



FOREST HILL HAPPENINGS

No. 25

President: Bill Marsh

11 January 2023

BILL'S BY-LINE



Welcome back!

I hope you have all had relaxing break over the holiday period and enjoyed many happy times with family and friends.

Now that we move into the New Year, I hope you are looking forward to the challenges and opportunities that it brings.

Sunday saw many members and family working on the egg & bacon stall at the WFM. A quiet day, with a number of stalls missing and patronage down it allowed us to begin the year in a leisurely manner.

On Monday we gathered at the home of Ron & Robbie to celebrate and share stories of the great times we have had over the preceding weeks with family and friends. This was a lovely way to start the year with great company and beautiful food.

Next week we will be back at Bucatini's while we review the first half of the Rotary Year and plan the next 6 months. With falling numbers this will be an important night as we sort out what can or cannot be achieved and where we should concentrate our efforts and resources.

I am looking forward to the next 6 months as our club continues to 'Make a Difference' in our community.

Don't forget the District Conference in Canberra and the International Convention in Melbourne. It is not too late to register for either, or both, Conferences.

Bill

January is
Vocational Service Month
Month

NEXT MEETING

16 January: Club Forum

Chairperson: Bill Marsh

Greeter: Glenys Grant

Notes for "Happenings": Bob Laslett

Thanks: John Bindon

Cashier: John McPhee

COMING UP

23 January No meeting

30 January Bucatini A La Carte

CELEBRATIONS



Congrats to John Bindon
on his club anniversary on
14 January.



SPROUTINGS

Happy New Year to all.

As 2023 begins we wonder, after the last few years of climate chaos and environment challenges, what awaits us this year....

To start the new year on a positive note we decided to feature a lovely area, with an invite to you all.

We received this:

Connect with trees along the Whitehorse City Council Tree Trail

The City of Whitehorse has many parks and bushland reserves to explore and now visitors can get to know them a little better with council's first 'Tree Trail'.

Kingsley Gardens, showing a QR code



Visitors having a wander through Kingsley Gardens in Box Hill can access short, informative videos by scanning QR codes on-site. The videos provide an opportunity for people to connect and care for nature by hearing from staff and volunteers, sharing insights on tree identification, species selection and tree care.

“Whitehorse staff regularly host walking tours in our parklands. It’s a great way to educate the community about our natural environment,” Belinda Moody, Tree Education Officer, City Planning and Development said.

“With the rise of QR code usage over the past couple of years, we thought it a great opportunity to use QR codes to run virtual walking tours. The community can learn about the trees in their parklands and engage with the information anytime they visit a local park.”



This communication was intriguing. The park was one we had never visited so it was time to find out more.

Kingsley Gardens is part of the Whitehorse Heritage Trail. It is situated behind Box Hill Institute, near the south-east corner of Whitehorse and Elgar roads. This was originally the site of the heritage White Horse Hotel and close to the Gas Works, which was almost opposite.

It is a formal style garden that features a range of mature trees, both native and exotic. That makes it a great place to visit.

Today a couple of Rotarians *did* explore - and can recommend the area as a lovely peaceful place – especially good to visit before the Box Hill Institute’s scholastic year gets underway.

We discovered a tranquil, community-friendly park. There was a diversity of trees; gently sloping paths with easy access for those with walking difficulties; plenty of comfortable seats; a delightful children’s playground and a covered, solar powered BBQ area.

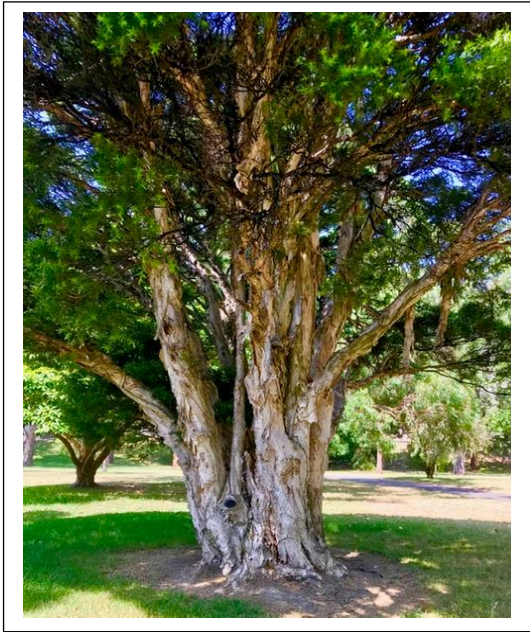


But even better- along the main paths are nine QR codes on posts. We used our mobile phones to access the videos linked to each QR code and then watched them with great interest. The videos were scripted to inform the community of the lovely trees in the area, inspiring us all to learn more about this environment and protect it.

When this trial was commenced there was some concern that the codes may be vandalised, but in the time this new concept has been in operation no damage has occurred.



This is the first Whitehorse area to have these QR codes and information videos. It's a trial – and we loved it! More please, Whitehorse.



We urge you to visit and give us your opinion as to whether you think this is a good idea for more parks to have this.

Email glen.grant008@gmail.com and I will pass the feedback on to Council.

For more information visit: www.whitehorse.vic.gov.au/trees.

Until next week, Glenys

RCFH BLACKBURN STATION CRAFT MARKET – TRADER OF THE MONTH

BROWNIES NOW!

Julie started Brownies Now ! a Mount Waverley based business in June this year and has steadily gained a loyal customer base at the markets she attends and through her online presence. All her brownies are made from natural ingredients with no added preservatives, so they make a great treat for all. Julie caters for all consumers with her tasty treats including gluten free and vegan. Vegan is only available online at present. She does catering, events, weddings, and grazing boxes plus has an adult liqueur range. Her full selection is available online with select varieties available at markets.

“From making pikelets, scones and cupcakes with my mum when I was a child, to working in a cake shop in Scotland during high school, I've always had a love of cakes and baking” Julie said. This comes through in the finished products, which are baked with a high level of care and attention. Her years of baking experience have gone into developing a range of delicious flavours, and new ones are constantly being worked on and developed to provide you with something new.

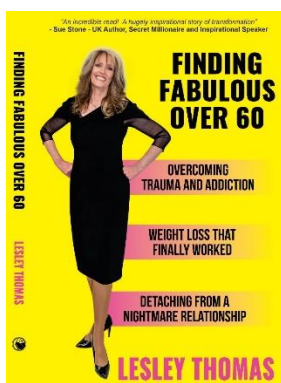
Julie does other markets including Mount Waverley, Hawthorn, and Berwick regularly and is finding her customers are returning regularly and referring others to indulge in her treats.



You can email her at browniesnow@outlook.com and find her on

Website www.browniesnow.online
 instagram.com/brownies_now_julie/
 facebook.com/browniesnow.julie/

SOME OF OUR BLACKBURN MARKET STALLHOLDERS





Come to the Market next month- February 11