



MEADOWS MATTERS

Weekly bulletin of Greenmeadows Rotary Club



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

No. 2022-34		23 March 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 District Conference – May Cancelled Leave of Absence*: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frank Heuser – to 30 Mar • Neil Smith – to 20 Apr • Edwin Brown – to 27 Apr • Hamish Lack, Jinice Bautista-Lack, John Hanlen – to 1 Jun • Alan White, Barry Keating, Dennis Thetford, John Mackintosh – to 29 Jun • Ian McKelvie, Mort Nikolaison – Ongoing

* 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.

DUTY ROSTER (* denotes change from previous roster)

Date	March 30 rd	April 6 th	April 13 th	April 20 th
Programme: Guest Speaker	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA
Opening thought Top Table (introduce Speaker) Vote of Thanks Cashier Club Host & Closing Thought Three Minute Speaker Sergeant	Judy McKelvie Bryan Matthews Barry Keating	Brian Hall Graeme Muir Lynne Gibson	(NB Indicative only may change due to Zoom Meeting)	

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.

Meeting 23rd March 2022

President Jenny, presiding at our second Zoom Meeting, welcomed 21 members (on 19 screens – see photo below). Some were hard to see and hear for a while but all appeared (and were heard) eventually. Brian Hall said he was not feeling too well but claimed it was sea sickness (from his recent ocean voyage) and not covid. He and others kept their screens dark so that we could not judge their wellness or housekeeping.

The **Opening Thought** from Gail “Before you criticize someone you should walk a mile in their shoes. Then you will be 1.6km away from them - and they will be barefoot!”

Welfare Matters – Stuart reports that there were no changes to anyone’s conditions this week and that he had personally spoken to Mort and Don McKenzie.

Notices:

Pres. Jenny thanked the grape pickers from last weekend (see photo below) and **Treasurer Graeme** confirmed that the sum of \$720 had been paid into our club account.

Membership & PI Director Kelvin advised that he needed drivers for a few hours every now and then, to deliver meals to people who were isolated. Contact him if you can assist.

Someone said that the EIT Awards which were postponed until October, may now go ahead in May as usual – due to covid changes.

Programme Coordinator Alan advised we had a video speaker to appear this evening and then the **Techo Bob Brady** said we did not after all. Testing had shown that he had the wrong bandwidth, wind speed or megapixels, and could not convert video from the Rotary website to our Zoom. There followed a discussion on resolving this, getting other speakers, having none, or maybe we would be at live meetings anyway. (See later link for the “missing speaker”.)

Covid-19 Coordinator Chris McKenna contributed with the fact that we could expect 1000 – 1200 infections per day here in HB, more hospitalisations (mainly older people) for perhaps another four weeks, the risks were low though, but another spike might occur in August.

Decision: we will have another Zoom meeting next week and then - watch this space!

Projects Director Denise advised of a cancer fund raising raffle and that a link to that will come soon.

Youth Director Gail said she had some photos from Niue – but they are the wrong ones. More to come.

3 Minute Speaker

Kelvin Winnie told us of how regularly we were having *one in one hundred year floods*, and then changed direction to his real talk, which was about the history of the admission of women to Rotary. He told of a club in California admitting a woman member in the 1980s, of RI taking them to the Supreme Court, losing their case – and the rest is history. This is relevant now as we are about to experience our first woman RIP (Rotary International President) Jennifer Jones who takes office on 1 July this year. She has been a Rotary District Governor, Training Officer, RI Board Vice President and last year raised \$30m.

Parting Thought – from Denise Brown: “*Opportunity does not knock, it presents itself – when you knock down the door.*” (Maybe she was a police officer once!)

“REAL” GREENMEADOWS ROTARIANS AT THEIR “VIRTUAL” MEETING ON THE 23rd MARCH



Technical proof of the fact that, after a few struggles, 21 members did appear and as well, could be heard laughing and joking together (and doing business) at our regular meeting this past week.

FURTHER MISCELLANEOUS MEADOWS MATTERS



Rotarians picking grapes

A few Greenmeadows Rotarians expressed their complete love for wine by volunteering (through Neil Smith) to pick grapes last weekend on the Esk Valley Terraces, with the profits from the labour going towards our club charity fund. Is there no end to the skills and ingenuity of our members? The sum of \$720 has been credited to our club's bank!

Some further thoughts on Ukraine

Woke up warm, and safe in my bed
While someone else, heard bombs over their head
I jumped into, a nice hot shower
While someone else, has lost all power
I hugged my family, we were all together
While others said goodbye, possibly forever
While I fear the money, that I will spend
Others worry of losing, the country they defend
In the time it took, for me to write this post
Many have lost, the things they love most
So, when I start to bitch, and want to complain
I will stop myself - and pray for Ukraine.

Weird and Fantastic Things to do with Age

I have everything that I wanted as a teenager, only 60 years later. I don't have to go to school or work. I get an allowance every month. I have my own pad. I don't have a curfew. I have a driver's license and my own car.

The people I hang around with are not scared of getting pregnant and I don't have acne. Life is great. I changed my car horn to gunshot sounds. People get out of the way much faster now. Gone are the days when girls used to cook like their mothers. Now they drink like their fathers. I didn't make it to the gym today. That makes five years in a row.

I decided to stop calling the bathroom "John" and renamed it the "Jim". I feel so much better saying I went to the Jim this morning.

Speakers on Rotary Matters

Being a vast organisation, Rotary can often attract very prominent speakers for international Conventions and training sessions. In recent times RI has collected a "library" of many of these speakers and these are available on the RI website to any Rotarians who are interested in the speakers themselves or their subjects.

We recently began thinking about using these, perhaps as "fill-in speakers" at regular meetings, or more especially at the Zoom meetings that we sometimes use now.

One such attempt was described above but sadly we did not have the correct technology. Whether at the meeting or not, you can view the "intended" speaker by clicking on this link:

<https://vimeo.com/showcase/6968893?page=1>

and then from the page presented, click on:

Journey of Forgiveness by Azim Khamisa International Assembly 2021

Try it and see. It is only 10 minutes. You might find you click on some others as well. Don't miss your dinner though!

DON'T FORGET NEXT WEDNESDAY – BY ZOOM. Click on the link from Pres. Jenny (Get a kid to help you!)