



FOREST HILL HAPPENINGS

No. 02

President: Bill Marsh

13 July 2022

BILL'S BY-LINE



It has been a great week, if we ignore the rain, the cold and COVID.

The club celebrated Changeover on Monday night. Well Changeover might be a bit of a stretch; with limited numbers it was more of a slight shuffling of responsibilities with the same people popping up again.

What was great was having so many of our ex-Rotarians, Honorary members and Friends of Rotary on deck and in good form. There was a lovely feeling in the room as people renewed acquaintances and caught up on the latest gossip.

It was also a good chance to recognize the hard work people have been doing over the last 12 months under difficult conditions. More

on this in the Meeting Report.

I am looking forward to a busy & rewarding year to come as we continue to 'Make a Difference' in our local community and overseas.

We were joined by DG Ken Miller, AG Catherine Elfick and PDG Daryl Moran and Jenny. Despite attending these types of functions on an almost daily basis they all seemed to have a good night and we appreciate them making time to visit with us.

It was also nice to have as guests of the club Leila & Jarrod Ragg from the Mitcham Community House and Lyndi Nuthall & Stephen Parkinson from Alkira. Mitcham and Alkira are two local organisations that the club has supported. We are planning a Vocational visit to Alkira in the near future.

My Thanks to everyone who helped make it a successful night and special Thanks to Sue Ballard who arranged the flower decorations for the tables that then went home as prizes for the 'raffle'. Sadly, Sue could not join us after a fall while keeping the economy moving at Forest Hill on Saturday.

At the weekend we held our Blackburn Market and participated in the WFM. While you could have fired the proverbial 'cannon' early in the morning at Blackburn without any danger things picked up as the morning went on and we ended up with a good result. Thank You to all who helped out on the day. The WFM was also a good day and my Thanks to those who rattled buckets on the gates and helped out in the office. Sadly, I will miss the next market and will have to put up with sunning myself in Far North Queensland. (Well, I hope that is what I will be doing!)

On Monday our meeting will take the format of a Club Forum while we sort out the direction and manner we will be moving in over the next year. There are a number of issues we would like to address and I look forward to some very positive outcomes.

Take care, stay safe & stay warm.

Bill Marsh

WELCOME TO WINTER!!! (Only 49 days 'til Spring.)

MEETING REPORT

Our Changeover Meeting

It was wonderful to walk into the back room at Bucatini and see 5 tables set for members and guests. Twenty-four hours before we booked in 40 people, but in these weird COVID times, by the time we sat down for our dinner we had 32 there (one guest just forgot). Seven were affected by COVID and one was injured. Chair- Bob Laslett opened the meeting and gave a brief reflection and proposed two toasts- to Australia and to Rotary International. District Governor Ken Miller responded to the toast on behalf of Rotary International.

We had an extensive guest list and Bob introduced them all.

DG Ken Miller, AG Catherine Eflick, PDG Daryl Moran and Jenny. We had seven members present, a number of partners, honorary members and friends of Rotary. Special guests were Roger Davis and Peter and Pam Davis, Leila and Jarrod Ragg (Mitcham Community House) Linda Nuthall and Stephen Parkinson (Alkira). President Bill had four members of his family there- Nadia, Tim, Jarrod and Nicholette.

Our meal came out early and then PDG Daryl presented a Bronze Environment Award to the club. Daryl had presented it via a Zoom meeting earlier. He also presented President John with a District Recognition Award for the club and a special award for himself.



President John Bindon then addressed the meeting- he recognized his board and commented on the activities and achievements of his year. John then presented Glenys Coates with a Paul Harris Award. For many years Glenys has been presenting a substantial cheque to the club on behalf of her husband PP Roger. Glenys, when she came forward, had a cheque in her hand. John McPhee was presented with a PHF in absentia. We then distributed copies of the Annual Report.

President John then inducted Bill Marsh to be President 2022-23 and presented him with his President's badge and the Presidential Collar and the 2022-23 Podium Banner.

President Bill thanked John for his leadership and presented him with his Past President Certificate. The icing on the cake was to follow with a PHF for John. It has 3 sapphires- signifying that John has been recognized 4 times in his Rotary career.



Bill mentioned that his board will take a different form this year. He presented Board badges to Secretary Stuart, Treasurer Warwick, Past President John and a president elect badge to Bob Laslett. President elect will be a triumvirate—Bob, Bill and Sue Ballard, sharing the role over the year. Bill shared some thoughts about the coming year with us. Eight prizes were drawn and many lucky people took home the cyclamens that had been table centres.

So ended a pleasant meeting; relaxed, warm and one that we all enjoyed catching up with friends. Bill thanked all who attended and reminded members that the next meeting is a Club Forum, Monday, 18 July.

Stuart

NEXT MEETING

Club Forum

Club roster for 18 July, 2022.

Chairperson: Bill Marsh
Greeter: Sue Ballard
Notes for “Happenings”: Bob Laslett
Cashier & Recorder: Bob Williams

COMING UP

25 July TBA

1 August TBA

July is Literacy Month

HOPE KATOLO MOVIE NIGHT

Hope Katolo are running a movie night on July 30 at 4 PM at Palace Cinemas, in Balwyn. The movie is "Where the Crawdads Sing". \$25 for a single ticket. For more than one ticket \$20 each. www

Book tickets through Trybooking - <https://www.trybooking.com/CASCP>

CELEBRATIONS



Let's celebrate a new Rotary
Year as we Imagine.



SPROUTINGS

Good news from the ABC. **Australia is 'on track' to generate half its electricity from renewable sources by 2025, report finds**

By energy reporter [Daniel Mercer](#)

Key points:

- The Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering says the country's renewable energy share will rise to 69 per cent by 2030
- The academy is calling for changes to help guide and coordinate massive investments needed to transition away from fossil fuels
- It comes as amid upheaval in the eastern states' power and gas industries, which have been hit hard by soaring prices and fears of supply shortages
- But the academy stressed that urgent investment was needed, not only in new wind and solar farms, but in the back-up services that would be required to keep the lights on during the transition period.
- AATSE said it expected pumped hydro and batteries to fill in many of the gaps but acknowledged that gas may be needed to act as a safety net during times of high demand or when wind and solar were insufficient to produce the required energy.

Solar is seen as the leading contender to decarbonise global energy systems. *(ABC News: Michael Franchi)*



Households leading the charge

Professor Renate Egan who leads the Australian Centre for Advanced Photovoltaics, University of New South Wales, said renewable energy already accounted for nearly a third of Australia's electricity generation.

She noted the pace of change was being driven to a significant extent by householders, who were behind about half of the renewable energy installed in Australia during 2021.

SBS News comments: **Gas : What is causing the gas prices to rise?**

Australia exports the overwhelming majority of its gas, which means our prices are often reflective of the international market, which is also experiencing surging prices amid a shortage.

Ariel Liebman, Director of the Monash Energy Institute, described the situation as a "crisis decades in the making".

According to the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO), wholesale energy prices were up 141 per cent in the first quarter of 2022 compared with last year.

Politicians have described the current situation as a "perfect storm" of factors, including a change in weather, geopolitical events and unscheduled outages at coal-fired power stations in Australia.



Roberto F. Aguilera, energy economist at Curtin University, said the rising prices can be partially attributed to an increase in demand and a decrease in supply, along with a lack of substitution.

There is no easy answer to the gas price hike

"The problem is on the supply side: there have been coal production outages, and natural gas could normally come in and fill in for coal, but gas is in short supply as well, because there just isn't enough to satisfy domestic requirements *and to meet export obligations.*"

"This is a policy failure a long time in the making and it will be very hard to remedy it quickly."

Western Australia preserves 15% of liquefied natural gas for the domestic market.

Experts say that WA has immunised their consumers and small businesses from these enormous price rises, whereas on the east coast that doesn't happen and effectively, it means we are at the mercy of an international market.

By Jessica Bahr, Source: SBS, AAP

Because of rising gas prices there is overwhelming support for gas users to switch to electricity and this is why.

Why Switch? <https://maketheswitch.org.au/why-switch/>

Switching from gas to electricity in your house will immediately and **significantly reduce emissions from your heating, cooking and hot water, and enable you to tap into the most efficient power sources in the world.**

By switching you can save money on your household bills, improve your family's convenience and comfort, and take action to protect the climate and environment.

Electric heating appliances, in general, require less maintenance. As there is no burning of fossil fuels involved in the process, the whole system wouldn't have to be cleaned and checked as often. **Electric heating is also safer. You'll be eliminating the risk of a gas leak and carbon monoxide poisoning.**

[Switching from Gas Heat to Electric - https://hvac-boss.com/heat-pump/switching-from-gas](https://hvac-boss.com/heat-pump/switching-from-gas)

Should I switch from gas to electric water heater?

If you are comparing the efficiency of an electric water heater vs a gas unit, **electric heaters are more efficient.** Although gas hot water heaters are less expensive to run monthly due to the low cost of natural gas—a gas heater uses more energy to operate and releases waste into the environment.

So there you have it. Lots of opinions – but only you can make the decision

Glenys

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2nd May 2022

Wood Workers

Wood Turners

Wood Carvers

Clubs

Dear Wood Enthusiasts & your Clubs,

Warratina Lavender Farm, situated in the Yarra Valley at Wandin, will be holding its 11th Wood Working Expo from 3rd September to 18th September 2022 after a most successful Exhibition in 2019. Following the disappointing cancellation of the Expo in 2020 & 2021, we want to make this one really special.

We wish to invite you again to participate at this year's Expo & make it another success. Proceeds from the entry fee will go to our local CFA in Wandin. In addition, The Eastern Wood Turners have kindly offered to be demonstrators on the weekends of the Expo.

Items exhibited can be for sale or for exhibit only. A **10% commission** will be charged on all sales.

The advertising of this event is now on our website with the amended dates & also on Tourism Victoria's events page.

If you know anyone who may be interested in participating with exhibits, please contact me.

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Yours Faithfully,

[Annemarie Manders](#)

Director

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RCFH BLACKBURN STATION CRAFT MARKET – TRADER OF THE MONTH

SHELAGH CRAFTS

bellburn crafts stall is the brainchild of Shelagh Black. Shelagh, a local Blackburn resident, sells handmade cards, items for baby that she has personally made and when the weather turns cooler, her knitted clothes. She has made all the items she sells and has had a Blackburn market stall for 8 months. Shelagh started making things for her granddaughter, including bibs, nappy holders, change mats, baby wear etc. She made many more than her granddaughter could use so had the great idea that others could benefit from her skills rather than just her granddaughter, hence the craft stall. Her granddaughter continues to be the “testing ground” for her new products so expect the range to increase as granddaughter gets older. As she makes everything herself, if you like something but not the colour or it is the wrong size, well she will make it for you. How’s that for service. Shelagh has a stall at a number of markets including two other Rotary ones, Hawthorn Makers Market (1st Sunday), and Waverley Market (2nd Sunday). Good news is that she takes Visa & Mastercard.



WELCOME TO THE BLACKBURN MARKET



Market operates on the second Saturday each month (except for January)