



MEADOWS MATTERS

Weekly bulletin of Greenmeadows Rotary Club



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

No. 2022-30		23 February 2022
<p>OFFICE HOLDERS 2021-22</p> <p>President Jenny Robertson Secretary Ken Hunt Treasurer Graeme Ryan</p> <p>DIRECTORS</p> <p>Club Admin Helen Tattersall Members & PI Kelvin Winnie Service Denise Brown Youth Gail Kelly Foundation Graeme Muir Artex Bryan Matthews</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>RYPEN – April (cancelled due to COVID) District Conference - May</p> <p>Leave of Absence*: Barry Keating – to 29 Jun Dennis Thetford – to 29 Jun Edwin Brown – to 27 Apr Ian Holyoake – to 13 Apr Ian McKelvie – Ongoing John Mackintosh – to 29 Jun Mort Nikolaison – Ongoing Neil Smith – to 20 Apr</p>

* Plus those members who have decided not to attend under the current COVID settings but have the option to attend via Zoom by emailing Doug Neilson no later than Tuesday prior.

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	March 2 nd	March 9 th	March 16 th	March 23 rd
Programme: Guest Speaker	Firesides (Artex C'tee)	Blanche Paewhi-Ashcroft "Parent to Parent"	TBA	TBA
Opening thought Top Table (introduce Speaker) Vote of Thanks Cashier Club Host & Closing Thought Three Minute Speaker Sergeant	Judy McKelvie	Jinice Bautista-Lack Lynn Gibson Wal Drayton Kevin McCormack Hamish Lack Graeme Muir Brian Anstis	Les Mockford Christine McKenna Gill Scarlett Fred Staples Robert Pearson Bob Morrison Garth Eyles	Stuart Cheyne Alan White Kelvin Winnie Gail Kelly Mark Dickerson Bruce Martin Peter Thompson
Stewards	One from each table then the following two to vacuum afterwards			
		Geoff Bennett Geoff Bibby Brian Hall John Nelson	TBA	Denise Primrose Helen Tattersall

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.

President Jenny welcomed guest speaker Dr Stephanie Rotarangi, members and partners. Three members joined the meeting via Zoom. The agenda was a little different for this meeting with the speaker's presentation preceding the meal and club business following that.

Welfare: Mort is status quo other than that his new medication regime has begun. For those wanting to visit Colin Clark it was noted that Princess Alexander had moved in and out of isolation in recent times so check before you go. Jill Hanlen is going well and Curly was welcomed back.

President's Notices: President Jenny reported that:

- Both the Club and the Trust were still on budget.
- Due to uncertainty regarding the future COVID situation both RYLA and RYPEN have been cancelled for this year. The caravan weekend in Hastings 4-6 March is still happening.

Service Director Denise Brown reported that providing security assistance over the modified Art Deco weekend had earned over \$1,400 and President Jenny thanked both Denise and Les for their work to make it such a success.

In her capacity as volunteer gardener at Enliven, Denise Brown is seeking donations of plants.
If you can help, please let her know

Artex Director Bryan Matthews reported that \$30K had been distributed to the four local surf lifesaving clubs and that Waimarama SLC had put their share toward an outboard motor (now suitably engraved to acknowledge the donation from Greenmeadows Rotary).

3 Minute Speaker Bob Morrison provided a potted history of the Rotary Pathways Trust which is in the process of winding up on the basis that its aims have been met and NCC now incorporate pathways into every new development. The trust has been operating for around 20 years (Bob having been a member for most of that time and secretary for the past 14 years). It has contributed \$millions over that time with two donations of \$25K each coming from Greenmeadows Rotary courtesy of Artex-generated funds.

Guest Speaker Dr Stephanie Rotarangi is Napier City Council's first female CEO in its 147-year history. Growing up in Central and South Otago, Stephanie also lived for a time in Napier with husband Ants. She has held senior roles in a number of fire services, including in Australia during the 2019 bush fires, and moved to Napier with Ants and their three children to take up the CEO role. Her doctorate is in philosophy and she has a Master of Environmental Science degree and a Bachelor of Forestry degree.

One year into the job, Steph is very much enjoying the challenge. NCC is committed to increasing delivery of capital works with \$800m of spend outlined in the 10-year plan. \$445m of this spend is water related with over 50% of that to be spent on improving drinking water. Unfortunately, much of this work is underground so there is not a lot for the public to physically see. The cost of projects is ever increasing because everyone is doing similar work and competing for both materials and resources. On the other hand, she inherited a strong balance sheet with no debt (until now).

Housing is a particular focus and NCC is in partnership with Hastings District Council to drive a Hawkes Bay-focussed programme which reduces red tape, builds what is appropriate, avoids or remediates identifiable issues such as land below sea level, liquefaction risk etc. Last year across the region over 1,000 building consents were approved.

There are three government initiatives which are going to have a significant impact on council operations:

- Three waters. Stephanie has conflicting roles. One as an advocate for the region's aspirations of retaining ownership and where Napier has budgeted for a big upfront spend while the government, although having the same total spend over 30 years, is proposing a much slower start which won't meet city's immediate needs. The other role is to provide opinions as to how the government's proposed policy can be made to work.
- RMA reform. The government is proposing three new laws which NCC is working its way through to better understand their implications and opportunities.
- Future of Local Government. Along with the above two, and another six reform proposals the government is considering, the objective is to understand how diverse populations, technology change, climate change etc. this initiative will look at how the scope of local government activities is impacted and what changes should therefore be made to the role of local government.

From an income perspective, rates fund about half of NCC's annual spend with 54 NCC-owned business units (e.g. tourism) funding the other half.

Stephanie said she still can't believe her luck having the job she has. On the other hand, driving around this beautiful city also means she now sees every pothole, tree which needs pruning etc! Lots to be done.