



# Weekly Newsletter

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**President Bob Williams**

Number 41

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Website:

[www.foresthillrotary.com](http://www.foresthillrotary.com)

Meeting location:

Bucatini Restaurant, 454 Whitehorse Road, Mitcham, 3132

Meeting time:

Monday 6.15 for 6.30 pm

Facebook:

ForestHill Rotary

## CLUB PROGRAM

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Chair</u>	<u>Thanks/meeting report</u>
2 <sup>nd</sup> May	Apprentice Awards	Bob Laslett	John McPhee
9 <sup>th</sup> May	Bronwyn Williams "Insights into Nauru"	Warwick Stott	Bob Williams
16 <sup>th</sup> May	Hans Eecen "Rotarian behind the Badge"	Ron Brooks	Chris Tuck

## THIS WEEK'S CELEBRATIONS

### DUTY ROSTER



<u>ROSTER</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>
Cashier	Glenys Grant	Mike Finke
Recorder	Ray Smith	Hans Eecen
Greeter	Chris Tuck	Bill Marsh
Emergency	Gary Baltissen	Graham Sharman

## ATTENDANCE

**APOLOGY – IF A MEMBER IS NOT GOING TO COME TO THE MEETING or you intend bringing a guest please contact Ray Smith by 10.00 am MONDAY on 9878 4891 or [rcssmith@optusnet.com.au](mailto:rcssmith@optusnet.com.au) SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS to Ray by 10am at the LATEST**

Any CANCELLATION AFTER 10.00 AM should be made direct with the management of Bucatini Restaurant on 9873 0268

## BOB'S BANTER

There will be a meeting report of the 27<sup>th</sup> April joint club meeting with Nunawading and Mitcham later in this newsletter.

A number there said how great it was to be together and that we must do this more regularly so food for thought for future Presidents and Program planners.

I hope everyone took some time to reflect on Anzac Day and again later in this edition I've put pen to paper (actually finger to keyboard) and have a piece on Anzac Day in Inverloch.

Last Friday John McPhee and I met with the Rail Crossing people, Kerilyn, Barry, Tayne and Adam (Bill nearly did until last minute grandchild duties took priority) and again we were encouraged by the willingness of the Rail Crossing people to engage us with updates and their endeavours to minimise the effect of the construction on our monthly markets. They said that the project on South Parade is actually referred to as the market site. A main issue for us will be the digging of the drains on the south side of the line along where our market sites are and they are massive with three, each 1.5 metres wide, alongside each other which we were assured would take care of any possible future flooding.

As we had been told at our meeting last year, the main work which will affect us starts in July and so John suggested we will cancel the July market which gives them a clear run and then we jointly will monitor month to month just what space will then be available until October which is when the scheduled work in that area should be done but with bad weather etc that may be November. Blackburn Road will be closed from late December to late January so again with no market in January that won't affect us at all. August to October markets may need to be mainly shifted west of the playground and even onto the car parks along the road was suggested as Vic Roads own that land. They will build a lock up cage for us to store our BBQ etc plus access to power.

Kerilyn has offered to come to our May market and beforehand jointly work with us on a letter to stallholders advising them of the scheduled work to be done so another example of their willingness to assist. They also have offered to meet with us each month after our market for further updates and discuss any issues arising from the market. They then left to go to a meeting with the council as there are still so many issues that need to be resolved.

Later that day the three of us met with Robert Clark MP at his suggestion, at the station and he advised that he too has been heavily involved with discussions both with the Rail people, council and the community. He had some of his own suggestions such as running the pedestrian/bike path over the roof of the underpass so that there would be no converging of pedestrians. He said we can contact him any time during the process, so all good information for us.

I hope that all read the 5<sup>th</sup> April issue of the District 9810 News, otherwise known as Forest Hill club News as we had four, yes four articles. An article by our NYSF student, Theresa Wang about her wonderful experiences at the recent forum, then an article on the District Golf Day where I got a mention presenting our annual \$500 Ford Davis Award to go to the charity of choice of the winning club. But wait there's more; we then had an article on our Larry the Lorikeet book we produced in 2014 as it is now printed in Braille, so Larry keeps flying into even more youngster's lives. Then on the last page, Ron has our club's initiative of collecting foreign coins for UNICEF with a request for more clubs to be involved as how easy it is to make valuable funds (last year \$4,700) for disadvantaged kids by simply ridding yourself of your unwanted foreign coins and notes from your last overseas trip. My thanks to Ray for attending the Apprentice Awards at Box Hill TAFE on the 27<sup>th</sup> April.

Our last cluster President's meeting is to be this Friday at Beau Monde restaurant and as the incoming Presidents are also invited and Hand Brake Turn is on the agenda, both John Mc and Bill will also be there.

**Remember "Be a Gift to the World". President Bob**

## LAST WEEK'S MEETING

There were over 50 of us at Bucatini for the joint meeting of Nunawading, Mitcham and Forest Hill clubs. The Railway Crossing people had offered to speak at our club but I thought it better for a greater number to hear what they had to say and we were overdue for an interclub meeting anyway. A great buzz with good representation from all clubs plus Stephen Fisher from Templestowe attending as he and Diane are local Blackburn residents.

Nunawading President thanked Peter McPhee who attended, for his great work in organising the Anzac day celebrations at Halliday Park. Good to hear a little of what Nunawading and Mitcham are doing. A fun sergeant's session with our own Stu combining with Judith from Nunawading to create some fun and mayhem (and raise good funds.)

Tayne and Adam from the Rail Crossing Authority took us through in words and pictures what has happened and what is to happen at both Blackburn Road and Heatherdale road crossing works.

The maximum grading for a rail line is 2.5% so they need to go down below Blackburn Road then up again to Nunawading station. Blackburn Road crossing will be closed from around the 28<sup>th</sup> December to 26<sup>th</sup> January. There will be a pedestrian bridge at King Street.

A lot of extra work for flood mitigation is being done as we know how much the area floods, particularly the underpass where we operate our bbq on market days.

As we know, there is no funding for a new station, nor for a complete upgrade of the underpass as to include all the regulations for disability access etc would make it an enormously expensive project considering it is 100 years old. Steps up to South Parade will be put in the underpass and an alternative lengthy ramp for those in need.

Some statistics:-

1,150 concrete piles going in, 57,000 tonnes of steel, 31,500 metres of cable, 16,500 m<sup>2</sup> retaining wall, nearly 4kms of drainage, 134,000 bcm (equivalent of 57 Olympic Swimming Pools) of mudstone to be removed (and they are investigating whether this could be used for brick making instead of filling in quarries), 3 kms of track to be removed/replaced and 8 kms of overhead wiring replaced.

Many challenges such as tree removal (planning permits still not resolved hence unscheduled delays), service relocation, drainage and site access as the whole area is hard to get into with their big equipment.

There will be three large drainage pipes of 1.5m each side by side along the tracks which will more than allow for the 100 year floods we seem to more frequently get.

By comparison, the Heatherdale road project is much easier and on schedule as there they have funding for a whole new station, easier access etc. A 1.8 km shared path is under construction from Ringwood.

Many questions commencing with several from Bob Hoskins whose business fronts the south side of the station. The reason the bike/pedestrian path is on the South side is because there would be just as much pedestrian traffic entering the underpass from the North side plus much more disruption to parking etc there.

The number of parking spaces will remain the same.

Before the drainage starts the trees will all have to come out and all the main ones (palms) will be dug out with a big tree spade (is that a technical term?) which will preserve the roots and they will be re-planted elsewhere then again dug up and finally re-planted back where they were (or thereabouts) once all the works are completed. The landscaping is another issue not resolved with more consultations to come. The rotunda will stay and the playground we funded will need to be taken down then put up again afterwards.

They were asked about allowing for future train travel and the position is that there will be no third track but the system can accommodate more frequent trains.

Tayne and Adam proved to be a great double act and not only handled their presentation very professionally but also answered all questions openly and as far as their authority went, to the best of their ability. Well done fellows!  
 The sign of a good meeting is where many don't want to leave after the meeting and that was the case on Wednesday night. Great evening and hopefully will lead to more interclub meetings between our parent club and its two offspring.  
 Bob

## ANZAC DAY

Barbara and I decided to go to the dawn service at Inverloch. We thought about 400 or so were outside the Inverloch RSL in the 7 degree temperature and we heard messages and accounts written by young men at the front lines of the various conflicts from over the years. Amazing that from a small town (only small now and much smaller 101 years ago), 10 men from the District went to WW1. Good to see many youngsters there with their parents. Very moving and I tried to imagine what it may have been like, waiting in their trenches at dawn, ready to attack, and I couldn't even begin to realise what must have been going through their minds. We all should be so proud of our military serving young men and women both past and present.

We later went to commemorative service at the local hall which again had many youngsters attending, as well as many other youngsters addressing us and singing to us. I sat next to a local Lion who was a Vietnam vet and so he marched again later in their very small parade down the main street. There were nearly more veterans riding in the single vintage car than were actually marching, so, small, but significant. Another service followed at the memorial overlooked by the Rotary clock, with all local service clubs and organisations laying wreaths.

Bob

## FUTURE MEETINGS

16<sup>th</sup> May Hans Eecen "Rotarian behind the badge."

23<sup>rd</sup> May Club Forum

30<sup>th</sup> May Partners in restaurant

6<sup>th</sup> June Citizenship Awards

13<sup>th</sup> June No Meeting

20<sup>th</sup> June Ron and Robbie Brooks recent holiday

27<sup>th</sup> June Club Changeover

## NEWS FROM OUR WHITEHORSE ROTARACT CLUB

John Williams from Rotary Club of Noble Park will be attending our next club meeting to talk as Rotaractors are interested in finding out more information about the **Dolly Parton's Imagination Library** project. This is a literacy project Whitehorse Rotaract is considering setting up and running.

We would like to extend an invitation to our sponsor Rotary Clubs to attend our meeting if you are interested in hearing John talk about the D9810 pilot program by Noble Park RC.

Meeting:

**Wednesday 11th May**

**7:15pm for 7:30pm start**

**Melbourne Baseball Club, Surrey Drive, Box Hill.**

Regards,  
 Naomi Ferguson  
 Club Service Director

## ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS

We are again taking orders for the ENTERTAINMENT BOOK. The cost is \$65 and the commission will be paid to Hope Katolo Nursery School in Kenya. We have supported this wonderful project for many years and recently provided them with water tanks so they can grow vegetables for school lunches,

The book is great value. Many vouchers - Buy one, get one free meals. You only need to use it 4 times and you have covered the book cost.

A great excuse to eat out in different places.

Contact Stuart Williams if you would like to purchase a book this year.

## FOOTY TIPPING

Football Heartbreak

Stupid game. How can an expert pick winners when Carlton beat last year's minor premiers and Collingwood eventually "play OK"? Arrrgh.

But we have a great competition. There is a jam at the top. On 35 we have Barbara Williams, Mark Bailey and Cyril Yardin. There are 3 tipsters on 34. (someone needs to be around the middle to balance the ladder.)

Kathy Donaghey has had "some trouble with ESPN" and her scores do not reflect her "blues" dependency, but her tips are floating on a Microsoft Cloud ---somewhere. We have made numerous attempts to rectify the situation.

Good luck to all this week, and if you have not paid your \$30 I would be delighted to collect it from you.

Stuart

## FOREST HILL ROTARY FELLOWSHIP

Kathy and John will organise our next movie and dinner night for the 6<sup>th</sup> May depending on availability of reasonable movies which have been light on recently.

A further suggestion is from Stuart's and my mate, Peter from our Apex days as his wife, Merrilyn is a singer with the Maroondah singers and her email follows.

"The details of our next concert are - May 15<sup>th</sup> 2pm at the Uniting Church Hall, corner East Doncaster Road and Maroondah Highway. We have a brilliant young tenor as our scholar this year. He also performs with the wonderful Nadia of Flower Duet fame. John Atwell is back with his flair on the keyboards, and The Singers have a wonderful program full of harmonies and joy. A home-made afternoon tea- for which we are becoming famous- is available for a gold coin donation. We hope you might consider coming along.

Regards to all,  
Merrilyn Velcek".

Cost is \$20 concession or \$25 adult, so very reasonable and as her husband Peter later wrote, bring extra tissues for the duet of "The Prayer" as he has seen rehearsals and thought it stunning.

Barbara and I have attended previous concerts of theirs and the standard is wonderful so if you feel like attending just come on the day and we'll see you there.

Acting editor Bob

## DIARY DATES

Sat 30<sup>th</sup> April Malaria Awareness Day

Sat/Sun 30<sup>th</sup>Apr/1<sup>st</sup>May MUNA weekend

Wed 11<sup>th</sup> May Girls Night Out – Rowville – Lysterfield club

**28<sup>th</sup> May/1<sup>st</sup> June RI CONVENTION, SEOUL, KOREA**

Sun 19<sup>th</sup> June Multi District function to farewell Ian Riseley (RI Pres '17-'18)

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> June Our Changeover

## ROTARY MONTHLY THEMES

April	Maternal and Child Health
May	Youth Services
June	Rotary Fellowships

## DISTRICT GOLF DAY PRESENTATION

Chelsea club won the Ford Davis Award with their charity of choice being the Chelsea Men's Shed, so Treasurer Warwick is sending them a cheque.

Thanks DG David for this photo of "the three wise men, or the three stooges?"



## VALE CAROL HEDLEY

I am absolutely devastated to advise you of the tragic news that Carol Hedley passed away this morning at home in Mt Gambier. Philip's Son in Law rang me this afternoon with the news. Details are at this point very scratchy, but it is possible that Carol suffered a Heart Attack.

As more news comes to hand I will advise you accordingly. It is probably best at this early stage to not contact Philip till after tomorrow.

I know that we all held a very special place in our hearts for Carol as she managed her health issues. We also admired the way in which Philip cared for her and we share his grief enormously.

**David Tolstrup [Alison]**

## ROBBIE AND RON'S DUTCH EXPERIENCES

Today we cycled ONLY 64kms. (908kms to date just over 60per day average) It was 3degC when we started and dropped to 0degC on the garmin after 20kms when we had gone through a few hail storms and all the fields were white with a layer of hail. Then we rode along the longest man made dyke 27.1 kms cutting off the sea. It had water on both sides as far as the eye could see and we rode into such a strong headwind our speed varied from 6-9kms an hour. It was like going up a steep hill in bottom gear grinding away. At one stage a squall hit harder and we both came to a stop. We met one cyclist going the other way and he said he hadn't pedalled for 15kms. Weather varied from hail to rain then suddenly it would stop then another squall would come in. The headwind didn't vary. I was amazed Robbie kept on treddling, no complaints. We started at 9am and ride into the hotel at 3 mins to 4pm. 15 mins of rest and change clothes then we went out fir a walk to see this fishing village. Back at 7pm. She did say her knees were a bit sore tonight. A 55km ride tomorrow and cold and rain are predicted. Are we having an experience??

## MODEL UNITED NATIONS

Come on either day of this weekend, 30<sup>th</sup> April/1<sup>st</sup> May to Parliament House and support our two schools. Kingswood College is representing Afghanistan and Forest Hill Secondary is representing Sweden.

## OUT AND ABOUT IN MELBOURNE

Ever stuck for a gift for someone who "has most things." What about A high Tea on the Bay cruise. My family gave this to me for my birthday. Bought it on "cudo". Two hours, a lovely sunny day and seeing aspects of Melbourne from a different vantage. The cruise depart from Water Plaza, Merchant Street , Docklands. An added bonus is it gave me a chance to see and find "new" parts of our city. (But, oh , most of Docklands is such a wasted opportunity. shady, windy, DESERTED on a beautiful sunny day. Canyons of buildings, narrow roads, limited parking. Such a shame. But I am diverted.)

The catamaran is fairly large and takes approx 150 passengers. Two decks, tables of approx 10. Top deck had a good view. We sailed out of Victoria Harbour, at 3pm, down the Yarra slowly (there are speed restrictions, ) into the Bay and across to Williamstown, turned at the old warship, and headed back. We tied up at 5pm.

The food was ok. Probably limited by being on a boat with a small preparation area. Small sandwiches, piece of quiche, scones/ butter/ jam/ cream and a small cake each. One free drink and unlimited tea and coffee. Definitely a different way to spend a Sunday afternoon.

The docks are interesting and Melbourne from the water looked magnificent. Called High Tea Afloat, it might be worth considering.

Stuart

## FOREST HILL SECONDARY COLLEGE BREAKFAST ROSTER

3/5/16 Barb and Glenys  
 10/5/16 Bob L and Barb  
 17/5/16 Robbie and Bob W  
 24/5/16 Robbie and Bob L  
 31/5/16 Kevin and Robbie  
 7/6/16 Robbie and Barb  
 14/6/16 Robbie and Bob W  
 21/6/16 Robbie and Kevin

Thanks to Kevin and Barbara last Tuesday for cooking and serving up over 40 pancakes to the hungry students. Barbara had one young lad say that the pancake was the best he's ever eaten. (Presumably he has had them before?)

## FOREST HILL WEBSITE [www.foresthillrotary.com](http://www.foresthillrotary.com)

We had 137 people logged on to our website in March.

70 visited the Blackburn market page.

Have you looked at our website? **Our website is a window through which the world looks at us.** What do you think?

- Do you like what you see?
- Do you want other things on our site?

Newsletter articles to the acting (up) editor at [bandbwil@bigpond.net.au](mailto:bandbwil@bigpond.net.au) by 5 pm Wed Please email me or ring if you want to be removed from the circulation list.