



**ROTARY
SERVING
HUMANITY**

Canterbury Tales

Rotary Club of Canterbury
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President - Doug Hawley

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president@canterburyrotary.org

Volume 31 – Issue 33 – 2 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
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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Laureate Professor Adrienne Clarke

Professor Adrienne Clarke addressed our Club last Monday night on the subject of “Experiences of a Scientist in Business and Government”. A large number of members and friends were in attendance. Adrienne was eminently qualified to talk on the subject as she has achieved so much in her professional life within business and Government. President Doug, in introducing Adrienne to the Club as a scientific colleague and friend, indicated just of few of her many achievements. As a scientist, her research is very highly regarded by her colleagues with some it being represented on the front page of “Nature”, the very prestigious scientific journal. In business Adrienne has been on the Boards of Woolworths, Alcoa and Western Mining. In Government, she has been the Chairman of CSIRO, Lieutenant Governor of Victoria and, more recently, she had just finished her term of 6 years as the Chancellor of La Trobe University.

In addressing the subject of her talk, Adrienne focused on how her training as a scientist helped her to contribute in the broader areas of business and Government. She broadly spoke on five areas where this was the case.

1. The Integrity of Science. She spoke of how the scientific process is based on basic honesty. Scientists publish the results of their research honestly and without bias in such a way that their experimental work can be reproduced by other researchers. A scientist’s proposed publication must first go through a system of peer review by eminent scientists to see if the research is significant and that the conclusions made are justified by the results obtained. She indicated that the peer review system has been very successful in very quickly determining if a scientist has been dishonest in some way in obtaining the results proposed to be published.

2. The Comfort of Ignorance. Scientists are very used to saying that they don’t understand what another person is presenting. They are trained to unambiguously examine the basis on which conclusions are drawn. A common question asked by scientists is, “What is the evidence that for?” Adrienne gave some examples in business and Government where a major business concept or indeed the whole business has been implemented, despite no real evidence being apparent on which the concept or business was based. She felt that this generally showed the power of promotion within a company and to the customer.



Professor Adrienne Clarke

Speaker and Activities Program

Monday March 6
Monday March 13
Monday March 20
Monday March 27
Monday April 3

The 2016 Philippines Medical Mission Presentation, Chair: Rob Simpson

Labour Day - No Meeting

Speaker: Carol Martyn, **“Decluttering”**, Chair: TBA

Vocational Visit to Chad Plaster & Facades

Speaker: Carolyn Pethick, **“To Hell and Back - A Policewoman’s Story”**, Chair: TBA

Sunday Market 7am – 1pm

March 5 - John Braine, Kathleen Stapleton/Chris James, Bill Granger/Lynn Steel

March 12 - Malcolm Short, Brian Bloomer, Andrew Mastrowicz

March 19 - Rob Simpson, Rick Western, Sue Osborne/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.



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Laureate Professor Adrienne Clarke - Continued

3. A Large Amount of Uncertainty Exists. Science proceeds on a pathway of Relative Uncertainty to Relative Certainty. It is rare that scientist will indicate that something is 100% correct. This pathway is preceded by testing and drawing conclusions on the results. Adrienne gave a few examples of how this pathway was applied to other areas of activity, including business and Government.

4. A Healthy Scientific Scepticism of so called Business or Government "Facts". When challenged by simply asking, "Where is the evidence?", the "facts" are not always so factual as presented.

5. The Benefit of Friends. Adrienne indicated that she has been greatly helped by having colleagues that she has sought advice from in one to one conversations about difficult decisions that needed to be made.

Many questions were received from members. One interesting scientific story was elaborated by Adrienne in which she indicated that an observation made in doing fundamental research on fertilisation of plants has led to patents being applied for a compound that may well become a cure for fungal infections of toe nails. The commercial development of this work is being undertaken by a biotechnology company that was formed to commercialise the research of Adrienne and her colleagues. She indicated that this was a good example of how pure research can lead to exciting new commercial opportunities.

President's Message

Laureate Professor Adrienne Clarke AC addressed our Club last Monday night on the subject of "Experiences of a Scientist in Business and Government". A large number of members and friends were in attendance. Adrienne was eminently qualified to talk on the subject as she has achieved so much in her professional life within business and Government. It was inspirational to hear how a scientist could successfully apply her training to other disciplines.

The Melbourne Rotary Showcase

Last Saturday morning, Rotary District 9800 held a Showcase of major Rotary Projects to the general public in the Atrium at Federation Square. Several members of our Club were engaged on several of the stands there including Bill Granger, Michael Chong, Jenni Nankervis, Gerry Cross and Rosemary Wagborne. The display was very professionally presented.

The Rotary Club of East Keilor

Last Monday evening, Paul Rogers and Rob Simpson were invited to talk on our medical missions to the Philippines to the Rotary Club of East Keilor. By all accounts, it was very well received. Thanks and well done guys!

The Philippines Medical Mission Presentation

Next Monday evening we will have another great meeting. It will be the report of our 20th Medical Mission to the Philippines. We had 23 people in our team last year and the results obtained were outstanding. Come along and bring friends and potential members as it will be a highlight meeting that demonstrates what our Club members and friends have helped achieve internationally.

There will be many visitors at the meeting so please go out of your way to make them all feel very welcome. Also, as the numbers will be large, please let Mal Short know before 10am Monday if you are bringing a partner or friend so that we cater for sufficient meals.

I look forward to seeing everyone next Monday.

Doug



The Canterbury Rotary Lunchers

The next Canterbury Rotary lunch will be at the [Box Hill RSL](#), 26-28 Nelson Road, Box Hill on Wednesday 8th March at the usual time of 12:30pm. There is free car parking for diners (not just members) at the Box Hill RSL with the carpark entrance from Nelson Road.

The Seniors Bistro menu is only \$14.00 with soup or desert \$2.50 each, also the venue is fully licensed with drinks at reasonable prices. The Box Hill RSL has excellent meals - click this link for the [Bistro Seniors Meals](#).

Please let Mal Short know if you are coming so that he can reserve a table at this very popular venue david.zrna@canterburyrotary.org or 0467 033 092.

