



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

27 June	4 July	11 July
CHANGEOVER NIGHT Partners and friends welcome Chair Bob Laslett Thanks and meeting report - Club Speaker -	USA Independence Day RI Ambassadorial Scholars Sophie Dowse & Ariel Magnes Ray Smith David Bremner Chris Tuck	TBA John Donaghey Bob Williams Warwick Stott

DUTY ROSTER

	JUNE	JULY
Cashier	John Donaghey	Warwick Stott
Recorder	Chris Tuck	Geoff Hale
Greeter	Graham Sharman	David Bremner
Emergency	Bob Laslett	Bob Laslett

ATTENDANCE

Apologies - **Please contact Ray Smith by 10.00 am MONDAY on 9878 4891 or 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



Changeover!!

DAVID'S DIARY

Our Club Changeover night is on 27 June at Bucatini and it looks to be an exciting night. President Elect Doug and I are looking forward to it.

In addition to members and Partners, we will also have the pleasure of the company of District Governor Elect Juliet Riseley and Ian, Honorary Members David McNamara and Carole and Marg Taylor and our special friends Gary, Roger and Peter Davis and partners.

The night will be chaired by Bob Laslett and Bob Williams will be proposing the toast to Rotary International; thanks to Bob and Bob for taking on these roles.

We have received a request from District Governor David Alexander for the clubs in District 9810 to each contribute \$500 to the Donations in Kind Store in West Footscray to assist with its rent and to allow it to expand the storage space. The store does a wonderful job sourcing, storing, packing and transporting goods to other countries where they can be of great benefit to the local population. In the last ten years, it is estimated that the store has sent overseas goods to the value of \$20 million! Traditionally, the store has been funded by District 9800 although it is also used by other Districts, including us. Lilydale is the only club in our District that currently helps to support the store.

I have referred David's request to the Board for consideration and will report to you next week on its decision.

On 22 June, Graham Sharman and I interviewed Jessica Wynn and Nathan Yong (and their mothers) for the National Youth Science Forum – they are local residents. Both candidates submitted excellent applications and are rated by their schools as being in the excellent category. We were impressed with them.

We decided to recommend both to the District NYSF Committee to be interviewed for the Forum. We feel that both would be excellent representatives for our club. We explained to them that our club will sponsor one applicant and if both candidates are selected, we will work with other local Rotary clubs to have one of them sponsor the second candidate.

I also received a message from Bill Morrison, our contact at Global Interaction, about the Harper Family Fund supporting Josias Dixon with his education costs. Bill said

"Your gesture has already had a positive influence within the Lajamanu community, with some residents expressing amazement that "people down there are thinking of us. They really care for us". As I have said before, a sense of hopelessness is strong within many communities so anything that breaks this cycle of thinking is something sought after. With this gift you have brought a realisation that they are not alone, that there is a hope."

This is another case of Rotary making a positive difference in people's lives.

This is my last 'Diary' report for the year. Preparing a weekly report has been an interesting task and I have enjoyed having to think about the work of the club, the District and Rotary International in order to find interesting things to bring to your attention or to comment on.

I have enjoyed my year as President and I will say more about that at Changeover.

I have greatly appreciated the efforts of the Board, the other office bearers and the members and Partners of the club; I will have a lot more to say about that next week.

Thank you for your support during the year and thank you for the opportunity to be the club's President.

David

David Bremner
President

Meeting Report for 20 June 2011

We didn't have a guest speaker last week as Gail Robertson was called away unexpectedly. However, Gail will speak to us about Australian Rotary Health in a few weeks' time.

Instead, we held a mini club forum and discussed a number of matters including how the Blackburn Craft Market can be enlarged and made more interesting. Some very good ideas were put forward for consideration.

President David also gave an update on the *Our Club Our Future* project. A final report is due in the next week or so.

Sergeant Stuart was in his usual form and collected a goodly sum of money in fines.

Ray Smith also gave an interesting club speaker address on something that he got a real kick out of – hosting a Youth Exchange student.

Rotary Foundation Report

The Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) has made significant progress since the launch of its new strategic plan and the bivalent oral polio vaccine last year. In India and Nigeria, the sources of all recent wild poliovirus importations into previously polio-free countries, the disease declined by 95 percent between 2009 and 2010.



A Rotarian immunizes a child in Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh, India. One of four polio-endemic countries (along with Afghanistan, Nigeria, and Pakistan), India has reported only one case of polio in 2011, as of 25 May. *Photo by Allison Kwesell*

The World Health Organization calls the progress encouraging, "but the job is not yet finished, and we must see this through to the end," said its director-general, Margaret Chan, at the World Health Assembly in May.

In addition to the gains made by India and Nigeria, fifteen countries in Africa have stopped outbreaks of the disease that started in 2009, reported the GPEI Independent Monitoring Board (IMB) in April.

The GPEI's leading partner agencies - the World Health Organization, Rotary International, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and UNICEF - and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation welcomed the report. They particularly noted the IMB's assessment that polio eradication is "entirely feasible" and "desperately needed," and that countries that are off-track in meeting GPEI milestones can be brought back on track with support from national governments, donors, and the spearheading partners.

Among those countries is Pakistan, which launched the National Emergency Action Plan for Polio Eradication 2011 with the goal of halting transmission of the disease by the end of the year. Rotarians there are working "to cover every nook and corner of the country," said Aziz Memon, chair of the Pakistan PolioPlus Committee. "We are committed to a polio-free Pakistan."

The report also referred to an estimated US\$665 million funding gap through 2012 as the "single greatest threat to the GPEI's success." To help address the gap, the Gates Foundation has awarded two grants totaling \$355 million to Rotary in support of its work. Rotary has responded with Rotary's US\$200 Million Challenge, which will be completed on 30 June 2012; to date, Rotarians have raised \$173.2 million.

"The IMB clearly stated that all member states have decided together to eradicate polio, and that funding the effort should be a shared responsibility," said Rotary Foundation Trustee Chair Carl-Wilhelm Stenhammar at a May meeting with Margaret Chan, Bill Gates, health ministers from polio-infected countries, and international development agency representatives. "We therefore invite donor governments from around the world

to join the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the ongoing commitment by Rotary's 1.2 million members worldwide, and rapidly make available flexible funding critically needed to implement all activities of the strategic plan."

The IMB's report concludes that polio eradication is feasible in the near future, but warns that the goal will only be achieved with "heightened attention" at all levels.

"If we fail, the disease will not stay at its current low level," said Bill Gates, speaking at the RI Convention in May. "It will spread back into countries where it has been eliminated, and it will kill and paralyze hundreds of thousands of children who used to be safe."

"We are at a crossroads right now," said Bruce Aylward, assistant director-general of WHO for polio eradication and related areas, at a TED talk in March. "We have a new vaccine, we have new resolve, we have new tactics. We have the chance to write an entirely new polio-free chapter in human history. But if we blink now, we will lose forever the chance to eradicate an ancient disease. End polio now."

Club Member Talks

Over recent months, members have given 3 minute talks on the topic of "my most memorable Rotary moment". The talks have been inspiring and illuminating.

Commencing 20 June, we will take a different approach to the talks by introducing a range of topics from which the speakers can select the subject for their talk. The topics are:

- My 15 seconds of fame!
- What I am most proud of;
- I got a kick out of...;
- My most enjoyable holiday.

Speakers can select whichever of the topics appeals to them.

Club member talks are a fun way of getting to know each other better and to discover what interests and experiences we each have.

Proof reading is a dying art

Man Kills Self Before Shooting Wife and Daughter

I called the Editorial Room and asked who wrote this. It took two or three readings before the editor realised that what he was reading was impossible!!! They put in a correction the next day.

Something Went Wrong in Jet Crash, Expert Says

No kidding, really?

Police Begin Campaign to Run Down Jaywalkers

Now that's taking things a bit far!

Panda Mating Fails; Veterinarian Takes Over

What a guy!

Footy Tipping

We have a tie for first place in the selections for last weekend's matches – Stuart Williams, Mark Bailey and David Bremner. How come no one picked the Gold Coats Suns to win!

I hear that Stuart may not have picked the mighty Cats last weekend – probably for the first time in 6 or 7 years!

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

It has been too cold in the mornings lately to think of a breakfast quiz question.

IMPORTANT UPCOMING CLUB AND DISTRICT EVENTS

27 June 2011	Club meeting & Club Changeover Night
2 July 2011	District Governors Changeover Night
4 July 2011	RYLA 2011

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