



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

2 July	9 July	16 July
Australian Rotary Health Indigenous Scholarships – Robert Leach Chair John McPhee Thanks & Meeting Report Warwick Stott Club Member Talk Bill Marsh	Forest Hill Changeover Night ?? -- --	Committee meetings and Board meeting Bill Marsh Ray Smith (report only) Ron Brooks

DUTY ROSTER

	JULY
Cashier	Ron Brooks
Recorder	Bill Marsh
Greeter	Warwick Stott
Emergency	Graham Sharman

ATTENDANCE

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



Wedding anniversary – 5 July - Joan and Graham Sharman
 Rotarian birthday – 7 July – Ray Smith

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

We had 14 members plus Ern Dawes and Frank Evans from the Doncaster Rotary Club in attendance.

Sergeant Stuart gave us some great quotes on service to others to commence our meeting.

Ron chaired and kept the meeting well to time. Glenys was welcomed back from her recent trip.

Warwick reported that we still need some people power for the egg and bacon stall at the upcoming farmers' market on the 8th July so please contact him if you can assist.

Our sergeant educated us on some of the results of the recent Australian census, managed to adjourn the session to have his meal and still raised a good amount of money for the Rotary Foundation.

Stuart gave us an interesting 5 minuter (well a wee bit longer) on his trip to the Solomon Islands in a working party for Apex 30 years ago. His party built a dormitory for the young women of the island to train as nuns and told us of the difficulty with the heat and materials but achieved everything and had a great experience at the same time.

Frank and Ern then updated us on the Timor Leste projects with some audio visuals to assist.

Frank told us of the history of how Rotary became involved helping to rebuild Timor Leste after their ballot for independence some 12 years or so ago. A small corrugating rolling mill was purchased and transported there to make roofing in a small factory they constructed about 120 kms from Dili. District 9810 and many other clubs supported financially and with people power. After winning several government contracts, the project is now virtually self-funding.

They moved on to produce tanks for water and food and to date have financed 2000 tanks and seek support for many more as the need is so great.

Our own Bob Neilson was heavily involved in setting up a microcredit scheme to assist.

Finance for a centre for training in basic building skills was raised with facilities built and to date 150 locals have graduated.

Ern spoke to us of the more recent projects such as water drilling, as until now the communities relied on rain water which was inadequate for drinking and sanitation purposes. Much progress has been made. He spoke of now being able to drill deep enough to find potable water then took us through the process. Very interesting.

About half of the population are subsistence farmers with the grains they produce being compromised in storage due to vermin etc and so the factory is able to produce air tight 200 litre silos for storage which now means the farmers can produce and store sufficient food for a year and with some even producing a small income. These silos cost \$125 each to produce.

A wonderful presentation by two Rotarians who spoke with deep passion and pride about the project.

Glenys presented a cheque towards the project on behalf of the club.

Bob Williams

CHANGEOVER NIGHT

Our Changeover Night will be held on 9 July at the Bucatini Restaurant. In addition to club members and partners, we will be joined by honorary members and guests. An attendance sheet will be circulated on 2 July so we can make Ray's life easy when he advises Bucatini of our attendance numbers!

Come along and enjoy the night as we recognise the achievements of 2011-12 under Doug Berwick's Presidency and we look forward to 2012-13 under President Bob Laslett



WHITEHORSE FARMERS' MARKET ROSTER



Thanks to those who have put their name down to staff the Egg and Bacon stall at the farmers' market on 8 July. We could use more volunteers, so please contact Warwick Stott.

As usual, there will be three shifts and five people per shift, meaning 15 members, partners, family and friends will be needed.

MAJOR PROJECTS

Last January, the club conducted a ballot to determine which of three projects it should undertake using accumulated reserves - electric beds at Box Hill Hospital, a bladder scanner at Epworth Eastern Hospital or Indigenous health scholarships through Australian Rotary Health. The vote resulted in the order of preference being the electric beds, the Indigenous scholarships and the bladder scanner. At its March meeting, the Board resolved to fund three electric beds at Box Hill Hospital (a total of \$12,000) and two Indigenous scholarships for possibly 2-3 years (possibly \$6000).

Since then the club has reached agreement with Box Hill Hospital that a plaque be erected in the room in which the beds will be located to recognise the gift from the club. The hospital also agreed that the plaque will be relocated to the new hospital when it is completed.

The next step with the scholarships will take place on 2 July when David Bremner has arranged for Robert Leach, Australian Rotary Health's representative in District 9810, to speak to the club about the scholarship program. The Board will then submit an application to sponsor two scholars under the ARH program.

The two projects represent the commitment of a large proportion of the club's fundraising reserves.

Many thanks to Gary Baltissen who conducted the original discussions and negotiations with Box Hill Hospital regarding the beds and to John McPhee who completed the project when he took over from Gary on the Board.

GROUP STUDY EXCHANGE

Our GSE candidate, Gianni Sansonetti, has decided to withdraw from the program. Gianni is the Information Communications Technology Architect for the rebuilding of Box Hill Hospital and has found that he will not have the time available to prepare for the exchange.

We have thanked Gianni for the effort he put into his excellent application and we wish him well for the future.

BOX HILL ART SHOW



The Rotary Club of Box Hill's Art Show is on again from 5-8 July at the Box Hill Town Hall.

Many well-known and lesser-known artists will be displayed and there is the opportunity to purchase just what you need for the wall in the lounge!

EUROPE POLIO-FREE FOR 10 YEARS

This week marks 10 years since the World Health Organisation declared Europe to be free of the poliovirus. But we still have work to do to rid the entire world of this crippling disease.

Robert S. Scott, Rotary International PolioPlus Committee chair, has advised that

"Rotary International is aware of the recent news reports on the polio vaccination program in Pakistan. We continue to work closely with our partners in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative and the government of Pakistan to ensure our progress continues.

The good news is that Pakistan has recorded only half as many new polio cases so far this year as it had at the same time last year — this is the best proof that overall immunization coverage is improving as we adapt to the many challenges we continue to face in Pakistan.

In March, I met with Pakistan President Asif Ali Zardari, who reaffirmed his commitment to polio eradication. I thanked him for his continued support and key appointment of Shahnaz Wazir Ali as the overall point person for polio eradication at the federal level.

Pakistani Rotarians also continue to work diligently toward polio eradication. They are actively working alongside health workers, monitoring immunization activities in their communities. District teams and club president-elects received training earlier this year.

Public awareness events have included polio walks, field hockey tournaments and a "Kick Polio out of Pakistan" football tournament. Pakistan Rotarians have partnered with Coca Cola Pakistan, which donated billboards and signs. And earlier this month, Rotarians helped to secure the signatures of 150 Pakistani Parliamentarians in support of polio eradication.

In particular, Aziz Memon, Rotary's National PolioPlus chair for Pakistan, has been instrumental in shoring up support for the program, working through channels at all levels. He even managed to secure the commitment of Pakistan National Cricket Captain Afridi, an extremely well-known public figure, to participate in our global public awareness campaign, "This Close."

Pakistani and Indian Rotarians also are working together to share best practices and lessons learned from India's recent success at stopping the spread of indigenous polio, an incredible milestone that removed India from the list of polio-endemic countries.

Pakistan too has made great progress toward polio eradication this year, and we will continue to work in every polio-affected country toward our goal of a world where this terrible disease is no longer a threat to children anywhere."

RESEARCH INSIGHT

Through its various research initiatives, Rotary International seeks opinions and ideas from Rotarians and other Friends of Rotary in order to make informed decisions and improvements. The Membership Experience Feedback Survey, an ongoing survey of former Rotarians and a random selection of active Rotarians, highlights the importance of club leaders also gathering input and feedback to improve the club experience. Our data shows a great difference between whether a Rotarian stays or leaves a club depending upon communication within their clubs:

More than 85% of active Rotarians say that their club leaders regularly seek input from members and that members feel comfortable sharing concerns with club leaders

In contrast, about half of the former Rotarians report that they did not feel comfortable sharing concerns with club leaders and the leaders of their former clubs did not seek input from members.

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	-

"PUNOGRAPHY" #

I changed my iPod's name to Titanic. It's syncing now.

When chemists die, they barium.

Jokes about German sausage are the wurst.

A soldier who survived mustard gas and pepper spray is now a seasoned veteran

IMPORTANT UPCOMING CLUB AND DISTRICT EVENTS

30 June 2012	District Governor's Changeover
2 July 2012	Club meeting
9 July 2012	Club Changeover Night
8 July 2012	Egg and Bacon Stall at the Whitehorse Farmers' Market
14 July 2012	Blackburn Craft Market

Many thanks to the Rotary Club of Box Hill Flyer

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