



# Rotary Club of Blackwood Inc

Chartered 14<sup>th</sup> September 1970



## District 9520

International President: John Kenny

District Governor: Dick Cuttle

Club President:	<b>Cherilyn Fleming</b>
Secretary:	<b>Robyn Venus</b>
Treasurer:	<b>Barry Sheridan</b>
Vice President:	<b>Sue Wymond</b>
IPP:	<b>Ray Smith</b>
President Elect:	<b>Jeff Hunter</b>

### BOARD

### Directors

Finance:	
Club Service:	<b>Bernie Morgan</b>
Future Generations:	<b>Bernie Morgan</b>
Community Service:	<b>Graham Roberts</b>
Youth and Vocational Service:	<b>Sue Sedivy</b>
International Service:	<b>John Penta</b>

### The Four Way Test

1. Is it the TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build goodwill and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?



Rotary Club of Blackwood Inc, PO Box62, Blackwood, SA, 5051  
 Meeting Venue: Belair Park Country Club, Upper Sturt Rd, BELAIR  
 Tuesday 6.00 for 6.30PM

**IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND THE MEETING OR WISH TO BRING A GUEST  
 PLEASE RING LJ Hookers Blackwood office on 8278 9111 by Tuesday 12.00 noon.**

<b>Club Web Site:</b>	<a href="http://www.rotarnet.com.au/blackwood">http://www.rotarnet.com.au/blackwood</a>
<b>District 9520 Web Site:</b>	<a href="http://www.rotarynews.info/District9520/r.i">http://www.rotarynews.info/District9520/r.i</a>
<b>Rotary International Web Site:</b>	<a href="http://www.rotary.org">http://www.rotary.org</a>

## INVOCATION AND TOAST

**Laz Meszaros** opened the meeting with **acknowledgement of the Kuarna People**, the Invocation and **toast to Australia and her people**.

## WELCOME

**President Ray Smith and President-Elect Cherilyn welcomed** the following guests – Dr. Andrew Southcott MP, DGN Malcolm Linquist and Antoinette Linquist, Mayor Ivan Brooks and Jan Brooks, Roger and Glenda Hedley, Jocelyn, Todd and Lucy Graham, Marjorie Schofield, Esther Maskrey, Alison Gunn, Meredith Dabinet, Bev McIntyre, Stan Tolley and Rosemary Blum, Karen Hornhardt (White Lady Funerals) and Siahli Schmaad.



## President's Report 2008/2009

A year ago, I announced the Rotary theme for this year of "Make Dreams Real". RI President DK Lee was dismayed at the alarming child mortality rate which sees 30,000 children die each day from preventable diseases, and 6.6m children die before age 5. They die needlessly of treatable illnesses such as pneumonia, measles and malaria and also from a lack of clean water. We have assisted to make dreams real with our contributions to the Timor Leste safe water projects, Shelter Boxes, RO-MAC (Rotary Overseas Aid for Children), RAM (Rotarians Against Malaria) and RFPD (Rotary Action Group for Population and Development).



We have also been fortunate to contribute at a domestic level: the Belair Park War Memorial Garden has been restored with a walking trail, removal of blackberries and other weeds, so that it can now be enjoyed by the community once again; the indigenous, youth and Pride of workmanship activities; when the terrible bushfire occurred in Victoria during March with the loss of 200 lives, Rotary sprang into action with Shelter Boxes and other assistance. We donated \$6,000 from the Glenn Miller Concert to the Victorian Bushfire Appeal; we also contributed \$7,000 to the various CFS groups in our area.

Far more than this has been achieved by our various

committees, and I refer you to their reports for the full detail.

The Calperum Station has again been a focus involving other Rotary clubs apart from our own. We have made four visits this year as part of a Riverland Biosphere restoration of this former sheep station. There are several more visits already scheduled for this calendar year.

Throughout my year I have been impressed by the **commitment and service** that has been evident at our weekly meetings. Some of these are behind the scenes, but without them things would not occur so smoothly. **I wish to name a few:**

**Reg Hanson** who reliably covered attendance and maintained scrupulous records.

**Russell Eccleston and Richard Dix** for their commitment in furniture and sound management, even when not rostered.

**Trevor Abbott**, a quiet achiever in all areas of our involvement.

**The "gnomes" at the BREC shed** who work largely unnoticed and have recently upgraded our trestles, ready for hire and for our own use.

**David Rusk** as almoner until transferring to a club closer to his home.

**Alan Eldridge, Neil White and Barbara Chappell**

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for keeping us all grounded with the Sergeant's sessions and that essential ingredient of fun and laughter.

**Elizabeth Caldicott** who kept us challenged and entertained with interesting and diverse speakers.

**Terry Tierney** for promoting and bringing to fruition the Firewood project which holds much promise as a fundraiser.

**Bob Arnold, Michael McClaren**, and the other members of the Glenn Miller team for turning what could have been a major setback following the close of Mitsubishi, and the loss of our usual venue, into a resounding success.

**Bernie Morgan** provided support and backup when needed as Acting President.

**Terry Tierney and Sue Sedivy** providing the Bulletin reports.

Ken Roscrow, the Internet, photographic and computer wizard.

**Many of our members have also been on District Committees** including Peter Geer (Chair Project Volunteers), John Jackson (Chair RAWCS), Richard Dix (Save Water Save Lives), Bernie Morgan (GSE), Ken Roscrow (Webmaster), Cheryl Fleming (Rotary Foundation), Elizabeth Caldicott (ROMAC), John Lewis (RYWELL and Indigenous Medical Scholarships), Trevor Abbott (DIK), Bob Arnold (Assistant Governor). The Club has also been ably supported by DG Peter Shipp and Judy.

The Ladies Auxiliary, with President Dorothy Pargeter and Secretary Caroline Smith, have once again been rock-solid supporters at various activities including the Fair, Art Show and the Swinging Sunday. Jan Arnold and Marlene Lehmann stepped to the plate and provided catering for the Glenn Miller Concert. I sincerely thank the members and congratulate them on raising funds to support various Rotary projects.

We were all deeply affected by the loss of Neville "Nifty" Newton who joined our club in 1979, and was such a vibrant part of it, and still attended our functions even after having retired from our Club. Other long-standing members have retired from the club this year for various reasons, including Arthur Finch, Roger Wheaton, Peter Pargeter, George Sargent, David Rusk and Barry Hughes. Each has made valuable contributions to the Club and all are fondly remembered.

It was an honour to be able to issue Honorary memberships to George Sargent who first joined Rotary in 1956 and was a member of our club since 1988 and a

member of many District Committees and a founder of the Coromandel Club; Ken Prime, a charter member of our Club and Gerald Taylor who has been a member since 1974 and a past President.

Caroline and I were pleased to be guests at the Blackwood Ladies Probus Club 21st anniversary morning tea and the Hawthorndene Mens Probus Clubs 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary luncheon. Both were created by our Club, and both are still vibrant clubs with strong memberships of 78 and 58 respectively. Ken Prime is a charter member of the Hawthorndene Club.

#### **Highlights of the year have been:**

**The Glenn Miller Concert.** This replaced the Musicfest. Because we could no longer use the Mitsubishi Canteen as a venue, other arrangements had to be made. The Glenn Miller Concert, headed by Timothy Sexton, and the Adelaide Arts Orchestra was a complete sell-out, and the feeling of all was that it was fantastic and unique entertainment.

**Swinging Sunday** – carrying on the tradition of the previous two, but with it's own style and flair.

**Christmas Fair** – the day was moved to a Sunday and the second oval was used. Unlike the previous year, the weather was perfect, and there was no problem with Equine Flu. Results were overwhelming, with enhanced turnover from all participants. As usual, all Club members performed admirably.

**Guess Who's Coming to Dinner** – a night of great fellowship, delicious food and good company.

**Art Show** – organised superbly by John Jackson and his Committee, with several innovations to enhance our 25<sup>th</sup> annual showing.

**Visits to Calperum Station**, near Renmark - The Mallee scrubland of Australia is one of the most endangered vegetation types in the world, with approximately 80 per cent cleared for agriculture in the past 150 years. The mallee, like many parts of Australia, has not responded well to imposed European style land use. In the past the fragile soils and vegetation have been overexposed to grazing and inappropriate land use. It is an opportunity to assist as volunteers in the restoration work.

**Annual Wine Bottling**, organised by Graham Lough, is a fine social event and fund raiser.

**The Open Community forum** which allows members of the public to hear and ask questions of leaders in our community. This year we were privileged to have Police commissioner Mal Hyde as our guest.

**Combined meetings** were held with Mitcham and all of the Group 5 Clubs. Two Group 5 meetings were hosted by our Club, with the second having 118 attendees. Obviously, these are well received and are a tribute to our own AG, Bob Arnold.

**Pride of Workmanship** – this was hosted by our Club and is a great opportunity to recognise people who work and contribute in our local community

**The Christmas Party** with our own fairy (Helen), Honorary awards and a celebration of Peter Pargeter's achievements in the Club.

**Group Study Exchange** – we are hosting Corey Pearson to North Carolina

**Road Watch** – assisted by KESAB it is an opportunity to support our local community in a practical way

**Russell Eccleston receiving his well-deserved OAM** for service to the community of SA. Russell has been a member of our Club since 1983, holding most positions within our Club, including President on two occasions, and was a member of, or chaired, several District positions. He and Bev have hosted many overseas students. Russell has held positions within the Uniting Church, Resthaven Board and Blackwood Meals on Wheels (which he helped set up), and has been an active grower for Trees for Life for over ten years.

## AWARDS and RECOGNITION

It is my great pleasure as President to formally recognise people who have made an outstanding contribution to Rotary. I have looked for the quiet achievers who get things done without fuss and really do exemplify "Service Above Self":

### Presidential Award

I wish to particularly acknowledge the contribution of a **non-Rotarian, Jan Arnold**. Jan has been a part of our Rotary community at Blackwood since 2003, when she joined both Inner Wheel and the Ladies Auxiliary. Jan held the position of President at Inner Wheel in 2004-5 and was President of Ladies Auxiliary in 2005-6 and again in 2006-7. Jan has also been Secretary of Inner Wheel. Jan is a wonderful cook and, apart from the numerous hours spent for both of those clubs, she has always generously contributed her talents and raw materials to make cakes and other goodies for each of the Fairs, Art shows and other functions that our Club runs each year. When we com-



menced visiting Calperum Station again, Jan volunteered to forego the opportunity to attend the various activities in order to feed the hungry masses twice each day, after having previously spent many hours in planning the menus and purchasing the food. Jan has been a fervent supporter of our Club and her husband Bob in his various assignments, as President and Assistant Governor, within Rotary and elsewhere.

### Vern Surman Award

The award recognises those who have made an outstanding contribution to our Club and was named in honour of our Charter President, Vern Surman.

The **Vern Surman Award for 2008-2009** goes to **John Jackson**. John is an active member who was inducted into our club in 1984 and has been involved in many District activities including DG's Representative, Chairman Preserve Planet Earth (four years), Chairman Solar Water Purifier (three years), District Governor Trainer, and also District Governor. John was awarded a Paul Harris Fellow in 1994, but his services within Rotary did not slow down. Within our Club, he has held the posts of Secretary (five years), President, Sergeant, Director Community Service, and Chairman of the Art Show in 1993-1994. This year, in addition to other voluntary work such as Meals on Wheels and the Charity Card Shop, he organised Guess Who's Coming to Dinner and was again Chairman of the Art Show Committee which made brilliant innovations to an already successful fundraiser. John's outstanding commitment to this community, Rotary District and our Club make him a most worthy recipient of this year's Vern Surman Award.



### Paul Harris Recognitions

#### Helen Henbest

Helen joined the Adelaide Daybreak Rotary Club in 1995 and in 1999 transferred to the Blackwood Club. Helen has been sergeant at various times, a member of the Population and Development District Committee in 2003 and was an outstanding compere at the Musicfest in 2006 and also 2007, and the Swinging Sunday this year. Being a good sport, Helen has donned a tu-tu and appeared as Santa's Fairy or the "Angel on Top of the Christmas Tree" at the last three Christmas parties. It is not surprising that Helen was a worthy recipient of the Waffler's Award in 2005. Helen is always available for the various Club activities and, together with husband Rhys, is able to bring energy, enthusiasm and originality to the tasks at hand.

We acknowledge and applaud Helen's ability to generate life and energy into our various activities, her commitment to the ideals of Rotary and the Blackwood Rotary Club.

### Bob Arnold

Bob joined the Rotary Club of Western Hut in New Zealand in 1974 where he was Director of Club Service and President Elect. In 1979 he and Jan moved to Victoria where Bob joined the Rotary Club of Balwyn. Again Bob was Director of Club



Service, until he and Jan moved again and this time to Adelaide. Bob joined the Blackwood Club in 2003, and became Director of Community Services for three years, President and Assistant Governor for two years. Everything that Bob embraces is done with enormous energy and fervour, such as the Calperum Riverland Biosphere Reserve Project where Bob has fired up all the clubs of Group 5 to participate in trips to the Station; he created the CORE Group (Council of Rotary Elders) to provide an opportunity for older members to contribute; he reinvigorated the Musicfest programme with the Glenn Miller Show when we were forced to find a new venue; established Open Forums to open the Club to the public and invite speakers of national standing to provide a better informed club and community. Bob has always been a willing participant in all club activities, strongly supported by Jan. We acknowledge and applaud Bob's ability to develop new ideas, get things done and his commitment to Rotary in general and the Blackwood Club in particular.

### Margaret Congram

Margaret has been involved in Blackwood Rotary since 2001 and is so unassuming, yet has done so much: Outbound Counsellor; Membership Development Committee; Education Development Committee; Ambassadorial Scholar Counsellor; International Director; Musicfest Sponsorship



(four years); Attendance Officer (three years); Host Mother to four people from Holland, Belgium, Sweden, Canada; Host to Bhawani Kunwar and Sunita Chand. In 2005 Margaret obtained sponsorship of skipping ropes, basketballs, pumps, second hand books, and \$1,150 from Rotarians. She convinced Qantas and Thai Airways to both provide 50 kg of free freight to be sent with her to the Blue Sky School in Nepal. On arrival she was stunned at the small play area, dirt floors, bare walls and lack of basic resources such as exercise books and pencils. Margaret arranged for the floors and play area to be cemented, bought three computers and designed and had desks built for them, and had a top put onto the table tennis table. Margaret cleaned the rooms, laid carpet, found foam for the benches, made jigsaws from shoe boxes, bought and photocopied colouring books and bought coloured pencils. Five hundred exercise books were bought, together with pencils and erasers, and each child was given four of each. A Buddhist orphanage was given

skipping ropes, basket balls, educational toys, exercise books and bags of rice. Two years later, Margaret returned with another 50kg of goods to continue the good work. She now sponsors three children through the Blue Sky School and, for six years, has supported a child at Surendra Dhakl complex by providing education, food and clothing. Margaret we salute you and your good works, and I am honoured to present you with this award.

Once again, we have been supported extremely well by Anita and her team at the Belair Country Club. Whatever the occasion or the number of guests, they have provided everything we have needed without fuss, and I thank them for that.

We have had another successful year for which you should all be proud. I wish to thank my wife Caroline for her support and understanding, so many of you for your support and encouragement and the wonderful opportunity and the great privilege to serve you and this community during the past year.

### Ray Smith

**President 2008/2009**



**During the evening Siahli Schmaal provided musical interludes playing the harp.**

## Induction of Cherilyn Fleming as President for 2009/2010



**Cherilyn was formally inducted as President** and presented with the President's badge of office and lapel pin. Ray presented the new President of the Club.

### President Cherilyn addressed the Club

The Rotary International President for 2009 2010, John Kenny has announced that the theme for the year "The Future of Rotary is in your hands". I would like to suggest that the theme for the RC of Blackwood would be "The Future of Rotary is in OUR hands". And, I will elaborate a little on that a little later. I joined Rotary in 1992 – the year that I also read a book titled "the power of one" and at the beginning of my sea-change it had a big influence on me. My plans that year were to spend my life making a difference for every disadvantaged person in the whole world. Since 1992 I think I have been assisted by the people around me to discover my limitations.

The Rotary Club of Blackwood is starting this year in a very healthy state, and I am delighted that around 70 people are here to join us in the first of the year's events. Blackwood is in this great position because of the achievements of our members and their partners, over nearly 40 years of the over 100 years of Rotary. Despite a lower number of members Blackwood remains a vibrant Club. Especially when the Club has Rotarian Ken Prime beginning his 40th year. All of its many contributors have laid very solid foundations and I ask all Blackwood members to join me in our endeavours to proclaim Rotary and make Rotary publicly known, especially in our local community.

Rotary International President John Kenny has set three emphases for the year. These are:

- Water
- Health and hunger
- Literacy

Australia has all of these issues at home. However, we can, by just looking around, see how privileged we are to live in Australia when considering each one of them

in a global context. Australia's and our privilege demands that we work to improve the lot of our international neighbours and our local communities.

The District 9520 Governor for this year is Dick Cuttle and he has asked all Clubs to consider their goals;

### President Cherilyn addressed the Club (cont.)

With that in mind: **I believe that membership needs to be a focus for the Club.** Not just membership for numbers sake but to ensure that we recruit, encourage and support the "right people". It is my belief that the major task ahead for Blackwood is to broaden our membership base. It has been mentioned that it is no longer feasible to just source new members from the current members of a Club. There are many talented men and women from a large variety of backgrounds in our community and we would be all the richer for their participation in our Club. There are many resources available within Rotary to support our Club's efforts in this area and I believe that it is essential that we tap into those resources. We need to take up the challenge to look at ourselves.

### We have a number of other challenges ahead.

**One is to publicly proclaim Rotary's successes** to our local community and to the world. While much of this will be fun (like the Christmas Fair for eg), it will require additional effort from all to make the wider population aware of the results of our work.

**Another is to generate funds to empower our projects.** Fund raising is more difficult than it ever has been before – we need to look at ways to be working smarter not harder.

**And another is to increase our strength through broadening membership.** I have spoken about this before, but it will be the quality and quantity of our members that provide the basis for the ongoing years of Rotary and our Club.

**Possibly our most important challenge, I believe, is to develop a vision and goals or plans for the Club that span a number of years and look to the future.** Without a clear vision and goals and the opportunities to assess what we are doing, members and projects run the risk of becoming stale and an apathy or malaise can set in. And, there's nothing worse than a stale member!! I was asked recently what my goals will be for this year. After much thought leading up to this evening and the year ahead, and after some 17 years as a Rotarian, I would describe my goals as follows:

**I want to be encouraging of every member of this Club** to do what ever they can or want to within the bounds of our projects and plans that have been approved by the Board. I want to enable members to feel free to dream of new ideas and different ways of doing things and to feel comfortable enough to express their thoughts and fresh ideas without criticism. I want to enable the development of a vision and clear goals for

the Club. I remind you again of something that I saw in another club's bulletin. The members are the Club – individual members (or a small group) do not run the Club. The Board is elected by the members to run the Club. I have a great belief in the power and absolute necessity of communication. It is very important that all members are well informed and have knowledge of matters concerning the Club. Knowledge is power and we won't survive if we don't have open, honest and clear communication. I have a number of ideas in relation to this and will elaborate during the coming meetings.

I am privileged to have been elected as your President and I am looking forward to working with the Board and the Club to achieve some wonderful results that we can all be proud of.

**In conclusion, I have come to the realisation that we can work towards making a difference in the world as individuals because 1 person (or Rotarian) is part of 1 Club which is part of 1 District and 1 country and Rotary International.** The power of one carries great significance and perhaps my original plans in 1992 are achievable.

Thank you.



## Close of meeting

The President thanked all present and the meeting was formerly closed

Sue Wymond — Bulletin Editor

## Introduction of Board

This Club has an exceptionally talented Board. Each is multi skilled and abounds with wisdom and great enthusiasm for the job ahead. I would now like to introduce the **leadership team of our Club for the 09/10 Rotary year.**

Firstly **Past President** Ray,

Vice Pres. (& Club Service) **Sue Wymond** (Reg)

President Elect – **Jeff Hunter** (Zenette)

Finance Director – **Ken Roscrow** (Denise)

Youth & Vocational – **Sue Sedivy** (Lou)

Treasurer – **Barry Sheridan** (Kathryn)

Membership and PR – **Bernie Morgan** (Colleen Penny)

International – **John Penta** (Michelle) - apology

Community Service – **Graham Roberts** (Mary)

Rotary Foundation – **John Lewis** (Jenny)

Secretary – **Robyn Venus** (Don)

Art Show chair – **Terry Tierney** (apology)

Christmas Fair chair – tba

Music Fest chair – tba

B.R.E.C. coordinators – **Bernie, Ken, Peter Geer and Trevor Abbott**



Ray, Graham, Sue S, Ken, Bernie, Cheryl, Sue W, Jeff, Robyn, Barry, John

## MEETING ROSTER AND SPEAKERS

Meeting No.	1989	1990	1991	1992
Date	7th July	14th July	21st July	28th July
Fellowship	Michael McClaren	Ken Prime	Barry Sheridan	Neil White
Reg. Assistant	Bernie Morgan	Bob Richter	John Walters	Trevor Abbott
Furniture	John Penta Laz Meszaros	Graham Roberts Ken Roscrow	Ray Smith Bob Sothman	Bob Arnold Sue Wymond
Chairman	Cherilyn Fleming	Sue Wymond	Trevor Abbott	Bernie Morgan
Speaker	Various	Jack Pizanos	Ivan Brooks	GSE Team
Topic	Buddy Night and Committees	Food Handling and Safety	The way we were (Sunbeam Corp)	GSE Trip to North Carolina
Bulletin editor	Barbara Chappell	Barbara Chappell	Barbara Chappell	Barbara Chappell

## COMING EVENTS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Coming events	Birthdays	Anniversaries
July 10—19 <b>Art Show</b> - Blackwood High School		
November 1st - <b>Wine Bottling</b> - Wistow		
November 15th - <b>Christmas Fair</b> - Karinya Park		