



THE BULLETIN

Rotary Club of Christchurch South
District 9970
P O Box 12-243, Christchurch 8242



SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Attendance Wed 22 March 2017			Total Membership: 45 Active, 4 Honorary.				
Members and Associates	27	Apologies	9	Visitors	6	On Leave	9

Our speaker this week was Ashley Stuart. Ashley came to speak to us about her Thailand internship. She has previously spoken to us about her time at the International RYLA where she briefed us about her upcoming challenges.

Ashley has six weeks in Bangkok along with 14 other students. Ashley started at RAKS Thai (Care International) which focuses on fighting aids in vulnerable groups such as sex workers, homosexuals and people stuck in poverty. It is a local organisation based off a much larger global enterprise.

After that, Ashley travelled six hours to spend a weekend in a village to stay with a host family. It was a massive culture shock as the elderly were treated like Gods in their communities. The group rode bikes, stayed in workers huts while working on the rice farm, it was one of her highlights being able to live in a self-sustaining community, growing their own food in a completely selfless community.

From there Ashley (pictured right addressing our meeting) moved onto an elephant sanctuary for retired and injured elephants. They have the motto that they work for the elephants, not the other way around. The care givers of the elephants have a one on one bond with their elephant.



Ashley visited Sukhothai National Park, where the King and Queen used to live. It is an extremely religious location where the first temples were built. Generations of Thai still continue to visit to this day. They also saw the River Kwai and the bridge that Japan constructed during WWII. It runs for 250 miles and they say each sleeper on the bridge represents each life lost.

Ashley concluded, "I have returned wanting to encourage other Students to make the most of their opportunities and inspire them to make a difference. I still have my UN youth role, running Model United Nations but I am now a Student Support Co-ordinator for an American University. The University of Canterbury has also asked me to look after the Thai students when they come here which is an opportunity for me to show them our culture and give them an experience that they can take back with them and use in the future".

In summary, it was an experience of a lifetime. Travel is knowledge and she will continue to travel, learn and holds a much higher appreciation for the life here in New Zealand.

Thanks to Quinten Moss for this weeks report. Pic Doug Johns.

Notices

President Mel (pictured left chairing our meeting in formal attire) and **President Elect Keith Gunasekara** advised that changeover will be at College House on the 28th June. More details later. (Pic Andrew Kim).



Keith Gunasekara advised that 2017/18 Directors are: Membership, Alan Airay. Foundation, John Woodward. Secretary, Shirley Harris. Public Relations, Athol McCully. Treasurer, Bruce McKessar. Service Committees, Tony Blackler. Sergeants, Lew Brown / John Wylie.

Malcolm Rickerby advised that Entertainment books are available at just \$65 each. All proceeds to MS and Parkinson. Just two meals out will see you on the winning side with these great books. They also make great gifts for friends or family.

Previous Notices

Just a reminder...

29 March is 'Bring a Friend to Rotary' night. This is the important evening of the year when we promote our club with gaining new members in mind. The speaker is Joy Reid, TV reporter, who spoke so engagingly and eloquently at last year's (2016) RYLA dinner. Topic: 'One Mother to Another'. So, Friend or indeed, Family member.

Committee meetings notified to the Editor for after club, 29 March: Fundraising Committee.

Vocational Service Committee is seeking candidate/s for Pride of Workmanship Award. Nominations from our members should be directed to Dan Christophers (Chairman) or Doug Johns.

Next Meeting

March 29

Joy Reid

TV reporter.

“Duties”

“On Leave”

Duty	29 March	5 April		FROM	TO
Cash Desk	K Gunasekara	TBA	L Kelly	23/02/12	TBA
Cash Desk	R McKinney	TBA	G Dockrill	21/06/16	TBA
Reception	A Stewart	TBA	B Blyth	13/04/16	TBA
Speaker's Host	G Foulds	TBA	M Whitehead	02/08/15	TBA
Grace	J Wylie	TBA	M Ireland	01/01/17	28/06/17
International Toast	A Blackler	TBA	B Lawrence	02/08/15	TBA
Thanks to Speaker	B Wales	TBA	E Musson	01/01'17	TBA
Quote for the Week	L Birmingham	TBA	S Hays	22/03/17	12/04/17
Closure	J Woodward	TBA	B SoutheyJensen	15/03/17	TBA
Speaker Reporter	G Fowler	TBA			

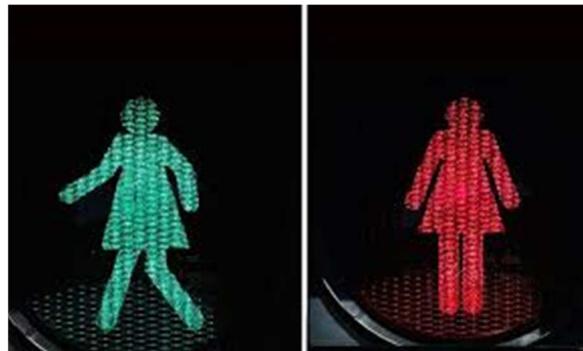


Looking Ahead

April 05 Dan Christophers 'Life and Times'
April 12 Quentin Moss and Alan McKinnon. Electric cars.

A TWIST IN THE TAIL

From our Melbourne correspondent: Ten lights at the intersection of Swanston and Flinders streets will be fitted out with female figures in a 12-month trial. Replacing male figures in pedestrian crossing lights with women is a step towards gender equality and will “reduce unconscious bias”, an Australian lobby group has said, as Melbourne rolled out a trial scheme on Tuesday.



.....now we can all get some sleep.

Our Club is on “Facebook”! You will find us at:-

<http://www.facebook.com/RotaryClubOfChristchurchSouth>

APOLOGIES – Record your apology at the Reception Desk at a prior meeting or Email chcsouthrotary@gmail.com before 11.00 on the Wednesday. Last minute apologies to Mike Bruce, 022 540 1251 or Val Nossiter (339 8441).

DUTIES If you are unable to do allocated duty, it is YOUR responsibility to arrange a substitute and advise the President.

LEAVE of ABSENCE (three weeks or more) advise the Secretary by email or in writing.

