



FOREST HILL HAPPENINGS

No. 36 President: Bill Marsh

26 June 2024

VALE – JOHN BINDON

9th March 1937 to 20th June 2024

Greatly Respected Member of Rotary Club of Forest Hill

John died in the morning of 20th June 2024 when he finally gave in to the multiple cancers from which he had been suffering for some considerable time.

John remained very positive right up until the last couple of days vowing to attend our last meeting on the 24th June. Sadly, this was not to be.

John will be sorely missed by the many people whose lives he enriched through Rotary and his work with the YMCA.

BILL'S BY-LINE



On Monday we held our final club meeting and what a great night it proved to be as it changed what could have been a sombre occasion into one of celebration.

The members who attended; Bob Laslett, Barb Searle, Sue Ballard, Glenys Grant, Stuart Williams and Bill Marsh were joined by a number of partners; Judy Laslett, Judy Marsh and Marg McPhee, the 'Davis Boys' – Roger, Peter and Gary, Honorary Members Marg Taylor, Glenys Coates and Jan Cook-President of RC Mitcham. The happy chatter was interrupted briefly by a delicious a-la-carte dinner.

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At various times during the evening, I gave my final report - after four terms as President 'final' has finally arrived.

I began with a few personal reflections before moving on to business.

I would like to start this, our final meeting, by saying '**Thank You**' to the club and all its members, past and present and the many friends of RC Forest Hill.

You welcomed me into the club 14 years ago and helped me see what Rotary and the RC Forest Hill had achieved and could still achieve. I am most grateful for this kindness.

I renewed old friendships and forged many new friendships as we worked together.

It has been a pleasure and a privilege to be part of a club that has done so much for so many – many of whom we would never see. You have made a difference!

'Service Above Self' is truly a living motto. When you let it into your life and embrace it you get the most reward for your efforts.

Over its almost 49 years of community service this club has helped thousands, both here and abroad. It has put between 1.5 and 2.0 million dollars into the world community. People have had food, water, sanitation, health care and education because of what we have done. That is a great legacy! And now, as we finish up, we are facilitating and funding a Global Scholar. Ethan Newnham, who will go to Oxford University with our support, will, hopefully, contribute significantly to world health through his research. Not a bad note to go out on!

All of this has been made possible through the dedication and hard work of our members over many years and the fantastic support we have received from the Gysi-Davis family and the Harper family. The support of these two families has more than doubled the financial contribution we have been able to make to the causes we have championed. We owe them a debt we can never repay.

This week we lost John Bindon. The third of our members to pass away in the last 7 months. (John D and Warwick S)

John was a staunch Rotarian, a member of three clubs over a lifetime of service. John's passion was always evident, and he was heart-broken towards the end because he didn't think he was contributing enough to the club.

A service for John will be held at the Surrey Hills UC at 2.00 pm on 1st July. If you are going to attend, please let Stuart know so he can pass on numbers. If you cannot attend the service will be live streamed – <https://www.vividstream.com.au/live/john-bindon>

Stuart arranged a notice in the paper.

Some members will also know Wendy Parish who died a couple of days ago. Wendy was the wife of Max Parish – an ex-member.

The distribution of funds is almost complete. The Global grant and FHC are still outstanding. Following a contact Glenys made with FHC I have tried again over the weekend and today to contact the college urgently – to no avail. I would recommend we pursue FHC no further. *Note: I have now finalised FHC for the 2024 year.* This will enable me to finalise the distribution of available funds except for the Global Grant.

I have provided members with regular updates on the distribution of our funds since I took on the role of Treasurer. The email on the 21st with a few minor additions shows the current state of the accounts. After tonight's meeting I will transfer any balance in the Club Account into our Fundraising account for distribution according to the charities listed in the email. I would ask that the accounts as distributed be accepted. *Note: Accepted*

I will have an accountant check the figures and will send a final update to everyone after that is done.

Our BBQ was gifted to RC Mitcham who will take over the Blackburn Market from July. I plan to attend the July market to help out if any problems crop up and I am sure a number of you will do likewise. Sadly, although he did attend, John McPhee has not been able to have his usual influence on the last couple of markets due to ill health and he has been sadly missed by the stallholders, who worship the ground he walks on – well almost.

I have begun sending out a letter to all schools we have dealt with over the years notifying them of our closure and thanking them for their support

Reports called for from:

Bob Laslett -Global Grant submitted

Glenys Grant- Youth Achievement Awards,

Stuart Williams- article in Eastsider News

Sue- plan for easier contacts for Ethan via Zoom

PHF Awards – these are normally a President's call, however since we have had three Presidents this year I invited thoughts from all members. Thank You to those who responded. *Note: When you receive your first Paul Harris you get a certificate and after that just the pin.*

We have got to where we are and achieved what we have done by being a team and supporting each other.

I have decided that we will finish our time at Forest Hill as a team - with every current member receiving a PHF. This will include Warwick & John B whose PHF's will be awarded to family members.

I will arrange for you to receive your PHF when they arrive.

Each PHF awarded means \$1000 will be contributed to Foundation - \$10,000 from RC Forest Hill.

A presentation was made to Sam to thank him and the staff for their kindness and support over the years.

Raffle – six prizes. Special thanks to Michael Sukkar and Bendigo Bank for their donation of prizes.

I look forward to seeing you all again at our gathering on Monday 9 September for an early birthday celebration. All ex-members and friends of Rotary will be invited to this gathering to talk over old times in the club's history. We will run a continuous slide show of the club's projects and people.

Thank You all for your friendship and support and I wish you well with the rest of your life.

Bill

The club acknowledged with acclamation Bill's outstanding leadership and were thrilled to receive commemorative bookmarks courtesy Georgina, Melanie and Leanne.

COMING UP

9 September

OUR 49th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Please put the date in your diary and come and talk about the club's magnificent history. The meeting will be at Bucatini unless otherwise noted.

*June is
Rotary Fellowships
Month*

CELEBRATIONS



LET US CELEBRATE
THE LEGACY OF THE
ROTARY CLUB OF
FOREST HILL.



Youth Achievement Award



Nicholas Bacca, presenting YCA to Tarragon, Box Hill High School.

Transmission of wild poliovirus halted in southern Africa

Swift action and improved surveillance ended the spread of wild poliovirus type 1 in Malawi and Mozambique. An expert team that performed thorough assessments recommends officially declaring the outbreak to be over — a huge victory in the effort against polio in Africa.

The last case of wild poliovirus type 1 in the World Health Organization's African Region, linked to a strain circulating in Pakistan, was reported in Mozambique's Tete Province in August 2022. Nine cases overall were detected in Mozambique and neighbouring Malawi, where the outbreak was declared in February 2022.

In response to the outbreak, more than 50 million children received vaccinations to shield them from the virus. This successful coordinated effort underscores the power of collaboration and the need for a timely response in safeguarding communities against infectious diseases.

End Polio Newsletter

RCFH BLACKBURN STATION CRAFT MARKET – TRADER OF THE MONTH

Every month for the last 10 years or so we have heard the sometimes lively and sometimes plaintive sounds of jazz drifting down over the stalls at the Blackburn Craft Market. The **Skidaddle** group give their time freely to entertain us while clearly having fun (or is it that they would play anywhere for a free sausage at the end of the morning?). If you haven't met them, they are Richard Desmond (cornet), Dave O'Sullivan (drums), Jim Badger (banjo), Ezra Kawadlo (trombone), Simon Gilbert (guitar), Tony Lee (clarinet), and Rod Evans (double bass). Richard and others also sing. So next time you are at the craft market, go up, say hello, smile, tap your feet, sing along - they'll love you for it. Rod is their low-profile leader and told me they are available for parties, and for gigs particularly their 16-piece big band that plays swing music mostly from the 30's and 40's. You may have seen and heard some of the other bands they play in, which include the Dandenong Ranges Hot Jazz Orchestra, South Dereel City Stompers, U3A Big Band, and the Diamond Valley Big Band, too many to list. Many in the band will be playing at the Port Fairy Jazz Festival in February 2024. As I was listening to them play, I heard one say let's change the key to ..., I didn't realise it but all these guys read music as well..... and there was me thinking they just play it all by ear.

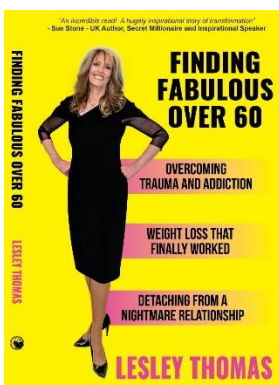
So if you want to hire them please contact: rode.evans@macrodynamics.com.au





THE SKIDADDLE GROUP

SOME OF OUR BLACKBURN MARKET STALLHOLDERS





Come and frequent the Market next month—July 13- courtesy RC Mitcham

Disclaimer: Articles and reports do not necessarily reflect Rotary Club of Forest Hill opinions.