



FOREST HILL HAPPENINGS

No. 14

President: John Bindon

06 October 2021

MOVING FORWARD



At last, some sunshine to enjoy and (providing you are vaccinated) a light at the end of the lockdown tunnel. While the lockdown restrictions remain mostly unchanged until November, there are signs that things are beginning to improve, and we will be enjoying the company of thirty family and friends around the table for Christmas Dinner.

It is unsure when we will be able to resume our meetings at Bucatinis, but when we are we will need to review our plans so that we become an active Rotary Club in the community.

The Football Show.

A special 'thank you' to Stuart Williams and Bob Williams for their presentation for the "Football Show" Monday evening. No doubt a great deal of time, effort, and research was required for this presentation.

Membership.

A Systematic Approach to Increasing Membership.

It would be safe to say that our club would like to increase its membership and that every club would love to find a sure-fire way of doing so.

The District Membership Team has been working on this very thing and has produced the 5- Point Plan for increasing club membership. The five points are:

1. Club looks closely at its membership performance and reaches the conclusion that, to attract new members, some fundamental changes need to be made.
2. Club sets about making the changes that will ensure it is attractive to new members.
3. Club adopts a systematic approach to finding and recruiting new members.
4. Club works to ensure that all members (especially new members) are engaged with the club
5. Club ensures it has adopted an approach which ensures the best chance of retaining members over the longer term.

The Starting Point. Many Rotary clubs are confused and frustrated by their apparent lack of ability to attract new members. Often a new member joins only to leave within a year or two.

Club numbers have slowly declined or, at best, stayed stable over some years and the club members' average age is increasing. The current members like the club and may even think it is "a great little club" that "punches above its weight." But clearly something is not working. If it really is a

great club, new members would be clamouring to get in – but they are not. We know that people join Rotary for two main reasons:

1. To be involved in community service activities.
2. For friendship and networking Coming in third in the reasons to join is leadership and professional development.

Yet, in many clubs, an analysis of what Rotarians really do will conclude that almost all Rotary time is spent on two activities: 1. Attending meetings, and 2. Working on fundraising.

Change is never easy, but to attract and retain members Rotary clubs need to realign their focus to provide new members with what they seek. Delivering a new member value proposition needs a focus on:

- A variety of hands-on community projects.
- Fun social activities (including family friendly events).
- Leadership and development opportunities (especially for younger members) Mentoring – informal and formal.
- Networking If this starting point resonates with you and the situation in your club, the District Membership Team can provide resources to guide and support the club in starting the journey.

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

The annual Footy Night was held via zoom with the following present: John B, Bill, Glenys, Warwick, John McP, Bob L, Ron, Stuart, Bob W, Barbara W and our guest Gabby Knaepple.

John B welcomed all and blew his whistle to bounce the ball for Stuart and Bob W to run the meeting.

After enjoying a snippet of “Up there Cazaly”, Bulldogs theme song and Demons theme song, they ran a very entertaining and very well researched evening all about footy.

Most members were asked who their favourite footy memories were, Bill chose Tim Watson and James Hird - Essendon players, explaining his reasons; Ron chose 2 English soccer players; Gabby chose Alex Jesalenko and Eddie Betts of Carlton; Bob L, these West Torrens Eagles (SA); Glenys chose Barassi of Melbourne, after meeting him the shower (!!) and so too her Rob, who after meeting Ron Barassi and giving him a firm hand shake, became a life-long admirer; Warwick on coming to Melbourne and living on St Kilda Road at the time, chose St Kilda; John McP chose Polly Farmer (Editor’s note: now has a freeway in Perth named after him) and John Nicholls; John B saw the only Grand Final played at Waverley ground and Ted Whitten and Charlie Sutton; Stuart chose John Sharrock and Gary Ablett Senior.

(Editor’s note: Barbara W would have said Gary Ablett Junior)

The boys then held a well-run footy quiz.

Barbara W chose Bill as best dressed kitted out in all things Essendon and also Bob L showing allegiance in two directions together with his teddy who sat in the background, but didn’t comment.

John McPhee gave the vote of thanks for a very entertaining and fun evening.

Barb Williams

October is Economic & Community Development 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

11th October - Ken Maxfield – 'Camp Getaway'

Meeting Roster

Chairperson: **Bill Marsh**

Vote of Thanks: **Bob Laslett**

Note taker for Happenings: **Glenys Grant**

COMING UP

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

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

CELEBRATIONS



Time to celebrate the rate at which Victorians are stepping up to be vaccinated. Hopefully, before too much longer our days of 'lockdown' will just be a terrible memory.



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.

I was overwhelmed by very creative answers. Unfortunately, none were correct. Guess I will just have to eat the prizes myself!!!

Correct answer below. Thanks to Gary Davis for supplying this little piece of club history.

*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*

PDG Ford Davis

As the club prepared to celebrate 25 years since its Charter.



Lockdown is starting to get to me.

RYLA UNDERWAY

This is great news - our RYLA candidate is organised. Thomas White.

About Thomas:

Thomas is great value. He was fantastic at MUNA, when he and his team mate won both the 9810 first prize and the student award, and then went on to also win the Rotary Totenhoffer National Peace prize.

Last year he won The National 'Voice' contest. At the same time he supported VCE and other students at Box Hill High through COVID. He was also Deputy Head Perfect.

BHHS could not speak more highly of him.

This year he has given back to 'Voice' by organising all the Victorian part of the Contest.

He is also doing a double degree at Monash.

And - he lives in Forest Hill.

Glenys Grant

THE ROTARY FOUNDATION

I have just listened to a recording of a Zone 8 Recognition Zoom Event which took place on Sat 18th Sept. Due to a timing mistake, I missed the original. It was hosted by Dennis Shore D9800, and featured Past RI Pres Ian Riseley, a new trustee Larry Lunsford from D6040, USA, and Jesse Harman D9780. Interestingly, Larry Lunsford was an Ambassadorial Scholar in 1982 at the University of Newcastle, Australia.

Last year, \$440 million was donated to The Rotary Foundation helping it fund over 2,000 global grants. It was inspiring to listen to benefactors, legacy givers, and Arch Klumph Society members. But, whether Rotarians gave \$1 or \$1 million they gave hope and help to people around the world. The Rotary Foundation was founded over 100 years ago and has spent over \$4 billion on life changing sustainable projects.

Ron Brooks

EASTERN HEALTH WALLET UPDATE

The video for the mental health wallet card is close to being finalised. DG Daryl has done his introduction which will be incorporated. Eastern Health, Police Media and Rotary in Whitehorse will release the video once it has been finalised. October is Mental Health month and as we continue with lockdown and restrictions the focus and demand on mental health has been intensified. Continue to look after yourselves and others. Take care.

Sue Ballard

SPROUTINGS



It's Spring, and our minds can try to forget our isolation, and turn instead to gardening - or at least getting out into the sun and fresh air.

Maybe walking in the bush is your 'thing'?

In our Lake area we saw hundreds of cars and people visiting over the weekend. One friend regularly walks from North Blackburn near New Hope Church to this area because she loves it so much. She picks up rubbish (with tongs) on the way.

This beautiful grevillea in our garden is in full bloom.

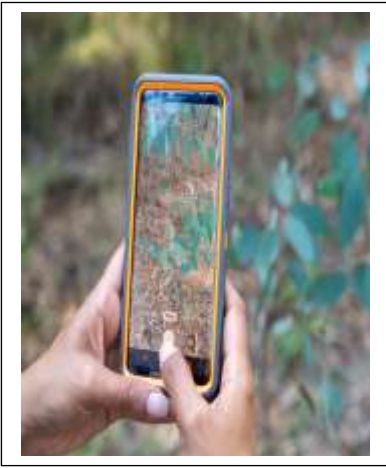
It attracts so many birds and bees - AND – we don't think we planted it! Is that possible? Can anyone tell me what its name is? I'm wondering if it could be a 'Red Sunset'. As you can see it's really superb.

[Here are some interesting events to attend or participate in.](#)

Great Southern Bioblitz - October 22-25

Connect with nature, become a Citizen Scientist, help Scientists study and protect native plants and animals – what more could you want! What on earth is this all about, you are asking?

A 'bioblitz' is a period of intense biological surveying in an attempt to find and record as many species as possible. Over four days in October, the community is asked to help document wild plants and animals across the City of Whitehorse.



October is a great time to explore our local parks and reserves. Spring is now in full swing, insects are emerging, baby birds are hatching and reptiles are

coming out of hibernation – so do be careful....

To get involved in this science project, download the

iNaturalist app, and from **October 22-25**, find wild plants and animals, take a picture and share it to the app.

For more details including how to use the iNaturalist app, visit [here](#) or goggle **Great Southern Bioblitz**.

.....

Here is another event:

Dr Amy Hahs, lecturer in Ecology at the University of Melbourne, has prepared a study of the movement between habitats for a range of key species in Whitehorse.

In this online seminar she will take us through her findings. If you are interested in attending please register via the Eventbrite link below. It will be a fascinating and informative event!

Details: **Wildlife Connectivity Across Whitehorse**

Date: Monday October 11, 2021 Time: 4:00pm – 5:00pm. Cost: FREE

To register please follow this Eventbrite link: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/wildlife-connectivity-across-whitehorse-tickets-171611965007>



The Great Aussie Bird Count is on again. It will be held **October 18-24**.

At the same time you are taking photos for the Bioblitz, collect information for the bird count!

Taking part in the Aussie Backyard Bird Count is easy! Just register for the count, download the App, and spend 20 minutes in your favourite outdoor space. Then tell us about the birds you see during that period. You can submit your results using the app or the webform. Every count helps.

The space can be a suburban backyard, a local park, a patch of forest, the beach, or in the main street of your town. You can count as many times as you like over the week, but each count should be completed in a 20 minute period.

The data collected assists BirdLife Australia in understanding more about the birds that live where people live.

There are GREAT prizes to win as well. For more information please go to aussiebirdcount.org.au

.....

Finally, here are more events for you as I sign off. Have a great week. [Glenys](#)

Whitehorse Seniors Festival - Online Events, October.

Bookings essential: Contact Sustainability Officer, Robert Powell on 0481 060 536 or [email here](#).

Making Sense of Your Energy Bills

When: Monday 11 October, 5-7pm

How to read your electricity or gas bill and how to save money by changing plans.

Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) Virtual Tour

When: Thursday 14 October, 10.30am-12noon

Where do your recyclables go when they get picked up and how do they get sorted?

Solar and Batteries

When: Wednesday 20 October, 6.30-8pm

Learn more about solar power systems and how one could work at your home.

Create a Cool and Comfortable Home this Summer

When: Friday 29 October, 2-3.30pm

Find out how to keep your home cool and reduce your energy consumption.



With the impending COP26 to be held in November this year, you are invited to hear from Dr Mahendra Kumar, who will speak about his experience of participating at COP



Dr Kumar has represented many Pacific Governments at previous COP Conferences.

Dr Kumar is a senior climate change specialist with experience in climate change, development, energy, and environment programs in Asia-Pacific and Africa. He is currently honorary associate professor at the Institute of Climate Change, Energy & Disaster Solutions at ANU, Canberra.

Monday 11th October at 5.30pm

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)



For the dog lovers – and who doesn't love a dog.

Scan Me



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!!!

