



Presidents Post

Greetings Fellow Rotarians

I hope you are all safe and well and I look forward to seeing you back at our usual venue this week at the Naenae Bowling club.

A small team consisting of Graham, Thorb, Richard S and myself cleaned out the Avalon Pavilion lockup of our accumulated equipment, glasses, memorabilia & stuff that might have come in useful at some stage but not seen the light of day for a long while and repatriated some of them to our new venue which does have limited storage so not all could be housed.

At our last meeting Philippa & Johanna from Women's Refuge gave a sobering but enlightening presentation on the services their organisation provides and the helping hand that our club could provide.

Our speaker this week is Peter Walker the Deputy Principal Rural Fire Officer for the Wellington/Chatham Islands area.

Also don't forget to see me or contact Ross McKinnon as we are looking for volunteers for the Te Omanga Hospice annual street appeal on the 18th & 19th May 2018 with the collection point being outside New World Stokes Valley. Times are broken down into 2 hour time slots starting at 10:00 -12:00, 12:00 to 2:00, 2:00 to 4:00 & 4:00 to 6:00pm on both days. Please indicate preferred timed. Thanks to those who have volunteered so far.

Don't forget the district assembly in Palmerston North on the 13th May, a day of learning for new officers in our club and to support Casey for his upcoming year.

See you all on Tuesday 1st May.

Phil

President

Rotary Club of Hutt River Valley

Meeting Tuesday 24th April

This evening the club was fortunate enough to be addressed by two women from the "Women's Refuge" organisation.

Johanne Greally (left in photo) and Philippa Wells. Johanne is a lawyer with Hutt Law and has been on the Womens Refuge board for six years and Philippa is the Chief Executive. Together they gave us some startling and very disturbing statistics.



In 2016 there were 118,910 cases of family violence of which about 33,000 passed through Womens Refuge. There is one case of family violence every 5 minutes of which 41% involve the Police and it is estimated that only 25% of occurrences get reported. This means that in 2016 about 360,000 cases went unreported, a frightening statistic. It is estimated that the cost to New Zealand of family violence is over \$4.5 billion a year. On average a partner will suffer 5 to 7 incidences of abuse before leaving their partner and about half of all deaths occur during a period of separation.

There have been incidents of violent partners attempting to break in to a safe house and as a consequence special gates and extra security measures are being installed to give staff and women greater protection

Both ladies then talked about the services offered, besides safety and a measure of security, such as counselling and child support and protection. During this time both parties are suffering from severe



psychological stresses such as anger, grief, confusion and loss of control to name a few.

As always finance is an issue and while there is government support it is not enough, they get paid to cater for 80 women and do 50 police reports in a year and to date they have had 120 women in so far and last year they did about 2,000 police reports. Greater training of staff also requires a greater expenditure so anything will help. Items such as snapper cards, petrol vouchers and long life milk are always welcome.

The club agreed to help with their street collection and as requested their account number is 06 0529 0362183 00 Hutt City Women's Refuge Inc.

Notices

1. Collectors will be required for the Te Omanga collection on 18th and 19th May. Collection will be in two hours from 10am to 6pm both days so please note in diaries.
2. During the meeting a motion was put and passed by show of hands that the Naenae Bowling Club be made our Club's permanent venue.

Parting Thought

Our good families should spend some time helping the not so lucky families.

Peter Chaney

Upcoming programme

May 1st – Peter Walker, Deputy Principal Rural Fire Officer, Wellington/Chatham Islands

May 8th – Barbara Hay, Emergency resilience in Stokes Valley

May 15th – Alison from EarthLink

Meeting Duties

| | 1-May | 8-May | 15-May |
|-----------------------|---|--|--------------------|
| Guest Speaker & Topic | Peter Walker, Deputy Principal Rural Fire Officer, Wellington/Chatham Islands | Barbara Hay, Emergency resilience in Stokes Valley | Alison - Earthlink |
| Host | Ron Wainwright | Graham Smeaton | Peter Wright |
| Set Up | Alan Thorburn | Alan Thorburn | Alan Thorburn |
| Grace | Leole Malama-Prasad | Stu Blake | Joe Howard |
| Thanks | John Anderson(T) | Raj Prasad | Graham Smeaton |
| Parting Thought | Casey Diver | Leigh Sutton | Dennis O'Grady |

If you are unable to do your duty would everyone please make an effort to get another member to do it for you.

RYPEN

In Conjunction with the Rotary Club of Upper Hutt we have nominated two students from Taita College to go to this year's RYPEN course in Inglewood.

The students nominated are:

Angelnella Tupua-Wilson and Alex-Zander Harris-Hart and we wish them all the best for an enjoyable and informative time.

Environmental Sustainability Rotarian Action Group

Environmental Sustainability Rotarian Action Group (ESRAG) assists Rotary clubs, districts and multi-districts in planning, implementing and evaluating service projects, building awareness, and inspiring action. These projects promote environmental sustainability, awareness of climate change, and actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to mitigate climate disruption. ESRAG promotes educational resources, initiates dialogue about environmental sustainability, and uses best practices in models and assessments for both projects and daily choices. This work advances the Object of Rotary through positive impacts in all six Areas of Focus.

ESRAG's focus on environmental sustainability offers Rotary the opportunity to provide long-term benefits for people all over the world. We will work to ensure that project investments preserve the ability for the environment to renew itself and

continue to support human well-being, thereby supplying life-sustaining benefits to communities.

The need for Rotary to engage more around environmental sustainability was poignantly demonstrated at ESRAG's Inaugural Meeting in Sao Paulo. Rotarians were able to hear first-hand from fellow Rotarians about how the changing climate is already adversely affecting people in their countries. For example:



- Bangladesh - their economy is primarily based on agriculture; climate change is causing more flooding and droughts which are negatively affecting both the economy and food supplies.
- Benin Republic, Africa - droughts are adversely affecting most aspects of village life in Africa.
- Netherlands - significant investments have been and

continue to need to be made to create flood defenses.

- ESRAG will facilitate dialogue and drive action on critical humanitarian problems like these.