



# FOREST HILL FLYER 2011-2012

## 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

9 January	16 January	23 January
<b>BBQ at the Bremner's 6.30pm Chair</b>	<b>Speaker Board Meeting</b>	<b>Committee Meetings</b>
--	Graham Sharman	Stan Harper
<b>Thanks &amp; Meeting Report</b>		
--	John Donaghey	--
<b>Club Member Talk</b>		
--	John McPhee	Gary Baltissen

### DUTY ROSTER

	<b>JANUARY</b>
Cashier	John McPhee
Recorder	David Bremner
Greeter	Bill Marsh
Emergency	Bob Williams

### ATTENDANCE

Apologies - **Please contact Ray Smith by 10.00 am MONDAY** on 9878 4891 or [rcsmith@optusnet.com.au](mailto:rcsmith@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



8 January – Wedding Anniversaries – Judy and Bob Laslett, Judy and Bill Marsh  
Married in January – could they be teachers?



## **MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A SAFE AND HAPPY NEW YEAR**

### **DOUG'S DEADLINE**

Our final meeting for 2011 was a festive affair; as you would expect for this time of the year. We were pleased that partners could join us for the early start to the day as did Rudi Klein and Jess Wynn and her family. Thanks to you all for taking the time and effort to do so. A thank you also to John Edwards for coming along to share a reflection at Christmas time.

A highlight of the morning was a short talk by Jess Wynn who is our representative at the National Youth Science Forum 2012 (NYSF). Jess advised that instead of attending the usual forum in Canberra she is attending the forum being held in Perth. Jess was very eloquent in her presentation and, from my perspective, did not appear to have any notes. I never get tired of being impressed by the younger generation that we come in contact with through Rotary and often in the general community. Their poise, intelligence and ability to speak so easily in public demonstrate the skills now being taught in schools. It also augers well for our future.

In another positive demonstration of our club's New Generations Program, David Bremner and I attended the Box Hill High School Awards Night. It was an excellent event that not only recognised and rewarded students for their efforts during the year but also showcased many talented students. The night started with two pieces of music played by students in the School Wind Symphony. This was followed by presentations of service and academic achievement awards. There were two other musical presentations which were very good and we also watched a short film by the VCE German Class which was also very well done. Overall, it was a very positive and uplifting night.

I had the privilege of presenting the Ford Davis Endeavour Award Scholarships for 2011 to Jason O'Brien, Mahya Rashidi Sian and Faye Vuong. It was also very pleasing to note that two of our recipients for 2010, Silkra Harvey and Ivan Tang received School academic awards for the year. Silkra won two awards – the Bendigo Bank Award for Student Achievement and Contribution and a Year 11+ Academic Excellence Award. Ivan won a Year 12 Academic Achievement award in Accounting.

I have said before that one of the positive reinforcements of being a member of Rotary is the opportunity to come into contact with people and organisations that we may not get in our normal lives. Monday was one of those days and I feel honoured to have been part of it.

We still have a busy year ahead of us in 2012 as we have other Ford Davis and Lillian Harper awards to present. There is our District Conference to attend as well as President Elect Raining Seminar and District Assembly. Before I know it I will be another PPF (Past President Feather Duster) and supporting Bob Laslett in his year.

I look forward to catching up with you all next year at our first meeting in 2012 at David and Heather Bremner's. Tracey and I wish you all a very happy Christmas and a safe and prosperous New Year.

Doug Berwick  
President

### **CHRISTMAS BREAKFAST MEETING CHARITY COLLECTION**

Thanks to everyone who brought a gift to our Christmas Breakfast meeting for the Wesley Crisis and Homelessness Centre in Ringwood. The receipts from the Sergeant's Bowl were also donated to the Centre to assist children whose families are struggling with homelessness and young people in the Eastern region of Melbourne.

On our behalf, Gary and Bev Baltissen delivered the gifts and our cheque for \$42.70 to the Centre.

### **SWAGS FOR THE HOMELESS**

Our Community Service Committee's Swags for the Homeless project is proceeding very nicely. The club has spent \$2,000 and has obtained a District Simplified Grant of an additional \$1,000 which has enabled 36 swags to be purchased. Gary Baltissen and his committee are finalising arrangements with the Salvation Army in Box Hill and the Wesley Crisis and Homelessness Centre in Ringwood to distribute the swags to people who are forced to sleep 'rough'.

The swags are an innovative design consisting of a backpack that opens into a mini tent and is water, insect and fire proof. The swag has now been awarded a Human Rights Award. The Australian Human Rights Commission has recognised that street sleeping homeless are denied the rights to shelter, health, privacy, non-discrimination, personal safety and freedom from inhuman treatment. The Backpack Bed is study proven to improve homeless lives in all of these areas. Swags for Homeless now partners with 140+ homeless organisations across Australia but, unfortunately, has had to turn an additional 39 away due to a lack of funds.

This is a great project and another way that we make a positive difference in the lives of other people.

### **JANUARY BBQ**

The first club meeting in 2012 will be a barbecue at the Bremner's, 19 Justina Close, Vermont South commencing at 6.30pm on Monday 9 January 2012.

Please bring your own meat (but not sausages, they will be provided) and drinks and a salad or sweet to share. Please advise Heather on 9802 7731 or [hjb91@bigpond.com](mailto:hjb91@bigpond.com) what you will be bringing.

Tea and coffee will be provided.

### **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	19	+1

### **QUOTE FOR THE WEEK**

An optimist stays up to see the New Year in. A pessimist waits to make sure the old one leaves.

Bill Vaughan

Cheers to a new year and another chance for us to get it right.

Oprah Winfrey

### **IMPORTANT UPCOMING CLUB AND DISTRICT EVENTS**

6 January 2011	Fellowship Cinema Night at Forest Hill Chase
8 January 2012	Whitehorse Farmers Market - Forest Hill Egg and Bacon Stall
9 January 2012	Club meeting - BBQ at Bremner's'
16 January 2012	Club meeting and Board meeting
16 January 2012	International Assembly in San Diego for District Governors Elect
23 January 2012	Club meeting
30 January 2012	Club meeting (abbreviated) and Partners Dinner in the Restaurant

Please have FOREST HILL FLYER articles to the Editor at [djl91@bigpond.com](mailto:djl91@bigpond.com) by **5 pm next Wednesday week** (in Microsoft Word format please)