



# MEADOWS MATTERS

This bulletin is the newsletter of the Rotary Club  
of Greenmeadows, Napier, New Zealand



Bulletin 2024-25 No. 31  
19<sup>th</sup> February 2025

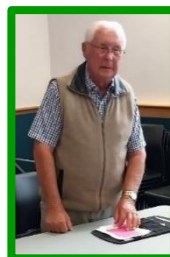
## JOURNEY TO THE SOUTH POLE

**President Chris**, welcomed 49 members and guests to the meeting including Phil Cooper from UK, our inbound IYE Student Alice Wender, and our speaker Jo McDougal with his family. A quiet reflection was held to remember the two-year anniversary of Cyclone Gabrielle which affected some of our members properties.



## Welfare

**Welfare Officer Stuart** reported that Don McKenzie is returning to Wellington shortly to the Limb Centre for his new leg fitting. Wal Drayton is making slow progress at home and Hugh Robertson is much the same. Geoff Bibby and Jenny were welcomed back and looking much better. It was also announced that Beau Searle has died. She was a stalwart with her husband Len sponsoring our major fundraising Artex.



## Announcements

**Steve Gillum** proposed a short sharp fundraiser as suggested by Stewart Skeet. This is to help Cranford Hospice with funds for their new proposed site at Parkvale. It involves Stewart riding a bike for 100km from Pettigrew Green Arena. With an auctioneering approach, Steve raised \$2500.00 from Rotarians all within five minutes.



## Paul Harris Presentation

Bryan Matthews took up the rostrum and called up Garth Eyles – who was then surprised by his wife and family coming in the front door and joining the meeting. Garth was then presented with a PHF+1 i.e. a badge that included a sapphire. Bryan Mathews read the citation which outlined the outstanding work Garth has committed to for the environment field in our community, co-ordinating the

## Officer Holders 2024-25

**District Governor** Nick Dangerfield  
**Dist. Gov. Elect** Ken Smith  
**Community Leader** Grant Spackman

**President** Christine McKenna  
**Secretary** Ken Hunt  
**Treasurer** Graeme Muir  
**PE & Club Admin** Carol Charman  
**Membership & PI** John Mackintosh  
**Service Projects** Denise Brown  
**Youth** Gill Scarlett  
**Foundation** Ross Pinkham  
**ArtEx** TBA

## Meetings

**Weekly:** Taradale Town Hall  
Wednesday 6.00pm  
Fellowship 5.30pm  
**Firesides:** 1<sup>st</sup> Wed  
**Directors:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed

## Coming Up:

Visits to Hamish Lacks boat shop  
and the Brookfield winery.  
District Conference in May.

## Leave of Absence

Denise P & Jenny R - ongoing

## Website/Club Contacts

Our Facebook site  
<https://www.facebook.com/greenmeadowsrotary>

Our website  
[www.greenmeadowsrotary.co.nz](http://www.greenmeadowsrotary.co.nz)

**President Chris:**  
mckennachristine530@gmail.com

**Secretary:**  
[administrator@greenmeadowsrotary.co.nz](mailto:administrator@greenmeadowsrotary.co.nz)

**Apologies:**  
GR.apologies@gmail.com (**before 2pm Tue**)

Dolbel Reserve and The Gap (Westshore) projects. Garth has also held various positions in Rotary and is currently the Greenmeadows Rotary Environmental Officer. He helped write the Health and Safety Policy for the Dolbel Reserve so it was interesting seeing his current “green” plaster on his arm following a fall at Dolbel.

Mary Anne was also congratulated on receiving a KSM in the New Years Honours with the work she has done supporting Garth's work, being a JP, Red Cross Co-ordinator, and many other community organisations. She was presented with a bunch of flowers and it was lovely to have the Eyles family also in attendance.



## Sergeant at Arms

**Sergeant Mike Owen** fined PHF awardees who were not wearing their medals including Ken Hunt, who sent out the email telling us to! In view of our topic about Antarctica, we had our knowledge tested about Scott Base and Antarctica including how far from Taradale to Scott Base with the answer being 4200km. The Raffle was won by Graeme Ryan



## GUEST SPEAKER - Jo McDougal

Steve Gillum introduced Jo McDougal who had addressed the club on a previous occasion about adventures in Mongolia (or some such place). This time he told us he had just returned from a six-month stint in Antarctica as a Field Mechanic on the Ross Ice Shelf traverse. Jo told us about SWA!S2C, which is the study of the west Antarctic ice sheet to 2 degrees Celsius of warming. Part of Jo's work was to maintain the many vehicles that are



used in the ice. With a Power Point, Jo described the difficulty of being in a 24-hour sunlight environment, so care had to be taken with sleeping when they were in cabins. He also explained that any rescues done by plane, required fuel to be “positioned” all over the continent for refuelling. Fuel travels by NZ Navy vessels to McMurdo and then the Americans tow the fuel in big bladders across the ice. Kitchen and

## WORDS & IMAGES THIS WEEK

Words this week came from the pen of Lynne Gibson and photos were captured by two cops, a pharmacist and a real estate agent!

### The Food this week



### Chicken 2 Ways

### Thoughts for the week (Edwin Brown)

#### Opening:

*“Never regret a day in your life. Good days give you happiness, bad days give you experience, worst days give you lessons and best days give you memories.”*

#### Closing:

*“Happiness is an attitude. We either make ourselves miserable or happy and strong. The amount of work is the same.”*



the canteen were the only warm places and unbelievably it is difficult to keep food frozen due to the heat reflecting off dark protectors

Communication was by Starlink and some GPS and marker flags which were white and challenging to see in the snow. In question time Jo's mother asked how qualified the medic was, so it highlighted the great work the Ice team do, albeit dangerous at times. Jo presented a framed flag from the ice, to our Rotary which will be a reminder to the wonderful work that is done in the Antarctica.

It was a very interesting talk about a region that remains a mystery to most of us but satisfying to see the work done between New Zealand and USA to study this wonderful continent.

*Lynne Gibson thanked Jo with a bottle of wine.*

## Further Paul Harris Presentation

PDG Ian Holyoake recalled his earlier days as a District Governor and making presentations of Paul Harris Fellowships. Acknowledging the earlier "award" to Garth Eyles for his amazing club contribution, Ian pointed out that when the awards were originally created, it was to acknowledge "donations" by Rotarians and that there were various levels reflecting the amounts given. Only a small number of countries use the recognition as an "honour". But it does not matter whether we call it an "award", a "reward" or a "recognition". What really counts is that it acknowledges US\$1000 being paid to our charity, and for *"Doing Good in the World."* In that light he had great pleasure presenting PDG Ross Pinkham with a PHF + 2 ruby pins which acknowledged a total of US\$8000 being given in Ross' name. Ross himself explained that some five of these had been "awarded" to him and three were from his own donations – which included the value of the meals prepaid and not eaten due to his occasional apologies. Ross also acknowledged a total of \$US156,000 had been donated by Greenmeadows to the Rotary Foundation over the years.



## ROSTER OF DUTIES

	February 26th	March 5th	March 12th
<b>Programme: Guest Speaker</b>	<b>History of Artex Brian Peploe</b>	<b>Firesides</b>	<b>School Science Report back</b>
Host and Thoughts Top Table introduce Speaker Vote of Thanks Cashier Three Minute Speaker Sergeant	Gail Kelly Kelvin Winnie Helen Tattersall Judy McKelvie - Kevin McCormack	Graeme Ryan - - Fred Staples Brian Anstis Garth Eyles	Les Mockford Gill Scarlet Alan White Gail Kelly - Brian Hall
<b>Stewards</b> <i>One per table and the named Members to clean up</i>	Bill Hawkins Bryan Matthews	Peter Thompson Peter Manson	Steve Gillum Ross Pinkham

### UNABLE TO PERFORM DUTY or an ABSENCE COMING UP

***If you cannot perform a rostered duty, YOU must arrange a substitute and advise the President of this.***

***If you are going to miss a meeting, email the apologies link and if you have a long-term absence planned, write to the Secretary seeking "Leave of Absence."***





## MISCELLANEOUS MEADOWS MATTERS

### A RANDOM RHYME

Last week was west and this week south  
Incredible words from this speaker's mouth  
President Chris brought her adventure tourist  
Last time - heat and sun, this time snow and mist  
I figure we will hear more from this tourist bold  
As he traverses the world before he grows old

(From *Pat the Poet*)

The Eyles  
family who  
arrived to  
surprise  
Garth



### LATE BREAKING NOTICES

**Brookfield Winery:** Restaurant booked for lunch on **Saturday March 15<sup>th</sup> – 11.30 for 12midday**

A social get together Rotarians. A set menu for us, \$38 per head with breads and a choice of shared dishes. There is wine and beer to purchase as required. The menu can be seen on their website. Curly will take attendance numbers over the next two Rotary meetings. We have tentatively booked for 50.

**Camp Kaitawa Trust:** Is pleased to have received notification that the \$7,500 Rotary Foundation Disaster Relief Grant which was allocated through Greenmeadows Rotary in 2023, has received final District approval. The grant was used to re-gravel the camp driveway and also contributed towards the fixed costs the camp incurred during the following seven months when little to no visitors' income was earned.

The Trust is extremely grateful for this support. **Graeme Muir, Trust Chairman**

**Wine Bottle Caps:** Yes – we now have someone to collect them. Guess who? It's Mary Ann & she says: *I collect wine bottle caps to pass on to Special Olympics for their fundraising. Peter Brown gives me caps from the Rotary meeting each week. If any Rotarian wishes to save their own and bring them to Rotary, I'll happily add them to the stash for delivery. Red Cross also has a drop off site so we could really help out here with increased donations.* Mary Ann Eyles

**Steve Gillum:** The Cranford Hospice bike ride fund raiser by Stewart Skeet and referred to earlier in this bulletin, appears to have happened and you know about from an email sent out (to most of us). Reiterating the important part, namely that we need to pay our promised funds as follows:

Bank account is : Rotary Club of Greenmeadows Charitable Trust  
03-0698-0976848-01 Reference = Cranford





**#32 – February 16, 2024**

*1' to discover Rotary news*

## **Rotary's response to the U.S.'s plan to withdraw from the WHO, USAID funding freeze**

Rotary remains committed to eradicating polio, despite the U.S. decision to withdraw from the WHO, a key partner in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI).

As a founding GPEI partner, Rotary has worked for decades with governments and organizations to reduce polio cases by 99.9% since 1988.

The organization remains dedicated to protecting every child, even in the most remote and challenging regions.

Rotary is confident that GPEI will continue to adapt, innovate, and ensure vaccine accessibility worldwide.

Additionally, Rotary's collaboration with USAID has been affected by a stop-work order, impacting various projects, including the Hearts of Europe initiative.

Rotary has informed those involved and is working on alternative funding solutions to support ongoing efforts.

Despite these challenges, Rotary remains resolute in achieving a polio-free world.

Having eradicated smallpox, humanity can now ensure polio becomes the second disease eliminated globally, fulfilling the long-standing promise of a healthier future for all.



The Rotarian Minute is a creation of District 1700. Please send any comments or suggestions to [laminute1700@gmail.com](mailto:laminute1700@gmail.com)

***Next Week at home and with a history lesson on ArtEx***

