



Number 37

Club address:

Email address:

Website:

Meeting location:

Meeting time:

Facebook:

15 April 2019

PO Box 116, Nunawading 3131

foresthillrotary1975@gmail.com

www.foresthillrotary.com

Bucatini Restaurant, 454 Whitehorse Road, Mitcham, 3132 (Melways 48H9)

Monday 6.15 for 6.30 pm

Rotary Club Forest Hill

CLUB PROGRAM				
Date	Event		Chair	Thanks & Meeting Report
15 Apr	RAG Family Violence BOARD <i>Tony Monley</i>		Mike Finke	Chris Tuck
22 Apr	Bunning's Barbecue			
29 Apr	MUNA <i>Thomas Yakubowski & Aasna Shah</i>		Ray Smith	Bill Marsh
6 May	History of Canterbury Suburb <i>James Nicolas</i>		Ian Teese	Bob Williams

CONGRATULATIONS

Very well done to Ray and Merle Smith. Their wedding anniversary is April 17.

DUTY ROSTER

	APRIL	MAY
Recorder	Bob Williams	Bob Laslett
Greeter	Barbara Searle	Ian Teese
Emergency	Warwick Stott	John Bindon
Cashier	Sue Ballard	Ray Smith

ATTENDANCE

APOLOGY – IF A MEMBER IS NOT GOING TO COME TO THE MEETING or you intend

bringing a guest please contact Ray Smith by 10.00 am MONDAY on 0412 807 585 or rcssmith@optusnet.com.au

SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS to Ray by 10am at the LATEST.

Any CANCELLATION AFTER 10.00 AM *should* be made direct with the management of

Bucatini Restaurant on 9873 0268

Mike's Musings

Stuart's presentation brought back memories of my own attendance at the PELDS session the previous year. Rotary may be on occasion an awkward beast, filled with dissent and contrasting ideas about things, but I do believe it is unparalleled as a service club that invests in leadership training and providing opportunities for its members to learn and grow. The skills developed within Rotary help in the working and home lives of its members, and the skills Rotarians bring from the non-Rotary areas of their lives, in turn, make Rotary a stronger organisation.

I start most days with a to-do list. It's generally an overenthusiastic, unrealistically long thing. Some days I manage to tick everything off the list. Many days I do not, and some items remain for the next day—or the day after. My presidential year has been a similar affair. Some accomplishments, some improvements, some things under development—several other things reconsidered, altered, modified or, in some cases, abandoned entirely. But a failure to make a list, or an attempt to keep that list comfortably within our abilities, means we deprive ourselves of the possibility of grand visions and objectives.

Robert Browning tells us that 'a man's reach should exceed his grasp'. Ignoring the gender-specific language for a moment, what this tells us is that we shouldn't restrict our goals to what we know is comfortably achievable. Stretching is healthy and good for us, physically and metaphysically. Stuart has some ideas about growing and improving the club and we will all need to back his leadership to bring those to life.

Fellowship Update:

The opening night performance for the next Peridot show is on 7 June. It's *Crimes of the Heart*. This is a southern Gothic play about three sisters who share a dysfunctional childhood and who, now adult, find themselves reuniting after a dramatic event. It's described as a 'tragicomedy', which probably means you should be prepared to laugh, but also to feel bad for having done so. Or something along those lines.

Tickets will be reserved for us as per usual. Please start to make your intentions to attend or not clear to Mike Finke.

Please continue to:

- Dob in extra names for our 'auxiliary and friends' network email list.

Please mark your calendars with the following:

- Saturday, 13 April Blackburn Market
- Sunday, 14 April Whitehorse Farmers Market
- Monday, 22 April (Easter Monday) Bunnings Barbecue
- Sunday, 19 May District Assembly
- Friday, 7 June Peridot Opening Night—*Crimes of the Heart* by Beth Henley

Meeting report April 8

Monday, 8 April, provided us with a wonderful meeting. It was an in-house session, with Stuart providing a report on his attendance at the multidistrict president-elect leadership development seminar. President Mike opened the meeting with a long-winded discussion about honour among thieves, which he then attempted to segue into a comment about negotiation. Reception was mixed. The text may have to be analysed in more detail to discern whether there's any wheat amidst the chaff of complex verbiage. Some brief reports were given. Youth committees, our own and across the district, are heavily involved in preparing secondary students for the upcoming MUNA event. Sue, from community and vocational, attended the Shine Awards in Werribee. She reported a very positive and inspiring experience. The Whitehorse Farmers Market report, provided by the Treasurer, indicates the club can expect to be able to use about eight-thousand dollars on projects in the Whitehorse council area. Work on the photo contest continues, including nailing down the makeup of the expert panel of judges. Square reader training will be available at the crack of eight-thirtyish or so on Saturday morning on Saturday, 13 April.

Sergeant-at-arms Bob Williams regaled, amused and quizzed the attendees during his fine session. Bob reported he'd won the weekly wager in picking crowd numbers at the MCG; his position may have been slightly assisted as his opposition, Stuart, did not show up for the most recent round of this competition.

The difficulty in picking more than fifty percent in the footy tipping continues; though some had a reasonably good round 3, most can only claim to be muddling through. A huge tranche of participants is stuck at 15 points for the three rounds, a couple of people exceed them and the top of the ladder so far is 'inconsistency'. Bob extracted \$31.75 from the merry throng.



Stuart Williams, President-Elect, on the MDPELDS Experience

Stuart arrived in Ballarat after a zippy drive early on Saturday morning. While there was no reinvention of the wheel, metaphorical or logo-related, there were plenty of ideas to consider and areas to focus on. Stuart reckons that, for those who've been in leadership positions within Rotary previously and have been around for a while, Rotary events like these are a bit like being Elizabeth Taylor's fifth husband: you might be able to make things interesting, but it's going to be a challenge.

Four of five of the Victorian districts were represented at the seminar. District 9810 is the smallest, geographically, in the world. The other districts span much larger areas, with one reaching into eastern South Australia. The 2019-20 Rotary year has the theme, 'Rotary Connects the World', and the concept came up for discussion regularly, featuring the topics of inclusion and collaboration as key to the survival and growth of Rotary. Inclusion and diversity were featured strongly, though this message may have been compromised somewhat with the makeup of the current RI board.

David Whiting, Rotarian and celebrity legal expert, went some way to reassuring presidents-elect that the youth protection policies and insurance requirements are reasonable, achievable and less onerous than some have led us to believe. Some simple processes and protocols are all that are necessary to keep us in the good books. Common sense, against all odds, prevails.

Resources available on the My Rotary website make keeping all promotional merchandise and literature 'on-brand' reasonably easy; presenting a unified brand image is now regarded as quite important to the organisation. Some time was spent in talking about the importance of projects being planned and run professionally, particularly considering the importance of Global Grants for larger projects.

Stuart returns to the club with a plan for the next year, a committee roster and some slightly adjusted position titles. It looks to be an excellent Rotary year to come.

Glenys and Warwick won the two raffle prizes handed out. The raffle raised \$51.

President's Reflection 8 April

There's a game called the Prisoner's Dilemma. It's a very simple game of bluffing and trust. The conceit is that two people have been picked up, suspected of a crime. They're each in different interrogation rooms. There is not enough evidence to convict them of the most serious charge, though there is enough to convict on a less serious one, so the offer is put to each to do in their accomplice. If they do so, they'll receive a reduced sentence. Points are allocated in the game as follows: If both stay silent, each receives -1 point. If both do each other in, both get -2 points. If you do in your partner and he doesn't, you get 0 points and they get -3.

Since it's so simple, it's easy to get computers to play. You can set up different algorithms, let the simulation run thousands of times and see how they play out. There are a lot of approaches, but one that seems to result in the fewest losses was to start assuming the other will not betray you, and then to match their behaviour once disappointed. If the competing algorithm displays less honour among thieves than you'd hoped for, you match

their tendency to betray. You can't reliably predict the character of the person or computer on the other side of the deal, but you can fight fire with fire. With this approach, once the trust is lost, it's betrayal all the way.

But the approach that works best—the one that results in the fewest points lost on average—is to match the other player but, after a run of each one betraying the other, to occasionally relent and give the benefit of the doubt. This offers a signal to the other player, perhaps it's time to reset the relationship and offer a chance for some unity and trust, regardless of the criminality that has made it necessary.

I took part in a discussion and some negotiation with a group last week. Not all in that group had reason to love, admire and respect everybody else there. There may have been some distrust. But with a bit of give and take and some openness, we arrived at a consensus. We managed to convince each other that we were all there for, roughly, the same reason. As with everything in Rotary, it requires us but it's not about us. It's about other people. That's the reason why we do any of it. And all of it.

RAM (Rotary Against Malaria) Fundraising

To coincide with Malaria Awareness Day in Australia, we are hosting a fundraising/ information lunch **Saturday May 18th** to raise funds that will be directed towards helping prevent the spread of this deadly disease, and development of an effective vaccine.

With the increase of travel in malaria prone countries we have Prof Edward Odgen PSM (BMedSci) to speak on safe travel and how to avoid malaria infection. **The life you save may be your own.**

Prof Justin Boddey , Laboratory Head of Infection and Immunity at WEHI is our key note speaker at our lunch **hosted by professional MC Warwick Merry.**

Your ticket includes

- 2 course lunch and welcome drink
- Entry into door prizes
- Special gift from RAM
- The donation of two life- saving bed nets
- The chance to bid on silent auction items from a mini BMW; restaurant, salon, wine, florist, photography vouchers, jewellery, luxury hampers and more
- Discount for tables of ten

We look forward to you joining us at Rotarians Against Malaria lunch Saturday May 18th 12 to 3 pm at the Karralyka Centre, Ringwood. Bookings at Trybooking.com/BAUIK

Shelley

ROTARY MONTHLY THEMES

April Maternal and Child Health

May Youth

ARTICLES

Please forward your prize-winning articles and others to rlaslett76@gmail.com by 5pm Wednesday