



FOREST HILL HAPPENINGS

No. 36

President: John Bindon

04 May 2022

MOVING FORWARD



At the start of a Rotary year the District Governor requires each Club to put forward the plans and goals for the new Rotary year.

When I look at our plans and goals which we set for this year, I am extremely disappointed that we were unable put a number of our plans into action because of the pandemic.

When I look back and see what our Club has done in our community over the past forty odd years, I just wonder how we can get our Club up and running again.

Because our membership is getting older, and some of us are enduring poor health, we need to look at every avenue possible, to gain new members so that our Club can survive.

One of my aims was to recruit volunteers to help us in our projects, such as the Blackburn Arts and Crafts market and other community events in which we may take part.

In other words, we become the catalyst in organising an event, but volunteers will aid us in its presentation.

We have a Club which is well respected in the community, and we must keep that respect.

Pres. John Bindon

LATEST NEWS

Successful Bike Ride Fundraisers Donate Over \$32k to ARH.

A huge thank you to the **Rotary District 9810** for hosting their 35th Ride for Medical Research in March. From this event and their Mad March Cycle Challenge, they raised well over **\$32,000** for Australian Rotary Health.

Below is a picture of the superstar Ride for Medical Research riders' team



RI President's commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion

Rotary International



Dear Rotary member,

We are dedicated to enhancing your Rotary experience by supporting what is important to you, our members. You have consistently told us that you want Rotary to be a place that celebrates diversity, that fully represents our communities, and that offers all members equitable opportunities to thrive.

You also recognize that embracing diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) will allow us to do more meaningful work while engaging with people who know they'll be valued for the qualities that make them unique. These sentiments were reinforced last year by the more than 31,000 members around the world who responded to our first [DEI survey](#).

To ensure that the principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion are ingrained in everything we do, the RI Board of Directors, guided by the DEI Task Force, has strengthened our [commitment](#) to DEI and is [taking action in response](#) to the survey findings.

Our DEI Code of Conduct

What we say and how we behave matter. Although free expression is important, we must take responsibility for how our words and actions may affect others. The Board has approved a new DEI Code of Conduct to help Rotary members create and maintain an environment that is collaborative, positive, and healthy for everyone.

Simply put, the DEI Code of Conduct asks you to:



- Use respectful language
- Be supportive
- Foster a welcoming and inclusive environment
- Celebrate diversity

All Rotary leaders, from club presidents and district governors to directors and trustees, are expected to apply the DEI Code of Conduct uniformly to help members recognize the impact that their words and actions can have on other people.

If you experience behaviour that does not align with the DEI Code of Conduct, you have ways to respond:

- If the situation can be resolved through discussion, please talk to the person directly. Often, the person who said something or acted in a way that made others feel excluded, marginalized, or targeted did not do so intentionally. Although there might be mistakes, missteps, and uncomfortable conversations along the way, having this dialogue will lead to a better and stronger Rotary.
- If a discussion is not possible or the situation involves someone in a leadership role or another club, contact Rotary's [Club and District Support staff](#), who will review the information and follow up appropriately.
- If you are in danger or your safety is in doubt, contact local law enforcement officers and notify [Club and District Support staff](#).

As an organization, we are stronger when we embrace the diversity found in our clubs and communities. We are more effective when we offer a valuable, inclusive experience that provides equitable opportunities for people to serve, to lead, and to participate with us. To grow Rotary and become a more dynamic organization, we must take DEI seriously. And with your support, we are doing that.

Sincerely,

Shekhar Mehta, RI President
and the 2021-22 RI Board of Directors

MEETING REPORT

Glenys was in the chair and we started a few minutes early as everyone was present. She introduced Pres John who gave the two traditional toasts from his place at the table. We toasted Australia and Rotary International. Pres John reminded us that our major focus is to get members. In general discussion that followed it was said that while we only have 12 members they usually all turn up at club meetings and all volunteer when needed. At the recent President Elects meeting it was mentioned that some clubs have 20 - 40 members but some don't turn up at club meetings and many never volunteer to help.

Glenys then got reporting underway.

Secretary: Stuart has ordered the next Rotary banner and was still awaiting being informed of next year's club positions so he can update the district records. He also reminded us that usually it is cheaper to register for next year's International Conference before this year's finishes and it is on in Houston, Texas 4th – 8th June 2022. [editors note: the 2023 Convention is in Melbourne 27th – 31st May and next week's speaker is PDG Tony Monley telling us about it].

Treasurer: Warwick circulated a folder for volunteers for the Whitehorse Farmers' Market on 8th May (Mother's Day) and that next month he needs everyone to volunteer as our club is running the egg&bacon stall.

International/Foundation: Bob L is attending the District Foundation meeting Wed 4th May. There was some discussion on whether our club had sent the \$500 donation to RAM. Warwick/Bill to sort out prior to our RAM speaker in June.

Vocation: Barbara S told us that Craig, one of the senior people at Box Hill who had visited our club associated with our apprentice awards, had died.

Community: John B said we had not yet received an invoice from Healesville for the trailer.

Youth/Environment: Glenys informed us that invites have gone out to five Secondary Colleges. Two have replied so far that they will participate. If we don't hear from the others soon, she will follow this up, so we have a more definite number to work with.

The program on the evening of June 6 will include Thomas White as our speaker. Thomas was our 2019 MUNA winner and also won the coveted Totenhoffer Peace Prize. His young sister was sponsored to RYPEN and is now School Captain at BHH.

Markets: John Mc said he would be asking for volunteers next Monday for the Blackburn Craft Market.

Programme: Ron said that next week was Tony Monley talking about the Melbourne Rotary International Convention in 2023, the following week we will have members talking about an amazing experience they had at work, and on 23rd May he would talk about the Dubai World Expo that had just finished.

Bob W then went through the list of the next few RYDA days we are supporting. Bill said he was still awaiting a few replies from members on what they wanted to do next year (his year) and as yet nobody had volunteered as President Elect and we had no Newsletter Editor.

Bob W then ruined the evening by running his Sergeant's Session..... from which he extracted fines of \$37.35 (how do you do it?). His jokes get cornier, his quizzes get answered by brainy Barbara S, and poor old Bill had to pay yet again as the Bombers were one of the losers. [Of course, I think anyone who follows AFL is a loser but what do I know especially as Stuart is raising lots of money for the club in running the footy tipping competition].

The main part of the programme was listening to Barb W, Bob L, and Stuart W each reading out four of the citations about the "unsung hero" Youth Achievement Award students. This had been filmed and edited by Bob W. Well done, Bob. Due to COVID we could not do this face-to-face with the students, teachers and parents this year, unfortunately.

Sue, Bob L and Ron each then gave a short presentation about experiences at RYDA.

The raffle raised \$47. Good to see a "new" winner, Barbara Searle took home the red wine, 2nd and 3rd prizes went to John Mc the chocolates and Barbara W the white wine.

An excellent night all round.
Ron

Rotary Club of Forest Hill

Youth Achievement Awards 2021

At our meeting on Monday the club had the opportunity to recognize the 12 wonderful children from local Primary schools who were the recipients of our Youth Achievement Awards in 2021. These awards were made in 2021 but this was the first chance for the club to come together and enjoy the moment (virtually) with the children. Hopefully this year we will be back to a face-to-face presentation dinner.

While we couldn't hold our normal dinner meeting where the children, their parents and teachers joined us for the presentations, the awards went ahead thanks to the hard work of members and the co-operation of the schools. Each award was presented by the school under their own COVID protocols.

Each awardee received a framed certificate recognizing their achievement, a copy of the citation outlining their contribution to their school & community written by their teachers, a gift card and a USB that enabled them to see and hear all 12 presentations.



Blackburn Lake – **Cooper**, Burwood Heights - **Tiya**, Livingstone - **Tiahna**,
 Mount Pleasant Road- **Surya**, Orchard Grove-**Jayson**, Parkmore – **Faith**,
 Rangeview- **Ruby**, St Timothy’s- **Anné**, Vermont Sth Special School- **Jackson**,
 Vermont – **Lauren**, Weedon Heights-**Christeen**, Whitehorse – **Eloisa**

May is Youth Service Month

CELEBRATIONS



John McP celebrated his birthday on the 26th April.
Ron & Robbie celebrated their Wedding Anniversary on the 28th April.
Glenys & Rob will celebrate their Wedding Anniversary on the 6th May.
Congratulations to you all.



NEXT MEETING

9th May – Tony Monley introducing the International Convention.

Chairperson.	Stuart Williams.
Greeter.	John Bindon
Vote of thanks.	Bob Laslett.
Notes for “Happening.	Barbara Searle.
Casher & Recorder.	Barbara Williams.

COMING UP

16th May – Members speak about work experiences that left their mark.

23rd May – Ron Brooks – Expo 2020

30th May – Bucatini Dinner with Partners.

6th June – Thomas White – Youth Citizenship Awards

A COUPLE OF INVITATIONS FROM RC NUNAWADING

Trivia Night - Saturday 7 May at The Aurora Infant School, 96 Holland Road, Blackburn South (top gate entrance and look for Rotary banner) 6-45 for 7pm start. Bring nibbles and drinks. Cost \$20 Phone Harvey Lane 0411 180 643 for booking.

The notorious Williams boys are going.

Secondly, Anton Hockey the coordinator of RYDA Victoria will be speaking at Nunawading's meeting at Bucatini restaurant on 8th June - 6 for 6-30 start and so far we have Glenys, Barb and Bob Williams attending so anyone else will be most welcome to hear about this great combined Road Safety Education/ Rotary program.

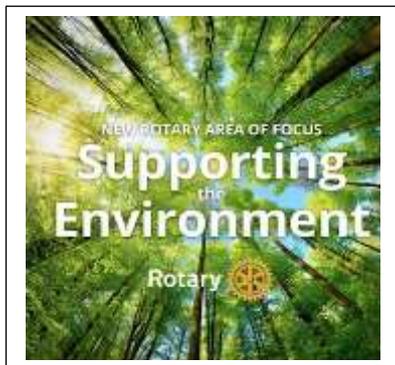
Please let Demon Bob know so he can book you in with RC Nunawading.

Thanks

Bob W

SPROUTINGS

Rotary certainly opened up a whole new world for some of us when Enviro Service became our seventh area of focus. Environment interest is increasing each day, as is the opportunity to learn more and participate in new environment sustainability projects. This month I've listed a number of invites for you.



As a Community Representative on The Whitehorse City Council Environment and Sustainability Reference Group (ESRG), I was recently invited to attend a CROWAG meeting, along with the Mayor of CW, Tina Liu, Councillor Prue Cutts, other ESGR Community Representatives, and concerned residents.

CROWAG, as you will know, is the Combined Residents of Whitehorse Action Group.

Tina and Prue gave an inspiring presentation explaining the purpose of Council's **ESRG** which provides a mechanism for Council to consult with key stakeholders, seek specialist opinion and enable community participation in environmental sustainability issues, initiatives, policies and strategies.

One of the key points of interest was that sustainability & the environment spend in CW budget has been growing year on year and that input into the ESGR is to be community driven. If you want to discuss any issues that you would like me to take to this group, please let me know.

The global **City Nature Challenge**, was held from April 29 to May 2. Events took place in each municipality - nine at Blackburn Lake Sanctuary. If you attended you may have seen a large variety of birds.

These excellent photos were taken by a local Whitehorse resident during the Breakfast with the Birds Autumn Bird Survey at BLS. They are the Pacific Black Duck, a female Golden Whistler and the Little Pied Cormorant.



Now to the invites – especially for YOU!

The new Whitehorse Sustainability Strategy 2030 – ‘Taking Climate Action’ is currently being developed and community members are encouraged to provide input by attending an online (Zoom) workshop on Tuesday May 17, (6pm - 8pm).

Topics include:

- Sustainable transport (walking, cycling, public transport and electric vehicles)
- Our natural environment (trees, parks and gardens and local creeks)
- Solar and renewable energy
- Saving water and energy
- Recycling and reduce waste
- Growing local food
- Climate change and your health, and more!

Your input will help Whitehorse City Council develop its next Sustainability Strategy 2030 – ‘Taking Climate Action.’ **RSVP:** [Click here to book your place on Eventbrite](#)

Robert Powell, Sustainability Officer, Whitehorse City Services.

10th of May
6.00 PM AEST UTC +10

Decarbonise or Die
Financing and transitioning to net zero

Speakers:

 Simon Holmes à Court Clean Energy Investor and senior advisor to the Climate and Energy College, Melbourne. An energy analyst, clean tech investor, climate philanthropist, and the founder of Climate 200.	 Rebecca Mikula-Wright CEO Investor Group on Climate Change, IGCC (Aust/NZ) and Asia Investor Group on Climate Change, AIGCC (Asia) - developing and delivering investor strategy and implementation across both groups.	 Ivor Frischknecht Non-Exec Director of Race for 2000, Chair of Advisory Group Solar Victoria and ex-CEO ARENA. An Experienced Chief Executive Director working at the intersection of energy, climate and investment.
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May 10, 6.00pm AEST

Speakers:

**- Simon Holmes à Court
Founder of Climate 200**

**- Rebecca Mikula-Wright
CEO, IGCC**

**- Ivor Frischknecht, Chair
Advisory Group, Solar Energy.**

<http://www.climateandpeace.com.au/>

[Waste Consultation – open until May 16](#)

City of Whitehorse are proposing to separate charges for waste services from general rates on the annual rate Notice.

While this is primarily a decision about rates and the way Council charges for waste services, it is critically important because of the rising environmental and financial costs of waste.

Community feedback will be used to develop a set of recommendations on the Waste Service Charge implementation. There is a genuine opportunity for the community to influence Council's decision-making about the design and implementation of any waste charge.

There's a great deal of detailed background information on Council's Your Say page –

<https://yoursay.whitehorse.vic.gov.au/the-rising-cost-of-waste>

Participate by taking [an online survey](#)
or directly email: Simon.Kinsey@whitehorse.vic.gov.au

Free Collection of Reusable Items - from your door!

Homecycle is a new Council service that allows residents to gift preloved clothes, usable small electronic and household items to people who really need them– all without having to leave the comfort of your home. Simply leave items you no longer use securely outside your front door before 30 June and they will be collected for distribution to local charities and relief organisations. To book a free collection or for more information [visit here](#).

Upcycling with the Junk Map

When: Wednesday 11 May, 7 - 8pm. **Where:** Online via Zoom

Bookings essential: [Register here](#)

If you're interested in upcycling you're in the right place! Lara Knight – creator of The Junk Map website - encourages thoughtful, durable and creative reuse. Experimenting and learning is part of the process!

Sustainable Living Week is from 12-22 May. It is full of free, fun, and informative events to inspire you to live more sustainably. There are 16 events listed. Go to the Whitehorse City Council Website for more information. Events include:

'How to talk about Climate Change in a way that makes a difference' online Thursday, May12, 7.30pm,

'The Wonder of Birds' - Sean Dooley. Sunday May15, BLS Visitors Centre, 9-11am

'Electric Vehicles Expo' - Sunday May 22, 2-4.30pm Box Hill Town Hall. Check out the Whitehorse Council website



Here's another beautiful image, this time of a Goshawk, from the same Blackburn resident - to whom we say a huge thank you! We are so fortunate to live where we can see this sort of wildlife. ***Have a great week.***

Glenys

RCFH BLACKBURN STATION CRAFT MARKET – TRADER OF THE MONTH

MAST GULLY NURSERY

Mast Gully Nursery stall is operated by Jenny Lee. She has been part of the Blackburn Craft Market for over 20 years, about 5 years after she started her business on 5 acres of land in Upwey. Jenny runs a wholesale flower business during the week but at weekends you'll find her at markets selling plants. She goes to six different markets including Rotary markets at Nunawading, Doncaster and Warrandyte. The plants started as a hobby which soon grew into a business. She has a large variety of potted plants but specialises in helibores and would love to talk to you at the market about her passion for her self-propagated plants which probably accounts for half her stock with the other half coming from nurseries in the Monbulk area. Just recently she has downsized her block though keeps the same number of plants for sale. While Spring may be her busiest time as people start to think about what new plants they'll plant out, Jenny says she's pretty busy throughout the year. She is thrilled with the new Blackburn Craft Market setup so come and see her next to the rotunda and perhaps listen to jazz at the same time. You can always contact her at donallan@bigpond.com



We will be back soon - COME TO THE MARKET



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