



Meeting – 26 Nov 2018

Club Day

Host: Stuart Hylton
Thanks: N/A
Top Table: N/A
Sergeant: *Ian McGowan*

Meeting – 3 Dec 2018

**Off Site meeting at Red Lion:
WPS OPUS
River Bank reconstruction**

Host: Gil Bycroft
Thanks: Josh Chandulal Mckay
Top Table Ed Boyd
Sergeant... *John Henderson*

Meeting – 10 Dec 2018

Steve Walker – RYE student

Host: Kate Smith
Thanks: Stephen Lace
Top Table Dennis Brown
Sergeant: *Don Gordon*

Apologies:

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

**Attendance at Last Meeting:
19 November 2018)**

Present - 25
Apologies: - 6
Silent : - 10
41

Men's Care Bags

Any member contributions to Henry Ngapo please.

DAVID BENNETT DISASTERS THROUGH EYES OF AN EMERGENCY RESPONDER

David is a member of Wellington North, although originally a farmer from the Waikato. He joined the Salvation Army in Te Aroha in his 20s and is at present the National Co-ordinator of Emergency Services, principally in NZ, Fiji and Tonga. He attended both the Christchurch and Kaikoura earthquakes.

He gave us a whistle stop tour of emergencies all over the world. He started in Samoa, Upola. 95-100% of the south of the island was devastated from a tsunami. People were recreating shelters from the rubble, and David's team constructed open sided buildings. They worked with Civil Defence and fed people 4500 meals to 10 sites daily. We then moved on to Nepal and Katmandu where the area was totally devastated. However, one of his pictures gave graphic proof that door frames were indeed a safe place to be – it was the only thing standing!!

The category 5 hurricane with winds of 306 km/hour which struck Fiji in February 2016 caused 44 deaths, 55000 homes destroyed and 80% loss of electricity. David was involved in the distribution of kerosene cookers, utensils, pots/pans, plates and cutlery. Even houses built to government standards were twisted!

In 2017. David was in Uganda, near the border with South Sudan – very close to the border conflict which has resulted in 3.4m refugees. The lifestyle was very different – very few vehicles, people walk; no fences; a roundabout consisted of three large tyres in the road – not that it had much effect as there are very few 'road rules'. The project involved preparing 18 boreholes – under UN auspices and the office of the Prime Minister – latrines for 150 families and food items for 1500 families. Because of the state of the 'roads' most women carry what is needed on their heads – the daily water, often in 20 litre containers. The team will show local workers how to carry out the projects – and they take great pride in their work, which is of a high standard despite limited resources available, including mixing all concrete by hand. Storage of materials for distribution was on a very large scale, with the items given out according to the size of the families.

David answered several quite probing questions from members with grace and humour, including the reason for his 'retirement' from this work being given as having had too many birthdays!!! The projects are co-ordinated by the Salvation Army in London in conjunction with the UN on site. We wish David all the very best for the success of his future efforts.

Off Site Meeting 3 December 2018

The meeting on the 3 December will be an off-site meeting at the Red Lion. Meal cost \$16.00 and if attendees have a Hi-Viz jacket that would help - not essential but helpful. A site inspection and presentation will be given by a representative from WPS-Opus.

The Airport Control Tower

The official unveiling is at Noon on Sunday 9 December. In conjunction with the occasion three mile races on the main runway are planned during the morning one aimed at primary school students, one for Secondary school students and one for adults. While the races themselves are being managed by the Whanganui Sports Heritage Trust there are other things that need to be done. If anyone is available and would like to help on the day please let John Henderson know.

November is Rotary Foundation month

Club Meeting options consideration.

background summary for your

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
- Consider central and Club Clubs can be identifying a display window at a location where promotion of Rotary projects from the three Rotary displayed and highlighted.
- Continue generally at the Kingsgate meeting once a week on Mondays
- 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 immediately by the meal.
- Aim to conclude the meeting at 1.05/1.10 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.
- Periodically have a Speaker of national significance and invite other Clubs, groups having an associated common interest, and the general public to the meeting. Such meeting could be an evening meeting to provide some variety to our own programme.
- 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 to do so.

DISTRICT CONFERENCE 2019

Mark your calendars! Conference in Whanganui from
17-19 May 2019.
Early Bird registrations will open soon.