



MEADOWS MATTERS

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



Bulletin 2024-25 No. 23
4th December 2024



Welcome

The evening started well with a “shout” from Nonagenarian / Quadragenarian Brian Peplow – for his 90th Birthday. [Thanks Brian, very much appreciated and congratulations on this achievement.] **President Christine** then welcomed 37 Members and no visitors.



Welfare

Stuart Cheyne advised that Don McKenzie at home from hospital, comfortable and bright. Thanks, Denise, for visiting him. Jenny reports no change with Hugh.
Good to see Alan and Ross back from the sick bed and with us.

Announcements

Pres Chris reminded us that **next week** is a special Christmas meal from Dave Roast. Bring \$10.00 wrapped gift for a passing game. (You may opt to donate your prize to the Salvation Army.)

Reconvene January 15th with a BYO picnic meal BUT in the Rotary Rooms. Bring a plate and cutlery and food to share.

Catering Curly updated matters re the Christmas lunch (15th) at the Linden Estate. Final numbers to him by next Wednesday. AND with a little twist of an arm, Curly has arranged for you to purchase **Linden Estate wine at 10% off their normal price.**

PE Carol read an email of thanks from Jenny Peters for the very accommodating trio of Rotarians who assisted with (the earlier reported) digging, pruning and other garden chores. The trio were graded “triple A” on their report card, PLUS described as “good company”.



Officer Holders 2024-25

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

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

Meetings

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

Coming Up:

Last regular meeting – 11th Dec.
Christmas Function @ Linden Estate
15th Dec.

Leave of Absence

Trevor P, Denise P & Jenny R - ongoing

Website/Club Contacts

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

Our website
www.greenmeadowsrotary.co.nz

President Chris:
mckennachristine530@gmail.com

Secretary:
administrator@greenmeadowsrotary.co.nz

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

Organisational Ian, with a somewhat comedic medical approach, told us how we could improve our “circulation” greatly by sending reservation/booking requests (and even the shrapnel mug) by starting at the rostrum and heading (“clockwise”) north, east, south and west past the president and back to the rostrum. This would assist the health of any member trying to organise a club event and get the “bookings” properly recorded!



Graeme Muir has had nominal response to the invitation/attendance sheet circulated for the **Camp Kaitawa work week 5 – 10 January**. The scribe notes that as he is unable to attend, at least two of you need to volunteer to cover the huge workload he traditionally contributes. (Not forgetting Margarets contribution!)

Denise Brown thanked the five volunteers who assisted last Saturday. She reminded us that it would be great if we all can provide gifts/cash for the **Salvation Army Christmas Appeal**. Final chance to bring goods (or cash instead) is next Wednesday.

IYE Helen announced the incoming **Exchange Student, Alice** is arriving from **Southern Brazil** in January. Our Club will be the first Hosts, thereafter she will be in Hastings. Hence, she will be attending Hastings Girls High. Think about **how you can contribute to making her Exchange a memorable one**.

Foundation Ross announced we had a District Foundation Grant to purchase **two AED's**, one to be installed in our Hall, the second at Four Square, Greenmeadows. With no apparent or known connection, he also offered members some **kaka beak plants** that he has propagated.

Three Minute Speaker

Denise spoke on her recent UK and European adventures with friends Tony and Bruce. These included canal boating including an involuntary swim when one leg decided to remain on land and the other wanted to but failed to stay on the boat at a lock. London shows, centuries old castles, homes, museums and churches, red light accommodation in Amsterdam, pretending to be a Princess in the Palace of Versace, pretending to be in the America’s Cup team in Barcelona, not the mother of the bride at a wedding in Spain. Not her best experience – emptying the water from her leg after the canal swim. Best experience Westminster Abbey where she used her leg & stick to get free access for, she & her “Husband” Tony, as her caregiver. (To the uninitiated or perhaps new members, Denise is able to detach one of her legs in order to gain the special assistance or provide a humorous intervention to an activity!)



Sergeant’s Session

Sergeant Mike had a theme (**on Volunteer Day**) based on Volunteers, in particular the Fire Service. Facts supplied: 1,700 paid fire fighters in NZ, 12,000 volunteer fire fighters who contribute \$823m in time. This compared to 4,500 volunteer life savers. He described a request from a volunteer who had just attended a MV accident requiring cutting open a vehicle – **“Drive safely this Christmas – keep that right foot lightly on the accelerator.”**



WORDS & IMAGES THIS WEEK

Words and photos (from a proper camera) this week came through Brian Hall – with a contribution from Ross Pinkham.

The Food this week



Thought; this week (Curly Carpenter)

Opening thought

“If everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself.”
(Henry Ford)

Closing thought:

“Great things in Rotary are never done by one person, they’re done by a team of people.”
(Steve Jobs)



Guest Speaker – “ Out of Africa”

Our own Kelvin Winnie spoke on his recent trip to South Africa with his son. This was Kelvin’s third trip to the African Continent (which he carefully described with slides and figures). The trip just managed to coincide with an All Black South Africa rugby game in Cape Town. A photo on the All Black Facebook page of the two of them confirms this. Africa has over 1.3 billion population with an average age of 19 years – compared to 38 in New Zealand. 22 of the 25 poorest countries are in Africa. Hippos are the biggest animal killer with 5,000 people killed per year. Malaria from mosquitos is the largest killer with over 2,000 in Kenya alone.



Apart from the rugby, they attempted to climb Table Mountain (1,085m high) then went on game adventures in Kruger National Park. This park (which is 360km long, and 60 – 70km wide has had its boundary fences opened to allow further foraging due to severe drought conditions.

Tip for future visitors to south Africa – do not take cash – use phone or cards.

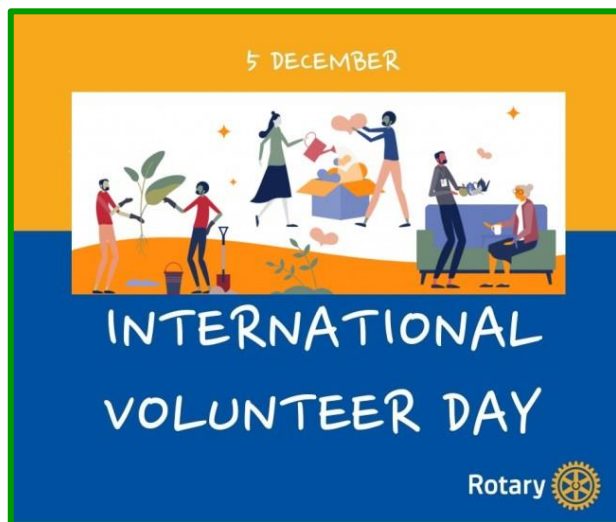
President Chris thanked Kelvin for his presentation. She also thanked Brian Peplow who funded our first drink. Congratulations Brian – we are looking forward to this time 2034, when you can bring the Kings message to us!

Another delightful meal – appropriate for the hot day. Smoked chicken, spinach and red capsicum quiche with cold potato and chive salad, coleslaw, bacon and broccoli.

ROSTER OF DUTIES

Date	December 11th
Programme: Guest Speaker	Christmas Meeting “Pass the Parcel”
Host and Thoughts	Fred Staples
Top Table introduce	-
Speaker	-
Vote of Thanks	-
Cashier	Alan White
Three Minute Speaker	-
Sergeant	-
Stewards <i>One per table and the named Members to clean up</i>	Kevin McComack Kelvin Winnie

VOLUNTEERING



Rotarians in our region and across the globe are united in purpose, and on this International Volunteer Day, we celebrate every act of service, kindness, and generosity! From addressing global challenges to supporting individuals and communities in need, volunteers breathe life into the spirit of human solidarity, driven by compassion and commitment. You are at the heart of change for good and better, and our communities can always count on you!

THANK YOU for all you do.

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

The Calendar year comes to an end
But the Rotary year is only half done
Plenty of time to find things to mend
And at the same time have some fun
But the important thing we must not miss
Is to wish all our friends "Merry Christmas"

(From *Pat the Poet*)

Random Images from Wednesday Evening



Acknowledging the "Birthday Boy"



Getting Ready for the Speaker



Discussing Welfare



Planning Projects



From a nearby Old Peoples Home

The images not shown in this picture, are of the women members who *were* present, but were busy organising things, arranging projects, getting ready for the meeting and preparing for Christmas.

Missing Women



The Final of Rotary Foundation Information (from RDU)

Recognising your generosity

Delving into donor recognition pins and their meaning.

IN 1957, The Rotary Foundation introduced a donor recognition called the Paul Harris Fellow in honour of our founder, who had passed away some 10 years previously. It was developed to encourage Rotarians to contribute US\$1,000 every year.

In Australia, New Zealand and several other countries, a contribution of US\$1,000 was beyond the reach of most Rotarians, so many clubs made the gift and used that contribution to recognise a member as a Paul Harris Fellow, in recognition of outstanding service to the club and community.

During the 1960's and 1970's the Paul Harris Fellow in these countries developed a reputation as an 'award'. In our part of the world, many Rotarians still see it that way,

but fortunately many more are seeing the Paul Harris Fellow for what it is: a recognition of financial contribution, personally or by the club, to The Rotary Foundation so that funding is assured to continue the humanitarian projects on which we build Rotary's reputation.

In 1988, a laurel was added to the pin, so that recognition levels of additional contributions of US\$1,000 could be recognised by adding sapphires and rubies.

With growing personal generosity, the Major Donor pin and a crystal were developed to recognise personal contribution of one-off or cumulative giving of US\$10,000 or greater.

The generosity of Rotarians continued, and it got to a point in 2004 where a higher level of recognition for personal contributions was introduced, the Arch Klumph Society (AKS), starting at US\$250,000. Today, this recognition's levels go up to US\$10,000,000. The highest-level AKS in Zone 8 is AKS Level 4 at US\$2,500,000.

In the early 2000's, there was a growing trend for people to leave a bequest in their

will to charity. Therefore, in 2005, The Rotary Foundation developed the Bequest Society for bequests of US\$10,000 or greater. In our region, we have more than 500 Bequest Society members and, in recent times, we are seeing the growth in numbers accelerate as members become aware of this giving opportunity.

To highlight this point, the combined commitments from this region are in excess of US\$50,000,000. Within the bequest segment, the Foundation recently introduced The Legacy Society, where commitments over US\$1,000,000 are recognised. Australia has the second highest number of members in the world after the US.

Rotary districts in Australia and New Zealand also initiated a rather unique recognition in the Centurion pin. This pin was developed to recognise donors who commit to contribute AU\$100 or more each year towards the Annual Fund ONLY. The whole idea of this program is to generate DDF for districts to carry on their projects within the community. Over time, these contributions grow to deliver

Donor Recognition Program

Recognising your Personal Contributions



Major Donor 05
Person cumulative contributions of US\$10,000



Centurion Program 01
Annual contribution of \$100 in local currency



Arch Klumph Society 06
Highest level of recognition in Zone 8 with 30 members



Paul Harris Society 03
Annual contribution commitment of US\$1000



Bequest Society 04
Leaving a bequest of US\$10,000+



Paul Harris Fellow 02
One off, or cumulative contributions to US\$1000

Next week – at the Town Hall, Wednesday & Valley D'Vine, Sunday