



THE BULLETIN

**Rotary Club of Christchurch South
District 9970
PO Box 12-243, Christchurch 8242**

SERVICE ABOVE SELF



Photo credit: <https://www.gg.govt.nz/images/tanya-jenkins-christchurch-qsm-services-conservation>

Our speaker this week was Tanya Jenkins, a member of the Rotary Club of Ferrymead. Tanya works part-time for Red Cross organising training of rescue teams, but she came to speak to us this week about her role as Coordinator of the Avon-Heathcote Estuary Ihutai Trust, which was established in 2002.

Tanya advocates for, and promotes, on behalf of the Estuary, and gave an example of the Christchurch City Council who want to establish a 5metre-wide cycleway along Humphreys Drive for approximately 650 metres, and are seeking to reclaim land along the margin of the Estuary to do so. This has the effect of taking away valuable feeding grounds for the 118 species of birds which rely on the Estuary as a food source. For this reason, the Trust strongly opposes the proposed reclamation. The Estuary is unique because it is almost entirely surrounded by residential housing.

Part of the role of the Trust is to commission and support research, by engaging with the community and monitoring activity in the Estuary, where people collect worms to go fishing, and collect shellfish (even although signage in the area discourages collection of the shellfish because of danger to human health).

A Memorandum of Understanding has been established between the Trust, Environment Canterbury, and Christchurch City Council which is an agreement to work together for the good of the Estuary. This MOU was re-signed for a 10-year term in 2016, and provides an annual grant to the Trust to allow it to undertake its work. It is interesting that the proposed cycleway has placed two of the parties to the MOU in conflict.

One of the major events of the year for the Trust is the Farewell to Godwits which has now been occurring for the past 20 years. This event is attended by up to 1,000 people in March. The godwits are the furthest-flying migratory birds in the world, flying non-stop from Alaska each NZ spring (in the third week of September). They fly to 5 separate NZ estuaries, and also to some Australian estuaries. Approximately 2,500 come to Christchurch Estuary

NOTICE BOARD

"Our Changeover Function will be on Wednesday 27 June. 6 for 6:30 at College House, 100 Waimairi Road. \$35 each and its BYO (bring your own bottle).

We need to know numbers attending for catering purposes. David Buist will circulate an attendance list at the next meeting for you to let us know if you'll be coming, or to record your apology. If you won't be at the next meeting please contact David Buist or Susan Hays and let them know whether you will be coming and if you'll be bringing a guest."

The Youth Committee have secured a bbq slot at Bunnings & would love as many participants as possible - Liz guarantees at least one smile, several giggles (& a possible snort of laughter) per shift. 18 August is the big day - please email Liz Bermingham with your availability:)

There has been a request from one of our local primary schools for games to keep the kids occupied during wet lunchtimes. Please hunt through your cupboards & see what you can come up with! An impromptu puzzle/game night prior would be advisable to check all pieces are present please:). Bring any games or puzzles you can spare to Liz at next week's meeting please.

Lyttelton Rotary have arranged a movie night for the movie Mamma Mia on 29th July. Please contact Kim Tanner for tickets.

Val Nossiter and Lew Airey.

Peter Mears reported that Val will unfortunately need to have his neck brace for a few weeks yet, but he is able to speak more easily now. Graham Fowler reported on his visit to Lew Airey in the hospital part of Charles Upham rest home. Both Val and Lew would no doubt welcome any visitors.

each year, and when they arrive they are exhausted and need to eat. The birds return again, generally in the third week of March each year, depending on the wind conditions, flying back to Alaska, making a stopover at an estuary on the North Korean-Chinese border.

Another event organised by the Trust is the annual 'Mother of all Clean-ups', in which community groups adopt an area along waterways or around the Estuary, and clear rubbish from it. Last year 5.6 tonnes of rubbish, including many tyres, was collected for disposal. Mitre 10 Ferrymead have taken up the challenge and complete a monthly clean-up of the area they have adopted along the Humphreys Drive frontage to the Estuary.

Education is also an important aspect of the Trust, and Tanya spoke of showing schoolchildren the Estuary and finding that many of them hadn't even seen crabs previously. Guided walks can be arranged by the Trust on request.

The Trust has four projects which it is involved in:

1. Charlesworth Wetland Reserve – the Trust has been involved here since 2004, particularly assisting with tree planting. This Reserve now has ponds, well-established trees, seats, etc.,

and Tanya recommended a visit here. Visitors can avail themselves of a self-guided walk through this Reserve.

2. Thistledown Reserve – this is a small reserve opposite the Woolston Working Men's Club. It has a natural spring-fed stream which attracts inanga (whitebait), eels, etc., and has had tree planting undertaken.

3. McCormack's Bay – Ferrymead Rotary Club has assisted the Trust with tree planting in this area, and post-earthquake work to return dislodged stones to the sides of the causeway was undertaken. The 2010/2011 earthquakes caused a "tilting" of the Estuary bed.

4. South Brighton Park – this is a newer project for which it is planned to plant 500 native trees.

An Ecological Management Plan is being developed for the Estuary, and this has been given more support by the Department of Conservation designating a protected status for the Estuary because of the importance of the habitat for migratory birds such as the godwits.

We know through the Southern Environmental Trust that Tanya has always been an energetic promotor of the environment, and we thank her for sharing her work on the Trust with us.

-Thanks to Athol for this week's report

NEXT MEETING

WEDNESDAY 6 JUNE - ILENE TE WHETU - CHRISTCHURCH INTEGRATED SAFETY

"DUTIES"

"ON LEAVE"

| Duty | 6-Jun-18 | 13-Jun-18 | | FROM | TO |
|---------------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|----------|-------|
| Cash Desk | A Airay | C McCarthy | B Blyth | 21/06/16 | TBA |
| Cash Desk | A McKinnon | R McKinney | E Mussen | 13/04/16 | TBA |
| Reception | S Tatterson | H Garlick | M Whitehead | 02/08/15 | TBA |
| Speaker's Host | T Blackler | L Bermingham | M Ireland | 01/01/17 | TBA |
| Grace | S Harris | M Rickerby | R McKinney | 02/08/15 | 04/18 |
| International Toast | G Fowler | S Tatterson | K Dalziel | 01/01/17 | 02/19 |
| Thanks to Speaker | R Mackie | Q Moss | G Dockeril | 14/02/18 | 09/18 |
| Quote for the Week | R McKinney | V Ellis | A Kim | 30/03/18 | 07/18 |
| Closure | L Hay | A Stewart | | | |
| Speaker Reporter | S Collins | J Chamberlain | | | |
| Notices Reporter | J Wylie | M Opie | | | |

COMING SOON

Wed 13 June

Michael Burson – Go Baby Go

Wed 20 June

Kate Imrie- Holiday Adventures

Our Club is on "Facebook" And the internet! You will find us at –

www.chrchsouthrotary.org.nz

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

APOLOGIES – Record your apology at the Reception Desk at a prior meeting

OR

Email: chchsouthrotary@gmail.com before 11.00 on the Wednesday - you will get a reminder a couple of days before the meeting re apologising and to advise if bringing a guest.

EMERGENCY APOLOGIES to Mike Bruce, 022 540 1251 or Val Nossiter, 339 8441

DUTIES - If you are unable to do an allocated duty, it is YOUR responsibility to arrange a substituent AND to advise the President.

LEAVE of ABSENCE (leave work on) advise the Secretary by email in writing