



FOREST HILL HAPPENINGS

No. 36

President: Bill Marsh

5 April 2023

BILL'S BY-LINE



My 'Thanks' in advance to those who volunteered their attendance at the Blackburn Market on Saturday. Please contact John McPhee if you can help. A chance to wander around the various stalls and make yourself known to the stallholders. No lifting, cooking or selling involved – just your presence for an hour or two.

WFM as usual on Sunday – Warwick has his three 'can shakers' arranged.

It was lovely to receive an appreciative note from the FHC students who we sponsored to the IWD breakfast. They thoroughly enjoyed the morning. Thank You to Sue Ballard for making the arrangements.

We will have at least one candidate for a Pride of Workmanship award.

Over the last couple of years many employers have been uncertain about the award. They felt picking one of their employees could create friction within their workforce.

Our Guest Speaker was our own Ron Brooks. Ron gave us the background to the Jewish Passover and a brief outline of the Jewish faith. An excellent presentation, Ron. Thank You.

No meeting on Monday – Easter.

Our next meeting will be on the 17th April when we will hear from Ramana Akula who will introduce us to Hinduism.

Rotaract have their Giant Monopoly night on the 22nd April at the Box Hill Town Hall. If you can get there, they would appreciate your support. Stuart has been a couple of times and it is always a fun night.

Enjoy your week. Stay safe.

Bill

COMING UP

| | | |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|---|
| 8 April | Blackburn Craft Market | |
| 9 April | Whitehorse Farmers Market | |
| 10 April | No meeting | |
| 17 April | Ramana Akula | Hinduism |
| 24 April | Rev Tina Lyndon Ng | Weird and wonderful travel stories |

RC Forest Hill has a new Post Box, effective immediately.

**RC Forest Hill
PO Box 502
Brentford Square
3131**

*April is
Maternal & Child Health
Month*

CELEBRATIONS



Let us celebrate the contributions of various faiths to the well-being of our community.



Meeting Report April3, 2023

The meeting was attended by 8 Rotarians and one partner with apologies from Bob Laslett & Sue Ballard. The meeting started with 2 raffle draws. First the club raffle winners were Barbara Searle and Stuart Williams. The 2nd raffle donated by Michael Sukkar was won by Bill Marsh.

Reports

Blackburn Art & Craft market will not officially operate this coming Saturday, but 2 Rotarians need to be in attendance as stallholders can still trade if they wish.

The Whitehorse Farmers Market will trade this Sunday as normal.

Pride of Workmanship Awards.

Barbara reported that she is very keen that the awards take place this year, and Ron Brooks stated that he had spoken to several traders at Box Hill Central and that there was interest for traders to participate.

Club future.

A discussion took place if our club should amalgamate with another club and/or we need to look at other ways of improving our membership numbers.

Community Service.

John Bindon reported that he will be meeting with the new manager at Alkira centre later this week.

Environment.

Glenys Grant reported that she attended Eastern Emergency Services when the new truck was handed over. Glenys also reported that the project with Forest Hill College was proceeding well.

Stuart Williams reported that the walk around Blackburn Lake went well with the exception of one member getting lost!

Speaker.

Ron Brooks had made plans for a speaker from the Egyptian Chapel speak at the club on the Jewish Passover, but unfortunately the person was not available, and Ron did the presentation himself.

I have taken the liberty of doing a summary from the Internet of Ron's presentation.

What Is Passover (Pesach)?

Passover 2023 will be celebrated from April 5-13

When Is Passover?

- Passover 2023 will be celebrated from April 5 - April 13.
- The first Seder will be on April 5 after nightfall, and the second Seder will be on April 6 after nightfall.
- Passover is celebrated by eating matzah (unleavened bread) and maror (bitter herbs).
- For the duration of the 8 (or 7 days in Israel) of Passover, which celebrates the emancipation of the Hebrews from Egyptian slavery, chametz (leaven) is strictly avoided.



What Is Passover?

The eight-day Jewish holiday of Passover is celebrated in the early spring, from the 15th through the 22nd of the Hebrew month of Nissan, April 5 - 13, 2023. Passover (Pesach) commemorates the emancipation of the Israelites from slavery in ancient Egypt. Pesach is observed by avoiding leaven, and highlighted by the Seder meals that include four cups of wine, eating matzah and bitter herbs, and retelling the story of the Exodus. In Hebrew it is known as Pesach (which means “to pass over”), because G-d passed over the Jewish homes when killing the Egyptian firstborn on the very first Passover eve.

Passover History in a Nutshell

As told in the Bible, after many decades of slavery to the Egyptian pharaohs, during which time the Israelites were subjected to backbreaking labor and unbearable horrors, G-d saw the people’s distress and sent Moses to Pharaoh with a message: “Send forth My people, so that they may serve Me.” But despite numerous warnings, Pharaoh refused to heed G-d’s command. G-d then sent upon Egypt ten devastating plagues, afflicting them, and destroying everything from their livestock to their crops.

At the stroke of midnight of 15 Nissan in the year 2448 from creation (1313 BCE), G-d spared the children of Israel, “passing over” their homes—hence the name of the holiday. Pharaoh’s resistance was broken, and he virtually chased his former slaves out of the land. The Israelites left in such a hurry, in fact, that the bread they baked as provisions for the way did not have time to rise. Six hundred thousand adult males, plus many more women and children, left Egypt on that day and began the trek to Mount Sinai and their birth as G-d’s chosen people.

In ancient times the Passover observance included the sacrifice of the paschal lamb, which was roasted and eaten at the Seder on the first night of the holiday. This was the case until the Temple in Jerusalem was destroyed in the 1st century.

How Is Passover Celebrated?

Passover is divided into two parts:

The first two days and last two days (the latter commemorating the splitting of the Red Sea) are full-fledged holidays. Holiday candles are lit at night, and kiddush and sumptuous holiday meals are enjoyed on both nights and days. We don’t go to work, drive, write, or switch on or off electric devices. We are permitted to cook and to carry outdoors.

The middle four days are called Chol Hamoed, semi-festive “intermediate days,” when most forms of work are permitted.

No Chametz

To commemorate the unleavened bread that the Israelites ate when they left Egypt, we don’t eat—or even retain in our possession—any chametz from midday of the day before Passover until the conclusion of the holiday. Chametz means leavened grain—any food or drink that contains even a trace of wheat, barley, rye, oats, spelt or their derivatives, and which wasn’t guarded from leavening or fermentation. This includes bread, cake, cookies, cereal, pasta, and most alcoholic beverages. Moreover, almost any processed food or drink can be assumed to be chametz unless certified otherwise.

Ridding our homes of chametz is an intensive process. It involves a full-out spring-cleaning search-and-destroy mission during the weeks before Passover and culminates with a ceremonial on the night before Passover, and then a ceremony on the morning before the holiday. Chametz that cannot be disposed of can be sold to a non-Jew (and bought back after the holiday).

Matzah



Instead of chametz, we eat matzah—flat unleavened bread. It is a mitzvah to partake of matzah on the two Seder nights (see below for more on this), and during the rest of the holiday it is optional.

It is ideal to use handmade shmurah matzah, which has been zealously guarded against moisture from the moment of the harvest.

The Seders

The highlight of Passover is the Seder, observed on each of the first two nights of the holiday. The Seder is a fifteen-step family-oriented tradition and ritual-packed feast.

The focal points of the Seder are:

- Eating matzah.
- Eating bitter herbs—to commemorate the bitter slavery endured by the Israelites.
- Drinking four cups of wine or grape juice—a royal drink to celebrate our newfound freedom.
- The recitation of the Haggadah, a liturgy that describes in detail the story of the Exodus from Egypt. The Haggadah is the fulfillment of the biblical obligation to recount to our children the story of the Exodus on the night of Passover.

At the conclusion of Ron’s presentation time was made available for questions and answers.

John Bindon

RCFH BLACKBURN STATION CRAFT MARKET – TRADER OF THE MONTH

HOOPS RELOOPED

The founder of **Hoops Relooped**, Bec is a local from Nunawading. She has always loved collecting earrings but doesn't love always buying new products. She went through her (extensive) earring collection in early 2022 and found several pairs that she hadn't worn for years but were too good to throw out. She started pulling the pieces apart, re-working them into new earrings, glued on some new posts and **Hoops Relooped** was born!

Bec said “We take preloved second-hand unwanted jewellery and turn it into new, one-of-a-kind statement earrings. There is already so much “stuff” in the world, why add more when we can use what we already have?”

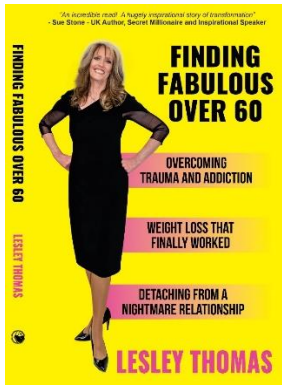
They source as many of their pieces second hand as they can - think preloved necklaces, earrings and bracelets from friends, family and op shops - they're working towards a circular jewellery economy. They purchase all their backings from women-led small businesses in Adelaide and Brisbane. They endeavour to be plastic free as much as possible - they ship plastic free; use carbon neutral shipping carriers; and use recycled cardboard boxes, eco tape, and recycled paper bags. Bec sees **Hoops Relooped** as her creative outlet away from work and computers.

They are regulars at many markets in the area (see www.hoopsrelooped.com.au). If you have some jewellery, you would like fixing, changing, updating then contact her via the website to chat about it or email her on hello@hoopsrelooped.com.au



SOME OF OUR BLACKBURN MARKET STALLHOLDERS





Come to the Market next month- April 8