



1<sup>ST</sup> MAY 2023

# Presidents Message, 1st May 2023



It was heartening to see more people at our last meeting and our speaker on the topic of Shelter Boxes, Landon Smith, remarked we were the biggest Rotary Club he had spoken to. Shelter Boxes have changed quite a bit from their original conception but still doing a stirling job in a whole range of needy places. Fiona has reviewed Landon's address below.

Kind regards, Lyn

This is the last Bulletin to come out of the 'old' Milson Rotary WebSite (www.milsonrotary.co.nz). From today the Bulletin will be generated from our 'new' WebSite www.milsonrotary.org.nz

It was a pleasure also to host Clare Randall, CEO of Arohanui Hospice and present her with a cheque for \$7000 which was the outcome from our car parking projects at the Mid-Winter and Christmas markets. Mike Christie was on hand to present the cheque on behalf of the Car Parking Committee. Arohanui Hospice cares for more than 1200 patients and their families each year and at present has a shortfall exceeding \$3.4 million.

Greenmeadows Rotary Club in Napier sent a letter expressing their gratitude for the \$1000 our Club sent to them to assist with the cleanup following Cyclone Gabrielle. It was targeted toward silt removal and has allowed grass to be planted to stabilise the ground before Winter. They are appreciating the feel good factor that comes with having the site cleared.

Next official meeting is  $15^{\rm th}$  May and is the Club Forum, with much to discuss. I look forward to seeing you then.



## **GUEST SPEAKER - LANDON SMITH, SELTERBOX**

Rod McKenzie provided introduction to our speaker who came with an American accent via New Zealand and American parents, studied at Waikato University, and is a New Zealand citizen. Landon is working here in one of our well-known professions in Wellington as a consultant. He is part of ShelterBox, an international initiative giving money to provide resources to people in need in different countries.

**Landon Smith** advised that he works for PwC which offers support to non-profits such as ShelterBox, for which he is a board member.

He shared that ShelterBox is a global humanitarian organisation that hand delivers emergency shelter to people devastated by disaster and conflict.

ShelterBox was started by the Rotary Club of Helston-Lizard (D1175 Cornwell, UK) in 2000 when the need to provide emergency shelter was identified. There are currently 14 affiliates globally supporting the effort.

Over 113 million people around the world are displaced by disaster – more than any time in history, of which 35 million are children. Landon advised that every minute 25 people are displaced, by the end of our Rotary dinner 500 people will have been displaced, rising to 1,500 people by the end of our meeting.

The criteria for ShelterBox response includes:

- permission to respond
- number of families needing help
- type of aid
- length of time support will be needed
- supporting the most vulnerable
- shelter box resources
- safety
- global development index rating
- positive impact
- other non-shelter aid items

ShelterBox is currently helping in Ukraine, Turkey and Syria, and another 9 countries. Some of the items they provide include shelter kits for repairs (tarps, hoses, nails, basic tools),





water filters, carrier and hygiene supplies, warm winter clothing, cooking stoves, solar lights, ground mats and blankets, and family sized tents. There are 74 different items available. ShelterBox contacts the country they are working with to identify what is most needed and relevant, and then organises their supply.

Following earthquakes 2m people lost homes in Turkey and 80k people were displaced in Syria (one of world's most seismic areas), where 20k buildings were completely destroyed in the north of the country. Shelter Box has been responding to Syria since 2012. Projects include: (1) providing 2k households with mattresses, tents, blankets, solar lights, stoves and warm clothing; (2) partnering with Relief Aid supporting new arrivals into displacement camps with household items – mainly blankets, mattresses and winter coats.

In Ukraine, people cannot flee because of the destruction and/or blockages of the roading network. ShelterBox has been active since day one providing support to people in:

- Collective centres providing warm clothes and mattresses to old churches, gyms, government buildings where there are places for people to stay while they are evacuating.
- Living in damaged buildings providing shelter kits, heavy thermal blankets, water carriers, and hygiene kits to help people to function and stay on to fix up their houses.
   To receive this support people have to be living in a place that has two functional walls which are structurally sound.
- Refugee situations for people who are travelling long distances – providing cash to buy groceries, and supplying clothes, mattresses, and warm blankets.

In Pakistan, ShelterBox provided first response when 33m or 50% of the population was affected and 1m were displaced as the result of massive flooding throughout the country. This support involved providing tents, tarps, blankets, solar lights to 3,700 households across two projects, and enabling families to establish longer lasting shelter via a third project.



ShelterBox relies on other organisations with AFAD registration (such as search and rescue, supply chain and logistic businesses) to get products into their countries.

It tries to make its operations sustainable by training people on the ground (local people and Rotary Clubs) in how to use the equipment, so local people can take care of the initiative.

ShelterBox support is possible because of the individual Rotary Clubs who donate, contributions of public donors, and corporate sponsorships. Grants are not available because emergency disaster relief is not sustainable.

The organisation is continually seeking support and people can be part of their work by being:

- Volunteers via a club liaison point that Shelter Box can keep in touch with via newsletters
- Ambassadors who go out and give presentations about Shelter Box
- Part of Team Shelter Box, suppling capabilities that are most needed (currently legal)
- A member of Response Teams, which are generally young and fit demographics for help on the ground

# QUESTIONS TO LANDON FROM CLUB MEMBERS

# Q: Is there a depot in New Zealand where things congregate?

A: Most operations are based in the UK. There are 6-8 locations around the world where ShelterBox strategically locates equipment close to areas requiring response. There are none in New Zealand.

#### Q: What is AFAD registration?

A: It is an organisation that has some religious link or is always on the ground in the country.

#### Q: What does a shelter box cost?

A: Generally, depending on content, it is \$1,500 USD which includes logistics. In the past boxes could be tracked but this is no longer possible because of the scale, number of places that are being served, and the high administration burden.







#### Q: What assurance do we have that money is disbursed to the right areas?

A: ShelterBox has commitment to less than 10% of the operational cost being administration. All of the Board are volunteers, there is one contractor that helps with growth and is grant funded, and the UK and US are audited every year.

### Q: Do we know if New Zealand Rotary clubs send much money?

A: We are on a par with Norway, which is about the size of New Zealand. We are trying to become the highest per capita of countries providing contribution, and we are not too far off.

# Q: Did ShelterBox consider sending boxes to New Zealand spots in need because of the floods and cyclone?

A: Shelter Box does not respond to 1st world countries

**Bruce Wackrow** thanked Landon for his time and interesting presentation, and acknowledged the mess ShelterBox helps to sort out and the significance of that effort.

### TOAST - GARY DOME

Gary Dome toasted Susie Elms wishing her safe and successful travels on her ascent to basecamp of Mount Everest

### PARTING THOUGHT - ROGER KENNEDY

Roger Kennedy provided a thought provoker published by a stuff journalist ... "The rich deserve more credit and not more tax."

## PRESENTATION TO AROHANUI HOSPICE

President Lyn welcomed Clare and talked about the privilege and pleasure the club enjoys in having a close connection to Arohanui Hospice.

She reminded the meeting that so far this year the club has undertaken 23 projects of which 4 were directly associated with the Hospice – we painted the trellis, helped at the Field Days at Manfield, and supported two events by assisting with parking.



The parking initiatives were led by Mike Christie and resulted in the donation of \$7,000 he presented to Clare at the meeting.

Clare sincerely thanked the club for the support and the parking work that is undertaken in the rain and the heat. She also acknowledged members who were whizzes on the paint brush!

Clare provided an update on Arohanui Hospice. This past year 1,167 patients had care - in 2011 this was 600, so patients have doubled over the last 12 years. There are 260 patients at any one time in the community and the vast majority of the organisations work is there, with only 6 beds operating at the Hospice.

The Hospice is keeping an eye on what is happening with the aging population and the tsunami of older people, which they are trying to be ready for over the next 30-40 years. Other pressing factors include the impacts of the health reform and the need to find an annual shortfall in funding of circa \$3.4m per annum (noting only 54% of Arohanui Hospice funding comes from the government).

Clare relayed how grateful the Hospice is for the consistent funds donated by the Rotary Club of Milson which goes directly to patient care and the support for their families (at least 6 family members are associated with each patient).



## 3 MINUTE SPOT - BEN READ

Ben Read challenged the meeting to think laterally by posing the question, "Are we the most politically correct (PC) country in the world?"

He reminded us that our world has changed dramatically in the last 15 years, with new industries springing up to make us PC, such as:

- travel management with 500 cones in place for 4-5 days in a row with nothing happening in order to stimulate jobs
- scaffolding for single story buildings, where more people get injured putting it up than operating on site

Ben talked about how as a nation we have a suffocating level of PC surrounding our children, for example sanitising playgrounds for safety, and the implications this will have on our next generation who will grow up without entrepreneurial skills and will not be able to participate in the economic future of the country because they have never taken risks, and will not have the drive to win because participation is enough.

As a country we need to arrh - establish guidelines on political correctness.

#### UPCOMING PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

15<sup>th</sup> May 2023 Meeting, The Chalet, 5:30pm

Club Forum

27<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023 Rotary Convention

Imagine What's Next in Melbourne, Australia

The convention promises to be an inspirational event, with distinguished speakers energizing breakout sessions, and abundant opportunities to brainstorm ideas for Doing

Good in the World with Rotary and Rotaract members from around the globe.

29th May 2023 Social Meeting, Wharerata, Massey University

Our next social event will be a proper High Tea on 29th May. Watch this space!

5th June 2023 No Meeting, The Kings Birthday

12th June 2023 Meeting, The Chalet, 5:30pm

Susie Elms: Everest Base Camp trip (the prep and trekking at altitude)

Note: date is one week 'out of step'.

## **General Notices**

 Please apologise, if you do not apologise we think you are going to be at the meeting and will be charged a meal cost

#### **Instructions for Clubrunner:**

- 1. If you have forgotten your login information after the holiday break, use the "Forgotten Password" link to reset your login credentials.
- 2. To add an apology or acceptance before an invite email goes out, follow these steps:
  - Go to the "Events" link on the homepage of the website.
  - On desktop view, upcoming events are listed on the left-hand side. On mobile, scroll down.
  - Login.
  - Make your selection.
  - To add a guest, scroll down further and enter the guest's name in the designated box after making your selection.

## **Community Projects**

No new report

### **Almoner**

No new report

# **Rotary Programmes - Youth**

No new report

# **Club Development**

No new report

# **Club Operations**

- As previously signaled, the cost of meals will increase from the start of May. The cost will be finalised at the upcoming Board meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> May and is expected to be \$33 to reflect the significant increases in the cost of food and wages for our caterer.
- The next meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> May is our Club Forum. Please support this by attending and having a voice. A lot of work goes into the preparation for this session by your fellow club members and it is important to recognise and support those who are putting in effort for the benefit of us all. It is everyone's role to make this a great club, so come along and make it meaningful, fun ... and yes even exciting!
- There will be a partners evening on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May put this date in your diaries now! This will be a High Tea event (buffet dinner/sweet treats) to be held at Wharerata with some live background music and delightful decorations by Rudy. Look out for the invitation to follow over the next fortnight!
- Meetings in June are on the 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> to accommodate King's Birthday. Please note that this in out of synch from the usual 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month.

## **DUTIES ROSTER**

Duties:	**If unable to do a duty, please ORGANISE a replacement and notify Bruce Manninen of your replacement **	
	NB: If you are rostered on as Corporal Please arrange a 'buddy' to help collect fines on the night	

** = Change	15 <sup>th</sup> May 2023	12 <sup>th</sup> June 2023
Speaker	Club Forum Service established to support military families who have suffered bereavement	Speaker: Susie Elms: Everest Base Camp trip (the prep and trekking at altitude)
	Meeting	Meeting
Meeting Status Venue	The Chalet	The Chalet
	5:30pm for 6:00pm	5:30pm for 6:00pm
Bar Assist & Gear	Wendy Wilson	Mark Fearon
Rotary Host and Toast	Mark Fearon	Peter Brooks
Rotary in a Minute	ТВА	ТВА
Speaker Greeter / Intro	N/A	Orphee Mickalad
3+ Minute Spot	ТВА	Barbara Bradnock
Speaker Thanks	N/A	Malcolm Stewart
Parting Thought	Ashley Muir	Brett McIntosh

President: Lyn Gregg

Club Secretary: Gary Dome Treasurer: Derek Walker

Club Operations: Fiona Chard Club Development: Anthony Stephenson

Community Projects: Alan Crews & Bruce Wackrow Rotary Programmes: Bruce Manninen

Bulletin Team: Grant McRae – Bruce Manninen – John Morrison Sergeants-at-Arms: Bobby O'Fee - Susie Elms Speakers: Wendy Blithe Almoner: Alan Crews President Elect: Glen Caves Past President: John Sinclair

District Governor: Mark Wheeler District Assistant Governor: Dianna Mancer