



MEADOWS MATTERS

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



Bulletin 2024-25 No. 43
14th May 2025

LESSON ON THE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

President Christine, sporting a new hairdo, welcomed 34 members and slightly late as she was enjoying her second gin, courtesy of Kevin McCormick, who was shouting as his youngest daughter with 2 kids had recently got married after 10 years. (Didn't happen that way in our day, did it?)



Welfare

Having enjoyed an excellent meal of sticky Chinese pork belly with crackling, **Welfare Officer Stewart** advised us that Don McKenzie was returning to Wellington for further adjustments to his new leg; Geoff Bibby had gone through his last round of chemotherapy, that his wife Jenny was okay; and Wally Drayton was on the up.



Stuart also noted that Bruce and Alison Martins' adult daughter had died on Sunday and that the funeral would be at Howard and Gannons' on Tuesday with the time to be confirmed. He and Heather had called with flowers and condolences on behalf of the Club. And on a sadder note, Caterer Dave Roasts' mother has died in the UK and Dave will be returning home for some time and so we need to organise our own catering. (Hard to match his quality!)

Announcements

For the **Youth Committee Steve Gillum** gave a report on the Waikato & Rotorua areas RYPEN held at Lakewood lodge where approximately 50 14-year-olds were put through such tasks as kayaking, 11 metre climbing walls, flying fox and presenting a very entertaining & rowdy concert on Saturday night.

As a venue Lakewood has a lot to offer in the way of facilities, managed activities with trained staff and all at a very economical \$225 per teen with limited need for active participation from Rotarians. The most difficult task for Rotarians was catching 14-year-olds the size of some adults as they come hurtling & screaming down the twin 60-metre-long flying foxes. (Pictures below.)

John Macintosh was an opening speaker for **Garth Eyles** regarding an idea that had been accepted as one of three at the hui of the 11

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: 1st Wed
Directors: 2nd Wed

Coming Up:

Visits to Hamish Lacks boat shop.
District Conference in May.

Leave of Absence

Denise P & Bruce Martin - ongoing
Don McKenzie to 30th April. Wal
Draon to end of May

Website/Club Contacts

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

Our website
www.greenmeadowsrotary.co.nz

President Chris:
mckennachristine530@gmail.com

Secretary:
administrator@greenmeadowsrotary.co.nz

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

Area Rotary clubs. Garth then elaborated on the idea of a web-based guide for Rotarians on Rotary based activities on the East Coast that they could visit or participate in. Examples included self-guided tours of the Napier-Hastings, or being able to participate in the volunteer week at Camp Kaitawa each January. Having had the inspiration Garth was now wanting to pass the project on to an implementer. A vacancy now exists for a convenor who can visit the Hawkes Bay clubs and expand on the idea engage support. He's wanting to have this done by Kings Birthday so don't be shy - volunteer as this is a good role for less active members.

Having gained our attention **Gardening Garth** then donned his **Gap Cap** and reported on the working bee at Awatoto where 10 busy bees helped clean up the previous plantings and fill one trailer of organic matter that *Bio Rich* took free of charge. Garth estimates the job is 48% done and has acceptance from Napier City Council that we can finish the job and they will provide some more plants. So, keep fit and active as we know that Garth always has some 'gardening' activity in mind for us.

Brian Hall noted that some keys had been lost but it transpired that he had only had a *man's look* and they were later found for him and put on the hook where they belong.

Jammies for June was mentioned with Dame Val Adams supporting the national effort. We'll continue with our Jenny Robertson's initiative as per Kens' email of Thursday. (*More below.*)

Sergeant's Session

Sergeant Gill Scarlett immediately made us all stand up tall and straight. She then asked a series of yes/no questions (hands on head or bottom) Those for "No" sat down and paid and those for "Yes" remained standing until they became a "No" and also sat down and paid! Last man standing was Frank! Questions were complex and included reference to "*tattle, tittle or tottle*" (*requires further research*). Excellent work by Gill may see her promoted to Lieutenant.



WORDS & IMAGES THIS WEEK

This week the words came from the pen of "Cub Reporter" Steve Gillum. He also supplied some photos, as did Ross Pinkham – and Pres. Chris.

The Food this week



Sticky Chinese Pork Belly

Thoughts for the week (Clive Adams)

Opening

Time is free
but it is priceless,
You can use it
but you can't keep it,
And once you've lost it,
you can never get it back.

STRENGTH

Doesn't come from what you can do,
It comes from overcoming the things you
once thought you couldn't do.

Closing

GUEST SPEAKER – ON NAPIER COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Guest speaker Scott Moge was introduced by Alan White who told us that there are 27 such schools throughout New Zealand with the other Hawke's Bay one being Akina in Hastings. The purpose of Community Schools is to provide a temporary place for school students who are experiencing difficulty in the mainstream school environment for a wide variety of reasons. They may be at risk, may have made mistakes, have anxiety issues, be anorexic, have home difficulties and are from the full range of society. What they just need is a chance to have a reset and prepare for reintegration back into their own school environment.

The school has capacity for 12 students at a time with their three staff, and with students being there for 10 – 20 weeks. At that point it becomes pretty obvious to them that they're back on the path to reintegration into the school they came from.

Scott described how the students are involved in the management of the Community School through the process of making their own budgets and menus and preparing the food followed up by cleaning. The students are involved in all the tasks required to maintain a small community like theirs. At the same time, they are continuing with programmes similar to their prior schoolwork with this being often carried out through the Te Kura Correspondence school type programmes.

Outdoor activities are a component of the curriculum with activities such as water safety courses run with Andy Callinicos, or twice annually monitoring trap lines at Te Ngahere and providing the records to DOC.

Facts: The bad bits - there are 200 kids in Napier who have not been to school for the last two years! Many of the 13- to 15-year-olds who come to Community School only have the reading age of a 7-year-old, and 75 to 80% of their students only stay at school until they're 16-year-olds. They cannot accept all possible candidates and if a student walks down the long driveway and out through the gate, they are unlikely to continue with any further education. This is a once only chance at the Community School. Family support is hard to obtain but is a key factor in the success of all students.

Facts: The good bits- students come in with an attendance rate of less than 30% and graduate with an attendance rate of 80%. Behavioural change is the big thing with Scott, not academic success; it's about just putting kids back on the tracks.

Success stories such as Harry Averill, who was anorexic when enrolled and went on to write a book '*Happy to be Hungry*' and later become Napier Boys High School head boy, is dear to Scott's heart. He also noted students who had gone on to be a Commander of a Navy ship or to become Chartered Accountants, not easy tasks - they're not dropout kids!

His message is that the Community School, which is part of Napier Boys High School, is an ambulance at the top of the Cliff and that it is a vital part of our education system



MISCELLANEOUS MEADOWS MATTERS

Jenny's Jamas are still on (or off!)

To continue the work of Jenny's Robertson, can we have pyjama donations or cash donations please for pyjamas for kids and adults for June. We will collect over the next two meetings and then deliver to the Salvation Army. Help support this excellent cause. Many thanks in anticipation. Chris and Denise.

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.

GREENMEADOWS IMAGES FROM AROUND AND ABOUT



At District Conference this weekend ↑

Gardening At The Gap



↑ Gardening at Awatoto ↓



Roster of Duties

	May 21st	May 28th	June 4th
Programme: Guest Speaker	Hamish Saxton H B Tourism	Andrew Cassey HBRC	Firesides
Host and Thoughts Top Table introduce Speaker Vote of Thanks Cashier Three Minute Speaker Sergeant	Bob Morrison Bryan Matthews Garth Eyles Mike Owen - Mark Dickerson	Fred Staples Graeme Muir John Mackintosh Neil Smith - Edin Brown	Frank Heuser - - Bob Brady John Waldin Les Mockford
Stewards <i>One per table and the named Members to clean up</i>	Curly Carpenter Judy McKelvie	Robert Pearson Graeme Ryan	Brian Anstis Kevin McCormack

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."*



Some images thrown in from RYPEN

(Damn, we haven't any space left for Pat the Poet!)

Next week at our regular venue and learning about tourism!

