

Rotary Club of Christchurch South



Sam MacDonald—A Council Overview from a New Councillor

Our speaker this week, Sam MacDonald, presented us with an interesting and illustrated portrait of the Christchurch City Council and his perspective as a new councillor.

Sam was born on the West Coast and moved to Christchurch in 2008 to undertake tertiary study in accounting and commerce. On graduating he became a chartered account at BDO Christchurch, then a contractor for Audit New Zealand and is now a financial analyst at Downer. He has also been a trustee at the Rata Foundation.

Sam entered public life as a member of the Fendalton Waimari Harewood Community Board and served as both Deputy Chair and Chair. In 2019 he was elected to the Christchurch City Council (CCC) and represents the Waimari Ward

The population of Christchurch is nearly 400,000 and growing by 4% a year. Twenty-five percent of our residents were born overseas.

The Council's income is \$1 billion per year and is sourced from areas such as rates (\$550m), subsidies (\$50m), fees and charges (\$100m) and borrowing (\$200m). Capital and operational spending covers three waters (\$200m), roading and transport (\$150m), capital programme (\$517m), debt repayment (\$50m) and staff costs (\$200m). Christchurch City Holdings, with an asset base of \$4b, is the wholly owned investment arm of the CCC and owns and runs some of the key infrastructure –electricity delivery, port, airport, public transport and recycling facilities and carries a debt of \$1.5b.

As a new councillor Sam is aware of the significant challenges the city faces and he is using his financial skill set to find ways forward. Of particular concern to him are rates increases which could be up to 50% over the next 10 years given the current trajectory, the skyrocketing council debt and that only 2% is being spent on road replacement when 6% is needed as well the \$1.5b City Holding debt.

It is reassuring to know that Sam is taking on these issues on behalf of the citizens of Christchurch as each one of them affects us either directly or indirectly. We wish him well with the challenges facing him and trust that his knowledge and skills will assist the council to move forward in these areas of concern.

(E&OE)



Sam MacDonald with Alan Airay

Thank you David for this weeks report and Sarita for the photo

Upcoming Meetings

16/09	Julie Wylie The Power of Musical Play
23/09	Vocational/Social Hamilton Jet Visit
30/09	George Haywood E Scooters
07/10	Special General Meeting Club Constitution

Upcoming Events

Thursday 17 September

Rotary Walk

Sat 19 and Sun 20 September

Australia NZ Rotary Conference "Virtually
Alice"

1.30pm to 3pm NZ time

Register [here](#)

Newsletter [here](#)

Monday 21 September

Zone Speech Competition

6pm

Notices

Special General Meeting

The board has scheduled a Special General Meeting for Wednesday 7th October to approve changes to the Club Constitution as required by Rotary International

Notices

Walkers Group- Come join us on our walk and/or for lunch.

Date: Thurs 17 Sept (Weather related date: 24 Sept)

Park: Car park on Kilmore St near end of Fitzgerald Ave. After the walk we will move cars to Little Poms carpark.

Time: 10.30am

Walk: River Trail

Lunch: Little Poms Café, Cnr Kilmore St & Fitzgerald Ave.

If you are unable to join the walk, then come and have lunch with us.

Please let David know (by email or 3221326 or 0272900946) if you will be walking and if not, if you are joining us for lunch.

Rotary Work/Skills Audit

Thanks to those who have completed their forms. For those who haven't, please can you complete and hand them in next week. There is an attachment in the email for those who have misplaced their hard copy.

MS & PD Collection

Our Club has received the following thanks from MS&PD...

"Multiple Sclerosis and Parkinson's Canterbury would like to thank Christchurch South Rotary for their help at our 2020 Street Appeal.

We really appreciate the continuing support of your group, especially during these uncertain times. We simply would not have been able to have the Appeal without you, and so for your support, we are incredibly grateful.

We don't yet have the full totals for the various areas and sites however we will let you know as soon as we have our final tallies.

If you have any photos of yourselves collecting, we'd be very grateful if you could share those with us.

Thank you again and I hope we can count on you again next year!"

Our Club also received the following comment from Pak n Save...

"Your collectors are great and we have never had any problems"

St Thomas of Canterbury College

We presented St Thomas of Canterbury College Rowing team with a cheque for their support of our annual chicken manure. This year the team, their parents and families helped bag 45 tonnes of manure in 12 hours! An impressive effort and we couldn't do this annual fundraiser without them. Thank you



President Joey with teacher in charge Tom, Gus, Jessie and Xavier

Duties

Duty	16 Sept	23 Sept
Cash Desk	A Kim	N/A
Cash Desk	M Opie	N/A
Reception	H Garlick	N/A
Speaker Host	L Bougen	N/A
Grace	V Ellis	N/A
International Toast	H Garlick	N/A
Thanks to Speaker	M Opie	N/A
Quote	A Kim	N/A
Speaker Reporter	V Ellis	S Mackenzie
Sergeant	G Dockrill	N/A

Leave

Who	From	To
M Whitehead	09/09/15	TBA
J Wylie		TBA
K Moss	04/07/19	31/12/20
C McCarthy	17/06/20	31/12/20
S Haye	11/08/20	TBA

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

Reminders

Record your apology by:

- Notifying the Reception Desk
- Email chchsouthrotary@gmail.com before 11am on that Wednesday
- Emergency apologies to Mike Bruce on 022 540 1251

- 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