



Rotary Club of Christchurch South Inc.

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

SERVICE ABOVE SELF



Bulletin

#21 for 19 November 2025

Speaker Report, 19 November 2025

Our speakers tonight were Jenn Chowaniec (left) and Shelly Washington (right) from the Rod Donald Banks Peninsular Trust. Graham Dockrill introduced Shelly and Jenn to the Club.



Shelley is the new Trust Manager, after working for Environment Canterbury for many years, and NZ Landcare Trust before that: roles have included facilitating council committees, supporting community groups and engaging the community. Shelley lives in St Martins with her family and enjoys tramping, rowing, yoga, paddle boarding, cycling and craft.

Jenn has worked as a lawyer and currently works in the philanthropic sector as the General Manager of the Wayne Francis Charitable Trust. She is Deputy Chair of Kilmarnock Enterprises Ltd and a Chartered Member of the Institute of Directors. As a very keen ultra-distance runner, she enjoys getting out and about to explore Banks Peninsula.

The vision of the Banks Peninsular Trust is "To create a thriving and enduring ecosystem of trails and regenerating landscapes on Te Pātaka o Rākaihautū Banks Peninsula"

The idea of an environmental trust for Banks Peninsula emerged in 2005, when prior to the merger with Christchurch City Council, the former Banks Peninsula District Council determined to divest itself of several farms in Ashburton that had been endowed to its predecessor councils. It was determined that the funds should be used to create an enduring legacy for the former Banks Peninsula District Council's area and that such trust was the best way to achieve this. The Trust commenced with a sum of \$3,503,882 from the sale and then subsequent investment of the funds.

Rod Donald's name was suggested to honour this highly respected and influential politician who died in 2005, and to reflect his deep love for his constituency of Banks Peninsula. After

a public consultation process the organisation was formally constituted as a Charitable Trust in July 2010.

The trust deed gives the Trust a wide mandate to promote sustainable management and conservation, recreation, culture and heritage, research projects and public education in the area formerly administered by the Banks Peninsula District Council .

The Trust is a Christchurch City Council-controlled organisation; Trustees are appointed by the Council and must produce an annual statement of intent(SOI) specifying the objectives, the nature and scope of the activities to be undertaken, and the performance targets and other measures by which the Trust is to be judged for that year.

Jenn and Shelley explained the significance of the Rob Donald Hut on the Te Ara Māhuri Nature Trail and what it provides for walkers on the trail.

The Rod Donald Challenge: marking 20 years since the passing of Rod Donald

“This is a free, self-paced adventure exploring up to 20 special places on Banks Peninsula that the Rod Donald Trust has helped protect, promote, or create. Walk, hike, or bike – there’s something for all ages and fitness levels. Each experience connects you with the land Rod Donald loved and worked to safeguard. Tick off up to 20 stunning walks or bike rides on Banks Peninsula and go in the draw for a range of prizes!” - proudly explained in conclusion of their address.

The vote of thanks on behalf of our Club was given by Athol McCully.

Thanks to Alan A. for the report and Diane for the photo

- **Peter Mears, Honorary Membership.**

Peter joined our club, 29 Nov.1995 and was President in 2015-16. In a brief statement of appreciation of his new status, he mentioned that he had been in community and charitable work for 77 years, starting in farming and landscaping as a 13 year old at high school and progressively through the years, in Young Farmers Club, JC's, Lions and ultimately of course, with us in Rotary.

Peter, we are so pleased and proud to have you as honorary member and hope that over time, you maybe, can attend the odd club meeting.

Peter receiving certificate from President Mel.



Upcoming meetings:

26/11/2025	Club Night – Committees Updates	Club Night – Committees Updates
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3/12/2025		
10/12/2025	Christmas party	@ Canterbury Club
17/12/2025	Port and cake	@ Cashmere Club

Notices:

- **Christmas Party flyer attached to this e-mail.**

DUTIES:

	26-Nov-25	3-Dec-25	10-Dec-25
 Desk	G Bailey	D Buist	A McKinnon
Cash Desk	M Soares	M Soares	#N/A
Reception	D Peterson	A Airay	M Opie
Speaker's Host	#N/A	L Bougen	#N/A
Grace	H Garlick	L Bougen	H Garlick
International Toast	D Peterson	A Airay	#N/A
Thanks to Speaker	#N/A	D Buist	#N/A
Quote for the Week	M Soares	M Soares	#N/A
Speaker Reporter	V Ellis	A McKinnon	A McCully
Sergeant	A Airay	G Dockrill	#N/A

- **LEAVE. N/A**

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

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

APOLOGIES:

**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.**

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

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