



**President: John McPhee**

Number 25

23 January 2017

Club address:

PO Box 116, Nunawading 3131

Email address:

foresthillrotary1975@gmail.com

Website:

www.foresthillrotary.com

Meeting location:

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

Meeting time:

Monday 6.15 for 6.30 pm

Facebook:

Rotary Club Forest Hill

### CLUB PROGRAM

Date	Event	Chair	Thanks and Meeting report
23 January	<i>Fiji (RC Dingley)</i> Greg Wragg	<b>BOARD</b> Warwick Stott	Ray Smith
30 January	Bucatini with partners		
6 February	<i>Rotarians against Malaria (RAM)</i> Gloria Hargreave	Bob Laslett	Bill Marsh
	<b>SPECIAL MTG</b>		
13 February	Rotarians against Child Slavery <i>Robyn Stokes</i>	Bob Williams	Warwick Stott

### CELEBRATIONS

Birthday good wishes to the Liverpool Lad (27 January)

### DUTY ROSTER

	January	February
<b>Recorder</b>	Bob Williams	Mike Finke
<b>Greeter</b>	Glenys Grant	Graham Sharman
<b>Emergency</b>	Martine Macleod - Craig	Chris Tuck
<b>Cashier</b>	Stuart Williams	Glenys Grant

## 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

## DON HULLAND

Don is in Kellock Lodge, 15 Bon Street, Alexandra 3714, and his mobile number is **0409 530 435**. Please give him a call or phone the office 5770-2100 and ask for Don.

## PRESIDENT JOHN'S JOTTINGS

The half way mark has now been passed, and the achievements to date are right up to Forest Hill Rotary high standards -thank you all.



First night fellowship at Mike and Keira's

Our first official meeting for 2017 was a great fellowship and fun night both in the cross chatter and the interesting guest speaker Jim McPhee who entertained us with flash backs of his life growing up from childhood without a left leg lost to cancer. During the next 6 months in addition to the normal club activities, we will be working towards membership recruitment with another membership night programmed to occur on 1st May 2017, and investigating new avenues for fund raising to supplement our existing programs. Thank you to both Martine and Barbara for agreeing to join the fund -raising team. To ensure a successful membership event, please all actively promote and seek potential members whom we may invite to that night. Last year's activity was a success so there is no reason we cannot repeat the success this year. Since last night we are now able to confirm that the Metro Rail Authority sausage give away event is a goer for Wednesday 25th January from 3.00 pm to 7.00 pm when we get paid for giving away cooked sausages and veggie burgers. However, we do need hands- on people to assist us. With the project, please let Bob Williams know if you can help and for what period so that rosters can be implemented. THAT'S IT NEXT WEDNESDAY 25TH January.

Other upcoming activities are :- : Ocean Grove lunch visit to John & Cathy's home on February the 4th

Sorrento Lunch and farm visit to Gary & Bev's home on Thursday 2nd March ( another vocational visit?)

Blackburn Station Craft Market, Saturday February 11th, and again on March 11th

Ride to conference Ron will be back and looking for sponsors benefiting Australian Rotary Health

Thought for the Week “Stay positive always , even if you run out of reasons to be optimistic.”

## Meeting Report

There were 15 members present for our first club meeting back at Bucatini after a long break since 5th December. We listened to a fascinating life story of Jim McPhee from the RC of Monbulk & District. Jim’s life was certainly one filled with a cup half full attitude. He has written and had published his story “Tin legs and toasting forks”. The book was started 20 years ago then written in bursts until recently when he realised his story may help others.



Born in Thornbury in the days of cable trams in 1934 and started school in 1939 just before the outbreak of WWII. At 11 ½ years old he was diagnosed with bone cancer in his leg (though the word cancer was never mentioned). After 2 years of radiation and time in hospital (he told us that hospital visits were 1 hr per week on a Sunday in some of his hospital stays!) in June 1947, they decided to amputate his leg at the hip. He was a keen Collingwood fan and many of the players came into hospital to visit him.

He still rode to school after his father fixed up his bike so he could ride with one leg. He was told to look on the bright side as he only had one shoe to polish. He played cricket with his tin leg and after denting it a few times realised he still should wear a pad on his false leg. He tried a few artificial legs but in the end decided it was easier to use crutches. He played table tennis in competition using one crutch, played golf using no crutches and could still hit a 100 yd drive.

At 23 he started dating Sandra (and found out she was only 15). They married when she was 19 and he was 27. Unfortunately, they found out that all the radiation treatment had made him sterile (he told us about the fun and games involved in finding out) but they adopted two children and now have grandchildren. Unfortunately, Sandra died when she was 44. He remarried Thirza 2 ½ years later and they are still together.

Workwise he went into insurance, first in the office and then out on the road. He told a tale of how one car he drove that was not fixed up with a hand throttle etc. His father attached a toasting fork to the pedal so he could pull up or push down. He left the Commercial Union and tried running an outdoor activities (camping, skiing etc) shop in Heathmont for 4 years but then sold the shop and went back into Loss Adjusting. Because of his lack of superannuation, he continued working until he was 78. Then he finally retired 4 years ago and he and Thirza sold up their home of 27 years in Monbulk to go into a retirement village.

His book roams through a life of tenacity, albeit with decades of frustration. It saunters along invoking nostalgic memories of yesteryear with inspiration and testament to the power of resilience and endurance. A fascinating story of giving life a good go. Thanks Jim for visiting and telling us your story.

The sergeant raised \$35.65 on his first outing in 2017 (clearly the layoff didn’t do his powers any harm). The raffle raised \$47 with John D taking home a French red and Bob L sneaking off with a Margaret River white.

We have a visit to Peridot theatre planned for Fri 3rd Feb (tell Bill if you are going). It is their opening night. The next day we visit the Donaghey’s home (Sat 4th Feb).

We also heard that Forest Hill College had become our first corporate member and that they are financial. Bob L is also asking for volunteers to man their school breakfast programme in 2017.

A very full and interesting night topped off with committee meetings after the club meeting and then the first meeting of our new Fund Raising committee. Everyone has been asked to come up with suggestions on how we can raise funds,

preferably from outside our club members. The Committee awaits ideas from club and honorary members. The people who have the ideas do not have to run the fund- raising project.

Ron Brooks, reporter.

## **Sergeant Reflection 16 January 2017**

From our weekly flyer I note that Vocational Service is our Rotary District theme for January. Vocational Service is basic to our organisation. When we join Rotary our dinner badge notes our classification as each club endeavours to have a cross section of members from their community's business and professional population. Vocational service encourages us to hold high ethical standards in our business affairs and our professional practices. Over the years the word "Rotarian" has become a mark of distinction in the business world. At our club level we may ask ourselves is Forest Hill doing enough in this area. In previous years we participated in Group Study Exchange, helped initiate the Whitehorse Business Awards, participated in mock job interviews for secondary students, ran the Whitehorse Golf Day competition supported by local businesses and today our club still participates in Vocational Service in many ways. We engage with local businesses in running our Blackburn Station market and are a partner in the running of the Whitehorse Farmers' Market. We engage in vocational outings to places such as more recently to the Melbourne University and the Jazz Museum. A couple of years ago we commenced our Citizenship Awards recognising secondary students who display leadership qualities both in their school setting and in the wider community. We continue to seek applicants for our pride of Workmanship Awards and our annual tertiary awards of work tools for students at Box Hill TAFE funded by our generous benefactors has been a leading achievement of our club for many years. As is often said by members of other clubs, Forest Hill certainly punches above its weight.

## **BLACKBURN STATION BBQ WEDNESDAY 25TH JANUARY 4-15PM TO 7PM**

Further to the initial request from Metro trains advised previously, the free to rail/bus users BBQ is definitely on with a lot of assistance required please for the above date and time. As per previously, we will be reimbursed for our time (and purchases), so with our Blackburn market income being well down due to the rail works these additional income opportunities are most welcome.

We will set up in the same spot as we did in July last time at the North side station entrance, when we gave away 600 sausages and 50 veggie burgers with the catering this time to be probably for more rail/bus users. I will know numbers later this week and will advise at our meeting next Monday night.

We need to be ready for the first hungry patrons by 5pm so I suggest we need to be there at 4-15 to allow sufficient time to unload, erect our marquee, set up and have BBQs full of cooked product by 5pm. I will pick up our BBQ trailer from Nadrasca earlier that day so will be there with it by 4-15pm.

Last time worked well with one cooking the veggie burgers on the separate Metro Trains BBQ, two cooking the snags and one the onions on our BBQ, one getting the cooked product to the front table people where we had two preparing the snags with onions and some without onions onto bread and serviettes then putting them into paper bags and stacking them on the front serving table along with the same treatment for the veggie burgers. We had another two as gofers, getting the cold snags and onions out of the car fridges and resupplying the serviettes, paper bags etc for the servers. Ray last time had cut up all the onions which was great as that saved a lot of time. Again as per last time we will also load up trays for people from the Metro Trains to walk around with as the buses from Box Hill and Ringwood will unload at Railway Road stops, close to our marquee so we need to allow for busloads of hungry passengers on a regular basis. The station is of course closed until early February so our patrons will all come by bus, with of course I'm sure some resourceful passers by also grabbing freebies.

When driving there, remember that Blackburn Road will be closed.

Metro trains will lend us their BBQ to cook the veggie burgers on and we were flat out last time with nine of us there helping so it would be good to have at least the same number again. So far John Mc, Stuart, Bill, Bob L and Ray have indicated they will be available and with Barbara and me, more needed please.

Can anyone else please let me know if they can join in the fun?

Thanks

Bob W

## **FURTHER TO BBQ 25TH JANUARY - LOCATION CHANGED TO RINGWOOD STATION**

Sorry to ask so late, but I was hoping we might be able to change the location of the BBQ on Wednesday afternoon to Ringwood Station instead?



and the drummers knew. It was known as Must Send Drum Over Sound (MSDOS), and she also developed a language to transmit ideas and pictures - Hebrew to The People (HTTP).

And the young men did take to Dot Com's trading as doth the greedy horsefly take to camel dung. They were called Nomadic Ecclesiastical Rich Dominican Sybarites, or NERDS. And lo, the land was so feverish with joy at the new riches and the deafening sound of drums that no one noticed that the real riches were going to that enterprising drum dealer, Brother William of Gates, who bought off every drum maker in the land. Indeed he did insist on drums to be made that would work only with Brother Gates' drumheads and drumsticks.

And Dot did say, "Oh, Abraham, what we have started is being taken over by others." And Abraham looked out over the Bay of Ezekiel, or eBay as it came to be known. He said, "We need a name that reflects what we are."

And Dot replied, "Young Ambitious Hebrew Owner Operators."

"YAHOO," said Abraham. And because it was Dot's idea, they named it YAHOO Dot Com.

Abraham's cousin, Joshua, being the young Gregarious Energetic Educated Kid (GEEK) that he was, soon started using Dot's drums to locate things around the countryside.

It soon became known as God's Own Official Guide to Locating Everything (GOOGLE).

## Local Happenings

### GREENING THE MALL

Saturday 21 January, 11am-2pm, Box Hill Mall Kiosk

\* Help to build a vegetable garden bed with PermaBlitz \* \* Learn a thing or two along the way \*

Watch this space – urban agriculture workshops running through until April.

### FRONT LAWN FESTIVAL

Saturday 21 January, 6pm onwards, Box Hill Town Hall Front Lawn

\* Local music \* Food trucks \* Film \*

\* Spread your picnic rug, hire a beanbag and listen to talented local musicians on the lawn \*

\* Free screening of 'Babe', 8.45pm \*

GET INVOLVED, LEARN MORE AND GET IN TOUCH AT [THENEIGHBOURHOODPROJECT.ORG/BOXHILL](http://THENEIGHBOURHOODPROJECT.ORG/BOXHILL)

## DIARY DATES

Fri 3 Feb 2017 Peridot

Sat 4 Feb. Lunch at Kathy & John Donaghey's home in Ocean Grove.

Sat 11 Feb Blackburn Market

Sun 12 Feb Whitehorse Farmer's Market

Thurs. 2 Mar Lunch at Bev & Gary Baltissen's home in Sorrento.

## ROTARY MONTHLY THEMES

January Vocational Service

February Peace & Conflict Resolution

## ARTICLES

Newsletter articles to [rlaslett76@gmail.com](mailto:rlaslett76@gmail.com) by 5 pm Wednesday please.