



# 2012-2013

## Weekly Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Forest Hill

Edition 8: 17 September 2012

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 cost \$27.00

PO Box 116, Nunawading 3131

Email [rlaslett@optusnet.com.au](mailto:rlaslett@optusnet.com.au) Website [foresthillrotary.com](http://foresthillrotary.com)

- CLUB PROGRAM
- THIS WEEK'S CELEBRATIONS
- DUTY ROSTER
- ATTENDANCE
- BOB'S BELLBIRD BLOG
- LAST WEEK'S MEETING
- PEACE
- ROTARY CLUBS play a vital role in kids education
- HOME HOSTING
- CONFERENCE
- FOREST HILL'S MEMBERSHIP CHALLENGE
- INTERESTING THOUGHTS
- IMPORTANT UPCOMING CLUB AND DISTRICT EVENTS

| CLUB PROGRAM |                                  |               |                            |                                   |
|--------------|----------------------------------|---------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Date         | Event                            | Chair         | Thanker and Meeting Report | Member Talk on an aspect of peace |
| 17 September | Committees Board                 | John McPhee   | Doug Berwick               | Graham Sharman                    |
| 24 September | Paul ? Evolve                    | Warwick Stott | Glenys Grant               | Ray Smith                         |
| 1 October    | Footy Presentations Williams Duo | John Donaghey | Bill Marsh                 | Gary Baltissen                    |

### THIS WEEK'S CELEBRATIONS



### DUTY ROSTER

|           | September       | October        |
|-----------|-----------------|----------------|
| Cashier   | Stuart Williams | Graham Sharman |
| Recorder  | Gary Baltissen  | Warwick Stott  |
| Greeter   | Bill Marsh      | Glenys Grant   |
| Emergency | Doug Berwick    | Chris Tuck     |

### 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

## **BOB'S BELLBIRD BLOG**

We were sorry to hear our hardworking secretary Bill had a stint in Knox (the things some will do to avoid meeting the DG- pleased to hear he's home and the op was successful). Great to hear Ray had a positive response to his Pride of Workmanship letter. The nominating committee for President 2014-2015 will meet shortly. Doug is still seeking a home or two for home hosting and Ray would like all hands to the pump for Schwerkolt Cottage on Sunday. Thanks to all who helped make last week such a success. Eight people enjoyed "The Sapphires on Friday night.

This week it is important that our committees meet and Graham has time for a slightly longer version of the Peace talk. We look forward to hearing how the markets went.

Coming up

- Improving Club Communications seminar –September 14-details from me
- Do we have a volunteer to look after the club's website?
- Whitehorse Spring Festival-Sunday 21 October- let's support Doug in this important venture
- "An Afternoon at the Proms", Sunday 11 November, 3pm- Monash Concert Band, Robert Blackwood Hall
- District Conference – 15-17 March 2013 –Wangaratta- 8 rooms booked at Advance Motel- more details later- early bird registrations by October 31

Bob took us down the road to the Nobel Peace Prizes and why.

President Bob Laslett

## **LAST WEEK'S MEETING**

Meeting Report 10 September 2012

What a great night. The mood was set by the Blue Tones Foursome with light jazz played on trombone, clarinet, sax and keyboard. There was a good attendance of members and their wives. We were pleased to welcome back "honorary member" Ken Wall, David McNamara and Peter and Corry Skilbeck. The meeting was in the capable hands of Inspector Rex, alias Ray Smith. He likened the DG's visit to that of a school inspector and told a number of tales from his experiences. Sergeant Stan brought out some early memorabilia and was in fine form with his fines raising \$48.75. Vice-President Stuart gave a stirring toast to Rotary International and the President responded on behalf of World President Tanaka.

The Blue Tones morphed into the "Awesome Foursome" as they had the audience's feet tapping in time to their melodies. Bob Williams in his peace talk visited the hall where the Nobel peace prizes are presented and Bob filled in some of the background to these important awards. Our three heroes (charter members Bob, Geoff and Warwick) were duly acknowledged, the candles lit and Kevin led in the singing of Happy Birthday to celebrate 37 years of Rotary service.

The highlight of the evening was District Governor Brian's address. He explained President Tanaka's theme and the significance of the symbols on the banner. He stressed the place of Vocational service and in a professional manner emphasised "Getting Back to Business". He utilised his artistic talents in presenting everyone present with a card to use in helping to get new members. Brian congratulated the club on its achievements. Sue described her project for the Cambodian Children's Fund, showed a very moving video and was presented with a cheque for \$150.

## PEACE



Nobel Prizewinners Banquet Hall in Stockholm

### **Rotary member talk on Peace**

In 2009 when Barbara and I were in Sweden we visited the City Hall in Stockholm where the dinner and dancing is held following the Nobel Prize awards

The Peace Prize is actually awarded in Oslo Norway on the 10<sup>th</sup> December which is the anniversary of Alfred Nobel's death.

Alfred Nobel of Sweden invented dynamite in 1866 and as this proved to be unstable he later produced gelignite in 1875.

By the time he died in 1896 he had made a fortune and left instructions that most of his money should be used to endow annual Nobel prizes.

According to Nobel's will the Peace prize shall be awarded to the person who "shall have done the most or the best work for fraternity between nations, for the abolition or reduction of standing armies and for the holding and promotion of peace congresses."

Nobel did not leave an explanation for choosing peace as a prize category as he was a trained and successful chemical engineer and categories for chemistry and physics were obvious choices. Nobel scholars suggest it may have been Nobel's way to compensate for developing destructive forces which were later used violently during his lifetime.

The first Peace prize was awarded in 1901 to Henri Dunant, the founder of the International Convention of the Red Cross and the main figure behind the Geneva Convention.

Along with the Peace prize, other prizes are made to those who have contributed most to the common good in the areas of Physics, Chemistry, Medicine and Literature and from 1969 an award is also made for Economics.

The prizes have a large cash award and have been given to organisations such as the United Nations peacekeeping forces which received the Peace prize in 1988 as well as individuals such as Nelson Mandela.

In the earliest years of the Peace Prize – up to World War 1, the prize was often awarded to pioneers of the organized peace movement with many being Parliamentarians working to resolve conflicts on the basis of international law and arbitration.

In the inter war years the focus shifted to active politicians who sought to promote peace and detente by means of diplomacy and international agreements but prizes were also awarded for humanitarian work such as the League of Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

Since World War two, the Peace prize has principally been awarded to honour efforts in four main areas, arms control and disarmament, peace negotiations, democracy and human rights and work aimed at creating a better organised and more peaceful world.

With recent awards to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate change and to Al Gore in 2007 indicates that the Nobel Committee also embraces efforts to limit the harm done by man-made climate change and threats to the environment.

There have been many notable omissions to the Peace Prize, the most notable being Mahatma Ghandi who was nominated in 1937, 38, 39, 47 and again a few days before his death in January 1948.

Following his death there was no prize awarded in 1948 as the committee deemed that without him there were no other worthy candidates and later in 1989 when the Dalai Lama was awarded the

Peace Prize the chairman of the committee said that this was "in part a tribute to the memory of Mahatma Gandhi."

As well as arms control and disarmament, The Nobel committee believes in humanitarian assistance to the weak and poor and to human rights generally, just like our great organisation, Rotary International.

I therefore applaud Rotary's theme this year of "Peace through service".

Bob Williams

## **ROTARY CLUBS PLAY A VITAL ROLE IN KIDS EDUCATION**

The Rotary Club of Chelsea has a worthwhile project to raise \$20,000 for the Rotary Club of Taveuni, Fiji for the purchase of a 3-5year old Toyota Hilux. This vehicle would be used by Rotary volunteers who visit Taveuni and assist with the endless education projects undertaken by the Rotary Club of Taveuni. DG Brian is looking for a donation of \$300 to \$500 from every club towards this international project and hopes to sign off by the end of September. Vinaka.

The Board has asked the International committee to investigate. The committee is also looking at an ABCD project this year.

## **HOME HOSTING**

Home Hosting in October

On behalf of the Membership & Fellowship Committee I am arranging our first Home Hosting for the new Rotary year. To make this event a success we obviously need at least one, possibly two, members and their partners to offer to host the event. As with previous Home Hosting our partners will go to a home at 6:30 pm to have their entree/main course and members will join partners at the end of our normal meeting and have dessert/coffee. Food at the home hosting will be contributed by all partners and members will have their entree/main course at Bucatini. It is proposed to hold the event on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> October.

Please give this some thought between now and our next meeting as I will be asking for an indication if you are interested in continuing this activity. Hopefully, we will also have an offer of a home or two.

Doug Berwick  
Membership & Fellowship Committee

## **Mr PROBUS**

Excerpts from Stan's Life Membership Award letter from Lesley Horn (continued )

By February 1999 the response was sufficient to call an Interest Meeting at the Baptist Crossway Centre. This meeting agreed to support the formation of the new club and 80 attendees signed applications for membership. Stan then set up a small steering committee to talk to applicants thought likely to fill positions on the new management team. This involved many, many hours of home visits and discussions.

On March1 the Foundation Meeting was attended by101 people. It was possible to announce a management team and to approve the name, constitution, by laws, joining fees, annual fees and accreditation with Probus South Pacific. Our constitution and bylaws had to take into consideration the needs of a Combined club. Many hours and many meetings were put into developing these documents. We still use the bylaws and guidelines set up by Stan at our foundation.

Our first President was Bob Griffiths, our first Vice President was Sandra Feldman and our first Secretary was Joan Harper. Stan then joined our club, areal bonus for us.

Stan has always been extremely generous with his time and counselling and his wide knowledge and understanding of Probus has helped the Combined Probus club of Burwood East become the great club that it is today.

## **CONFERENCE**

**Where** The District 9810 Conference in 2013 will be held at the magnificent [Wangaratta Performing Arts Centre](#)

**When** The conference runs from lunch time Friday 15th March to Sunday 17th March 2013.

**Speakers** will be revealed sequentially



Susan McLean, cyber bullying expert, former Policewoman, says: "I am passionate about all areas of Cybersafety and I believe that the ability to prevent criminal offending through education will not only benefit the whole community, it will also reduce the number of potential victims as well. Where the primary vulnerable population is young people, this is paramount."

**MORE** <http://2013conference.9810rotary.org.au/registration/>

## FOREST HILL'S MEMBERSHIP CHALLENGE

**Current 17**

**Aim 20**

## INTERESTING THOUGHTS

"When I say it's you I like, I'm talking about that part of you that knows that life is far more than anything you can ever see or hear or touch. That deep part of you that allows you to stand for those things without which humankind cannot survive. Love that conquers hate, peace that rises triumphant over war, and justice that proves more powerful than greed."

— [Fred Rogers](#)

"My therapist told me the way to achieve true inner peace is to finish what I start. So far today, I have finished 2 bags of M&M's and a chocolate cake. I feel better already."

— [Dave Barry](#)

Read more at

[http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/topics/topic\\_peace.html#ofgQhtX0J7E0svug.99](http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/topics/topic_peace.html#ofgQhtX0J7E0svug.99)

## IMPORTANT UPCOMING CLUB AND DISTRICT EVENTS

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| 09/2012    | <i>NEW GENERATIONS MONTH</i>                          |
|            | District heats for Four-Way Test Speaking Competition |
| 14/09/2012 | Improving club communications seminar                 |
| 16/09/2012 | Schwerkolt Cottage open day                           |
| 17/09/2012 | Club meeting/ Board meeting                           |
| 24/09/2012 | Club meeting  |
| 27/09/2012 | District projects Funds Ltd meeting                   |
| 10/2012    | <i>VOCATIONAL SERVICE MONTH</i>                       |
| 1/10/2012  | Club meeting  |
| 8/10/2012  | Club meeting /Home hosting                            |
| 12/10/2012 | Hat Day   |

Please have FOREST HILL FLYER articles to the Editor at [rlaslett@optusnet.com.au](mailto:rlaslett@optusnet.com.au) by **5 pm next Wednesday** (in Microsoft Word format please)