



FOREST HILL HAPPENINGS

No. 23

President: Bill Marsh

7 December 2022

BILL'S BY-LINE



On Monday we had Jackie Gleeson as our Guest Speaker to provide the club with an update on RAM and their future plans. The club has been a long-time supporter of the program and so it was good to hear a speaker who was so passionate about their work. Thank You, Jackie.

Our club bbq to start 2023 will be held at the home of Ron & Robbie Brooks on the 9th January. Ron will provide further details closer to the date.

A very pleasant, and unexpected, surprise yesterday when I rang David Winter to talk to him about bread vs rolls for the egg & bacon at our market. David told me which he thought was better and then told me he was happy to donate the bread we would need. A very generous offer that I was happy to accept.

Sadly, we have just been notified that Bob Williams will be leaving the club after 32 years of service. We thank Bob for all that he has done for the club over the years and wish him well for the future. In recent years, Bob has been the driving force behind the club's involvement in the RYDA program.

On Friday I presented the first of our 2022 Youth Achievement Awards at Livingstone Primary School. This was a lovely occasion at a 'whole school' assembly. The recipient was unaware of the award and was so surprised and thrilled that she was recognized by her school that we saw genuine 'tears of joy' – a lovely moment. The fact that her parents and grandparents were present completed a very special day for Amelie Nassiokas.



On Tuesday evening I attended the Awards Presentation at Forest Hill College. This is always a very well-run event that highlights the achievements of the school and the students over the year. Two of the special awards were the Ford Davis Awards and the Stan Harper Awards. The Principal and staff member who made the awards also gave a brief background to the life and work of Ford and Stan that led to the awards. I was very pleased to be invited onto the stage to present the two Ford Davis Awards to Emma Rossi and Caeden Roberts. The winners of the Stan Harper Awards were Lhiana Rondina and Carla Di Battista.

Saturday sees us 'off to the markets'. First our Blackburn Market on Saturday and then the WFM on Sunday. Both will be busy days and, with good weather, very successful days.

Enjoy the week ahead.

Bill

December is
Disease prevention & Treatment month
Month

MEETING REPORT

Bucatini was packed and we had 12 people present... Warwick was an apology due to being a close COVID contact. It was wonderful to have John Bindon's delightful daughter, Kerry, with us. Jacqui Gleeson from RAM was our guest speaker.

Bob Williams opened the meeting with toasts and recognition of country. President Bill mentioned the first meeting in 2023 – a BBQ at Ron and Robbie's home. In response to resignation intention letter from Bob Williams, President Bill thanked Bob for his 32 years of expansive Rotary work and leadership. The meeting endorsed Bill's comments.

Glenys gave reports on youth and the environment. She enthusiastically reported on a visit to a plastics recycler in Carrum Downs. The presentations of youth awards would be videoed after our meeting tonight. They will be delivered to schools on a USB.

Sue mentioned that 2 of the 3 Box Hill Institute awardees have contacted her. Bob Laslett handed out sheets to assist making a donation to Uniting East Burwood for hampers.

Bob Williams conducted a Sgt's session that raised \$30.40.

Jacqui presented a detailed Power point presentation on RAM-- Rotarians against Malaria. District 9810 got involved in RAMS- 2002. Its mission is to Eliminate Malaria. The mandate we have concentrated on has been to eliminate malaria in partner countries – PNG, Solomon Islands, Timor Leste, Timor West (Indonesia) and Vanuatu.

Australia had been certified malaria free in 1981.

Australia has been instrumental in promoting LLINS- Long Lasting Insecticide Nets... evidence indicates that 69% of cases have been averted when nets were used correctly. Other efforts concentrated on spraying and cleaning up villages, and indoor residual spraying. A lot of emphasis was also put into awareness and developing plans to fight malaria. Clubs are encouraged to identify projects and raise funds.

In 2020 there were 241 million cases of malaria world-wide. It has been estimated that there were 670,000 deaths from malaria in 2020... and in that statistic- 1320 child deaths PER DAY.

Malaria eradication made a promising start in PNG, but it gradually lost its way. Disappointingly there was a 16% rise in cases in 2020... plenty of work still to do. The Solomon Islands have put a plan in place and are optimistically aiming to eliminate malaria by 2030. Work in Timor Leste started in 2000 and it has been successful. They hope to be certified malaria free by 2025. Work in Vanuatu in 2020—there was a 40% reduction in 2020. There— “more hope than despair”. In West Timor (Indonesia) there were 20,000 cases in 2020. In 2022- 131. Very, very successful.

Recent RAM work has involved researching 20 vaccines. In September one vaccine has had official approval in the UK. A child vaccine unfortunately has only a 40% efficacy.

District 9810 aims to raise \$20,000 in 2022-23. On 30 April 2023 –Malaria Awareness Day will be celebrated.



Bob Laslett thanked Jacqui.

Our raffle winners were-- Sue Ballard, Bob Williams, Bill Marsh. The raffle raised \$52.

The meeting closed 8.15 pm and then the video award messages – read by Stuart Williams, Sue Ballard, Bob Laslett, Barbara Searle and Glenys Grant - were recorded by Bob Williams Stuart

NEXT MEETING

12 December	Rev Tina Lyndon Ng	Weird & wonderful travel stories
Chairperson:	Warwick Stott	
Greeter:	Glenys Grant	
Notes for “Happenings”	John Bindon	
Thanks	John McPhee	
Cashier & Recorder:	Bob Williams	

COMING UP

10 December	Blackburn Market
11 December	Whitehorse Farmers’ Market
9 January	Club BBQ at Ron’s

CELEBRATIONS



Congratulations to Judy Laslett and Sue Ballard for their birthdays on 9 and 11 December respectively.



Fiji Eyes

Peter Malden reports that the Fiji Society for the Blind have scoped out the medical screening training and the actual course will be run just before Christmas.

SPROUTINGS

On Monday December 6, the **Environment Education Officers of Parks and Natural Environment and Whitehorse Council** organised a training day for the Environment Education volunteers.

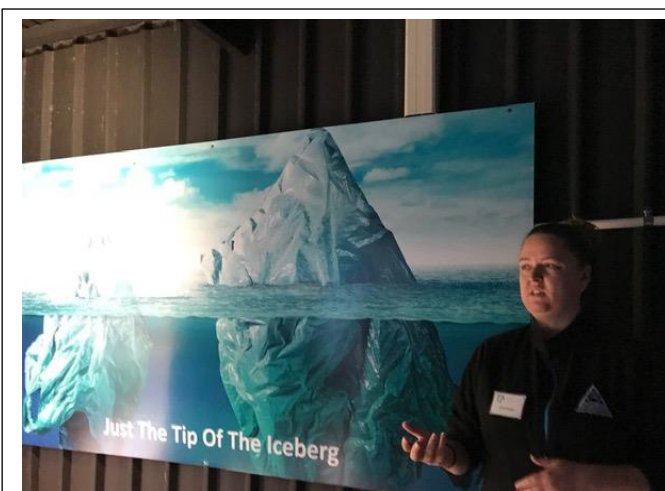
It was held at the **REPLAS Environmental Centre (REC)** in Carrum Downs, which is the largest plastic recycling centre in the southern hemisphere. For more than 28 years this company has produced a range of over 200 products and has grown to become one of Australia's leading recycled plastic product manufacturers.

It has since developed world leading technologies to reprocess Australia's plastic waste into robust recycled plastic products for outdoor use. The products produced offer an ethical alternative to the unnecessary use of virgin materials and provide long-lasting advantages to customers.

Now you all probably knew – but I didn't - that recycled plastic is resistant to termites, microorganisms and moisture, and will never split, rot, crack or need painting. It lasts for 40 years and won't fade, due to the dyes used in the processing. I was impressed. REC delivers an inspirational experience in our interactive world of plastic recycling. It gave me an opportunity to discover some of the answers to the problems faced by our planet.

Learning outcomes for the tour included:

- The impact of plastic waste on our environment
- Landfill and current waste management principles in Australia
- The classification of the seven different types of plastic
- Soft plastics and how they can be recycled
- Recycled plastic manufacturing processes and the benefits of a circular economy
- Viewing a range of products in the showroom that were created from Australian plastic waste
- Simple things we can all do at home and within the community to help create a more sustainable future.



Our Replas tour leader was **Christie O'Neill**, an Environmental Scientist and excellent teacher. We first went on a tour through a number of small rooms in a tunnel like structure. Each room featured a different facet of the complex issue of plastic and what to do with it. We then went into the display showroom to view some of the items manufactured from recycled plastic. In this venue we had lunch – ordered in from outside vendors – and had a chance to ask more questions of Christie.



What we learnt:

Plastic is a ubiquitous material in our lives. From microfibres in the clothes we wear to the containers our food comes in, there's no escaping plastic in the modern world.

- 99% of plastic is made from fossil fuels.
- This throwaway material is endangering our clean air, oceans, waterways, communities and wildlife.
- The grades and types of plastics.
- Soft plastics, and the current issues with recycling these.
- Microplastics – pieces of plastic 5mm or smaller – and their impacts on wildlife and humans. Their weathering – mechanical, microbial and photodegradation. Their polluting of fish and in the sedimentation on the ocean floor, the polluting of shellfish. These microplastic fragments also float in the air, adhering to all surfaces, including grass which our meat producing animals eat and the vegetable market gardens.
- Every year we add frightening millions of kilos of plastic to the ocean, and as of 2022, every square kilometre of our ocean contains over 45,000 individual pieces of plastic. **Scientists estimate that by 2050 there will be more plastic than fish in the ocean.**
- There are approximately 50-75 trillion pieces of plastic and microplastics currently in the ocean, with a huge amount of plastic pollution also floating on the water surface.

And then we learnt some solutions – which was a relief! The Circular Economy..

The final part of the day was viewing a short video of the REPLAS factories in country Victoria. The bus ride home was full of discussion about what we had seen and heard.



The REC offers guided group tours packed with valuable education for councils, businesses and service clubs, community groups and schools.

I understand it's been very popular with District 9820 Rotarians. Contact me at glen.grant008@gmail.com if you want more information.

That's all for this week, 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.

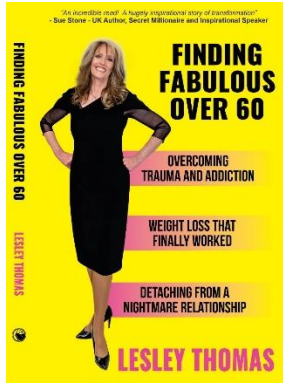


You can email her at browniesnow@outlook.com and find her on

Website www.browniesnow.online
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SOME OF OUR BLACKBURN MARKET STALLHOLDERS





Come to the Market this month- December 10