



MEADOWS MATTERS



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

POLITICS – BUT NOT AS WE KNOW IT

From a family that has spent 116 years delivering people (Nimon's Buses) Katie Nimon is now *looking after* us. So from the bus company to the local transport organisation and now our Member of Parliament. An MP for six months our speaker set out to tell us something of her experience and expectations (or lack of). She told us that parliament was something like a theatre and she got "put back in her place!" She spoke of the new terms she had to learn, like: *Question Time, First Reading and Second Reading*, of days that began at 7.45am and were still going at 7.15pm. There was a little bit of training but a lot of "learning by doing." She described asking questions of Ministers – known a "*Patsies*" and the most successful with one particular member and "*mansplaining.*" All that said, if you can still walk out of the house and work with those people from all sides "*with respect then you are doing your job.*"



The job in Wellington goes for three days a week for 30 weeks of the year (more if you are a Minister). Select Committees are in the mornings and she enjoys that. She described establishing an office, the rules to comply with, renting an apartment only about 100 metres from parliament. She went on with more new terms such as "*Staying on Topic, The way the system works, Personal vote - conscience vote (where you can go whichever way you want - not toe the party line), the Ayes & Noes Doors, Lobby in the lobby and the Cut through doesn't always cut through.*" She is the "bridge" between the people of Napier and Parliament in Wellington, i.e. "*Being our elected representative is her job.*"

She concluded with the fact that she was the 186th woman in NZ's parliament, that to assist her heavy workload she has an EA and also referred to her concern over gangs, security and beings followed. A period of some 20 minutes of questions followed and finished with Katie's final thought "*She is friendly with everybsoy, but works better with some than with others; you'll never please everybody!*"



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15th May 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: 1st Wed
Directors: 2nd Wed

Coming Up:

Plate Debate – 19 June

Leave of Absence

Kevin McC, Trevor P, Denise P &
Lynne G & Steve G – Ongoing;
Jenny to 22/5, David & Helen to 5/6

Website/Club Contacts

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

Our website
www.greenmeadowsrotary.co.nz

President: kelvin.winnie@tremains.co.nz

Secretary:
administrator@greenmeadowsrotary.co.nz

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

The Welcome

President Kelvin had earlier welcomed 47 people and this included not only the guest speaker, but also wives Heather & Donna, plus nine others who members had invited along to experience our club, our speaker and our fellowship. They were Mark Scofield & John Bull (guests of Frank); Wendy McLean & Tony Barnett (guests of Kelvin); Adrian Smith, (friend John Mac.); Bruce Dundadale (friend of Robert Pearson & John); Brian McGreevy (a contact of Steve) and finally John Reid from Taradale Rotary and Nigel Simpson (city councillor returned after visiting last week).

Then, as is his want, Kelvin alluded to a number of *sort of political facts*, namely that in 1898 woman got the right to vote; that one stood for our parliament in 1918 but did not make it until 1926. Then there was Mabel Howard, then Ratana, then the women first to become a “mother” while in parliament. (He stopped then saying we had a lot to get through in the evening!



Welfare

Stuart said that Robert Pearson was home and doing well after a hip replacement and that Geoff Bibby was now out of hospital (obviously) for he was sitting there with us.

Announcements

Brian Pelpoe told us of the *Christian Love Link Charity* and their meals – but now they needed blankets! Donations can be dropped off at Brian’s place – OR Katie Nimon’s electorate office in town.

Denise Brown told us that the Grey Power needs **volunteers for parking** (hope you know when & where!)

Sergeant’s Session

Sergeant Curly referred to his (politically) blue shirt and blue eyes and apparently wanted others of similar colouring to pay. When that did not work he brought up the Super Rugby teams and the followers for the various names were fined for either supporting or not supporting them. We paid up and shut up.



Some miscellaneous photos to fill this space



← Nearly 50 people attending our meeting this evening

Scribe Jenny (& Hugh) in Africa, looking to meet up with Rotarians →



ROSTER OF DUTIES

Date	May 22nd	May 29th	June 5th
Programme: Guest Speaker	Charley Davidson Recreational Electric Bike Group	TBC	Firesides
Host and Thoughts Top Table introduce Speaker Vote of Thanks Cashier Three Minute Speaker Sergeant	Edwin Brown Garth Eyles Les Mockford Denise Brown - Neil Smith	Wal Drayton Fred Staples Graeme Ryan Peter Thompson - Bob Morrison	Frank Heuser -- -- Brian Anstis Jenny Robertson Mark Dickerson
Stewards <i>One per table and the named Members to clean up at the end.</i>	Judy McKelvie Mike Owen	Brian Peplow Brian Hall	Judy McKelvie Gill Scarlet

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."*

WORDS & IMAGES THIS WEEK

The words came from the pen and lens of the Editor himself.
He is still looking for help. Can you be the one?

BICYCLES, HEALTH & WALKING

General Director of Euro Exim Bank Ltd got economists thinking when he said: "A cyclist is a disaster for the country's economy: he does not buy cars and does not borrow money to buy. He does not pay for insurance policies. He does not buy fuel, does not pay for the necessary maintenance and repairs. He does not use paid parking. He does not cause serious accidents. He does not require multi-lane highways. He does not get fat. Healthy people are neither needed nor useful for the economy. They don't buy medicine. They do not go to hospitals or doctors. Nothing is added to the country's GDP (gross domestic product). On the contrary, every new McDonald's restaurant creates at least 30 jobs: 10 cardiologists, 10 dentists, 10 dietary experts and nutritionists, and obviously, people who work at the restaurant itself. "Choose carefully: cyclist or McDonald's? It is worth considering.

P.S. Walking is even worse. Pedestrians don't even buy bicycles.

THOUGHTS FOR THIS WEEK (Gail Kelly)

Inspired by last week's Rotary District Assembly on Regionalisation and Change.

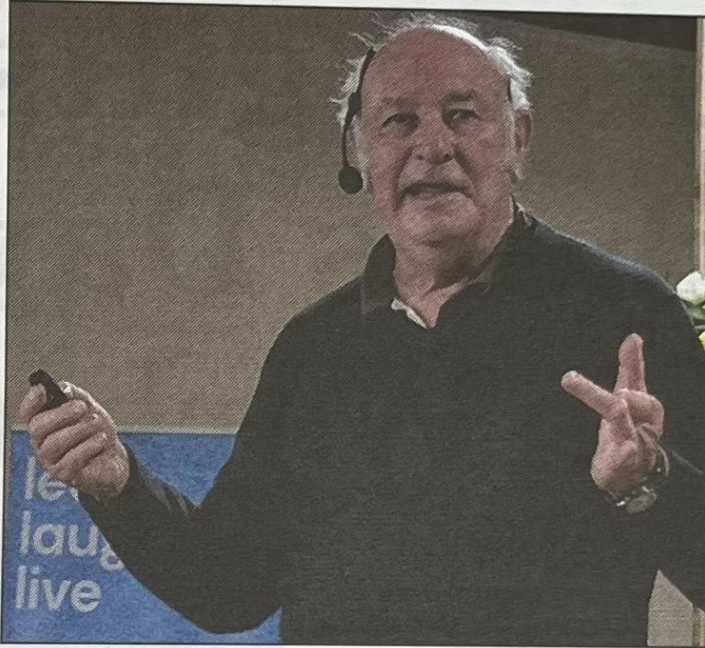
Opening

"The secret of change is to focus all your energy, not on fighting the old, but on building the new." (Socrates)

Closing

"Change is the law of life. Those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future." (JFKennedy)





PHIL Cooper gave a talk to Ravenshead u3a members about an environmental conservation in Costa Rica at their April meeting.

Donations for work on rainforest project

PHIL Cooper gave a talk about an environmental conservation project he is involved with in Central America — *The Birds And Beasts Of The 'Rainforests Of The Austrians'* in Costa Rica — at the April meeting of Ravenshead u3a.

Members were invited to donate to the cause after his presentation and raised £168 towards reforestation of a vital part of the country's rainforest.

Ravenshead u3a, whose monthly members' meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month, from 10am, in St Peter's Church, hosted a coffee morning in The Centre at St Peter's at the end of April.

It showcased activities the u3a offers those with time flexibility, or who are no longer in full-time work.

There are more than 1,000 local u3a charity organisations around the UK, each operating independently with their own trustees, and with a common aim to provide enjoyable, educational and sociable activities for older people at a very low, affordable cost, run by their members for their members.

Umbrella body The Third Age

Trust is organising its first three-day national u3a festival, from 18th-20th July at York University campus. There will be a variety of workshops, lectures, and sporting activities, and Ravenshead u3a is taking a coach full of members to take part on the Friday of the weekend.

The next monthly meeting, on 14th May, will include the annual meeting, followed by members of three interest groups demonstrating what they do, including the Salsa Dancing Group.

Writing For Fun Group members will read out short stories, including a poignant tribute to a survivor of the 1950s UK nuclear test explosions on Christmas Island.

Then relaxation and stretching exercises are to be led by the Chair Yoga Group.

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●To find out more about Ravenshead u3a call 0300 030 2990, or go to www.ravensheadu3a.org.uk or search for ravensheadu3a on Facebook and Instagram.

Rotary
District 1700



**The Rotarian
Minute
Essentials**

#20 – February 06, 2024

1' to discover an aspect of Rotary

The Object of Rotary

For more than a century, professionals have come together at Rotary to put their expertise and passion at the service of the community.

These **values** have always been at the heart of the organization's guiding principles.

The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

FIRST: The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;

SECOND: High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;

THIRD: The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;

FOURTH: The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

The Rotary Board of Directors believes that these four points are equally important and should be undertaken simultaneously

Rotary



The Rotarian Minute is a creation of District 1700. Please send any comments or suggestions to laminute1700@gmail.com

***Next week at our home, another great meal and
we will learn about E Bikes for riding to Rotary***

