



# MEADOWS MATTERS

Weekly bulletin of Greenmeadows Rotary Club



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

No. 2022-25		19/01/2022
<b>OFFICE HOLDERS 2021-22</b> <b>President</b> Jenny Robertson <b>Secretary</b> Ken Hunt <b>Treasurer</b> Graeme Ryan  <b>DIRECTORS</b> <b>Club Admin</b> Helen Tattersall <b>Members &amp; PI</b> Kelvin Winnie <b>Service</b> Denise Brown <b>Youth</b> Gail Kelly <b>Foundation</b> Graeme Muir <b>Artex</b> Bryan Matthews	<b>MEETINGS</b>  <b>Weekly:</b> Taradale Town Hall Wednesday 6.00pm Fellowship 5.30pm <b>Firesides:</b> First Wednesday of month <b>Directors:</b> Second Wednesday of Month <b>Apologies to:</b> <a href="mailto:GR.apologies@gmail.com">GR.apologies@gmail.com</a> (before 8.00am on Wednesday)	<b>UPCOMING EVENTS</b>  Art Deco – Feb Kelvins Rotorua Run - Feb Membership – March EIT – Soon Dist.Conference - May  <b>Leave of Absences:</b> Ian McKelvie – Ongoing Mort Nikolaison – Ongoing Natalya Latysheva - Ongoing

## Meeting 12 January 2022

Normal Service resumed at our regular venue, the Taradale Town Hall and President Jenny welcomed the guest speakers (Ibbotsons), members partners Donna & Lynne, and especially, members not seen in a while (Don McKenzie, Dennis Thetford & Barry Keating.)

## DUTY ROSTER (\* denotes change from previous roster)

Date	January 26th	February 2nd	February 9th	February 16th
Programme: Guest Speaker	Janene Dixon Smith/Crain Waterhouse - Pettigrew Centre	Firesides	Waitangi Park Garth Eyles (But normal meal)	TBA
Opening thought Top Table (introduce Speaker) Vote of Thanks Cashier Club Host & Closing Thought Three Minute Speaker Sergeant	Dennis Thetford Neil Smith Lynne Gibson Curly Carpenter Bob Morrison Gill Scarlet Geoff Bibby	Club Administration Committee	Doug Neilson  Les Mockford Bob Brady	Gail Kelly Peter Thompson John McIntosh Brian Peploe Stewart Skeet John Nelson Steve Gillum
Stewards	Brian Hall Gail Kelly Robert Pearson Ian Holyoake *	Fred Staples Wal Drayton Kevin McCormack Hayley Gibson *	Barry Keating Graeme Muir Geoff Bennett Mark Dickerson	Garth Eyles Curly Carpenter Denise Brown Brian Anstis

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

**Opening Thought:** Alan White said "Take the time to be thankful" for everything you have. You can always have more - but you could also have less!"

**Welfare** – Stuart reported on Mort, Colin & Jill Hanlen, as well as referring to Alison Bennett whereupon Geoff provided a personal report (& thanks). Don McKenzie got a special mention, received acclamation and provided a personal thanks to all who had supported him with flowers and calls.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**Membership & PI Director Kelvin** advised that inspired by his recently organised “walkathon” he had thought of an even greater event to support the Centennial project “*Give Every Child a Future.*” He said he had a brother who did 50km and 102km runs and that this spurred him into thinking he could do it to – in Rotorua in three weeks’ time! Fearing that he wanted us to go with him, we received relief from his suggestion that we could stay home, he would run and we could sponsor him! A board went around and appeared to receive considerable support, particularly from old “non-runners.” The run apparently goes up & down 3000m which Kelvin said is sort of like running up and down Dolbel 23 times! (Best to just pay up and shut up I think)

**Service Director Denise** thanked members for their effort in the Maraenui clean-up and said that the residents and organisers were very grateful. She then sought assistance with the upcoming Art Deco Festival and our part in the project that raises around \$7000 for us (amount under negotiation). We need to cover 318 hours in slots of 2 – 4 ½ hours. The “capable” members would need to fill about 8 hours in perhaps 2 – 3 slots during the event. ([Separate attachment to newsletter has a spreadsheet for each day.](#))

**Secretary Ken** advised that the Kaitawa Trust thanked all for their ongoing support and advised that the 23 person team who worked on the recent “work visit” had got a lot done. Special mention was made of Steve and Di Gillum who had to be “pried” off the roof in the end and that an exhausted Ian Holyoake, when unable to work any longer, “told tales” instead! (See photos at the end of this bulletin.)

**Pres Jenny** advised that Edwin Brown was on Leave of Absence as his house is being renovated and he is staying in Kinloch. Hamish Lack is around the country delivering boats. She also urged us to be thinking about the forthcoming **District Conference (in Napier 20 -22 May)** and particularly the Saturday evening dinner where the theme (advised by DG Ross) was “Olympics.” While lycra was not for all – it was a starting point for our “dressing up!”

**Director Kelvin** returned in his “Membership” hat and told us that the 9<sup>th</sup> of March meeting would be a “Membership” evening so if you haven’t done so already, “**Each One Bring One.**”

**Youth Director Gail** reported that the EIT Careers Days was “all on” and someone else said RYLA needed nominations.

**Artex Director Bryan** warned that omicron might affect this project in 2022.

## **Three Minute Speaker:**

Mark Dickerson finally made it to the rostrum and told of him and Vicky riding the Otago Rail Trail on Lekie Bikes. They followed the old rail trail (from a line taken out in the 1990s). There had been 150kms of track originally (36 pubs, restaurants, cafes and stores) and it took six years to dismantle. In three days of fine weather in April, the features included the Clyde Dam, Middlemarch, Naseby Curling Rink, the Dark Sky Reserve and somehow stayed in the same hotel each night!

**Sergeant Geoff Bibby:** Raised money by discussing Fishing, Trade Me sales, tennis players, military service, Dolbel watering, hose winding and coffee, and anybody who was not invited to “Cinders Wedding!”

## **GUEST SPEAKER**

**Steve Gillum** introduced Brook & Sandy Ibbottson, who were not talking about the Community Patrol - for which they are best known, but rather about “walking”. They had met in Melbourne in 1978 where their common theme was boots, walking and talking. And they have – for more than 40 years.

**Sandy Ibbottson** said that the Heaphy Track (Tasman Bay to Karamea) had always interested them but kept getting “put off.” Difficulties included the moon, the tide, keeping out of the cyclists time and the 400kms “repositioning” requirement for their motor vehicle.

However it all came together and they positioned themselves in Takaka in torrential rain before heading to the start point and left with it still raining at 10 o'clock. It transpired (I think) that this was 10pm, i.e. 2200 hours, not 10am!) The rain ceased as they set off. After 17 ½ kms uphill, they reached their first hut and went straight past it for another 20kms of undulating land during which their walking (and talking) was disturbed by noisy kiwi birds in the bush. Then 20kms downhill with the enjoyment disappearing a little but people appeared as they reach the Heaphy Hut on the West Coast. Somewhere around here they rested a bit and boasted about this being a "one day walk" and then headed down the last leg to Scotts Beach.

After a while it appeared that the beach had been stolen! Numerous people appeared in the distance but then disappeared. When they realised that each of them were seeing these things at different times, they realised they were each hallucinating! Then a mountain appeared – but they negotiated it, found some "Doc" workers (who they were tempted to ask for a ride – but didn't) made it down the slope and found the beach, the carpark, their vehicle and a bed!

They had made the journey in 21 ½ hours. It is usually a 3 – 5 days tramp though a Military Team recently did it in a record 24 hours! We had been listening to two fanatical trampers – and a fantastic couple.

### Closing Thought(s)

From Bob Morrison *"If you are one of those who do not succeed, don't become a skydiver!"* and *"Volunteers are unpaid, not because they are worth less, but because they are priceless!"*



Rotary Reminiscences

