

# 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. Meal cost \$27.00

### CLUB PROGRAM

23 April	30 April	7 May
<b>RAAF Service – Stan Harper</b>	<b>Social – Partners Night</b>	<b>"No such thing as Time Management" – Graham Howes (Board Meeting)</b>
<b>Committee meetings</b>		
<b>Chair</b>		
Chris Tuck	Doug Berwick	Warwick Stott
<b>Thanks &amp; Meeting Report</b>		
--	--	Bob Laslett
<b>Club Member Talk</b>		
--	--	John McPhee

### DUTY ROSTER

	<b>APRIL</b>
Cashier	David Bremner
Recorder	Graham Sharman
Greeter	John McPhee
Emergency	David Bremner

### 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



26 May – Rotarian's Birthday – John McPhee

28 May – Wedding Anniversary – Robbie and Ron Brooks

## **DOUG'S DEADLINE**

Another big week for me in Rotary. We had a wonderful talk by Samuel Manhom on his remarkable story of survival as a 'lost boy' in the Sudan and Kenya. Like David Vincent last month, Samuel told of long treks through the bush and surviving attacks from lions, hyenas and the most dangerous of animals – man. I am always amazed when I hear these stories of how strong the human spirit is and how, after suffering so much adversity, people like Samuel and David still want to restore peace and to help their fellow countrymen.

Samuel's message was education, especially the benefits education can bring to the people of South Sudan, as he wants to establish a school in his former home village. It has been my long-held belief that one of the greatest gifts we can give newcomers to Australia is the ability to communicate by teaching them our language. The ability to make oneself understood in the broader community reduces marginalisation, isolation and exploitation. I would like our Club to look at supporting programs conducted by organisations within our community that help newcomers to our country. The more we can facilitate the emergence of people like Samuel and David the better Australia, and the world, will be.

Speaking of gifts, it was a real pleasure to present a cheque for \$600 to Joady Barnes from the Rotary Club Manningham to help them complete their Sumba water and sanitation project. To me this is one of the highlights of Rotary membership when we can work together to achieve great things.

We had a change of pace on Tuesday night when Bob and Judy Laslett, John and Margaret McPhee, Stan Harper, Glenys Grant, David Bremner and I attended the GSE Cluster meeting at the Box Hill Golf Club. We again had the opportunity to catch up with the study team from Texas and to hear their interesting stories. The room was virtually full and we had a good representation from our Club.

The week finishes with the District 9810 Conference on Saturday and Sunday (21 – 22 April). I'll provide a report, along with Bob L and Glenys, on Monday.

I am looking for some volunteers to help staff the Rotary exhibit at the Whitehorse Volunteer Expo on Wednesday 2nd May. The Expo runs from 1.00 pm to 6.00 pm and we expect to have representatives from the other Clubs within our Cluster also assisting. If you can give an hour or two of your time during the day, it would be appreciated. A list will be circulated at our next meeting.

Enjoy your week in Rotary.

Doug Berwick  
President

## **LAST WEEK'S MEETING**

Report on Club Meeting 16 April 2012. Attendance was 12 club members, 1 partner, 2 visitors and Guest Speaker.

Announcements included

- Blackburn Station Market resulted in \$760 from sales & stall rentals. Whitehorse Market was a little below the usual attendance and stall numbers but taking were \$4,877.
- The visiting GSE Team from USA were hosted by our club for the day. All went well in visits to NADRASCA and SCOPE.
- A cheque for \$600 was handed over to Manningham Rotary for their Sumba project for 2 water tanks and 1 toilet.
- District 9810 has commenced an Eclub has been formed for Rotarians interested in making contact through the internet.

Warwick Stott advised of the passing of Charter Member Murray Whitmore on April 11. Murray was a member through until 1984. He was aged 83.

Murray played the leading role in establishing the Nunawading Family Fun Run in 1978, an annual event for the following 11 years until 1989. Murray also set up the Nunawading Half Marathon in 1980, the event continuing until 1990. Murray was a fitness fanatic and a popular club member.

The member's talk was by Chris Tuck who spoke about the declining number of people studying Agricultural Science, the increasing average age of farmers and the concern over the future of the Murray Basin Scheme all contributing to a relatively uncertainty of the farming industry in the years ahead.

Guest Speaker Samuel Manhom spoke to members on the subject of "A new school in South Sudan". His introductory visual was headed "Rumbek Melbourne Public School - Inspiring the new generation in a new nation".

Sam was born in 1979 just 4 years before war broke out in the Sudan area. Sam's father joined the army and was injured, forcing Sam to become "one of the lost boys of South Sudan". For many years, the country was in turmoil causing him to live under very difficult conditions and move from place to place with virtually no education. In 1989, he began moving around neighbouring areas searching for his father. In 1992 he was termed to be a refugee, a situation which continued until 2004 when good fortune came his way when he was accepted to settle in Australia.

In this country, he received assistance in finding work through The Sisters of the Good Shepherd. He was able to proceed with education, finishing up with a University degree. Subsequently Sam has been able to travel back to South Sudan with Manningham Rotary sponsoring his trip in December 2011. Sam found that schools were virtually non-existent, those that were there were in very poor condition. So he set out to build a new school in the Lakes Province of the country. Land to build the new school has been allocated, some assistance assured from the local education body but assistance from other sources will be needed. He is hoping that this assistance can be achieved here in Australia.

Our sergeant Stuart Williams was in fine form and raised a magnificent \$33.70 which will be donated to the Rotary Foundation.

Stan Harper

### **INTERNATIONAL SERVICE COMMITTEE SEMINAR 14 MAY**

On 14 May instead of our normal club meeting, we will be hosting the District 9810 International Service Committee Seminar for the Northern Cluster (Manningham and Whitehorse).

As the host club, we will require assistance from as many members as possible. To date the following roles have been allocated:

- Table allocations – Ray Smith and Bob Williams;
- Cashier – Warwick Stott and John McPhee;
- Greeters – Glenys Grant, Doug Berwick and Stan Harper;
- Official welcome – Doug Berwick;
- Meeting Chair – David Bremner.

The Northern Cluster clubs have been advised of the meeting and have been requested to forego their normal meeting that week and instead attend the seminar.

Ian Armstrong, the District International Chair, will welcome the attendees and Past President Brian McDaid will speak on "Future funding of Rotary projects through partnerships"

Glenys Grant, International Chair.

### **GROUP STUDY EXCHANGE (GSE) DAY FOR FOREST HILL**



The GSE Team at NADRASCA Farm. L to R: Wesley, Gus Koedyk (Executive Director NADRASCA), Keith (farm manager), Marci, Holli, Anne & Raeoni Turner (General Manager NADRASCA)

GSE Team at SCOPE



Our hosting of the GSE Team from Texas was very successful. The Team enjoyed their visit to NADRASCA and SCOPE and we thank both organisations for the time and effort they put into their presentations.

Thanks also to the Rotarians who helped on the day –

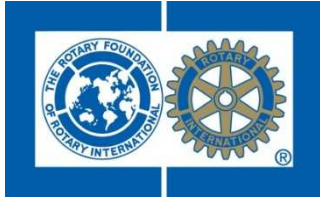
Ray Smith, John McPhee as drivers, the Bremners as the hosts for lunch and the other members who assisted in hosting the Team at the BBQ lunch.

The Team are a delightful group who were very friendly to everyone they met and very professional in the way they conducted themselves at the vocational visits.

On Tuesday night, President Doug, Stan, David, Judy and Bob Laslett, Margaret and John McPhee and I attended the GSE Team Presentation Dinner hosted by the Rotary Club of Box Hill. The presentations by each of the five members of the Team were excellent. They told us of their families, their homes, their vocations and their hopes for the future. They are a great credit to the GSE Program, their home District and Rotary International.

Glenys Grant, International Chair

### **GROUP STUDY EXCHANGE**



The Group Study Exchange for 2012-13 is with District 3300 in Malaysia from 18 November to 16 December 2012.

The key dates are as follows:

Team Leader - 11 May - team leader applications close, 19 May - team leader interviews held

Team Members - 31 May - team member information evening, 8 June - team member applications close, 16 and 23 June - team member interviews

The preferred professions for this exchange are Media (including public relations, communications, graphic design and multimedia), Tourism, Information Technology and Construction.

Team members must be between the ages of 25 and 40 at the time of the exchange, must live or work in District 9810 and not be lineally related to a Rotarian.

### **WHO CAN WE RECOMMEND??**

### **ROMAC NEWS**



Update on Abigail - around twelve months ago, Rotary Oceania Medical Aid for Children (ROMAC) received a request to help with a baby who had a cyst that occupied a third of her head and the cyst was growing. "The largest I have ever seen" was the comment by Prof Danks who treated her.

Physically the baby could do little and she was given just months to live. It took two major operations on the brain and head to correct the problem.

Following is a note from Abigail's mother and a photo of little Abigail. They are very religious and said they would constantly pray for the work ROMAC does.

*Hi John,*

*How are you, hope all is well. How's the weather there, so sorry it's been long and I have been busy with baby and Abigail.*

*Just to update you on the latest progress of Abigail, first, her eye sight is better and the doctor said that she no longer needs to wear glasses.*

*Secondly, she is walking, talking and feeding herself. It's a miracle and a very big improvement. Please find attached photos of Abigail.*

*God bless and have a great and awesome day.*

*Miriam Morris*

### **ENTERTAINMENT BOOK & FOOTY TIPPING**

#### **PAYMENT DUE**

Payment is now due for the FOOTY TIPPING (\$30) to be made out to Rotary Club of Forest Hill.

Also, for the ENTERTAINMENT BOOK (\$65) to be made out to Stuart Williams - he has already paid for them.

Please give the money to Stuart so that he can keep his records straight.

**FOREST HILL'S MEMBERSHIP CHALLENGE**

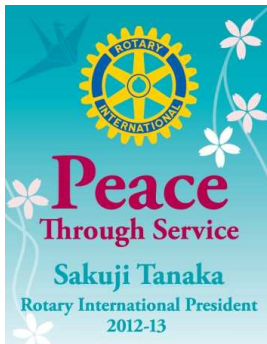
We publish the table below to keep us aware of the challenge.

Membership at the beginning of the year	Current Membership	Change
18	<b>18</b>	-

**QUOTES OF THE WEEK**

"Action is the real measure of intelligence."  
Napoleon Hill

"Failure is simply the opportunity to begin again, this time more intelligently."  
Henry Ford

**During 2012/13**

**Are you on the Club Board? Are you in a Club Officers Position?**

**Are you managing a Club Project? Are you serving on a Club Committee?**

**Are you a relatively new Rotarian? Do you want to Imagine Peace and Give It a Chance?**

**Answer "Yes" to any or more of the above questions then you should make time to attend the**

**D9810 District Assembly**

**Sunday 27th May 2012**

**8:00AM - 1:00PM**

**(Presidents Elect Session concludes by 2:30PM)**

**Hemisphere Conference Centre Moorabbin**

**Register to attend with President Elect Bob Laslett**

**NOW!**

**IMPORTANT UPCOMING CLUB AND DISTRICT EVENTS**

21 April 2012	District Conference in Melbourne (21 & 22 April)
23 April 2012	Club meeting
23 April 2012	District - Group Study Exchange Team from Texas departs
28 April 2012	District - Malaria Awareness Dinner
30 April 2012	Club meeting (abbreviated) and Partners Dinner in the Restaurant
6 May 2012	International Convention in Bangkok
7 May 2012	Club meeting
11 May 2012	District - Camp Awakening
12 May 2012	Blackburn Craft Market
13 May 2012	Whitehorse Farmers Market
14 May 2012	Club meeting and Board meeting
18 May 2012	District - Presidents and Assistant Governors Meeting

Please have FOREST HILL FLYER articles to the Editor at [djlb91@bigpond.com](mailto:djlb91@bigpond.com) by **5 pm next Wednesday** (in Microsoft Word format please)