

Rotary

Christchurch South



DON MALCOLM – CHARTER CLUB MEMBER

Tonight Peter Mears spoke to us about aspects of the life of charter Club member Don Malcolm after he read an article in a recent Christchurch publication celebrating the Nova Trust Board that Don set up. More about that later.

Don started his professional life running his own company Malcolm Construction, which was clearly a substantial organisation managing contracts such as concreting the Christchurch Airport runways. The financial crisis of 1967 coupled with alcohol problems put paid to both Don's business and his marriage. He went farming in Blythe Valley near Cheviot where he introduced innovative farming practices such as Importing semen to develop his dairy herd. Successful though he was, alcoholism continued to dog him, and it became clear that if his new marriage was to survive, his addiction had to be addressed.



Image of Don Malcolm extracted from a photo of charter club members, 26 June 1957

On moving to Christchurch, not only did Don deal to his addiction but he also set up the Nova Trust Board whose purpose is "to assist the person who has relapsing dependency on alcohol and/or other drugs to achieve wellness and re-integrate themselves back into their community". Today the Nova Trust Board is a substantial organisation with a turn-over of about \$4million. It started on the site of the sanatorium in Cashmere but then moved to the old Templeton Hospital site. Looking for a way to create income for Nova, Don had large, heated glass houses built on the Templeton site which initially produced mainly cucumbers. These glasshouses continue to produce significant income for the trust of about \$700k per year.

Don was a keen tramper and through this he came into contact with Sir Ed Hillary. As a result, Don became involved in helping Hillary build a hospital in Kundi in Nepal. This was no mean feat not only because of the huge logistical problems which, for example, required cement to be carried by goats on a 4-week trek from Kathmandu, but also because both of these men had strong personalities. Much of the hard labouring work was done by the local women. NZ doctors known to Christchurch South members such as Lindsay Strang and John McKinnon provided the medical input initially, but now a Nepalese doctor runs the hospital. Andrew Kim, Peter Mears and Graham Founds have all visited.

Being a keen skier, Don was also involved in the Tekapo Ski Club at Round Hill ski field in Tekapo. Following an avalanche which wiped out the club's "A" frame lodge in 1986, Don was instrumental in the rebuild of the club's ski lodge at Albert Town near Wanaka and the Cardrona ski field. Later this lodge was made available to the Otago Youth Trust (Rotary funded), and school and other groups including the Otago Disabled Skiers and the Foundation for the Blind.

Our thanks to Peter for telling us about the contribution made by Don Malcolm. He was only in Rotary for about 2 ½ years, but he demonstrated "service in action" nevertheless.

Huge thanks to our Speaker Reporter Alan McKinnon

VOLUNTEER HOURS

From June to December 2021, our club members gave 1,739 hours of volunteer hours. These hours will be collated at the end of the Rotary year and sent to Rotary International. What a great result from our club.

Huge thanks to Sara McKenzie for collating these each week so that we keep track of the amazing work you do!



SUPPORTING TONGA

The International Committee have agreed to donate \$1,000 from their budget to RNZWCS, who are working with the Rotary Club of Nuku'alofa. If any of our members would like to make a personal donation, please deposit the donation into our club Trust Account and Alan McKinnon will complete the process and forward your donation to Tonga.

JOHN TAYLOR WALKWAY PROJECT

What - John Taylor walkway clean-up and BBQ

Where - Halswell Quarry

Date - Saturday 19th February

Time - 10am - 1pm (Including BBQ Lunch)

All volunteers will need to be vaccinated. Please only put your name down if you are happy to show evidence of your vaccination status. An invitation has been emailed to the Rotary Club of Cashmere for any members wishing to participate in this project. If you are not attending the next two Wednesday meetings but you are wanting to participate, please contact Sara Mackenzie to include your name. Park Ranger Nigel Morritt, suggests we bring hedge clippers for releasing and secateurs. He has a few spares (and gloves) if you don't have any of your own.



Upcoming Meetings

Notices

2nd Feb – Fiona Kendall (Gut Health)

9th Feb – Lew Brown (Lymphedema)

16th Feb – Issy Whitticase (Education Co-ordinator for Trade Aid)

Duties

Leave

| | 2 nd February | 9 th February | Who | From | To |
|---------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|------------|------------|
| Cash Desk | G Fowler | A Kim | M Whitehead | 09/09/2015 | TBA |
| Cash Desk | K Gunasekara | D Peterson | J Wylie | | TBA |
| Reception | L Brown | V Ellis | S Haye | 11/08/2020 | TBA |
| Speaker Host | S Mackenzie | D Buist | K Moss | 04/07/2019 | 30/06/2022 |
| Grace | S Mackenzie | D Buist | R McKinney | 03/11/2021 | 31/03/2022 |
| International Toast | L Brown | V Ellis | | | |
| Thanks to Speaker | G Fowler | D Peterson | | | |
| Quote | K Gunasekara | A Kim | | | |
| Speaker Reporter | M Opie | S Harris | | | |
| Sergeant | M Bruce | P Mears | | | |

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