



## Rotary Club of Whanganui - Bulletin 6 : 6 August 2018

### Meeting – 6 August 2018

#### Ken Chernoff – Jazz In Whanganui Today

Host: Henry Ngapo  
Thanks: Dennis Brown  
Top Table: Neil Bates  
Sergeant: Don Gordon

### Meeting –13 August 2018

#### DG Marion Johnston – Official Visit to Club

Host: Bob Smith  
Thanks: Stephen Lace  
Top Table: Dot McKinnon  
Sergeant: Ian McGowan

### Meeting – 20 Aug. 2018

#### Dr Dragos Bratasuna The Pursuit of Dreams

Host: Jim Callaghan  
Thanks: Josh Chandulal-  
Mackay  
Top Table: Ed Boyd  
Sergeant: Dennis McGowan

#### Apologies:

To Peter Smith please:  
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Phone: 342 5812

#### Attendance at Last Meeting: (30 July 2018)

Present - 27  
Apologies: - 9  
Silent : - 10  
46

### Sandy Mcdougall – Whanganui Hospice - Now and in the Future

Sandy introduced her talk by talking about her previous employment in a range of firms where she developed skills in project and operations management but wanted a job which she felt she had the opportunity to give more to the community. When her current position( was advertised prior to applying she carried out an informal survey of Whanganui residents and was dismayed at how little people knew about Hospice and the public face as displayed on the their Website. At her interview she expressed views on those findings and her passion and forthrightness convinced the selection panel that she was the best person for the job. Since her appointment she has gone about addressing creating a greater awareness in the community of what Hospice is all about, innovative fundraising, upgrading of their facilities and providing training and support for those that work with them.

Hospice only has 3 full-time employees (CEO, CFO and herself), all clinical staff are part-time ( not surprising given the stressful environment which can occur) and there are 50 other part-time staff helping to provide 24 hour support and services 7 days a week. At any one time they look after 90 – 100 people (15% Maori, 26% in Residential Care, 5% in the rural community and 26% under 25) and have 5 beds. On average patients stay 5 – 10 days where they are provided with palliative care, support and advice about how to manage their regimes. While there is a perception of many in the Community that Hospice is a place where people go to die, and some do, such is not the reality and many if not most would be treated in their own homes or other facilities.

Hospice Whanganui has a budget of around \$3M a year and 52% of that is provided by the DHB. Around 30% of the funding is generated through the Hospice Shops where care is taken to offer quality products ( having to dispose of poor quality product left at the Shops, which has become a recent issue, can cost Hospice around \$650 a month for waste disposal charges alone). There are around 220 volunteers who support the work of the Hospice most of whom work in the retail operations. Other recent funding raising projects included a Fireworks display at Cooks Garden, Mother's Day celebrations and a Farmers Scheme where two calves are fattened by farmers who are part of the scheme and when sold the proceeds go to the Hospice. There are around 120 farmers involved in the scheme at the present time.

Recent upgrade work at the Hospice has seen the building made waterproof, interiors repaired and a new Reception area created with a separate clinic room offering more privacy to clients. The challenge for the future is educating the public as to the services that Hospice offers so that people are less frightened as they enter a difficult period of their life, with the aim for patients to end their life with dignity and as comfortably as possible.



The Club message of Best wishes to the Rotary Club of Nagaisumi to mark the 30 years of the Sister City relationship with Whanganui has been delivered – see Rotarian at lower left of picture.