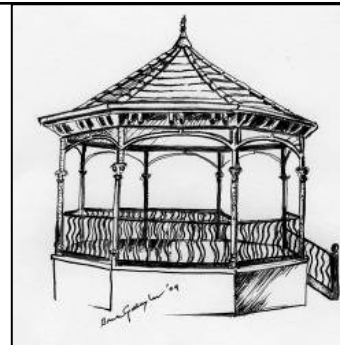




Canterbury Tales

Rotary Club of Canterbury
PO Box 314 Canterbury VIC 3126
Website: www.canterburyrotary.org
facebook: www.facebook.com/CanterburyRotary



President - Nora Ley

Mob: 0419 506 177

president@canterburyrotary.org

Volume 30 – Issue 15 – 15 October 2015

Meeting

Mondays 6:00pm for 6:30pm
Bass Centre,
2 Rochester Rd, Canterbury
Unless otherwise stated in Diary

Register for Meeting

Guests and Club Members can
Register on the following links
[Register for Meeting](#)
[Register and Pay Online](#)

Apologies

[Notify Meeting Apology](#)

**prior to 10AM Monday*

Graham Bishop

Mobile 0412 154 540

rotaryclubofcanterbury@gmail.com

Advise Graham of a long absence

The Rotary Radio Show
Fridays 6pm to 8pm

3WBC
94.1 FM

The Aussie Pride Badge



Secretary – John Braine

Ph: 0411 1156 129

secretary@canterburyrotary.org

Editor – Max Holland

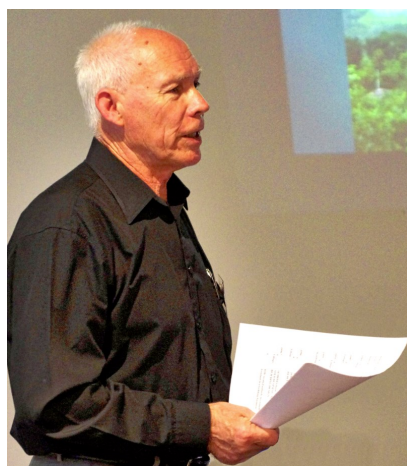
Ph: 0428 477 488

bulletin@canterburyrotary.org



President's Message

Ray Jones, our guest speaker on Monday told of a chance meeting and 15 minute conversation, then a big leap of faith that has led to a strong supportive bond with a young Nepalese man, named Mahesh. Through Mahesh's drive there have been incredible outcomes for his remote isolated community of Mirge in the eastern part of Nepal on the way to the Everest Base Camp.



Ray Jones

The full story of Ray's involvement with Mahesh and the Mirge Village in Nepal is given later in the Bulletin. The contributions of Ray and his wife along with other international sponsors have helped the Mirge village community setup and run the *Mirge Health Post* and the *Laligurash Bright Future English School*.

Prof Chris O'Brien and his wife of the UK have been primary sponsors of the Health Post. Provision of health services, particularly in rural areas, is constrained by low government spending, rugged terrain and lack of health education. There is a program for international health related volunteers to assist local staff provide basic medical services with details of this program at the following link www.volunteerruralnepal.org.

The school is located next to the Health Post and aims to provide primary education for all those deprived of

education because of poor economic conditions or for those students who lost family through war. The school is not funded by the government and relies on international sponsors and monies from those parents that can pay school fees. Tuition is in English as the village community see that as the best way forward for the advancement of the children within the world community.

The Philippines Medical Mission on Facebook

Follow the progress of our 19th annual Philippines Medical Mission to Masbate on Facebook by clicking the following link www.facebook.com/CanterburyRotary. You don't need a Facebook account to read all about the great work that is being done - there are updates each day and lots of terrific photos. Also if you do have a Facebook account, please Like and write comments.

The President of the Rotary Club of Kew, George Verginis, will be with us next Monday. The next speaker is Lindsey Ritchie from Foodbank Victoria who will talk about that organisation which delivers nutritious, healthy food to individuals and families experiencing hardship.

Have a good week and I look forward to seeing everyone next Monday.

Nora

Speaker and Activities Program

Monday October 19

Speaker: Lindsey Ritchie, **"Foodbank - Help Fight Hunger in Australia"**

Monday October 26

Speaker: Daniel Kuzeff, **"Mental Health Issues Amongst Melbourne Youth"**

Monday November 2

Speaker: Roger Taylor, **"What sort of future should we be planning for?"**

Monday November 9

Speaker: Jeff Cox, **"Health and Nutrition"**

Monday November 16

Speaker: Tony Kjar: **"My Artic Journey"**

Sunday Market 7am – 1pm

October 18 - Neil Williams, John Richards, Lili-Ann Kreigler

October 25 - Doug Hawley, Helen Harnett, Kyle Wightman

November 1 - David Zrna, Brian Bloomer, Annette Brownscombe

Contact Tony Simpson for all roster changes and requests, Home 9417 3995, Mob 0488 380 899

Please be on time as if you are late, our Club pays \$50 penalty for each half hour or part thereof.



Be a gift
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Canterbury Tales
Rotary Club of Canterbury

The Next Speaker - Lindsey Ritchie

Lindsey Ritchie is the development coordinator at [Foodbank Victoria](#). She is passionate about social justice and before joining Foodbank she had experience working in developing communities throughout Australia, South-East Asia and the Middle East.

Foodbank Victoria is the leading and most efficient food relief charity in the state providing the equivalent of about 46,000 meals per day to people in crisis. Foodbank collects excess food from farmers, manufacturers and wholesalers. The food is a mixture of top quality, end-of-line, mislabeled and overrun stock - all of which is suitable to eat. Much of the fresh fruit and vegetables are acquired through an affiliation with the [Melbourne Market Authority](#) which has recently moved to Epping. Foodbank works with almost 500 community partners with the majority relying on volunteers to perform critical tasks in the storage and distribution of food. Limited community infrastructure for food storage and distribution is a problem and initiatives have been taken through Mobile FoodShare which delivers food to families in inner-city Melbourne and Community FoodShare supplying food in regional Victoria.



Arthritis Talk and Morning Tea at Basscare Centre

Are you interested in hearing more about Arthritis? Do you want to find out about ways you can live well with the musculo-skeletal condition? Then come along to the Basscare Centre to hear a speaker from Arthritis Victoria on Wednesday 21 October 2015. Morning Tea starts at 10:15am and the talk starts at 11:00am. Entry is by gold coin donation. Bookings are essential, so call the [Canterbury Neighbourhood Centre](#) to register on phone 9830 4214 or send an email to office@canterburynh.org.au.



Canterbury Neighbourhood Centre

Big Greek Charity Dinner



Fundraising, in conjunction with the combined Rotary Clubs of Athens will help provide urgent medical consumables for the benefit of the thousands of recent homeless refugees arriving in Greece!

When: Friday 6th November 2015

Where: Yiannis's Tavern, 840 High Street, Kew
(just down from Burke Road)

Time: 7:00pm till Midnight

Cost: \$75.00 per head

Fundraising: Live and silent auctions

RSVP: 4th November or until booked out

Bookings & Donations: www.trybooking.com/163215

Enjoy: Fabulous Greek food, with drinks included (Beer, Wine & Soft Drinks) PLUS live music

Contact: Carl Zammit on 0418 328 499 for dietary requirements and seating

Rotary Club of Kew

www.rotaryclubofkew.org.au





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Canterbury Tales

Rotary Club of Canterbury

Sue Clifford's Milne Bay Province Trip

Thank you to my fellow Canterbury Rotarians. With your assistance we have changed some lives in the remote villages of PNG. Miriam is delighted with her new stroller donated by STEM, sunglasses were in great demand and particularly vital for Ryan who is an albino, locals were walking away delighted that they could see again after collecting either reading or distance glasses. Many small children were delighted with a new toothbrush. Particular thanks go to Michael Chong, David Chudasko, Gerry and Kate Cross and their daughter, Nora Ley, Peter May, Donations in Kind and my Club members who always support my ideas.

In addition, the partnership between Melbourne Girls Grammar, Rotary, Days for Girls and Project Holy Name is the beginning of a very exciting venture in Papua New Guinea.

Sue



The Around the Bay Bike Ride

On Sunday 11 October the Canterbury Rotary Bike Riding Team of Max Holland, Neil Williams, John Eddison and Mal Short completed the 100km Melbourne to Frankston and back ride of the 2015 Around the Bay Event.

This year there were 14 rides of varying distances from 20km up to 251km and in total 10,726 riders successfully completed their ride.

The riders had an electronic tag to automatically record the start and finish time. Each rider's name was announced over the loudspeakers as they finish and the rider was then presented with a completion medallion on a ribbon to hang around the neck. A really great day with ideal weather conditions.



District 3820
Rotary
Club of Masbate
PHILIPPINES



District 9800
Rotary
Club of Canterbury
AUSTRALIA

Friendship and Sisterhood between the Rotary Club of Masbate and Rotary Club of Canterbury

with the cooperation of the LGUs of Masbate Province
and City of Masbate and the generous Masbatenos lead to
the realization of hospital beds and some equipment for the
Diocesan Hospital of San Antonio De Padua

OCTOBER 14, 2015





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Canterbury Tales
Rotary Club of Canterbury

The Story of Mahesh and Mirge Village

The story began in 2005 when Ray Jones, a teacher from Lilydale High School, a keen artist, was sketching during his relaxation and acclimatization period in the city of Leh, in the Himalayan Kingdom State of Kashmir in India. Ray had a 15 minute conversation with Mahesh who readily told him that he was currently fulfilling the role as trekker guide but he originally came from Mirge, a remote village in Nepal. His village's existence was very basic where they owned their land and had poorly constructed homes with minimal amenities. There was no employment and they used a bartering subsistence. From 1996 to 2005 the villagers had been tormented and lived in fear because they were subjected to unrealistic demands by the People's Liberation Army for money, food and shelter. There were 200,000 people killed during that time.

Mahesh told Ray of how he had started a shop at aged 10 with a small amount of money from his uncle and how he used the money from selling produce and with the support of a scholarship was able to continue his secondary education. He then went on to study building construction. He was the first one in his village to complete his secondary and tertiary education. He was married at the age of 16 to a village girl, aged 18 and they now had 2 children. Mahesh is a Tamil, a low Indian cast and hence his wages and opportunity for promotion in the building construction industry were very limited as higher roles were always given to higher cast people. He wanted the best for his family and fellow villagers and hence studied at night school to become a qualified trekking guide to increase his financial opportunities. He shared his dreams for his village with Ray and told of an English couple, Helen and Chris, who had donated money for the construction of a Health Post. He proudly stated that he had a hotmail address that he used in Internet Cafés and gave his contact details to Ray. They both parted and continued on their own paths.

On his return to Australia, Ray couldn't help but think about this young man and his desires and commitments for his family and fellow villagers and so sent him some parcels of goods. He found that the parcels were very expensive to post and he never knew if the items he sent were appropriate or relevant for the needs of the villagers. This was despite Mahesh readily responding each time by email to thank him for his kind contributions. Ray thought that there had to be a better way to support the village, so by email he asked Mahesh what he would like. The response back was: "You can send me money. Thank you for your help, it's for the future of my children". Believing him to be genuine, Ray and his wife sent some money.

Communication via email continued but deciphering the meaning of the contents was always a little challenging. On one occasion, Mahesh advised that at a village meeting he had been appointed to run the Health Post and he was now undertaking two years of study to become equivalent to a paramedic. The Health Post was able to be constructed with money from the English couple but the government would not provide any funds to run the post without a qualified person to take the responsibility and accountability for running the post - hence Mahesh's studies. On another occasion in 2008, Ray receives another email that stated Mahesh was working in a school at the village. Ray was utterly confused by this news. Was Mahesh running the Health Post or was he now a teacher? Mahesh's village commitment was verified by a Brisbane couple visiting Mirge. They send supporting photographs that clarified Mahesh was indeed working in a school but as the construction person and not as a teacher. The building had 4 classrooms and a dry stone construction made from the local slate with no mortar and the interior is covered with mud. The couple also confirmed that Mahesh was hard working and was recognized as a leader in his village. The school was a testament to the commitment that education would improve the standards for all in the community. The sign on the school stated "*Laligurash Bright Future English Language Boarding School*" – a dream for Mahesh. Currently 250 students, aged 4 to 12 years attend classes of which 45% do not pay any school fees and the teachers receive a small salary payment from the government. The classes are all taught in English as the villagers see that this will provide the best opportunity for the students in the future.

The standard of Mahesh's home had also improved and it had a western style bathroom for visitors but only had cold running water and even though it had a toilet, it was non flushing! Mahesh is also proud that his brother is currently studying in China to be a Doctor and will return to the village after qualifying.

Unfortunately, the school along with all the other dry stone village buildings were destroyed in the 2014 earthquake. After-shocks continued for many days. Since then newer construction methods are used that can withstand future earthquakes. Reconstruction of many buildings are currently underway but in the meantime families, including Mahesh's, are living under plastic covered structures with minimal amenities. However, school classes were recommenced within two days of the earthquake.

Although time constraints put an end to Ray's presentation, it is obvious that Ray has faith that Mahesh will use any money received wisely and cleverly to ensure the most benefit for his village. Further information about the Mirge village can be found on www.volunteerruralnepal.org or Ray Jones can be contacted personally on RJon9991@bigpond.net.au.



Joined-Up Rotary
The five Victorian Rotary Districts invite Rotarians and Partners
to attend a once in a lifetime event

AN EVENING WITH JOHN GERM



Come and join Rotary International President Elect John Germ and Judy in a spectacular Melbourne setting at Etihad Stadium. A unique opportunity to meet and understand John as the man and as the Rotarian. As RI President Elect John will informally share with us his life and journey to Rotary President and give us an insight into his Rotary vision for 2016-17.

This will be a special opportunity for Club Presidents for 2016-17 but all Rotarians will enjoy the opportunity to join in this occasion.

Date:

Wednesday 18th November 2015

Time:

6.30 pm reception for dinner at 7.00pm to 10.00pm

Venue:

Limelight Room, Level D , Gate 4
Etihad Stadium, Docklands VIC 3008

Cost:

\$70 per person

Two course dinner includes welcome drink on arrival

Cash Bar available for your other drinks

RSVP

2nd November 2015

Book early – it is easy to book and with only 250 attendees everyone can be close to the centre of the room

Dress: Jacket and Tie preferred

Enquiries:

Ian Salek 0418 176 493 or Peter Rogers 0412 537 534

Bookings

www.trybooking.com/JFYK



Rotary



Detailed travel, parking and access to Etihad are on the attached map.

Parking at Etihad is \$15 flat rate – enter after 5pm.

Accommodation

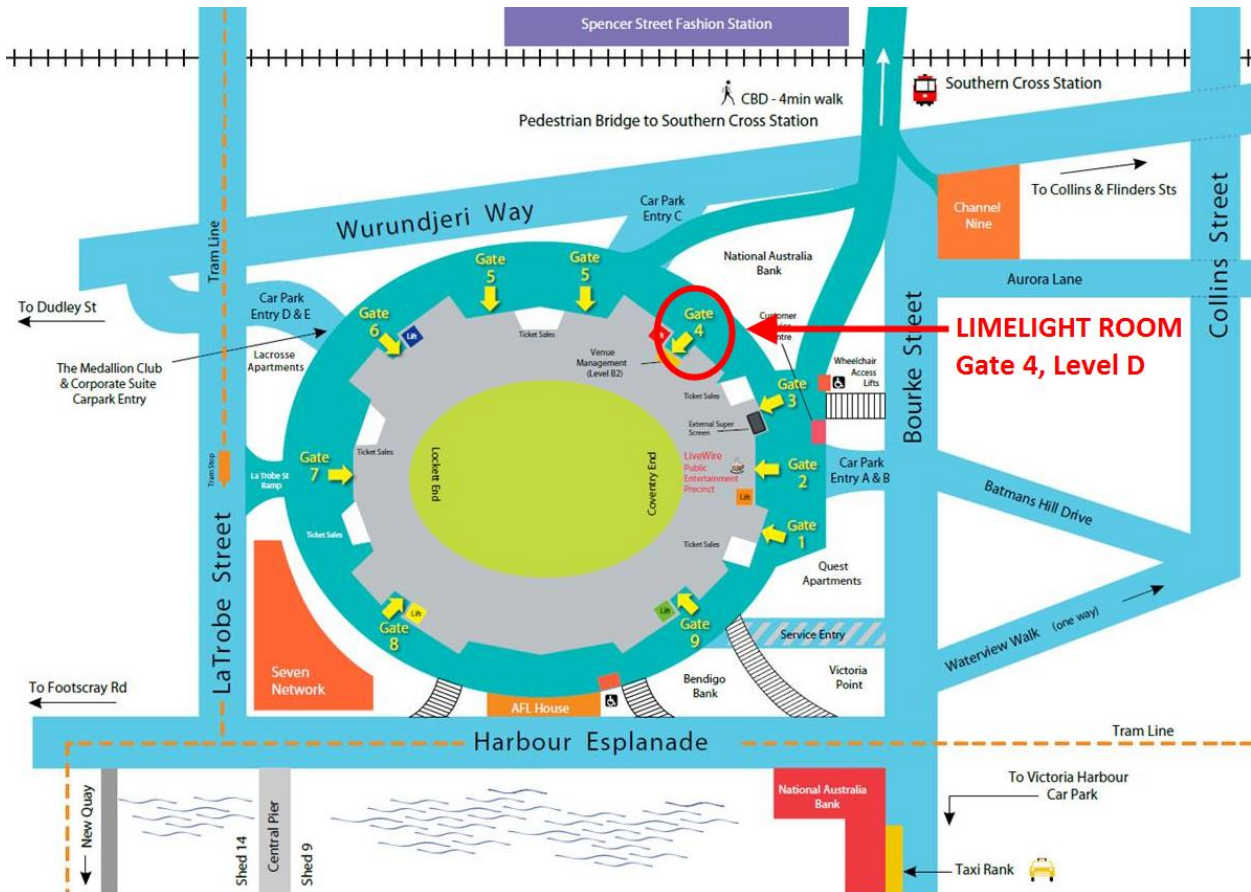
If you want to make a night of it, Etihad Stadium recommends the following properties which are within close walking distance to the stadium.

Sebel & Grand Mercure, Docklands, Quest Docklands, Travelodge Hotel Docklands

Etihad Stadium is central and easy to access by tram, train, or car wherever you live – from Ballarat to Broadmeadows, Geelong to Greensborough or Mornington to Manningham

Functions & Conferences

HOW TO GET TO THE LIMELIGHT ROOM



By Private Vehicle

- Enter the Etihad Stadium car park via **Bourke Street - Car Park Entry A** (left ramp)
- When you enter the car park, park to the right side of the venue and proceed to **Gate 4**
- Take the lift to the **Level D**

By Taxi

- Direct the taxi to stop at Bourke Street side of the venue
- Proceed up the steps and turn to your right, proceeding to **Gate 4**
- Take the lift to the **Level D**

By Train

- Cross the Bourke Street Pedestrian Bridge from Southern Cross Station
- When you get to the stadium, turn to your right, proceeding to **Gate 4**
- Take the lift to the **Level D**

By Tram

- The Bourke Street, Collins Street, La Trobe Street and City Circle trams can be utilised to get to Etihad Stadium. Please refer to the map once you alight the tram to ascertain the direction you need to travel to and around the venue to get to **Gate 4**
- Take the lift to the **Level D**