



Rotary Club of Christchurch South Inc.

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

SERVICE ABOVE SELF



Bulletin

#11 for 11 September 2024



Friends of The Christchurch

Botanic Gardens – Mona Vale

Gardens – Our History, Future &

the Bathhouse – an address to our

Rotary Club by **Jeanette Christensen** on

11 September 2024

The Friends of Christchurch Botanic Gardens was formed in 1989 to link the Gardens and the wider community. They conduct guided walks and fundraising events to promote, support and contribute to the ongoing development of the Gardens. In 2017 they signed a memorandum of understanding with the city council, in terms of which, their volunteers work with the garden curators. On Fridays and Sundays they open the kiosk at the Christchurch Botanical Gardens to sell plants, give information and recruit new members on behalf of the Canterbury Horticultural Society.

They also propagate plants for sale - the main source of income for both the Botanical Gardens and Mona Vale. The Friends Group also provides trainee scholarships and offer study grants to staff not able to be funded by council. They also lobby council for change in response to public pressure, an example Jeanette gave was the extended café opening hours.

The connection between the Botanical Gardens and Mone Vale is an interesting one, based on its history. The land on which Mona Vale lies beside the Avon River, originally belonged to the Deans family, who sold it in 1899 to Frederick Waymouth, who in turn sold it Annie Townsend in 1905. She renamed the property from Karewa to Mona Vale, after her mother's house in Tasmania. Annie purchased the exhibition fernery, after the

New Zealand International Exhibition ended in Hagley Park in 1907. Some of the present ferns on display at Mona Vale are from the Christchurch Botanic Gardens.

In 1939 Mona Vale was bought by Tracy Gough who had a lily pond and exotic trees such as rhododendrons and azaleas added. Following his death the property was sold in 1962 to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. When the church wanted to sell Mona Vale to a company intending to subdivide the property and demolish the homestead, a public outcry resulted in the Christchurch City Council co-funding its purchase as a public park, thus forming the link with the Botanical Gardens.

The Mona Vale homestead, which was damaged in the 2014 earthquake, has been repaired and once again operates as a restaurant and function centre and repairs to the Fernery and Bathhouse which is to house tropical plants not to be seen in the Botanic Gardens, are underway. Jeanette closed her talk drawing attention to a Givealittle page for donations to support the valuable work the Friends of Christchurch Botanic Gardens do.

*Thanks to **Geoff** for the report and **Diane** for the photograph*

Upcoming Meetings

18/09/2024	Jill Hawkey	Christchurch Methodist Mission - Warm, affordable and secure housing is a human right Partners' night!
25/09/2024	Club Forum	Club Forum
2/10/2024	SET	Southern Environmental Trust Forum. Athol McCully leading & co-ordinating this night.

Upcoming Events

- **Year 7 and 8 Speech Competition**

Thursday 19 September
 St Martins School
 Albert Terrace, St Martins,
 6.30pm . Involves Primary Schools in our area and will run as it has other years. Would be good to have Rotary support there.

[Viv, Mike and Youth Committee]

- **September Walk and Luncheon**

Date: Thursday 19 September

Park: Wooldridge Road, near Nunweek Park

Meet: 10.30am in carpark

Walk: Local area

Lunch: 12:00 Noon at Terra Viva, 242 Roydvale Avenue

Organiser: Vayomi

If you are unable to join the walk, then feel welcome to join the walkers for lunch.

If the weather is unsuitable for walking, we will still meet for lunch at 12:00 noon

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

An early response would be appreciated.

- **OCTOBER WALK – THURSDAY 17TH**

- **Southern Environmental Trust Forum “Climate Change: How will I be affected – why should I care?”**

7-9 pm Wednesday 2nd October

Harmony Church Auditorium 220 Antigua Street.

This is in place of our Rotary meeting for the night and we hope for a great turnout of club members, partners and friends to support this event and hear the excellent speakers that have been arranged. Indeed, there will be a number of jobs for club members to make the night run smoothly.

- **Community Garden**

Every Wed. 1pm - 2pm, 188 Strickland St., come along and lend a hand.

- **Street Appeal Dates**

Pink Ribbon 🎗️

October 18th

9-5pm

Christchurch Airport

Dementia Canterbury

November 8th and 9th

9-5pm

New World, St. Martin's

Aviva

May 16th and 17th

Or

May 23rd and 24th.

New World, St. Martin's.

These dates will all be confirmed nearer the time of the appeals.

Notices:

- **CASHMERE STREAM ESPLANADE**
Saturday 21st September.
10-12 followed by a shared lunch. Please bring a wheelbarrow, spade and pitchfork if you have them and garden gloves.

Duties:

Duty	18-Sep-24	25-Sep-24	2-Oct-24
Cash Desk	G Bailey	A McCully	#N/A
Cash Desk	H Garlick	D Peterson	#N/A
Reception	M Bruce	A Airay	#N/A
Speaker's Host	A McKinnon	#N/A	#N/A
Grace	A McKinnon	V Ellis	#N/A
International Toast	M Bruce	A Airay	#N/A
Thanks to Speaker	G Bailey	#N/A	#N/A
Quote for the Week	H Garlick	D Peterson	#N/A
Speaker Reporter	M Opie	P Mears	#N/A
Sergeant	G Dockrill	G Bailey	#N/A

Leave:

WHO	From	To
M Whitehead	9/9/15	TBA
J Wylie		TBA
S Haye	11/8/20	TBA
E Bermingham	1/1/23	TBA
S McLean	20/3/24	19/6/24
L Brown	01/05/24	TBA
A Kim	15/06/24	15/11/24
S Mackenzie	07/08/24	TBA
V Ellis	03/09/24	17/09/24
R McKinney	11/09/24	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:

APOLOGIES

- Record your apology at the Reception Desk at a prior meeting OR
- Email: chcsouthrotary@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