



# MEADOWS MATTERS

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



Bulletin 2024-25 No. 42  
7<sup>th</sup> May 2025

## A BRIEF MEETING & FIRESIDES

**President Christine** welcomed around 35 members, including PDG Roger Miller from Tauranga Te Papa. [Roger said he had been biking with PDG Ross and also acknowledged that “our” Jenny Roberston was in his club and making an impact!]



## Welfare

**Welfare Officer Stuart**, advised that Don McKenzie had just gone to Wellington for adjustment to his new leg/prosthetic. Stu had also spoken to Geoff Bibby who seemed quite good and as well had learned that Wal Drayton was having a few days in hospital and was “feeling better.”



## Announcements

**Gardening Garth** told us that 105 plants had been placed with *love and care* on Monday at The Gap. (Photo below) He went on to say that at 9am next Monday “we” have permission from the Council to “clear up” around our shelter at Awatoto (adjoining the Kirs Jensen memorial). Garth will seek to bring a key for the gate and you should bring a fork or spade! *(Full details in his Friday evening personal email to you through Ken)*

**Youth Committee’s Steve Gillum & Mike Owen** described a project (copied from the latter’s Upper Hutt Rotary club) which assisted the *Police Family Harm Unit* (who get 200 calls a week). Police are



provided with a present to give to kids in the family – who are maybe witnessing *their father being taken away!* Upper Hutt Rotary had put up around \$2000 but in approaching the Warehouse for gifts, received a discount which made the amount worth \$3000. The proposal is that we fund a similar venture here. There then followed some ‘banter’ whether the police or the firefighters were the most liked. [The latter were

*apparently the winners, but that is understandable – for there is no reason to dislike a firefighter is there? Ed]*

## 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.  
District Conference in May.

## Leave of Absence

Denise P & Bruce Martin - ongoing  
Don McKenzie to 30<sup>th</sup> April. Wal  
Draton to end of May

## 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

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

**PDG Ross** then outlined his recent experience as the District **Council on Legislation** representative and his attendance at the meeting in Chicago last month. He told us that some 86 remits were debated, (especially by Japan & India) that there were 500 delegates and eight languages used. Some items of note that were “passed” included there now being only 15 members needed for a new club (previously 20), that district conferences are no longer compulsory, and that the annual membership dues have gone up! He also referred to his visit to Rotary International HQ at Evanston, Chicago, and his personal meeting with the World President **Stephanie Urchick**. He concluded his report with a personal presentation to Pres. Chris, and Pres. Elect Carol, with Rotary scarves depicting the “themes” for their years and then acknowledged previous Council members present, PDGs Roger Miller & Ian Holyoake.



### Three Minute Speaker



This monthly spot was filled by “newish” member **Peter Manson** who was pleased to explain his background. This was especially so in the light of he and John Waldin (who joined about the same time) being often confused with each other (in the bulletin particularly) and so he was able to “*set the record straight!*” He talked about Christchurch, farming, floods, a 1985 Hillman Super Minx, getting a job in Wairoa, (*a baptism of fire*) and spending 40 years there.

This included working with Garth Eyles (a great boss), “training” in a hotel – and meeting his wife there. They have four children. While he had connections to his family farm, he left his young brother to look after that. He also spoke of his experiences with Cyclones Bola & Gabrielle. Against all this experience, he eventually abandoned the northern Hawkes Bay and came to a new hotel (or church) at Puketapu – and to our club!

### Sergeant’s Session

**Sergeant Kelvin** took the rostrum and told us that he had used (Artificial Intelligence) to seek fines from our members and that AI had converted it to rhyme for him. We all paid up. (*Full details on this appear below and it seems the job of “Pat the Poet” could be in danger! Ed*)



### WORDS & IMAGES THIS WEEK

This week the words came from the pen of the Editor and he also took his own photographs.

#### The Food this week



### Thoughts for the week (Mark Dickerson)

#### Opening

*“Don’t ever question the value of volunteers. Noah’s Ark was built by volunteers and the Titanic was built by professionals.”*

#### Closing

*“Twenty-five years ago, we had Johnny Cash, Bob Hope and Steve Jobs. Today we have no cash, no hope and no jobs. Please God, don’t let Kevin Bacon die.”*

## Roster of Duties

|                                                                                                                   | May 14th                                                                        | May 21st                                                                          | May 28th                                                                         |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Programme:</b><br><b>Guest Speaker</b>                                                                         | <b>Scott Moge</b>                                                               | <b>Hamish Saxton</b><br><b>H B Tourism</b>                                        | <b>Andrew Cassey</b><br><b>HBRC</b>                                              |
| Host and Thoughts<br>Top Table introduce Speaker<br>Vote of Thanks<br>Cashier<br>Three Minute Speaker<br>Sergeant | Clive Adams<br>Alan White<br>Steve Gillum<br>Judy McKelvie<br>-<br>Gill Scarlet | Bob Morrison<br>Bryan Matthews<br>Garth Eyles<br>Mike Owen<br>-<br>Mark Dickerson | Fred Staples<br>Graeme Muir<br>John Mackintosh<br>Neil Smith<br>-<br>John Waldin |
| <b>Stewards</b><br><i>One per table and the named Members to clean up at the end.</i>                             | Bill Hawkins<br>Robert Pearson                                                  | Curly Carpenter<br>Judy McKelvie                                                  | Robert Pearson<br>Graeme Ryan                                                    |

### 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

A short meeting perhaps, but lots got done  
 Gardening Garth told us how to have fun  
 Then another thing that we did  
 Was learn about giving a gift to a kid  
 To help us with our Rotary cause  
 We found out about new Rotary laws  
 Then a new member told us of his past  
 And how he got down to Napier at last  
 (By Pat the Poet)

### Club Changeover

Coming up next month, President  
 Chris will hand over the chain of  
 office to Pres. Elect Carol.  
 This will take place at our usual  
 venue for such events - Valley  
 Devine, at Linden Estate  
 Lunch at 12 midday on Sunday 29  
 June  
 Cost is \$50 to \$55 - to be confirmed.



The Gap Gardening →

← Top Tabel Tonight





## TIME WITH A RHYME IN KELVIN'S TIME

At Greenmeadows Rotary, it's quite the scene,  
From apple orchards to submarines.  
With careers diverse and stories to tell,  
They meet each week and all get on swell.

Ken and Garth are tree-hugging kings,  
Saving the planet with eco-friendly things.  
Mark builds it strong, not flimsy or fake,  
Unless it's a shed after three cups of cake.

Kevin and Steve tend orchards with pride,  
While Geoff and John are lawyers with bite—  
They'd sue you for fun, and act so polite.  
Chris heals the wounded with nursing skill,  
While Stu and Curly sell cars for a thrill.

Brian (the first) makes sails that fly,  
Peter the fisherman casts far and wide.  
Brian M. manages projects on high,  
Fred builds eco-houses with sustainable care,  
Neil grows the crops with knowledge so rare.

Peter's the barman — and knows how to pour,  
While Brian H. counts the cash at the door.  
Carol scans bodies with a scintigraph stare,  
Graeme(s) Ryan & Muir tally accounts with flair.

Les does too — and refs rugby with pride,  
While Ross and Ian keep the law on the ride.  
David once captained a sub in the sea,  
Now he surfaces only for biscuits and tea.

Jill, Gail, Bob M. & Denise teach the young  
With patience, sharp wit & very firm lungs  
Helen X-rays with radiographic skill,  
Lynne tunes your hearing (& likely your will)

Judy critiques art with a penetrating eye,  
Bruce manages schools that reach for the sky.  
Edwin directs with executive charm,  
Frank knows his wine — both bottle and farm.

Robert ensures your insurance won't flop,  
While Mike fights fire and makes hoses stop.  
Kelvin sells houses with polished finesse,  
While John R. values — he's simply the best.

Stu Skeet grows crops and perhaps a new calf,  
And Alan cycles past all with a laugh.  
To anyone not mentioned, we say with great pride,  
You're special and welcome, with nothing to hide.

Though we didn't know your profession today,  
Your Rotary spirit shines in every way  
And now you are acknowledged, you can pay!!

So, here's to Rotary, and all we can do,  
Keep up the good work in all you do  
Together, we serve — and together we thrive,  
Now bugger off home and don't drink and drive.

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An in a completely separate context, but with plenty of “Rhyme & Reason” here is a photo of Mary Ann Eyles at the recent investiture at Government House where she received her very well-earned award.

## Further Rotary Information



The Rotarian  
Minute *History*

**No. 32 – April 26, 2025**

*1 minute to discover an aspect of Rotary history*

### The initial philosophy of Rotary

Rotary's original philosophy, as conceived by Paul Harris, was based on a unique balance between community service and professional networking.

The central idea was to create a space where businessmen and professionals could build friendly relationships while helping each other in their respective activities.

Paul Harris firmly believed that these personal connections would foster stronger business ethics and a greater sense of social responsibility.

The pioneers of Rotary thus placed the concept of service at the heart of their project.

Rather than limiting themselves to the sole pursuit of profit, they intended to put their skills and resources at the service of the common good, thus contributing to the improvement of life in their respective cities.

The concept of "Service Above Self" was not yet formalized, but the idea of contributing to the well-being of the community was already present.

The weekly meetings, alternating between members' workplaces, aimed to promote mutual understanding of different professions and encourage ethical business exchanges.



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

**Next week at our regular venue with a speaker – on something!**