



JIM PARNELL FRIENDS OF THE WHANGANUI RIVER

PP Jim Callaghan introduced Jim to us as a person he had looked up to since he was a boy. Both Jims had a keen interest in the Scouting movement and the river. Our guest speaker first paddled the Whanganui river around 1950 and now edits the annual publication of the Friends of the Whanganui River. His presentation drew on the book "Requiem for a River Boat" and his own extensive experience.

The boat was the Tahua, designed by a Scottish engineer, David Murray. However his designs had to be vetted by the government, who insisted on several changes. These resulted in a less than efficient craft which became a white elephant. It was too slow, the engines were too small, and being a stern wheeler, it was not easy to manoeuvre despite being able to carry 250 passengers and cargo. It often towed a Maori canoe which could be crushed when the boat slid into the river bank. Eventually the company was wound up and the boat reverted to David Murray as the mortgagee. He found it difficult to sell. It transported wood to build Susan Aubert's church at Jerusalem. First load went well, but it ran aground on the second and sank. The remains were still visible until a slip covered them in 2006.

Jim also related part of the industrial and political history of Whanganui which led to the importance of the river as a means of communication.

Jim's passion for the river and its history was obvious and his presentation was enjoyed by all, especially those who could remember some of the people and the places he mentioned. Many thanks, Jim, for sharing your love of the river with us.

Meeting – 15 Oct 2018
Ellen Young – Centre City Rejuvenation
Host: Neil Bates
Thanks: Peter Smith
Top Table: Bob Smith
Sergeant: *Kate Smith*

Meeting – 22 Oct 2018
NO MEETING
Labour Day
Host:
Thanks:
Top Table
Sergeant:

Meeting – 29 Oct 2018
Andy Lynn – Drones, Friend or Foe
Host: Ian McGowan
Thanks: Ed Boyd
Top Table Jo Thomson
Sergeant: *Dot McKinnon*

Apologies:
To Peter Smith please:
smith.farm@actrix.co.nz
Phone: 342 5812
Attendance at Last Meeting:
10 September 2018)
Present - 26
Apologies: - 7
Silent : - 11
44

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

Start making preparations for the **Tomato Growing Competition.** More details from PP Tom

Wire growing cages
Please confirm with PP Kate whether you would like one of these

Going to the Dogs! 26 October
Are you going to join us for a fun night!
More details from Anne Petherick.

Polio Fundraiser 24 October
Meet at Virginia Lake at 6pm with food for the BBQ
Remember to bring along a contribution to the prize bucket!

Food Bank Drive
18 October
Not too late to sign up. See Pres Stuart at lunch.

October is Rotary
Economic and Community Development month

Hospital Pack contents

Please consider supplying some of these products so that Henry can prepare more packs for the Hospital. [All are small sizes]

Deodorant	Underpants	Hand wash
Tissues	Comb	Shampoo
Hand towel	Notepad/pen	Soap

He has plenty toothpaste and toothbrushes.

Club Meeting options background summary for your consideration. Responses to PDG John Henderson by 12 November prior to discussion at a Club Day.

- Regardless of whether Clubs amalgamate or not the challenge of attracting new members will remain
- Don't pursue amalgamation with other Whanganui Clubs at the present time
- Continue meeting once a week on Mondays at the Kingsgate
- Have the room ready from 11.45 pm to allow members to socialize and catch-up prior to the start of the meeting proper should they wish
- Start meeting at 12.05 sharp (or such time as the Kingsgate says that it is ready) with Grace alone, followed by the meal.
- Aim to conclude the meeting at 1.05 p.m.
- Have a programme which provides for three meetings having a speaker, a visit or an activity of special interest, followed by a fourth meeting which would be a Club/Rotary day at which Club and Rotary issues can be discussed/presented. If the fourth meeting followed a Board meeting it would enable Club members to be informed promptly of any decisions made. The normal meeting would comprise lunch, welcome, speaker, sergeant session and urgent Rotary or Club Business only)
- Have a fellowship session at the conclusion of each meeting where tea and coffee is available so as to provide an opportunity for those that want to stay on and catch-up etc can do so.