



Rotary Club of Christchurch South Inc.

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

SERVICE ABOVE SELF



Bulletin

#37 for 08 April 2026

Speaker Report for 08 April 2026

Major Paul Gardner, from Sydenham Salvation Army Community Church was our speaker tonight. His talk focused on the Army's history and his family's commitment to the movement. His parents were committed 'Salvationists', the basis for his own journey through life.

Our Harold with Major Paul Gardner. In introducing Major Paul, Harold mentioned that he, personally, was born on the current site of Major Paul's Sydenham Salvation Army Community Church.



Thanks Viv, for the photograph

Major Paul described the movement as “ a church with a good social arm”.

William and Catherine Booth were its founders, [1886]. William had humble beginnings as the son of a pawnbroker. He preached for the Methodists in London's East End, shepherding those less fortunate, smelly and rough mannered, to church, where they were not wanted.

Katherine knew rich people who would give money, through which the church made up the uniforms themselves.

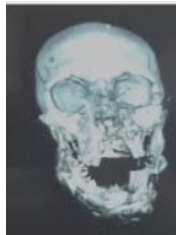
Originally the movement was called 'The Volunteer Army' but changed to Salvation when a devotee denied being a volunteer, saying "I am a soldier".

Obviously, the ethos and influence of the movement was unpopular with publicans who set up The Skeleton Army, active in Southern England, that opposed and disrupted the marches against alcohol. [Clashes led to deaths of several Salvationists and injuries to others – Wiki].

To that end, the traditional old Salvation Army bonnet was designed, consequence of a woman Salvationist being hit on the head by a thrown brick.



Another historical happening credited to the Salvation Army, relates to phossy jaw, an occupational disease, particularly with those working with the production of white phosphorus match heads. The fumes of white phosphorus cause necrosis of the jaw.



Red phosphorus does not do this. There was reluctance of manufacturers to take up the red option, so the Salvationists began commercial manufacturing of red phosphorus matches, eventually turning manufacturers to the 'red'.

The ends say 'THE SALVATION ARMY' and 'SOCIAL WING'



We recall street Christmas carols by the Salvation Army bands on the back of trucks; "Back then it was easy to do what was needed"; now outlawed as a Health and Safety issue, despite seats being strapped in.

Finally, Major Paul returned to the description of the Salvation Army as 'a church with a good social arm', observing that "things don't fly if one wing is not working"

M. .

Upcoming meetings:

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15/04/2026	Michael Campbell	The <u>Ferrymead</u> Heritage Park – Stepping Back in Time
22/04/2026	Author Deb Donnell	Christchurch Then and Now Volume 4 – New Book Release by Christchurch Author Deb Donnell **Friends & Family Night – Books for Purchase***
29/04/2026	Club Night – Committees Updates	Club Night – Committees Updates

- **April Walk - SATURDAY 18 APRIL**

Date: SATURDAY 18 April

Park / Meet: Te Kura Wetlands Area. 600 Cashmere Rd. It's on the right hand side when driving from Cashmere along Cashmere Road. Not far passed Hendersons Road.

Walk: Through the Wetlands Area. Cashmere Stream Track and Hoon Hay Track

Lunch: 12:00 at Urban Eatery, Oderings, Stourbridge Street.

Leader: Viv

If you are unable to join the walk, you are welcome to join the group for lunch.

If the weather is unsuitable for walking then we will just meet for lunch.

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

- **UPCOMING ROTARY COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS**

- 1. Cashmere Stream Esplanade**

Saturday 2nd May '26.

10-12 for maintenance followed by a shared lunch.

- 2. John Taylor Walkway**

Saturday 13th June '26

10-12 for maintenance Followed by a BBQ.

- **3. Cashmere Stream Esplanade**

WINTER PLANTING DAY

Saturday 18th July

10-12 with a shared lunch to follow.

Notices:

- Good Morning again team, it was great to have Paul Gardner along last night at our Club Meeting, reigniting our relationship with the Sydenham Corps. As agreed, I'm looking for volunteers for the upcoming 'The Salvation Army Red Shield Appeal' – St Martins New World - Friday May 8th 2026. Please see the attached PDF and let me know what time slot you would like. I'll bring along the Roster next Wednesday for final sign-off.

Kindest Regards Graham

- **River Clean Up (Mother of all Clean Up's)**

Date: Saturday 9 May

Start time: 10am by the Scout Den, Centaurus Road next to The Brickworks

It would be great to support this again this year as we have done over the last many years.

Duties:

Duty	15-Apr-26	22-Apr-26
Cash Desk	G Dockrill	A McKinnon
Cash Desk	M Osselton	M Soares
Reception	G Bailey	D Buist
Speaker's Host	M Bruce	G Bailey
Grace	M Bruce	G Bailey
International Toast	G Bailey	D Buist
Thanks to Speaker	G Dockrill	M Soares
Quote for the Week	M Osselton	A McKinnon
Speaker Reporter	V Ellis	A McCully

Leave:

from to

S Haye 11/08/2020 TBA

E Bermingham 01/01/2023 TBA

SMcLean	20/03/2024	TBA
A Kim	30/06/2025	TBA
R McKinney		mid April

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.**

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

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