



# MEADOWS MATTERS

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



Bulletin 2024-25 No. 44  
21<sup>st</sup> May 2025

## TOURISM IN HAWKES BAY

**President Christine**, on this first frosty winter evening, welcomed 35 Rotarians, two guests [David Peploe and Mark Scott] plus our guest speaker Hamish Saxton. She then gave an outline of our upcoming meetings – full details below.

President Chris then reported on her enjoyment of the recent district conference in Rotorua where 200-300 people attended, including seven from our club (Chris & Curly, Stuart & Heather, Bryan & Catriona, plus PDG Ross.) Chris particularly enjoyed hearing from **Greg Podd** the World President's Representative, as he spoke of the power of the **Rotary Pin** with regards to travel, and the work that Rotary had done in improving child health.

She was also particularly taken with the presentation by Sir Ashley Bloomfield for the very calm way he had demonstrated in his management of the covid crisis in which of course she was heavily involved herself. Sir Ashley has been awarded six Paul Harris awards which is strong recognition of how much his efforts were appreciated by Rotarians.



## The Meal

Our back-up caterer Claire Connor served a hearty meal of bangers and mash, with the bangers being 72% meat courtesy of 'The Butcher' the butcher at Pak 'n Save.

## Welfare

Stuart Cheyne, now in his 15<sup>th</sup> year as Almoner reported on welfare

- Geoff Bibby and Jenny are both progressing well = good news.
- Dennis Thetford, a long-time member of the club had reported that both he and his wife Annette are not as well as they would wish to be, but remember their good times with the club.
- Don McKenzie is making good progress ex Wellington with his re-engineered prosthetic.
- Wally Drayton is in a steady state and is getting out and about walking. We may see him back soon



## 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](mailto:administrator@greenmeadowsrotary.co.nz)

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

- Bruce Martin and Alison gave thanks for the assistance and the support during Karen's declining health and good numbers were noted at her funeral.
- While Stuart and Heather take a holiday in the sun Chris McKenna will be providing the tender care that the club members are used to.
- Looking ahead Lynne Gibson is booked in for a hip replacement on the 4th of June, something that she's been looking forward to for some time now. This will put her in a good place to manage her VP role for 2025-2026 rotary year.

## Announcements

**Denise Brown** noted that for '*Jarmies for June*' the dollars could either be given to Denise or sent to the charitable trust and that the Sally's will be this year's beneficiary of your generosity. *(A voice in the background, possibly Mike Owen, noted that the Warehouse had a one and a half pairs for one deal [interesting!?] and of course the Warehouse have recently sponsored our Presents in Police Cars arrangement so again your scribe encourages you to support Te Whare Whare.)*



On Friday 13 June, collectors are required at the Carlyle Street Woolworths between the hours of 9:00 and 4:00 to raise funds in support of **St John/Hato Hone**. Be on the list. *(Shortly after Denise was seen rummaging around on the floor in search of her badge magnet, not lost money for the shrapnel collection.)*

**VP Carol Charman** noted that Doug Nielsen was still connected with the club and provides help when he can.



**Brian Hall** noted the attendance of three members at RYDA today and that another three we're helping on Thursday. *(Your young scribe remembers doing a similar course at William Colenso in the early 1970s and it having a good effect upon his youthful driving.)*

## Sergeant's Session

**Sergeant Mark Dickerson** noted that there was far too much negative news around at present, and proceeded along a theme of how much luxury we enjoyed these days, fining those for being associated with the such luxuries as winter looms: Heated car seats, hot water bottles, Queensland holidays, umbrellas & golf, spa pools, not biking, heated handlebars or still wearing shorts. Basically, he was alleging that we're all softies and we should pay up generously.



## WORDS & IMAGES THIS WEEK

This week the words came again from the pen of "Cub Reporter" Steve Gillum. He also took photos as did Ross Pinkham and Bob Brady. We have probably included some of them here.

### The Food this week



### Bangers & Mash



### Them what put it together

## Thought; for the week (Bob Morrison)

### Opening

*"As I have grown older, I've learned that pleasing everyone is impossible, but pissing everyone off is a piece of cake!"*

### Closing

*"I live my life with no regrets; it's one of the benefits of not being able to remember things!"*



## GUEST SPEAKER – HAMISH SAXTON

Introduced by Brian Matthews, Hamish came out of his corner as a strong fighter representing the tourism industry in Hawkes Bay. He's been a battler on behalf of Hawkes Bay for six years and endured the variable support from the local councils that such enterprises must live with. They're a bit bruised at the moment as their \$2.5 million budget is now being cut by \$1 million and he's having to go through a process of reallocation of priorities and deployment of staff.

A lesser man who would be tempted to throw in the towel at this point but Hamish shows no sign of that and presented a lively presentation on the successes of Hawkes Bay in particular the branding of a 'Great Wine Capital of the World'; we're number 12 of 12 only, and in incredibly good company. (Your scribe noted Mainz Rhein Hessen is also a Great Wine Capital and has now begun in-depth research so that he & Di can make sure to fully enjoy the German wines on their July bike & barge Rhine Cruise. Thanks for the tip, Hamish.)



The benefits of this tourism achievement will in time become even more obvious to those of us that live here, as we will undoubtedly see more tourists wishing to enjoy the benefits of living in the fruit bowl of New Zealand and enjoying what a beautiful place Hawke's Bay is.

HB Tourism is the cheerleader for Hawkes Bay in the media and if there is no cheerleader there is very limited media exposure. Hamilton and Waikato cut back their support for their regional tourism organisation some years ago and learned quickly what the costs were to their community. HBT's successes include the annual FAWC festival, 13 years running, and the 89 cruise ships

that called here in 2024 and most importantly that we now have a "whole of the HB" approach to tourism, from Porangahau to Morere.

When questioned about why the tourist operators don't pay; he noted that they do in fact belong to the incorporated society as paying members but that for every \$1M valued household, only \$11 in rates is collected for tourism of which \$8 comes to HBT, who can identify \$69M annual worth of international spend & \$384M of domestic tourism spend.

When asked for a reaction to our becoming known as 'THE Hawkes Bay' he really came out of his corner again and encouraged us to print up a t-shirt that said "I'm not from THE Hawkes Bay," and he would be the first purchaser of our potential fundraising venture.

His final note that Hawkes Bay Tourism's task was to catch the fish or prey, and for the likes of Frank and Mark to skin them. An enthusiastic and committed champion for our great region.

Garth Eyles (with an environment and library flavour) thanked Hamish for his address.

### 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.



## Roster of Duties

	May 28th	June 4th	June 11th
<b>Programme: Guest Speaker</b>	<b>Andrew Cassey HBRC</b>	<b>No Rotary</b>	<b>Meg Rodel Can Inspire</b>
Host and Thoughts Top Table introduce Speaker Vote of Thanks	Fred Staples Graeme Muir John Mackintosh	<b>Fireside Meetings though</b>	Frank Heuser John Reid John Waldin
Cashier Three Minute Speaker Sergeant	Neil Smith - John Waldin		Bob Brady - Bryan Matthews
<b>Stewards</b> <i>One per table and the named Members to clean up</i>	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."***

## MISCELLANEOUS MEADOWS MATTERS

### A RANDOM RHYME

The main theme of the meeting tonight  
Was about getting tourism in Hawkes Bay right  
But we were also updated on 'Jamies for June'  
A winter event that is coming up soon  
The report on welfare could have caused tears  
From Stu who has been Almoner for 15 years

(By Pat the Poet)

## PRESIDENT'S ADVICE ON MEETINGS COMING UP

- Next Wednesday 28th of May; meeting as usual at the gang headquarters with Sharnies providing the meal, on takeaway dishes, regretfully no tea and coffee. Usual \$25 & apologies rule shall apply
- On the 4th of June there is no meeting... however firesides will occur
- On the 11th of June there will be a meeting at GHQ, Sharnies' again providing the meals. An annual highlight of budget presentation shall occur courtesy of Graeme Muir; don't miss it
- On the 18th of June we have our annual Plate Debate which will be at the Taradale Club who are providing a meal for Rotarians at a very reasonable price yet TBC. This will be pay as you go.
- Wednesday the 25th of June is a mystery at this time and is also TBA.
- On Sunday the 29th of June we will have the changeover at the Linden Estate at 12:00 which again will be pay as you go. At that event Chrissy will happily hand over the chains of authority to Carol.





**No. 34 – May 16, 2025**

*1 minute to discover an aspect of Rotary history*

### **The Origins of the Youth Exchange Program**

The Rotary Youth Exchange Program, although formally recognized in 1975, has its origins dating back to the 1920s.

In 1927, Rotary International considered several youth exchange proposals but did not take any concrete action.

However, local clubs organized exchanges, particularly in Europe, fostering international ties.

In 1929, an international conference on these exchanges was held in Copenhagen. The program remained informal, but Rotary encouraged its local clubs to organize them.

In the 1960s, Rotary supported exchanges, but did not immediately formalize them.

Finally, in 1975, the program became a recognized activity of Rotary International, while still being managed by districts and local clubs.

The program's primary objective is to foster peace, goodwill, and international understanding through youth exchanges.

Today, approximately 7,500 participants participate each year.



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 home with the Regional Council!***