



**ROTARY  
SERVING  
HUMANITY**

# Canterbury Tales

**Rotary Club of Canterbury**  
PO Box 314 Canterbury VIC 3126  
Website: [www.canterburyrotary.org](http://www.canterburyrotary.org)  
facebook: [www.facebook.com/CanterburyRotary](https://www.facebook.com/CanterburyRotary)  
Twitter: <https://twitter.com/rccanterbury1>



**President - Doug Hawley**

Mob: 0411 100 776

[president@canterburyrotary.org](mailto:president@canterburyrotary.org)

**Volume 31 – Issue 34 – 16 March 2017**

## 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 Monday*

## Mal Short

Mobile 0404 805 933

[malcolm.short@canterburyrotary.org](mailto:malcolm.short@canterburyrotary.org)

*Advise Mal 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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## The Twentieth Philippines Medical Mission

At the last Dinner Meeting, we enjoyed a wonderful evening with a delightful presentation from two of the four students whom the Rotary Club of Canterbury sponsored last year on our Club's Twentieth Eye and Ear Screening Mission to the Philippines - Oubada El-Ali and Regina Yuen.

In October last year, our screening team visited the island of Mindoro with four orthoptic students who were in their final year at La Trobe University. They are now all successfully and happily employed as fully qualified orthoptists. The other two students - Lachlan Wheelhouse Knight and Sarah Walters - were unavailable to join them as they were working interstate.

During the presentation, Obi and Regi admitted that participating in the mission was very hard work, starting at 8am and sometimes not finishing until midnight, but agreed that their experience was invaluable. They expressed keen interest in returning and offering more assistance in the future.

Maria Dimkopoulos, a fully qualified orthoptist and one of our team members last year and who was able to provide invaluable assistance to the students during the mission, joined the presentation to provide a short outline of her experiences. Together they spoke of their amazement at how the people from the towns who came for screening and subsequent treatment were incredibly patient and absolutely overwhelmed, delighted and most grateful to be able to see again. They also agreed how it was certainly a life changing experience for all concerned.

We thank Obi, Regi and Maria for giving up their time to share their experiences with the Club. We also thank those friends of Rotary present at the meeting who participated in our Philippine missions - Eugene Fitzwilliam, Loretta Lamb, Jennni Fenton and Nicola Hay with her husband Paul, including past members Jim Clements and Peter Evans.



*Oubada El-Ali, Regina Yuan, Maria Dimkopoulos and President Elect Rob Simpson*

## Speaker and Activities Program

Monday March 20

Monday March 27

Monday April 3

Monday April 10

Speaker: Carol Martyn, **"Decluttering"**, Chair: Graeme Hindhaugh

Vocational Visit to Chad Plaster & Facades

Speaker: Carolyn Pethick, **"To Hell and Back - A Policewoman's Story"**,

Chair: Val Cuniffe

**"You be the Judge"** interactive educational session with Chris Gill as facilitator from the Victorian Sentencing Advisory Council. **Please note the earlier start of 5:30 for 6:00pm.**

## Sunday Market 7am – 1pm

March 19 - Rob Simpson, Rick Western, Sue Osborne/Annette Brownscombe

March 26 - Roger Taylor, Lili-Ann Kreigler, David Chudasko

April 2 - Anne Josefsberg, David Zrna, John MacCaskill/Greg Vero

**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.**



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## President's Message

We probably had our Club's biggest meeting of the year with 60 people there. We had a great attendance by members, their partners and Friends of Rotary. We also had the visiting Group Vocational Exchange team from District 3820 in the Philippines. This District has special significance for our Club as it is within the geographic area that we have undertaken our medical missions for the last four years on the islands of Masbate and Mindoro. In addition, we had the Presidents of Rotary Clubs of Balwyn and Camberwell, Kevin Walsh and Nick Pane respectively, together with David Jones, the incoming President of the Rotary Club of Balwyn. We also had a visit from Sarah Prossor from the local Senior Rovers.

Many members have indicated that the night was a huge success with quite an excited "buzz" throughout the meeting.

## The First Medical Mission

The theme of the evening was the report on our Twentieth Annual Medical Mission to the Philippines, held last October. Tony Simpson got us off on a good note by showing some photos of the first team of which he and his wife, Jennie, were team members. He also recounted that when the team was being trained by Jill Keefe on how to recognise a cataract, it was difficult to find people in Australia who had mature cataracts that the team would see in the Philippines. People in the Philippines having mature cataracts are almost totally blind and totally dependent on their extended family for daily living. Jill came to rescue and provided her dog for examination as he had quite advanced cataracts. It was quite a sight (an unfortunate pun!) to see this patient dog allowing team members to shine pen lights in his eyes.

## The Orthoptist Students talk about the 2016 Mission

Our speakers for the night were Regina Yuen and Obi El-Ali. They were two of the four students that our Club sponsored for the Mission. While students at the time, they have now completed their studies and are working as qualified orthoptists. The other two students, Sarah Walters and Lachlan Wheelhouse-Knight, are now working as orthoptists in Adelaide and could not attend the evening. Regina and Obi gave a very interesting talk as they reflected upon the Mission and what that they go out of it. They indicated that they worked very hard, sometimes to 11pm in the evenings. However, they both found the experience amazing as they recognised their efforts were changing the lives of the poorest of the poor from one of total dependence to one of independence. They were particularly impressed with our team ophthalmologists who were on several evenings operating until 2am in the morning. Maria Dimkopoulos, who came on the mission as a practicing orthoptist in Melbourne, also reflected upon the pleasure it gave her on the trip to be able to make such a difference in peoples' lives.

Both Regina and Obi shared their favourite patient stories of the Mission with us. Regina's story was about a young girl of about 9 years of age who was blind in one eye. This eye appeared to be much smaller than her good eye. She was very subconscious about the appearance of her smaller eye. Dr Mario investigated her condition and indicated that there was nothing he could do about the sight as the young girl was born with the condition. However, he could improve her appearance by replacing the smaller eye with an artificial eye. By coincidence he found that he had a suitable artificial eye in the bottom of his bag (as you would likely do!) that was of both the appropriate size and colour. The young girl had the eye inserted and her joy was wonderful to see as she examined her new appearance in a mirror. Obi's story was about an older gentleman who presented at the Mission and was apparently blind as he was using a stick to feel his way into a chair. He also had his shoes on the wrong feet, a clear symptom that not all was right with his vision. He had mature cataracts removed from both eyes. When he had the bandages removed and he could see he remarked to Obi, "Oh, you are a foreigner", which he had not appreciated previously due to his blindness. He also had his shoes on the right feet.

## The 2016 Medical Mission Statistics

### Eyes

Number of people screened	1,400
Cataract surgeries	330
Pterygium Surgeries	124
Reading Glasses provided	Many
Sun Glasses provided	Many

### Ears

Primary school children screened	9,200	(including impacted wax, otitis media, perforated ear drums, fungal infections and foreign objects)
Interventions required	30%	







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### President's Message - Continued

#### Twenty Year Statistics for the Philippines Medical Mission

##### Eyes

Number of people screened	33,000
Cataract surgeries	4,500
Pterygium Surgeries	1,160
Reading Glasses provided	Many
Sun Glasses provided	Many

##### Ears

Primary school children screened	84,000
Otitis media infections	2,600
Perforated ear drums	1,750
Impacted wax	23,000

##### Total Screened

**117,000**

##### Total Interventions

**33,000**



Regina and Obi thanked the Club for the support in providing them the opportunity for the amazing experience on the medical mission. They also indicated that both Sarah and Lachlan similarly asked that their appreciation for the trip be passed to the Club.

On a related subject, Paul Rogers and Rob Simpson kindly agreed to be guest speakers at the Rotary Club of Keilor East. They spoke about the Philippines Medical Missions. Thanks guys for doing this.

#### Four Sapphire Paul Harris Fellow Awarded to President Doug Hawley

On a personal note, I want to thank the Club for presenting me with a Four Sapphire Paul Harris Award on the Monday night. This was most unexpected but greatly appreciated.

As indicated on the night, I feel a little embarrassed by the Award as the achievements of the Philippines Medical Missions are really the result of the efforts of many Club Members over many years and not just me. In particular, Helen Stevens was a great stalwart over many years until recently when she had to retire from the missions to look after Alan's cattle.....not really, but she had to assist in managing the farm. All team members pay their own way and the cost of the students comes out of the money raised at the Camberwell Market which are earned by all members of the Club whenever they can.

I look forward to seeing you all next Monday when we will all find out about decluttering.

Doug



*Doug Hawley receiving his Four Sapphire Paul Harris Fellowship Award from John McCaskill*

#### The Rotary Club of Keilor East Meeting

Rob Simpson and Paul Rogers recently spoke to the Rotary Club of Keilor East about the 'Medical Missions to the Philippines' from 1997-2016 carried out by the Rotary Club of Canterbury in partnership with the Cataract Foundation of the Philippines, the Visayas hEARing Center and local Rotary Clubs. Reading glasses are provided by the Cataract Foundation and the lenses are manufactured in Nepal in a Fred Hollows Foundation factory.

Rob and Paul explained how the medical mission is undertaken and how the team screens the eyes and ears. They provided the impressive statistics of the number of the number of eye surgeries, reading glasses provided and ear issues treated over 20 years.



*Kay and Paul Rogers, Annie Webb and Rob Simpson*

#### The Radio Show and the 2016 Medical Mission

The Club Meeting about the Twentieth Philippines Medical Mission was recorded and an edited version will be broadcast on the Rotary & Community Service Radio Show from 6:00pm on Friday 24th March on 94.1FM 3WBC or online at:-

[www.3wbc.org.au](http://www.3wbc.org.au)



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### The Next Speaker - Carol Martyn

Carol Martyn is a Professional Organiser from Dr DeClutter who offer a personalised service specialising in organising homes and offices, wardrobes and papers. She assists people in reducing stress and gaining immediate results from implementing easy to use, low cost systems.

Clutter comes in several forms that are different and yet similar. Carol will talk about getting and staying organised and the 7 Secrets to Organising. If you spend more time looking for rather than using an item, then perhaps it's time to get organised.

Carol's website is [www.drdeclutter.com.au](http://www.drdeclutter.com.au) and there is a link to Media Articles on interesting issues that we all may face, such as "Where to Start When Downsizing", "Stress Free Moving", "Practical Solutions for Deceased Estates", "Kids Rooms", "Reducing Paper Clutter", "How to Declutter Your In Box" and "The state of your phone reveals the secret self".



### The President Elect Weekend at Ballarat

What a wonderful experience Karin and I had at Ballarat. I have now concluded that I know less about Rotary than I previously thought. As a result of now knowing what needs to be achieved for the Rotary Club of Canterbury to remain vibrant and active, it will require the support of all members, as well as our many "Friends of Rotary".

Whilst I recognise that many members of our Club are already fully committed in Rotary, business and personal life, there are numerous further opportunities for other members and friends to become involved many of the incredible activities we have on offer. If any member or friend of Rotary, has a special interest, I would be delighted to hear about their ideas.

Rob Simpson  
President Elect



### Canterbury Rotary Club 30th Birthday Celebrations

The Rotary Club of Canterbury will celebrate the Club's 30th Birthday and The Rotary Foundation's 100th Birthday at the Box Hill Golf Club Sunday 30th April 2017.

This is a social gathering during the afternoon from 1:30pm to 4:30pm of past and present Club members, fellow Rotarians, partners and friends. Gourmet food will be provided throughout the afternoon with a drink on arrival.

The cost is \$50 pp and you may book and pay for this event on the following trybooking links:

<https://www.trybooking.com/PGWN> or <https://www.trybooking.com/268281>

### Donations In Kind Open Day

The DIK Store will be opened on a Saturday to give the people who can't attend during the week the opportunity to see our District's largest hands-on project and to get a full understanding of the volume and type of goods that are available.

- If you have never seen your Store we guarantee that you will be impressed.
- Have you seen the extended Store; we now lease the whole building?
- Come, look and touch the equipment worth millions that is available for your projects.
- Over the last 16 years Clubs have shipped goods worth \$50 million to hundreds of projects.
- Come and join the party and inspect the 500th container.
- Saturday 8th of April 10:00am - 3:00pm, official (very short) speech at 12:30pm.
- It's a party so food and drink will be available.
- We hope you will be able to join us and share in the fun.
- For catering purposes please RSVP [dik.vic.rotary@gmail.com](mailto:dik.vic.rotary@gmail.com)

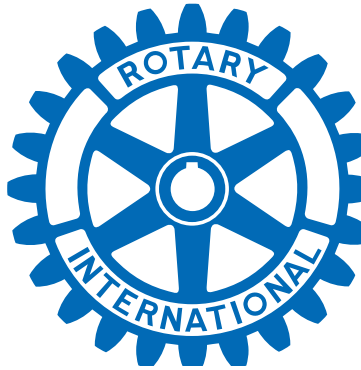


### The Rotary Lunchers

The next Rotary lunch is at the 'Milan Restaurant', 44 Cotham Road, Kew next Wednesday 22nd March at the usual time of 12:30pm.

'[Milan @ Kew Indian](#)' - it's an Indian restaurant that oozes class, style and originality, '25 years of Pure Indian Hospitality and Fine Food'. There are good value lunch time menu deals and it is fully licensed or you can BYO wine.

Let David Zrna know if you are coming [david.zrna@canterburyrotary.org](mailto:david.zrna@canterburyrotary.org) or 0467 033 092.



Help us celebrate shipping the  
**500<sup>th</sup> container**  
**this century!**



Join us on Saturday 8th of April 10.00 - 3.00  
Shed 40 / 400 Somerville Road, West Footscray  
(official short speech at 12.30)

It's a party so food and drink will be available  
We hope you will be able to join us and share in the fun.  
**Please RSVP for catering purposes to [dik.vic.rotary@gmail.com](mailto:dik.vic.rotary@gmail.com)**

The 500th Container is a major Rotary Foundation Centennial Event,  
it is your Rotary Foundation Centennial Container.