

FOREST HILL HAPPENINGS

No. 13

President: John Bindon

29 September 2021

MOVING FORWARD



It is Time for a Club Health Check.

Your District membership team is gearing up for a big year of membership growth, but we need to look at what is happening in our own club. A club health check will make sure our club is fit for the purpose and ready to attract new Rotarians and keep a positive experience happening for our valued members.

Your Club Experience. Members who have a positive Rotary experience are more likely to stay. In turn, they create a positive Rotary experience for others, because their enthusiasm is contagious. If our club's members genuinely enjoy being a part of the club, we are

on the right path. Your experience includes not just our club meetings and other activities, but also the connections you have made and your pride in Rotary's world of service.

Service and Socials. Participating in service and having fun with fellow members are the primary reasons Rotarians join and stay in Rotary. The healthiest clubs vary their activities and offer multiple ways to get involved. Try a new social event or a different service experience and watch the impact it has on your club.

Members. A healthy club is one that is growing and changing. Having members with diverse perspectives and backgrounds will fuel innovation and give your club a broader understanding of your community's needs. Pay attention to how our members are feeling about the club. Research shows that one of the most common reasons members leave is that club leaders are not open to innovative ideas. Involving members and giving them a voice in their club's future will strengthen both the club and members' commitment to Rotary.

Image. Clubs that have fun and make an impact are attractive to those who see that. A positive public image improves your club's relationship with your community and prospective members. Make sure our club is getting the credit for the service we provide. Demonstrating that our club meets real needs confirms our value to your community.

Business and Operations. When our club runs smoothly, you have good leaders who are looking toward the club's future. The leaders shape the club, and it is crucial to have skilled people in those leadership positions. For this reason, leadership development is also a way to fortify our club.

John Bindon

Note: Stuart will be liaising with Bucatini, at some time in the future. Please contact him for dinner meeting attendance and visitors by 8.00pm on Sunday prior to the meeting. Any changes after this time to be notified directly to Bucatini.

MEETING REPORT

Ian Teese a former member of this club spoke on behalf of EERN and of his involvement in that not-for-profit organisation. EERN started in the Garage of the home of former Nunawading mayor Keith Rooney and has developed into a highly respected business organisation operating from two owned factory premises in Thornhill Drive Nunawading.

The business operation of the organisation is very well presented in their Web site and is far better presentation than my ramblings, so I challenge you to take the time to visit and read the website presentation.

Ian made two points very clear in his presentation being Governance of the board, and the importance of financial donations.

The organisation relies on cash to fund its operations of supporting the disadvantaged of the eastern suburb community the city of Whitehorse has been a regular supporter of EERN, but the other five local government area councils are generally missing, although Maroondah did provide support during the last year.

Ian's biggest concern is the governance of the group, as to vote you must be a financial member. Therefore, the Management could be at risk of takeover by a small interest group as Volunteers have no rights in this area of management.

Ian spoke of the extent of the operations and similar groups in the wider area, and his one regret was that the establishment of a similar operation by the Rotary Club of Balwyn could have occurred with closer ties to a long term benefit to both groups. EERN is totally operated by volunteers without any paid staff and many of the volunteers have a very long history with the group.

President John thanked Ian for his talk and on behalf of the club presented a cheque for \$1000 to EERN as part of our community outreach in the City of Whitehorse.

President John then invited Ian to stay whilst the normal club meeting progressed.

John spoke of the need to work on the health of the club throughout the remainder of the Rotary year and then proposed the toasts to Rotary and Australia

Chairman Bob called for reports but, other than Ron and program, covid is restricting operations and nothing to report other than Gary Davis has been unwell and treatment has been positive.

Meeting closed following fellowship at 8.10 pm.

John McPhee

September is Basic Education & Literacy Month

While COVID may be impacting many Fellowship activities, remember to check in with family and friends on a regular basis. A friendly face or a supportive word is always appreciated, especially when times are difficult. Get vaccinated so we can all 'get about' again.

NEXT MEETING

4th October - Bob & Stuart – 'Footy Fever'

Meeting Roster

Chairperson: **Stuart Williams**

Vote of Thanks: **John McPhee**

Note taker for Happenings: **Barbara Williams**

COMING UP

11th October - Ken Maxfield – 'Camp Getaway'

18th October - Lesley Thomas – 'Finding Fabulous Over 60'

25th October - Sharon Crean – 'Super Heroes Don't Wear A Cape'

CELEBRATIONS



Congratulations to Barb Searle for her birthday on the 4th Oct. (Hopefully I have it right this time, Barb.)

Congratulations, also, to Chris Tuck for his birthday on the 30th Sept.



WHO IS THE WRITER?

A special prize to anyone (all) who can name the writer of the following piece. An additional prize if you can tell me why/when it was written.

Twenty-five years of endeavour

Walking the avenues together

A dangerous restless world

A message to proclaim

Of service above self and

World peace is our aim

SPROUTINGS



Matt Ruchel, Victorian National Parks Association (Abbreviated article)

Victoria's beautiful beaches and ocean might not be within reach to all of us at the moment, but they're definitely on our mind.

The state government has just released their draft Marine and Coastal Strategy. This is a really important moment. The aim is to better protect Victoria's marine and coastal environment with a more ambitious, evidenced-based and comprehensive approach.

This work culminated in the creation of the Marine and Coastal Policy. The strategy, now out for public comment, explains how to achieve that Policy. **If done well, it will bring to life the vision of a "healthy, dynamic and biodiverse marine and coastal environment that is valued in its own right, and that benefits the Victorian community, now and in the future".**



Spring has begun, as usual, with great variation in the weather—sun, rain, hail and wind.

As usual, also, when Spring comes there are beautiful blooms, sometimes hay fever, and always there is the urge to get out in the open air and enjoy as much of the environment as is possible.

The bees are busy, they are everywhere in our garden, gathering pollen from all the native plants. It's so good to see....



Bentley is very interested in bees and so far has not been stung....

We had our first blowfly today and he hunted it for about an hour—finally eating it....



And with Spring, bees and blowflies comes **spring cleaning**...here are some tips for ecofriendly vinegar...

!2 Great uses for vinegar. (Abbrev)

By: [Melanie Radzicki McManus](#)

1. **Insect salve and repellent.** Just a dab of white vinegar on a [bug bite](#) will lessen its sting and itch, plus help disinfect the area. Apple cider vinegar works as an insect repellent; rub some over your arms and legs, or wherever the bugs are swarming.
2. **Kill weeds and remove ants.** No need to buy chemical-laced sprays to get rid of [unsightly weeds](#). Simply spray them with distilled white vinegar instead. You'll need to apply the vinegar on a dry, sunny day. If anthills begin to proliferate on your property, spray them with a mix of equal parts water and distilled white vinegar. Since these industrious insects hate the smell of vinegar, they'll soon move out. Toss this spray in your car whenever you're on your way to a picnic, too, in case ants try to spoil your fun.
3. **Enhance bricks.** If your [exterior brickwork or brick fireplace](#) is starting to look dingy, combine equal parts of distilled white vinegar and water in a spray bottle. Spray the mixture on the bricks, then let it sit for several minutes. Use a cloth to wipe it off or, if needed, a scrub brush.
4. **Clean Dog's ears.** If they are dirty or appear to be bothering him/her, mix together 4 tablespoons of water and 1 tablespoon of distilled white vinegar, then apply to the inside of ears with a clean rag. Don't do this, however, if there are any cuts in her ears.
5. **Open a tight jar.** Can't loosen that spaghetti sauce lid? Turn the jar upside down, then pour warm distilled white vinegar [around the neck joint](#). It should open easily.
6. **Clean scissors.** Are the blades on your shears sticky or gummy? [Wipe them down](#) with distilled white vinegar, then dry..
7. **Remove smoke odours.** To remove fill several shallow bowls with either distilled white or cider vinegar and place them around the room. The smell should be gone within 24 hours
8. **Car care.** Vinegar can be used to remove bumper stickers and decals from chrome by soaking them with distilled white vinegar, then scraping the residue off. In cold climes, wiping or spraying your car windows with vinegar in winter will [help keep frost at bay](#). A combination of three parts distilled white vinegar and one part water can last a few weeks. Finally, wipe off your windshield wiper blades with a rag dipped in distilled white vinegar whenever their cleaning action diminishes.
9. **Fruit fly trap.** Every year, tiny fruit flies can suddenly appear in your home. To [drown them](#) set out a bowl of apple cider vinegar with three drops of dish soap in it. The fruit flies will be attracted by the scent, then sink and drown in the mixture
10. **Remove armpit stains.** Everyone hates it when their shirts develop unsightly underarm stains, whether the stains are from sweat or from antiperspirant. If this happens to you, take some distilled white vinegar, [rub it into the stains](#), then launder as usual. Repeat if necessary.
11. **Stop cracked eggs.** Eggs often crack when dropped in a pot of boiling water, particularly if they're coming straight from the fridge. Adding 2 tablespoons of vinegar to each quart of water (before boiling) will [keep your eggs from cracking](#) and make them easier to peel afterward.
12. **Make hair shine.** This old-time trick is still touted by many as a way to [dissolve shampoo buildup](#) while leaving your hair with a fetching sheen. Just mix 1-2 tablespoons of vinegar (apple cider or white) with 1 cup of water, add a drop of lavender, then pour over your head and massage it into your roots after you've shampooed. Make sure to thoroughly rinse it out.

[Here is a competition for you – find the bee....](#)



Scan Me



Great news this week – golf is back!

RCFH BLACKBURN STATION CRAFT MARKET – TRADER OF THE MONTH

EARTHFIVE LEATHERWORKS

The **Earthfive** leatherworks stall is operated by Peter Davies who has been a leatherworker since 1969, with a few years in between as a graphic designer.

Peter was telling me, between making made to measure belts for three different customers, that he started his leather journey when he made himself a bag from a goatskin in Kabul in 1969. He was travelling overland from the UK to Australia and wanted to replace the shoulder bag he had. So, he made one! He then made a few more for friends. When he arrived back in Melbourne an old friend heard about his bag making in Kabul and handed him a couple of hides he no longer needed and suddenly this became EARTH Leatherworks in Glenferrie road, Earth II in London when he started travelling again and Earth Three in New York when he moved there. Returning to Australia he had a big workshop employing 10 staff. Now he is on **Earthfive**.

He has been coming to our Blackburn market for more than 4 years. Peter makes shoes, sandals, handbags, purses, wallets, wrist warmers, glasses cases, three legged stools, you name it. He has made leather thigh length boots and helmets for films and the theatre. He will quote on any repairs. He takes credit cards and you can use PayPal. Come and see him at the Blackburn Market or Cockatoo, Mulgrave, or Belgrave markets.

Contact him via his website www.earthfive.com.au by email peter@earthfive.com.au or 0425 713 889



COME TO THE MARKET!!!

