



FOREST HILL HAPPENINGS

No. 22

President: Bill Marsh

30 November 2022

BILL'S BY-LINE



We are to arrange for a speaker to come and talk to the club about the Alma Doepel and its operation. This will give us a little more background to the request for financial support. If we support the project, it would be in conjunction with other clubs in our cluster.

Obviously, we receive many requests for money, most from very worthy organisations, We cannot support them all. The club has a long-standing policy of only supporting causes put forward by committees as part of their budget and those we have heard from that particularly appeal to members. The exception to this has always been special disaster relief requests like flood & fires.

Our Markets are fast approaching and this month the Blackburn Market will be a little different. We are providing egg & bacon alongside the usual sausage sizzle. We will also be selling raffle

tickets for the chocolate hamper. We will need as much support as possible to share the load. Please let John know if you can help.

The WFM will need the usual three volunteers to 'rattle the can'.

Thank you to those members who responded to my begging letter regarding the role of President in 2024-25. My special thanks to those who said they would be willing to share the job. We now appear to have people in place for the next two years.

We have received a request from a car club to run a sausage sizzle for them this coming weekend. I have decided not to proceed with the request. The time line was very short and there were too many unknown factors that needed following up. Eg. Council permits, where it was to be held, division of labour, cost/profit sharing, etc.. Also, we have our own Blackburn Market the following Saturday.

I think this type of activity is exactly what we should look for in the future and I will talk to the car club about possible future events. We just need a little more time to plan ahead.

My thanks to all of the members who volunteered to help out on such short notice. Your willingness to 'pitch in' is greatly appreciated.

A reminder: if you want to change a booking for a club meeting after 5.00pm on the Sunday before the meeting you need to contact Bucatini direct and then let Stuart know of the change.

Bill

December is
Disease prevention & Treatment month
Month

MEETING REPORT

Opening and welcome: Sue Ballard, Chairperson, opened meeting with an acknowledgement of the traditional owners of the land on which we meet and paid respects to elders past, present and emerging. She followed with toasts to Australia and Rotary international.

Sue, on behalf of the club members present, then welcomed the Speaker for the evening, Thomas White, and Ann and Nigel Cousins from RC Peninsula D9820, who were representing the RYLA committee. Unfortunately, Trish Carr and Les Mertens, RYLA D9810 Representations, were an apology due to illness.

Reports:

President Bill Marsh:

spoke on the week's activities. He then asked for members to decide on a request to part sponsor a project for the Tall Ship Alma Doepel.

Decision: to get a speaker from the group to explain more of the details of the project.

Vocation: has sent the invites to the apprentice awardees through Box Hill Institute and is awaiting replies for the dinner on 27th February

Recycling: Ron reported that 60kg of coins have been sent off to UNICEF making the grand total of coins sent as 600kg plus loads of notes.

Ron also is still collecting stamps for recycling and received another 200 tonight.

Foundation and International: Ron and Sue attended a Foundation Webinar.

Report attached.

Bob L reported on a district meeting: membership up 6, 8500 booked for Convention, Inspire Rotary- a new reverse RYLA program, progress with rewards program and cybersecurity

Youth:

Youth Achievements Awards: the 12 schools have sent names of awardees, their citations, and photo permissions. Certificates are ready for framing and laminated citations and vouchers will soon be sent out to schools. Video and USB's are being organised and will also go to each school or to parents. President Bill will attend the Livingstone Awards ceremony on Friday December 2, and present the award in person.

Enviro: a 2023 project being discussed.

Sergeant's session, run by Stuart Williams, was full of cheeky ways to fine members.

Speaker: Thomas White was introduced. His topic was 'The RYLA Experience'. Sue explained that Thomas was our 2019 MUNA 9810 champion and also the MUNA National peace prize winner. He has also spoken at club meetings twice before.



Thomas began by saying he was incredibly grateful and thankful for the opportunities the Rotary Club of Forest Hill had given him. This included RYLA. He felt very privileged materially to have been able to attend, as Rawson Village is situated in a beautiful part of the country, the food was delicious and there was lots of fun with the 60 participants and leaders. But that wasn't all...

Thomas was also grateful for many non-material reasons. Firstly, RYLA was a unique and very worthwhile experience for him.

He got to understand and was given information on

- many Rotary programs
- how best to lead
- how to have deep conversations and understand others more fully.
- how to better engage with peer group and local communities.

He experienced:

- working on new ideas on the Days for Girls project
- hands on, team building, practical ways to engage people
- learning to listen.

He went on to say -

"I have been very lucky throughout my life to have had opportunities to attend a variety of leadership events. For instance, UN Youth, MUNA, Ancora, India.

But RYLA felt different. It was more hands on and practical."

One of the projects was to outline difficulties to current Rotary programs and see if participants could come up with solutions and different ideas. Then work out ways to implement the new ideas into these programs, run them and in time how to expand them.

All 60 RYLA participants felt RYLA was very effective and very supportive of new ideas.

Thomas then talked about the RYLA participants and the atmosphere. He and all the others felt safe, enjoyed the experience of being together, taking care of each other and bonding. Each was moved by other participants and program stories.

The Rawson Village activities were unfortunately cut short due to a COVID outbreak. But programs went online for Thursday and Friday, and on Saturday the students gave their presentations. A day of physical activities and bonding was also run later. In that way the RYLA program was able to be fully completed.

All participants gave feedback and suggestions on the program and they have the chance to attend in 2023 as program leaders. The RYLA colleagues are continuing to communicate and have found ways to keep engaged.

Thomas says "So how do I feel about it now? Incredibly moved, incredibly inspired, incredibly thankful and incredibly grateful for the opportunity the Rotary Club of Forest Hill gave me".

Since RYLA Thomas has found a part time job working at the Centre for Multicultural Youth. He is involved specifically in running diversity workshops to earn money to support other non-paying programs within the organisation.

This week he leaves for India to take part in a University Leadership course.

In 2023 he and Rose Hensher, his ex-MUNA team member, head to Madrid to compete in the World Debating Championships - but they will now be on opposing teams. Rose will represent Melbourne University, while Thomas will represent Monash.

After question time Sue and members thanked Thomas for an excellent and interesting talk and he was presented with a small gift.

Nigel Cousins, RYLA 9820 Chair, then congratulated Thomas and presented him with a framed RYLA certificate. He explained about the 2023 and future RYLA 9810 and 9820 District collaboration, and about the RYLA idea of Youth leading Youth,

Nigel also presented President Bill with a certificate of thanks for the Club support of the RYLA program.

The raffle raised \$37.00. Winners were Sue Ballard, Bill Marsh, Ron Brooks. Sergeant raised \$18.30. Meeting closed at 8.45pm.



A brief note about RYLA. For those who don't know, it's a Leadership program for those aged 18-30.

It focuses on

- Developing young leaders who celebrate diversity, create sustainable change, and become service-minded global citizens.
- Personal development, leadership, and teamwork.
- Provide conflict resolution strategies alongside leadership training.
- Emphasize professional development and connect participants with opportunities to serve the community through Rotary.
- Combine leadership development and vocational training to help young people discover their potential and hone skills.

There are both in-classroom theory activities and outdoor practical activities.

NEXT MEETING

5 December Jackie Gleeson RAM Update

Chairperson: Bob Williams

Greeter: Sue Ballard

Notes for “Happenings” Stuart Williams

Thanks Bob Laslett

Cashier & Recorder: Bob Williams

COMING UP

2 December Film night

10 December Blackburn Market

11 December Whitehorse Farmers’ Market

12 December Rev Tina Lyndon Ng Weird & wonderful travel stories

CELEBRATIONS



Belated congratulations to
Barbara Williams for her
birthday on 29 November!



November is Rotary Foundation Month

We received an invitation to

“Join us when Past Rotary International President Ian Riseley holds a special 1-hour discussion to celebrate Foundation Month with Stephanie Urchick, who will become the President of Rotary International in 2024/25.”

So, Sue and I did along with 33 others by Zoom last Sunday morning. We also had the pleasure of meeting and listening to Tom Gump her Aide. Stephanie is from the Rotary Club of McMurray, Pennsylvania, USA. She has a doctorate in Leadership Studies so we all look forward to being led by a super professional.

She told us we do well promoting Rotary within our organisation but we need to work at promoting ourselves OUTSIDE of Rotary. We heard about PIE. Performance, Image, and Exposure. The Rotary Pie is split 10%, 30% and 60%. 10% is about our Performance and we do that well. 30% is about Image and we have been working hard on that by rebranding and giving ourselves a professional face. It is the remaining 60% on Exposure we now need to work on through the various types of media and we need help from our younger Rotary professionals to do this. We also need our club members to realise the value of Facebook, Instagram, Tik Tok etc and that members need to promote their club and their deeds through their own club website.

RIPN Stephanie is very keen on the Pilot Regionalisation. She was saying how Rotary has recognised that different cultures see things and do things in different ways. We need to “localise” ideas. It is not one size fits all. But also it is called Pilot. That is, we will try something and if it doesn’t work it is not a failure or a disappointment. We have to realise that we have positively learned that way, that idea, that system is not the way to go for us and so let’s not spend more time trying to make it work even though it may have worked for others but let’s try a different way for it to succeed.

She was very keen to encourage Rotarians to make the Rotary Foundation their “**Charity of Choice**”. Stephanie told us that only 28% of Rotarians donate to the Foundation. PPIP Ian did point out that many more do contribute of course via their club contributions and that the district Legacy Society was the 2nd highest uptake in Australia. We were reminded that you can belong to the Paul Harris Society by contributing \$1,000/yr, and Ian mentioned that Australia has a Centurion Club which costs A\$100/yr to belong. He asked Stephanie if the USA has anything similar and she told us of the Polio Plus Society which costs US\$100/yr. We heard of the Ian Riseley Memorial Cup which he laughingly said it did not have the “Memorial” feature just yet ! It was won by D9810 for the highest per capita contribution to Foundation in Zone 8.

We heard about what she called Legacy clubs, that is traditional clubs. She did not want anyone to alienate people or clubs by changing these but we still needed to offer alternative models, alternative groupings, alternative clubs. We heard of Impact Clubs that meet twice a month just to do one project or follow one idea. They still are full fee paying Rotarians and can still go along to any other clubs normal meetings. They could even be a grouping within a club but they only have one concept which they want to follow. PDG Jenny Coburn said the Box Hill Central idea of Volunteering with Friends was such a grouping. There was some talk of getting people outside of Rotary to contribute to the Foundation. Of course, the Bill & Melinda Gates were mentioned and RIPN Stephanie told us that Rotary now has a Director of Principal Gifts targeting people and organisations to give amounts in excess of \$1 million. There were many more topics touched on including Stephanie’s wish to support more Peace Centres and Polio eradication as well as Rotary’s four priority areas in its Action Plan. A well spent one hour listening to where the organisation is going.

Ron Brooks

SPROUTINGS

Have you ever thought to visit Whitehorse Council’s ‘**Your Say Whitehorse**’? Your feedback will help guide Council in the decisions it makes and guide the future of Whitehorse. You can register to receive notifications of new consultations. It’s important to them to consult and engage with the community to help understand their views on a wide range of topics. Currently these topics range from localised issues through to planning for the future needs of the whole municipality.

Consultations include Whitehorse Open Space Strategy; Upgrading Play Space; Whitehorse Development Contributions Plan and Whitehorse Sustainability Strategy 2030 – taking climate action.

Below are some activities you may be interested in:

Habitat for hollow-dependent wildlife in your garden

By [Whitehorse Trees and Urban Forest Education](#)

Date, time and location

Sat., December 17, 2022, 2:30 pm – 4:00 pm AEDT

Blackburn Lake Sanctuary - Visitor Information Centre 95 Central Road Blackburn,

Over 300 animal species in Australia are known to depend on tree hollows for habitat. Natural tree hollows take a long time to develop and unfortunately there is a shortage of hollows in our landscape for many of the species that depend on them.

Join wildlife gardener, Colin Broughton who will present some of the latest research and developments in the understanding of natural tree hollows and the provision of artificial hollows.

Learn more about the importance of retaining large old trees including dead trees, and explore options such as traditional plywood nest boxes, chainsaw hollows, and some exciting new innovations in artificial hollow creation. The aim is to equip wildlife gardeners with practical information to be able to take the next step in addressing this important habitat requirement in the home garden.

It will also be an opportunity to meet other wildlife gardeners and share your stories and experiences with the use of nest boxes or other forms of artificial hollows.



For booking and more information:

[https://urldefense.com/v3/_https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/habitat-for-hollow-dependent-wildlife-in-your-garden-tickets-464766096907_!!M3P2Ca3Qotsy!cE0PNKE6jrw15e30peitHOZlrXiezjs_yUDq7IDmI7RrXxv2cviKi9HvII59BxILj60E1pPeWC2R3eUAheMOsPhx5xWqVuMDcYCEJ5k\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/_https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/habitat-for-hollow-dependent-wildlife-in-your-garden-tickets-464766096907_!!M3P2Ca3Qotsy!cE0PNKE6jrw15e30peitHOZlrXiezjs_yUDq7IDmI7RrXxv2cviKi9HvII59BxILj60E1pPeWC2R3eUAheMOsPhx5xWqVuMDcYCEJ5k$)



Heartland, Frankston – Saturday 3 & Sunday 4 December

[Heartland](#) is an expressive, experimental garden of 350-400 square metres. This garden is influenced by owner Jac Semmler's great passion for plants, rural childhood, generations of plants women and time in Australian landscapes – as Jac says: "my heart lies in my garden".

It is an achievable example of what a gardener can squeeze into a house block, with a vegie patch, cut flowers, potting shed, chicken coop, and a green wall all tucked into the backyard. Also check out the event [Planting Tours with Jac Semmler](#) on the Friday before the garden opening.

Where: 9 Francis Street, Frankston VIC 3199

Times: 10am - 4.30pm

Entry: \$10 Adults/\$6 Students/Under 18 free

Book here via [Trybooking](#)



Tranquillity, Narre Warren North Saturday 3 & Sunday 4 December

[Tranquillity](#) is a gorgeous garden where you'll find a diverse range of plantings. There's a mature golden oak, a crabapple tunnel and a stunning lake with water lilies and resident turtles!

You'll also find a lush vegetable garden, orchard and chooks. This garden has magnificent views of the Dandenong Ranges.

Some proceeds from this opening will be donated to [The Narre Warren Scout Group](#).

Where: 149 A'Beckett Rd, Narre Warren North Vic 3804

Times: 10am - 4.30pm

Entry: \$10 Adults/\$6 Students/Under 18 free

Book here via [Trybooking](#)

That's all for this week folks, Glenys

RCFH BLACKBURN STATION CRAFT MARKET – TRADER OF THE MONTH

BROWNIES NOW!

Julie started Brownies Now ! a Mount Waverley based business in June this year and has steadily gained a loyal customer base at the markets she attends and through her online presence. All her brownies are made from natural ingredients with no added preservatives, so they make a great treat for all. Julie caters for all consumers with her tasty treats including gluten free and vegan. Vegan is only available online at present. She does catering, events, weddings, and grazing boxes plus has an adult liqueur range. Her full selection is available online with select varieties available at markets.

“From making pikelets, scones and cupcakes with my mum when I was a child, to working in a cake shop in Scotland during high school, I've always had a love of cakes and baking” Julie said. This comes through in the finished products, which are baked with a high level of care and attention. Her years of baking experience have gone into developing a range of delicious flavours, and new ones are constantly being worked on and developed to provide you with something new.

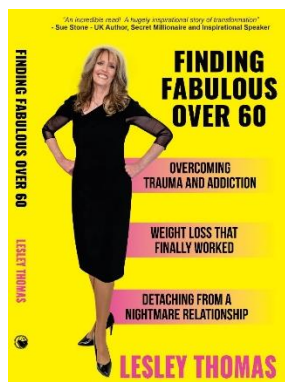
Julie does other markets including Mount Waverley, Hawthorn, and Berwick regularly and is finding her customers are returning regularly and referring others to indulge in her treats.



You can email her at browniesnow@outlook.com and find her on

Website www.browniesnow.online
instagram.com/brownies_now_julie/
facebook.com/browniesnow.julie/

SOME OF OUR BLACKBURN MARKET STALLHOLDERS



Come to the Market next month- December 10