

# Rotary Club of Christchurch South



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## 8 November 2023

A Partners Evening was planned for 8 November by the Vocational Committee. It was a visit to the Braintree Wellness Centre and hosted by Malcolm Rickerby. Unfortunately due to an unforeseen illness the visit had to be postponed. Instead members met at the Cashmere Club for fellowship and a meal.

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## 15 November 2023

Whisky! Your reporter knows nothing about the topic, so tonight's presentation from Michael Fraser Milne, the Director of Christchurch store Whisky Galore, was a fascinating education session. Not surprisingly, Michael was a long-standing friend of recently deceased Rotary Club member Bob Blyth. Indeed, if you closed your eyes and heard them speak, you couldn't tell them apart! It is obvious then that Michael was also born in Scotland in his case in Keith, a small town in Speyside. He arrived here about 30 years ago and identified a gap in the New Zealand market for high quality single malt whisky. It started as a hobby which quickly developed into a full-blown business in which he was subsequently joined by his wife, Stella. They now employ about 15 staff and have a substantial online business as well as their store-front operation.

The first record of whisky-making in Scotland was written in 1494 by a monk who lived near Fyfe. Over the centuries which followed there was inevitably a great deal of refinement of the whisky-making process. Much of this was "underground" and therefore illegal to avoid the prohibitive taxes which prevailed. By the 1820s more than half the whisky consumed in Scotland was from illicit stills. The Scottish Excise Act of 1823 sanctioned the distilling of whisky for an annual licence fee of £10 and a set payment per gallon of proof spirit, largely doing away with the illicit distilling and smuggling. In 1909, the Scotch Whisky Act defined both the taste of whisky and how it should be made, including for example, at least 3 years maturing in oak casks. This is a remarkable piece of consumer and brand protection legislation which over the years has been adopted by about 180 countries including New Zealand, relatively recently.

Scotland exports about 38 bottles of whisky every second (2022 figures). Single malt whiskies comprise only about 9% of this, the remainder being blends. Most of this whisky goes to Europe. Russia used to take a lot, but trade sanctions severely limit that now. New Zealand has a long whisky history as evidenced by an ad in Press dated 1862. At one stage, the Canterbury Club was the biggest seller of Scotch Whisky in the Southern Hemisphere.

Whisky Galore stocks about 1000 different whiskies, about 90% of which are Scotch. About 25% of the business is now online. Every two years they run a "Dram Fest" involving visiting experts and in

between times have various tasting and other promotional events. An interesting trend is that until relatively recently whisky was almost exclusively a male domain, but now about 30% of Michael's customers are female. Another interesting observation is the diverse backgrounds of people who attend Michael's various events.

We were fortunate to have someone with Michael's expertise and passion speaking to us. He unraveled a great deal of the mystery behind this intriguing beverage.



*Thank you Alan McKinnon for the report and Viv for the photograph*

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## Upcoming Meetings

**22 November** – Mike Steenson – Park Ranger  
Riccarton Bush – Major Enhancement Project

**29 November** – Judge Robert Murfitt  
Stories from a Family Court Judge

**6 December** – Paul Burns, President of Hornby Rotary Club  
Hornby's Hydrotherapy Pool project

**13 December** – Club Christmas Party

**20 December** – Traditional "Christmas Cake and Port"

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## Upcoming Events

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## Notices

**HARMONY WAITAHA**  
PRESENTS

**CHRISTMAS**

SCAN FOR TICKETS

**STARS**

**FEATURING**

BHNZ MENS CHAMPION CHORUS  
**The PLAINSMEN**  
CHRISTCHURCH NZ

PAN PACIFIC SECOND PLACE CHORUS  
**Promenade**

6TH PLACE INTERNATIONAL NEXTGEN VARSITY QUARTET  
**Quantum Acoustics**

**7PM SATURDAY DEC 9TH**

TICKETS \$30  
SENIORS/COMMUNITY CARD HOLDERS \$25  
STUDENTS \$20  
CHILDREN UNDER 14 FREE

**CHRISTCHURCH TRANSITIONAL CATHEDRAL**

**\$10 OFF EACH TICKET ORDERED BEFORE DEC 1ST**

TICKETS AT [EVENTS.HUMANITY.CO.NZ](http://EVENTS.HUMANITY.CO.NZ) CHRISTMAS STARS  
OR CALL 022 128 8215



## Maintenance on our “John Taylor Walkway”



‘The Jungle’ - Find Tarzan and Jane.





'Bush Wacker' President Mel



Sara carrying out some fine pruning





David at the edge



Thank you Team!!!!

## **Christchurch South Community Garden**

Every Wednesday 1pm to 2pm, 188 Strickland Street, come along and lend a hand.

## **Hydrotherapy Pool at the new Matatiki: Hornby Centre in Kyle Park**

The Rotary Club of Hornby and the Greater Hornby Residents Association have joined together in a major campaign to fundraise for the Hydrotherapy Pool at the new Matatiki: Hornby Centre in Kyle Park. The Council has included the Hydrotherapy Pool in this development, with the expectation that the community provides \$1.4million towards the cost. This is fantastic to see how embedded Rotary clubs are in their local communities.

Hydrotherapy is a recognised physical and mental health treatment as the water pressure and movement as a form of physiotherapy for body and joint pain. This relieves symptoms of many things such as arthritis, osteoporosis, cerebral palsy, and recovery from accidents and sporting injuries. The pool would be accessible to anyone in our community, and will provide a great service to those in the community with disabilities, health conditions or physical rehabilitation.

As part of fundraising efforts, a Splash for Cash event is to be held on Friday 10 November and the aim is to get the community fundraising for the pool.

The club may consider purchasing a table or a couple of seats at the event to come along for a great night (email Kim to arrange a purchase). Another way you may wish to consider supporting our fundraising efforts is the purchase of a "Bubble". The CCC has kindly given us a wall to place our bubbles which can have your name or logo. There are three options of sizes based on donations of \$250, \$500 and \$1000. The bubble wall will be located on one of the busiest corridors at Matatiki: Hornby Centre, and visitors will see these for years to come. You can do this at: <https://buyabubble.nz>

If you want to find out more about the hydrotherapy pool, you can here: <https://hornbyhydrotherapy.nz>

Paul Burns, President, Hornby Rotary

Kim Moss, Chair, Greater Hornby Residents Association (and Christchurch South Rotary member)

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## **Archives**

We are now at the point of collecting photos from members, past members, honorary members and friends of Rotary for our archives.

Please contact Kim at [tanner.kimberley@gmail.com](mailto:tanner.kimberley@gmail.com) if you have any photos from the year **2000 onwards** of **significant events**. We are hoping to have this project completed by the end of this year

## Duties

Duty	15-Nov-23	22-Nov-23	29-Nov-23
Cash Desk	D Buist	G Dockrill	S Harris
Cash Desk	R Palmer	S Mackenzie	D Peterson
Reception	S Harris	P Mears	D Buist
Speaker's Host	A McCully	V Ellis	R Palmer
Grace	A McCully	V Ellis	R Palmer
International Toast	S Harris	P Mears	D Buist
Thanks to Speaker	R Palmer	S Mackenzie	S Harris
Quote for the Week	D Buist	G Dockrill	D Peterson
Speaker Reporter	A Airay	A McKinnon	A Stewart
Sergeant	D Peterson	A Stewart	A McKinnon

## Leave

Who	From	To
M Whitehead	9/9/15	TBA
J Wylie		TBA
S Hays	11/8/20	TBA
K Moss	24/6/23	TBA

## Don't forget to follow us on Facebook and Website

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 on the Wednesday; you will get a reminder a couple of days before the meeting re apologising and to advise if bringing guests.
- 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 (three or more weeks) to the Secretary by email or in writing.