

SUE'S WORDS OF WISDOM



I have spent the week playing catch up on Rotary and personal duties. So much going on behind the scenes so it's important that I keep on top of things, or I get snowed under. Due to my credit card being compromised and the need to wait for a replacement commitments and calendar bookings backed up or had to be changed. It's not only annoying and disruptive it's also a bit scary. Fortunately, banks are aware of most scams and were able to stop payments before there was financial trouble. But it's also up to each of us to be aware of what could be going on.

Financial scams are only one thing we need to be aware of.

As with most of you I have been cold called from someone claiming to be the tax office or Centrelink. I can tell you that no federal department will cold call clients or threaten legal action over the phone. I have been a federal public servant for over 30 years, and they don't operate that way. Please don't be intimidated by scammers. Just hang up and report it to the scams Hotline. This time of year, so many new schemes will pop up or be resurrected. They are getting more sophisticated and resemble businesses like Australia Post, Telstra, a bank etc. Look closely and it may be a spelling or grammar mistake or something else that isn't quite right. Be scam aware.

It's tax time again. If you have any questions the ATO has a great online Q&A or a phone Hotline to answer all your questions.

Have a great week. Create Hope for someone you meet.

Sue

NEXT WEEK

24 July	Isobel Machuca	Manningham Whitehorse Mentor Volunteer Program
C	Chairperson:	Stuart Williams
G	Greeter:	John Bindon
Ν	lotes for "Happenings"	Bill Marsh
Т	hanks	Barbara Searle

COMING UP

- 23 July Rodenticides- see last week.
- 31 July **Buccatini a la Carte**
- **Roland Gesthuizen** 7 August Scouting
- 12 August Blackburn Craft Market
- 13 August Whitehorse Farmers Market
- 14 August District Governor lan's visit
- 21 August Nicholas Brooks Living in Dubai

July is New Leadership Month

CELEBRATIONS



Let's celebrate John Mcphee's safe return after his operation.



Meeting Report July 17, 2023

Our club forum was held at Bucatini not on Zoom and there were 7 members present. Apologies were received from John Bindon, John McPhee and Ron Brooks.

Reports

After a phone call to Judy Bill reminded us that Kierin's report on RYLA should be included as early as practicable.

Warwick's suggestion that the annual report be finalised after 30 June each year was accepted.

The raffle was run early with Bob Laslett taking home the chocolates.

Meeting

President Sue chaired the meeting.

After discussion of the program, it was decided to aim for a meeting structure where in a normal month there would be 3 meetings with a speaker and 1 business meeting. Ron would be kept informed and the a la carte meeting when there are 5 Mondays would continue. 28 August and 25 September were suggested as possible business meetings but are flexible if speaker requirements dictate.

The Blackburn market was discussed and will continue for the present. It was decided that back-up personnel for key positions was essential. The future of the club provoked considerable discussion. It was decided to continue so that we can hopefully reach our 50-year milestone.

The need for local community projects provoked more discussion. Follow up on Dementia Cafes, Mitcham Community House and Alkira were proposed. Bill promised to prepare a list of recent recipients of donations. It was agreed to increase responsible donations from the Harper fund.

Warwick is to investigate subsidising our annual fees.

On a cold winter's night, it was good to be out of the cold and rain.

Bob L

BREAKFAST



RCFH BLACKBURN STATION CRAFT MARKET – TRADER OF THE MONTH

Jeremy & Mary Ann Furness are locals from Croydon. They sell children's books, oil paintings on gum leaves, and knitted toys in markets at Nunawading, Yarra Junction and of course the Rotary Blackburn station markets. Jeremy started writing and illustrating his Barry the Bike series of children's books over 10 years ago. It is one of the very few children's books that feature classic motorcycles, cars, and trucks. Go to Barry the Bike on Facebook to see all the books in the series.

Mary Ann started **oil paintings on gum leaves** as a 15-year-old inspired by paintings by her grandparents. Her grandfather was William Beckwith McInnes who won the Archibald Prize seven times. These gum leaf oil paintings are as unique as they are beautiful. She paints on specially prepared Tasmanian Blue Gum Eucalyptus leaves which when painted are sealed to ensure a long life. She has been a professional illustrator for the last 40 years working for some of the world's leading publishing houses but now Mary Ann runs Wattle Gum Studios nestled in the Croydon Hills.

Mary Ann started **knitting toys** as a girl and now has turned that pastime into a commercial venture with her beautiful, cute range of animals, fish and birds.

Jeremy and Mary Ann can be contacted on 0403 310 032 or mafurness@bigpond.com or via Instagram mafurness_arts. But better still, come and talk to them at one of their regular markets to see the full range of their talents.









SOME OF OUR BLACKBURN MARKET STALLHOLDERS































Come and frequent the Market next month- August 12 Disclaimer: Articles and reports do not necessarily reflect Rotary Club of Forest Hill opinions.