



MEADOWS MATTERS

Weekly bulletin of Greenmeadows Rotary Club



No. 2021-38		16 April 2021
OFFICE HOLDERS 2020-21 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	MEETINGS Weekly: Taradale Town Hall Wednesday 6.00pm Fellowship 5.30pm Firesides: First Wednesday of month Directors: Second Wednesday of Month Apologies to: GR.apologies@gmail.com (before 8.00am on Wednesday)	UPCOMING EVENTS EIT Awards – 19 May District 9930 Conference – 21-23 May Plate Debate – 9 June Art-X – 18-20 June Leave of Absences: Ian McKelvie – Ongoing Mort Nikolaison - Ongoing

Meeting held 14 April 2021

President Frank welcomed guests Liz Barrett, DG Grant Spackman and his wife Wendy, ADG Ross Pinkham, Steve Humphrey, Steve Gillum, and Margaret Hall. Also Claire Connor, Taradale President.

Welfare – Stuart reported Mort is doing well, Colin is up and down while Jill Hanlen is home awaiting more tests. Carol advised Doug is doing very well and his daughter from Australia is now out of quarantine. He had to have his sling readjusted to correct alignment of his collar bone and hopes to be at next week's meeting. Graeme Ryan reported Bob Morrison is in Hastings hospital.

BBQ – final reminder of club BBQ at Cheynes this Sunday at midday. Those attending please bring cutlery, plates, chairs, a salad to share and \$10 each for the meat.

DUTY ROSTER (* denotes change from previous roster)

Date	April 21st	April 28th	May 5th	May 12th
Programme: Guest Speaker	Bex Tacon Art-x	Ann Jamieson Life Education Trust	Firesides	Brendan Walker Waste Management
Opening thought Top Table (introduce Speaker) Vote of Thanks Cashier Club Host & Closing Thought Three Minute Speaker Sergeant	Neil Smith Graeme Muir Mark Dickerson Edwin Brown Wal Drayton Barry Keating Penny Park*	Geoff Bibby Noel Mann Chris McKenna Stuart Cheyne Les Mockford Gill Scarlett Jenny Robertson*	Community Committee	Trevor Powell Graeme Muir Geoff Bennett Bob Brady Garth Eyles Peter Thompson Dennis Thetford
Stewards	Geoff Bennett Judy McKelvie Trevor Powell Wim Snijders Helen Tattersall	Brian Anstis Garth Eyles Kevin McCormack Bob Morrison Denise Primrose	Edwin Brown Wal Drayton Ian Holyoake Noel Mann Chris McKenna	Denise Brown Curly Carpenter Kevin McCormack Les Mockford Alan White

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

RYPEN – Penny gave brief report on the weekend which was very successful and reflected a huge effort from the Youth committee. All but one of the contributing schools had one or more students present. Our club had sponsored 6 students from Tamatea High. Penny thanked Kevin for apples, Chris for dessert, all members who had contributed baking, and especially Carol as Rypen Coordinator and Ken for the many hours making all the arrangements. She asked the members who had helped onsite over the weekend to stand and be acknowledged by the club.

A more detailed report on the weekend’s activities appears later in this bulletin.

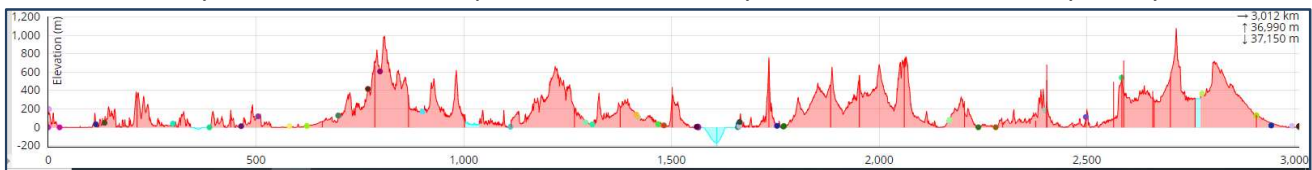
EIT Trade Awards – Gill advised a list is circulating for members and partners who wish to attend the awards night on 19 May. Members present were asked to indicate whether or not they were attending and numbers. As final numbers are required before next week she will have to ring members who have not filled in the list.

DG – Grant Spackman acknowledged Ross and Claire and was delighted that Alan White had chosen the Australasian Centenary Project “Give Every Child a Future” as 1 of the 2 projects he was raising money for on his epic ride. Grant gave an update on this project; the vaccines have arrived and training is nearly complete. Grant also reminded members of the District Conference next month highlighting the excellent speakers.

President Frank noted it was not too late to register for conference. He also announced that directors were meeting at Ken and Carols.

Guest Speaker

Alan White was introduced by Kelvin Winnie and gave a very well presented address accompanied by a power point presentation on his epic ride from Cape Reinga to Bluff along the Te Araroa trail. The TA trail is 3000km long and includes approximately 37,000 metre of climbs and descents (see topography below). The trail has a variety of surfaces and incorporates 9 official NZ Cycle Trails and numerous cycleways.



Alan explained he had grown up in Napier, attending Colenso High School and spent 43 years with Land & Survey before moving back to Napier.

He has done several long rides before both in NZ and overseas below but this was the first ride that he was fund raising which introduced a new dimension of keeping followers informed via social media.

His bike is a Surly hardtail which he bought in 2017 for his Istanbul to London tour. It had been modified and rebuilt but still provide a number of mechanical and tyre issues but Alan was lucky to find people who were able and keen to assist with repairs.

He was self-sufficient with tent, bed mat, cooker, sleeping bag milk bottle, food, water and tools but only camped 4 of the 44 nights on the trail. He also carried a bike computer and spot tracker. The bike and gear weighed 20 kg.

Alan’s power point presentation included a number of magnificent photographs which captured the wonderful places and times he experienced as well as the special people he encountered.



The sergeant’s session raised \$532 with a further \$100 pledged for the Give Every Child a Future charity.

RYPEN 2021 (content and photographs courtesy of Jenny Robertson and Brian Hall)

This was held last weekend at the Guthrie Smith Education Centre, Tutira. There were 32 high school students, aged between 14 and 17, from Gisborne to Waipukurau in attendance, the largest attendance for several years. There was also very good support from our club members with 14 present at some stage, most for the whole weekend. The students are sponsored by their local Rotary club who also transport them to and from the centre.

The weather was kind despite overnight rain on Friday, allowing a full programme of activities to be completed starting on Friday night with games to help the students to get to get to know each other and a night bush walk which included viewing glow worms.

Saturday saw the students being trained on the high wires and kayaks to develop skills for the team "mission" on the Sunday. Saturday evening there were more activities

and each of the teams was expected to develop a business plan for the Sunday challenge. Some teams were more diligent than others and despite claims of tiredness which resulted in an earlier bedtime a number of the students were not keen to stop talking and some stern words were required.



Brian assisting at the kayaks



Ken supervising at the high ropes

Sunday the students were up early and ready to present their business plans and start the challenge which involved each of the teams finding 3 codes each in the air, on the water and on the land. This exercise revealed that most students were not great at map reading and some training will be included on the Friday night in future.

There was also a test for students to remember some details of the other members in their team.

The weekend concluded on Sunday afternoon with the presentation of certificates after a final challenge where each team had to get their members and puzzle pieces safely into the centre of a circle using planks and preplaced blocks without the students or the planks touching the ground. This proved quite challenging but eventually all reached the middle and were able to complete the puzzle which signified them all coming back together after being in different groups during the weekend.



Mark monitoring the flying kiwi

This was followed by the presentation of certificates to the students and a group photograph of students and rotarians before students departed with their local rotarians for the trip home.



Happy students and rotarians after a great weekend

As in other years the students arrive at the centre mostly quiet, reserved and shy but by the end of the weekend they were exhibiting confidence and exuberance that can't be reined in. Many also make friendships which continue long after the event.