

# FOREST HILL FLYER 2010-2011

## Weekly Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Forest Hill

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The Rotary Club of Forest Hill meets at 6.15 pm for 6.30 pm on Mondays at Bucatini Restaurant, 454 Whitehorse Road, Mitcham, 3132. \$27.00 per head

### CLUB PROGRAM

No club meeting on 14 March

<u>16 March</u>	<u>21 March</u>	<u>28 March</u>
<b>Welcome Dinner for GSE team from USA.</b> At Monte Carlo Receptions, Jacksons Square, Doncaster East  <b>CHAIR</b>  <b>Thanks and meeting report</b>  <b>Most memorable Rotary experience</b>	<b>INTERPLAST And Home Hosted Dinner At Bremner's for partners. Details in FLYER</b>  John Donaghey  Bob Neilson  Bob Laslett	<b>Leanne Pinfold</b>  <b>AFRICAN KINDERGARTEN</b>  Graham Sharman  Chris Tuck  Stuart Williams

### DUTY ROSTER

<b>March</b>	
Cashier	Chris Tuck
Recorder	Graham Sharman
Greeter	John Donaghey
Emergency	Geoff Hale

### ATTENDANCE

Apologies - **Please contact Ray Smith by 10.00 am MONDAY on 9878 4891 or [rcssmith@optusnet.com.au](mailto:rcssmith@optusnet.com.au).** Any cancellation after 10.00 am should be made direct with the management of Bucatini Restaurant on 9873 0268

**DAVID'S DIARY**

August is Literacy Month in the Rotary calendar. It's a reminder to us in the Lucky Country that for many people the inability to read or write is an enormous problem and a roadblock on the way to greater economic development and a better life. As usual, Rotary is doing its bit through the Rotary Foundation and individual clubs with a range of programs that focus on improving these basic communication skills. Another good reason to support the Foundation.

As Gary Baltissen mentioned at last week's meeting, the arrangements for the visit from the Californian Group Study Exchange Team are in place.

Our drivers, Stuart, Graham, Ron and Ray, will collect the team on 18 March and will transport them firstly to the NADRASCA farm for a visit hosted by Raeoni Turner, then to the NADRASCA Centre for a tour of the factory and finally to Yarra Valley Water where the Managing Director, Tony Kelly, and his senior executives will outline the organisation's functions.

In order to simplify the lunchtime barbecue arrangements, the lunch will now be held at our home with Bill, Bob and Geoff in charge of cooking. Many thanks to Judy Laslett, Marg McPhee, Judy Marsh, Robbie Brooks and Heather for organising the nibbles, salads and desserts. If any other members want to attend the lunch which will commence about 12.15pm, please let me know before 16 March so we have enough food.



The team consists of David Vo a computer software programmer; Amy McVicker who teaches Spanish; Team Leader, Kevin Young from the Camarillo Rotary Club who owns an air conditioning and heating business; Alicia Baker an administrative services specialist with Red Cross; and Arron Meidam who is a vintner and chef.

We look forward to welcoming the team, firstly at the Welcome Dinner on 16 March and then at our hosting day.

At last week's meeting, I gave a brief report on the deliberations of the group who are reviewing the outcomes of the recent *Our Club Our Future* seminar. The report is reproduced below.

Thanks to the members who responded to the invitations to the Peridot Theatre performance on 6 May and the Home Hosted Dinner for partners on 21 March. We will have an excellent attendance at both functions.

I was very pleased to present the Rotarian of the Month award to John McPhee. John is doing an excellent job in managing our Blackburn Craft Market and looking after the needs of our stallholders. If anyone else, members or partners, is available to assist at the market on 12 March, I am sure John would appreciate your help

Best wishes to you and your families for the week ahead as we continue building communities and bridging continents.

**David**

David Bremner  
President

Attendance was 96.7% for 4 meetings in Feb

Regards

Ron

## FOOTY TIPPING

As of Tuesday afternoon, 8 March we only had 8 people registered in our Footy tipping Comp. Come on, get with it. It is great fun, very easy to enter. Join Bob Laslett, Bob Williams, Chris Tuck, Cyril Yardin, Merle Williams, many Bremners and Stuart Williams in attempting to pick winners.

Go on-line to Oztips Join our comp. Register your details, decide on the name you wish to appear and a password. The comp is foresthill, number 249885 I can't remember which order you put them in. (reverse order – number on first line)

Cost \$30 of which \$6.00 goes to the wonderful work of ROMAC. Rules etc are all there. Weekly winners as well as end of season cash prizes. Cheques payable to the Rotary Club of Forest Hill

Have fun - maintain an interest in the AFL for the season Join our comp.  
DO IT NOW

### ..... **Visit to Chris and Warwick's farm at Longwood Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> March.**

We have a few less than anticipated going and as announced at our meeting, please bring salad/dessert etc for yourselves rather than us trying to arrange who is bringing what etc.

Remember it is BYO everything, chairs, plates, utensils, food and drink etc.

We have Geoff Hale, Judy and Bill Marsh, Barbara and Bob Williams, Chris Tuck, Stuart Williams (subject to tennis commitments) coming and of course our hosts Chris and Warwick who will provide tea, coffee and the bbq.

Please arrange any car-pooling and meet at the farm around 11am for Chris and Warwick to show us around and then lunch at 1 or so.

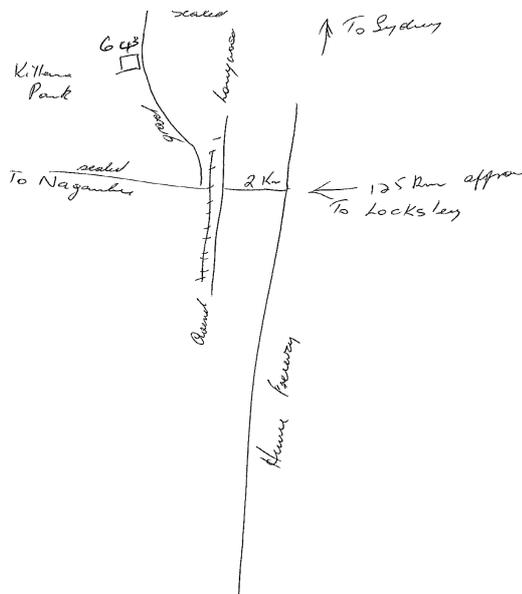
If any of our members who have not replied or any of our past members want to come, we would love to see you there.

Map is attached.

Bob Williams

### **Directions to Chris and Warwick's farm**

Go up the Hume Freeway to about the 125km mark where there is a turnoff on the left to Locksley. Travel along this road for about 2km where you will come across the Avenel/Longwood Road alongside the Sydney railway line. Cross both road and rail at Locksley and 10 metres over the rail, turn right onto gravel road labelled Carmody's Road and an arrow to the Gliding airstrip. Travel up the Carmody's Road for 6.43 km with the airstrip on your right. We are on the left side labelled Killara Park at number 643, being the fourth house on the left side – if you get to a house with a sign on the gate saying Poll Dorsets, you have gone too far.



I have included the map because original works of art – like a Picasso on a beer coaster - are worth millions years later.

## Rotary Club of Forest Hill

### Our Club Our Future

The review group consisting of Glenys Grant, Bill Marsh, Doug Berwick, Ron Brooks and I met for three hours on 1 March 2011 to review the expectations, visions and actions that people contributed during the seminar on 14 February.

Much of the first meeting was devoted to discussing the process we will follow in examining the outputs from the seminar and in developing the strategies needed to implement the changes that members are looking for. It was agreed that the project needs to be completed by 30 June 2011.

We agreed that the group's approach will be to review the output from the seminar and to develop tentative conclusions which it will later discuss with members to get their agreement and support. It was noted that the members need to be involved in the progressing of the project and not just in considering a final report. If necessary, other sub-groups may be formed to examine particular topics.

Conclusions from the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting

1. The club will benefit if members are better coordinated in terms of club activities, better informed about projects being undertaken by Rotary International and the club and more involved in committee and project work. If we can achieve these objectives, club members will get greater enjoyment from their Rotary experiences.

We noted that the objectives can be achieved through a combination of changes in structures and habits. As examples:

- If all of the service committees had regular monthly meetings there would be a greater sharing of information and workloads;
  - Directors taking the opportunity during the club reports segment of each meeting to report on their current and upcoming projects. This will inform and enthuse members;
  - Organising a formal handover of roles from the current Board to the new Board so information is not inadvertently lost as we move from one year to the next. This process will also greatly assist the members of the 2011-12 Board who have not been on the Board before or in recent years.
2. The club needs to grow and to better reflect the age, gender and ethnic mix of our local community.

At present, our club members are almost exclusively male, predominately over retirement age and of Australian/British background. In terms of ethnicity, over 25% of Whitehorse residents speak a second language at home and thirty-five different languages are spoken in the city yet neither Forest Hill nor the other Whitehorse Clubs reflect this mix.

An immediate objective will be to increase the number of female members.

There was discussion about the desired age for new members. It was generally agreed that the desired age would be in the 50-60 age bracket initially. The target age range can be adjusted later in response to the age of new recruits.

3. Greater attention needs to be paid to activities that enable fellowship and friendships to develop and be sustained.

It was noted that fellowship opportunities should;

- Be regularly held during the year;
- Be varied in style e.g. a weekend trip, partners' nights, barbecues, home hosted dinners, etc; and
- Be mindful of the cost to members.

### **Meeting report**

Last week we had a very interesting talk by Ken Gosbell who has a passion for migratory birds and their travels and habits.

Ken was a civil engineer before retiring and indulging his interest in natural history and conservation.

Ken's talk was accompanied by an excellent slide show which included fascinating pictures of the various birds and the routes they follow as they migrate around the world. The video of enormous flocks of birds circling above the Yellow Sea was fascinating. Migratory birds such as the Red-necked Stint spend most of the year in Australia but migrate to Siberia for the breeding season. They fly non-stop 13,000 kilometres to the Yellow Sea, between China and Korea, where they stop to feed and to replenish their strength. They then continue on into Siberia arriving just as the snow is melting. There they stay while breeding. As to how the birds navigate during their journeys is unknown. The birds follow a fairly constant route as they travel between Australia and Siberia ("the flyways"). Prior to leaving Australia, Stints will almost double their weight in preparation for the non-stop flight to China.

For many years Ken has been involved in a number of projects using different banding techniques to track the birds. Originally, the techniques were simple colour-coded bands attached to the birds' legs but this has now developed into sophisticated electronic tags that enable the birds to be constantly monitored and followed using satellite tracking systems.

It was disturbing to hear Ken's comments on the impact of economic development on the size of the bird colonies. Ken showed photos of mudflats that had previously been key feeding grounds for the birds but are now being drained to form golf courses and industrial land. The result has been a significant decline in the number of birds.

It was a pleasure to be able to thank Ken on behalf of the club for an excellent address.  
Glenys Grant

### **Home Hosting Night**

A Home Hosted evening will be held on Monday 21 March 2011.

Partners are invited to meet at the Bremner's home for dinner and fellowship commencing about 6.15pm. Following the Rotary meeting, the members will travel to the Bremner's to enjoy dessert with our partners.

To assist with the catering arrangements, would partners please contact Heather on 9802 7731 or email [hjb91@bigpond.com](mailto:hjb91@bigpond.com) to advise whether they will bring a casserole or a dessert

### ***Entertainment BOOK –***

*We will be selling the book again this year. Same price - \$65 and the club makes \$15 from each purchase. Tell your family – please order them from The Rotary Club of Forest Hill. Stuart Williams has order forms – please contact him. (I used it this year and have had over 25 meals and saved over \$600 and used the aquarium voucher and cinema vouchers – excellent value... Stuart)*

### **Weekly Foundation Thought**

#### **Manningham Concert Band -- over 55 musicians**

**They have their Autumn Favourites concert on 27th of March at 2.30pm at The Pines Learning and Activity Centre, 520 Blackburn Rd, Doncaster East Cost: \$8 under 12 free - includes tea, coffee, biscuits.**

### **SENIOR'S CORNER**

Cameron's health care proposals.

The Allergists voted to scratch it, but the Dermatologists advised not to make any rash moves.

The Gastroenterologists had a sort of a gut feeling about it, but the neurologists thought the Administration had a lot of nerve.

The Obstetricians felt they were all labouring under a misconception.

Ophthalmologists considered the idea short-sighted.

Pathologists yelled, "Over my dead body!" while the Paediatricians said, "Oh, Grow up!"

The Psychiatrists thought the whole idea was madness, while the Radiologists could see right through it.

The Surgeons were fed up with the cuts and decided to wash their hands of the whole thing.

The ENT specialists didn't swallow it, and just wouldn't hear of it.

The Pharmacologists thought it was a bitter pill to swallow, and the Plastic Surgeons said, "This puts a whole new face on the matter...."

The Podiatrists thought it was a step forward, but the Urologists were pissed off at the whole idea.

The Anaesthetists thought the whole idea was a gas, but the Cardiologists didn't have the heart to say no.

In the end, the Proctologists won out, leaving the entire decision up to the arseholes in London.

The British Medical Association has weighed in on the new Prime Minister David

### **FOREST HILL'S MEMBERSHIP CHALLENGE**

We publish the table below to keep us aware of the challenge.

Membership at the beginning of the year	Current Membership	Change
18	18	--

### **BREAKFAST QUIZ**

Something to chew on over breakfast – THREE questions this week seeing a visitor got last week's questions correct.

#### **Answers to last week's questions**

**Q1. Two --- were among the Titanic survivors?**

**Answer: DOGS**

**Q2. Roman centurions commanded how many men in battle?**

**Answer: Around 80.**

**Q3. Name 2 of the 5 countries where women make up more than ten percent of the prison population.**

**Answer: Thailand, Qatar, Paraguay, Costa Rica and Singapore.**

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#### **Some FOOD questions this week.**

1. Q. What was created in 1897 by Auguste Escoffier in honour of Helen Porter Mitchell?
2. Q. What fruit is the Paisley design based on?
3. Q. What is the link between Manchego and Don Quixote?

**If you don't know the answers, you should pay a fine to the Sergeant. If you get the correct answer, the Editor will pay (this is costing me big time). The answers will be in next week's Forest Hill Flyer**

### **IMPORTANT UPCOMING CLUB AND DISTRICT EVENTS**

<p>12 March Blackburn Craft Market  13 March Whitehorse Farmers Market  14 March Club meeting cancelled  16 March Club will meet at the GSE Welcome function at Monte Carlo Reception Centre  18 March –hosting of GSE team by our club for the day  21 March Club meeting and HOME HOSTED DINNER for partners at Bremner's  7 -9 April District Conference</p>
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Please have FOREST HILL FLYER articles to me by **5 pm next Wednesday** (in Microsoft Word format,) Stuart Williams gsestu2@yahoo.com.au