



# FOREST HILL HAPPENINGS

No. 12 President: Sue Ballard

27 September 2023

## SUE'S WORDS OF WISDOM



Hi all.

As we head into October, I ask that you help Rotary International and our District Governor's Partner project and support End Polio Now. There is only a small handful of Polio victims now around the world thanks to all the work done over the years. But we can't let our guard down as a fresh outbreak could happen at any time. I will hopefully join some of the activities around including a walk. To see what is on, go to the End Polio Now pages to find activities near you.

The special guest speaker this week reminded us that trafficking in humans and slavery could happen anywhere at any time to anybody. I have seen the effect this has on people who get lured into a scheme supposed to help them but it traps them. To show your support please try and purchase products with the free trade logo on the label or search for ethically produced and manufactured products.

District has asked us all to consider our thoughts on Regionalisation and the preferences for our club. Stuart and I have a survey to fill in for the club' at the next business meeting. From my understanding this is not going to change how we run the club but just how we align ourselves.

For those looking forward to the football and rugby finals I hope they are close and well - played. For those connecting with family over the school holidays enjoy. For those out in the garden may the sun keep shining and the flowers bloom with the wildlife.

Pres Sue

## NEXT WEEK

2 October	Stuart Williams	Footy Fever
Chairperson:	Stuart Williams	
Greeter:	John McPhee	
Notes for "Happenings"	Stuart Williams	
Thanks	Ron Brooks	

## COMING UP

8 October	Whitehorse Farmers Market
9 October	Bucatini a La Carte
14 October	Blackburn Craft Market
16 October	Business meeting

*September is*  
*Basic Education and Literacy*  
*Month*

## CELEBRATIONS



Let us celebrate. Happy birthday to Barbara Searle on October 4.



## MEETING REPORT September 25, 2023

Monday 25 Sep; attendance 13

President Sue welcomed all. They included our members, guest speaker Dr Colleen Jackson, Judy Marsh, Rotary Nunawading visitor Dr Leela John, Rotary MASH visitors Anne Teese, Val and Colin Crees. We were in the capable hands of Barbara Searle as our chair.

### *Weekly reports*

Secretary Stuart reminded us of the forthcoming footy night, told of member forms for 2 prospective members and the booking of Box Hill town hall.

Warwick reminded those that had not paid that it was time to receive our dues.

International- Bob L pointed to newsletter report of district meeting.

Youth- Glenys reported 1 starter for our Youth Achievement Awards, meeting Kerryn Pell and article for next Eastsider News.

Sue reported on the Dementia Forum and advised of the Whitehorse Positive Ageing Expo.

### *Meeting*

Our guest speaker Colleen was a former Rotarian from Devonport in Tasmania. Colleen's topic was Human Trafficking and Slavery.



She was a sister of Charity (Catholic Nun) and worked with ACRATH (see below) that has links with Talithakum which operates in 100 other countries. She stressed that Australia is not immune from the 2 scourges and encouraged us to watch the challenging film “Sound of Freedom” and research channel 7 Spotlight on the News segment on Korea. She outlined the 3 elements of the Palermo protocol. She showed 2 moving videos and highlighted areas of modern slavery such as nail salons, agriculture and hospitality. Profit and greed were the main motivators of people in the topic area. Attached below are two areas where we can help – ethical foods (chocolate and coffee) and ethical fashion. It was a very worthwhile meeting that challenged us to consider our common humanity. Colleen’s talk raised many questions and Sue gave 2 examples from her own experience. Stuart thanked Colleen enthusiastically.



President Sue closed the meeting after discovering the raffle winners Anne, Sue B and Judy M and challenged us to “Create Hope.”

Bob Laslett





www.acrath.org.au  
People are NOT for sale

## Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans

### Some invitations to action

#### Ethical Chocolate and Coffee

Much of the chocolate sold in Australia is made using cocoa beans picked by children, many of whom have been enslaved, or forced to work in exploitative conditions. The International Labor Rights Forum (ILRF) estimates that there are more than 1.5 million children working in the cocoa sector in West Africa, where about 70% of the world's cocoa is produced.

Buying products displaying one or both of the **Rainforest Alliance** or **Fairtrade** certification logos on the wrapper means you are purchasing from companies working to eliminate slavery in the cocoa industry.



Learn more:

<https://fairtradeanz.org>

<https://acrath.org.au/take-action/chocolate/>

#### Ethical Fashion

Chances are that children and adults working in sweatshops, for little money and often in appalling and hazardous conditions, make some of the clothes you wear, or clothes you might want to buy.

A terrible tragedy occurred at the [Rana Plaza](#) in 2013 in Dhaka, Bangladesh, when an eight-story building collapsed, killing 1136 people and injuring 2500. Most of the dead and injured were poorly paid female garment makers, producing many of the clothes that end up in Australia.

Since then some of the big brand companies have worked to ensure conditions have improved. Others have not. We can prevent the exploitation of factory workers by buying ethically produced clothing and

See if your clothing is ethically produced by checking the Baptist World Aid Ethical Fashion Guide.

<https://baptistworldaid.org.au/resources/ethical-fashion-guide/>

Practise ethical fashion purchasing and repurposing – host a clothes swap among your friends!

Learn more:

<https://acrath.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/Labour-Rights-Still-in-the-Dark-Report.pdf>

<https://ethicalclothingaustralia.org.au/find-an-ethical-manufacturer/>

Watch "What She Makes" <https://youtu.be/WfVWt3Z1d3g>

<https://acrath.org.au>

<https://talithakum.info>

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## The New Hope Katolo Kitchen



## WORLD POLIO DAY

Put 24 October in your diary.

## 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](mailto:mafurness@bigpond.com) or via Instagram [mafurness\\_arts](https://www.instagram.com/mafurness_arts). But better still, come and talk to them at one of their regular markets to see the full range of their talents.

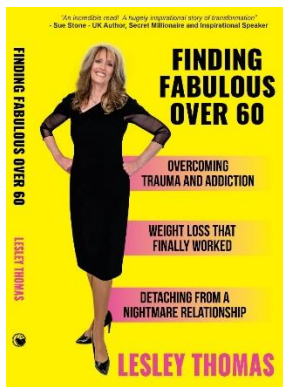




## SOME OF OUR BLACKBURN MARKET STALLHOLDERS







## Come and frequent the Market next month- October 14

Disclaimer: Articles and reports do not necessarily reflect Rotary Club of Forest Hill opinions.