

# FOREST HILL FLYER 2010-2011

## Weekly Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Forest Hill

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The Rotary Club of Forest Hill meets at 6.15 pm for 6.30 pm on Mondays at Bucatini Restaurant, 454 Whitehorse Road, Mitcham, 3132. \$27.00 per head

### CLUB PROGRAM

<u>21 February</u>	<u>28 February</u>	<u>7 March</u>
<p><b><u>Geoff Hale's 90th birthday - A celebration</u></b></p> <p><b>Chair</b> David Bremner</p> <p><b>Thanks &amp; Flyer report</b></p> <p><b>Most Interesting Rotary Experience Talk</b></p>	<p><b><u>New Generations Night</u></b> NYSF experience and Ford Davis Endeavour Scholarship Winners</p> <p>Doug Berwick</p> <p>Bob Laslett</p>	<p><b><u>Tracking Birds</u></b> Ken Gosbell</p> <p>Ray Smith</p> <p>Glenys Grant</p> <p>Bob Laslett</p>

### DUTY ROSTER

Cashier	February
Recorder	Doug Berwick
Greeter	Bob Williams
Emergency	John McPhee
	Bob Neilson

### ATTENDANCE

Apologies - **Please contact Ray Smith by 10.00 am MONDAY on 9878 4891 or [rcssmith@optusnet.com.au](mailto:rcssmith@optusnet.com.au).** Any cancellation after 10.00 am should be made direct with the management of Bucatini Restaurant on 9873 0268

### CELEBRATIONS FOR THIS WEEK

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** **GEOFF HALE – 90 and still going strong -- congratulations from all of us.**

22 February Club membership anniversary GLENYS GRANT  
 22 February Rotarian birthday BILL MARSH  
 25 February Rotarian birthday STUART WILLIAMS

### **DAVID'S DIARY**



Thanks to everyone who helped at the Blackburn and Whitehorse markets last weekend. We had an excellent roll-up of volunteers which helped to spread the workload.

The Blackburn market raised about \$850 and the Whitehorse market \$5,500. The proceeds from both markets will go to flood relief in Victoria and Queensland.

At our meeting next Monday night we will celebrate a unique event for this club – one of our members turning 90 years of age – very well done, Geoff Hale

Geoff is a charter member of our club and has been a member for 36 years. Geoff has also served the club with distinction in a wide variety of roles including as President in 1983-84, Secretary in 1987-88 and 1988-89, and Bulletin Editor in 1978-79 and 1886-87. For many years, Geoff has also been the club's auditor and has been responsible for setting up the room prior to each meeting. He was made a Paul Harris Fellow in 1990 and has since received a Sapphire for his continuing work for the club.

Next week's meeting will be a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the 90<sup>th</sup> birthday of a great human being and an outstanding Rotarian. As you would expect with Geoff, the celebration will be a fun night and I suspect some great stories will be told about Geoff and his exploits, particularly on the sporting field.

I think last week's meeting will turn out to be a pivotal night in the history of our club. Under the guidance of the presenters, Jenny Coburn and Ken Wall, we worked our way through the *Our Club, Our Future*, process in order to develop a strategic plan for the club's future over the coming three years or so.

The outcome of the meeting was a list of expectations and visions for the future and a series of actions that need to be considered as the means by which the expectations can be achieved. The notes taken during the meeting have been typed and we now start the process of converting them into a coherent strategy that has the support of the club. Initially, Doug Berwick, Ron Brooks, Bill Marsh, Glenys Grant and I will carry out a review of the notes taken at the meeting – essentially to remove duplications and to clarify any ideas that need more detail. We will then bring the ideas back to the club so they can be considered by all members. The final result of this process should be a plan that will set out our objectives for the next three years and guide us in achieving them.

This is another very exciting time in the life of our club.

Two members for you to keep in mind - Stan has now moved to a rehabilitation facility and is progressing well and Bob Nielson is also undergoing further tests. We will be thinking of them and their partners.

Best wishes to you and your families for the week ahead as we continue building communities and bridging continents.

***David***

David Bremner  
 President

### **NOTICES**

\*\* Emails to GARY via Bev on bevbaltissen@gmail.com

\*\* Stan is now in North Eastern Rehabilitation Centre, 134-144 Ford Street, Ivanhoe VIC 3079, 9474 8900

## Meeting Report for 14 February, 2011

Acting Sergeant Stuart raised over \$19.00 for the Rotary Foundation. . Last week the "bowl" was passed around and individual fines not levied. It looks like members respond better to humiliation, slights and half-truths.....

### An odd church notice

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

## Weekly Foundation Thought

This week's **Rotary Foundation Thought** is about **Service Above Self**.

Plagued by famine, the impoverished nation of Niger struggles to feed its citizens. But Rotarians like Ernie and Sally Montagne, of Arizona, USA, are helping to break this cycle of hunger and grinding poverty. During a planning trip to Niger on a Volunteer Service Grant, the Montagnes saw firsthand how The Rotary Foundation's humanitarian efforts are supporting sustainable projects there.

*"The Rotary Foundation is our vehicle of choice to enable ordinary Rotarians to make a lasting difference in the lives of thousands of villagers in Africa."*

Ernie and Sally Montagne

### SENIOR'S CORNER

#### Rain (and other matters)

*It was a busy morning, about 8:30, when an elderly gentleman in his 80's arrived to have stitches removed from his thumb.*

*He said he was in a hurry as he had an appointment at 9:00 am. I took his vital signs and had him take a seat, knowing it would be over an hour before someone would be able to see him. I saw him looking at his watch and decided, since I was not busy with another patient, I would evaluate his wound. On exam, it was well healed, so I talked to one of the doctors, got the needed supplies to remove his sutures and redress his wound.*

*While taking care of his wound, I asked him if he had another doctor's appointment this morning, as he was in such a hurry. The gentleman told me no, that he needed to go to the nursing home to eat breakfast with his wife. I inquired as to her health.*

*He told me that she had been there for a while and that she was a victim of Alzheimer's Disease. As we talked, I asked if she would be upset if he was a bit late.*

*He replied that she no longer knew who he was, that she had not recognized him in five years now.*

*I was surprised, and asked him, 'And you still go every morning, even though she doesn't know who you are?' He smiled as he patted my hand and said,*

*'She doesn't know me, but I still know who she is.'*

*I had to hold back tears as he left, I had goose bumps on my arm, and thought, 'That is the kind of love I want in my life.'*

*True love is neither physical, nor romantic. True love is an acceptance of all that is, has been, will be, and will not be.*

*The happiest people don't necessarily have the best of everything; they just make the best of everything they have.*

*'Life isn't just about how to survive the storm, but how to dance in the rain.'*

**Board of Directors Meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> Feb 2011 – key issues discussed:**

- Ford Davis Endeavour Awards Program is underway. The three scholarship winners and their parents plus our National Youth Science Forum student have been invited to speak on 28<sup>th</sup> Feb. Endeavour Award for the Conference golf day is generating good publicity for RC of Forest Hill.
- Forest Hill Secondary College - Will speak with the principal of Forest Hill Secondary College about our New Generations programmes e.g. NYSF.
- Prey T'Biang project - No progress. Appropriate person in RC of Croydon still in Broken Hill and not responding to emails.
- Forest Hill & sister club relationship – The club has decided not to form a sister club relationship with a country club as members would prefer instead to assist a specific club on a specific project, perhaps flood relief in Forest Hill area (Gatton Lockyer).
- Lily Harper Family bequest - Graham Sharman and David Bremner to meet to recommend a project to the board.
- Major Project – Due to ill health Richard Trudgen has not responded on Aboriginal health literacy ideas as a project. Other options to be investigated include Bairnsdale aboriginal community (Lake Tyers) and Prof Hugh Taylor (Harold Mitchell Chair of Indigenous Eye Health, Melb Uni).
- BBQ - Club has a new "Caterer 6" gas barbeque donated by Elgas via Gary Baltissen. Letter of thanks sent.
- Club has been registered as a fundraiser with Consumer Affairs Victoria. Each year as we re-register, the appeal manager will be changed to the current president. A set of accounts need to be submitted at that time for the calendar year.
- Kevin Grigsby has accepted honorary club membership.
- It was suggested that a more aggressive approach be taken to promoting the club at the Whitehorse Spring Festival next year. Perhaps radio station 94.1 could attend. Produce a kit for hand out containing Forest Hill brochure
- Rotary International's new pilot programs were discussed. We decided not to volunteer to be a participant.
- Whitehorse Cluster Presidents meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb. Points raised were
  - Manningham Foundation dinner too expensive due to high cost of guest speaker.
  - Incoming GSE welcome function on 16<sup>th</sup> March. Board agreed to make this the Forest Hill club meeting that week.
  - District Conference is becoming too expensive. District are talking of making it a multi-District event
- Year of the Volunteer – Local federal politician has offered to issue certificates to those we think deserve to be recognised Board to suggest recipients.
- Treasurer - Accounts were moved, seconded and passed.
- Footy tipping will be held again this year with a portion of the proceeds going to Rotary Oceania Medical Aid for Children.
- NADRASCA market garden project – we need to meet with them to see what they want to do with produce grown and their plans for the future.
- The club will host the incoming Group Study Exchange team on Fri 18th March for the day. We will visit NADRASCA and the Yarra Valley Water. Leader Newspaper has agreed to write an article.

- Hand Brake Turn has been organised and the next step is to give a presentation at the conclusion of the course.
- Model United Nations Assembly - investigating getting students from Forest Hill or Emmaus College.
- Ford Davis Award at Box Hill TAFE is on track. We have not as yet received a nomination from TAFE for the Graham Taylor Award (Refrigeration)
- Mock job interviews at Forest Hill College will be held in collaboration with RC of Nunawading.
- Artwork for a generic RC of Forest Hill business card is being prepared.

### **Visit to Chris and Warwick's farm at Longwood Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> March**

Chris and Warwick have kindly offered for club members present and past to visit their farm and have a tour and a BBQ lunch.

Longwood is 149km North of Melbourne and according to Warwick is about a 1 ¾ hour drive from Forest Hill.

The suggestion is to arrive at 11am and Chris and Warwick will show us around and see their cows and calves, shearing shed, chemical shed, new spray unit with GPS, paper work involved, Merinos and white Suffolk sheep etc.

1pm lunch and they have a BBQ and have tea and coffee with everything else BYO please.

So please bring your plates, glasses, chairs drinks and utensils and whatever you wish to BBQ and as per our bbq meetings at Heather and David's, if you can bring either a salad or dessert (after checking with Barbara and Bob as we don't all want to bring a green salad etc).

A good idea to arrange your own car pooling if you wish.

I'll be sending around a tick sheet over the next few meetings and if any of our past members wish to come please call me on 9874 7350 or bandbwil@bigpond.net.au to save your spot at this once in a lifetime (well we have been before so maybe twice in a lifetime?) social event of the year.

I'll also provide a map to their farm and from memory of my last time there, it is easy to find.

Bob Williams

### **SQUARE EYED STU at the Movies**

127 Hours - MA15+

This is not an enjoyable film, although it proves what we can do when we choose life. It is the true story of outdoors man Aron Ralston who was trapped by a boulder in an isolated canyon in Utah. He battles the elements and his own demons before severing his arm to escape and eventually be rescued. The audience was thoroughly absorbed, although uncomfortable. Try to get your family and friends to inform you of where they are heading.

Stuart.

### **FOREST HILL'S MEMBERSHIP CHALLENGE**

We publish the table below to keep us aware of the challenge.

Membership at the beginning of the year	Current Membership	Change
18	18	--

**BREAKFAST QUIZ**

Something to chew on over breakfast – TWO questions again this week seeing a member got last week's questions correct.

**1. Answers to last week's questions**

Q1. Over a period of seven years, a person will lose contact with what % of their friends?

**Answer: 50%**

Q2. Women are attracted to men who wear which colour more than any other?

**Answer: RED**

Q3. A passenger train in which country has set the unofficial world-record speed?

**Answer: China – on a closed section of track between Beijing and Shanghai - 486 kmh**

**(That is quick – we travelled at 371kmh on the Maglev train 3 years ago in Shanghai)**

**If you don't know the answers, you should pay a fine to the Sergeant. If you get the correct answer, the Editor will pay (this is costing me big time). The answer will be in next week's Forest Hill Flyer**

**This week's questions:**

**Q1. Are goose bumps of any benefit to modern day humans?**

**Q2. Before pencil erasers were invented, writers removed mistakes with which of the following materials?**

**A) Breadcrumbs, B) Candle wax C) Eucalyptus leaves.**

If you don't know the answers, you should pay a fine to the Sergeant. If you get the correct answer, the Editor will pay (this is costing me big time). The answer will be in next week's Forest Hill Flyer

**IMPORTANT UPCOMING CLUB AND DISTRICT EVENTS**

19 February	Rotary Club of Manningham Italian Experience Dinner for flood relief
19 February	2010 Youth Exchange Returned Students Dinner
23 February	District Foundation Dinner
1 March	Literacy Month
6 March	Presidents Elect Training Seminar
6 March	Welcome Dinner for Rotary International President, Ray Klinginsmith
8 March	International Women's Day – Women in Rotary Breakfast
12 March	Blackburn Craft Market
13 March	Whitehorse Farmers Market
14 March	Club meeting cancelled
16 March	Club will meet at the GSE Welcome function at Monte Carlo Reception Centre

Please have FOREST HILL FLYER articles to me by **5 pm next Wednesday** (in Microsoft Word format,) Stuart Williams gsestu2@yahoo.com.au

MIRI MORRIS *'As a mother you just want the best for your daughter.'*

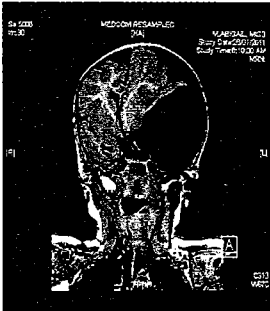
# Island friendship saves the life of little Abigail

BY KATE HAGAN HEALTH REPORTER

**AFTER insisting to doctors in Fiji that there was something wrong with her baby daughter's eyes, Miri Morris finally received a diagnosis from a visiting Australian neurosurgeon.**

Abigail, 1, underwent a CT scan that revealed a cyst so large it had grown to take up nearly half her brain.

Fluid trapped in the cyst was pushing normal brain tissue to the other side of her head, affecting the optic nerves behind her eyes and movement on the right side of her body.



Mrs Morris was told her baby needed an expensive MRI scan and surgery not commonly performed in Fiji.

Daunted by how to pay for and arrange help for her daughter, she turned to an Australian woman she had met in Fiji.

Rotary, and its program to bring children to Australia for lifesaving medical treatment, stepped in.

And yesterday at the Monash Children's Hospital in Clayton, a day after successful surgery that has saved Abigail's life, Mrs Morris could hardly believe that her prayers had been answered.

"To be sitting here is just amazing because I never dreamt to be here," she said. "Back in Fiji, our resources are very lim-

ited and as a mother you just want the best for your daughter."

Associate Professor Andrew Danks, head of neurosurgery at Southern Health, said it was rare to see such a large cyst, and one that was worsening.

In a three-hour operation on Thursday, he cut into the walls of the cyst and opened it into a space next to the basilar artery that was draining fluid normally. It is hoped the solution will be permanent, without the need for a shunt.

Mrs Morris, a mother of six, said hearing her youngest child cry as she was wheeled out of the operating theatre brought a huge smile to her face.

"One thing I noticed straight-away was that when the nurse came with a big torch to check her eyes, she quickly grabbed it, which she normally wouldn't do," she said.

"She struggled with crawling, and now already she is doing better, trying to crawl and stand up.

"I'm just so relieved that my daughter is able to have a normal life. Just to see Abigail enjoy playing like a normal kid would do, like the rest of my five kids."

Bronwyn Rodgers said Mrs Morris had welcomed her family to Fiji, where they lived for two years, "and now we can help them".

Mrs Rodgers's father raised Abigail's case with Rotary member John Benger, who arranged for her to be brought to Melbourne for the surgery.

Mr Benger said Abigail was close to the 300th child Rotary had brought to Australia for lifesaving treatment, and being involved with the program was one of the most rewarding things he had done.

**LINK**  
► [romac.org.au](http://romac.org.au)



Baby Abigail with her grateful mum Miri Morris and the MRI scan of Abigail's brain (inset).

PICTURE: WAYNE TAYL