



FOREST HILL HAPPENINGS

No. 03 President: Sue Ballard

12 July 2023

SUE'S WORDS OF WISDOM



Another busy week in Rotary. While we didn't actually run the Blackburn Market this month I did talk to the few stallholders that did set up and opened for business. It encourages me to see the determination and commitment of local markets to provide unique products to smaller communities. The Farmers' market has also got a committed community patronage who come rain, hail and shine. Talking to some of the patrons coming through the gate some are aware of the work we do in the community but many don't. We need to not be shy and talk about what we do in the community as well as overseas. Even those who have some ideas of what we may do are surprised at how much we do. We need to reach these people not just for possible members or friends for the club but maybe wider support.

It's Bastille Day this week and considering all the issues France is currently experiencing please take a moment and send positive thoughts. Have a croissant and a Cafe or something more extravagant. Think what can be done to improve the situation.

We have the Club forum coming up. While I have some ideas on what we can do I need all of you to think of options such as how we conduct our meetings, what projects we should support and how we can support each other not just in our club but across the cluster and district. I am happy to compile your ideas or you can present them at the meeting. Ideas are not limited to those of club members but to everyone. Email me your suggestions.

Have a great week. Hope you feel better now John Mc.

Sue

NEXT WEEK

17 July Club Forum

Chairperson: Sue Ballard

Greeter: Glenys Grant

Notes for "Happenings" Bob Laslett

COMING UP

24 July Isobel Machuca Manningham Whitehorse Mentor Volunteer Program
31 July Buccatini a la Carte
7 August Roland Gesthuizen Scouting
14 August District Governor Ian's visit

*July is
New Leadership Month
Month*

CELEBRATIONS



Let's celebrate President Bill joining our club on July 19, 2010.

Well done, Bill.



Meeting Report July 10, 2023

The meeting was held at Bucatini during a dinner meal with all members except for Bob Laslett, and with a guest speaker.

PP Bill presented John McPhee with a PHF for his hard work with the Blackburn Market for many years, and for his donations to the Rotary Foundation.

The raffle was run early with John Bindon, Bill Marsh and John McPhee being the winners.

The annual reports were handed out, with the information being up to the end of the financial year, which in the opinion of some of the members is the more appropriate time every year.

Pres Sue showed the new banner with the slogan of "Creating Hope".

The treasurer mentioned that \$40,000 of the Harper Bequest would be invested in term deposits, with 25% for 3 months and 6 months and the remaining 50 % for 12 months.

Stuart mentioned that Bum arrived home the previous evening., whilst Glenys said that there were 4 Rotary stories in the recent Eastsider News, with one being concerning the death of birds of the meat-eating breeds, such as Powerful Owls, etc.

Ron mentioned that program of speakers etc was fairly full, and includes his son, Nic, who will tell us about his life overseas.

John McPhee mentioned that a number of stallholders at Blackburn on Saturday cancelled, so the whole market was cancelled, whilst Sue mentioned that Bastille Day was coming soon.

Bill then introduced our guest who was Matthew Sonnemann who spoke on the "Stockmarket and an Economic Update". He is a stockbroker and wealth manager and mentioned that the Australian and USA markets have performed quite dramatically, increasing by about 750% in 20 years, although it has decreased by about 18% over the last 18 months.



The RBA expects the economy to increase by about 3% over the next 3 years, and therefore interest rates will probably go higher., so business spending has been cautious.

A few other points – there are both goods inflation and services inflation, and this calendar year many borrowers will go from a fixed interest to a variable interest rate.

Interestingly the banks plus CSL make up half of the market, and Australian shares provide higher income than global shares.

The raffle collected \$39 but there were 3 prizes.

Warwick

Sproutings

by Glenys Grant

This month we are delighted to be bringing you a couple of interesting invites.

The first is organised by the Tree Education Program Officer, Whitehorse Trees and Urban Forest Education. This Program is designed to raise environmental awareness via free workshops and presentations.

The problem with rodenticides - hear the latest research



Date and time –

Sun, 23 Jul 2023 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM AEST

Location –

Blackburn Lake Sanctuary –

Visitor Information Centre

95 Central Road Blackburn, VIC 3130

Please note: This event is also online

Raylene Cooke and John White are highly experienced academics at Deakin University Burwood Campus as well as Whitehouse residents who are actively researching the impacts of threats to urban wildlife.

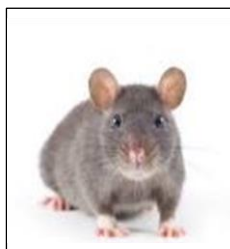
Their work on threats to Powerful Owls and their prey (possums) and other owls and tawny frogmouths, has uncovered some very concerning findings about the impacts of common rodenticides that are finding their way into non-target species with devastating consequences.

At this presentation, Raylene and John will share their findings and help us to understand what we can do to bring about change. Be prepared to be shocked, outraged and motivated to act!

Some of the research findings on this have already been published in newspapers, but this excellent event will give the community a chance to actually meet the researchers and ask them questions about their findings.

After reading some of the horrifying findings of this research we goggled ‘What is a natural DIY mice repellent?’

We can't vouch for any of these ideas – but they are worth a try.



Some people have found that they can deter rats from coming onto their property by using certain smells and aromas.

The most effective smells are essential oils, specifically Peppermint oil, cayenne pepper, pepper, cloves, castor, and citronella.

These are good choices because while their smell is powerful, many people also find the aromas pleasant.

Mice are said to hate the smell of these. The best method is to lightly soak some cotton balls in oils from one or more of these foods and leave the cotton balls in places where you've had rats.

Or use Baking Soda. So how do I get rats to eat baking soda?

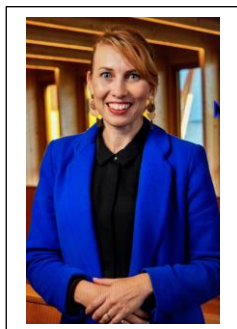
Pour equal parts peanut butter and baking soda into a small container and mix it well. A few heaped teaspoons of each will make enough bait. Spoon two or more heaped teaspoons of the bait mixture onto each small disposable saucer. Place the saucers with the bait along walls or between spaces where rats frequent.



ESRAG Oceania July meeting
TUESDAY
18 July at 6.00pm AEST 8.00pm NZT
ZOOM

Rotary People of Action Creating Hope in the World

This month in recognition of Plastic Free July we welcome 3 speakers

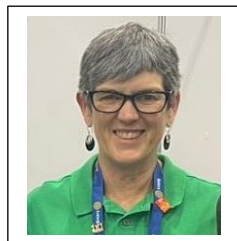


Melanie Lewis is President of the Social Impact Network Club and the Environment Chair for in District 9686.

She has a master's degree in science focusing on fish ecology and has over 20 years' experience in environmental impact roles, including conservation research.

[Melanie is currently the expert/enabler at the Incubator at Macquarie University leading the Design Think Challenge.](#)

She will speak to us about End Plastic Soup.



Barbara Sheahan is a member of the Rotary Club of Highton, and the Environmental Chair at District 9780.

Barb has received a grant from Geelong Council to implement a trail of plastic recycling of medication blister packs.



Franz Sauter is a member of the Rotary Club of Brisbane - Taylor Bridge, District 9620 and will speak about a plastic project his club is working on.

[ESRAG Oceania - Environmental Sustainability Rotary Action Group for the Australia, New Zealand and Pacific Islands Region](http://esragoceania.org)
esragoceania.org

RCFH BLACKBURN STATION CRAFT MARKET – TRADER OF THE MONTH

Jeremy & Mary Ann Furness are locals from Croydon. They sell children's books, oil paintings on gum leaves, and knitted toys in markets at Nunawading, Yarra Junction and of course the Rotary Blackburn station markets. Jeremy started writing and illustrating his Barry the Bike series of children's books over 10 years ago. It is one of the very few children's books that feature classic motorcycles, cars, and trucks. Go to Barry the Bike on Facebook to see all the books in the series.

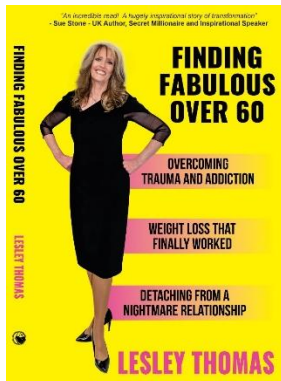
Mary Ann started **oil paintings on gum leaves** as a 15-year-old inspired by paintings by her grandparents. Her grandfather was William Beckwith McInnes who won the Archibald Prize seven times. These gum leaf oil paintings are as unique as they are beautiful. She paints on specially prepared Tasmanian Blue Gum Eucalyptus leaves which when painted are sealed to ensure a long life. She has been a professional illustrator for the last 40 years working for some of the world's leading publishing houses but now Mary Ann runs Wattle Gum Studios nestled in the Croydon Hills.

Mary Ann started **knitting toys** as a girl and now has turned that pastime into a commercial venture with her beautiful, cute range of animals, fish and birds.

Jeremy and Mary Ann can be contacted on 0403 310 032 or mafurness@bigpond.com or via Instagram [mafurness_arts](https://www.instagram.com/mafurness_arts). But better still, come and talk to them at one of their regular markets to see the full range of their talents.



SOME OF OUR BLACKBURN MARKET STALLHOLDERS



Come and frequent the Market next month- August 12

Disclaimer: Articles and reports do not necessarily reflect Rotary Club of Forest Hill opinions.