



2012-2013

Weekly Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Forest Hill

Edition 31:25 March 2013

The Rotary Club of Forest Hill meets at 6.15 pm for 6.30 pm on Mondays at Bucatini Restaurant, 454 Whitehorse Road, Mitcham, 3132.

Meal cost \$27.00

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CLUB PROGRAM

Date	Event	Chair	Thanker and Meeting Report	Member Talk on an aspect of peace
25 March	Diana Willshire/ Sneya Arya Board	Glenys Grant	Ray Smith	Gary Baltissen
1 April	No meeting			
8 April	Steve McDonald	Doug Berwick	Graham Sharman	



THIS WEEK'S CELEBRATIONS

Stuart Williams – club anniversary- 21 March
John McPhee- club anniversary-22 March
Joan Sharman- birthday- 31 March
Gary Baltissen-birthday- April 1
Doug Berwick-birthday –April 1
John Donaghey-club anniversary- April 1

DUTY ROSTER

	March	April
Cashier	Ron Brooks	Glenys Grant
Recorder	Gary Baltissen	John McPhee
Greeter	John Donaghey	Doug Berwick
Emergency	Graham Sharman	Bill Marsh

ATTENDANCE

Apologies - **Please contact Ray Smith by 10.00 am MONDAY** on 9878 4891 or rcssmith@optusnet.com.au Any cancellation after 10.00 am should be made direct with the management of Bucatini Restaurant on 9873 0268

BOB'S BELLBIRD BLOG

The members who went to Wangaratta had a great conference (see below) and all would enthusiastically recommend you to go to Bendigo 20-23 March 2014. We won't talk about the luck of the Irish and the successes of Bob and Barbara Williams. There was a great program, a magic magician and plenty of time to catch up with old friends and make new ones. Some other good news

- Club members have offered \$215 sponsorship for Ride from Conference and Nicole is well on her way
- The Ford Davis Golf Award was presented on 14 March to the RC of Noble Park
- The Taveuni Central school project in Fiji has been replaced by the Vuna school which is also on Taveuni Island-see below
- Stan raised \$43.80 for our Foundation

Our speaker this week is Diane Willshire a friend and teacher at Box Hill High talking on teaching issues.

Partners and friends are most welcome- please let Ray know.

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE – An introduction

The present long term Rotary Youth Exchange had its origin more than fifty years ago at an international assembly of Rotary Governors in 1958 with a challenge to consider student exchange, which would enable them to spend a year in a different country, in a different culture whilst going to school.

Joe Bradbury Governor from D280 which was one of 9 Australian districts totalling 326 clubs accepted the challenge. That was the beginning. He asked two enthusiastic Rotarians, Peter Barnett, of the Rotary Club of Myrtleford, and Clive Schliebs, of the Rotary Club of Wangaratta to develop the program's rules and promote participation.

A few years before that time individual clubs invited students for a year of schooling. One of those arrangements had a profound effect on the district program.

During 1954 the Rotary Club of East Jordan USA wrote to clubs around the world, offering children of Rotarians an exchange. Lynette Hopley daughter of a D280 Rotarian was accepted. She was one of fifteen international students who arrived there in 1956. But Rotary was advised that as it was not an authorised exchange organization the student's would have to return home. Those fifteen students were quickly endorsed on behalf of Rotary by AFS another exchange organization.

The first Rotary exchange was held between D280 and the District in Nebraska-Colorado in 1959. John Rogers from Scottsbluff, Nebraska, USA, arrived in Myrtleford, Victoria. At the same time Nick Rutherford and Norm Jordon left District 280 for Scottsbluff and Grand Lake, Colorado. It was those first three Rotary youth exchange students who started what has now become an opportunity of a lifetime for so many others.

In those early days, as expected with something that was new and unproven, there were questions about the program. Would it be supported? Would it be successful? Up until when it became an official program of Rotary in 1972, it was monitored by the Rotary Foundation, but not as a Foundation project.

Today there are around 8,000 exchanges arranged each year, both long term and different types of a short-term duration. These exchanges allow students from roundabout 80 countries of the Rotary world to develop international friendships, learn about different cultures and the need for a tolerance of each other's cultural differences.

Many significant milestones in the ongoing development of the program have occurred over the years. The first ever exchange with Japan and the circumstances of why and how it was arranged is without doubt one of the most significant.

An Australian airman, who was to later become Rotarian Don Farquhar, was blinded in action against the Japanese during World War II, initiated this against an atmosphere of both community resentment and in the face of great personal animosity to him. Although he was blind, Don was a man who

displayed a great vision. He saw the program of Rotary Youth Exchange as a means of building bridges of friendship with Japan.

Subsequently in January 1962, Yoko Miyazaki, a typically shy 15 year old Japanese girl arrived to be hosted by Don's club, the Rotary Club of Rosebud in D280. Yoko set building friendships, many which still endure today.

Past RI President John Kenny speaking about Rotary youth exchange quoted a Chinese Proverb; "One generation plants the trees, another generation gets the shade".

To use that Chinese Proverb, there have been many generations, both, past and present, planting and caring for forests of trees, with their following generations benefiting from the shade. Now there is a significant challenge. To keep planting trees, to keep cultivating and nurturing those trees. Then the next generation will have the same opportunity that those others before them have had. Are you up to this challenge?

Stuart Mc Donald

Stuart stirred many memories, showed a video of his presentation to President Tanaka at the International Conference and challenged us to become involved in Youth Exchange by one means or other (it could be part of a recruitment drive). A big thank you to Mr Youth Exchange.

PEACE

When you think of the years of youth exchanges what better example of President Tanaka's theme than Peace through Youth Exchange Service. Also consider Peace through ROMAC and the following

Magic Moment sent to us by Diane Fisher. I'm sure you know the Rotary club involved.

Ian Henry Stuart Riseley

Rotary Club of Sandringham, Victoria, Australia
 Rotary International Treasurer, 2007-08
 Director, 2006-08
 Rotary Foundation Trustee, 2011-15



A father in Bali knew that his two-year-old son was dying of a heart ailment, and the lifesaving operation was not available on the island.

In the hotel where he worked, there was an Australian chef who had heard of ROMAC, a Rotary project that brings children to Australia for major surgery not possible at home. They found ROMAC on the Internet, and after the necessary documentation and checking, young Rantun came to Melbourne with his father. They were hosted by a Rotary club, the operation was a success, and father and son returned home to convalesce.

Two years later, when my wife, Juliet, and I were about to visit Bali on holiday, the host Rotary club asked us to try to find Rantun to check his progress. We made contact with his father and arranged to visit the family in their home.

We were delighted to find an energetic and inquisitive little boy whose only sign of a heart problem was the scar on his chest. We spent most of a day with the family, who proudly showed us around their part of the island.

As we left their home after what had been an emotional day, Rantun's mother had tears streaming down her face, matched only by those of Juliet and me. She said, "Thank you; you have given me back my family."

She wasn't thanking us, she was thanking Rotary International and all the people who support our great programs. I have never been more proud to be a Rotarian.

ROTARY CLUBS PLAY A VITAL ROLE IN KIDS EDUCATION

Forest Hill's role in the ABCD program had top billing at the recent Wangaratta Conference.



Our thanks to roving reporter Cousin Ronnie (alias Ken Wall)

Don't forget the Giant Monopoly on Saturday April 20 at Box Hill Town Hall at 6.30 pm. Table bookings info@whitehorserotact.org.au RSVP by 10/4/2013. Proceeds to ABCD enabling kids to go to the Vuna Primary School in Fiji.

CONFERENCE



THE JOHNSTON COLLECTION

A visit is planned for all interested on Monday 22 April at 10am.
Cost is \$21.

Please let Judy Laslett or Robbie Brooks know if you can come. Payment is required by April 8 at the latest. A booking has been made for 12.

INTERESTING PROPOSITIONS

More Paraprosdokians

4. If I agreed with you, we'd both be wrong.
5. We never really grow up, we only learn how to act in public.
6. War does not determine who is right - only who is left.

Great Deal

Warwick says

If you are interested in getting an iPad I can get hold of them through a contact. These are legit, not off the back of a truck, they are from a cancelled Hospital contract due to the Government cutbacks. The numbers are limited - I have twenty iPads going for less than half price so its first come first served.

I have already sold one (pic is attached below so you can see what you are getting).

Get back to me as quick as you can if you want one.

Full spec as below

Bob



Good to see Warwick is still involved in collecting specs.

PERIDOT

The next Peridot excursion is in May and the play is "Nunsense".

APRIL CINEMA NIGHT

\$7.50 buys you the best seat in the house if I buy them in bulk. So come to the cinema next month Fri April 5th or just come and have a chat and coffee. You can go to an early screening time or later, just tell me what tickets you want.

Ron Brooks

IMPORTANT UPCOMING CLUB AND DISTRICT EVENTS

3/2013	WORLD LITERACY
25/3/2013	Club meeting/ Board
4/2013	ROTARY MAGAZINE
8/4/2013	Club meeting

Please have FOREST HILL FLYER articles to the Editor at rlaslett@optusnet.com.au by **5 pm Wednesday** (in Microsoft Word format please)