



Rotary Club of Christchurch South Inc.

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

SERVICE ABOVE SELF



Bulletin

#09 for 26 August 2026

SPEAKER REPORT – 26 AUGUST 2026

Full Bellies – providing children with nutritional food delivered into schools for families in need

We all know what it feels like to have a full belly. Some children don't – and that's where Full Bellies steps in.

The problems are that one in four children live in households where food often runs out. That was in 2024 and Tayla said that since then the numbers have definitely increased especially in the winter. Food poverty can cause an educational lag of up to four years. By providing lunches, Full Bellies has certainly lowered the number of children arriving at school tired and hungry.

Tayla Neal outlined what the organisation does as a needs based charity with 220 volunteers.

It is not Government funded and works in partnership with many businesses such as: TipTop, Original Foods, Bakermans in Fendalton to name a few.

Full Bellies is a not-for-profit organisation established in 2022 with just 6 children receiving lunches at school. They provide nourishing food bags for children in schools – those who do



not meet the criteria of Government Funding. They currently deliver to 31 schools which means more than 1500 food bags are delivered in Christchurch each week. Delivery takes place before school starts Monday – Thursday. On Tuesday Corporate organisations help distribute the food bags. Discretion is important so the children receiving the lunches can pick them up often without being seen.

Children are identified by Teachers. Their eating is monitored for 2 – 3 weeks before there is a reach out to Parents / Caregivers.

The New Zealand Ministry of Health Food and Nutritional guidelines are followed to include each of the four major food groups. They also ensure that dietary requirements, cultural needs and allergens are adhered to.

A kiwi classic food bag lunch may include: a sandwich / bacon and egg pie, two fruit, two pieces of baking, popcorn / chips, Up and Go drink and maybe carrot sticks. Many volunteers provide baking and it is estimated that 4, 500 pieces of baking are distributed each week.

Surveys are carried out where children, Teachers and Principals provide feedback to Full Bellies.

Full Bellies believes that they make a difference in the lives of children, encourage a brighter future for the next generation, support schools, families and children and help remove the barrier of a hungry tummy.

If you wish to donate, volunteer or visit Full Bellies HQ at Unit 2, 4 Bryndwr Lane, Burnside contact can be made through Tayla at:

Tayla@fullbellies.co.nz

Thanks to Viv for the report and the photograph.

Upcoming meetings:

- **2 September**

Joe Potter Butler - QEII National Trust – Ngā Kairauhī Papa

- **9 September**

Grant Ryan – The Cacophony Project. Predator management, and restoring native bird populations. 16 September

- **16 September**

Dr Rueben Woods - 'Watch This Space' Exploring Christchurch through urban art

- **23 September**

Glenda Goatley - Glenlothian Farm & the Rare Breeds Society of Canterbury

- **30 September**

`Club Forum Night – Committee Updates

Hensh 2026



St Thomas lads and Diane set up and ready for customers at Wairakei road.

Community Service project:

- **John Taylor Walkway**

A new date has been confirmed with the Park Ranger Nigel.

Saturday 17th October 2026

10-12am Work details to be confirmed nearer the time and BBQ to follow.

- **Roster for MS Parkinson Collection**

New World St Martins 9am-5pm

Friday 4th September

9am-11am Alan Stewart Alan McKinnon

11am-1pm Athol McCully Mike Ossington

1pm-3pm Geoff Bailey Diane Peterson

3pm-5pm Viv Ellis Mel Opie

Thanks everyone for putting your hand up to do this collection.

Our contact is Malcolm Rickerby Phone 027 295 9041

Malcolm will have the site set up to go, for 9am and will collect the buckets at 5pm *****
PLEASE NOTE that you can arrange with the person that is on with you to work an hour each or you can work in pairs for that 2 hour period. It is up to each team as to what they want to do.

Notices:

- **Your editor's new email address:**
melvilleopie@gmail.com

This address and the exti419@uclive.ac.nz are now both valid until 12 September, when only the gmail address will be valid. Best to update your address book now.

- **From:** Reception <reception@pillars.org.nz>
Sent: Monday, 24 August 2026 10:04:28
Cc: Reception <reception@pillars.org.nz>; Jolene Hunter <jolene.hunter@pillars.org.nz>
Subject: An Invitation to Make Christmas Special for Pillars Children & Whānau

Kia ora Koutou,

As we look ahead to Christmas 2026, we would love to warmly invite you to be part of something truly special.

Whether you have given to us before or are thinking about giving for the first time, you are invited to join us, reconnect, and learn how you can help make Christmas 2026 a little brighter. Your generosity has made a meaningful difference, bringing moments of joy, hope and connection to families who may be facing difficult circumstances. We are incredibly grateful that you have chosen to stand alongside us.

We would be delighted to have you with us and look forward to sharing more about the work we do and the difference we can make together.

Please see the **attached invitation** for further details. RSVP by 9th of September and please include any dietary requirement

Ngā mihi,

Reception

Kaiwhakatau Manuhiri

☎ 0508 745 527 (EXT 702)

Pillars.org.nz

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- **GET READY FOR RYLA 2027!**
Empowering Future Leaders Since 1959

Applications are open! This is your Club's chance to sponsor the next generation of changemakers.

Our District is fortunate to offer 2 RYLA Courses. Your candidate can select from either Queenstown or Christchurch. Factors that might effect their choice is location, their age or date suitability.

RYLA Queenstown 31st January – 5th February

Age: 20-30 years

\$1,175pp for Clubs and non-profits (add GST for Corporate applicants)

RYLA Christchurch 17th – 21st January

Age: 18-25 years

\$1,175pp or Clubs and non-profits (add GST for Corporate applicants)

RYLA Overview

The RYLA Leadership Programme is a transformative 4-5 day live-in experience designed to develop leadership, self-awareness, and a sense of community in young leaders aged from 18-30. It's not just about learning leadership — it's about living it. Participants are immersed in a dynamic, supportive environment where they are challenged, inspired, and empowered.

Applications will be considered from clubs, corporates and other community groups who wish to sponsor their rising stars within their business or organisation. A **flyer** is attached for each course for you to email to your networks/contacts/local business owners.

Head to the District website [HERE](#) for all info

• Project Rotary – Say No to Domestic and Family Violence

This is a nationwide initiative to raise awareness of domestic and family violence. Australia has already raised the campaign across the country.

The organising team have been communicating with Police, Social Welfare, Rape Crisis, White Ribbon, Salvation Army etc.

The initiative will focus on two key activities:

1. Purple Fridays – wear a purple Rotary t-shirt
2. A District purple walk in November – bringing our communities together.

At the moment the organisers are gauging interest and wish that those clubs wanting to participate register their interest. They wish to have this project ready to launch on 1 October if there is enough interest.

The next step is to register our interest.

Viv

Duties:

Duty	2-Sept-26	9-Sept-26	16-Sept-26
Cash Desk	D Buist	A Airay	L Bougen
Cash Desk	G Dockrill	A McCully	A McKinnon
Reception	A Airay	M Opie	M Bruce
Speaker's Host	A McKinnon	V Ellis	G Dockrill
Grace	A McKinnon	V Ellis	G Dockrill
International Toast	A Airay	M Opie	M Bruce
Thanks to Speaker	D Buist	A McCully	L Bougen
Quote for the Week	G Dockrill	A Airay	A McKinnon
Speaker Reporter	M Opie	D Peterson	A McCully
Sergeant	A Stewart	D Buist	M Osselton

Leave:

from to

S Haye 11/08/2020 TBA

E Bermingham 01/01/2023 TBA

S McLean	20/03/2024	TBA
A Kim	30/06/2025	TBA
M Bruce	15 July 2026	09 Sept. 2026
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.