



FOREST HILL FLYER 2011-2012

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

22 August	29 August	5 September
Mayor Ben Stennett Whitehorse Council Partners Night Chair	Email communication Ron Brooks	Tony (or Lisa) Clark Swags for the Homeless
Bob Williams	John McPhee	Gary Baltissen
Thanks & Meeting Report		
Warwick Stott	Ray Smith	Glenys Grant
Club Member Talk		
Stuart Williams	Bob Laslett	Doug Berwick

DUTY ROSTER

	AUGUST
Cashier	Bill Marsh
Recorder	Ray Smith
Greeter	Ron Brooks
Emergency	John McPhee

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 August - Judy Marsh - Birthday

DOUG'S DEADLINE – 15 August

Many thanks to Bob Laslett for keeping this section filled during my absence. After a very enjoyable three weeks holiday in warmer climes, most of it spent with Tracey (she has the patience of a saint) we have come back to reality with a chilly thud. It was hard to realise that this month is our second Board meeting; we seem to have only just got started. You will see from the Board report further down that the Committees have been active with their programs. We are also trialling this year having more speakers on Rotary projects and I would be interested in receiving feedback on this.

I am sorry that I was not able to hear the speakers at our meeting on 8 August. The work being done by the Rotary Club of Boronia in supporting Jahangir Alam and the 'Walk for Life' programme is inspirational. As a Club we have identified and worked toward large projects in the past and I wonder if this is something that we should look at again.

One of Bob Neilson's comments to me when he advised me of his need to step down was his regret that he was not able to encourage the Club to embrace a large project. A project which will have some real impact, preferably in our local community, and where we, The Rotary Club of Forest Hill or Rotary in general, get the direct benefit and recognition. Like the RC Boronia's project, we would want to use the Rotary multiplier effect through matching grants to increase the money that we can provide so that we can really make a difference. There are funds in term deposit that are available to put toward a large project. If we have a "presence" in our local community then there could be a flow on to membership. Put your thinking caps on and lets hear your ideas as nothing can or will happen without your support.

Wishing you all the best for the week ahead.

Doug

Doug Berwick
President

DOUG'S DEPUTY'S DEADLINE – 8 August

Our August 8 meeting had two young and contrasting speakers but both with a passion for Rotary Health causes. Jo Beilby, President of Bentleigh Moorabbin Central, brought us up-to-date with Rotary's programs against Malaria (RAM). She told of the district's focus on ridding Timor Leste of the scourge of malaria and the use of the latest social media to promote the program. Bill Gates follows her tweets and she filled us in on the Walter and Eliza Hall's efforts to bring top scientists in the malaria field to Victoria next year with Rotary's aid. Our other speaker, Jahangir Alam, a Rotaractor from Bangladesh, brought to our attention the plight of many children in his country afflicted with club feet. His program, Walk for Life, allows many under one year of age to be cured without surgery by the Ponseti method. The technique uses a series of plaster casts and a specially designed brace. The cause is being enthusiastically promoted by Colin McFarlane and is being supported in our district by the Rotary Club of Boronia. PP Stu Goodman from that club explained how matching grants can be used to raise \$65,000 for the cause.

It was great to have Judy Marsh sharing the meeting with us. It was good to have Graham Sharman back, to hear that Stan Harper is home and Bob Neilsen is enjoying the sun in Queensland. Sergeant Stu extracted over \$34.95 with his customary ease.

Enjoy your week ahead as we all seek to extend our service commitments beyond our own little patch.

President Elect Bob

MEETING REPORT – 8TH AUGUST – John McPhee

Guest Speakers

JO BEILBY Rotarians Against Malaria. (RAM))

Jo, who has presented to our club previously, was introduced by the Chairman, Ray Smith. Jo spoke on action and planning since her last talk and outlining that the world has been rid of 2 diseases (small pox and one cattle disease) and looks forward to the day when Polio and Malaria can be added to that list.

Malaria is spread by 5 species of mosquito (the females being the problem carrier). Research in the Solomon Islands (through the increased use of microscopic examination) has concluded that incorrect diagnosis has inflated the malaria count considerably causing wasted medical expenditure through incorrect diagnoses.

The cost of a microscope is about \$500 whilst the cost of setting up a clinic is about \$2000. The focus of training staff to work in the clinics is now being directed towards mature females in the outlying areas, as they are more likely to stay and work in that area, whilst young males are more likely to chase higher earnings in urban areas.

RAMs' is now directing efforts to control malaria in Timor Leste, rather than spreading resources over Timor, PNG and Solomon Islands. Much of the finance is through drawing on global funds such as the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and other global funds and in conjunction with WHO.

Promotional support is being sought through involvement with Walter & Eliza Hall Research Institute in the forthcoming world conference of Medical specialists in malaria research and treatment, thus increasing Rotary profile in work within Health and other areas of operations.

JAHANGIR ALAM Walk for Life – The Bangladesh Club Foot Project

Jahangir is a young Bangladesh university student who is employed by the Glencoe Foundation 'Walk for Life' organisation whilst he continues with his studies. Boronia Rotary Club is providing support in the preparation, on behalf of the District, for a matching grant of \$65,000 for the Club Foot Project. Boronia RC is seeking to raise \$6500 to bring this Rotary project to reality.

Club Foot, is a major child health problem in Bangladesh. The project seeks to establish a treatment clinic within 60 km of every village. This should then enable all children born with a foot deformity to be within easy reach of treatment. Treatment requires a series of plaster casts be made and fitted to the leg and feet to straighten the leg, and finally a brace to be fitted for night wear after the straightening process to ensure correction is achieved.

The cost of the foot brace is \$3 (against say a cost of \$200 in Australia). It is estimated that there is an annual need for 5000 to be fitted. To supervise the clinics they will be training 60 physiotherapists. The programme has full Government support, with the Health Minister a doctor/Rotarian, and "Walk for Life" being staffed and managed by Rotarians.

Board Report

The Board reluctantly accepted the request from PP Bob Neilson to step down as Vice President. As members are aware, Bob's health has not been the best recently and a leave of absence will help him to rest and recuperate. PP Bob Williams has agreed to fill the vacancy and we welcome Bob W to the Board. With Bob's experience I know he will be able to help me with words of wisdom and advice and step into the breach when needed (not that I plan to miss too many meetings).

The Board also received reports from the following Committees:

Membership & Recruitment

Ron Brooks attended the District Membership meeting on 3rd August and has brought back some ideas which he will be pursuing with his Committee.

The Committee is also looking at ways to increase opportunities for fellowship that will allow members and partners to meet outside of the Rotary Club meetings. Potential opportunities include Home Hosting, Weekends Away, Theatre Nights, etc.

With respect to Home Hosting Ron has advised the following:

There will be folders coming around at the next meeting asking if you are prepared to host for Home Hosting. Check with your better half and be prepared to commit. It will involve hosting perhaps 3 other couples on Monday night - partners for a meal and members for dessert after 8pm when the meeting is over. There will also be a folder asking if you would be interested in a weekend away. Talk again with your better half and be ready with your answers on Monday night.

Community, New Generation and Vocational

YOUTH

4 way speaking contest - Forest Hill College are seeking a participant from their year10 students.

Youth Achievement Awards - Guest speaker is being sought so a date for the awards night can be finalised. Letters about to go out to schools seeking their nominations by early November.

Citizenship Vocational Awards - Forest Hill College is being invited to participate in this new award; an initiative of District (appears to be modelled on our Youth Achievement Awards but aimed at Year11/VCE secondary students).

Science Summer School - the 2 students put forward by RCFH were interviewed a week ago and we await notification as to the results.

MUNA - Contact has been made with Forest Hill College Year10 debating co-ordinator who is seeking student willingness to participate in 2012 event.

VOCATIONAL

A visit is being arranged to the Royal Talbot Rehabilitation Centre for early 2012, as a vocational event. Likely date will be in February to take advantage of daylight hours.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Swags for Homeless is a possibility for this year and a guest speaker will be talking to the Club in September.

Foundation and International

The International Committee is working on;

- making a final payment for a shelter box with Disaster Aid Australia
- finding more information on a Matching Grant for Mercy Children's Centre HIV/Aids project in Bangkok
- finding how to support Dr. Catherine Hamlin with the Addis Ababa Fistula Hospital
- supporting Jarangir's Walk for Life project when further information is given.

CLUB MEMBER TALKS

Club members can select from the following range of subjects for their talks:

- My 15 seconds of fame!
- What I am most proud of;
- I got a kick out of...;
- My most enjoyable holiday.

The idea is that speaker can select whichever of the topics appeals to them.

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	-

SERGEANT STU'S SESSION

Even though 11 members braved the cold they steadfastly supported the Rotary Foundation with a massive \$29.75.

FOOTY TIPPING:

Bill Marsh is still the man to beat, closely followed by Bob Williams and David Bremner. Can David maintain the momentum while on the other side of the world?

WISDOM FROM SENIORS

The older you get, the tougher it is to lose weight because by then your body and your fat are really good friends.

Wisdom comes with age, but sometimes age comes alone.

This one is for Stu - It's frustrating when you know all the answers but nobody bothers to ask you the questions.

BREAKFAST QUIZ & BRAIN EXERCISER

Seeing that I am preparing the Flyer again this month I have found two word questions to test your 'little grey cells' and research skills

- What is the only 15 letter word that can be spelled without repeating a letter?
- What is the longest word that is typed with only the left hand?

And for some educational trivia from Square Eyed Stu:

Three weeks ago, the planet Neptune completed its first full orbit of the Sun since it was discovered in 1846. Each orbit takes 164.7 years.

More than 55% of wines are stronger than their labels declare.

A 1924 Type 35 bugatti racing car, bought for \$90 in 1950, has been sold at auction in the UK for \$642,000.

IMPORTANT UPCOMING CLUB AND DISTRICT EVENTS

29 August 2011	Club meeting
30 August 2011	Announce membership of Nominations Committee, ask members to accept appointments of 2 members
1 September 2011	September is New Generations Month
5 September 2011	Club meeting
8 September 2011	District - Group Study Exchange information night for team members
10 September 2011	Blackburn Craft Market
11 September 2011	Whitehorse Farmers Market

Please have FOREST HILL FLYER articles to the Editor at dberwick@invocare.com.au by **5 pm next Wednesday week** (in Microsoft Word format)