



MEADOWS MATTERS

Weekly bulletin of Greenmeadows Rotary Club



No. 2021-31		27 February 2021
<p>OFFICE HOLDERS 2020-21</p> <p>President Frank Heuser Secretary Ken Hunt Treasurer Graeme Ryan Directors: Club Service Jenny Robertson Art-x Brian Mathews Community Mark Dickerson International Helen Tattersall Vocational Gill Scarlet Youth Penny Park</p>	<p>MEETINGS</p> <p>Weekly: Taradale Town Hall Wednesday 6.00pm Fellowship 5.30pm</p> <p>Firesides: First Wednesday of month</p> <p>Directors: Second Wednesday of Month</p> <p>Apologies to: GR.apologies@gmail.com (before 8.00am on Wednesday)</p>	<p>UPCOMING EVENTS</p> <p>Visit to Regional Sports Park – 24 March RYPEN – 9-11 April District 9930 Conference – 21-23 May</p> <p>Leave of Absences: Ian McKelvie – Ongoing Curly Carpenter – Ongoing Alan White – 27 Jan to 8 Apr</p>

Meeting held 24th February 2021

President Frank opened the meeting welcoming members, partners and guests before handing over to Helen Tattersall, International Committee Director, to conduct the meeting.

Welfare - Stuart reported Mort will go back to Auckland for reassessment on 10 March, Stew Skeet is back home and doing well and Bill Brown is now in Cranford Hospice.

Father Frank is heading down to Silverstream next Wednesday and members can visit him at Mary Knoll on Monday or Tuesday.

Stuart also announced that there would be a club BBQ at their place on 18 April with meat supplied at \$10 per head and members to bring a salad to share.

DUTY ROSTER (* denotes change from previous roster)

Date	March 3rd	March 10th	March 17th	March 24th
Programme: Guest Speaker	Firesides	Donna Congalton Heart Foundation	Visit to Regional Sports Park	Garth Eyles Waitangi Regional Park
Opening thought Top Table (introduce Speaker) Vote of Thanks Cashier Club Host & Closing Thought Three Minute Speaker Sergeant	Artex Committee	Edwin Brown Geoff Bibby Barry Keating Gail Kelly Bob Morrison Bob Brady Brian Peploe	Community Committee	Fred Staples Wal Drayton Hayley Gibson Gill Scarlett Wim Snijders Peter Turnbull Brian Anstis
Stewards	Stuart Cheyne Hayley Gibson Brian Hall Doug Neilson Robert Pearson	Brian Anstis Garth Eyles Chris McKenna Dennis Thetford Peter Thompson	NA	Geoff Bennett John Hanlen Jenny Robertson Neil Smith Kelvin Winnie

NB IF you are unable to perform your duty YOU must arrange a substitute and notify President Frank of the change

Helen explained that because Covid had prevented the usual format for the evening involving international students at EIT, and as 2021 is the Centenary year of Rotary in the South Pacific the committee decided to have an evening of celebration of International Rotary and look at some of the projects, past and present that we have been involved in.

Helen welcomed Grant Spackman District Governor, then introduced and gave a brief resume of the mostly overseas born but now resident in Hawkes Bay guests: Lynne Tan and Alicia Huang from China, Mae Smith from Netherlands, Joy McCormack a kiwi member of NZ China Friendly Society, Sue Anderson from UK, Leah Baterbonia from Phillipines, Marcos Torres from Brazil, Elena Ustyuzhanina from Russia, Padreig Simpson from Irish Republic, his kiwi wife Michaela Smith and Vicku Singh and Davinder Kaur from India.

Helen explained that while most people are aware of Rotary's presence in the local community including projects such as the Rotary pathways, the Pekapeka wetlands, Dolbel reserve and most recently assistance for those adversely affected by the Napier Floods in December, many are not aware of is the involvement of Rotary in the wider international community. She explained Rotary has numerous project and programmes and this evening would showcase a small sample of those that our club or members of our club have been involved with or supported.

Firstly there was a video clip each from two participants in the International Youth Exchange program; Nicolly an inward student exchange from Brazil and Louise Tattersall and outward exchange student to France both of whom spoke very highly of their positive experiences.

This was followed by a presentation from Penny Park. In 2004 Greenmeadows Rotary Club donated money for guttering and a water tank on a two roomed, concrete floor, corrugated iron roof medical clinic for the Maasai people of Naivasha Kenya. This provided a rain water supply for their clinic and saved the women a 2 hour walk to collect and carry clean drinking water for their homes. The clinic was highly successful, used by the local people, staffed by local nurses and also overseas groups such as Operation Smile for Cleft palate operations. Expansion of a nearby Geothermal Power Plant saw the Maaasi relocated but the power plant understood the essential role the medical clinic had for the local people and helped rebuild a new larger complex complete with the Greenmeadows Rotary Club water tank and added power for fridges for vaccines. It is still a focal point of the community. From a small seed grew a large tree. Our club was that seed.

Helen spoke on End Polio Now, Rotary's longest standing and most significant international programme which along with partner organisations has reduced polio cases by 99.99% and restricted cases to only 2 countries, Pakistan and Afghanistan.

Ian Holyoake then spoke on an ongoing Tanzania dairy project which PDG Geoff Mathis was instrumental in establishing and has been supported by MFAT, many Rotary Clubs and individuals, as well as a Lutheran parish in Germany. From an initial dream to secure funding for 30 digesters this has grown to a million dollar project building a dairy factory rejuvenating the dairy industry and improving the lives of the villagers in Mwika in one of the poorest regions within Tanzania.

DG Grant Spackman spoke on a project "Give Every Child a Future" to celebrate the centenary of Rotary in Australia and New Zealand. More women die from cervical cancer in Pacific Island countries than in New Zealand and Australia and in parts of the Pacific nearly 1 in 16 children die before their 5th birthday. Rotary have teamed up with UNICEF to give life-saving vaccines to 100,000 children across the Pacific over the next 3 years to ensure that generations of children and women are protected against cervical cancer, rotavirus and pneumococcal disease. Rotary's role is to raise funds \$4.5m and UNICEF is responsible for delivering the vaccines.

Unfortunately due to technological difficulties a live stream from Alan White, a club member cycling solo from Cape Reinga to Bluff raising money for this project was not possible.

Helen thanked everyone for their attendance.

Some photos from the evening courtesy of Jenny Robertson and Brian Hall

