



FOREST HILL HAPPENINGS

No. 24

President: John Bindon

19 January 2022

MOVING FORWARD



I trust your Festive season and New Year were enjoyable and the weather was great!

I would like to extend my best wishes for a year that is more peaceful and stable as we serve our communities.

I would like to thank all members who gave up their time for the preparation & presentation of school awards which were handed out at the end of last year. Quite often things happen behind the scenes that other members are not aware of.

On Monday night the club enjoyed their first meeting of the new year on ZOOM, with the highlight of the meeting being Selba-Gondoza Luka, speaking on the integration of African youth in our communities.

Thanks again to all board and club members and their families for their support of the club in this first six months of my presidential year. We hope to complete this rotary year with gusto and hopefully for the year out with an increase in membership, this will be my main objective in the remainder of this rotary year.

As we start 2022, unfortunately, our meetings will be on zoom for the next 2 or 3 weeks before we can meet in a face to face in a COVID-safe way, and I'm looking forward to the opportunity of catching up with you in person.

It is now the time to consider being bold and creative about embarking on "whole of club" projects. There is no doubt that when every member takes part in a particular special club project, no matter how big or small the participation, the best results are achieved.

The camaraderie and unified sense of purpose and achievement gained from giving back to our communities is what binds Rotarians together and cements our commitment to service above self.

And don't forget to involve potential new members, community partners, Friends of Rotary, and of course family members in your "whole of club" projects so that they too can share that unique sense of what being a Rotarian is all about.

Finally, in January, we focus on Vocational Service as the essence of Rotary and the foundation from which we serve our communities around the world.

Welcome to 2022 and have a great week everyone!

Pres. John Bindon

MEETING REPORT

We had eleven members zoom in plus our guest speaker Selba-Gonzalez Luka.

Selba is a charter member of the Rotary Passport Club of Melbourne.

Pres. John proposed our usual two toasts then Chair Bob L introduced Selba.

She invited us to be open to African-Australian people and told us about the organisation she started, African-Australia Care which helps by building bridges and strengthening community ties. The organisation provides health and wellbeing support, servicing at risk African/Oz youth and their families.

They promote a sense of belonging, assist with resettlement challenges and unresolved trauma from their country of origin. They also help with language barriers, dysfunctional families, racism, domestic violence, unemployment, substance abuse and assist those in prison and contemplating suicide.

Selba spoke of the need to prepare young Africans for leadership roles.

In 2007 there were 80 South Sudanese in prison, and this has increased to 400 in 2018.

They promote new arrivals to get involved with community organisations and sporting clubs and started a mothers and daughters focus group plus several community gardens.

Selba has connections with Rotary clubs of Melbourne, Prahran, North Melbourne, Canterbury, Glen Eira and Camberwell plus Rotary Cross Cluster.

She has won various awards for her work such as Greater Dandenong Citizen of the Year for 2021.

Support sought in the way of donations plus help with programs including community gardens.

Website is <http://afri-auscare.org>

Stuart gave a vote of thanks, and we all applauded her inspirational address.



Reports

Sec Stuart reported that even Santa hasn't sent us any correspondence nor emails that require follow up.

Treasurer Warwick has a few accounts to pay.

Bob L reported that there may be a call to assist Tonga.

Sue said that our Apprenticeship dinner has been postponed, quiet in Community said Pres John and Glenys told us that RYLA has been postponed and our Rotary Oz day involvement cancelled. She wondered if there may be an environment opportunity with one of Selba's community gardens.

John Mc reported that we hope the February market happens with stall fees increased to \$25 and John B has spoken to a possible volunteer.

February WFM coming up reported Warwick and Sue reported that our assistance will still be required partnering Nunawading club giving away free snags at Bunnings on Oz day.

Ron reported that a local Blackburn church is open to us storing our trailer there.

Bob W expressed personal disappointment that the board still considers it a good idea for members to unload and load the heavy bbq, gas bottle, tables, marquee etc from the trailer and continue running the Blackburn bbq for the return we get. He felt that the recent stallholder price increase would cover the bbq return. Bob will not be having anything more to do with the bbq if it continues at the market.

Ron advised of our club forum next week

Stuart contacted Bucatini to advise of our zooming for the time being with a two word reply from them of "Stay Safe". He said we also need to keep on with our idea of utilising a display box at the Nunawading Library.

Bill suggested we may like to visit the community garden at Dandenong that Selba's group run which we all thought a good idea.

Meeting concluded with members updates on their doings over the break.

Bob Williams



[Scan Me!](#)

January is Vocational Service Month

NEXT MEETING

24th January – Club Forum

Chairperson: John Bindon
Notes for Happenings: Bob Laslett

COMING UP

31st January - Bucatini Dinner (TBC)

CELEBRATIONS



Congratulations to:
John and Kathy D who celebrated birthdays.
Bob W and John B who celebrated joining Rotary.
John for the second or third time!
Bob and Judy L and Bill and Judy M who celebrated their wedding anniversaries.



SPROUTINGS

This edition is focused on our **Environmental Sustainability Rotary Action Group (ESRAG)**.

Rotary formed ESRAG to encourage members of the Rotary family worldwide to help sustain our environment and to stabilize our climate.

ESRAG has divided the world into 12 Chapters of which ESRAG ANZPI is one.

ESRAG provides an organizing point and informational resources to share information with clubs and communities about sustainable practices and the global humanitarian crisis of climate change.

Currently there are 12 main projects featured on the ESRAG website.

Here is one to think about.



When Bee Powerful Pollinators Guides

[Visit Website](#)

Description

The When Bee Foundation is currently asking Rotary Clubs or Districts to fund the development of planting guides for both Regional and Metropolitan Bioregions around Australia

IDEA: Follow the lead of District 9800 and fund the development of guides for Metropolitan Melbourne and the [NSW central slopes, Murray-Riverina and N E Victoria](#)

[Contact Us](#) At ANZPI for more information

IDEA: Take the existing Planting Guides and organize a Tree Planting Project for your club to help create Pollinator Pathways in Victoria.

<https://esrag.org/project/wheen-bee-powerful-pollinators-guides/>

ESRAG action model: Identify environmental leaders within the Rotary world, assist them in initiating environmental service projects that are meaningful to THEM, help where we can, and acknowledge and publicise their crucial work.

ESRAG Environmental Ambassadors Training Course

Edited version. Original article by Patricia Armstrong

Early in 2021, a team of educators from Australia came up with the idea of providing a training course for ESRAG members to prepare them to go out into their clubs, districts and communities to promote greater involvement in environmental projects.

After consultation with Zone 8 advisors and DGs, followed by a focus group, the team set to work to design, promote and deliver a pilot course to a bunch of passionate Rotarians and Rotaractors across Australia and New Zealand.

The course took over three months of planning and has now been delivered to a class of 29 enthusiastic participants,

It included an introductory one-hour module followed by seven core modules, delivered over four, three-hour workshops. Topics covered the new Environment Area of Focus, functions of Ambassadors, change management, research skills, presentation skills, facilitation skills, project management and integrating environment into club planning.

The team developed comprehensive resources, such as information packs, workshop run sheets, PowerPoint presentations and other materials for each module. The facilitators made good use of interactive software!

Between workshops, the participants were expected to complete short assessment tasks and to meet in small groups with a trained mentor.

In order to be certified as an Ambassador, participants were required to attend all the workshops, complete all assessment tasks and attend an additional three elective courses.

The first Ambassadors were certified in December 2021 and the rest will progressively gain certification over the coming months, as they attend the required elective courses.

Evaluation of the training course indicated that the course was highly valued by the participants.

Dr Pat Armstrong and Dr Thelma Raman were the Co-team Leaders. Having thoroughly reviewed the pilot course, the team will make some changes to the content and structure for future courses.

The next step will then be to develop a Train the Trainer course for educators in other regional chapters. For more information go to the ESRAG Oceania website:

<https://emembersdb.com/story/ezBulletinMore.cfm?StoryID=587> Glenys Grant



RCFH BLACKBURN STATION CRAFT MARKET – TRADER OF THE MONTH

THE HAZELNUT TREE

The Hazelnut Tree is a small business based here in the eastern suburbs of Melbourne producing handmade soaps and body products. Hazel has been a regular with us at the Blackburn Craft Market for eight years and her products can also be purchased from the “Market Fair” 2/794 Burwood Hwy, Ferntree Gully. She lives just around the corner. At busy times she ropes in her children and husband to help on the stall making it a family affair.

As you can see from the photographs, there is a beautiful unique range of soaps poured and cut by hand. She makes her soaps using the traditional cold process method from olive oil, castor oil, coconut oil, avocado oil and hemp seed oil – no palm oil here. Hazel then uses natural colours, plant extracts and essential oils. The range also includes liquid soaps, shampoo bars, moisturisers, lip balms and more. She has an unscented range for people with sensitivities.

Hazel will be happy to talk to you about any of her products as she personally makes them. Come along to the Blackburn Craft market or email her. To make things simple, you can pay by EFTPOS.

Hazel can be contacted by email on hazel@thehazelnuttree.net and take a look at her website www.thehazelnuttree.net



We will be back soon - COME TO THE MARKET

