



FOREST HILL HAPPENINGS

No 42

President: Sue Ballard

09 June 2021

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

It's been a year of adapting and adjusting, not just to government restrictions but to personal needs and needs of those around me. The year ahead looks like the trend will continue. I have plans for the months after my Presidency finishes but we're I can I have incorporated flexibility into those plans. On a personal level I have a wedding to attend. It's been deferred and rescheduled at least four times and I feel for my family trying to cope with the uncertainty. I have a memorial service to organise now the burial has finally taken place. But can I arrange for non-Melbournian family to attend? I think it will need to be a hybrid service.

I am also continuing on the 100 Year Anniversary committee as well as being on two other committees trying to get Rotary projects restarted. I also have membership and vocational roles continuing. The markets and RYDA as well are bespoke roles.

If that wasn't enough, I am looking at completing my studies in psychology and social history, my family history and hopefully a couple of trips, including Tasmania, to visit family.

I will be continuing my counselling and mentoring roles. I have been told my observation skill are extremely valuable. You thought I was just quiet, but in fact I have learnt a lot and could write a few case studies, maybe a thesis!

One of the big themes this year is Mental Health. I see this continuing into the year to come. Firstly, you have to honestly assess your own situation and talk about it to those close. Seek help if you need it. Not having a partner to help me this year I am glad I have friends who I can talk to. If you can, be there for others. I have had phone calls at all times of day and night but if I can, I will.

We are there for each other.

Projects coming up I may need help with are the home kits for those who have escaped domestic violence and sanitation kits for the homeless.

Sue

Note: Stuart will be liaising with Bucatini. Please contact him for dinner meeting attendance and visitors.

MEETING REPORT

No meeting this week as we were to have a Partners' Dinner in Bucatini. The best laid plans of mice and men (and Rotary Clubs) are soon overturned by COVID.

June is Fellowship Month

While COVID may be impacting many Fellowship activities, remember to check in with family and friends on a regular basis. A friendly face or a supportive word is always appreciated, especially when times are difficult.

NEXT MEETING

21st June - Committee Handover Meeting

COMING UP

14th June - No Meeting

21st June - Committee Handover Meeting

Chair: Stuart W Thanks & Report: Ron B

28th June - Changeover

Chair: Bill M Thanks: John B Report: Stuart W

5th July - Club Forum

Chair: John B

WELL DONE!



Forest Hill College are to be congratulated on the great video they put together for their “virtual” College Awards in 2020. Above are the worthy winners of the Ford Davis Scholarships for 2020.

CELEBRATIONS



No celebrations on the club front.

However, let's hope we are all celebrating the end of another lockdown when we wake up on Friday morning. Thanks to everyone for doing the 'right thing' over the last two weeks.



RYDA DETAILS FOR 2021

1 June 2021 deferred to 10 August

Sandown Sue, Ron, Anna, Hans, Barb W, Bob W

I have emailed our volunteers for availability which I will then send to Catherine.

17 August 2021 Sandown Stuart, Hans, Bob W plus 3 Maroondah

16 November 2021 Sandown Stuart, Ron, Anna, Hans, Barb W, Bob W

22 November 2021 Wonthaggi Barb and Bob W and maybe Anna and Hans

Bob W

Note: Bob will provide an update for our next newsletter as 8th June session also deferred.

SPROUTINGS

This column has been running for many months now. We have concentrated on what is going on locally and internationally, passed on a few tips - a lot of this information you may already know. We also know our members and their families are fantastic at recycling and are environmentally savvy.

So now we would love to hear from you all as to what you are accomplishing in this area – Do you have special tips you can pass on to others?

My wonderful mother came from an era when in cooking you never wasted anything. So, for instance, do you have any recipes where you can use all parts of a chicken?

Or perhaps your tips for growing vegetables, or bee loving plants. We would love to hear from you and share your ideas with others.

Finally: Have you any suggestions as to projects we could run next year that the whole club can be involved in as a group?

These were a couple of Rotary ideas we have come across:

1. On the first Saturday or Sunday of each month (or whatever works for you) invite club members and the community to meet to pick up plastics. Keep it simple – bring a bag to fill – only an hour – go for a coffee afterwards. So, it's a fun, easy and on-going community activity.
2. When planning club activities, for example a change over dinner or BBQ, do a simple checklist to identify practical ways to reduce waste.

World Environment Day, June 5 – did you celebrate?

The UN Environment Programme (UNEP) annually organizes events for World Environment Day, which encourages worldwide awareness and action for the protection of the environment. It is celebrated on June 5 in over 100 countries.

<https://www.un.org/en/observances/environment-day>



Is this a future golf course?



Shining a light on energy efficiency

Whitehorse Council is upgrading more than 850 street lights to energy efficient LED alternatives between March to June end 2021.

Seven thousand lights have already been replaced with energy efficient lighting.

The upgrade will save about 7250 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions during the 20-year life of the lights, equivalent to taking 1686 cars off the road for a year.

In addition to these works, Whitehorse Council has obtained \$897,000 via the Australian Government's Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program (Phase 2) to further its energy efficiency street lighting upgrade works.

This grant will be used to upgrade non-standard decorative lighting across the municipality during 2021.

Energy efficiency is a key element in reducing greenhouse emissions and contributing to the achievement of Council's carbon reduction targets. The project will reduce operating costs and improve the public lighting amenity in local streets. The reduction in energy costs will also allow more resources to be directed to other public amenities.

Whitehorse Council.



While every day is "Environment Day" as far as we're concerned, any opportunity to focus on conserving and celebrating nature is a good one.

This year's World Environment Day theme is *Ecosystem Restoration: Recreate. Reimagine. Restore*

A quote from [#GenerationRestoration](#)

This is our moment.

We cannot turn back time. But we can grow trees, green our cities, rewild our gardens, change our diets and clean up rivers and coasts. We are the generation that can make peace with nature.

Let's get active, not anxious. Let's be bold, not timid.

Community Bird Surveys. Have you seen this little bird?

Each year a number of community parkland groups run bird surveys. Checkout their websites for details. Lately a few of our local bird numbers seem down.

The following is from the Blackburn Creeklands group.



Spotted Pardalote

We seem to have fewer this year in the Creeklands. They tend to be heard rather than seen given their penchant for feeding in the canopy of our tall trees.

Despite their high-altitude feeding habits, they nest by tunnelling into the likes of creekbanks. They may have had fewer nesting opportunities if creek levels have risen suddenly and flooded nest sites.

They are also harassed by many other birds including Noisy Miners and Wattlebirds; and their high canopy feeding could be disturbed by Lorikeets.

<https://blackbuncreeklands.wordpress.com/2021/06/03/park-news-may-2021/>

That's all Folks, *Glenys*



Scan Me!!

RCFH BLACKBURN STATION CRAFT MARKET – TRADER OF THE MONTH

KUMFY KIDS

For 22 years, there has been a knitting corner at the Blackburn Market just opposite the Band stand. They have been selling at markets for 26 years. Everything on sale is hand knitted, mostly acrylic “to keep the price down” Bernadette told me. But they will, and do, make woollen items on order. They generally knit items for new born up to about 4 years of age. They also sell handmade knitted clothes hangers. Jeanne was sitting alongside Bernadette and told me that they do have other knitters at times working at home including one lady of 92. They have a regular turnover of garments and if anything doesn’t sell after a little while they donate it to the op-shop. That is an amazing community spirit. Go and see them at work both knitting away while they chat. They will make any item at any size on order. Kumfy Kids can be contacted at bmcrennan@gmail.com

