



FOREST HILL FLYER 2011-2012

Weekly Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Forest Hill

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Edition 10: 5 September 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

5 September	12 September	19 September
Tony (or Lisa) Clark Swags for the Homeless Chair	Brad Kyle Walk Across Spain	Committee Night
Gary Baltissen	John Donaghey	Graham Sharman
Thanks & Meeting Report		
Glenys Grant	Chris Tuck	Gary Baltissen
Club Member Talk		
Doug Berwick	David Bremner	John Donaghey

DUTY ROSTER

	SEPTEMBER
Cashier	Bob Laslett
Recorder	Glenys Grant
Greeter	David Bremner
Emergency	Gary Baltissen

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



4 September – Margaret McPhee - Birthday

DOUG'S DEADLINE – 29 August

Another good Rotary night with 12 members and one guest, Peter Skilbeck, enjoying a light-hearted, varied and informative evening. The levity was provided by Sergeant Stu with some help from those present each recalling an early memory of their father. I thought that Peter's memory of his father giving himself presents on Christmas day from unsold stock was amusing.

The information mainly came courtesy of PP Ron who educated us on the etiquette and practicalities of sending and filing emails. As I said on the night I asked Ron to postpone his talk to when I returned from holidays and I am grateful that he did.

As I prepare this edition I am concerned that members are actually reading this as I discovered that edition 9 for 29 Aug was actually showing edition 8. I would have thought that our eagle-eyed Sergeant would have picked this up or even our erudite engineer Ron would have commented on my lapse. The fact that it wasn't mentioned either means members are being kind to me or you are skipping the front page.

It was good to welcome Gary Baltissen back from his break (he's changed during his absence as I didn't recognise him on the night) as well as Glenys Grant who has returned from sunny Fiji.

On a more serious topic we are going to need all hands on deck for the weekend of 10 – 11 September as we have three commitments in the Blackburn Market, Whitehorse Farmers Market and Schwerkolt's Cottage. Additional help from any sources would be welcome.

Finally, I referred to the challenges faced by Freemasonry Victoria and the comments made by the current Grand Master –Vaughan Werner. I have paraphrased the article as I believe it also reflects the challenges faced by Rotary and this Club.

Rotary is facing the same challenges as the Freemasons

"Whatever Happened to Rotary", I reflected on the words and reference to "Rotary reinventing itself to meet modern demands". The expression does largely encapsulate what we must do to become part of 21st century society and to raise the image of Rotary in our communities.

It simply tells us that if we are to be widely accepted as a viable and desirable community organisation, then we must fundamentally be prepared to sell our product to the people who comprise our communities. What that entails is for every Rotarian to follow the example of those who were willing to expose to the wide world exactly what Rotary means to them as a positive adjunct to their lives.

Frequently when asked by a person what Rotary is, I commence with the statement that "To be made a Rotarian is the beginning of a wonderful journey through life"! I have found that to make a strong one-line statement at the outset captures their attention for what will follow.

Again the above example reinforces the need for us to develop an 'elevator speech' of our own. Many versions exist, mainly from U.S. clubs, and they can form the basis of our own unique version. I throw the challenge out to you to do some research and use the resources available to formulate some points to support this very strong and emotive statement - *"To be made a Rotarian is the beginning of a wonderful journey through life"!* I've only just started the journey; you have the examples gained from years of real life experience.

Wishing you all the best for the week ahead.

Doug

Doug Berwick
President

MEETING REPORT – 29TH AUGUST - PP Ray Smith

John McPhee announced that Geoffrey Ho, the student from Forest Hill College who will be participating in the Four Way Test debate, may be able to make a presentation to the Club.

John also announced that much help will be needed for the weekend of 10th -11th September – Blackburn Market, Farmers Market and Schwerkolt Cottage sausage sizzle.

In giving a talk on e-mail Ron Brooks stressed the importance of courtesy and filing of e-mails.

Courtesy - check for spelling and grammar, don't use high priority, don't attach large files, use Bcc to protect privacy, don't request receipt, and don't send e-mails to district without having the word Rotary use Reply all sparingly. Large files should be broken into parts and sent as separate files. When sending photos use the computers ability to reduce the file size.

Filing - a very meaningful subject line can assist both the sender and receiver when files are to be retrieved. Folders can be storage places of e-mails if unique names are used for files. In retrieval, files with the same names can be distinguished and placed in order by using letters and numbers in their names. It is helpful to always put the filename in the footer.

I am sure that many members will be further exploring their e-mail handling.

CLUB MEMBER TALK

PDG Bob Laslett also chose the topic of 'my 15 seconds of fame!'. While Bob is well known in many circles he apparently initially came to prominence as a 6 year old footballer. In his own words Bob's football skills were lacking at that age and at one point in the game he found himself in the goal square facing the football which was sitting on the ground 2 cm from the goal line. Everyone around him exerted him to 'kick the ball!!' which he duly did and got it another 2 cm over the line. It was nevertheless a goal and made his goal umpire father very happy. But Bob did not stop there; he tried his hand at being a goal umpire and found out very quickly the challenges of making the correct decision when it is a close call. Moving on rapidly from that experiment he ended up playing A1 amateur league while at University. By chance he was in an amateur game that was broadcast on the ABC but, being part of pioneering innovation it is quite probable that the broadcast was never recorded for posterity and he never had the opportunity to see his exploits on TV.

Help Wanted!

We have planned a Partner's Control night for the 14th November and seek a partner who would be prepared to talk to us (suggestion about a holiday?) with an audio visual (powerpoint etc) for about 15 -20 minutes).

If you can assist please contact Ron Brooks (Ron Brooks <ronbrooks1@optusnet.com.au>) as he is putting together an evening of fun and frivolity, so please be a part of this.

Thank you

Bob Williams

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

Thank you for your contribution to the Rotary Foundation. Through the generosity of those present we raised \$30.90.

FOOTY TIPPING:

Like the current ladder the top 5 remain unchanged with Bob Williams and Bill Marsh sharing the lead with David Bremner, Dana Roles, Stuart Williams and Mark Bailey keeping the pressure on the leaders.

BREAKFAST QUIZ & BRAIN EXERCISER

A change of pace for your contemplation this week:

Which is further from the equator, Tasmania, Tanzania, or Transylvania?

What do the Chinese call kwai-tsze, or "quick little fellows"?

and a little bit of trivia to prove that undertakers can be as progressive as anybody else:

The automatic switchboard was inspired by undertaker rivalry. Almon Strowger (don't you just love the way American's name their children) was an undertaker in Kansas City, USA, who suspected that he was losing business to a rival. The rival's wife worked as a telephone switchboard operator and he thought she was diverting calls to her husband. One morning his suspicions were founded as he read in the newspaper that a close friend had passed away and been buried by this rival. This was Almon's incentive to replace the human operators (who were not universally loved) with an automatic switchboard.

"I am often told that the telephone girls will be angry to me for robbing them of their occupations. In reply, I would say that all things will adjust themselves to the new order of change. ... The telephone girls replaced the messenger boy as this machine now displaces the telephone girls. Improvement will continue to the end of time, strike where they may."

The new system was described as "girl-less, cuss-less and wait-less".

And I like this quote:

"I have always wished that my computer would be as easy to use as my telephone. My wish has come true. I no longer know how to use my telephone." - Bjarne Stronstrup

IMPORTANT UPCOMING CLUB AND DISTRICT EVENTS

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
11 September 2011	Schwerkolt's Cottage

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