



Scan Me!!

## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

As we begin a new calendar year there are a lot of exciting things ahead. The first thing coming up is the Australia Day celebrations. A number of us from the club are helping out at a bbq organised by RC Nunawading and RC Manningham in conjunction with the City of Whitehorse. Not only does the public get to enjoy our bbq skills for a gold coin donation, we get to showcase Rotary in the district. Any money raised goes to a local charity. If you aren't at Surrey Park or Halliday Park, I hope you can sit back and think about the good fortune we have to live here. The day will start at 10.30am and conclude around 3.00pm.

In April we are part of the baton relay with the other cluster clubs. There will be 2 batons; one starting in the east of the cluster and the other starting in the west I am making some adjustments to the route trying to cover major places of importance to the club. I want you to start thinking about who we can ask to share the experience. It's not just for us but for our families, friends, Community leaders, stall holders, school teachers, students and anyone else to help move the baton through the area. We want to get as many people as we can walking, cycling or shuffling. Even a small number of steps helps.

There are other things happening including an award at Deakin for service to the community. More detail in the weeks ahead.

Reflect now on what Rotary means to you and how you want to commemorate. It's your celebration.

Sue Ballard

### **MEETING REPORT**

Subdued excitement and pleasure filled the air at Bucatini. We were back. Ivan was there, lovely Secoma, waited on the tables, the amazing Ray Smith was there to greet us and collect our dinner fees and virtually the whole club was there- Bill was intrastate supporting the economy of our country towns. It was a pleasure to share a meal together and be able to uniformly groan at the Sarg's jokes.

Bob Laslett was in the chair.

Bob welcomed our visitors: Assist DG – Geoff and guests of John Bindon- Barbara Power and Donna Hall.

President Sue offered toasts to: RI for how it has coped with COVID, Australia how it has coped with COVID and us—yes us, for how we have continued to operate as a Rotary club through the COVID challenges. Sue also thanked Barbara for hosting our informal meeting last week at her delightful home.

Reports:

Treasurer - Warwick: We have paid our club invoices to R.I. and RDU

Sec - Stuart: A small amount of mail passed on, and Consumer Affairs Report to be tackled.

Vocational - Barbara: Nothing to report

International/Foundation - Bob Laslett: Hope Katolo impacted by COVID but progressing the Rotary signs. FIJI impacted by cyclone and our eye project progressing.

Community - Stuart: Our Gysi-Davis scholarship cheques were delivered to BHHS before the end of the school year. The proposed Rotary Awareness project will be discussed by the club in the near future.

Youth - Bob Williams: Reported on the successful Youth Achievement Award presentations- via memory stick and one in person presentation.

Program - Ron: No meeting next Monday – Australia Day eve.

Ron also reported on stamps and coins and implored people to trim the stamps.

WFM: Our club is on Egg and Bacon duty on 8 February.

Sgt Bob conducted an entertaining fines session.

Guest Speaker was Kiel Egging- a journalist and PP of New Gen- a Rotary Club Nunawading offshoot.

Kiel mentioned the Baton Relay – 11 April.

He has been a journalist since 2008. He started at the Shepparton News- 2009-11. 2012- 13 with Music Feeds, Australian Times- 2013-14, Colac Herald 2015-16. It was there he "experienced Rotary".

In 2016 he moved to Leader Community News. He is still there- but they have disappeared from Blackburn and Braeside. Kiel works from home, but could visit a desk in the HWT building at Southbank.

Sadly, community newspapers are no more. The internet has turned news consumption on its head. He's a Gen Y and first thing each morning checks his Facebook. Other challenges to papers are You Tube, Vimeo, Podcasts and News Alerts.

At Leader there were changes and redundancies every six months.

Most of the content now is – Subscriber only. He sees a future with maybe, at best, a weekly newsletter. Print is dying and maybe there will only be weekend papers in the future (So sad, I get 2 newspapers on a Sunday.)

How can we stay in touch with local news? Become a subscriber, follow the "Whitehorse Leader" on Facebook.

You can subscribe via - heraldsun.com.au/leader

Journalists looking after Whitehorse Leader are kimberley.seedy@news.com.au

#### Or Kiel.egging@news.com.au

Barbara Searle thanked Kiel and presented him with one of Ray's pens. The Sgt raised \$25.75 and the Raffle \$37.

Winners – Geoff Logie-Smith, Stuart W, and Barbara W.



Guest Speaker: Kiel Egging

# January is Vocational Service month.

### **NEXT MEETING**

Our next meeting will be 6.30pm at Bucatini Restaurant on 1<sup>st</sup> February. Guest speaker will be Ben Stennett speaking on the 'History of Whitehorse'.

#### **COMING UP**

25th January-<br/>26th January-No Club Meeting26th January-<br/>1st February-Australia Day Celebration at Surrey Park – 10.30am to 3.00pm1st February-<br/>8th February-Club Meeting at Bucatini Restaurant – Guest speaker Ben Stennett.8th February-<br/>15th February-Apprentice Awards Night.15th February-Trivia Night

### **CELEBRATIONS**

A busy start to 2021. Bob Williams & John Bindon have both celebrated their Rotary birthdays while we have been having a break. Bob & Judy Laslett and Bill & Judy Marsh have had their Wedding Anniversary. John & Kathy Donaghey and Kira Finke (no longer members but still friends of the club) have had birthdays. Congratulations to you all.



## YOUTH

Great to see our programs do have an impact.

Dear Glenys and the Rotary Club of Forest Hill,

Hope you are doing well and have had a good holiday period. I am just writing to give an update on my progress since we last met. You're financial support back in 2017 and 2018, both with the Scholarship and NYSF backing, has helped me immensely. Not only did I get a once in a lifetime opportunity at the National Youth Science Forum, but your support has helped me excel in the science disciplines in my tertiary education. I am currently heading into my third year at Monash University, planning to major in Immunology as a part of my Bachelor of Science undergraduate degree. I have attached a letter that I received today from the Monash Faculty and thought I would give you and the members of your Rotary Club an insight into how your support has benefited my development, both in academia and in greater life, considerably.

I wanted to take this chance again to thank you for your devotion and support to myself and others like me. It is greatly appreciated and something I will never take for granted.

Yours Sincerely,

Rock Wilkins and Emma Borland

Dear MR WILKINS, On behalf of the Department of Immunology and Pathology, we would like to congratulate you on the excellent result achieved for IMM2022: Immunology in health and disease, in semester 2, 2020. You were ranked in the top 10% of students in a class of 332. Your mark is a culmination of the high standard of work consistently submitted throughout the semester and the final exam; and for which you should be proud. We hope you enjoyed IMM2022 and agree that the immune system and its components has impact in many and varied areas of disease and health. If you are considering future studies in immunology, we have a suite of level 3 units on offer that will extend your immunology, critical for a deeper understanding of both immunological and many inflammatory based diseases. In semester 1 we offer IMM3031 and IMM3051. In semester 2 we offer IMM3042 and IMM3062. In addition, IMM3990 is a research-based unit and offers students experience in a research laboratory to undertake a research project. This may be located within any one of the large range of laboratories spread across the faculty, departments and clinical schools who conduct immunology-based research. For more details on these units and the potential to continue into honours, feel free to talk with any of the coordinators. Again, congratulations and please do not hesitate to speak with us, or any of our unit coordinators about your future studies in Immunology.

Warmest regards,

## **SPROUTINGS**

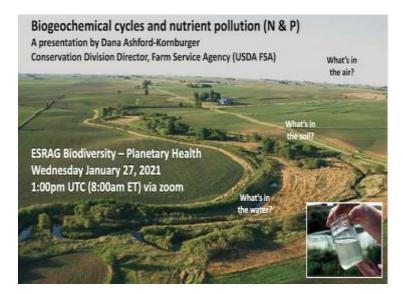
Speakers 16 Feb. 2020 USA: 15 Feb.

## Climate strategies – Beyond politics

Transforming US & Australian perspectives



With the incoming Biden Administration signalling that fighting climate change will be a top priority, the February Climate and Peace Forum brings together three renowned speakers to discuss the connections between U.S. and Australian climate policies, and to offer an equity lens. Register for this free webinar <u>here</u>.



Nitrogen and phosphorus are essential elements, but when they are found in excessive amounts, they can be environmental pollutants.

The presentation will overview nitrogen and phosphorus as potential pollutants to air, water, and soil and discuss some of the options and sensible approaches in reducing their negative impacts.

In terms of planetary boundaries, nitrogen and phosphorus are beyond their acceptable limits for environmental health.



*"Like Rotarians, birds connect our world."* International Fellowship of Bird-watching Rotarians President Julie West

Since 1970, the Continents of the world have experienced a staggering loss of bird populations. This signals a broad crisis in the natural world, echoed by losses in insect, amphibian, and other wildlife populations. We know that conservation actions work, and there is no time to lose. Tune in to learn about everyday actions that Rotarians can enact to help restore a bird-friendly planet, as well as community-based initiatives that are primed for Rotary club involvement.

### **RCFH BLACKBURN STATION CRAFT MARKET – TRADER OF THE MONTH**





#### The Bee-autiful Basin Backyard

Nine years ago Michael asked Meredith for a beehive for his 50<sup>th</sup> birthday present because he didn't want to keep hand pollinating their trees and plants on their ¼ acre block in the foothills of the Dandenong ranges. Who would have realised that it would lead to a new career and the launch of The Basin Backyard, with over 240 beehives throughout Victoria, 10 regular markets a month, and a shop in Knoxfield (Unit 1, 31 Rushdale St).

Michael & Meredith told me "at the Basin Backyard, we sell pure raw honey & bees wax and related products e.g. lollies containing our honey (eg. honey & eucalyptus drops, nougat & peanut brittle). As well as our beeswax which we make into candles & food wraps. We are the beekeepers so we are hands-on for the whole process, from looking after our *bee-autiful* bees, harvesting the honey & jarring the honey and collecting the wax which is in our products. We are located in The Basin and we have 240+ beehives throughout Victoria. Whilst we have 5 hives on our property, the majority of them are local in the Dandenong ranges and we also have them on properties in NW Victoria, the Mornington peninsula, Gippsland and various other locations in Victoria where our bees can collect different varieties of flora for our different tasting honeys. Come and have a chat to us about our bees, our honey, our wax, our lollies & the value of bees in our environment."

They will organise bee swarm collection, they have bee keeping supplies. Usefully, you can pay by card.

www.tbbyard.com.au 0419 607 807

www.facebook.com/Thebasin1backyard/



instagram.com/tbbyard/

