



# FOREST HILL HAPPENINGS

No. 31

President: John Bindon

09 March 2022

## MOVING FORWARD



Welcome members, partners, and guests.

At last, life is returning to normal, thanks to all those that are now triple Vaccinated.

As of March 28th. We are planning to resume face-to-face meetings at Bucatini, as there are no longer any density restrictions so, we can have as many people in the meeting room as you like.

Of course, this does not mean that Coronavirus has disappeared, therefore we must act responsibly to ensure that our people are safe from virus.

Great to see that some of our programs are beginning to return such as the Breakfast Club, Apprenticeship Awards, MUNA, RYDA etc. we look forward to hearing the news of these activities in "Happenings"!

As a club we need to look at avenues of support of our fellow Rotarians with the devastating floods in New South Wales /Queensland, and the Ukrainian people who are suffering so badly with their country being invaded.

### Rotary Matters.

Dear John,

As one of the world's largest humanitarian organizations, Rotary has made peace the cornerstone of our global mission. We are deeply concerned about the Ukraine crisis and need your help.

Rotary is made up of people of action, especially in difficult times. In response to the deepening refugee crisis, The Rotary Foundation Trustees have decided to prioritize contributions made to the [Disaster Response Fund](#) until 30 April 2022 to support disaster response grants for districts affected by these events. These expedited [disaster response grants](#) can be used to supply water, food, medicine, shelter, and clothing.

John Glenn

Trustee Chair, 2021-22

The Rotary Foundation





June 27th to July 2nd, 2022, will see the new RYLA Leadership Seminar held for participants aged 18-30.

The 2022 program will be held in conjunction with District 9820.

The RYLA program has had an amazing history of inspiring the leaders of tomorrow by providing them with the tools to develop leadership, vocational and teamwork skills through in-classroom theory and outdoor activities during a 6-day residential program. To find out more about this program and how to apply to attend speak to Glenys Grant, Youth chairperson for the Rotary Club of Forest Hill.

**John Bindon**

## **2022 ROTARY CONFERENCE**

### **DG Dr Daryl Moran launches his exciting 2022 Family of Rotary Conference.**

The conference is to be held at Caulfield Racecourse on the 25th and 26th March 2022. Its theme is *'Healthy World and Healthy People'*. The conference will be online on the Friday night with in-person conference sessions and breakouts on the Saturday, concluding with a Gala Dinner which can be booked independently of the conference. There is an amazing line up of impressive keynote speakers. More information can be found at <https://dg9810for2021-22.org/conference-program/>

Conference Tickets are \$140 for Rotarians, \$70 for Rotaractors  
Gala Dinner Tickets are \$100.

**Here is the 2022 District Conference Registrations link to the Trybooking website:**  
<https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/809916?bof=1>

## **MEETING REPORT**

All members except Ron Brooks were able to zoom in. We had two guest speakers, Vicky Zhou and Danny Chow from LINK Community and Transport. They have been operating for 40 years as a not-for-profit community organisation. Their main clients are the over 65's. They are transported to a range of places and activities... hospital visits, medical appointments and social outings. It also enables people to get back into the community. Recently it has entered into the in-home services field. Their clients come by referrals from Human Services and other government agencies.

They hope to be soon operating from Box Hill and Clayton. They currently operate in the north and west of Melbourne. Their drivers are mainly volunteers. Volunteers also can be Driver Assistants, Outing assistants and social support workers. Volunteers are trained and provided with a uniform. They are expected to work at least one day a week and give a minimum of one year of service. Some have stayed 10 years, while the average is 4 years.

Vicky and Danny tag-teamed well and provided an interesting presentation.

At 7.30 we opened our club meeting. President John called for 2 toasts, RI and Australia.

President John and Bill reported on the site visit to accommodate the Healesville BBQ trailer.

Secretary Stuart reported- register for conference, we have received the Shelter Box report, and the merger letter regarding our Rotary district. In the future we will be District 8015.

Treasurer Warwick will pay our Post Office Box invoice.

Barbara Searle is still waiting for responses from our Box Hill Institute Apprentice Award winners.

Glenys is looking for detailed information regarding MUNA for 2022.

John and Warwick mentioned our markets this weekend. Saturday at Blackburn will be without the sausage sizzle.

For our library display in June we will need large photos and at least 150 words.

Footy Tipping is on again. We have a couple of new Tipsters. Please ask your family and friends to be part of the fun. Contact ESPN- Kickgoals20 is our competition.

Bob Williams reported that RYDA is up and running again. Many club members have volunteered to assist.

After our normal banter the meeting closed at 8pm.

**Stuart Williams**

**NOTE:** There will be no newsletter published next week. The next edition will be on the 23<sup>rd</sup> March following our meeting with Una Hobday. Please send reports and photos etc. to Bob Laslett at [rlaslett@optusnet.com.au](mailto:rlaslett@optusnet.com.au)



Scan Me!

**March is Water & Sanitation Month**

## CELEBRATIONS



*A quiet time for birthday celebrations at RCFH.*

*Instead turn your thoughts to all of the people in Australia and throughout the world who have been affected by flood and war.*



## NEXT MEETING

**14<sup>th</sup> Mar – No Meeting – Labour Day Holiday**

21<sup>st</sup> Mar – PDG Una Hobday – Food Action Group (Zooming in from Tasmania)

Chair: Stuart Williams

Thanks: Sue Ballard

Report: Glenys Grant

## COMING UP

28<sup>th</sup> Mar – Members reporting back on District Conference (Bucatini)

4<sup>th</sup> Apr – Apprentice Awards Evening (Bucatini)

11<sup>th</sup> Apr – Ian Crawford – “Birds in the Suburbs” TBC (Bucatini)

18<sup>th</sup> Apr – No Meeting (Easter Monday)

25<sup>th</sup> Apr – No Meeting (Anzac Day)

## FOOD PLANT SOLUTIONS ROTARY ACTION GROUP

I have organised Una Hobday to be our guest speaker on 21<sup>st</sup> March Zooming in from Tasmania. The following is from the Action Groups latest newsletter

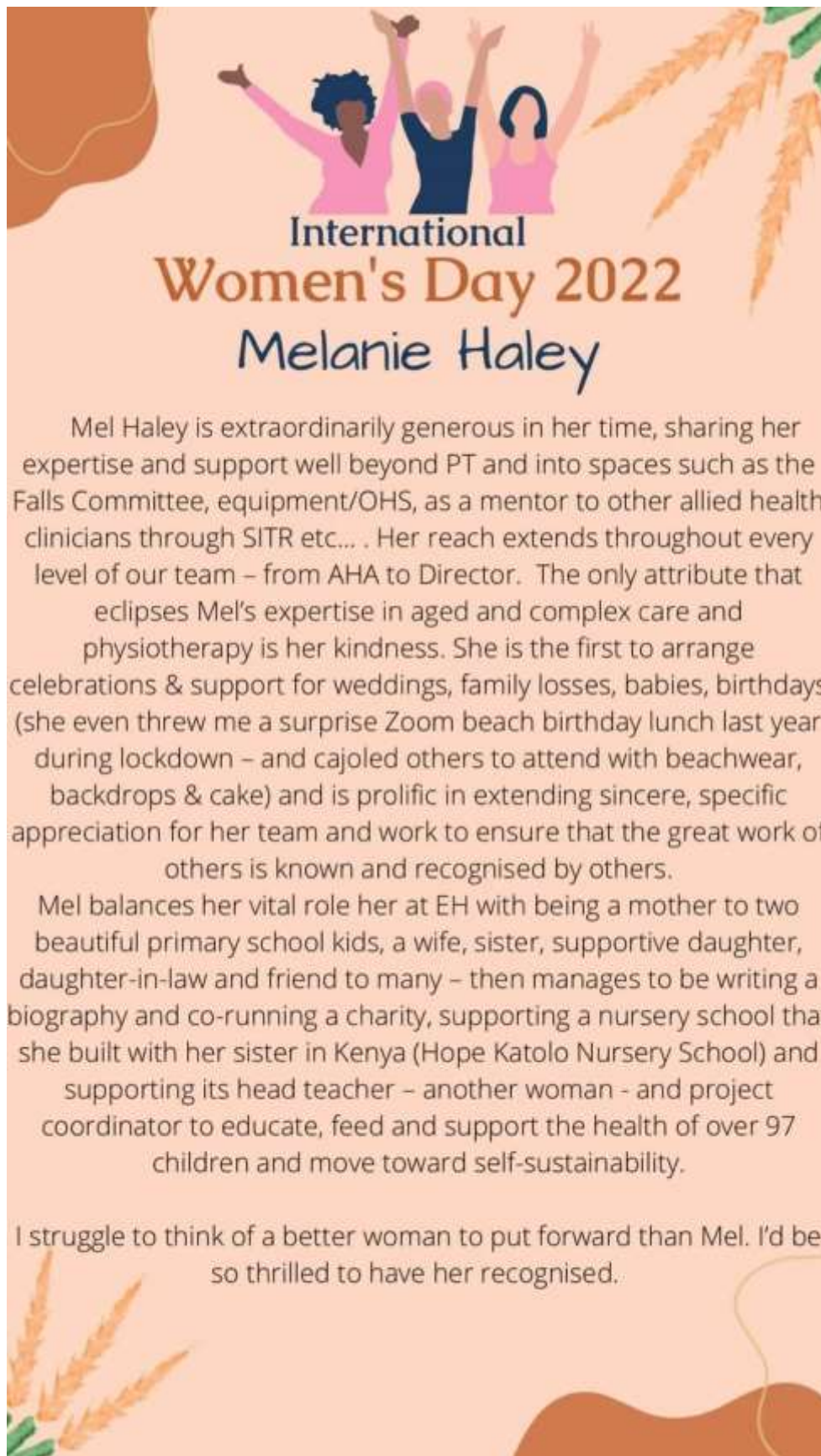
*Each of you can assist by joining Food Plant Solutions Rotary Action Group personally, or asking your club to join, for either \$30 per year, per person or \$100 per club, per year. What a difference it would make to children in the world to not only grow food but be confident in the security of the food source; for parents to know their families will survive because they understand how to grow and cook sustainable, nutritious food. <https://foodplantsolutions.org/get-involved-and-join-us/>*

*Yours in Rotary, **PDG Una Hobday OAM, PHF**, Chair – Food Plant Solutions Rotary Action Group*

**Ron Brooks**

## CONGRATULATIONS MELANIE

Our friend of Rotary Forest Hill, Melanie Haley, has been awarded an International Women's Day award by Eastern Health. The organisation employs over 12,000 people and it is a feather in Mel's cap that her work and character have been recognised with this award. Mel's kindness was highlighted by so many people who congratulated her. She is a brilliant, kind and supportive superstar. our club congratulates you, Mel.

The image is a celebratory graphic for International Women's Day 2022. At the top, three stylized female figures in pink, blue, and pink are shown with their arms raised in a gesture of triumph. Below them, the text 'International Women's Day 2022' is written in a large, bold, orange font, followed by 'Melanie Haley' in a smaller, dark blue font. The background is a light orange color with decorative elements: a large orange shape on the left, and several stalks of wheat on the right and bottom. The text below the title describes Melanie Haley's contributions and character.

International  
Women's Day 2022  
Melanie Haley

Mel Haley is extraordinarily generous in her time, sharing her expertise and support well beyond PT and into spaces such as the Falls Committee, equipment/OHS, as a mentor to other allied health clinicians through SITR etc... . Her reach extends throughout every level of our team – from AHA to Director. The only attribute that eclipses Mel's expertise in aged and complex care and physiotherapy is her kindness. She is the first to arrange celebrations & support for weddings, family losses, babies, birthdays (she even threw me a surprise Zoom beach birthday lunch last year during lockdown – and cajoled others to attend with beachwear, backdrops & cake) and is prolific in extending sincere, specific appreciation for her team and work to ensure that the great work of others is known and recognised by others.

Mel balances her vital role her at EH with being a mother to two beautiful primary school kids, a wife, sister, supportive daughter, daughter-in-law and friend to many – then manages to be writing a biography and co-running a charity, supporting a nursery school that she built with her sister in Kenya (Hope Katolo Nursery School) and supporting its head teacher – another woman - and project coordinator to educate, feed and support the health of over 97 children and move toward self-sustainability.

I struggle to think of a better woman to put forward than Mel. I'd be so thrilled to have her recognised.

## FOOTY TIPPING COMPETITION

Hi all

Time to reactivate your footy tipping.

We will keep our competition name the same-- Kickgoals20

Cost is \$30.

Rules are on our site. \$23 goes to prize pool. \$7 goes to our Rotary Club signature International project -- Hope Katolo Nursery School-- Kenya.

We pay weekly winners who tip 9 winners or on split rounds the maximum possible...eg 6 games- 6 winners.

The majority of the money goes to the prize pool at the end of the season.

log into ESPN.. footy tipping

You can probably just hit reactivate your account.

PLEASE ask friends at work. Ask family. It is fun. Last year 23 participants. We would like 30 this year.

Want to join? Contact Stuart.

Stuart Williams Administrator. Email: [stucats25@gmail.com](mailto:stucats25@gmail.com)

RC of Forest Hill Footy Tipping



## SPROUTINGS

Here are some great opportunities for you to enjoy and to help further your interest and skills in the environment.


### Harmony Day

**When:** Sunday March 20, 2 - 5pm

**Where:** Strathdon House, 446 Springvale Rd, Forest Hill

**Cost:** Free.

Come along for an afternoon of celebration and activities, including a concert which will open with a Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony, before crowd favourite [Jaspora](#) take the stage to perform a high-energy set, filled with their signature tropical sounds. There will be food trucks, ice-cream and a variety of pop-up activities, some environmental, like seed bomb and sprouting seed jar making.



**BRING BACK THE BUZZzzz**

*You are invited to:*

**CELEBRATE THE VITAL ROLE OF BEES AND POLLINATORS**

Date: Tuesday, 15 March 2022  
Time: 6.30pm for 7.00pm start  
Venue: Green Acres Golf Club  
Elm Street, Kew

**GUEST SPEAKERS**

IAN RISELEY \_\_\_\_\_ Past President Rotary International  
ALICK OSBORNE \_\_\_\_\_ CEO Seacol  
FIONA SUTTON WILSON \_\_\_\_\_ CEO Earthwatch  
COSTA GEORGIADIS \_\_\_\_\_ TV Presenter and Rotary Environment Ambassador

LIVE AUCTION CONDUCTED BY KEW ROTARIAN JONATHAN SHEPHERD

**COST PER PERSON - \$50**  
Includes Welcome Drink on Arrival  
**TWO COURSE DINNER**  
Alcoholic Beverages at Bar Prices  
(Double Vaccination required)

**ONLINE ATTENDEE - \$10**  
OR DONATE ON THE  
TRYBOOKING SITE


**Rotarians For BEES**  
AN INITIATIVE OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF CANBERRA

**BOOK EARLY**

TICKETS AVAILABLE  
<https://www.trybooking.com/RTSM>

Funds raised go towards the NGIV School Garden Project and education about pollination

For info contact: John McCaskill  
[JohnMcCaskill@canterburyrotary](mailto:JohnMcCaskill@canterburyrotary)



**Whitehorse Trees and Urban Forest Education**

**Water Smart Gardening with Sustainable Gardening Australia**

**When:** Wednesday March 16,  
7 - 8:30pm

**Where:** Online

### 'Eucalypts of Whitehorse' walks

**When and where:**

Friday March 18, 10 - 12pm at Yarran Dheran Nature Reserve . Register [here](#) OR

Sunday March 20, 3 - 5pm at Blackburn Lake Sanctuary. Register [here](#).

To celebrate National Eucalypt Day, Tony Slater and Belinda Moody, the Tree Education Officer will be hosting two walks, using Tony's new Guide *The Eucalypts of Whitehorse* to key out several species of common gum trees.

Came across this newsletter you may enjoy reading:

**Bungalook News** Issue No 80, March – May 2022.

It's the Newsletter of the **Whitehorse Community Indigenous Plant Project Inc**

Email: [wcipp@yahoo.com.au](mailto:wcipp@yahoo.com.au) Website: [www.wcipp.org.au](http://www.wcipp.org.au)

Articles included a report on the plant nursery and volunteers (over 600 volunteer hours in three months), feature plants, details on the new State fossil, a eucalypts of Whitehorse guide, reports from major creeklands and parks, how climate change is affecting street trees, and 'deafened' plants.. yes 'deafened'...

There is information on the **Whitehorse water garden and Whitehorse waterways and water strategy**.

There are details of the four catchment areas, Koonung Creek, Mullum Mullum Creek, Dandenong Creek and Kooyong Koot; the stormwater harvesting system; the Integrated Water Management Strategy and the Wurundjeri Walk Rain Garden. So google their website and newsletter for an interesting read...

### News on Clean Up Australia Day (CUAD).

I believe activity was seen in most parks and creeklands last Sunday.

Blackburn Lake Sanctuary, where I worked, was buzzing with enthusiastic litter gatherers, all armed with long tongs and gloves. Each group was instructed by

co-ordinator Peter Dempsey as to best practice, safety and other requirements. They were also told to not disturb the soon to hatch turtle eggs - wonderful news!

Coordinator Peter Dempsey instructing a group about to set off to work.



Blackburn Lions and election candidate Cynthia Watson



The comradery was wonderful to see. A bit of rivalry and ribaldry went on as well.

At the end, when each group had brought their bags of recyclable/non-recyclable waste up to be weighed, a number of tired devotees wanted to continue collecting. Instead, everyone stayed at the Visitors Centre, tucked into teas and coffees and chatted.

Talking with one group, the Blackburn Lions, I heard about some of their environmental activities. They are very active, despite their fairly small numbers.

It's encouraging to see many community groups involved in helping the environment in so many ways and, in this instance, keeping our bushland free of rubbish.

Rotarians are certainly not alone in their environmental efforts and it was timely to make it an area of focus.

The final litter total was an average of a kilo per collector.



Litter included masks, lots of polystyrene and, horrifyingly for a very vulnerable bushland setting, cigarette butts and a rat poison trap! Among the many objects found ( not included in the weight tally, was a shuttlecock, Christmas baubles, a tablecloth, tennis/ other balls, a foam exercise mat. The full list and total amount collected will be published soon.

Bags of rubbish accumulating as each group arrived back.



A tired Su Dempsey weighing and tallying the litter.



Thank you to those who attended CUAD, and to those who couldn't make it this year – maybe come next year if you can. It's lots of fun as well as socially and environmentally fulfilling.

**Glenys Grant**

# 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](http://www.tbbyard.com.au) 0419 607 807 [www.facebook.com/Thebasin1backyard/](https://www.facebook.com/Thebasin1backyard/)  
[instagram.com/tbbyard/](https://www.instagram.com/tbbyard/)



## We will be back soon - COME TO THE MARKET



Market operates on the second Saturday each month (except for January)