



MEADOWS MATTERS

Weekly bulletin of Greenmeadows Rotary Club



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

No. 2022-29		16 February 2022
OFFICE HOLDERS 2021-22 President Jenny Robertson Secretary Ken Hunt Treasurer Graeme Ryan DIRECTORS Club Admin Helen Tattersall Members & PI Kelvin Winnie Service Denise Brown Youth Gail Kelly Foundation Graeme Muir Artex Bryan Matthews	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 RYPEN - April Dist.Conference - May Leave of Absence*: Edwin Brown – to 27 Apr Ian Holyoake – to 13 Apr Barry Keating – to 15 Jun John Mackintosh – to 15 Jun Ian McKelvie – Ongoing Mort Nikolaison – Ongoing Dennis Thetford – to 1 Jun

* Plus those members who have decided not to attend under the current COVID settings

Meeting 16 February 2022

President Jenny opened the meeting with a welcome to guest speaker Ian Wilmot, partner Donna Thompson and Zoom attendee Judy McKelvie.

DUTY ROSTER (* denotes change from previous roster)

Date	February 23 rd	March 2 nd	March 9 th	March 16 th
Programme: Guest Speaker	Steph Rotorangi CEO Napier City Council	Firesides (Artex C'tee)	TBA	TBA
Opening thought	Robert Pearson		Jinice Bautista-Lack	Les Mockford
Top Table (introduce Speaker)	Mark Dickerson		Hayley Gibson	Christine McKenna
Vote of Thanks	Bryan Matthews		Wal Drayton	Gill Scarlett
Cashier	Curly Carpenter	Judy McKelvie	Kevin McCormack	Fred Staples
Club Host & Closing Thought	Stewart Cheyne		Hamish Lack	Robert Pearson
Three Minute Speaker	Hayley Gibson		Graeme Muir	Bob Morrison
Sergeant	Geoff Bennett		Brian Anstis	Garth Eyles
Stewards	One from each table then the following two to vacuum afterwards			
	Lynne Gibson Brian Anstis	Gill Scarlett Neil Smith	Geoff Bennett Geoff Bibby Brian Hall John Nelson	TBA

IF you are unable to perform your duty YOU must arrange a substitute and notify President Jenny of the change. It's not too hard and is a courtesy to our president and assists the smooth running of our meeting.

Note a change to the normal sequence for next week's meeting: NCC CEO Steph Rotorangi will speak shortly after fellowship finishes and the meal will follow.

The **Opening Thought** was a quote from Dr Seuss

"Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not!"



Kelvin Winnie – runner extraordinaire, fundraiser par excellence

Kelvin reflected on his 102 Km run on Saturday. It was the first time he had run that far and for that long; 17 hours and around 140,000 paces (Kelvin actually said ‘steps’ but I don’t think that could be right – Ed). It was pouring with rain for a good part of the venture and Kelvin was very appreciative of the support he got along the way and the welcome on arrival back at Anderson Park.

An impressive **\$4,750** was raised as a result.



Services Director Denise Brown outlined the changes to the Art Deco weekend security activity and acknowledged the work which Les Mockford put into organising the roster.

3 Minute Speaker John Nelson presented on the life of Squadron Leader Peter Rule. Peter had a distinguished career as a pilot in the RNZAF, was a member of the RNZAF Antarctic Flight, represented New Zealand as a Military Liaison Officer at the United Nations, serving in Korea and the Middle East, and was awarded an MBE for his work. Yet in the mid-1970s he was pressured to leave the Air Force because he was gay. He went on to make a successful career as an arts administrator, but suffered from depression and in 1987, committed suicide.

(Editor’s note: The NZ Defence Force recently exhibited a synopsis of Peter’s military service as part of its ‘Pride 25’ commemorations marking 25 years since LGBT+ personnel have been welcome to serve openly in the three services. By telling Peter’s story, the exhibition acknowledges all those who, like Peter, suffered discrimination in the past on the grounds of sexual orientation, while also celebrating how far we have come, both in the military and in wider society)



Guest Speaker Ian Wilmot, General Manager of the Lowe Corporation Rescue Helicopter Service.



Ian provided the history of the local helicopter rescue service starting in the late 1960s when the helicopters used were primarily crop sprayers and the patients needed to be strapped into a stretcher mounted on the helicopter skids. The paramedic would sit in an adjacent seat in the cockpit but communication with the patient was

almost impossible given the engine noise and the wind. By 1971 the local agricultural helicopters were attending between 20 and 30 rescues each year.

1984 saw the establishment of the Hawke’s Bay Helicopter Rescue Trust (HBHRT) comprising representatives from the Porangahau Diving Club, Waimarama Surf Club, Police, Civil Defence and others. While originally established primarily for water rescues, in 1989 the service expanded to include patient transfers, police searches, accident recovery and marine emergencies using a Bell Jet Ranger helicopter.

In the early 1990s, through the generosity of Hastings businessman Mike Toogood, the service purchased a Eurocopter AS350BA Squirrel helicopter and secured sponsorship support from Lowe Walker NZ Ltd. The first helicopter hangar was built at HB Regional Hospital. Lowe Walker later changed its name to Lowe Corporation and it continues to be the trust’s principal sponsor.



In 2009 the trust moved to a twin engine BK117 rescue helicopter. Civil Aviation rules on flying over built up areas had changed, the trust needed better access to patients during flight and it provided the ability to carry heavier weights with better performance. In late 2018 a totally refurbished BK117D2 was acquired. That year also saw the restructuring of rescue helicopter services across New Zealand reducing from 18 to 15 bases and only three contracts; Auckland and Northland, Central (North Island south of the Bombay hills) and South Island. HBHRT joined forces with five others to form the Central service.



HBHRT has three pilots, three crewmen and three Rapid Sequence Intubation qualified paramedics (all full-time employees) and five part-time staff.

Callouts now number around 400 per year with 80% of missions providing urgent medical assistance at accident scenes or inter-hospital transfers for the critically ill. Last year for example, 144 accidents were attended, 92 medical events and 32 search and rescue missions. 129 patient transfers took the total missions for that year to 397.

As with many other charities, funding is an ongoing issue. Prior to 2018, the \$2.5m budget was shared 50:50 with the government. Now the budget is around \$3.0m p.a. with the government sharing with the community on a 60:40 basis. This still leaves around \$1.25m p.a. for the trust to find.

Costs are high:

- Night vision goggles - \$18,000
- Winch - \$380,000
- Lifejacket - \$3,000
- One rotor blade - \$70,000
- Average mission cost - \$7,000

Ian acknowledged the appointment of club member Denise Primrose to the Board of Trustees and the support the Board gives to him and his team.

Ian finished his presentation with a description of three recent missions as being fairly representative:

- A young woman thrown and trampled by a horse (56 broken bones but is now back eventing)
- An older woman who suffered a stroke while gardening (and made a full recovery)
- A successful search for a German yachtsman washed overboard 50 Kms off the Gisborne coast

The closing thought offered by Bob Brady was fit for the occasion given the service's dependency on community funding:

“You may need us sometime. We need you now”



[A request for help from the local Red Cross](#)

“If anyone has a spare hose and reel that they would be willing to donate to Red Cross we would really appreciate it. Ours walked. And we need a replacement to clean our rubbish bin and garage floors.

Please contact Mary Anne 844 5905 or 021 620 446 or email eyles_home@slingshot.co.nz”