

The above are a few questions you might ask of our guest speakers this week. We are privileged to have Merali Taylor the local Centre Manager along with Jocelyn Batchelor, as our guest speakers. You may not be aware that I am a community representative appointed by the Minister of Social Development to the Benefit Review Committee. The Benefit Review Committee is the first level of appeal if you feel aggrieved by a decision of the local office to decline your application. From there, if you still feel aggrieved, there is a further right of appeal to the Social Welfare Appeal authority in Wellington.

Alon Shaw was an amazing speaker last week. As you can tell by the above, I was enchanted by his "What if?" approach, which added interest to his account of matters.

Some of the machinery developed with his father's input for the former Linen Flax Mill at Geraldine was fascinating. South Canterbury has always been an enterprising go-ahead community despite what those living further north might think of our quaint laid-back villages! Just think of the disposable syringe, the tranquiliser gun to save animals lives, all invented by a local pharmacist (Colin Murdoch); not to mention the jet boat engine and numerous other local inventions.

Timaru Rotary (the Magic Club) took you to Betts Funeral Services.

Next up how about a visit to the South Canterbury Vintage Steam and Machinery Club? Did you know what was the Traction Engine Club has expanded to include all kinds of vintage machinery from traction and stationary steam engines to tractors and trucks? It has added two large new sheds, one very recently completed and has been awarded the official title of a museum. It has the potential to be an incredibly significant tourist attraction when tourism gets underway again. Fire trucks and Ambulances are now included too. Not for ladies? Well ladies you might be surprised to see the magnificent development that has taken place right on our doorstep. I am sure our female membership would enjoy the experience, just as much as our male members.

Pumpkins are sprouting. The biggest and boldest are about to grow. The project to grow has been taken up by Lynette and Lionel, Gilly, Bev, Jenny and Tony. Now it is incumbent on the rest of us to help get sponsorship to show the Magic Club in action to enable eradication of the last of the Polio cases in the World.

Covid could be next to get the 'Rotary Treatment'. Just wait and see.

Reminder to bring along non-perishable food items to Tuesday's meetings for those truly in need. Ask our speakers if they see a need to help in this way.

President Hugh, Strikes again! ?