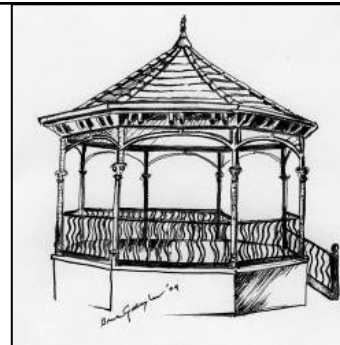




Canterbury Tales

Rotary Club of Canterbury
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Volume 32 – Issue 42 – 21 June 2018

Meeting

Mondays 6:00pm for 6:30pm
Basscare 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 Friday*

Graham Bishop

Mobile 0412 154 540

graham.bishop@canterburyrotary.org

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

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Editor – Max Holland

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The 2017 Philippines Medical Mission

Last Monday evening Ms Nevena Andric gave a presentation of her experience and that of her three colleagues, Maria Tomanoska, Han Nguyen and Jenny Kanarison on our Club's 21st annual medical mission in 2017 to the Philippines. Nevena and her colleagues were 4th year students when they went on the mission but since then they have all graduated as orthoptists.

Nevena gave an outstanding talk and encapsulated all the many different aspects that the trip offered. The mission was held in Southern Palawan. Nevena first of all explained what an orthoptist does with eyes and then described some memorable special cases of people seen



Nevena Andric

during the trip including some short videos of actual operations to surgically remove cataracts and pterygiums. This provoked some shrieks from the audience. She also talked about the friendships made with Rotarians both in Australia and in the Philippines, the welcoming nature of Filipinos, the wonderful work of the Cataract Foundation of the Philippines and the many fun aspects of the trip. She thanked the Club for giving her a wonderful experience.

The broad statistics of the 2017 mission were as follows:

Eyes

People Screened	1,620
Cataracts surgically removed	195
Pterygiums removed	110
Reading Glasses provided	2,200

Ears

Children screened	about 6,200
Children treated for impacted wax	25%
Children treated for otitis media infection	3.4%
Children treated for perforated ear drums	2.4%
Children treated with foreign objects in ears	1.1%

Maria, Han and Jenny are now working out of Melbourne and so were unfortunately unable to attend the meeting. However, they all provided the following unsolicited written testimonials describing of what the trip meant to them.

Maria:

One of my most memorable moments was observing and assisting the very talented Filipino ophthalmologists! They were all so passionate and willing to teach us. Any questions we had about specific patients and surgeries they would answer with great detail that helped us better understand concepts. They also loved quizzing us and asking questions as they performed surgeries. It was a good way to test our knowledge.

Speaker and Activities Program

Monday June 25

Monday July 2

Monday July 9

Monday July 16

Monday July 23

The Rotary Club of Canterbury Changeover Dinner

Speaker: Max Holland, **"Canterbury Rotary Bike Riders - The Bike Paths of Melbourne"**

The Camberwell Rotary Art Show Fellowship Night

Speaker: Ken James, **"History of Mechanics' Institutes in Victoria"**

Speaker: Helen Botham, **"La Trobe's Cottage Garden"**

Sunday Market 7am – 1pm

June 24 - John Braine/Janet Hay, Andrew Mastrowicz, Graham Bishop

July 1 - Gerry Cross, Max Holland, Han Nguyen

July 8 - Rosemary Waghorne/Ted Waghorne, Bill Granger/Sue Osborne, Kyle Wightman

July 15 - John McCaskill/Greg Vero, Chris James/Kathleen Stapleton, Rob Simpson

Contact Janet Hay for all roster changes and requests, Mob 0411 411 732

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

The 2017 Philippines Medical Mission - continued

Maria:

I remember on one occasion during the removal of a very dense cataract a tear in the posterior capsule occurred. Generally in cataract surgery the anterior capsule of the lens is peeled open to allow the lens to be removed. A posterior tear can make implanting the new lens very difficult as a tear, even if very small, can cause vitreous fluid to seep through and push on the new lens. Once the tear was identified the ophthalmologist was required to complete a vitrectomy. This meant removing some of the vitreous fluid to lessen the force on the new lens. Luckily the tear was not very big. This meant the new lens could be put into the capsule. It was amazing to see how the ophthalmologists performed all the surgeries without the assistance from technology and were able to troubleshoot with the limited resources available. I am so grateful for the amazing opportunity the Rotary Club provided us with.

Jenny:

The Philippines trip was the most amazing, eye opening and heart warming thing I have done. From the get go, the Rotary Club of Canterbury and the friends of Rotary made us feel welcome. We instantly felt part of a team, and had so much support. The work we did could be tiring, as they were long, hot days, however we did it together and always had each other to turn to. Every morning I would leap out of bed at 5 am ready for the day. The thing I felt most was a sense of purpose. We were genuinely helping people and it really gave me a drive to power through each day that I had never experienced before. After each day we would unwind and debrief alongside the cataract foundation of the Philippines team and the ophthalmologists. So overall, not only did the Philippines mission allow me to learn and expand on my knowledge of orthoptics, but it gave me a sense of purpose, made me want to become a better person and allowed me to form strong bonds with fellow team members. Above all- the memories of that trip will last a life time.

Han:

The Philippines Medical Mission trip with the Rotary Club of Canterbury was no doubt the most memorable experience and a significant milestone of my life. Every single day of the trip my heart was filled with so much joy, happiness and wonderful experiences. The trip was honestly the best time of my life. I've never felt that my life is so meaningful and truly happy until I came on the trip. When the trip first started, I was still shy and tended to keep to myself. However, everyone in the group was so welcoming and encouraged me to open up and share my life stories and my feelings. I always learned so much from the conversations I had with the rotarians, friends and doctors. I really admired their personality, success, energy, humbleness and their wonderful sense of community. I have changed so much since the first day of the trip. I came out of my shell to get more involved with the group and enjoy every moment to the fullest. I've grown so much both professionally and personally from the experiences of the trip and they are a significant milestone that I will never forget. I would like to thank the Rotary Club of Canterbury and Rotary friends for the wonderful experience that made my life so meaningful and complete.



Sarah Prossor, Han Nguyen, Jenny Kanaris, Nevena Andric, Maria Tomanoska and Jason Thomas

President's Message

The meeting on Monday was attended by a large number of guests including: David Rhodes and David McFadyen from the Rotary Club of Balwyn; Tony Laycock; Loretta Lamb, Eugene Fitzwilliam (Fitzy), Nicola Hay, and Jenni Fenton, all participants in past Philippines Medical Missions; and Sarah Cleveland and Susan Smith from Swinburne, with whom we are looking towards a close working relationship. Nevena Andric, one of the four orthoptic students from La Trobe University who participated in last year's Eye and Ear Screening Mission, delivered an engaging talk about her experiences in Palawan, the westernmost island in the Philippines archipelago, where the screenings took place.

Sadly, the meeting on Monday was my last meeting as President, but I gladly hand over the very vibrant Rotary Club of Canterbury to our President Elect, the most able and adorable, Steve Wylie.

Rob