



# FOREST HILL HAPPENINGS

No 22

President: Sue Ballard

02 December 2020



**Scan Me!!**

## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

I have had a busy week this week. Zooms every day, including Rotarians for Bees and Mental Health webinars. (Please watch both as both relevant and worthwhile). I have talked with other clubs and found out how they are all doing.

It was also the 'It's in the Bag' campaign for 'Share the Dignity' charity. For those of you who may not know 'Share the Dignity' is a group that supports women in vulnerable positions. It maybe homelessness or escaping domestic abuse or in this COVID era don't have the finances to buy personal items like toiletries. 'It's in the Bag' is a Christmas time campaign where a handbag of toiletries is given to a woman in need. This year I was able to put together 9 bags full of toiletries. Why do I do this? Because I have had family and friends who have at times struggled. Because I have seen how the gift of a new handbag full of chosen contents can lift the spirits and show someone cares. This is the 9th year I have been involved and I am already buying items for next year.

I was talking to the RC Mitcham President last week and their Op Shop has reopened. If anyone has items they can donate, preferably smallish household items, please contact them.

It was the 'Clean Up The Bike Track' day last Saturday arranged by Box Hill Central. A large group of us broke into 3 teams and made our way along sections of the track between Blackburn Road and Nunawading Railway Station. A very successful day where we made an impact on the area. While my team, that concentrated on Oliver Ave to Blackburn Road, found mostly cans and bottles, the other teams reported they found a stack of rubbish.

Thank you to all of you who participated in the filming of the YAA presentations. Special thanks to director Barbara W and cameraman and producer Bob W. Our idea has been adopted by other clubs as a way to do presentations at their schools.

## MEETING REPORT

On Monday evening we had our first 'face-to-face' meeting for many months when we sat down for dinner at the Bucatini Restaurant.

Good food and great company always make for an enjoyable night and Monday was no exception.

We missed Ray (illness) and John (previous engagement) but to get our members and partners together was a great way to celebrate Victoria getting on top of the COVID virus. We need to be careful to ensure we stay in this position. Our last two meetings for the year will again be via zoom.

Thanks Ron for organizing the evening.

## December is Disease Prevention & Treatment month.

### NEXT MEETING

Our next meeting will be a 7.00pm zoom meeting when we will learn a little more about the Jewish Festival of Hanukkah. Our club meeting will follow at 7.40pm.

### COMING UP

7<sup>th</sup> December – “The Jewish Festival of Hanukkah”

14<sup>th</sup> December – Final meeting for 2020 – speaker arranged by the International committee.

# KEEP SMILING

### INTERNATIONAL

#### Hope Katolo

Things are grim in Kenya at present. Any help you can give will be greatly appreciated.

There are three ways to help

- Olive oil - \$12 a bottle – contact me
- Recipe Book - President Sue encourages us to contribute recipes from an African country or influences by African flavours in different categories such as soup, chicken, beef, vegetarian and dessert. The electronic recipe book will then be sold to raise funds .
- Hamper of Hope - \$5 or multiples -see elsewhere in newsletter for details.

Bob L

### CELEBRATIONS

Congratulations to everyone who has sacrificed so much to help us get on top of the COVID – 19 virus.

Your care and hard work have made it possible for us to begin the long road to recovery and to enjoy being able to be with family and friends.

Take care and stay safe.



## HOPE KATOLO NURSERY SCHOOL HAMPERS OF HOPE

Hi everyone,

Can you believe that its already that time of year again?! Almost Christmas and that means **Hamper of Hope** time for Hope Katolo Nursery School.

### How does it work again?

We kindly ask for donations of \$5 or multiples of \$5. Every \$5 entry gives you one ticket in the draw to win a fabulous hamper for Christmas. The money raised goes towards “hampers” (bags 😊) of food staples for the families of each of the children and staff at the nursery school (see picture attached). For almost all of these families, this IS Christmas. That’s it. To say that this fundraiser means a lot to the people of Katolo is a huge understatement.

### How do I get involved?

Simply transfer \$5 or multiples of \$5 to the Hope Katolo Nursery School account

Account 033349

BSB 411858

Confirm with us your name & amount by texting Mel on 0412 187 353. Every \$5 that you donate will give you an entry into the draw to win the hamper.

### When will it be drawn?

The winner of the hamper will be announced on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December. We are really grateful for early ticket purchases because then we have a better idea of our budget for the Kenyan hampers.

Any questions, please email or give us a call on the number above.

Warmest Regards,

*Melanie Haley, Leanne Pinfold and Georgina Malanga*

## Hope Katolo Nursery School, Kenya



**SPROUTINGS** (Apologies. Last week I left out two illustrations from the article on global warming. They are reprinted below.)

Whitehorse Council's Interim Climate Response Plan

Council has adopted a **2-year Interim Climate Response Plan** that prioritises actions for council to reduce emissions and build resilience to the impact of climate change for operations, assets and the community. The new Plan builds on the work Council has been doing to mitigate the risks and adapt to Climate Change since 2009. It reflects current science-based projections and will assist council to meet emission reduction targets and ensure we are adhering to the legislative requirements of Victoria's Climate Change Framework and Local Government Act.

Actions include:

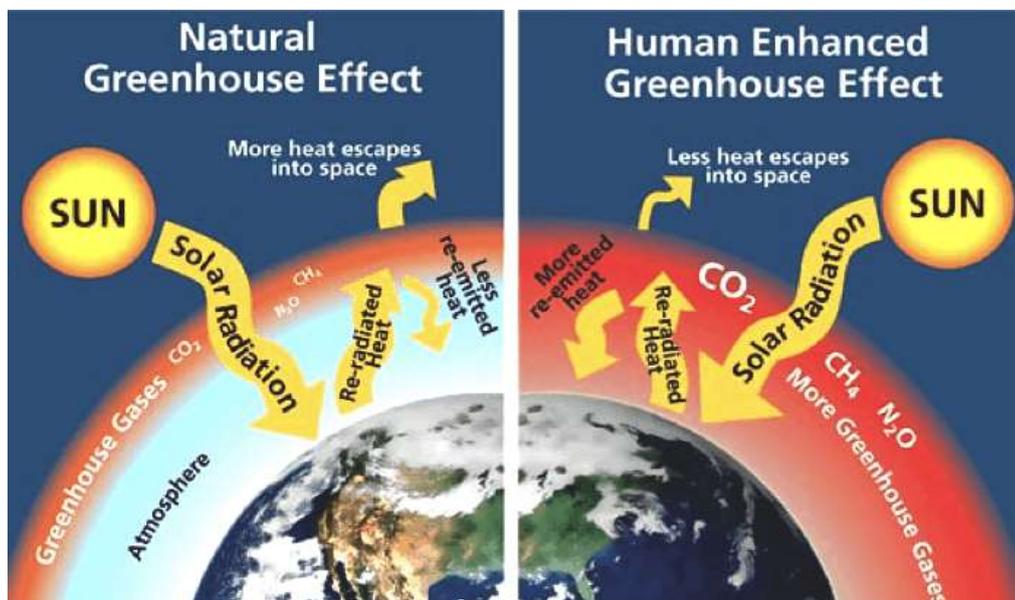
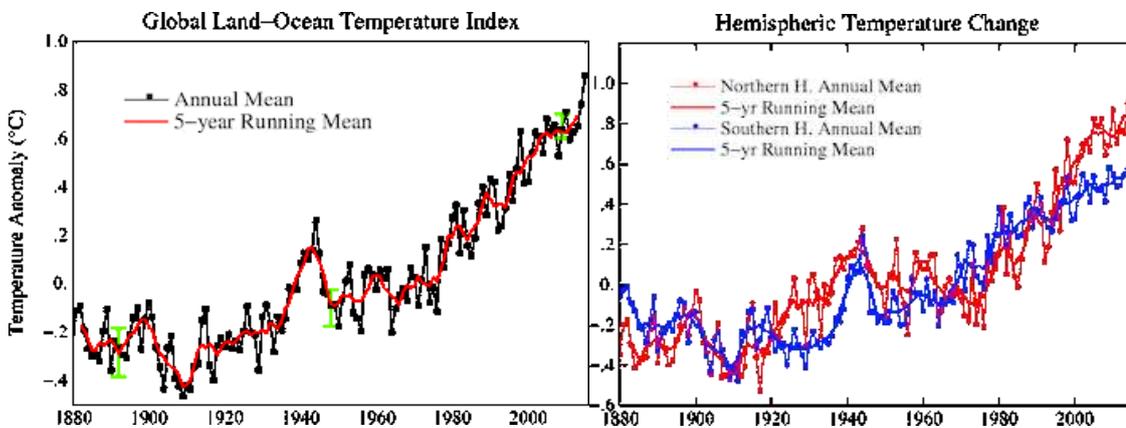
- practical programs to help the community to reduce energy consumption
- making Council's buildings more energy-efficient
- support for the development of sustainable transport options
- increasing vegetation cover.

From 2022, Council's climate response will be embedded into all Council policy, including a new Sustainability Strategy which will involve comprehensive community consultation and be informed by the next Community Vision.

**What is meant by Global Warming?**

Global warming is the slow increase in the average temperature of the earth's atmosphere because an increased amount of the energy (heat) striking the earth from the sun is being trapped in the atmosphere and not radiated out into space.

The diagrams below are self explanatory.



## Environmental Volunteering

Now that the weather has improved, COVID 19 restrictions have lessened and life can get back to normal, let's think about what we can volunteer to do in our communities.

I have listed below some amazing Govt. figures showing volunteer stats and hours. Check out the percentage of environmental involvement!

Glenys

### Volunteering Naturally 2020

Environmental volunteering connects community to nature and to each other. During 2020, Victorians have seen an unprecedented level of disruption to how we live, work, connect and volunteer. Whilst still processing the bushfires that occurred in late 2019 through to early 2020, our community was thrown into a global pandemic. These significant national and international events have put a sharp focus on the importance of nature in our lives -reflected in this 2019-2020 stocktake of environmental volunteering.



### Volunteering Victoria release the State of Volunteering report

The first State of Volunteering Report was recently released showing there are 2.3 million Victorians over 15 years of age who volunteer in Victoria.

Volunteers contribute on average 223.9 hours a year or 4.3 hours every week with their fellow Victorians.

**Environmental volunteers make up about 8% of all volunteering, contributing enormously to improving our environment, communities and economy.**

**Grants Opportunities** Managed by Parks Victoria, the \$2 million [Volunteering Innovation Fund](#) has launched to support community led projects that inspire change, attract new volunteers and have a positive impact on the environment. From next year the grants will increase to up to \$50,000 and will be short-listed before being put to a public vote.

For more information, please visit <https://www.parks.vic.gov.au/get-into-nature/volunteering/volunteering-innovation-fund>

## **Victorian Junior Landcare and Biodiversity Grants Announced**

Minister D'Ambrosio has announced the recipients of the 2020 Victorian Junior Landcare and Biodiversity Grants. A total of \$409,500 will fund 113 projects for Victorian primary and secondary schools, childcare centres, kindergartens, preschools and youth groups

If you want to know more about how your fellow Victorian's are acting for nature and how you can get involved too, check out: <https://www.environment.vic.gov.au/volunteering>

## RCFH BLACKBURN STATION CRAFT MARKET – TRADER OF THE MONTH



### The *Bee-autiful* Basin Backyard

Nine years ago Michael asked Meredith for a beehive for his 50<sup>th</sup> birthday present because he didn't want to keep hand pollinating their trees and plants on their ¼ acre block in the foothills of the Dandenong ranges. Who would have realised that it would lead to a new career and the launch of The Basin Backyard, with over 240 beehives throughout Victoria, 10 regular markets a month, and a shop in Knoxfield (Unit 1, 31 Rushdale St).

Michael & Meredith told me “at the Basin Backyard, we sell pure raw honey & bees wax and related products e.g. lollies containing our honey (eg. honey & eucalyptus drops, nougat & peanut brittle). As well as our beeswax which we make into candles & food wraps. We are the beekeepers so we are hands-on for the whole process, from looking after our *bee-autiful* bees, harvesting the honey & jarring the honey and collecting the wax which is in our products. We are located in The Basin and we have 240+ beehives throughout Victoria. Whilst we have 5 hives on our property, the majority of them are local in the Dandenong ranges and we also have them on properties in NW Victoria, the Mornington peninsula, Gippsland and various other locations in Victoria where our bees can collect different varieties of flora for our different tasting honeys. Come and have a chat to us about our bees, our honey, our wax, our lollies & the value of bees in our environment.”

They will organise bee swarm collection, they have bee keeping supplies. Usefully, you can pay by card.

[www.tbbyard.com.au](http://www.tbbyard.com.au) 0419 607 807

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