

Rotary

Christchurch South



ZOOMING, TUGBOATS, THE MENS SHED & BACK TO THE CASHMERE CLUB

We had 11 “Zoomers” tonight who took part in a typically convivial conversation. Our wide-ranging discussion covered the expected topics of covid – the remarkable variation in the severity of illness people experience, covid – the effect on travel and covid – the likelihood that our next meeting at the Cashmere Club (Yes it will be! See elsewhere in this bulletin). But fortunately there is life other than covid and your reporter was fascinated by a couple of topics covered.

Alan Airay reported on his experiences at the St Martins Men’s Shed. It has about 50 members with 25 likely to be found there at any time. Many members are highly skilled craftsmen who produce work of excellent quality. Some members work on their own projects, but also the group “contracts” to supply requested items. A case in point are the planter boxes many of us have seen in Norwood Street. These are excellent – the fact that their installation and ongoing maintenance was not handled very well by the City Council is no reflection on the Men’s Shed. Another bespoke project has been the production of “buddy seats” to encourage dialogue between students in schools. Rotary members may remember a Rotary talk by Kiwi Coffins who provide coffins made by one of the Men’s Sheds in North Christchurch. Apparently there are about 26 Men’s Sheds in the Canterbury region meeting a recreational need for their members while at the same time providing a valuable community service. Alan was somewhat wistful about the similarities with Rotary yet we struggle to attract members.....!



Mike Bruce then took us on part of his journey to keep the Lyttelton Tug Boat functioning. What those on the Zoom session hadn’t realised was the international and historical significance of this vessel. Of the 20,000 or so similar vessels produced by the Clyde (Scotland) River shipyards prior to WW1, the Tug Lyttelton is the only one operational. Mike talked us through his current efforts to reduce the tug’s carbon footprint. The amount of coal used to build up a head of steam and then run the engine is mind-blowing and discourages potential funders and sponsors who don’t want to be associated with such an environmentally unfriendly activity. The innovative solution Mike and his colleagues have developed is to use electricity to keep the boiler “hot” and then use coal just to get that final head of steam and run the engine. This seems like an excellent compromise and funding is currently being sought to implement this solution although it’s not without its hurdles such as the provision of appropriate electricity supply at the wharf. Mike and his volunteer colleagues are to be commended for carrying out this important and challenging work.



Huge thanks Alan McKinnon – speaker reporter

CASHMERE CLUB MEETING ON WEDNESDAY 20TH OF APRIL

Our next meeting is to be held at the Cashmere Club, you should have all by now received an email from Alan McKinnon and a few of you will have been selected for some light duties. We absolutely understand that some members may still feel hesitant about meeting together as a group. There is absolutely no pressure and everyone should do what is right for themselves and their loved ones, Covid can be devastating for some people.



Please make sure you notify Alan McKinnon if you are not coming.

We are going to try and hold a 'blended' meeting, face to face with a zoom link as well, details below (it is the same link as each week).

The Cashmere Club has increased the price for our meals so those having a meal will now pay \$20 including the Rotary Club's meal surcharge of \$1.

Upcoming Meeting Link (if meeting at the Cashmere Club isn't right for you yet)

Date: Wednesday 20th April 2022

Time: 6.30 pm – 7.00pm

Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6411133984?pwd=TIkzbGpPWU9wZFpUcUxVVfJQzBjdz09>

Meeting ID: 641 113 3984

Passcode: 428301

COLLECTING FOR AVIVA – SAVE THE DATE

Aviva Street Appeal Friday 20th & Saturday 21st May at Bunnings Tower Junction 9am to 6pm.

There are a few spots left on Saturday if you would like to help (

Aviva supports people of any age, gender, sexuality or experience of violence to not only become safe, but begin a journey toward a fulfilling, violence-free life. It is never too early or too late to seek support.



QUOTE OF THE WEEK

Courage is not the absence of fear, but rather the judgement that something else is more important than fear” Ambrose Redmoon

Upcoming Meetings

27th April – TBA

4th May – TBA

11th May – TBA

	Duties		Leave		
	20 th April	27 th April	Who	From	To
Cash Desk	A McKinnon	A Airay	M Whitehead	09/09/2015	TBA
Cash Desk	D Peterson	A Stewart	J Wylie		TBA
Reception	V Ellis	TBA	S Haye	11/08/2020	TBA
Speaker Host	N/A	N/A	K Moss	04/07/2019	30/06/2022
Grace	S Mackenzie	M Opie	R McKinney	03/11/2021	31/03/2022
International Toast	Athol McCully	TBA			
Thanks to Speaker	N/A	N/A			
Quote	D Peterson	A Airay			
Meeting Reporter	S Harris	J Chamberlain			
Sergeant	N/A	M Bruce			

Reminders

Record your apology by:

- Notifying the Reception Desk
- Email alan.barbara.mckinnon@gmail.com before 11am on that Wednesday
- Emergency apologies to Liz Bermingham on 021 2456875
- You will receive an email reminder a couple of days before the meeting re apologising or bringing a guest
- If you are unable to do your allocated duty, it is your responsibility to arrange a substitute and advise the President
- Please advise all leave of absence (three or more weeks) to the Secretary by email or in writing