

Canterbury Tales

Rotary Club of Canterbury
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Volume 30 - Issue 17 - 29 October 2015

President's Message

Passion and enthusiasm for supporting youth was demonstrated last Monday by Daniel Kuzeff,

including his appreciation of the District 9790 Albury-Wodonga Rotary Club's support for his 1990 exchange year in Germany. He told of his own period of despair following his return to

Chief Director of Our Connection. Daniel told of his own journey through his youth years,

Australia from this exchange year and how with support and understanding he was able to

overcome his feelings of being lost and confused and so regained his confidence.



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



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Daniel Kuzeff

In 2011 Daniel established <u>Our Connection</u> with other like minded young people. Our Connection provides innovative international experiences that can inspire young people. The Australian Schools Program has been established which encourages young people to extend their actions beyond themselves and to have a positive impact on disadvantaged communities in developing countries.

A more detailed outline of Daniel's presentation is given later in the Bulletin. Daniel explained that on a plane flight home from the Philippines he thought of a plan to improve the housing of some families that he had been with at Malbago on the island of Bantayan in Cebu Privince. So in 2012 Daniel, along with other young people from Albury-Wodonga, organised the Border Village Charity Walk of more than 300 kilometres from Melbourne to Albury which raised \$85,000. He also contributed his salary from working as a barman at the Bended Elbow pub in Albury. With further community support and fundraising activities the amount raised was increased to \$250,000. Has Daniel's dream to improve the housing standard for the village come true? It appears so. In November 2013 the Malbago houses that were designed and constructed to withstand natural disasters withstood their first typhoon with only minor roof damage.

We wish Daniel and the others of <u>Our Connection</u> all the best for the future and may their passion and enthusiasm for their vision and student engagement come to fruition.

Speaker and Activities Program

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"

Monday November 23 Speaker: Etienne de Lavaulx, "The History and Music of the Zither"

Sunday Market 7am - 1pm

November 1 - David Zrna, Brian Bloomer, Annette Brownscombe November 8 - Graham Bishop, John McCaskill, Val Cunniffe November 15 - Graeme Hindhaugh, Matt Miller, Ross Merolli November 22 - Jenni Nankervis, John Braine, Peter May

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 - Continued

Brett Riley, Chair of Youth Services introduced Candice Kriegler, the 2015 RYLA Rotary Youth Leadership Award Candidate. Candice told us of her study pathway to date. She is currently studying veterinary medicine at the University of Melbourne.



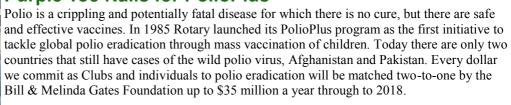
Candice Kriegler

As a child Candice loved animals in general and had a particular interest in horses and so she had thought about becoming a veterinarian. But she put it to the back of her mind as she was not initially inclined to study science. But as her schooling continued she still maintained an general interest in science subjects. She was considered a high academic achiever and gave the majority of her time to study. She completed her secondary education with a good result but not with a high enough score to gain entry to the veterinary course in one of the very few places given to students at year 12. Most people gaining entry to studying veterinary medicine do so after completing at least one year of a course in a science related degree.

Candice commenced her first year at university in the science stream and the thought of veterinary science came again half way through the year. Fortunately Candice had selected the pre-requisite subjects for veterinary which included physics, her most challenging subject. Her first half year results were average so she decided to study even more intensely in the second half year to achieve her goal. In the end, her efforts paid off and she was awarded a non-fee paying Commonwealth HECS-HELP place for the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine course.

Although Candice continues to study hard she now tries to ensure that her study and general life activities are more balanced. She has come to realise that she can still achieve good academic results and be less stressed if she pursues worthwhile activities beyond just studying. We wish Candice all the best with her ongoing veterinary studies and trust that her experience at the RYLA camp will support her interpersonal and intrapersonal development and we look forward to her return after the camp to tell us of her experiences.





Our District Governor, Julie Mason, suggested that during October we should have a session to raise money as you **paint your nails Purple for Polio!** Why purple... well that is the colour of the oral vaccination once it hits the tongue.

Val Cunniffe was in charge and she decided that the toe nails of some of the male Club members needed to be painted rather than their finger nails. This required the expert nail painting skills of some of the ladies, including supervising Michael Chong who displayed the skill and concentration needed for a career as a toe nail painter. In the lower photo Rob, Gerry, Brett and Reg proudly display their purple toe nails.



Please contact Michael Chong <u>Michael.Chong@canterburyrotary.org</u> if you can assist with the Interchange Inner East event at the Box Hill Miniature railway on Saturday 14th November 2015. Quite a few of our Club members will be away at the Beechworth Food & Wine Festival so any Club members that can help on this day would be greatly appreciated.

There were more members at the meeting than we were expecting to see

It was pleasing to see so many Club members attending the meeting following the return of the team from the Philippines Medical Mission. However, quite a few people that have been away neglected to use the attendance system to let us know that they would now be attending the meeting. The attendance system assumes that you will be attending unless you notify otherwise, alternatively the system can be set to mark you as an apology unless you notify that you will be attending. Please let us know if you change your attendance situation.

Our speaker next week on Melbourne Cup Eve will be our Club member Roger Taylor who will talk about "what sort of future should we be planning for?" Have a good week in Rotary and remember to "Be a Gift to the World".





Nora





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The Next Speaker - Roger Taylor

Our Club member Roger Taylor, who is professionally involved in integrated urban transport, will give a presentation which asks... what sort of future should we be planning for?

Rogers presentation will call upon some of the material from a seminar on 'sustainable cities sustainable transport' which was sponsored by metlink. One of the speakers at this seminar was Prof. Will Steffen from the ANU in Canberra who made some interesting observations about the effect of human processes. Dr. Graham Turner from the CSIRO in Canberra had some relevant comments on the long term physical sustainability of the Australian environment and economy.

Australia and the world is changing and the question is how do we plan to deal with that change?

Daniel's Talk About Youth Mental Health

Daniel Kuzeff acknowledged that many other younger people often experience mental health issues or quandaries. The numbers of under 13 year olds being prescribed prescription medications for diagnosed depression and anxiety is increasing. It is currently estimated that the youth population has 1 in 16 young people experiencing depression, 1 in 6 experiencing anxiety and 1 in 4 have mental health issues. The question is why? Some of the contributing factors may be that household members have more stressful lifestyles than previously. Maybe there is an increase in broken families and children feeling guilty thinking that they have caused this breakdown. Technology is supposed to be the new age tool improving our lives, however parents often use TV and PCs as a easy form of childminding. Some children passive occupied for 4 hours or more per day and so have little or no outside play. Such minimal interaction with others can have adverse social and physical implications. Furthermore, reading skills will decline with passive entertainment which then has a detrimental impact on later schooling.

The media today tends to highlight the negativity of almost everything. The exposure of children to violence is now experienced in all aspects of the media from the news to interactive games and to programs that they watch on TV or online. Advertisements readily reinforce that to be successful you must have many material things and, if you have these possessions, your family and friends will just flock around you and you will be seen to have 'made it'. All these things have an impact on children and for many it results in them having an identity crisis. They ask the question "Who am I?" and sadly, sometimes the result is that youths give up all together. So it was pleasing to hear that Daniel faced this situation and was able to regain his confidence and life direction and successfully completed his school year 11 and 12 at the Wodonga Senior Secondary College.

The Establishment of Our Connection

Daniel has a passion to help youth, especially those in developing countries. His initial project was to provide 10,001 books for a library in the Philippines. This contact increased his zeal to make a real connection between people of the developed and the underdeveloped world. In 2011, Daniel established Our Connection with other like minded young people. Our Connection aims to be the world's leading provider of innovative international experiences and inspiring young people to extend their actions beyond their own self. This aim is being achieved by the establishment of the Australian Schools Program (ASP) which is a personal development and immersion program for high school students. ASP seeks to engage young Australians in a process of self discovery and reflection. Students are encouraged to extend their actions beyond themselves and to have a positive impact on disadvantaged communities in developing countries. Currently, Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) students (an alternative study stream for Year 11 & 12 students) fundraise to travel to the Philippines to assist in building and undertaking finishing work on houses and to experience the culture and lifestyle of the people that will live in these houses. Ultimately, Our Connection envisages connecting Australian school students with different cultures across the whole of South East Asia. Feedback from the student participants to date is that their experience has been pleasurable, engaging and has provided meaning to their own lives that will be long lasting. It introduced young people to fundraising and volunteerism, it increased their cultural awareness and it assisted in their personal growth.

