



FOREST HILL HAPPENINGS

No. 16 President: Bob Laslett

1 November 2023



Hi all

Another successful Youth Achievement Awards night. We are very proud of all the achievements of the awardees. Seeing these primary school students stepping up and helping in their school communities makes for a promising future for volunteers.

This is my last post as my 4-month stint as President ends today. I will now have time to focus more on my other duties. November and December are busy months. Not only am I involved in the Apprenticeship awards with Box Hill Institute and the committee for International Women's Day I am also involved in the Dementia Umbrella Cafe. Dementia has affected people in my extended family as well as a person I used to work with. I totally applaud those carers and volunteers who support the clients to stay in their own homes and function in the community.

I have now passed the baton to Bob Laslett for the next 4 months. I wish him well.

Sue

NEXT WEEK

6 November **No meeting**

COMING UP

11 November **Blackburn craft market**

12 November **Whitehorse Farmers Market**

13 November **Peter Malden** **Fiji Eyes Update**

Chairperson: Stuart Williams

Greeter: Glen Grant

Notes for "Happenings" Ron Brooks

Thanks Bob Laslett

20 November

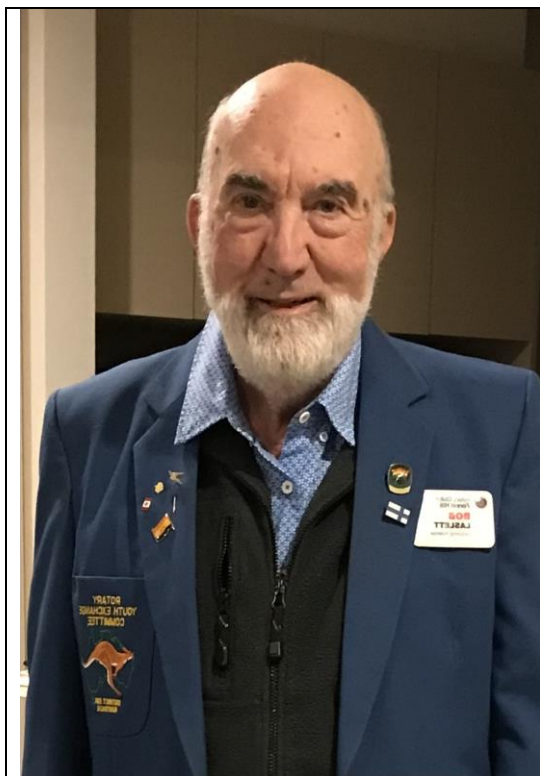
Daryl Hawkey

A visit to Ukraine and beyond

27 November

DGN Peter Behm

BOB'S BANTER



Change is afoot but also more of the same.

A big thankyou to Sue for all her hard work in getting the club moving this year. Well done.

Thanks too to Glenys and all her helpers for successful meetings in the last two weeks.

Our club works well as a team and despite footy being over we still aim to kick goals.

Don't forget the big picture. Our last District 9810 Conference is March 22-24 in Warrnambool and the International Convention in Singapore May 25-29.

Let's strive to **Create Hope In the World**- the World certainly needs it at this time.

*November is
Rotary Foundation
Month*

CELEBRATIONS



Congrats to Marg and John McPhee on 64 years of wedded bliss -October 31!!



MEETING REPORT October 30, 2023

400 Unsung Heroes Honoured.

Over forty years ago Rotary Club of Forest Hill created a unique award - the RCFH Bert Sloane Youth Achievement Awards, to be given to Year six students attending primary schools in Whitehorse. Over the years the name was shortened to become the RCFH Youth Achievement Awards (YAA).

It's affectionately now called 'the **Unsung Hero** Awards'

This award has gained in popularity to the extent that, to accommodate extra family members, this year TWO award evenings were held.

This year, also, we celebrated the giving out of the 400th award!

In the past week the club has honoured 12 Yr 6 students - one from each of 12 Whitehorse Primary Schools. The first group of six awardees, along with their families, attended an Awards evening and a delicious dinner at Bucatini Restaurant on October 23.

The second group of six awardees and families attended another delightful awards evening on October 30.



They were:

- **Burwood Heights PS**, Award Winner **Huma**
- **Rangeview PS**, Award Winner **Kiah**
- **St Timothy's PS**, Award Winner **Savannah**
- **Vermont PS**, Award Winner **Penny**
- **Vermont South Special PS**, Award Winner **Tiali**
- **Weeden Heights PS**, Award Winner **Aisha**

The evenings were deemed a success, according to the thankyou and genuine congratulatory messages received.

The first evening has been reported on in the last issue of the newsletter. October 30 saw an even greater crowd, with the six awardees supported by parents, grandparents and siblings.

Bob Laslett did a great job of Chairing, explaining what Rotary does nationally and internationally. He also explained that the award winners get a framed certificate, a laminated citation, and a \$50.00 Voucher, as well as photos of the event, and publicity for themselves and their school.

Rotary District 9810 Assistant Governor Catherine Elfick gave a very informative talk about the Rotary District 9810 youth programs that students are offered. She also mentioned the Youth Citizenship Awards that our club runs for Year 8 students.

As well as being a natural and talented Speaker, she is a very welcome guest of the club at events like this, setting all at ease.

Special thanks, Catherine and Bob.

The award giving is, of course, always the best part of the evening. That's when the citations are read out and the audience hears why each school has chosen its wonderful unsung hero.



And that's when a few private, proud and happy tears can be seen.

- often by the grandparents!

Last Monday, as each child received their award from AG Catherine, their citation, written by their teacher, was read by their table host. Many photos were taken.

Just an example, so you can get an idea of the calibre of these inspiring students....

One such inspiring youngster had survived a long debilitating childhood illness and bounced back to become a kind and caring mentor to all, along with supporting the school community at every opportunity.

Award Criteria: *This award is affectionately called the 'Unsung Hero Award' as the idea is to recognise a student from your school who may not normally be widely recognised in the community for their efforts.*

That he/she:

- *is a wonderful role model who upholds the school's values*
- *can be called upon to help the school or colleagues at any time*
- *has achieved success through application and determination throughout the year*
- *has made a worthwhile contribution to the school community and/or the environment also*
- *may not have received many academic or sporting awards but has excelled in other ways, ie is an 'unsung hero' who strives hard to succeed and to help others*

Yes, these youngsters truly deserve these awards. All are a credit to their families and schools, a success now and in the future. Congratulations to them and their families.

A huge thank-you to the hardworking team who ensured these two evenings were a success.

Glenys Grant,
Youth Chair.

WAR on Waste PICNIC



Join in our own War on Waste...

...At our **'Living Simply Together Picnic Lunch' ...on Sunday 12th November after Morning Tea (11.45 -3pm) at our church service at Mitcham.** *We will learn about the world's urgent rubbish problem and how Christians around the world are uniting to take action. Over lunch we will discuss what we can do as individuals, and as a church, to contribute to the solution so...*

Let's make it a picnic!

The challenge...

- *Use as little, less, or no, single-use plastic and packaging in lunch preparation as you can.*
- *Bring two rounds of sandwiches pp, each one cut into 4 **OR** bring 8 pieces of savoury picnic food.*
- *Pack the sandwiches/savoury picnic food in a reusable container – they are to share. So please prepare with extra awareness of personal hygiene.*
- *Bring with you the waste generated by your preparation.*
- *Bring a \$2 pp donation for Tear Fund, who provided the Resources for this Lunch/Workshop.*
- *Soup & sweets, tea and coffee will be supplied.*

*For catering purposes **please indicate your intention to attend the picnic...***

*RSVP...Email or text **'Yes Picnic - 1 or 2 or__?__'** per family to...*

Email: Joy at ceejaywill@gmail.com Text: Phone:0402 491 013

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.

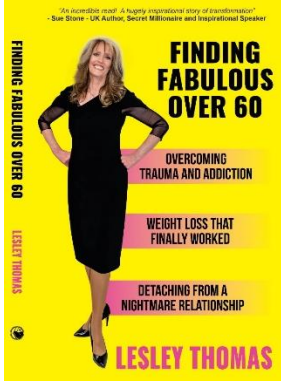
Mary Ann started **knitting toys** as a girl and now has turned that pastime into a commercial venture with her beautiful, cute range of animals, fish and birds.

Jeremy and Mary Ann can be contacted on 0403 310 032 or mafurness@bigpond.com or via Instagram [mafurness_arts](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 this month- November 11

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