



Rotary Club of Christchurch South Inc.

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

SERVICE ABOVE SELF



Bulletin

#16 for 14 October 2026

SPEAKER REPORT – 14 October 2026

SAY “NO” to Domestic Violence was the theme for the meeting at Parakiore on Wednesday 14th October 2026. This is the theme the District Governor Sandra Isaacs has chosen as the focus for the year. She was instrumental in getting this evening together, which included guest speakers and a very welcome coffee/tea and yummy sandwiches, savouries, sushi etc..... which I might add was arranged and paid for courtesy of Sandra, who went the extra mile to get Rotarians involved in assisting to stamp out this very real problem in our community. It was nice to see the representation from the many Clubs and the night began with lots of chatter between members of various clubs. Some 70 people attended.

Sandra welcomed everyone and two powerful speakers followed:

Firstly from Aviva and then from Shakti. Their work is invaluable in our community. Their accounts related to specific incidents which were very confronting and shocking. Both Aviva and Shakti work tirelessly to assist the victims of this violence by providing safe houses, re-settling victims, counselling, helping with Court cases, education programmes – and this is just to name a few of their assistance initiatives. Shakti deals with immigrants, and in particular the women who have been forced into arranged marriages, are subject to rules of their ethnicity, isolation, language barriers and ethnic beliefs which are no longer acceptable.

We also heard from group of bikers (a worldwide chapter) who assist in relation to violence against children. They are there for the children to lean on, and provide a safety net when they are in danger. Their role also includes counselling and dependable

friendship and support to these children – some for long periods of time.

The incidents of domestic violence in Canterbury are shocking- and evidence shows we have the highest percentage of cases in New Zealand (this excludes sexual violence).

Police reported 13,000 family harm occurrences per year, bearing in mind that only 67% of incidents are reported. 1 in 3 are women and 1 in 6 are men are affected. Domestic Violence does not discriminate by suburb, tax bracket or background.

The call to support these organisations is loud and clear, and Rotarians will answer that call.

Thanks again to those speakers for their insights and their passion to help vulnerable people in need.

A special thanks to Sandra Isaccs for her work and caring.

Thanks to Diane. for the report.

The John Taylor Walkway project.

The morning turned out to be sunny and warm. Within minutes, Nigel had assigned jobs for us all! Clearing the walkway, planting various grasses in a few different places and clearing weeds and long grass from the trees we'd previously planted over the past years.

So much was accomplished and a special thanks go to Nigel, Troy, Graham Fowler and my friend Sharon.

A BBQ followed with much fun and fellowship. Next visit will be sometime in March.

Yours in Rotary Service

Sara





Thank you Troy!



Upcoming meetings:

- **21 October** Dr Richard Gibbs,
Soil Science and Sports Surface Specialist - Growing grass indoors; the science and technology behind Christchurch's new Te Kaha stadium
- **28 October**
Club Forum Night – Committee Updates
- **4 November**
Hamish Fairburn - Conservation Volunteers New Zealand - A world where people and nature flourish together

Notices:

- [...] on **Wednesday the 21st of October** we have the pleasure of Dr Richard Gibbs. In short, he's the 'grass man' that set up the stadium turf. A very interesting speaker and topic.

I encourage you to invite guests who may consider this of interest (be sure to let Alan McKinnon know).

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/sport/360915229/revealed-new-zealands-most-expensive-lawn-its-own-full-time-doctor-call>

Kindest Regards Graham

21/10/2026	Dr Richard Gibbs Soil Science and Sports Surface Specialist (Friends and Family Night)	Growing grass indoors – the science and technology behind Christchurch's new stadium'	Dr Richard Gibbs Soil Science and Sports Surface Specialist M. +64 (0)22 040 0419 (NZ) E. gibbsygrass@gmail.com
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- **D9999 RYLA 2027 - Applications are OPEN! ...**

The D9999 RYLA Christchurch and Queenstown committees are reaching out to see how your Club is tracking with your candidate selections for RYLA 2027!

Candidates may choose either course, depending on the candidates' age, preferred location, and their availability. It is at the discretion of each committee to consider applicants outside of the stated age range.

- **Christchurch Course: 17–21 January 2027 at College House (Ages 18–25) — *Applications close 18 November 2026.* Cost \$1,175pp (no GST for Clubs)**

- **Queenstown Course: 31 January – 5 February 2027 at Lakeland Park Camp (Ages 20–30) — *Applications close 30 November 2026.* Cost \$1,175pp (no GST for Clubs)**

All information and application packs are readily available on the [Rotary District 9999 Website](#). If you have any questions or need a hand matching a candidate, please don't hesitate to reach out directly to the course Facilitators.

Queenstown Facilitator - Lee-Ann Murray d9999rylaqt@gmail.com
Christchurch Facilitator - Alan Morgan d9999rylachch@gmail.com

Queenstown ONLINE application form [HERE](#)
Christchurch ONLINE application form [HERE](#)

Just a reminder, all candidates must be interviewed and endorsed by the sponsor Rotary Club to be emailed to the course committee. Selection criteria and interview questions are attached.

Also, please reach out to your business community and networks to offer them the opportunity to sponsor one or more of their rising stars within their workplace. Poster attached for each course to share.

Thank you for your ongoing support in empowering our future young leaders!

Duties:

Duty	21-Oct-26	28-Oct-26	4-Nov-26
Cash Desk	L Bougen	G Dockrill	L Bougen
Cash Desk	A McKinnon	M Opie	A McKinnon
Reception	M Bruce	S Mackenzie	M Opie
Speaker's Host	A McCully	#N/A	A Stewart
Grace	A McCully	D Buist	A Stewart
International Toast	M Bruce	S Mackenzie	M Opie
Thanks to Speaker	A McKinnon	#N/A	L Bougen
Quote for the Week	L Bougen	M Opie	A McKinnon
Speaker Reporter	D Peterson	V Ellis	A McCully
Sergeant	A Stewart	M Bruce	A Airay

Leave:

from to

S Haye 11/08/2020 TBA

E Bermingham 01/01/2023 TBA

A Kim 30/06/2025 TBA

M Soares 01/05/2026 04/11/2026

The link for the club web pages is www.christchurchsouthrotary.org.nz

The link to club Facebook pages is
<https://www.facebook.com/ChristchurchSouthRotary>

REMINDERS

Record your apology at the Reception Desk at a prior meeting, OR email: 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.

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