



MEADOWS MATTERS



This bulletin is the newsletter of the Rotary Club
of Greenmeadows, Napier, New Zealand

YOU'VE GOT TO HAND IT TO THE DUTCH

First it was Able Tasman (though he never actually set foot on NZ) then Wim Snijders, and now we've got Reuben Simon! What great men to have come here from the Netherlands. And we are the better for it.

But what a great story Reuben had to tell us. The hospitality industry has been his business and his most recent such post was the Quest Hotel in Napier for ten years (a hotel he actually bought online, unseen and before coming here!)

From Arnhem in the Netherlands (though he now has a NZ passport) he has worked in Switzerland (many nationalities) Israel (a 520 room Kosher Hotel – the Hyatt Regency) spoke of the many celebrations and the limitations thereto. A visit to NZ in 1990 was a shock to him for there were no people here, just cows and he worked in a country hotel for 4 – 5 years. However he did find one Kiwi girl, married her and took her to Indonesia and eventually became the GM of the Novatel Manado (where the elevators fascinated him for some reason.)

He (or his wife) talked of the “underbelly” of Bali, of something to do with a tuna factory, buying a boat of their own and the inevitable corruption in that area. That position was followed by one in Hong Kong (Novatel Century) and then finally back to NZ with the Quest in Napier. In recent years he sold that hotel and got a job with our “Covid Chris” and has been “organising things” for her in the health scene..



THE WELCOME

President Helen had earlier welcomed 26 members plus the guest speaker and his wife. She told us that Trevor Powell was doing well, though had a cough and that brought us to.....



WELFARE

Stand in Almoner Pete Thompson told us that Wal had some water on his lungs but was back home, that Colin Clark continued to have his ups and down and all others were understood to be okay.

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14th June 2023

Officer Holders 2022-23

District Governor Kevin Forgeson
Dist. Gov. Elect Bill Robinson

President Helen Tattersall
Secretary Ken Hunt
Treasurer Graeme Ryan
Club Admin & PE Kelvin Winnie
Membership & PI John Macintosh
Service Projects Fred Staples
Youth Chris McKenna
Foundation Lynne Gibson
Artex Steve Gillum

Meetings

Weekly: Taradale Town Hall
Wednesday 6.00pm
Fellowship 5.30pm
Firesides: 1st Wed
Directors: 2nd Wed

Coming Up:

Club Changeover 2nd July
ArtEx in revival - September ?

Leave of Absence

Ian McKelvie, Kevin McCormack,
Trevor Powell, Doug Neilson - Ongoing
Ken & Carol to 28/6

Website/Club Contacts

Our website
www.greenmeadowsrotary.co.nz

President: hjtattersall@hotmail.com

Secretary:
administrator@greenmeadowsrotary.co.nz

Apologies:
GR.apologies@gmail.com (before 2pm Tues)



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Gardening Garth advised that the last “Dolbel” had been cancelled due to rain – but we would get back there, and so would Wim’s seat.

Jarmies Jenny said she had received a great response and would carry this collection on for another two weeks. Bring your jarmies or money!

Pres. Helen sought volunteers (5 – 6) for planting (or replanting after Gabrielle) at the site of the Kirs Jensen memorial at Awatoto. She has two so far, date to be confirmed by Council. She also spoke of the Ahuriri Sunrise show at the Playhouse, Hastings on 22 June, Tamatea High School planting at 9am Sunday (**NB later postponed due to the expected weather**) and the “Combined Directors” meeting – in the corner after our regular meeting!

Brian Matthews advised that we had received an insurance payout (\$7600) for the ArtEx flooding damage.

It was also announced that Ian McKelvie had sought to resign his membership and the significance of this was noted, not just his contribution – but his father and grandfather had also been Rotarians.

Sergeant

Sergeant Garth claimed an “old fashioned” approach to his task and fined Alan White for his “cycling publicity,” old codgers for their driver’s license renewal (and the difficulties of the doctor’s memory test) before changing tack to the recent flooding and surprised us with information about many other 100 year floods (1897, 1924, 1963 to name a few) all of which were astonishing and created a new high each time they occurred. There have been lots of times when 400 – 500 mm of rain has befallen us – not just the Bola & Gabrielle that we are familiar with. While we kept dry, we suffered and paid up. For what it was worth, Kevin McCormick eventually discovered that he had won the raffle with ticket No. 91 – but there did not seem to be a prize.

Thoughts this week - (Graeme Muir – with a Dutch theme)

Opening:

Neit opgeven. Blijven knokken.
Neet opp gay ver. Blyver-k-no-ka
“Keep up the good work. Don’t give up!”

Closing:

“Time heals almost everything. Give the time, some time.”

Words for this week

They belong to the Editor himself who has returned from his travels to the Rotary World Convention in Melbourne. (Now he is stuck n Masterton in the rain having attended a “Rotary RV Rally.”)

Late Breaking News from Mary Anne Eyles (in her Red Cross hat)

Red Cross is working with Eskdale Hub volunteers visiting and supporting those left living in the alley. Some of these folk are living in uninsulated caravans and its freezing.

A suggestion was made on my visit to the Hub today that warm (not summer weight) sleeping bags would be ideal for these people.

So, I am asking if any Club members who have sleeping bags they no longer use would be willing to donate these to the Hub for distribution.

If so I am happy to receive these.



ROSTER OF DUTIES

Date	June 21st	June 28th	July 5th
Programme: Guest Speaker	Hinewai Ormsby Carol Ball Red Cross Canterbury	TBC	Firesides?
Host + Thoughts	Chris McKenna	Steve Gillum	Peter Thompson
Top Table introduce Speaker	Kevin McCormack	Mark Dickerson	-
Vote of Thanks	Les Mockford	Brian Hall	-
Cashier	Lynne Gibson	Edwin Brown	Judy McKelvie
Three Minute Speaker	-	-	-
Sergeant	Bob Morrison	Jenny Robertson	Gill Scarlet
Stewards <i>One per table and the named Members to clean up at the end.</i>	Brian Peploe Gill Scarlet	Judy McKelvie Brian Anstis	Alan White Robert Pearson

UNABLE TO PERFORM DUTY?

YOU must arrange a substitute and notify President Helen of the change.
It's not too hard, is a courtesy to our president and assists the smooth running of our meeting.

FINAL CONVENTION REFLECTIONS

To some members Rotary is the regular weekly evening meeting (or breakfast or lunch one) but to others the organisation is far greater than that. To get a greater understanding and gain more knowledge, many attend the annual district conference – along with two or perhaps three hundred fellow Rotarians. At such events, national and international projects are presented and a wide range of Rotary knowledge and ideas are canvassed.

Taking this to the next level, is the annual International Convention of Rotary and this is held at varying major centres spread around the world. Perhaps every third one is held in the US (or Canada) and the rest spread throughout other countries, with the majority in the Northern hemisphere – and during their summer. About every ten years a convention is held in Australia.

In 1993 and while working in Christchurch my Rotary club there decided to attend that year's convention in Melbourne. A group of maybe a couple of dozen members and partners made the journey and took in the convention and the show "*Phantom of the Opera*" that was playing in Melbourne at the time. We really enjoyed it but I figured it would be a "one off" event for us. Now – thirty years later we have returned and visited the convention in Melbourne again. (We have actually done a number in between but figure this is perhaps our last one!)

As can perhaps be imagined, the range of speakers that can be attracted to such events is incredible. Over the years we have experienced many of them. As I have already reported, the main business session was held in the Rod Laver Centre and so to us, this tennis arena will take on a whole new meaning when we see it on TV.

By coincidence our accommodation was at the Pullman Albert Park Hotel. It did not take me long to realise that with a window overlooking the Albert Park Lake, we were looking right at the Australian Grand Prix circuit – right outside our window! I enquired at Reception whether the room rates went up at the time of the Grand Prix and the Concierge told me it was \$1800 per night – minimum stay four nights! We are unlikely to go back for that event.

Anyway, think about attending a convention one day. You may really enjoy it. (Next year Singapore....)

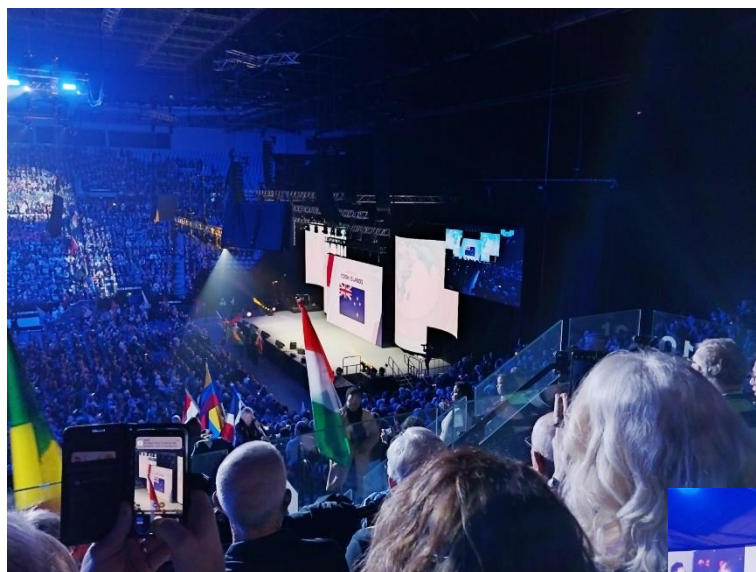


SOME MORE CONVENTION PHOTOS



↑ We attend a weekly Rotary Meeting out in the country at a Tram Car Restaurant run as a project by local Rotarians

At the House of Friendship we meet up with a Rotarian from Florida who we have stayed with as part of our membership of the Rotary Travel & Hosting Fellowship. →



← The New Zealand flag appears on the screen at the opening session.

The Arena begins to fill for a business session →

Footnote: The numbers I quoted last week as attending the convention were understated. We had over 40 from District 9930 in our hotel and another 20 were staying elsewhere in the city.

