



# FOREST HILL FLYER 2010-2011

## Weekly Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Forest Hill

PO Box 116, Nunawading 3131

Email [foresthillrotary@hotmail.com](mailto:foresthillrotary@hotmail.com) Website [foresthillrotary.com](http://foresthillrotary.com)

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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. Meal \$27.00 per head

### CLUB PROGRAM

23 May	30 May	6 June
<b>Club Forum for Rotarians And Partners Dinner in Bucatini</b> <b>CHAIR</b> Bob Williams <b>THANKS &amp; MEETING REPORT</b> <b>'MOST MEMORABLE' TALK</b>	<b>Rotary Fundraiser Dinner proposal</b> <b>Jeffrey Tan</b>  Chris Tuck  John Donaghey  Bob Williams	<b>East Timor Roofing and Water Project</b> <b>Ern Dawes</b>  Stuart Williams  Gary Baltissen  Chris Tuck

### DUTY ROSTER

	MAY	JUNE
Cashier	Gary Baltissen	John Donaghey
Recorder	John McPhee	Chris Tuck
Greeter	Bob Laslett	Graham Sharman
Emergency	Graham Sharman	Bob Laslett

### 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

### CELEBRATIONS FOR THIS WEEK



26 May Club Anniversary Bob Laslett  
 28 May Wedding anniversary Warwick and Christine Stott

**DAVID'S DIARY**

Next Monday we have arranged a special Partners Dinner in the Bucatini Restaurant, commencing at 6.30pm. While the Rotarians attend their meeting, the Partners will enjoy friendship and dinner in the restaurant. Following the meeting, we will join our Partners for coffee.

Our host, Ivan Millich, is organising a special table for the Partners so it is important that we know how many to set for. Partners, please advise Heather Bremner (9802 7731 or [hjb91@bigpond.com](mailto:hjb91@bigpond.com)) by 20 May if you are able to attend the dinner. To date three partners have indicated they will be attending.

It was interesting to hear Bill Marsh speak last week in our series of club member talks. The first notable aspect of the club that Bill commented on was the friendliness of the members. Even though he already knew a number of members before he joined the club, it was the friendliness and helpfulness of everyone that impressed him.

Bill's comments reminded me of talking to visitors to the club and visiting Rotarians and hearing a very similar comment – that we are friendly and welcoming. When doing make-up visits to other clubs, on most occasions, I have experienced the same sense of friendliness.

Friendliness is a feature of Rotary. Rotary clubs are community service clubs. They exist for three reasons:

1. To undertake community service projects that create safer, healthier and better educated communities;
2. To encourage high ethical standards in all forms of endeavour; and
3. To provide fun and fellowship for club members.

This mixture of service, ethics and fun are what I think gives Rotary clubs their very special nature.

The Rotary Club of Crawley in Western Australia promotes itself through the slogan "Giving was never this much fun". I like the slogan because it reflects the experience that we have all had in Rotary. We are asked to give our time, our skills, our ingenuity and often our money, but it is fun!

I thought our Blackburn Craft Market sausage sizzle last Saturday was an excellent example of giving and getting even more in return. The weather was a little indifferent with several showers of rain and it was cold but I found the morning flew by because the Rotarians who helped out had a wonderful time chatting amongst ourselves as we worked. It was a classic case of "giving was never this much fun". Thanks to everyone who helped at the market, especially our wonderful spruikers Glenys Grant and Gary Baltissen – they made the day!

Next week we have a Club Forum at which I will be reporting on progress with our community service program for the year. I will also report on progress with the review of the club that we are conducting under the *Our Club Our Future* banner.

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

**David**

David Bremner  
President

### **Report of the meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2011**

The meeting of 14 members and a guest speaker, Pat McCafferty from Yarra Valley Water, was chaired by Chris Tuck, and after the usual Presidential reports and members' reports, we came to the interesting parts of the meeting, the first one being Bill Marsh's memorable Rotary moments.

Bill mentioned a number of areas that he has thoroughly enjoyed, such as the friendship from members right from the beginning, the Blackburn market, collecting of pumpkins, Youth Achievement Awards, the apprenticeship awards, the variety of speakers, the District Assembly, the Our Club Our Future seminar and the trip to the Stott farm. (\* Ed note –and I thought the Serg session was an interesting part)

Chris then introduced Pat McCafferty. He explained that Yarra Valley Water (YVW) is the largest of the three retail water suppliers with revenue of \$530m pa, 18000 km of piping and 9 sewerage treatment plants. It is owned by the State Government but has a commercial board, with the Essential Services Commission (ESC) setting retail water charges, and Melbourne Water (the old MMBW) being the wholesaler. The basic operations of YVW are water supply, sewerage, maintaining networks, water conservation, servicing new developments, new infrastructure and providing houses with existing septic tanks with a modern sewerage system.

The Thomson Dam is the largest providing 60% of our total capacity together with Sylvan and Upper Yarra whilst Yan Yean is the oldest being built in 1880's. He mentioned that if restrictions had not been implemented, Melbourne would have run out of water, but we reduced our usage to 46 litres per person per day, and one of the main reasons for our disastrous dam levels is that 2006 had 36% less inflow than the previous worst year

He then discussed the desalination plant (expensive but necessary especially if or when we have another series of dry years) comparing it with those in other Australian cities, the North-South pipeline (very controversial) and linked with the Northern Victorian Irrigation Renewal Project (NVIRP).

He then discussed and explained water bills and why they are what they are, with their fixed and variable charges but under the control of the ESC, and then described a number of projects like the Kalkallo project where the aim is to reduce potable water usage, reduce storm water discharge by 45%, reduce nutrient discharge by 70%, reduce energy required by 75%, and the Kinglake West project,

Although Pat spoke for about an hour, he kept his audience interested the whole time, but unfortunately, there was little time afterwards for questions of which the writer had a considerable number concerning rainwater tanks, recycled water, future dams, N-S pipeline, politics surrounding the NVIRP.

In summary a fascinating and absorbing talk by an interesting speaker

Meeting footnote:

Bob Williams got a standing (well sitting) ovation for his fine on Serge Stuart.

Bob said "At the footy Friday night Stuart showed me his photos of his tooth trip to Thailand. But I didn't know that he moonlighted as a Thai tiger tamer, taking tenacious, testy tigers toddling on a dog lead. This tangoing, tourist teacher training totally terrifying tabbies to toddle without temperament and tomfoolery, took a toll on our tenderfoot talentless and technique-less tiger trainer who took time out to test his timidity for tackling a tete a tete tilt at the terrifying task of tiger taming without becoming tantamount to a tiger tasty treat or a test for a taxidermist. Topman Stuart but maybe next time take up tiny turtle training."

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**\*\*\*Wear A Hat in May +++ Money to Australian Rotary Health.**

**Chairman Gazza would like all Rotarians (and partners) to wear a hat to the meeting on Monday 23 May. Hats can be auctioned or a donation made to ARH.**

Blackburn Market

Last weekend we had a new stallholder at the market – Rhys Benbow from The Gift of the Woolly Beast!

Rhys specialises in sheep manure and he says his customers include many home gardeners, and community, school and market gardens. He enjoyed a good day last Saturday and intends to come to future markets to see if he can build a good clientele. Rhys also offers home delivery.

Rhys has offered an incentive to the club – if members or friends buy manure from him and quote the club's name and its account number 1110, he will provide three bags of manure to the club free of cost for each new customer. The club can then on-sell the bags or give them away if it wishes.

Rhys has a website at <http://www.woolybeast.com.au/pricing.php> where details of his prices and delivery options can be found.

While he was enjoying one of our sizzling sausages, Rhys explained he has designed and built a special machine that vacuums up the sheep droppings and then bags it ready for the customer. It is fascinating to see the ingenuity that people apply in their professions.

### **Footy Tipping**

**Bill Marsh has cleared out and 2 ahead. Last week 3 people picked 8 Bill, Merle Williams and Barbara ward. Well done.**

### **District Governor's Changeover Dinner**

District Governor David Alexander and Denise together with District Governor Elect Juliet and Ian request the pleasure of your company at this year's Changeover Dinner.

It is to be held at The Southern Golf Club, Lower Dandenong Road, Keysborough 3173 on Saturday 2 July from 7.00pm until 11.00pm

All members, partners and friends are invited to attend and witness the passing of the Governor's Baton from David to Juliet as we farewell 'The Building of Communities and Bridging of Continents' and welcome 'Reach Within to Embrace Humanity'.

Bookings should be on a Club basis only using the Changeover Booking Form and all payments must be received by 17 June. The Booking Form contains details on how to complete registrations, notification of special dietary requirements and where to send the registrations and Club payment. There will be no registration desk at the venue on the night.

For all enquiries, contact David Bremner

**Some funnies (A smile or 2 here and the Editor appreciates people forwarding material for publication.)**

**This one thanks to Warwick and the Rotary Club of Euroa. - We who have taught, or love children who have been taught, know this is funny!**

From the diary of a Pre-School Teacher

**My five-year old students are learning to read.**

**Yesterday one of them pointed at a picture in a zoo book and said,**

**"Look at this! It's a frickin' elephant!"**

**I took a deep breath, then asked..."What did you call it?"**

**"It's a frickin' elephant! It says so on the picture!"**

**And so it does... "A f r i c a n Elephant"**

**Hooked on phonics! Ain't it wonderful?**

**Now that's funny, I don't care who you are.**

The following 2 pieces were submitted by Past member John Bindon. Thanks John.

## ***Dreaded Old Age***

By Barry H Young

I have always dreaded Old Age and cannot imagine anything worse than being old. How awful it must be to have nothing to do all day long but to stare at the walls or watch T/V. So last week when the President of our Rotary Club suggested that we all celebrate Senior Citizen Week by cheering up a Senior Cit, I decided I would call on my new neighbour, an elderly widowed gentleman, and who I presumed had moved in with his married daughter because he was too old to take care of himself.

My wife baked a batch of scones, and without bothering to ring (some old people can't hear the phone) I went off to brighten this old guy's day. When I rang the doorbell this old Guy came to the door dressed in tennis shorts and top. "I'm sorry, I can't invite you in," he said, "but I am due at the Thurgoona tennis club at 2pm. I'm playing in the semi-final today.

"Oh that's alright," I said, "My wife baked you some scones". "Great", he said, "just what I need for the Table Tennis Club tomorrow, we have to bring a plate, thanks so much".

"I just thought I'd visit you," I said, "but that's okay, I'll cross over the street and visit Granny O'Grady."

"Don't bother", he said, "Gran's not home, she's out getting her hair done for the dance we are going to this evening". So I went home and called my Mother's cousin (aged 83) but she was at the Albury hospital working in the gift shop. I called my aunt (aged 76) but she was on vacation in China. I called my Wife's Uncle Bill 82 but he was out playing Golf with the Greys at the Thurgoona Golf Club. Then I called my Aunt 84 but she was at a bridge club, I called my Uncle Keith aged 79) but I forgot he was on his honeymoon.

I still dread old age more than ever.

I just think I'm not up to it and I am only 77.

## **A Well-Planned Retirement**

From The London Times:

**Outside the Bristol Zoo, in England, there is a parking lot for 150 cars and eight coaches, or buses. It was manned by a very pleasant attendant with a ticket machine charging cars £1 and coaches £5 (about \$7).**

**This parking attendant worked there uninterrupted for all of 25 years. Then, one day, he didn't turn up for work.**

**"Oh well," said Bristol Zoo management, "we'd better phone up the city council and get them to send a new parking attendant."**

**"Err, no", said the council, "that parking lot is your responsibility."**

**"Err, no", said Bristol Zoo management, "the attendant was employed by the City Council, wasn't he?"**

**"Err, NO!" insisted the Council.**

**Sitting in a villa somewhere on the coast of Spain, is a bloke who had been taking the parking lot fees, estimated at £400 per day at Bristol Zoo for the last 25 years. Assuming seven days a week, this amounts to just over £3.6 million!**

**And no one even knows his name.**

**Entertainment BOOK –**

***We have sold 10 copies. I can get more if anyone wishes to purchase one. Cost \$65  
Stuart***

**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 held over again –too many jokes.****IMPORTANT UPCOMING CLUB AND DISTRICT EVENTS**

30 May 2011	Applications Close for RYLA
30 May 2011	Club meeting
1 June 2011	June is Rotary Fellowships Month
6 June 2011	Club meeting & Board meeting
9 June 2011	Presidents & Assistant Governor Meeting
11 June 2011	Blackburn Craft Market
12 June 2011	Whitehorse Farmers Market
13 June 2011	Club meeting cancelled (Queen's Birthday)
20 June 2011	Club meeting
27 June 2011	Club meeting & Club Changeover Night
2 July 2011	District Governors Changeover Night
4 July 2011	RYLA 2011

Please have FOREST HILL FLYER articles to me by **5 pm next Wednesday week** (in Microsoft Word format,) Stuart Williams [gsestu2@yahoo.com.au](mailto:gsestu2@yahoo.com.au)