



Rotary Club of Christchurch South Inc.

P O Box 12-243, Christchurch 8023, NZ.

SERVICE ABOVE SELF



Bulletin

# 40 for 30 April 2025

## A Life of Ballet – From Christchurch to Ballet de l’Opera National de Bordeaux France

*‘There is Always a Way’* was the title of Kase Craig’s talk to Christchurch South Rotary. This is a saying that he has lived by for many years.



We were very fortunate to have Kase Craig speak to us about his career in ballet to include his current work now that he is no longer involved in professional ballet. He certainly is an inspiration and his talk was high interest.

Kase is a highly accomplished ballet dancer and we felt privileged that he shared his life and experiences with us.

He was brought up in New Brighton where he started tap dancing at the age of five. This was the beginning of a successful career in professional ballet.

After 10 years of competing in ballet competitions in New Zealand and Australia he gained a 1 year scholarship to The Australian Ballet School and later a 3 year scholarship to The New Zealand School of Dance in Wellington. This included academic study in the morning and training in the

afternoon up to 6pm. Kase was recognised as a Distinguished Graduate of the New Zealand School of Dance.

He also earned a contract to dance professionally with the Ballet de L'Opera National de Bordeaux. Kase has also performed at venues in Paris and Venice and toured to countries such as Russia, China and Hong Kong. His expertise has certainly been recognised in many corners of the world. Kase believes that it is necessary to start young to be able to pursue ballet professionally. He also said that he has had many amazing opportunities.

He was trained in Classical Ballet but did start to develop skills in Contemporary Ballet in the later part of his career. He said that he had to step out of the mode that he was trained in.

A documentary by Television New Zealand featured Kase.

Kase retired from performing at 30 years of age but continues to impart his skills and talent, teaching at five dance schools in Christchurch.

In 2020 he completed an MBA (Master of Business Administration) at Canterbury University with core skills in arts leadership. This has enabled him to experience the business and commercial world.

He is now a people consultant at Brannigans. He has been involved in designing a public space for neurodiverse people at The Canterbury Museum. Kase spoke about the analytical mind and the unconscious mind and the ways to problem solve.

He said that creativity is simply applied imagination. Imagination: envision what does not exist; Creativity: a process of having original ideas that have value; Innovation; and Implementation of creative ideas.

Kase said that 'creativity is not about the finished product as we all use creativity in our everyday lives'.

*Thanks to Viv for the report and photo*

JOHN TAYLOR WALKWAY (Saturday 3rd May 2025)

A great turnout of Rotarians and also guests, Mathius, Mark Peters from the Rotary Club of Hornby and Hornby Councillor. Helen McKesser who brought us a lovely cake with an elephant 🐘 in the top. Troy, one of our Friends of Rotary, also Nigel who brought the plants, BBQ and extra spades, and Graham Fowler who came along with his weed whacker and made such a difference to our area.

We planted over 60 trees, I must admit however, to only planting two. By the time I got the BBQ sorted the trees had mostly been planted.!!! Harold played his bugle, much to the enjoyment of our club.

Afterwards we enjoyed our BBQ and fellowship.

Unfortunately, after the BBQ, Harold fell over next to his car, causing cuts and grazes. The decision to call an ambulance was made and they cleaned up the wounds and just about to drive away, Mel became faint, Diane called them back and consequently took Mel to the hospital, with a diagnosis of hypotension (low blood pressure). Thankfully, Mel was given the all clear following a few tests etc and was allowed home later in the evening.



Thanks go to everyone who came and also to those who helped with Harold and Mel.

Yours in Rotary Service  
Sara



## Upcoming meetings:

7/05/20 25	Melissa Thompson	Emergency Cards – Saving Lives & Connecting Loved Ones
14/05/20 25	Jane Rollings – Hospice Palliative Care Services Manager & Jo Dowling (Rotarian) – Communications Manager	The Nurse Maude Foundation – Our Story – Hospice Awareness Week
21/05/20 25	Senior Constable Dean Stevenson – New Zealand Police <b>Partners &amp; Friends Night</b>	Metro Community Safety Team - Specialist Search Group, specialising in serious crime scenes (homicides etc), explosive / bomb events and VIP security / safety checks <b>**Partners Night &amp; Friends Night**</b>

- **Mother of all Clean Ups – River Clean Up**, Saturday 10 May  
Meet 10am beside the Beckenham Scout Den Centaurus Rd (by the Brickworks)  
Finish by 12:00 and meet at The Brickworks for a drink or lunch.  
Thanks to those who indicated that they could help.  
**Viv**

- **Come join us on our walk and/or lunch on Thursday 15 May**

**Date:** Thursday 15 May

**Park/Meet** Te Karu Park (see below)

**Time:** 10.30am

**Walk:** Te Karu Park

**Lunch:** 12 noon at Black and White Coffee Cartel, 53 The Runway, Wigram

**Leader:** Shirley

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

If the weather is unsuitable for walking, we will still meet for lunch at 12:00 noon.

Please let David ([david.buist@xtra.co.nz](mailto:david.buist@xtra.co.nz)) know if you are walking, lunching or both.

Directions: Directions for walkers: Halswell Rd , then Dunbars Rd , continue on to a sign on the left which says The Runway, head on to Te Karu Park, near Wigram School.

Those coming for lunch park near to Black and White Coffee Cartel

- **JUNE WALK THURSDAY 20TH**

- **Save the Date:**

**4 June** we are visiting Hornby Rotary Club. Meal is \$25 with a choice of 3 mains. Speaker: Geoff Butler, Horologist - Ilam Watchmakers More details nearer the time.

## Street Appeal Dates:

- **Aviva**  
Saturday

May 24<sup>th</sup>.  
 New World, St. Martin's.  
 This date will all be confirmed nearer the time of the appeals.

- **Ranui House- Vocational visit**  
 Wednesday 1st October  
 @ 6pm for a tour of the new apartments and then the Sugar Horse Pub for dinner afterward.

- **Dates for the Pink Ribbon Street Appeal for 2025 – 17-18 October 2025.**

## Notices:

- **As our end of Rotary year is rapidly approaching it is way past time to consider who this year we can award Young Totara and Pride of Workmanship to.**

**Please get your thinking caps on and lets start getting names together.**

Regards  
 Mike

## Duties:

Duty	7-May-25	14-May-25	21-May-25
Cash Desk	D Buist	L Bougen	M Bruce
Cash Desk	A McCully	G Dockrill	A McKinnon
Reception	A Kim	H Garlick	G Bailey
Speaker's Host	A McKinnon	V Ellis	D Buist
Grace	A McKinnon	V Ellis	D Buist
International Toast	A Kim	H Garlick	G Bailey
Thanks to Speaker	A McCully	L Bougen	M Bruce
Quote for the Week	D Buist	G Dockrill	A McKinnon
Speaker Reporter	G Bailey	A McCully	S Mackenzie
Sergeant	M Opie	A McKinnon	A Airay

The link for the club web pages is [www.christchurchsouthrotary.org.nz](http://www.christchurchsouthrotary.org.nz)  
The link to club Facebook pages is <https://www.facebook.com/ChristchurchSouthRotary/>

## **Reminders:**

### **APOLOGIES**

Record your apology at the Reception Desk at a prior meeting, OR  
email: [chchsouthrotary@gmail.com](mailto:chchsouthrotary@gmail.com) before 11.00am 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 Alan McKinnon (021 142 7668)

**OR**, Club Secretary Viv Ellis (027 490 3161)

**DUTIES** If you are unable to carry out your allocated duty, it is YOUR responsibility to arrange a substitute.

### **LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

**Please advise all leave of absence of 3 or more weeks to the Secretary, by email or in writing.**