



FOREST HILL FLYER 2010-2011

Weekly Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Forest Hill

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Edition 44: 25 April, 2011

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

25 April No meeting – public holiday	2 May Retirement and pre-retirement planning Gray Foreman (Board meeting) PARTNERS NIGHT	9 May Prepaid funerals and funeral insurance Joe Markham & Doug Berwick PARTNERS NIGHT
Chair	Bob Laslett	Bob Neilson
Thanks & meeting report	Ray Smith	John McPhee
Most Memorable Rotary Experience	Gary Baltissen	Glenys Grant

DUTY ROSTER

	MAY
Cashier	Gary Baltissen
Recorder	John McPhee
Greeter	Bob Laslett
Emergency	Graham Sharman

ATTENDANCE

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

CELEBRATIONS FOR THIS WEEK



26 April – Birthday – John McPhee

28 April – Wedding Anniversary – Robbie and Ron Brooks

DAVID'S DIARY

At our last meeting a surprising thing happened – two people asked if it was alright if they promoted the good work that Rotary does!

Phil Austin, the Technical Training Manager for BMW Australia, came to our meeting to support the Ford Davis Apprenticeship Award winner for the automotive course at Box Hill Institute, Peter O'Connor. After the meeting, Phil asked for my permission to promote the club in an email he was going to circulate to all of the BMW service centres in Australia. I received the email late Monday night and it read as follows:

"Last night I attended my first ever Rotary club meeting.

I did this to witness a great initiative run by the Forest Hill Rotary Club which is to recognise outstanding achievements of apprentices. There were two awards presented last night and one of them was given to a third year apprentice from Doncaster BMW Bundoora.

Anyone who knows me will already be aware of the passion I have for developing BMW apprentices around the country and so it was with great pleasure that I could witness this recognition by a group as distinguished as the Rotarians for one of our future technicians.

Peter O'Conner started work at Doncaster BMW the same week that his wife gave birth to their son Riley. Peter worked extremely hard to deliver to the high standards that we insist on for our apprentice training while also managing his new family commitments, all on apprentice wages.

Because of his efforts, Peter was recognised by Link employment during their annual awards in 2010 and now also by the Forest Hill Rotary club with the assistance of Box Hill Institute. Peter received the Annual "Ford Davis" award named after the Forest Hill Rotary Club founding member who was a passionate member of the automotive community in his day.

The award was presented by current club president David Bremner.

BMW was also recognised for our commitment to training and development of young automotive technicians.

Please join me in feeling proud of our achievements on behalf of Peter and many others.

Regards, Phil"

The second event was as a result of the club awarding the Graham Taylor Apprenticeship Award to Kevin Smith from the electrical and refrigeration course at Box Hill Institute. Kevin is also a professional golfer and as a teenager he represented New Zealand in overseas amateur golf tournaments.

Kevin asked if he could purchase a cloth version of the Rotary wheel emblem. He explained that as a way of expressing his thanks for our apprenticeship award, he will wear the badge on his hat when he plays in professional golf tournaments. He is presently preparing for the qualifying competition to enable him to play in next year's Australian Open. I am sending a badge to Kevin with the club's compliments. Watch out for him at next year's Australian Open.

I don't think we could have found two better young apprentices to receive the awards than Peter and Kevin. They are both held in high regard by their employers and by their respective Institute instructors, Craig Reaks and Len Raines. I was impressed that in addition to thanking the club during their award acceptance speeches, both Peter and Kevin came to me after the meeting to repeat their appreciation for the awards which in each case consisted of a tool case to the value of \$260 and a cheque for \$740 to go towards their future endeavours.

Our thanks for arranging the awards go to Graham Sharman and his Vocational Services Committee and especially to John Donaghey who did a great job liaising with the Institute instructors on the arrangements for the presentations.

District Assembly will be held on 7 May and President Elect Doug Berwick is organising who will attend each segment. The Assembly is an excellent opportunity for new office bearers to learn about their areas of responsibility in the coming Rotary year. It is also an opportunity for more experienced Rotarians to update their knowledge.

I am pleased to advise that following discussion with people on the ground in flood affected areas in Victoria and Queensland, the club will be making two donations each of \$1,000. One donation will be to the Rotary Club of Gatton Lockyer in Queensland for use in assisting with repairs to a community facility in the town of Forest Hill. The second will be to the Central Goldfields Shire Council in northern Victoria to assist with repairs to the Carisbrook Recreation Reserve Clubrooms. Both community facilities are used extensively by local groups.

I would like to thank the Rotarians and partners who helped to raise the \$2,000 we are donating and also Ray Smith and Bill Marsh who did the groundwork to identify the projects that we have funded.

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

David

David Bremner
President

Meeting Report for 18 April 2011

Acting Sergeant Bob Williams commenced the meeting with our usual toasts to Australia and Rotary International.

Chairman Bill Marsh then welcomed our guests:

- Ford Davis Apprenticeship Award winner Peter O'Connor and his supporters Craig Reaks, lecturer in the Automotive Department at Box Hill Institute, Ray Cassar, Peter's host employer, Andrew Strebbs, Service Manager Doncaster BMW at Bundoora, Trevor Offer, Doncaster BMW, and Phil Austin – National Training Manager for BMW Australia;
- The Graham Taylor Apprenticeship Award winner Kevin Smith and his supporters Len Raines - lecturer in the Refrigeration Department at Box Hill Institute, and Alana Peril, Kevin's partner.
- Honorary member Marg Taylor and Assistant Governor Geoff Roberts; and
- Our Partners.

President David reported that donations of \$1,000 each will be made to the Rotary Club of Gatton Lockyer in Queensland and to Carisbrook Recreation Reserve Clubrooms in northern Victoria.

Stan Harper is still recovering but he sends his regards to the club. We miss Sergeant Stan – he is much kinder than the two Acting Sergeants who are covering for him!

Acting Sergeant Bob Williams collected **\$54.55** for the Rotary Foundation.

We have a visit to Peridot Theatre on 6 May. Would those who have ordered but not paid for their tickets please pay \$20 per ticket to President David.

Thanks to those who responded to the questionnaire on the future shape of our club. The review group will be considering the results of the questionnaire in the next week or so and will report back on the result.

Following our usual enjoyable dinner, the Ford Davis and Graham Taylor Apprenticeship Awards for 2011 were presented. President David explained that the awards contribute towards one of Rotary's key avenues of service to the community – to create a better

educated community – specifically to encourage apprentices to excel in their work. We have been presenting these awards to Box Hill Institute apprentices for over ten years.

Before the awards were presented Craig Reaks from the automotive school at the Box Hill Institute and Len Raines from the electrical and refrigeration school each gave an update on the activities of their departments. Doug Berwick then thanked the instructors and presented a pen to each in recognition of their contributions to our awards program.

President David explained that the awards are named after two of our former members – the late Ford Davis and the late Graham Taylor. Both Ford and Graham had a great faith in young people and did whatever they could to encourage young people to achieve their best.

The prize that each winner received is a toolbox and a contribution towards their future schooling to the value of \$1,000.

Before presenting the awards, President David thanked the instructors from Box Hill Institute and the Institute itself and the employers and family supporters of the apprentices. He also thanked the members of the Rotary Club of Forest Hill and their Partners who raised the money needed to fund the awards.

The Ford Davis Award for the motor mechanics course was then presented to Peter O'Connor an apprentice with BMW Doncaster. Peter has shown great skill in his work and has applied himself fully to his trade and to his young family.

The Graham Taylor Award for the electrical and refrigeration course was presented to Kevin Smith. Kevin was born in New Zealand and now lives in Australia. Kevin has displayed application and skill in his trade and respect for his instructors and fellow apprentices.

President David also thanked the club's Vocational Service Committee for organising the awards and particularly John Donaghey who worked with the Institute to select and present the apprentices.

In closing the meeting, President David mentioned that over the next three meetings we will have topics that will be of interest to our Partners. On May 2nd, we will have a talk on retirement and pre-retirement planning and in the following two weeks, we will talk on the funding of funerals and the Yarra Valley Water service. Our Partners and Honorary Members are welcome at any meeting but these three meetings may be of particular interest.

Celebration of 90 years of Rotary in Australia

2011 Marks the 90th year anniversary of Rotary in Australia and the Rotary Club of Melbourne, Australia's first Rotary Club invites Rotarians to a Gala Dinner to celebrate this occasion in the presence of Her Excellency, Ms Quentin Bryce AC, Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia.

This is an opportunity to acknowledge in a formal way the work of the current 37,000 Australian Rotary volunteers both male and female, from the 1202 Clubs in Australia to mark their 90 years of service.

The 90th Anniversary Dinner will be held on Monday 23rd May 2011 at 6.30pm in the Members Dining Room of the Melbourne Cricket Club, Brunton Avenue, Jolimont, dress Black Tie and cost \$155.00 per person.

ALL Rotarians throughout Australia are invited to join the Rotary Club of Melbourne for the 90 years of Rotary in Australia celebration dinner.

Enquiries / Bookings to Jo Mavros Rotary Club of Melbourne PO Box 18388, Collins Street East, Melbourne Vic 3000 Tel (03) 9654 7242, Fax (03) 9650 7373, E office@rotaryclubofmelbourne.org.au .

Footy Tipping

Four rounds gone and Stuart Williams is still leading by one point from a group of four tippers. There has been some bad luck – Brian Gobbi's computer caught a virus and was out of action for three weeks which meant Brian had to accept the consolation tips.

The season is still young and there is plenty of time for someone to spring out of the pack into the lead – I hope it is me!

Good luck to everyone.

Mock Job Interviews

The mock job interviews will be conducted at Forest Hill College on the evening of 18 May. Thanks to those who have volunteered to act as interviewers. If anyone else is interested, please contact Graham Sharman.

Entertainment BOOK – Is for sale NOW

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)

One copy has already been sold. I have 10 copies.

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 - Which former Australian prime minister once managed a rock band called The Ramrods?

Answers to last week's question - What regularly changes shape, yet remains a sphere, is always there, but often not seen? Ans: The moon

If you don't know the answer, you should pay a fine to the Sergeant. If you get the correct answer, the Editor will pay. The answer will be in next week's Forest Hill Flyer

IMPORTANT UPCOMING CLUB AND DISTRICT EVENTS

25 April 2011	Club meeting cancelled (Easter)
30 April 2011	Model United Nations Assembly
1 May 2011	International Friendship Exchange Florida (1-19 May)
2 May 2011	Club meeting & Board meeting
6 May 2011	Camp Awakening (6-8 May)
7 May 2011	District Assembly
8 May 2011	Whitehorse Farmers Market
9 May 2011	Club meeting
13 May 2011	Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment (RYPEN 13-15 May)
14 May 2011	Blackburn Craft Market
16 May 2011	Club meeting
20 May 2011	RI International Institute - New Orleans, USA
21 May 2011	RI International Convention - New Orleans, USA (21-25 May)
23 May 2011	Club meeting

Please have FOREST HILL FLYER articles to me by **5 pm next Wednesday week** (in Microsoft Word format,) David Bremner djl91@bigpond.com