



Number 20

Club address:

Email address:

Website:

Meeting location:

Meeting time:

Facebook:

Bucatini Restaurant, 454 Whitehorse Road, Mitcham, 3132 (Melways 48H9)

Monday 6.15 for 6.30 pm

Rotary Club Forest Hill

12 November 2018

PO Box 116, Nunawading 3131

foresthillrotary1975@gmail.com

www.foresthillrotary.com

<b>CLUB PROGRAM</b>			
<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Chair</b>	<b>Thanks &amp; Meeting Report</b>
12 Nov	MEMBERS NIGHT	Warwick Stott	Ron Brooks
19 Nov	Anger Management <i>Keith Maxwell</i>	Mike Finke	Sue Ballard
26 Nov	Youth Achievement Awards <i>Thomas Yakubowski</i>	Bill Marsh	Ray Smith
3 Dec	Working in the Police Force in the 80s <i>Carolyn Pethick</i>	Barbara Searle	John Donaghey

## CONGRATULATIONS

A quiet week

## DUTY ROSTER

	<b>NOVEMBER</b>	<b>DECEMBER</b>
<b>Recorder</b>	John McPhee	Bob Laslett
<b>Greeter</b>	Warwick Stott	Bob Williams
<b>Emergency</b>	Barbara Searle	Warwick Stott
<b>Cashier</b>	Ray Smith	Sue Ballard

## ATTENDANCE

**APOLOGY – IF A MEMBER IS NOT GOING TO COME TO THE MEETING or you intend**

**bringing a guest please contact Ray Smith by 10.00 am MONDAY on 0412 807 585 or**  
[rcssmith@optusnet.com.au](mailto:rcssmith@optusnet.com.au)

SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS to Ray by 10am at the LATEST.

Any CANCELLATION AFTER 10.00 AM *should* be made direct with the management of

Bucatini Restaurant on 9873 0268

## Mike's Musings

### Operation Toilets

Mark Balla's talk provides us with an excellent reminder of what we take for granted in our lives when we don't keep things in perspective. Credit Suisse this year confirmed that Australians are, on average, the wealthiest people in the world. <https://www.fool.com.au/2018/10/19/aussies-are-among-the-richest-people-in-the-world/>

I don't feel guilty about this, but it does encourage me to be generous with the time and money I can spare. The toilet project is just one example of how a comparatively small investment can create massive, wide-ranging improvements in the lives of those not as fortunate as we Australians are, new or native-born.

<https://www.boxhillcentralrotary.org.au/operation-toilets.html>

### Gift of Reading

I was the beneficiary of a children's literacy program when I was much younger, Reading is Fundamental (RIF), which gave out free books to children. I believe it helped develop a love of reading and the written word that has made my life emotionally, creatively, intellectually and financially richer than it would otherwise have been. The Whitehorse and Manningham libraries are participating in a Gift of Reading campaign to provide books to disadvantaged children. Please help spread knowledge of this program.

[http://www.wml.vic.gov.au/give\\_the\\_gift\\_of\\_reading](http://www.wml.vic.gov.au/give_the_gift_of_reading)

### Volunteer Info Night

Every interaction you have with somebody between now and Monday night is a chance to invite somebody along to the meeting. For those working either or both of our weekend markets, please engage politely and enthusiastically with anybody who seems like they're up for a chat. We have a great story to tell, get comfortable sharing it.

### Mark your calendars with the following:

- Saturday, 10 November Blackburn Craft Market
- Sunday, 11 November Whitehorse Farmers Market
- Monday, 12 November New Members Night (Good Potential Recruits Required)
- Friday, 16 November Peridot Night – *Sylvia* (NINETEEN SO FAR)
- Monday, 26 November RCFH's Youth Achievement Awards
- Mon & Tues, 26 & 27 November RYDA
- Mon & Tues, 3 & 4 December RYDA
- Mon through Wed, 3-5 December Forest Hill College Mock Interviews
- Monday, 7 January Barbecue, Finke House

## Club Meeting 12 November

### Attendance

members 9

Partners- Judy L, Robbie, Judy M,

Visiting Rotarians – PDG Malcolm Chiverton, John Bindon

Guests - Mark Balla

### President's reflections

Mike's grandmother only girl with 8 brothers. 2 things she always looked for, a good flashlight, and knowing where all public access toilets in Manhattan were. What we do in Rotary is correcting an imbalance.

Markets on next weekend - please volunteer

### Chair reports

- treasurer -farmers market Sunday, organising for December's egg and bacon schedule, 5 guests coming next week, need more names. Ray organising name tags, Ron laptop

- fellowship- Peridot on 16<sup>th</sup> November -19 going.

- program - next 3 weeks schedule sorted

- membership - members night next week
- Community and Vocation craft market, Vocation seminar, Vocational visits



Malcolm presented a Presidential Citation to the club from RI for work done at the club last year- Bill received on behalf of club.

Guest speaker Mark Balla- the Toilet Warrior

Amazing journey to the toilet

Story told at district conference in Bendigo.

Talked to a female teacher who explained she didn't drink water until she got home, no school when teacher had her period. Talked to a local to arrange the building of a toilet - changed the community.

In Mumbai met local community in slum area. Visited a school where no teenage girls as no toilets.



With the help of Mr Toilet the R.C. of Box Hill Central has developed public toilets particularly in India. An organisation called "we can't wait" is now incorporated into the World toilet organisation. They have helped developing countries improve. While many areas have toilets not all are functioning, still problem for girls to get access, ratio of children to toilet is very high. Maintenance and cleaning a big issue. No point in organising new toilets without a maintenance/cleaning program.

When Mark joined Rotary he got a district grant and started a program to organise toilets for schools in India. Immediate impact.

Has then applied for a global grant to reach more schools.

Results - stats show teen girls had less absentees, returned to school or stayed at school longer.

\$36.95 Sergeants session

\$54 raffle

Sue

## President's Reflection

Tonight's speaker is going to talk about the toilet project and the way in which education access and hygiene infrastructure are linked. And I'm going to take just a couple of minutes to talk about my paternal grandmother. She was not a well-educated woman. She'd grown up as the only girl in a household with eight brothers during the depression. She did not have a lot of opportunity in life and she worked until she was quite old. She was an usher in the theatre district in Manhattan. It's not hard work, but it does mean a lot of hours on your feet without breaks when you want them. The two things I can remember her being fixated on when I was a young child were the search for good, strong, portable flashlights – so that she could read the tickets – and her encyclopaedic knowledge of toilets accessible to the public. NYC does not have a lot of them, for some reason. Melbourne is much better equipped. If we were out, she'd be able to tell you where the closest one was. My people don't say 'toilet', of course. We're too delicate for that and call them bathrooms. She needed that knowledge to exist as a poor person in a city not always kind to poor people. Importantly, she didn't want to have to ask somebody if she could use the toilet. She didn't want to have to be a supplicant. She wanted some dignity. And I think she was entitled to it. I think all people are. When we work on behalf of others, I think it's important to think of it as addressing an imbalance. There is a lack or a deficit that should not exist and we're able to address that deficit. The work we do is not a present or a treat; we're addressing an equity deficit. The smallest move in that direction is worth doing.

## Multi district conference in Melbourne 2019

<http://www.rotaryconference.org.au/home.html>

Registration is now open for next year's conference in Melbourne.

Some information is available on the website. Early bird before November 30

Sue

## MEMBERSHIP NIGHT IS ON MONDAY 12 NOVEMBER

### VOLUNTEER INFORMATION EVENING

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2018

6.15 for 6.30pm

As we will be focussing on both membership for our club, and membership of a satellite club, we will be explaining that the former is as we all know it of a weekly meeting with a meal, whilst the latter will be probably a fortnightly meeting with tea and coffee, and possibly a monthly more formal meeting – these details will be finally decided by the new members.

Therefore, I need you members and honorary members to encourage your neighbours, sons and daughters, and anyone else to come and find out, at no cost to them. For further information and bookings, contact Warwick (wstott@netspace.net.au) or Bill (bjmarsh@bigpond.net.au)

## ROVING REPORTER

Entering from the forecourt to Parliament House in Canberra I saw the name Phillip Johnson on a shirt a guy was wearing laying out a carpet of red poppies down the forecourt and it was Phillip Johnson himself who spoke at one of our District Conferences about his Chelsea Flower Show experience where he represented Australia and went on to win best in show. I know his dad, Colin who was the Box Hill Rotary Pres when I was our Pres for the first time and we were part of the founding Presidents of the Whitehorse Farmers' market so did a lot of work together setting it up. Colin also is an artist and was a judge in the Box Hill Art Show although Phillip told me that his dad and mum are not too well and I notice Colin is now not in the District directory so presumably not a club member.

I mentioned his Chelsea Flower Show success and he said that the Vic Government want to make a permanent display somewhere of his award- winning Chelsea display so quite an honour.

We saw the tv news last night and a segment showed the poppies in front of Parliament House.

Phillip was the designer for the 62,000 poppies in the front of the Canberra War Memorial and so these he was helping to lay at Parliament House were some of the 40,000 excess poppies.

A lovely coincidence meeting him.

Bob W

## **ROTARY MONTHLY THEMES**

November	Rotary Foundation
December	Disease Prevention and Treatment

## **ARTICLES**

Please forward your prize-winning articles and others to [rlaslett@optusnet.com.au](mailto:rlaslett@optusnet.com.au) by 5pm Wednesday.