

# Rotary Club of Christchurch South



## Tariq Habibyar: Mentors Across Borders—the evacuation of Afghan women and their families

Tariq Habibyar was born in Afghanistan during the war. Arriving as a refugee in New Zealand and having built a life for himself and his family here, he set his mind on helping uplift the lives of children and families back in Herat, his birthplace. – [From [Voices](#), RNZ 18 May 2020]. His topic for tonight was “**Mentors across Borders – the evacuation of Afghan women and their families**”. Suffice to say that “every single woman wants to leave, their freedom taken away by the Taliban”.



Afghanistan has been conquered time and again – a very long history dating back to Alexander the Great and beyond, and currently, the Taliban. The *Taliban is a brutal, fundamentalist Islamic militia that, having taken Kabul in 1996, set up an Islamic government that held power over most of Afghanistan during the late 1990s.*

The War in Afghanistan was from 2001 to 2021. The nearly 20-year-long conflict ultimately ended with the 2021 Taliban offensive, which overthrew the US and allies backed, Islamic Republic. The US withdrawal was on the back of governance agreements with the Taliban, agreements which have since crumbled. The problem in this, is that agreement talks were with the Taliban and not with the people. And so, it is now, back to the darkness of the ‘90’s. Tariq has lost loved ones’, brutally killed.

What is it, in particular, that holds the Taliban to persecute women? Tariq maintains that the Taliban fear women more than anything else; that men have guns/women have voices. For Afghanistan girls, it is a huge privilege to go to school and that the best fight-back is to invest in education. Tariq is dedicated to doing that. Tariq has six sisters all of whom he has taken out of Afghanistan. What might normally be a \$50 passport/visa charge becomes a \$5K to \$6K burden, but it can be done. With such privilege comes responsibility, especially towards the voiceless oppressed. Tariq sees a role for feminism as being the voice of the voiceless.

Tariq has a PhD in education at the University of Canterbury.

*Thanks to Mel for the report and Viv for the photo*

## Upcoming Meetings

### 16 November

Annabel Holland

The Successes of the New Zealand Opera over the past 21 years

### 23 November

Dr Graham Sattler

An update from the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra—CSO

### 30 November

Partners Night

Court Theatre Visit

## Upcoming Events

### 16 November

Board Meeting (7.30pm)

### 23 November

Social Committee Meeting (5pm)

### 24 November

Walking Group (10.30am)

Clock Tower, Worcester Boulevard

### 14 December

Christmas Function (6.30pm)

## Notices

### Walking Group

SCAPE—Guided Art Walk around the city with Deborah McCormick

Thursday 24 November

Meet at 10.30am by the Clock Tower Worcester Boulevard

Lunch at 12pm Jimmys Smokehouse opposite Riverside Market (previously known as Tiffanys)

Interested friends are welcome to join us

Please let Viv know ([vivmellis@gmail.com](mailto:vivmellis@gmail.com)) if you can join the walk and lunch, or just lunch

### Imagine What's Next in Melbourne, Australia

Take advantage of the reduced rate by registering now for the 2023 Rotary International Convention, 27-31 May in Melbourne, Australia. This opportunity to connect with Rotarians from around the world doesn't come too often (last time we had an international convention was in Sydney in 2013)

The convention promises to be an inspirational event, with distinguished speakers, energizing breakout sessions, and abundant opportunities to brainstorm ideas for Doing Good in the World with Rotary and Rotaract members from around the globe. Join us in Melbourne, the cultural capital of Australia, to Imagine What's Next as we form and strengthen connections and learn from one another.

The reduced rate expires 15 December. Registration link below  
[2023 Rotary International Convention Melbourne](#)

### Christmas Party

14 December 6.30pm to 9pm

The Christmas function will be themed this year—wear a Christmas hat! It can be a favourite hat decorated, or a Christmas themed hat. We will also bring a gift for each other—a bottle of something up to \$10—it can be pickles, jam, bath oil etc. These will be exchanged through the evening.

Price is not yet available for the meal—we are waiting for the Cashmere Club to provide this

### Social Committee

The next meeting of the Social Committee will be the 23rd November at 5pm prior to our normal meeting

# Notices Continued

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## **Christmas Puddings**

Athol will have some puddings available at the upcoming meeting but is happy to receive orders \$23 each with \$7 coming to the Club

## **Year 7 and 8 Speech Competition**

Christchurch South Rotary Club ran the Year 7 and 8 Speech Competition which involved St Martins, Cashmere, Beckenham, Hillview Christian and St Peters Schools.

The Tony Blackler cups were presented to Joseph Scott Year 7 St Martins School and Phoebe Harris Year 8 Cashmere Primary after they presented their winning speeches to club members on Wednesday evening. Joseph's speech was entitled 'Ba Ba Ya Ya' and Phoebe's called 'Stuck in the Toilet'. Everyone appreciated the high standard of presentation and enjoyed the fun aspect associated with their Storytelling.

Tony Blackler was a member of this club for many years and was very involved in youth activities in the community.

Thanks goes to Mel and the Youth Committee for their organisation of the event and to Christchurch Toastmasters for providing two judges.

## **South Architects**

We had Craig South from South Architects speak a few weeks back. Craig has a free seminar coming up in a weeks' time.

Date: 17th November 2022

Time: 5.30pm to 7.00pm

Venue: TBC

Subject: I AM HOPE—Architecture: providing much more than shelter

So, ArchiChat with a difference! It will be more about the fun journey that we have been on, along with some discussion on how architecture can achieve more than just shelter. Please register your interest by emailing Anna ([anna@southarchitects.co.nz](mailto:anna@southarchitects.co.nz)) or Craig ([craig@southarchitects.co.nz](mailto:craig@southarchitects.co.nz)). Places will be limited, so please respond as soon as you can.

## **Rotary Otautahi Passport**

Christmas Putt Putt function

Date: Monday 12th December

Time: 5.30pm arrival, gold at 6pm—takes around one hour

Cost: \$14

RSVP: By 30th November to [deb.gimblett@gmail.com](mailto:deb.gimblett@gmail.com)

Drinks available (pay for your own) and pre-ordered platters to be enjoyed after a round of golf

## **Further notices on the next two pages**

- Christchurch Liedertafel Male Voice Choir
- The Court Theatre—Flaxmere Garden Visit





**CHRISTCHURCH'S OWN  
MALE VOICE CHOIR  
IN CONCERT...**

**PRESENTS**

**HERE WE  
COME  
A-CAROLING**



ENTERTAINING CHRISTCHURCH SINCE 1885...

**2:15PM SUNDAY 27 NOVEMBER 2022**

**PROGRAMME INCLUDES**

*Riu Riu Chiu*

*The Virgin Mary had a Baby Boy*

*O Holy Night*

*Mistletoe & Wine*

*In the Bleak Midwinter*

*Stars I Shall Find*

*Mele Kalinkimaka*

*Let there be Peace on Earth*

*Calypso Carol*

*Carol of the Bells*

*Jingle Bells*

*Silver Bells*

**\$20**

**programme  
entry**

**eftpos is  
available**

MUSICAL DIRECTOR  
**Thomas Woodfield**

ACCOMPANIST  
**Julia Cassels**

GUEST ARTIST  
**Alexandra  
Hope Watson**

**St Andrew's College Chapel, Normans Road**  
**138th Season, 573rd Concert**





Held at Penny Zino's beautiful Flaxmere Garden, this special visit will be a great opportunity to explore this garden of International Significance which has been awarded a six-star rating by New Zealand Garden Trust.

Penny's garden is well known from the days of 'Art in a Garden' and currently the Hurunui Garden Festival. Even those that have visited Flaxmere before will uncover new and fascinating changes to the expansive planting which Penny began over 54 years ago.

A plant sale featuring hard-to-find specimens propagated by Penny will ensure gardeners leave with a treat, and there will be a silent auction of donated plants from generous local garden centres. The barn will also host a panel discussion with top local horticultural experts, moderated by garden writer [Julia Atkinson-Dunn](#). She will probe the international experience of [Wolfgang Bopp](#), Director of Christchurch Botanic Gardens and Garden Parks and his wife [Dr. Janet Cubey](#) the Editor-in-Chief of the RHS Plant Finder. Along with local garden identity Athol McCully there is fascinating and valuable information to be uncovered from this top line-up!

Art from over nine Canterbury artists, including Amelia Guild, Min Kim, Svetlana Orinko, will be for sale and all commissions from will be donated to The Court Theatre.

Flaxmere will be open exclusively to our guests on Sunday 20 November from 10am - 4pm.  
What to Expect:

- Food, wine, music and art to enjoy, as well as a fabulous garden.
- A raffle, with all proceeds to the new theatre
- A plant auction (closing at 2pm). We will only have a small provision of bags available for the plant sale, so suggest you bring a bag to take home your purchases!
- A panel discussion/Q&A with local gardening experts.

The ticket price of \$50 covers a glass of wine on arrival or a refreshing beverage. Food is available for purchase and tea and coffee will be served.

Tickets are available [here](#).

## Duties

Duty	16 November	23 November
Cash Desk	A Airay	G Bailey
Cash Desk	H Garlick	G Dockrill
Reception	M Opie	D Peterson
Speaker Host	D Buist	H Garlick
Grace	D Buist	H Garlick
International Toast	H Garlick	D Peterson
Thanks to Speaker	M Opie	G Bailey
Quote	A Airay	G Dockrill
Speaker Reporter	V Ellis	A McKinnon
Sergeant	A McCully	M Bruce

## 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
L Bermingham	17/10/22	31/12/22
J Chamberlain	17/08/22	13/12/22
G Fowler	02/11/22	30/11/22

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

