



MEADOWS MATTERS

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



WHO GIVES A TOSS ABOUT TURTLES?



The Welcome

Acting President Kelvin, standing in again (but for the last time as PE Chris had reappeared from her river cruise) welcomed 34 people and gave a special greeting to our guest speaker Charlotte Matthews. (Also present was Catriona, Charlotte's mother and Donna Thompson.) In his final "fact finding mission," Kelvin spoke about the new incoming International Rotary Pres. Stephanie Urchick from MacMurray Rotary Club in Pennsylvania. Of Ukrainian descent she has been a Rotarian for 33 years, has a Masterate in Education & a Doctorate in Leadership. He reminded us of her theme for this Rotary year - "the Magic of Rotary".



Welfare

In the absence of the welfare officer, it was briefly reported that *there are a couple of members pending in the realm of welfare – but nothing drastic!*

Announcements

President Kelvin thanked the caterers for the delicious smoked chicken & spinach lasagne. He then reminded members about the **Changeover luncheon at Linden Estate Winery** this Sunday (21st July) at the **Valley D'Vine Restaurant** at 12.30pm for 1pm lunch. Pay on arrival and a cash bar - \$50 per head. (Over 60 members and partners are now booked.)

Bulletin 2024-25 No. 04
24th July 2024

Officer Holders 2023-24

District Governor Nick Dangerfield
Dist. Gov. Elect Ken Smith
Community Leader Grant Spackman

Acting President Kelvin Winnie
Secretary Ken Hunt
Treasurer Graeme Muir
Club.Admin & PE Carol Charman
Membership & PI John Mackintosh
Service Projects Denise Brown
Youth Gill Scarlett
Foundation Ross Pinkham
ArtEx

Meetings

Weekly: Taradale Town Hall
Wednesday 6.00pm
Fellowship 5.30pm

Firesides: 1st Wed
Directors: 2nd Wed

Coming Up:

Changeover, Valley D'Vine 21 July

Leave of Absence

Kevin McC, Trevor P, Denise P & Lynne G – Ongoing.
Bruce Martin – 31/07 - 21/08
Steve Gillum – 24/07 – 21/08

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)

Cap Man Les spoke about the new Rotary caps and said if members hadn't paid already to pay the club account direct. The caps look very smart.

Communications Carol spoke about the Social Media tool – *'What's App'* and asked if members needed help and assistance with using the tool. It seemed that the "App" was not well known (does this replace emails?) help *is* needed!

Denise Brown requested more volunteers for Friday 30th August at Mitre 10.

Pres Kelvin then alluded to recent Board recommendations saying that the Directors 'recommended' that \$5,000 of club funds be donated to a project that the Rotary Club of Wairoa recommended to us, and also that any excess over \$100,000 in our Trust account should be donated to worthy causes. Members voted in favour of these two items.

President Kelvin concluded by reading out a lovely thank you note received from the Napier Women's Refuge for our generous donations given for *'Jarmies for June.'*

Sergeant's Session

Sergeant Steve Gillum talked about the 'big event' in France which *wasn't* the Olympics but the **Tour De France** and proceeded to don a yellow "T shirt" and the appropriate spotted cap. He spoke about an automobile magazine sponsoring the event and how automobiles were used for drafting in the race.

He told us that common folk having a BMI greater than 30, as being draught horses and talked about some people going to dinner tomorrow night at the Clive Hotel not wanting people to see the lumps in the Lycra!

He also shared the excitement of following the racers and how the yellow jersey depicts 'leader'. He reminded everyone to watch the race tomorrow. So, during this vaguely "unolympic" French event, he extracted much money from members – and Donna won the meat raffle.

Kelvin then added that Alan White is on his way home from Adelaide and hopefully we will see him on Sunday.

The Speaker



THOUGHTS FOR THIS WEEK (Mike Owen)

Life Lessons from a Sea Turtle

- Sometimes you have to dig yourself out of a hole you didn't dig
- Make time for the beach
- Slow down
- Come out of your shell
- Age gracefully
- Life is better with a good friend
- Enjoy the views
- Travel far



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WORDS & IMAGES THIS WEEK

The words this week came from the educated pen of Jenny Robertson and with some images thrown in by the Editor.

RANDOM THOUGHT

The name Turtle has two "T's"; The speaker's name Charlotte has two T's; the surname Matthews has two T's. It was meant to be. Just saying.....

MEAL – CHICKEN LASAGNE





Bruce Martin introduced Charlotte Matthews and said she was the fourth member of the Matthews family to speak to this club.

Charlotte spoke about growing up in Hawke's Bay, being educated at Napier Girl's High School and always having a huge interest in animals and zoology.

She trained as a vet, worked in Wairoa, Taranaki and then UK. She also worked as volunteer with the sea turtles at the Taronga Zoo in Sydney. She then spoke about her time working as a volunteer in the Maldives caring for injured turtles. She explained how the Maldives (an archipelago nation only accessible by seaplane) at the bottom of India, consisting of 26 atolls & also across the equator.

She became part of the **Olive Ridley Project**, founded by a biologist and centered around those turtles that get trapped in fishing nets. All the participants are rehabilitated and released. As reptilians they are so reliant on the environment for their existence, and they have got to be in warm areas. She told us that the turtles take 25 – 50 years to reach sexual maturity, and that the adults return to where they were hatched which could be thousands of kilometers away.

But these creatures are critical to the maintaining of a healthy environment, if they were exterminated the environment could collapse. She explained how there are seven different types of sea turtle, all endangered, but six of those are threatened with extinction.

She also shared with us that every turtle has a different pattern on its face a bit like our fingerprints. Their greatest threats are pollution, climate change, coastal erosion, trawler nets, plastic ingestion and entanglement. In the Maldives fishing nets have been banned as 132 turtles were caught in them just last year.

They come into the rescue centre, the majority having been caught in nets, but some have gut issues, some have had boat strikes and one came in covered in tar.

A day in the life of a volunteer includes, primarily caring for the patients, cleaning up the rescue centre, feeding the residents, looking at buoyancy issues for those with missing limbs.

Charlotte most enjoyed releasing the turtles back into the wild but also the hatching of the eggs. When she was there, of the 132 eggs, 88 were hatched.

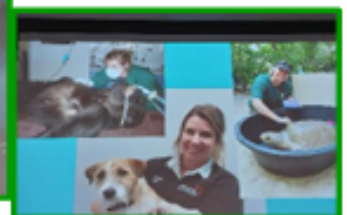
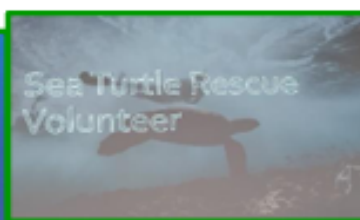
She concluded with the advice, that if you want to volunteer:

- Try and look for veterinary led organizations as they are more ethically run
- Remember that wild animals need to remain wild
- The aim is to release them, not for them to interact with humans
- Do your research before you volunteer
- Please don't buy real tortoiseshell as the turtles are an endangered species

The question was asked as to whether they are tagged when they are released and she told us that some of the adults are tagged but it costs \$5,000 for each adult and this is hard to administer with volunteers.

Denise Brown thanked Charlotte for a wonderful, biology lesson.

**Who gives a
toss about
turtles?
Well, if you
didn't
before, you
sure do
now!**



ROSTER OF DUTIES

Date	July 24th	July 31st	August 7th
Programme: Guest Speaker	James Simmonds Webfox Co – Use of AI as a business tool	Scott McKenna Marathons	Firesides
Host and Thoughts Top Table introduce Speaker Vote of Thanks Cashier Three Minute Speaker Sergeant	John Reid Gill Scarlet Peter Thompson Judy McKelvie - Graeme Ryan	Ross Pinkham Edwin Brown Geoff Bibby Fred Staples - Graeme Muir	Garth Eyles - - Curly Carpenter Mike Owen Jenny Robertson
Stewards <i>One per table and the named Members to clean up</i>	Robert Pearson Frank Heuser	Bob Brady Les Mockford	Bryan Matthews Robert Pearson

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."*

MISCELLANEOUS MEADOWS MATTERS

A RANDOM RHYME

Chris was back, however not in the Chair
But it won't be long, before she gets there
You'll see her tomorrow, as she drinks some wine
Out in Esk Valley, at the Valley D'Vine
She will then assume the Chain of Office
And with 'magic' - she will lead us

Don't forget

- The Choir from Switzerland singing at the Taradale Town Hall on 25 July
- The banded dotterels workshop at the Bay View Bowling Club on 11 August



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

21-25 JUNE 2025 • CALGARY, CANADA

Register today at convention.rotary.org



Rotary
District 1700



The Rotarian
Minute
History

No. 23 – July 16, 2024

1' to discover an aspect of Rotary history

Early Members: portraits of Rotary Pioneers

Rotarians' early members were businessmen and professionals from diverse backgrounds, reflecting Paul Harris' vision of a diverse club.

In addition to the four founders, pioneers included Harry Ruggles, a printer, who introduced singing to Rotary meetings, a tradition that continues today.

Albert White, a pianist, brought a musical touch to the gatherings.

William Jensen, a real estate agent, helped expand the club.

Dr. William R. Neff, the first physician to join the group, broadened Rotary's professional reach.

Charles Newton, a lawyer like Harris, strengthened the club's ethical dimension.

These men, and others who soon joined them, shared a common commitment to service and friendship.

Their professional diversity and dedication to the Rotary ideal laid the solid foundation upon which the worldwide organization was built.



The Rotarian Minute is a creation of District 1700. Please send any comments or suggestions to jminute1700@gmail.com

***Next Up Sunday at Esk Valley - then at our home venue to
learn about "AI" and maybe how it can take over
production of this newsletter!***

