

# Rotary Club of Christchurch South



## Visit to Cashmere Rotary

It is always a pleasure to hear a fellow member present a talk about their history and their work. It expands one's knowledge of them. Tonight was no exception. Out of Africa was the title of our newest member, Geoff Bailey's address.

Geoff was born 1951, raised and educated in Cape Town, South Africa, which he described as having a Mediterranean climate. He said to know Southern Africa one must understand the history and he told us of the earliest appearance of man with the Hottentots, Bushmen and other indigenous peoples.

Cape Town was settled in 1650 first by the Dutch who established refreshment stations for their ships plying trade to and from the Dutch East Indies. The British settled there in 1700 forcing the Dutch to migrate North via the many famous treks to get away from the British. It is now one of the three capital cities serving as the seat of Parliament of the Republic of South Africa.

Geoff talked with love of the country - its birds, animals and wildlife parks. He showed us their position on a map, Kruger (the size of Belgium), Kalahari and others. He showed us pictures of some of the animals roaming the vast parks cheetahs, giraffes, jackals, and oryx (a large antelope species).

Geoff has two sisters still living in South Africa. He was educated in a co-ed high school similar to Cashmere High School and graduated with a Masters degree in Chemistry from the University of Cape Town. He was heading to Texas USA to undertake a PhD but changed direction and completed an MBA (by correspondence) from the University of South Africa.

At this stage he was married to Jeanie who was completing her PhD in Marine Biology. Geoff was in charge of Research for South Africa's Physical and Chemical Oceanography interfacing with the Fishing Industry and supporting the management of South Africa fisheries.

He showed pictures of a large 76 metre fishing vessel which assessed the biomass of fish to set the quotas for fishing and an icebreaker which took him to the Research station in Antarctica.

In 2003 Jeanie was headhunted by New Zealand's NIWA to carry out research into NZ's green lipped mussel and the family emigrated to New Zealand. After settling in Christchurch, Geoff now in his 50's went back to university, at Lincoln completing a post grad. diploma in soil, plant and animal science and went on to work on a dairy farm in Dunsandel. Geoff is now retired but enjoys driving for Uber.

Jeanie and Geoff have three grown up children. A son who is a graduate of the University of Canterbury's Engineering School, a daughter who graduated as a nurse from University of Otago and younger son who is a builder in Christchurch.

Geoff says he is grateful for the family's new life here in New Zealand - the opportunities and education the family have had could never been attained to the same extent in South Africa.

I believe we will be enthralled with more stories from Geoff in the future.



## Upcoming Meetings

### 1 February

Jenny May ONZM

Heritage in the City and the Rebuild of the Cathedral

### 8 February

Club Assembly/AGM

### 15 February

Healthy Heroes Launch

### 22 February (partners night)

Ian Thomas

Athletics Canterbury

## Upcoming Events

### 15 February

Healthy Heroes launch

### 16 February

Walking Group

## Notices

### Healthy Heroes

On Wednesday 15 February 2023 our Club will be holding a Special meeting to celebrate the launch of the new Healthy Heroes website. The launch will commence at 6.30pm and will mean some changes to our usual meeting format.

Our Club was chosen given that we host the Healthy Heroes Charitable Trust. This means we will have guests and people zooming in from around the country.

You should have received information about this in the Friday mailout and a personal invitation (separately). The information under the heading **TO ATTEND THE LAUNCH** does not apply to us—we will use the attendance email sent out by Alan McKinnon to notify apologies

### Help save the historic Edwardian 'bathhouse' at Mona Vale

Sadly the 'bathhouse' suffered earthquake damage and has yet to get to the top of the Council's 'fixit' budget. It's heritage status requires it to be restored to the historic original albeit without the bathing facility. It will be an attractive plant-furnished space suitable for small scale functions and accessible to daytime visitors. It will change from a 'closed for safety' status to it's former glory, and will complete the wonderful Mona Vale experience.

The Mona Vale section of the Friends of the Botanic Gardens is arranging an event

*The Edwardian Garden Party on Sunday 12 March from 3pm to 6pm*

*Enjoy bubbles, canapes, music and croquet on the lawn*

Tickets: \$120 from the website

[www.friendsofthechristchurchbotanicgardens.org.nz](http://www.friendsofthechristchurchbotanicgardens.org.nz)

Group bookings of 10 people—\$100pp

See attached invite to main bulletin email

### Walking Group

Thursday 16 February at 10.30am

Meet in the public carpark by Paris for the Weekend Café (57 Charles Street, Kaiapoi)

RSVP to David: [David.buist@xtra.co.nz](mailto:David.buist@xtra.co.nz)

## Duties

Duty	1 February	8 Feb
Cash Desk	A McKinnon	L Brown
Cash Desk	D Peterson	H Garlick
Reception	P Mears	V Ellis
Speaker Host	L Brown	N/A
Grace	L Brown	A Stewart
International Toast	P Mears	V Ellis
Thanks to Speaker	D Peterson	N/A
Quote	A McKinnon	L Brown
Speaker Reporter	G Fowler	M Opie
Sergeant	D Buist	A McKinnon

## Leave

Who	From	To
M Whitehead	09/09/15	TBA
J Wylie		TBA
S Haye	11/08/20	TBA
R McKinney	28/09/22	14/04/23

Don't forget to follow us on our [Facebook](#) and [Website](#)

## Reminders

Record your apology by:

- Notifying the Reception Desk
- Email [chchsouthrotary@gmail.com](mailto:chchsouthrotary@gmail.com) before 11am on that Wednesday
- Emergency apologies to Shirley Harris on 021 198 2234 or Viv Ellis on 027 490 3161
- 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
- Leave of absence requests (three weeks or more) must be in writing to the Secretary

