



FOREST HILL HAPPENINGS

No. 08

President: Bill Marsh

24 August 2022

BILL'S BY-LINE

Holidays are great and the weather in Palm Cove was beautiful and so Judy and I had a very relaxing 10 days. However, it is always good to get home and see family and friends again.



If anyone knows how to stop weeds growing while you are absent, I am open to suggestions!

As I expected the club continued to run smoothly while I was away and, in fact, our Blackburn Market was the most successful for some time.

My thanks to the members who 'zoomed in' to first of the on-line Membership seminars. There are two more on the 25th of August at 7.00pm and the 29th of September at 7.00pm. Members are encouraged to join in if possible.

The Board will meet, by Zoom on Wednesday at 7.00pm. Any member who has something for the Board to consider is asked to send it to me before the meeting. Catherine Elfick will be joining us as part of the preparations for the DG's visit on the 12th of September.

This Thursday the Cluster Presidents will be getting together for what, I hope, will be a regular gathering. It will provide a chance for us to get to know each other and exchange ideas and possibly pursue opportunities to work together on common projects.

At our meeting on Monday PDG David Tolstrup gave an outline of the Zone 8 Regionalisation Project. Our members will vote on our acceptance, or not, of this pilot program next week.

August is Membership Month

MEETING REPORT- 22 August

Our meeting on Monday night was attended by all members, except our intrepid traveller Ron Brooks, and our guest speaker was PDG David Tolstrup.



David gave an excellent coverage of the proposed Zone 8 pilot Regionalisation project. A great deal of effort has already gone into the preparations for this, with more to come over the next couple of years. Members, clubs and Districts will be asked to vote on the full implementation of the project in September.



Glenys gave a run down on the combined MUNA presentation at the weekend. This was obviously a very successful event and an excellent indication of how the two districts can successfully come together in the future. Glenys also brought us up to date with the garden project at Forest Hill College. Glenys' report on these activities can be found elsewhere in the newsletter.

Sergeant Bob ran his usual fun session during which he not only introduced us to a number of facts & figures that we didn't know about, but also painlessly extracted a further donation of \$27.70 from members towards our contribution for Foundation. Bob managed to mention the success of Melbourne in the football while, kindly, not making too much of Essendon's disastrous week. These fun five minutes at meetings help us raise around \$1,500 for Foundation each year.

The raffle was well supported (\$49), and three prizes were given out. Glenys topped off her evening by drawing her own number as the first winning ticket.

Our speaker next week will be Nafty Vanderhoek – "Climate Change – A Scientific Perspective". An excellent speaker – bring your friends.

Bill

More details about the regionalisation project are at the website creatingtomorrowrotary.org

NEXT MEETING

29 August Nafty Vanderhoek Climate Change-a Scientific Perspective

Club roster for 29 August 2022.

Chairperson: Ron Brooks
Greeter: Bob Laslett
Notes for "Happenings" Glenys Grant
Thanks Barbara Searle
Cashier & Recorder: Bob Williams

COMING UP

5 September Mikaela Starfrace Women CAN
9 September Film night
10 September Blackburn Craft Market
11 September Whitehorse Farmers Market
12 September Club birthday DG Ken Miller

CELEBRATIONS



Happy birthday to
Judy Marsh on 26
August! Put it in your
diary Bill.



Sproutings and Model United Nations Assembly.

This week it's again impossible to separate the Sprouting column from Youth. We are talking **MUNA- (Model United Nations Assembly)**. Yes, it has been run, and was a very worthwhile event. For those who do not know about MUNA, it's a Rotary Youth project for Year 11 students. Its aim is to help them learn about other countries, develop skills in speaking, recognise cultural diversity and to promote international understanding of the workings of the **United Nations**.

As I explained last week, one of the three main topics listed as resolutions for debate, and one very enthusiastically endorsed by the students, was **Climate Change**. The third resolution, about **Space Governance**, also involved many environmental issues being debated.

So here are the 'happenings':

MUNA this year was a combined program between District 9820 (who were the prime mover in reviving it post COVID) and our District 9810. Three members from 9810, ie District Youth Chair Malcolm Chiverton, Ian Button and I, were on this year's organising committee. Our combined two regions team was very ably headed by Di Harrison, of 9820.

It was held at Nossal High School, Berwick.

Malcolm Chiverton, Ian Button and I were on the MUNA committee. We arrived on Friday August 19 and along with the 9820 committee members set up three large areas. The UN delegates room was a very large school assembly room. Images from that room were recorded and streamed into two adjacent classrooms, where onlookers and visitors were able to view and hear proceedings.

The main room had to be cleared of all furniture first. What was then set up was quite impressive. There were four video cameras; tables and chairs for delegates, officials such as judges and couriers; a sound and media area which controlled the many microphones and visuals. An elevated area was organised for the UN Secretary General.



L: Group photo of delegates. On the far left is Di Harrison, MUNA Chair.

R: Secretary General Dr Hakim Gassiep receiving flags. Collecting the flag is Ian Button, RC Cheltenham, while 9810 DG Ken Miller, 9820 DG Paul Mee, Youth Chair 9810 Malcolm Chiverton and 9810 Whitehorse Rotaract President Alice Terrill look on.

Large country flags were positioned ready for the initial parade of delegates to carry in to meet the UN Secretary General, small flags were on the delegates tables along with their country's names. Everyone had folders which contained information for their role.

It took some time to set it all up, balance the sound etc - and less than half the time to dismantle at the finish. Isn't that always the way!

Saturday August 20 was the in person debating. Because of COVID safety precautions and also the new laws on Child Safety, procedures were very strict. Every possible precaution was followed in the hope of a risk and infection free event. As far as I'm aware, it was.

Many teams were in the national dress of their nominated country. Eighteen United Nations countries were represented and debated the resolutions, which were drawn from resolutions passed through the UN General Assembly. To read the resolutions in their entirety please go to the MUNA 9820 website and click on resolutions.

I was in charge of the diplomatic couriers who continually organise all communication for the day between each team. The couriers had been recruited by 9820 and originally there were to be six Rotaract members attending from our two regions. We needed a minimum of four. On the day two 9810 Rotaract members arrived. A 9820 Rotaract member who arrived was needed for microphone duty, so we lost him.

Thomas White, our 2019 MUNA winner, was there offering to help with any job we needed, so he became our third courier and Andy, a standby team member student from Mullauna College, agreed to be our fourth. So, we had our four diplomatic couriers

All four couriers were run off their feet totally all day yet did a fantastic job. **Thank you to all - a huge effort.**

So where does 'environment' come in?

Resolution 1 was an excellent topic – Violence against women and girls. Assembly delegates (students) were quite restrained, and it was debated well, but quietly.

When delegates got to resolution 2- **Climate Change**, the atmosphere totally changed: the debating became stronger and there was a different atmosphere in the room. Those Member States in favour of the resolution urged dissenters to meet the Paris agreement targets, and to take urgent action to reduce their greenhouse emissions by 50pc. Both those for and against the resolution explained their requirements and issues economically and socially and the resources they required to do so.

Arguments, ideas and points of view were excellently and enthusiastically put.

When the delegates got to Resolution 3, **Space Governance**, the environment debate again occurred. Environmental risks were discussed, also space pollution and how to maintain outer space as a peaceful, safe, stable and sustainable environment.

Awards



L: Mullauna college team with Mitcham Rotarian Peter McPhee.

Centre: Mentone Girls Secondary College team, sponsored by RC Mordialloc.

R: PLC team, sponsored by RC Box Hill-Burwood.

There were a number of team prizes presented at the end of the day:

Best Delegation, Best Delegation Runner Up, Best dressed team, Encouragement Award – were all decided by MUNA adjudicators

The People's Choice Award was decided by fellow teams, while the Peace Prize was decided by MUNA adjudicators and officials.

Best Delegation was won by the team from Mullauna College, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Mitcham. They represented India. The PLC team, sponsored by Box Hill-Burwood and representing Germany, won the runner-up prize. The Peace prize was won by Mentone Girls Secondary College. They represented Ethiopia and were sponsored by RC Mordialloc. As you can see, the 9810 sponsored students acquitted themselves very well.

Congratulations to all 9820 and 9810 winners.

Once it all finished, we had to then strip the rooms back and return to the original state, carting in and out lots of very heavy furniture, sort rubbish into recyclable or waste and bag it. Then clean the kitchen. Everyone worked so well together.



The MUNA committee were excellent environmentalists! Folders were all returned to be reused. Minimum plastic was used. Everything possible was recycled (towards the end delegates were even asked to write their courier notes on the reverse side of previous ones). Waste and recyclable rubbish were separated. A great effort.

When finally finished we all went to dinner at the Berwick Inn. But it was an early night as we were exhausted.

Photo: Diplomatic couriers Thomas White, Monash Rotaract club member Netania Lim and Mullauma student Andy helping with the flag set-up and pack-up.

Roll on our next MUNA!

Glenys

PS

The footage is being edited post MUNA and it will be made available online soon.

RCFH BLACKBURN STATION CRAFT MARKET – TRADERS OF THE MONTH

Powerhouse Cheese

Barbara Power started making her own cheeses over 10 years ago. With a degree in Microbiology, she had a good scientific foundation to base her production. Two years ago, she started up her own commercial business **Powerhouse Cheese** and persuaded her sister, Donna Hall, who also has a Science degree, to leave her native New Zealand and join her in this venture. These two Artisan Cheesemakers use cow's milk in small 100 litre batches of milk from St David's Dairy in Fitzroy. They sell their cheeses at markets every Saturday and Sunday around the Melbourne area or you can order online for pick up on Monday afternoon. The rest of the week you will find them busy in their cheesery making their standard Blackburn Blue, Whitehorse White and Ash Bree cheeses or producing new varieties like their Bellbird Blue or a surface ripened Rosella Red which may become another standard offering in the future. Certainly, these two talented very local artisan cheesemakers running **Powerhouse Cheese** have a future.

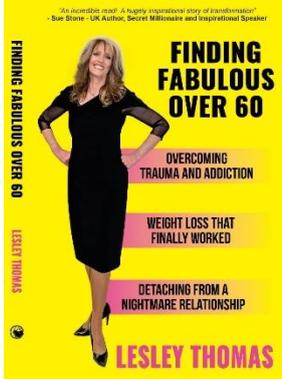
www.powerhousecheese.com.au



Dawn's Flowers

Dawn Hooton has been a regular at the Blackburn Craft Market from the very beginning. If you want her plants, you have to come to our market as she sells nowhere else. Dawn lives in Forest Hill and propagates every plant herself from her own seeds or cuttings. Her love of flowers and gardening started as a young girl when her father bought her a packet of fuchsia seeds..... it has been her hobby ever since. It's amazing looking at the large healthy specimens of evergreen perennials such as the fuchsias, ferns, and pelargoniums she sells with long flowering periods all at very reasonable prices.





Come to the Market next month- September 10