



MEADOWS MATTERS

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



CREATE HOPE
in the WORLD

ART EX OUR ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

The Welcome

Some 35 Members and 12 Guests assembled at 5.30pm to be greeted by President Kelvin. With slides of the last ArtEx showing on the background screen, President Kelvin welcomed members, plus Sponsors, Mike and Kirsty Redshaw of *Redshaw Homes*, Cody Williams and Hamish McDonald from *Media Works*, and Paul Hursthouse from *EIT*. Member's wives included: Kathy Brown, Alison Morrison, Mary Anne Eyles, Donna Thompson, Di Gillum and Catriona Matthews. Special welcome to Mike Owens' wife, Penny to her first Greenmeadows function.



Welfare

There was nothing to report in the Welfare area (*though the Editor was absent with covid. Now recovered!*)

The Business

President Kelvin gave a brief precis of the ArtEx history. First held 1982, with Brian Peploe being the only one present now who attended that. (*At this stage, Carly provided a brief interlude trying to turn his cell phone off – Sergeant next week note please!*)

Kelvin thanked Steve and Judy for their time and efforts, and their supporting Committee. He also thanked the sponsors, "a key element in the success of the project."

Over the past five years, we have donated \$100,000.00 to HB Surf Life Saving, and around \$1M in total to other recipients. We then saw a graphic and moving brief video taken by Surf Life Savers and others involved in Gabrielle, either rescuing or being rescued.

Bryan Matthews then spoke, acknowledging what (ArtEx Director) Steve & Di had gone through with Cyclone Gabrielle as they were trying to prepare for ArtEx, and his best wishes for the rebuild of their home which has just commenced. Bryan thanked Media Works who provided \$12,000.00 of free advertising for the event. He also thanked Bex as both Manager and sponsor and new sponsors who covered the cost of painting the long boards this year. These sponsors included the Gillum's (through their Company), *Langley Twigg*, *Resene Paints*, and *Alexander Construction*. *Elephant Hill* approached us to host the event, saving \$10,000.00 in rental, plus sponsored the wine. A major contributor to the success.

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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;

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**)

Kids Art was exhibited at Creative Napier, with the winners on display at Elephant Hill bringing a new dimension and excitement for the Children involved. With a history of 90% of the funds raised being made on the first night, at this stage ArtEx 2025 is likely to be just a one-night event, with fewer artists, but proven sellers from our local area. Bryan thanked Catriona & Donna for manning the sales table for the past years.

Following Bryan's presentation, Steve expressed his thanks to Bryan for the hundreds of hours he spent researching and preparing the new lighting system. Thanks Bryan. Also, thanks to all wives / husbands and friends who contributed their time to the event.

After Kelvin thanked all for their contribution, especially our Chefs, the meeting closed 7.34pm

Members - relaxing, planning, laughing & meditating as they enjoy fellowship and ArtEx.



It doesn't get much better than this at Greenmeadows Rotary



ROSTER OF DUTIES

Date	June 12th	June 19th	June 25th
Programme: Guest Speaker	Jenny Herring Rotary Foundation "Endowment"	Plate Debate	Murray Douglas Te Mata Figs
Host and Thoughts Top Table introduce Speaker Vote of Thanks Cashier Three Minute Speaker Sergeant	Neil Smith Ross Pinkham Bruce Martin Gail Kelly - Bob Brady		Steve Gillum Jenny Robertson John Mackintosh Judy McKelvie Geoff Bibby Mike Owen
Stewards <i>One per table and the named Members to clean up</i>	Garth Eyles Bryan Matthews		Gill Scarlet Peter Thompson

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."*



'Jarmies for June'

Winter pajamas needed
for children 2 – 15
years and for women.

Or \$20 donation to
Jenny. Thank you.

THOUGHTS FOR THIS WEEK (The Editor)

The Senility Prayer

Grant me the senility to forget the people I never liked anyway; the good fortune to run into the ones I do; and the eyesight to tell the difference.

Age & Laughter

You don't stop laughing because you grow old; you grow old because you stop laughing.

WORDS & IMAGES THIS WEEK

The words came from the pen and the pictures from the lens, all of which were in the very capable hands and mind of Brian Hall.



MISCELLANEOUS MEADOWS MATTERS

Our International Youth Exchange (IYE) student Bianca Ching, now in Switzerland, provides us with her report on the first leg of her 12 month exchange

BIANCA CHING: SWITZERLAND

After 1 year of organising, the dream that seemed too good to be true arrived. What feels like not so long ago, my whole life was turned upside down for the better as I set off on my new adventure. After a memorable stopover in Dubai, I arrived at my final destination, Basel, Switzerland. Hallo, ich heiße Bianca und ich bin siebzehn (17) Jahre alt. Ich wohne in Basel Switzerland (der Schweiz) und ich liebe es hier. I have now been here around 3 months and am absolutely loving it, I truly am living my best life all thanks to this opportunity that Rotary has given me.



These are photos of the Rhine in Basel, it is about a 10 minute walk from where I live.

I went to school a day after arriving and got right into the immersion. At school I have 10 compulsory subjects and the hours vary each day between 4-9 hours per day. I am lucky to be in a lovely class who are all very patient of my language journey.

In the last couple of months I have learnt to ski, travelled, my German has improved, I have seen beautiful scenery and met new people. I was fortunate enough that my host family took me on a 2 week ski holiday in the alps where they taught me to ski. They were so patient as I had never skied previously and am not the most coordinated individual. I did quickly learn to stop as I concluded falling over so much was not so fun. I have also travelled around Switzerland mostly for Rotary related events which has been a nice way to see the scenic views. I am also grateful to have gone to southern Spain for 2 weeks. It was an amazing experience and I feel very appreciative that my host family gave me this opportunity to travel with them. The language aspect has definitely been the hardest part. However, I have been surrounded by the German language, so I can understand more and am conversing more in German.



Lenk, where I went skiing.



Mt Rigi, where I went for a Rotex weekend.

BIANCA CHING: CONTINUED



I was in Luzern for a Rotary weekend, it ranks among the most beautiful town in Switzerland.



Photos from Spain; Alambra, Rhonda, Marbella, Caminito del Rey.

The Swiss culture is, from my experience, similar to our Kiwi culture. Although, one cultural experience was going to a carnival called Fasnacht. It is an annual tradition in Basel celebrating the end of winter and is welcoming spring. It starts at 4am on the first day, where the whole city goes dark and people start marching through the city with lanterns they have designed. It finishes exactly 4 days later with different things happening each day and night. I also went to the parade and I had the honour of walking in a small group so I got the first-hand experience of Fasnacht. The lanterns and themes are supposed to be a funny take on political issues



Coming up at the end of June I am looking forward to my Euro tour. It goes for 17 days and we will visit 10 countries. This trip is organised through Rotary with the other exchange students in Switzerland.

Thanks again to Rotary for making this awesome life experience a reality.

Next Week at home and a Rotary Foundation Presentation with District & Regional Speakers

