



Rotary Club of Christchurch South Inc.

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

SERVICE ABOVE SELF



31 for 26 February 2025

SPEAKER REPORT 26 FEBRUARY 2025

Clothed in Love

'Me mahi tahi tatou mo te oranga o te katoa.

We should work together for the wellbeing of everyone'.

Clothed in Love helps Christchurch families in need by blessing them with free quality preloved or new clothing for their children. It was started by two Mums at the end of 2020



Kim

Louisa

Also visiting was Abhinav Keswani the Board Chair for the past 2 years and Jill, Kim's mother who is Ruth Mear's daughter. Peter and Ruth Mears sat proudly listening to their granddaughter Kim speaking.

Interestingly, both speakers are graduates of the RYLA course, Louisa through the Burnside Rotary Club and Kim through the Cashmere Club.

Kim and Louisa spoke about their lives and families as well as the beginnings of the organisation. The first pack of clothing was distributed in February 2021. For the first year there was no funding, the organisation operating with volunteers and donations.

A family, agency or teacher can apply for a pack of clothes for a family, starting with filling out a form. Packs are individually organised based on the information given in the form. This always includes one or two books.

The process involves: collecting donations from 30 drop off points, donations going to the Hub in Yaldhurst where they are sorted, packs are made up based on the information written in the form, lastly packs are dropped off to homes by volunteer couriers. If necessary, urgent packs can be delivered within 24 hours.

Clothed in Love has been running for 4 years with 110 volunteers. They have delivered over 11,000 packs which includes 10,000 books and 40,000kg of clothing. Kim and Louisa said that the packs are a gift not a handout. Thousands of people have donated good quality used clothing.



How can we help?

Donate good quality clothing from prem – size 16 child/small adult and encourage others to do the same, give financial support, become a volunteer or encourage preschools, schools, or work places to have a clothing drive.

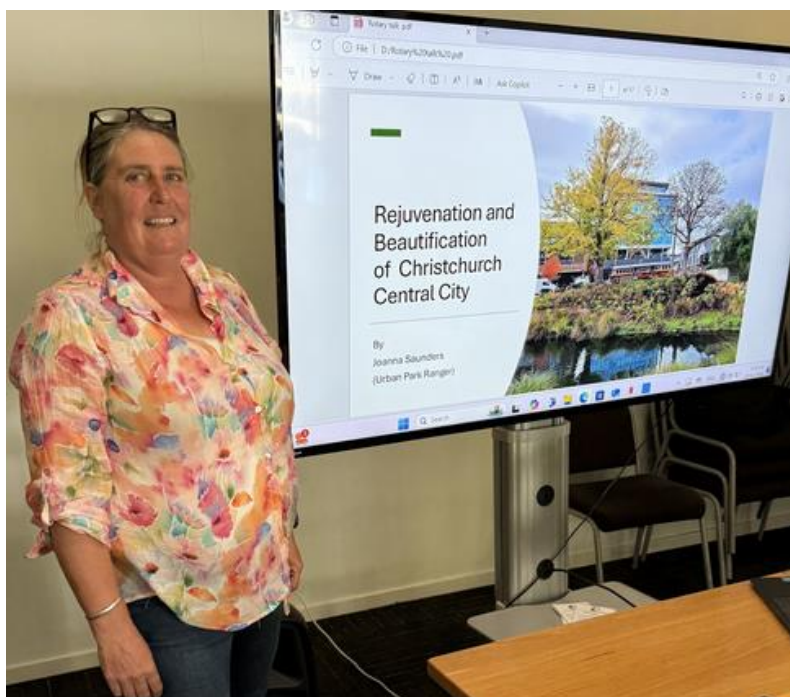
For more information go to:

www.clothedinlove.org.nz or
clothedinlovechch@gmail.com

'If everyone can do a little then together we can achieve a lot.'

Thanks to Viv for the report and photos

- SPEAKER REPORT [delayed from] 19 FEBRUARY 2025



Guest speaker 19 February 2025, CCC Ranger Joanna Saunders.

Rejuvenation and beautification of the Central City Gardens and Landscapes – an address to our Rotary Club by Joanna Saunders on 19 February 2025

Jo grew up on a farm and after a stint teaching, travelling and farming she chose to become a city council park ranger involved in the beautification of parts of the Central City, particularly along the Avon River. She took us on a pictorial journey through the central city garden network with each part presenting different challenges resulting from human, rat and geese intrusion and in some cases poor soils.

The Avon River at Durham Street Bridge

A problem here is that during rainy periods the river rises quickly and soil enriched with compost was brought in and planted with native species that do not mind getting their feet wet. Jo showed us before and after pictures of the steep river bank showing a remarkable improvement.

Bridge of Remembrance Terrace

Due to the shallow and hard soils here, the area was composted, augured and replanted with *Carex*, a grass-like sedge along the river edge. These grasses overhang the river providing shade and protection to native *Galaxia* fish and eels. Higher up the bank other native plants are protected by a chain barrier to keep over-exuberant human traffic from the surrounding bars off the plants. Jo informed us that in order to control weeds in the urban gardens, the city council uses an organic alternative to the glyphosphate Roundup which is suspected to be a carcinogen. The cabbage trees on the banks are “de-thatched” to neaten them up and prevent lawn mowers becoming entangled in

fallen leaves – a problem Alan Airey says he encounters. Personally, I find they offer great hiding places for nesting birds when they are on the tree and once fallen, a great way to start your braai fire.

Avon River corridor and East Frame

Here, organic waste was removed and hardy grasses and natives like flaxes were planted after composting and loosening of the hard substrate

Victoria Square

The flower garden here is planted with annuals and although not native, they give great pleasure as anyone passing through this area would know. The colourful display is an asset to the central city enjoyed by locals and tourists frequenting the nearby Te Pae convention centre and equally busy Ritz Plaza hotel. Jo showed us slides of beautiful displays but even here there are inner city problems and rats which prey particularly on tulip bulbs have to be kept at bay with rat traps placed in the undergrowth.

Friendship Corner

This 2,000m² green reserve at the intersection of Oxford Terrace and Durham street is also known as the Avon River Precinct Event Space. As it is located centrally, it is a great venue in which to hold outdoor events but droppings left by the Canada geese frequenting the area are a problem. These large exotic birds are loved by some due to the melodious honking they make when flying in formation overhead but others want them culled but this is of course very difficult to do in the inner city.

In thanking her, it was noted that it was great to see our rates being spent on a project as rewarding as the one headed by Jo and her team in their efforts to beautify the central city, an area with unique problems not encountered elsewhere such as the Botanical Gardens.

Thanks to Geoff for the report and Viv for the photograph.

Upcoming Meetings

5/03/2025	Jamie Hanton	Toi Ōtautahi – bringing together the city's creative stories
12/03/2025	Sara Mackenzie	Our Collaboration & Achievements with Bali Rotary – International Committee Sara Mackenzie
19/03/2025	Orana Park Visit	A Lyon - Orana Park Visit Vocational Committee

- **MARCH WALK/LUNCH – THURSDAY 20 MARCH**
- **John Taylor Walkway**
Saturday 12th April 2025
10 -12pm BBQ lunch afterwards.

- **Street Appeal Dates:**

Aviva

May 16th and 17th

Or

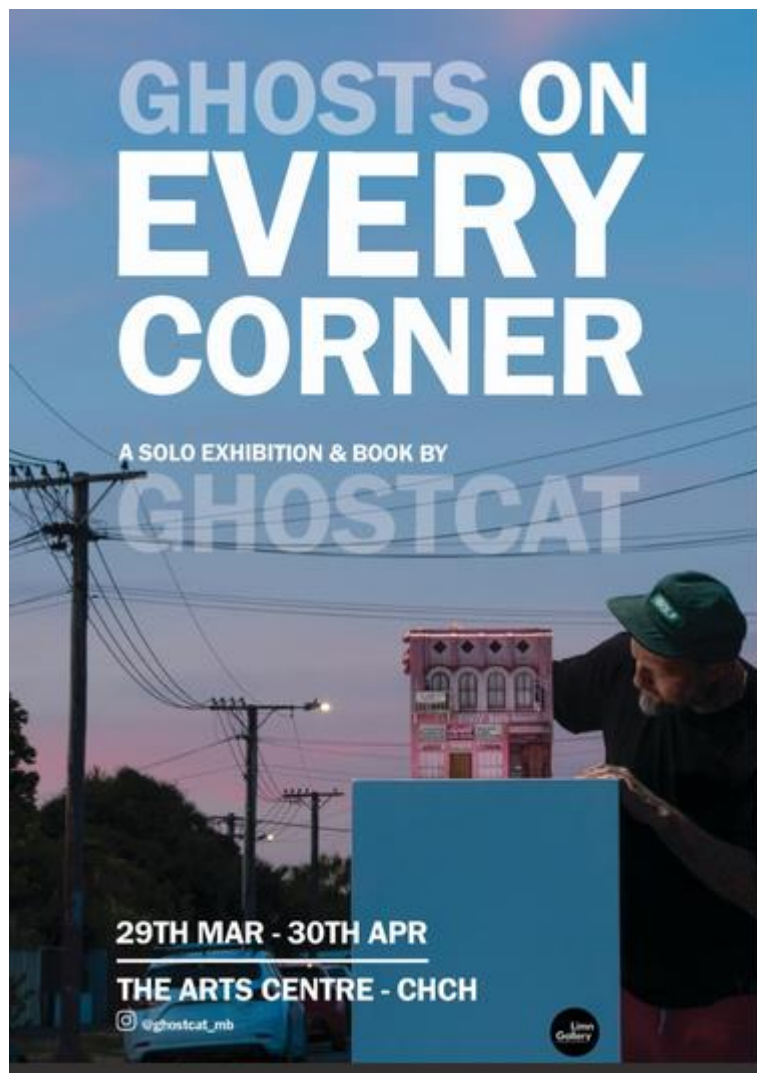
May 23rd and 24th.

New World, St. Martin's.

This date will all be confirmed nearer the time of the appeals.

- **Dates for the Pink Ribbon Street Appeal for 2025** – 17-18 October 2025.

Notices:





Growing Rotary
Workshop

Rotary
District 9999

SAVE THE DATE

8 MARCH 2025 9AM - 3.30PM
WINDSOR COMMUNITY CHURCH, 19 WINDSOR ST
INVERCARGILL

JOIN THE CONVERSATION
WORK TOGETHER ON PRACTICAL
SOLUTIONS TO MAKE YOUR CLUB GROW
WITH ONGOING SUPPORT FROM THE
DISTRICT 9999 GROWING ROTARY TEAM.

REGISTER YOUR INTEREST NOW
CONTACT NICK COURTNEY 021370256
OR JAN BOUSTEAD 0274515096

Duties:

Duty	5-Mar-25	12-Mar-25	19-Mar-25
Cash Desk	M Bruce	A McCully	#N/A
Cash Desk	H Garlick	D Peterson	#N/A
Reception	A Kim	V Ellis	#N/A
Speaker's Host	G Dockrill	G Bailey	#N/A
Grace	G Dockrill	G Bailey	#N/A
International Toast	A Kim	V Ellis	#N/A
Thanks to Speaker	M Bruce	A McCully	#N/A
Quote for the Week	H Garlick	D Peterson	#N/A
Speaker Reporter	A Airay	M Opie	A McKinnon
Sergeant	M Opie	M Bruce	#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/>

Reminders:

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.