



# FOREST HILL HAPPENINGS

No. 33 President: John Bindon 30 March 2022

#### **MOVING FORWARD**



## Presidents' meeting.

At the Presidents' meeting details were given regards to the merging of our district with 9820.

We will be merging into one district known as District 9815 in July 2024.

There will be one District Governor and Board.

There will be nine focused teams for functional services. (This will include district committees etc.).

There will be 6 Area Governors, and the areas will have between 13 and 19 clubs.

The call for nominations for District Governor for 2024 – 25 is open.

Applications close on Monday 9 May.

Interviews will be held on Saturday 28 May.

The interview panel will consist of representatives from 9810/9820.

There will be a 14-day challenge period.

The new 9815 DGND will attend changeovers for both districts in June 2022.

We all need to ensure that district 9815 THRIVES!!!

Training for HYBRID meetings will take place on Sunday, 3rd April from 11 AM to 12 noon (online).

For HYBRID meetings 23 clubs within our district applied for the grant of HYBRID meetings in a box.

#### THIS WEEK

Honorary members and partners would be very welcome at Bucatini on Monday, 4th. April for the Apprenticeship Awards. (See later under Important for person to contact)

#### **Ending polio forever**

Rotary has been working to eradicate polio for over 35 years, and our goal of ridding the earth of this disease is in sight. We started in 1979 with vaccinations for 6 million children in the Philippines. Today, Afghanistan and Pakistan are the only countries where polio remains endemic. Help us in the final push.

#### John Bindon

#### **MEETING REPORT- 28 March**

#### Reports

Gary and Coby Davis will be attending the Apprentice Awards Dinner next week.

Treasurer said a few issues to be sorted out but should be fixed in the next week

International chair said money has been earmarked for RAM and there is a No Mozzie picnic coming up

Vocational Chair said the Pride of Workmanship award has been put on hold as there seems to be a reluctance from employers to identify one individual.

Community chair said a contribution will be made to Alkira. He has also finally been contacted by Forest Hill Chase and a pop up will be organised.

Markets - Farmers market on April 10. Volunteers have been arranged.

Bob W said first RYDA session on Tuesday and Judith E from Nunawading will be joining us with the possibility of their club being involved more in the future.

Membership - John gave out a plan used by RC Boronia for us to review and discuss.

Meeting -Recap from Conference at the weekend.

Theme: Healthy World and Healthy People

Conference on Friday via Zoom and Saturday at Caulfield racecourse

Friday summary

Towards a healthy world - speaker Professor Veena Sahajwalla discussed the recycling revolution about turning waste into new items. The need to think differently about waste and ways to reduce landfill.

Towards being healthy people - Dr Norman Swan focussed on COVID and healthy lifestyles

Saturday morning summary

Jillian Riseley discussed Recycling Victoria and a Circular recovery. Focus on reducing waste sent to landfill with strategies around reuse of waste product like composting food waste, remanufacturing items from waste plastics, glass and paper etc. Aim is towards zero waste. Industry is currently a major problem but all need to change ideas around waste and the manufacture from waste.

To check your local council waste management standing go to Know Your Council website.

Pat McCafferty from Yarra Valley water spoke on YVW approach to the environment. They are using technology to analyse the environment, water use and the effects of green spaces on the environment. He also touched on customer service being developed to aid customers with all facets including hardship. They are developing a One Stop customer service with other service providers and state government areas to centralise enquiry contacts for client convenience and clarity.

Breakout sessions concentrated on initiatives and needs around the theme of the conference.

Samuel Johnson from Love your Sister spoke inspiringly of raising money for cancer research to honour his sister Connie. He described the help he received from Rotary to start of his charity and his Unicycle ride around Australia. He also suggested a new fundraiser called Crazy Sock Day and a regular sponsoring that helps guarantee ongoing research.

#### Afternoon session

Pat Armstrong from ESRAG chaired a panel including Bee Lady Fiona Chambers from WHEEN. She discussed the importance of bees both for honey and pollination. Bees are responsible for over 28 billion dollars to the economy through the pollination of plants which affects all areas of our food production and the environment we live in. The use of pesticides and herbicides have a massive effect on bees.

Gary Fowler from ESRAG Oceania spoke on the development of a carbon footprint calculator that can determine the carbon footprint each club has. This is based on things like travel options and venue costs, food consumed and power usage. Any club can request their carbon footprint calculated.

Murray from MASH discussed solar power and its benefits. He talked about the advancements and the possibilities. He included the Timor project to which our club contributed

Next session was dedicated to those called to higher service including our own Ray Smith.

- International convention in Melbourne May 27-31, 2023
- <u>District conference</u> in March 3-5 next year in Canberra more details to follow.

#### **ESRAG** and WASH RAG

Pat Armstrong from ESRAG discussed islands off the coast of Bougainville where the ravages of global warming are taking its toll. The islands have had little support but through Rotary hospital beds and supplies have been sent.

Mark Balla from Wash RAG talked about a man who planted trees in a desolate region on the death of his daughter then planted trees on the birth of a girl. The communities tend to these trees and have changed the landscape as well as the community with the enterprise developed from aloe vera production.

Victor Perton the king of optimism finished the conference in lively fashion,

## Saturday evening

Bob and Judy Laslett and John Bindon went to gala dinner as the family of rotary as their famous family They mixed and mingled and danced the night away (?)









#### Scan Me!

## **April is Maternal & Child Health Month**

## **IMPORTANT**

Stuart will be away this week. Please contact Barbara Williams -- 0419 510 948... to book in or apologise for Monday's meeting... 4 April.

#### **NEXT MEETING**

4 April – Apprentice Awards Evening at Bucatini

Chairperson; Barbara Searle.

Greeter; Glenys Grant.

Vote of thanks; Suzanne Ballard.

Notes for "Happenings"; John Bindon.

Cashier / Recorder: Barbara Williams

#### **COMING UP**

11<sup>th</sup> Apr – Ian Crawford – "Birds in the Suburbs" TBC (Bucatini)

18<sup>th</sup> Apr – No Meeting (Easter Monday)

25<sup>th</sup> Apr – No Meeting (Anzac Day)

#### **CELEBRATIONS**



We celebrate our first online conference for a while and our current Apprentice Awardees.



# Rotary Youth Driver Awareness (RYDA) 29 March 2022

Our day at Sandown Greyhound track was the first day of RYDA there this year and the first there for their new(ish) Coordinator, Anton.

We had Judith from Nunawading join our great team of Sue, Barb W, Bob L Stuart and me. Thank you so much Judith!

We assisted three schools, Keysborough College, Killester College and Yarram Secondary which Stuart worked with and found that they left Yarram at some unearthly early hour to get to Sandown on time which was by 9-30.

The usual welcome for all students together was modified due to COVID to a welcome by the presenter of each group at the start of their first session. Farewell was handled the same way.

Our duties were to assist with set up - the guys were assigned to set up the marquee next to the roadway plus ancillary bollards, ropes etc for the outside Speed and Stopping session and the ladies helped with the inside setting up of notices, banners etc.

Our roles then were to accompany a group plus their teacher, show them to their sessions, keep time for the presenter - 10 fingers raised for 10 minutes to go then 5 (but we avoided holding up fingers with 2 minutes to go.)

I think there were about 120 students from the three schools split into six groups with a colour allocated to each group, so the students had a wrist band of a colour with Judith's group being red. Their first session was a combined one with the black group (mine) on Road Choices then Judith led her group to "Drive S.O.S." Morning tea was next (always a favourite of mine) then she led them to "The "I" in Drive", "Crash Investigators" was next with Anat Bigos. Anat was involved in a serious road accident 16 years ago which left her brain damaged and physically disabled and Anat is the one our club and Maroondah nominated for a Rotary "Shine on" award which unfortunately due to COVID has been postponed. Our provided lunch was next (a particular favourite session of Stuart's.) Red group then did the outside "Speed and Stopping" and finished with "Mind Matters" which followed Genevieve's story told through her parents and friends, She and her friend were lost when she overtook a car on the Yarra Valley Road, then over corrected and swerved into the path of a four wheel drive driven by an "L" plater which as with most accidents was avoidable.

The day finished at 2pm with the students then bussed back and we packed up. Judith thought she may have been standing outside all day so was pleasantly surprised when she found that our role was so easy, just directing the students around and sitting with them and their teacher, learning ourselves some road awareness tips and their teacher took care of any needs of the students.

Anton said that he is happy to speak at a Nunawading club meeting on RYDA and I said to Judith if he is asked, I would be happy to do a club visit that night.

Another 120 or so "L" platers who should be more aware on our roads and more respectful of other drivers. Bob Williams

## The Rotary Club of Camberwell presents one of the best art shows in Melbourne.



#### **SPROUTINGS**

Did you watch the federal budget? I missed most of it due to a zoom meeting, but was eagerly awaiting confirmation of enviro news after reading an interesting article by Brandon How in InnovationAus.com last week. This is an edited version.

## War on plastic waste gets \$60 million budget boost

The government's recycling development fund will receive a \$60 million boost with the national science agency to also launch a plastics recycling research program.



An additional \$60 million for the Recycling Modernisation Fund (RMF) will be allocated.

In a separate announcement over the weekend, \$50 million of public and private investment will go towards CSIRO's Ending Plastic Waste Mission, with the goal of reducing 80pc by 2030.

A new Bioplastics Innovation Hub will be established at Murdoch University in collaboration with CSIRO as part of this mission.

The federal government is already aiming to recycle or compost 70 pc of plastic packaging by 2025, as well as ensuring that, on average, packaging is at least 50 per cent composed of recycled material.

The RMF was announced in mid-2020 to co-fund recycling projects and infrastructure across the country as the government works towards meeting the waste export ban from mid-2024.

In 2018-19, Australia generated 2.5 million tonnes of plastic waste, of which only 9 per cent was recycled.

A **National Waste Policy Action Plan** was launched in 2019 with agreement from the federal, state, and territory governments as well as the Australian Local Government Association. The plan sets seven waste reduction targets, including an average resource recovery rate of 80 pc from all types of waste.

**CSIRO** chief executive Dr Larry Marshall said "The Ending Plastic Waste Mission will bring together the whole innovation system, from government, industry and academia to turn science into solutions that will benefit the environment and create economic opportunities for Australia,"

CSIRO estimates that the developing waste plastics circular economy will add \$US67 billion to the global economy by 2025.

## 

Now to the Budget announced March 29.

The Guardian's Adam Morton - Climate and environment editor, writes (edited):

The 2022 Federal budget includes funding to the Clean Energy Finance Corporation (CEFC) and the Australian Renewable Energy Agency (Arena), the "direct action" emissions reduction fund, programs to develop a "clean" hydrogen industry and resilience programs to protect the **Great Barrier Reef**, which is currently suffering through its fourth mass bleaching event in six years.

The government is intending to spend \$22b on low-emissions technology, over a decade.

Angus Taylor, Energy and Emissions Reductions Minister, says the budget includes \$1.3b of spending on energy and emissions reduction, not all of it to be spent over the next four years.

It focuses on \$300m to support new liquefied natural gas and "clean" hydrogen production in Darwin, another \$247m to help companies investing in low-emissions technologies including hydrogen and \$50.3m for gas infrastructure.

There was also a \$148.6m commitment for community solar and wind microgrids in areas too remote to have access to the power grid.

Natural environment spending included \$1bn for the reef spread over nine years, mostly to help clean up agricultural run-off affecting water quality, and \$804m for Antarctic research and strategic capability over a decade.

Morton writes 'the reef money in particular is diluted by the extended timeframe – it is really just a continuation of existing funding and, experts say, a fraction of what is required. As the government acknowledges, the climate crisis remains the biggest threat facing the 2,300km reef system.'

The government also announced \$636.4m over six years to boost the number of indigenous rangers working on land and sea management by up to 1,089, most of the funding to be released after 2025.

Sussan Ley, the environment minister, pledged \$60m for plastic recycling, a \$100m extension of an existing community-focused environment restoration fund and \$128.5m as part of its promise to change how the environmental impact of development proposals are assessed.

The latter, also announced earlier this month, includes a commitment to set up "bioregional plans" so projects in nominated areas do not need individual federal assessments.

I have tried to keep this as apolitical as possible and will let you know more enviro budget detail when it is released. Glenys

#### **Glenys**

# 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 1/4 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.









We will be back soon - COME TO THE MARKET





























