



Meeting – 8 Oct 2018

Jim Parnell -Friends of the Whanganui River

Host: Don Gilbertson
Thanks: Henry Ngapo
Top Table: Kate Smith
Sergeant: *Dennis Brown*

Meeting – 15 Oct 2018

Ellen Young – Centre City Rejuvenation

Host: Neil Bates
Thanks: Peter Smith
Top Table: Bob Smith
Sergeant: *Dick Mitchell*

Meeting – 22 Oct 2018

NO MEETING Labour Day

Host:
Thanks:
Top Table
Sergeant:

Apologies:

To Peter Smith please:
smith.farm@actrix.co.nz
Phone: 342 5812

Attendance at Last Meeting: 10 September 2018)

Present - 22
Apologies: - 5
Silent : - 17
44

Men's Care Bags

Donations for Men's Care Bags to Henry Ngapo. Items may be left at the meeting.

OFF SITE VISIT

MCDONALD CONCRETE GROUP LTD

Club members were very warmly welcomed to McDonald's (formerly, Larsens) and given a short history of the firm. The present location provided an ideal site when the firm had to move from Taupo Quay. Giving space for the heavy machinery, the storage of materials and finished products as well as being far enough away for noise not to be a problem.

There were some challenges when we arrived with one sector of the operations being 'down', however it was sorted by the time we reached that stage. After choosing our hard hats and high-vis vests, we set off into the factory itself.

Most of the products – pipes, culvert pipes, water tanks – are made from reinforced concrete. The reinforcing steel wire arrives in large coils. Some of these are straightened and cut into specific lengths depending on the size of the 'cage' needed for the end product. It was noted that each coil of steel can be tracked through to the end product. The next stage is to construct the 'cage'. The pre-cut wire lengths are placed into a large machine, and from another coil, wire is wrapped around them – again to a pre-set size. After quality checking*, this cage is ready to be coated with concrete. First it is inserted firmly into a mould which is slipped onto a machine – whose action is rather like a washing machine – only it is concrete which is tumbling around. The men working on this machine keep a careful eye on progress and will often need to stop and adjust the settings so that there are no flaws in the finished pipe. When the coating is completed, the entire mould is lifted by an overhead hoist and taken to another spot in the factory to 'cure' for at least a day before the mould is removed.

Water tanks follow the same basic process but with some extra stages to provide a base and a top. We saw one 'mould' ready to have concrete poured around it. McDonald's also make smaller concrete items from dog bowls to tree rings and even parts for gravesites in conjunction with Anderson's. Should any member be interested in buying a product from McDonald's, there is a discount available until 16 November 2018.

*Also, any rejected 'cage' is available for sale – useful for frames for vegetables (beans) or flowers (sweet peas). Different sizes are available but as they need a trailer for transporting, members might consider working together to arrange transport, select their 'cage' and get it home.

Up coming events:

24 Oct BBQ Virginia lake 6 pm start Combined clubs

Polio Fundraiser

26 Oct Night at the Races Social occasion all welcome.

Food Bank Drive

18 October

Volunteer drivers required to take students around a designated area to collect the donations from the residents.

Details and safety instructions are available.

It's not too late to suggest a possible **candidate for RYLA??**

Please let Stephen Lacey have any names urgently.

October is Rotary

Economic and Community Development month

Photographs from Off-Site Visit



Getting ready to go



Watching the 'cage' making machine



Learning about the history of the firm

Notices from other groups

Zonta is holding a **Fashion Parade** to support Mothers with Post Natal depression

Where Whanganui Girls' College Hall

When Wednesday 17 October 2018

Start time 7 p m

Cost \$25

More details at next meeting.

YMCA needs community help.

They want community help with donations, as per the list below, for their Raukawa Camp in the Paraparas. They are not after money, but **donations in kind** which may be surplus to our members' requirements

UHF Radios

Tractor

Ride-On Mower

Commercial stove/oven

Chainsaw

Pressure washer

External and internal paint for cabins

Fly fishing equipment

Buoyancy aids

Eeling equipment, poles, hooks

Mountain bikes

PFD (Personal Flotation Devices)

Canoes

Kayaks (Sit On Top)

Compound bows

Compasses for students

Whittling knives

Flax cutting knives

Tie Dye

Wax for candles

P-Cord for bracelets