This puts the Club in a strong position to fund all existing and new projects.

This overall strong positive result has been achieved due to continued good performance by our Fundraising Committee with a total of \$31,946.64 raised with only \$14,642.15 expended in Projects for the year.

Club Funds covering all operating costs for the Club achieved a breakeven result with a small margin of \$5.02.

Bruce McDonald

Treasurer 2025-2026

CLUB ACCOUNTS

Balance Sheet for period ending 30 June 2026

ASSETS

NAB Cheque Account	\$ 18,757.64
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NAB Isaver Account	<u>31,091.13</u>
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TOTAL	\$49,848.77
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MEMBERS FUNDS

Club Funds Balance 1 July 2025	4,779.58
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Movement this year	<u>5.02</u>
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BALANCE	\$4,784.60
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Fundraising Account Balance 1 July 2025	28,022.18
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Movement this year	<u>17,041.99</u>
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BALANCE	<u>\$45,064.17</u>
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TOTAL	<u>\$49,848.77</u>
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FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR PERIOD ENDING 5 July 2026

Opening Balance 1 July 2025		\$32,801.76
Add Income - Club Administration		
Interest	208.89	
Breakfast Margin	322.11	
Christmas Function—Silver Teapot Challenge	190.91	
Membership Dues	<u>6,555.00</u>	
Total Club Administration Income	7,276.91	
LESS EXPENDITURE - CLUB ADMINISTRATION		
Club Domain Name Fee—Go Daddy	363.39	
ClubRunner Web Page	608.17	
District Dues	584.64	
Pilot Costs for District	267.00	
PO Box	18.29	
Rotary International Dues	3,275.07	
Rotary Down Under	919.81	
Rotary International Dues	<u>3,867.48</u>	
Total Club Administration Expenditure	6,036.37	
CLUB ADMINISTRATION SURPLUS	1,240.54	34,042.30
Plus - Fundraising		
Bottle Recycling	506.20	
Bunnings BBQs—joint RC Norwood	2,764.06	
Bunnings BBQs	13,462.55	
Cherry Sales	304.24	
Jim Barry The Nurse Shiraz	164.44	
Mitchell's Alcatraz Riesling	3,978.29	
Mitchell's Kalmar Shiraz	6,496.60	
Christmas Cakes	172.72	
Christmas Tree Stands	-350.47	
Christmas Trees	<u>4,447.81</u>	
Total Fundraising	31,946.64	
Less costs—Sim Card	-262.50	
Less costs—Insurance	<u>-1,235.52</u>	
Total Fundraising	30,448.62	
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE		64,490.92
LESS - DONATIONS/PROJECTS		
Afghan Culture Day Celebrations	500	
Afghan Girls Learning	1,000	
Australian Rotary Health	1,000.00	
Cuppa Conversation—Day Trip Barossa Valley	327.53	
DV Safe Phones	161.30	
Fred's Van—Christmas Gifts	198.01	
Indigenous Health Scholarship		
No to Domestic Violence—Guest, Rotary Community Group 1 Dinner	60.00	
NYSF		
Pioneer Adventure Day for Farmers	1,000.00	
Rabbie Burns Dinner/40th Anniverary	323.93	
Rotaract—Talk Out Loud City Plunge	527.58	
ROMAC	1,000.00	
Rotary Foundation—End Polio	2,500.00	
Rotary World Community—Ukraine New Dawn Fund	1,000.00	
RYLA Student Sponsorship	1,150.00	
RYPEN	425.00	
RYSA One & All Sailing Challenge	1,200.00	
Shelterbox	1,000.00	
Timor Leste Project—Donation A Egan (credit)	-500.00	
Timor Leste Water Project-Travel Costs J Wotherspoon and P Jupp	1,468.80	
William's Wardrobe	1,000.00	
Zambian Childbirth Hospital—Naloio Zambia	<u>500</u>	
Total Donations/Projects Expenditure	14,642.15	
BALANCE 5 July 2026		\$49,848.77



MEMBERSHIP - as at 30 June 2026

Erfanullah Abidi
 Andrew Black (Honorary)
 Bob Buckerfield (Honorary)
 Alison Carter
 Sheryl Cranston
 Ian Delaere
 Paul Ensor
 Maria Garces
 Barry Gear AO (Honorary)
 Paige Honor
 Richard Jarrett
 Paul Jupp
 Kirsti Kankkunen
 John Karran (Honorary)
 Di Lane
 Bruce McDonald
 Rob McLennan
 Liliam Osario
 Elaine Reade
 Yvette Reade
 Graham Smith (Honorary)
 Helen Smith
 Dean Sullivan
 Liz Tilley
 Angus Tuck
 John Wotherspoon
 Fatemeh Zarei



AWARDS - as at 18 July 2026

Current Members & Partners awarded Paul Harris Fellows:

Erfanullah Abidi
 Andrew Black (Honorary)
 Bob Buckerfield (Honorary)
 Paul Ensor
 Barry Gear AO (Honorary)
 Paige Honor
 Richard Jarrett
 Paul Jupp
 Kirsti Kankkunen
 John Karran (Honorary)
 Di Lane
 Bruce McDonald
 Robert McLennan
 Liliam Osario
 Yvette Reade
 Graham Smith (Honorary)
 Dean Sullivan
 Pam Sullivan
 Angus Tuck
 Deborah Wotherspoon
 John Wotherspoon



PAUL HARRIS FELLOWS - SAPPHIRES

Barry Gear AO - 1 Sapphire
 Paul Jupp—1 Sapphire
 Dean Sullivan—1 Sapphire
 Fred Field - 2 Sapphires
 Di Lane - 2 Sapphires
 Bruce McDonald - 2 Sapphires
 John Wotherspoon - 2 Sapphires
 Rob McLennan -3 Sapphires
 Yvette Reade—3 Sapphires
 Angus Tuck - 3 Sapphires
 Richard Jarrett - 4 Sapphires

PAUL HARRIS SOCIETY

Angus Tuck

BEQUEST SOCIETY

Yvette and Anthony Reade

RCAL PAST DISTRICT GOVERNORS

Anthony (Tony) Reade OAM 1993-1994
 Katina Jones 2004-2005
 John Campbell 2014-2015

AUSTRALIAN AWARDS

Barry Gear AO

PRESIDENTS OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF ADELAIDE LIGHT INC

1986-1987	Anthony (Tony) Reade OAM	2000-2001	Rob McLennan	2014-2015	Yvette Reade
1987-1988	Philip Harding AM	2001-2002	Ian Bluntish	2015-2016	Miriam Silva
1988-1989	John Rodda	2002-2003	John Wotherspoon	2016-2017	Don Tindale
1989-1990	Dean Kuhl	2003-2004	Robert (Rob) Brook	2017-2018	Julie Campbell
1990-1991	Stuart Ferguson	2004-2005	Stephen Baker	2018-2019	Rob McLennan
1991-1992	Andrew Black	2005-2006	Kym Pedler	2019-2020	Katrina Ball
1992-1993	Don Tindale	2006-2007	Deborah Wotherspoon	2020-2021	Rob McLennan
1993-1994	Alan Mead	2007-2008	Neil Bray	2021-2022	John Wotherspoon
1994-1995	Barry Gear AO	2008-2009	Terry Rodoni	2022-2023	John Wotherspoon
1995-1996	Robert (Bob) Angove AM	2009-2010	Angus Tuck	2023-2024	Yvette Reade
1996-1997	Graham Smith	2010-2011	Carolyn Wigg	2024-2025	Yvette Reade
1997-1998	Rex Spinley	2011-2012	John Campbell	2025-2026	Yvette Reade
1998-1999	Peter Bayetto	2012-2013	Dean Sullivan		
1999-2000	Katina Jones	2013-2014	Richard Jarrett		

