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MAGDALENE CENTRE - HERE WE COME!

We were privileged at our last Dinner Meeting to have Jo Wickes (pictured below) as our guest speaker. A full report on her interesting talk appears on page 4 of this issue of KAN. Jo is the Manager of Adelaide's Magdalene Centre.

We are indebted to Alan Williams and Lindsay Curtis for providing the camera services at this meeting to take pix of Jo in action.

As a result of Joanne's oratory offering, an "executive" decision has been made to hold our first meeting for September (on the 9th) at the Magdalene Centre which is located in Moore Street, Adelaide (just off Carrington Street).

Please check the details in an advert on page 3, and we do hope to see as many members there as possible (although we are mindful that there is still an amazing number of our membership currently away travelling).

It has the hallmarks of being a most entertaining meeting.



**ABSOLUTE LAST CHANCE ! To register for District Convention in August
DON'T MISS OUT - or you'll have to pay late registration fees! See inside p.3**

KANDID CAMERA



Wednesday evening, July 9th, there was an excellent segment mid-evening with Peter Goers on ABC radio talkback which some Club members may have heard. The person Peter was chatting with? None other than **Anne Monten**, daughter of Jean Monten, and they were discussing the perceived local inadequacies of support for aged carers. Understandably Anne often referred to her experiences around 1999/2000 when her late father had been hospitalised, eventually landing in the lap of an aged care facility. Anne's father of course was George Monten, one of our Hixson recipients and a long-standing member of Adelaide Club. It was great to hear Anne on the radio!

Those members lucky enough to attend the Dinner Meeting on July 8th included President Colin, Graham, Ray, Garry, Ken, Lindsay, Colin W, Alan Williams, Gosia, David and the Dalidowicz family, plus our guest speaker (Jo Wickes). Apologies were tabled from Krystyna (work), Alan F (unwell) and Don (overseas). Jo was about to draw the raffle and was beseeched by Colin Waterman to draw his ticket as he was keen to win the prize. Guess what? She did just that!

Another update for your Club Directories (a new updated printed Directory is due out around Handover Night). The Dalidowicz family (Irena, Tony & Andrew) have changed their home phone no. The new number is 8449 8645. Please respect the fact that this is a silent listing.

ADVANCE NOTICE: For our Dinner Meeting set down for September, we are looking at visiting Magdalene Centre for a 3-course meal This is a fortnight before our Handover Night where we'll return to our usual venue.

A couple of members of your hard working Board last month attended a church service out near Mansfield Park where former Club member Rangi Rule was spotted. The "survey" trip was made to ascertain whether this may be suitable for our annual Kiwanis Church Service where our Club members are encouraged to attend an inter-denominational service at a church which they may not normally go to. The jury is out on this one, but we will keep you informed, and hopefully before long advise that our Church Visit is on target to be held before long.

Immediate Past President Krystyna has requested leave of absence from July 14 (day after her birthday) until August 30, as she is lucky enough to be travelling overseas. LOA granted.

The South West Community Centre, headed by Marjon Martin (our recent guest speaker), keeps a good record of their annual over the counter people interactions, Peruse the following stats:

2005-06:	14,619
2006-07:	23,348
2007-08:	25,188

which serves to underline the increased traffic through the Centre in recent months.

The Politician



The Advertiser www.adelaidenow.com.au

THOUGHT FOR THIS MONTH

If you want something you never had,
do something you've never done....

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Lorraine Reich August 12th



ADELAIDE CLUB DINNER MEETINGS HELD 2nd and 4th TUESDAYS AT NAVAL MILITARY & AIR FORCE CLUB - BOARD MEETINGS HELD 1st TUESDAY AT HILTON RSL



CLUB DIARY DATES

SUNDAY JULY 27 - **Community Service - TREE PLANTING** - North Adelaide
Colin Waterman for details - do try to attend this "Working Bee"
[Email info@urbanforest.on.net Internet - www.milliontrees.sa.gov.au]

TUESDAY AUGUST 5 - **BOARD MEETING** 6pm at Hilton RSL

TUESDAY AUGUST 12 - **DINNER MEETING** Usual venue

TUESDAY AUGUST 26 - **DINNER MEETING** Usual venue Speaker TBA

SUNDAY JULY 27th NATIONAL TREE DAY

Help us Grow a Great Future!

During the past summer, Million Trees Program volunteers have been busy growing locally indigenous seedlings for the future urban forest. Now we are inviting volunteers from Kiwanis (and elsewhere) to help plant more trees at project sites across metropolitan Adelaide.

Date: Sunday July 27th
Time: 10.00am until 1.00pm approx
Place: Adelaide Parklands (North Adelaide)

NOTE: **FREE BARBECUE** PROVIDED FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY
Please bring sun and rain protection and wear sturdy footwear. Implements provided.

PLEASE JOIN IN THIS PLANTATHON, AND HELP "GREEN THE PLANET"



Serving the
Children
of the World



ADVANCE NOTICE - **PLEASE KEEP THIS DATE FREE**

TUESDAY 9th SEPTEMBER

DINNER MEETING - MEMBERS & PARTNERS

7pm at The Magdalene Centre, 26 Moore Street, Adelaide
(off Carrington St)

3 Course Meal \$20.00 per head

*PLEASE BRING ALONG TWO CARTONS OF
LONG LIFE MILK AND HELP A WORTHY CAUSE*

40th ANNUAL DISTRICT CONVENTION



Held in Adelaide: 21 - 24 August 2008



Registration: Ms Chris Brown PO Box 89, Campbelltown SA 5078

*** LET'S PAINT THE TOWN RED!!! REGISTRATIONS ABOUT TO CLOSE!**

At our Dinner Meeting on July 8th, we were very privileged to hear the wise words of JO WICKES who for the past three years has been Manager of Adelaide's Magdalene Centre.

Having previously worked with Oxfam, she has had similar positions overseas ("really loved Ireland...") and also been employed by The Body Shoppe.

Jo informed us how the Magdalene Centre provides emergency assistance, and sometimes accommodation for families who find themselves in a position of crisis. Where possible, they also try to help out families financially in an emergency situation.

The Centre works in a co-operative role alongside organisations such as Anglicare and St Peters Cathedral, with affiliative Teen Challenge, amongst others. People often first approach Magdalene Centre if they strike poverty and need crisis assistance - maybe to pay the rent or pay power bills. Jo said that they conduct around 10,000 interviews annually to assess the suitability of claimants. On average, 25 p.c. of those interviewed are Aborigines, while 20 p.c. are sleeping rough. The staff often encounter African recent arrivals among those needing help.

Unfortunately these days, the number of people seeking assistance is increasing, with the profile including those suffering homelessness, gambling problems, couch surfing, under-nourished, and also women sleeping in cars.

They also see people who seem to be trapped in a cycle of having to pay fines for various misdemeanours, but never having the ability to pay those fines.

Last year Jo approached local legal firm Weeks Minter and they have agreed to help provide lawyer services for those in need.

A good example of providing practical assistance comes from African families who don't know about domestic basics such as boiling an egg, making toast, making a cuppa - things that we take for granted and perform without thinking.

The Friday after Jo's talk, there was a segment on ABC-TV which was aired on Stateline - concerning social integration with our "new Australians". "Big Issue" is a publication sold weekly in Adelaide by the homeless, and a bonus is that the vendors are able to keep the proceeds of their sales.

Some of the people helped by Magdalene Centre have even formed a soccer team, and apparently there are enough of these "street soccer" kids around, to play in a league competition. This must be more organised than most people realise, as an Adelaide "team" went overseas last year to play in Denmark in a kind of "World Cup" event for street soccer. The Aussies didn't do too well on the sports field but socially really enjoyed themselves and were able to gain a lot of extra self esteem.

Jo joined the chorus of people who reckon the Government's decision to gradually sell off more public housing is not a good move.

We learned how Magdalene Centre's services even include loaning out good clothing to people who need to look smart for, maybe, job interviews or court appearances.

Magdalene Centres are provided with some Commonwealth Government funding but the main finances come from community support and donations, along with their own fund-raising.

Jo revealed how the Magdalene Centre at Carrington Street, City, can host dinner functions for up to 60 people, with a 3-course meal provided for \$20 / head. This information stirred our gathering into a response that may see us hopefully hold one of our meetings there, later this year.

Many thanks Jo for such an interesting talk on this organisation with such an important function.





This recent clipping from The Advertiser was doing the rounds at our last Dinner Meeting and while the reproduction isn't terrific, check out the bloke circled in the middle picture. General consensus was that this chap bears more than a passing resemblance to the man set to be ordained later this year as our next President!

WIRRANENDI BUSH RESTORATION

President Colin recently attended a Landcare project, part of a national program funded by Spicers Paper, this one being located in the western Adelaide Parklands just north of West Terrace cemetery. The pictures below, kindly provided by Colin, show the team of volunteers which includes Kiwanians, helping plant trees.

BACKGROUND - In the late 1990s Adelaide City Council and the Friends of Wirranendi, a local community group, revegetated an area of the park with local native plants, typical of the original Mallee Box vegetation found in the area. This new project seeks to reignite community involvement in the Park and to add to the work already done. ACC is seeking the ongoing help of the community to manage the area. Activities planned will include plant propagation, planting days, seed collection, weed control, frog census, etc.

For any other Kiwanians wanting to become involved by becoming a Parklands Bush Volunteer, just contact the Parklands Ranger on 8203 7483. By registering as a volunteer you will play a vital role in improving the natural environment of the Parklands.

Many thanks to Colin for providing this information...



PROSPECT KIWANIS Timpir Information Night



On a rather cold, damp Monday evening, July 14, the Prospect Kiwanis Club in conjunction with overseas aid organisation Timpir, hosted an Information Night which proved most enlightening.

Speakers included Charter President Henry Kutek, wife Lynda, along with Mel and William (Kuol) Baak who talked on their most recent experiences in Southern Sudan where Timpir operates. The previous name of Panhom was changed to Timpir, partly due to discovering that one of panhom's literal translations means "mound of dirt" ! Dinka remains the main language in the south and Sudan remains the largest country area-wise in Africa, having a population of around 11 million.

Khartoum is the northern capital, and Jabul (where the Nile River flows) is the southern capital. Temperatures can hover around the low 50s which is HOT! The locals make their own beer using sorghum - it's rather low on alcoholic content but is apparently very nutritious and served with a gourd from open containers... The villagers lead rather basic lives with no rubbish collections (garbage in towns, etc is just flung anywhere) meaning it's not hard for disease and illness to be prevalent.

Owning a goat is quite a symbol of wealth, but they need protecting from ubiquitous hyenas. If you're offered a rooster, take it. Might seem fowl, but it is a token of respect from the locals.

Many villagers get around on pushbikes, otherwise you need to leg it - and locals seem accustomed to very long walks to queue for hours so they can fill containers with water, and then undertake the lengthy walk home. There is a real shortage of skilled workers who have to be imported, but Timpir is trying to help improve the education / schooling of local village children so that hopefully a future generation will be able to put something back into the country. This is being achieved through Timpir's sponsorship of schools such as Waramoth Primary - a school which has expanded in recent months and seems to offer the locals genuine hope for the future. A terrific effort by those involved and since the evolution of Waramoth, there has been practical support provided by Kiwanis Clubs including Barossa, Newcastle, Prospect and Adelaide Clubs. Zonta have also helped by donating birthing kits to Timpir.

The infant mortality rate in PNG is 53 / 1000, but in Sudan it is around 140 / 1000 - sadly, there is a 1 in 9 chance of death for mothers, either during pregnancy or in childbirth.

There were several Kiwanians amongst the 2 dozen present to hear this interesting seminar, including Governor Bill van Diemen and Ali, Peter Kelly, Cyril Emery, Colin Brookes, Ken Foggo and David McNabb. A truly yummy supper followed, and also the raffle draw, although none of those present won prizes!

FOOTNOTE: Many thanks to our hosts for this most interesting evening. One of the best anecdotes came from Henry who told of how pilots of the small planes landing at the local air strip need to "buzz" the tarmac before deciding to land (no traffic control), so that the runway can be cleared by womenfolk of goats that always stray into the airport and graze in hazardous places!!



NB: No responsibility is accepted for the accuracy of information contained in advertisements or text supplied by individuals or organisations, and/or typographical errors. Editor: David McNabb Phone: 0407 795 681 or email: dmcnabb@laneprint.com.au Items for inclusion in KAN can be emailed or posted. In electronic format, text typed in Word format is preferable. Pictures saved as JPEG or TIFF are fine. Deadline for copy is the middle of each month.