ROTARY MEETING No. 1858

Invocation & Toast
Bob Richter opened the meeting with the invocation and toast to Australia and her people.

Welcome
Pres Bob welcomed guests:

- Laz Meszaros
- Michelle Colmer (guest speaker)
- Krishna
- Sam Pearson

President Bob's Announcements

- Important dates
  - 24/11 – District Rotary Foundation Dinner - $40 per head – See Bob if you can go
  - 21/11 - DG's visit – Partners welcome
    - Directors meet at 5.00 + "vice" directors Tom and Cherilyn
  - 25/11 - Noarlunga Club's 40th birthday party – we need to be represented
- Resignation of Ralph Green after 28 years
- Pres. Bob has committed us to helping the Lions Club in February
- New pamphlets giving information about the club are on the tables. 3000 have been printed. Bob Arnold, Barry Hughes and Cherilyn Fleming will have their contact details added to the back page. Members are asked to take a couple and pass them on to possible members or likely prospects.
- The club currently has 4 prospective new members
- The chairperson of ASIC has confirmed that he will be a guest speaker some time in the first half of the new year
- Another possible opening meeting will be a panel on the topic "Is multiculturalism destroying Australian culture?"

Make-ups
Nil

Raffle: Sue Wymond's ticket was drawn.

Attendance: not given

Announcements for the Good of Rotary

- Russell Ecclestone
  - It will be a big day at the BREC Shed next Tuesday. Volunteers are needed
- Mark Burns
  - Reminbder about the Christmas Fair
  - For the BBQ please bring own everything except food and drink
  - Any tea / coffee etc left from other functions would be helpful on Saturday
  - Please take and distribute flyers for the Fair

- Graham Lough
  - Reminder about the wine bottling. Still 14 or 15 dozen for sale
  - Please pick up orders from his carport
  - Payment asap
- Tom Davenport
  - Reminder about history sheets. Arthur Finch is gathering the forms. Please take it seriously

- Ray Smith
  - Puddings and Gourmet cakes now available. Get before they sell out
    - Cakes $13.00
    - Puddings $12.95
- Robyn Venus
  - Money handlers at Fair please keep 50cent coins separate from other coins
- Bob Lehmann
  - Nur going home 5.00am Wed.
  - Prof David pleased and she has to have another operation, but it can be in Indonesia in 4 or 5 years. Her problem is genetic
  - Indonesian community in Adelaide has been marvellous
  - Re the housing situation Bob will keep us advised, but activity on our part at this time would be counterproductive
- Bernie Morgan

  - Doing some detective work for Pat Lough who lost a valuable salad spoon at the wine bottling
  - Will now be captain of the road watch on 25th as Ralph Green has retired
  - Rest of team is -Cherilyn Fleming
    - David Rusk
    - Krishna
    - Peter Geer
    - John Lewis
    - Ian Docherty Meet at Karinya at 9.30
  - There will be a Rotary Information stall at the Fair. Please come and visit it and suggest improvements for the future
- Bob Richter
  - Told how Rotary was conducted by an amputee wanting to get a second hand computer and how Bob was able to get a computer donated and also internet connection donated

Sergeant's fines (Helen Henbest)

- Barry Hughes carried the box
- Carl Lloyd was fined for not knowing the council wards in our area
- It also took a while to identify the new councillors
- Laz Meszaros – welcome back and not avoiding DG's visit
- John (Steptoe) Jackson for scrounging hard rubbish
- Peter Pargeter – sandals and no socks
- Don Collyer – Sunburnt feet
- Robyn Venus – Public Servant costs
- Elizabeth Caldicott – broken bone in wrist
- Bernie Morgan – Crime investigation over salad spoon
- All men without ties
- Elizabeth Caldicott – driving wrong way in car park
- Reg Tannebring - always being too good to be fined
- Mark Burns – no badge
- Alan Eldridge - putting out shop rubbish for household collection
- Barry Hughes – for dobbing him in
- Graham Lough – Suggesting Cherilyn would fit in a rugby team as a hooker because of her red top
- David Rusk – only 4 weeks til holidays
- Bernie and Graham – new publication

Cross-fines

- Ken Roscrow on Sue Wymond – no badge
- Terry Tierney on John Jackson – Tie in coffee

Speaker, Michelle Colmer was introduced by Bob Richter to speak on the topic "An inspiring speaker"

Her opening remark was "I have an addiction (pause) for chocolate.She then told her life story which I have tried to encapsulate below.

It was 9.05 am on March 3rd 1983. My mother and I had walked my older brother to school and were on the way home.

I was 2 ½ years old and was hit by a car in front of my home. The woman driver was talking to her passenger and did not see me.

After emergency CPR by my mother I was taken by ambulance to Flinders Medical Centre. I was not expected to live.

Mother was covered in my blood and wandering around Flinders in shock, so much so that it was some time before she thought to ring my father.

Grandmother had the task of fielding all the phone calls at home.

After 12 days on life support I was unhooked from the machines and underwent another operation without any sedatives as they thought I was unconscious.

It was a nightmare for my parents.

Another 14 days passed before I was returned from intensive care to the Childrens' ward. Up to that stage I had not shown any signs of response to any stimulus. A young friend visited me and wanted to give me some of her chocolate Easter Egg.
She put a bit on my tongue and I responded. Up to that stage my parents had been led to expect that I would be a vegetable for the rest of my life.

About this stage they realised that I had other injuries besdides the head injuries, and it was identified that I also had a crushed pelvis. It took so long that I will never completely recover from some of the effects.

After 8 weeks I was sent home as the hospital felt there was nothing more they could do. I could only swallow food. I could not manage any of my bodily functions. My diet was things like jelly custard and icecream, so I piled on the weight with the result I was then forced onto a diet to fit within the height / weight perameters set by the doctors.

I was sent to Woodville Spastic Centre for twelve months and Regency Park Centre for three years and subjected to a daily routine of callipers, intensive physiotherapy, six week stretches in plaster, speech pathology sessions etc.

I was then integrated into a normal school and put into the "Basic" class. I and the other kids knbew we were the "Vegies" and I was queen of the "Vegie Maths"

I have just finished a 4 week solo trip to meet my brother in the UK.

I live independently.

I drive a car.

I have a job BUT

My life is not easy to live.

I am haunted by depression and thoughts of suicide (but thoughts of the impact on my loved ones prevents me)

I have finally joined a Gym after pressure from my Mum and now go 5 days a week

My head injuries have required a major adjustment to life, and my ambition is to help others cope with and overcome the sort of issues I have had to deal with

I was a candidate for parliament in the last state elecvtion for the "Dignity for Disabled Party" and got more votes than the Democrat candidate.

I still struggle with my addiction for chocolate.

Michelle was given a standing ovation

President Bob's closing remarks

- President Bob thanked the speaker and visitors for joining with us.
- Reminded people on next week's roster of their duties.

Bulletin Editor – Terry Tierney

Meeting No.	1859	1860	1861	1862
Date	**21 Nov 2006**	**28 Nov 2006**	**5 Dec 2006**	**12 Dec 2006**
Fellowship	G Lough	G Morris	B Perry	R Smith
Reg. Assistant	G Morris	P Pargeter	K Prime	R Tannebring
Furniture	M McClaren L Meszaros	J Pearce K Oliver	B Richter G Roberts	K Roscrow J Walters
Chairman	B Arnold	B Arnold	Peter Geer	David Rusk
Speaker	DG Bob Northcote	Various	Paul Bradley	Krishna
Topic	TBA	AGM, Election of Officers for 2007 and Club Assembly	The Engineering Industry	Nepal
Bulletin editor	Terry Tierney	Terry Tierney	Terry Tierney	Terry Tierney

Coming events	Birthdays	Anniversaries
Nov 18th Christmas Fair	Nov 18 Margaret Congram	Nov 19 Arthur and Marcia Finch
	Nov 19 Joanne Burns	Dec 4 Bob and Dianne Richter
	Nov 23 John Pearce	Dec 11 Vern and Jean Surman
	Nov 25 Fiona Evans	Dec 18 Peter and Jenny Geer
	Nov 26 Pam Hughes	Dec 30 Richard and Di Dix

Club Web Site: http://www.rotarnet.com.au/blackwood

District 9520 Web Site: http://www.rotarnet.com.au/9520

Rotary International Web Site: http://www.rotary.org