



# MEADOWS MATTERS

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



## THE "OFF-GRID" HOME OF THE STAPLES

President Kelvin welcomed 22 members and one guest, Loretta Pearson, along with our hosts, Fred and Viv Staples. Having greeted all present, Kelvin invited our host to tell us how he got there!



Fred told members about the ongoing building project (four man years of labour - so far) of his beautiful and unique home. *(He previously lived nearby and just down the hill a little – while he planned this one! Ed)*

*Maison Staple* is off grid, using solar panels and two batteries to store electricity. Fred also has a water storage system which he is developing to utilise pumped, stored water, to run a turbine when needed, to supplement the solar power. *(Echoes of the now abandoned "Onslow Scheme" in the South Island. Ed)*

The walls of the house are built from straw bales with interior and exterior clay layers to add to the insulating properties of the bales. The one inch thick exterior clay layer is made up of three separate layers and has had a silicate paint layer applied which maintains the breathability of the structure but prevents moisture from permeating through the walls. The interior walls have 150 mm thick layer of wool which has great insulating properties. The ceiling has an R5 rating for insulation. Fred has tried to use all natural materials wherever possible.



The interior clay finish, along with the exposed roof beams give the inside of the house great acoustics - the clay render absorbs the sound very well.

The sub floor is pumice, used for its insulating properties, with clay as the finished flooring. Under floor heating keeps everything cosy, apart from Fred's closet and office space! Fred explained that the pumice is sourced from near Lake Taupo and gives the equivalent of an R4 rating for insulation.

When asked what the biggest challenge has been during the building project, Fred replied that dealing with the archeologists had been difficult as they had to do a comprehensive survey of the site to ensure that there weren't any areas of archeological significance.

Bulletin 2023-24 No. 39  
17<sup>th</sup> April 2024

### Officer Holders 2023-24

District Governor	Bill Robinson
Dist. Gov. Elect	Nick Dangerfield
Management of Area Asst.	
Governor	Phil Crombie
President	Kelvin Winnie
Secretary	Ken Hunt
Treasurer	Graeme Ryan
ClubAdmin&PE	Chris McKenna
Membership, Image & Foundation	
John Mackintosh &	Geoff Bibby
Service Projects	Brian Hall
Youth	Graeme Muir
ArtEx	Steve Gillum

### Meetings

Weekly: Taradale Town Hall  
Wednesday 6.00pm  
Fellowship 5.30pm

Firesides: 1<sup>st</sup> Wed  
Directors: 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed

### Coming Up:

Plate Debate – 19 June

### Leave of Absence

Kevin McC, Trevor P, Denise P &  
Lynne G – Ongoing; Neil S to 01/05  
Bob B to 24 April

### Website/Club Contacts

Our Facebook site  
<https://www.facebook.com/greenmeadowsrotary>

Our website  
[www.greenmeadowsrotary.co.nz](http://www.greenmeadowsrotary.co.nz)

President: [kelvin.winnie@tremains.co.nz](mailto:kelvin.winnie@tremains.co.nz)

Secretary:  
[administrator@greenmeadowsrotary.co.nz](mailto:administrator@greenmeadowsrotary.co.nz)

Apologies:  
[GR.apologies@gmail.com](mailto:GR.apologies@gmail.com) (before 2pm Tue)



After this most enlightening talk, members enjoyed barbecued burgers and all the accoutrements. We were very lucky with the weather and sat (or stood) outside enjoying a balmy Hawkes Bay April evening. What happened is pictured here.

Checking off that we have the correct numbers ↓



← Loretta - returning from injury and enjoying herself. Out on the porch discussing Rotary projects ↓



↑ Behind the scenes in the kitchen, where it all came together  
Chef extraordinaire Viv properly at centre stage

2024 District 9930 Conference  
Cambridge

*Good news stories for an optimistic future*  
Mark the dates in your diary, make sure your club gets involved and join us for the world-class speaker line up, great social programme and fantastic location.

Yours truly,  
Biv and Deb Robinson

Save the Date  
17-19 May 2024

CREATE HOPE  
in the WORLD

Rotary



**District Conference 2024**  
**Four Weeks to go**

The numbers are creeping up. Now into double figures.  
The Saturday night dinner theme is "OpShop Dress." (We are going to dress up in Art Deco and will look really smart!!)

More information by clicking on this link  
<https://www.9930conference.co.nz/registration>



## ROSTER OF DUTIES

Date	April 24th	May 1st	May 8th
Programme: Guest Speaker	Visits to Other Clubs	Firesides Admin	TBC
Host and Thoughts Top Table introduce Speaker Vote of Thanks Cashier Three Minute Speaker Sergeant		Bob Morrison - - Wal Drayton Helen Tattersall Brian Peploe	Graeme Ryan Peter Thompson Ross Pinkham Judy McKelvie - Alan White
<b>Stewards</b> <i>One per table and the named Members to clean up</i>		Mark Dickerson Curly Carpenter	Robert Pearson Frank Heuser

### UNABLE TO PERFORM DUTY or an ABSENCE COMING UP

*If you cannot perform a rostered duty, YOU must arrange a substitute and advise the President of this.*

*If you are going to miss a meeting, email the apologies link and if you have a long term absence planned, write to the Secretary seeking "Leave of Absence."*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### WORDS & IMAGES

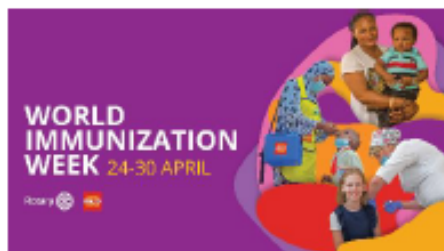
Skilfully working behind the scenes, in fading light and memory, the pen and mind of Helen recorded what she thought she could see (or hear) and the lens of camera operator Brian captured the images you see below. Our reporting team can work in any situation!

### NEW ADDITION TO OUR CONTACTS LIST (ABOVE)

The Greenmeadows Rotary Facebook Page link

<https://www.facebook.com/greenmeadowsrotary>

Have you been there yet? Click the link and see what you think.



## MISCELLANEOUS MEADOWS MATTERS



#25 – April 16, 2024

*1' to discover an aspect of Rotary*

### Rotary administrative services

---

Along with his team, the General Secretary oversees more than 800 employees serving Rotary members, from the international headquarters in Evanston, USA or one of six regional offices.

He is a member of the boards of Rotary and the Rotary Foundation.

John HEWKO, founding member of the Rotary Club of Kyiv in Ukraine, has served as Rotary General Secretary since 2011.

The Secretariat's leadership team manages the operational aspects of the organization, including programs and member services, finance, information technology, communications, strategy and legal services.

It is based in Evanston (United States) and six regional offices in New Delhi (India), Sydney (Australia), São Paulo (Brazil), Seoul (South Korea), Tokyo (Japan) and Zurich (Switzerland).

Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland (RIBI) is operated independently of Rotary International headquarters and regional offices.



The Rotarian Minute is a creation of District 1700. Please send any comments or suggestions to [jhminuccl700@gmail.com](mailto:jhminuccl700@gmail.com)

***Next week, committees are making their own arrangements to do our annual visits to other local Rotary clubs.***

