



# FOREST HILL HAPPENINGS

No 29

President: Sue Ballard

03 March 2021



**Scan Me!!**

## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

I had planned to talk about team work but on the passing of Michael Gudinski I am going to talk now about taking risk. I met Michael a couple of times, the first time at a Skyhooks gig before he and the band had reached their success. Skyhooks in those days were a band different from anything else going around at the time, they were breaking the music formula and forging their own identity. Michael was passionate about what they were doing with visions of where he could see them going. He pushed the barriers of what the Australian music industry was and what it would become. He took risks and believed there was a place for the Australian flavour to reach the world. He honestly cared about the musicians and the audiences. The second time I met him was in the audience of a concert enjoying the night like everyone else. He was a big reason international stars came to this country to tour in the 1980s on. He took risks to achieve his visions. Risks that meant stepping outside the normal and routine and create a new path. Michael believed in what he was doing and the music industry, indeed Australian society, has been the beneficiary. Believe the vision. Thank you Michael G.

Sue

## MEETING REPORT

Chair: John Bindon

Thanks: John McPhee

Welcome to guest speaker Dr Ray Shuey PhD, APM senior Victorian of the year 2029,

Robbie and Martine welcome back.

### Reports

Youth - slowly resuming youth activities. District don't have a speech competition currently due to not being able to have a committee but we will be running a club competition for schools in our area in August with the assistance of Marlene Sinclair.

MUNA doesn't have a full committee yet. Other youth programs are in the process. If you are able to join a committee please contact Pres Sue.

Enviro - committee has met and are developing a project with Forest Hill College. Details to come.

RYDA - Ron gave a summary of another successful RYDA day at Lilydale with students from Eltham College and Swinburne High.

Treasurer - Bob W is stepping into role while Warwick is unavailable.

Secretary - one card arrived addressed to Sue and Glenys but for the whole club. A thank you card from a youth achievement award winner from Whitehorse Primary. The message expressed his excitement and thanks to the club for the recognition.

Community - still haven't heard back from Council regards the proposed seat.

Vocation and International - nothing to report at this stage.

Program - a week off for public holiday but to celebrate St Patrick's day there is an Irish quiz. Dress in green or Irish theme.

Also, in March we will have another social meeting for the 5th Monday in the month.

100yr celebration - relay information sent out. Need you to talk to and invite others to join in. We have Whitehorse Men's Shen, Blackburn Lake sanctuary, RYDA and a few members and Geoff Logie-Smith confirmed but need to hear from everyone so a schedule can be compiled. We are attempting to organise a vintage car to participate too. Get back to Sue ASAP

Guest speaker Dr Ray Shuey. Victorian Senior of the Year 2020

Ray proved to be an entertaining and engaging speaker. Talking firstly on his life in the Victorian Police force he discussed his journey from a young constable to going to other branches and especially his passion for road safety. Mentioning his own family tragedy, to the difficulties the police face every day with road trauma, he discussed what has happened and ideas for the future. The key being to get young people involved and engaged in road safety and education. His key thought is that there has to be respect. Respect for the driver themselves, for their passengers, for other drivers, road users, family and pedestrians.



Ray Shuey

## March is *Water & Sanitation* month.

### NEXT MEETING

*8<sup>th</sup> March – No Meeting*

*15<sup>th</sup> March – St Patrick's Day Quiz*

### COMING UP

8 <sup>th</sup> March -	No Meeting
13 <sup>th</sup> March -	Blackburn Market
14 <sup>th</sup> March -	Whitehorse Farmers' Market
15 <sup>th</sup> March-	Ron Brooks – 'St Patrick's Day Quiz'
22 <sup>nd</sup> March -	Open to suggestions from members
29 <sup>th</sup> March -	Partners A La Carte Dinner at Bucatini
5 <sup>th</sup> April -	No Meeting
10 <sup>th</sup> April -	Blackburn Market
11 <sup>th</sup> April -	Whitehorse Farmers' Market
12 <sup>th</sup> April -	Kevin Walker – "Schizophrenia – hope & recovery"

### CELEBRATIONS

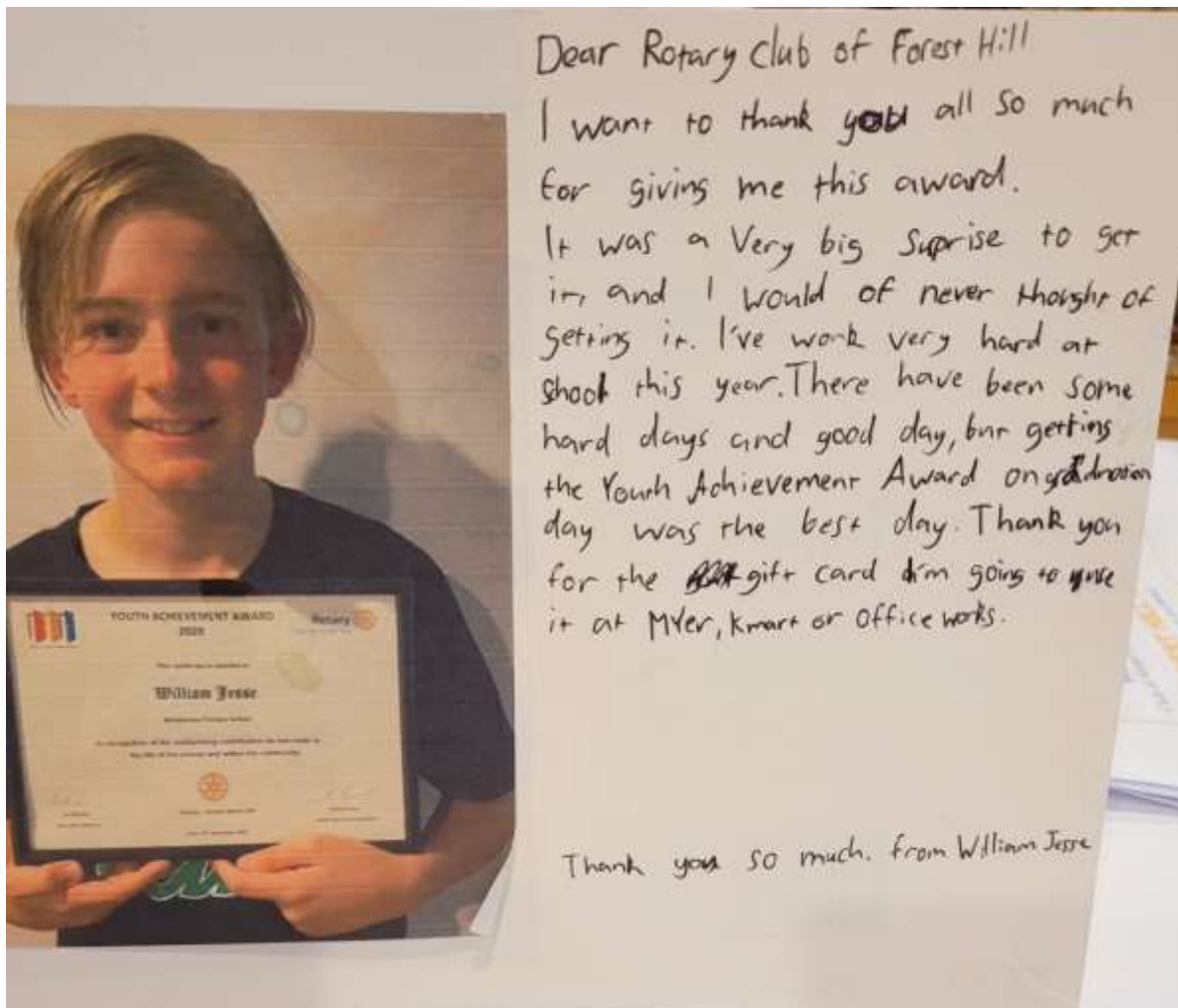
The last couple of weeks have been a little quiet on the celebration front – except for easing of COVID restrictions.

However, John Bindon will be enjoying the company of family and friends when he celebrates his birthday on the 9<sup>th</sup> March. Happy Birthday, John, from all of us.



## YOUTH

Sort of makes it all worthwhile!!



## SPROUTINGS



Rotarians at work (actually they just stopped for the photo!!) at Blackburn Lake Sanctuary.

**This week I have listed events occurring in the near future which may be of interest to you and for your participation. Most of those listed only involve a couple of hours of your time. Also – there is good news at the end!** *Enjoy the week, Glenys*

### **March 7. Clean up Australia Day**

Join other Rotarians, Lions club members and other community groups at Blackburn Lake Sanctuary on **Sunday March 7<sup>th</sup>, 10am to 12noon.**

Register from 9:45am at the Visitor Centre using the **CUAD QR Code** on site.

Please wear appropriate clothing: your Rotary shirt, gloves, enclosed shoes, hat, preferably long trousers and sleeves. Don't forget your sun cream and drink bottle

**AND – bring kitchen or BBQ TONGS.**

If you are coming let me know – or just turn up!

[BLSAC@bigpond.com](mailto:BLSAC@bigpond.com)

<http://blackburnlakesanctuary.org/>

### **March 10. Introduction to Solar & Batteries, by the Australian Energy Foundation:**

#### **Wednesday 10 March, 6.30-8pm**

Join this free webinar to find out whether solar and batteries are right for your home. This information session will help you:

- Understand how solar and batteries work
- Find out how to get the right system for your home
- Find out about expected savings and payback
- Understand how to claim the government rebates

To register for this event, [visit here](#).

### **March 20. Blackburn Lake Sanctuary 9.30 -11.30am**

Preserving the natural environment and weeding.

Again- join other Rotarians and community groups. See CUAD list for what to bring. Two hours isn't much out of your weekend, but can help our community such a lot.

### **2021 City Nature Challenge – this fantastic event is coming up in May!**

#### **March 23. Those interested in the above should first attend the iNaturalist Training Webinar 7pm - 8.15pm**

The challenge is an international effort for people to find and document plants and wildlife in cities across the globe. It will take part across two time periods, from:

- **30 April to 3 May** - taking pictures of wild flora and fauna and uploading them to the iNaturalist platform
- **4 May to 9 May** – identifying what was uploaded

For more information please visit: <https://citynaturechallenge.org/>

The training will help prepare you for the 2021 City Nature Challenge by ensuring that you are familiar with the iNaturalist application that will be used to upload your wildlife observations. Ecologist, Dr Luis Mata, will be providing an introduction whilst also ensuring all of your questions are answered

**Link to register or obtain a recording:** <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/inaturalist-training-webinar-tickets-141757714139> The more people in attendance, the better!

Now to more good news! **Snap Solve Send**

Have you heard of it and do you use it?

It's a mobile phone app to effectively deal with issues that people notice in their local area. The app uploads a photo and description of your concern to Whitehorse Council, or the appropriate local authority, for action.

Council's fast responsiveness to the flood of reports has earned it a satisfaction rating of 3.71 out of five, more than 10 per cent higher than the state average.

*Thank you Whitehorse!*

The most commonly reported issues in Whitehorse in 2020 were environmental issues - which were promptly dealt with.

App usage in Whitehorse has rocketed in the past three years, surging from 657 reports in 2017 to **12,441** last year!

Blair Barker, Councillor, Elgar Ward, recently commented to me

*"The overwhelming majority are environmental related,..... The results have been outstanding"*

And finally....

On CUAD the major items collected in our area are polystyrene and plastic. So, the good news is that Single-use plastic items including straws, cutlery and plates will be banned in Victoria in the next two years in a bid to reduce the amount of plastic waste going into landfill and our waterways.

Other items to be phased out include drink stirrers, polystyrene food and drink containers and cotton buds.



**"MAD March Cycle Challenge "**

Ride, run, walk or swim to **Make A Difference**.

**March 1<sup>st</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> 2021**

Raise funds for **"Australian Rotary Health"** to sponsor medical research

**"Registration is free"**

For more details and to register please go to:

<https://madmarchcyclechallenge.raisely.com/>

## 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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