The ROTARY CLUB of PAPANUI

50 YEARS

SERVING THE COMMUNITY

RECORDING THE PAST
LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

Club Presidents

1957	H.M. Reid	(Murray)
1958-59	H.M.Reid	(Murray)
1959-60	L.W.Stewart	(Les)
1960-61	L.J. Dale	(Ern)
1961-62	R.G. Robinson	(Gordon)
1962-63	V.H. Chapman	(Vince)
1963-64	J.L.Wood	(Laing)
1964-65	L.A. Holland	(Lon)
1965-66	A.K. Ecroyd	(Kevin)
1966-67	T.R. Mundy	(Trevor)
1967-68	L.R. Pugh	(Reg)
1968-69	I.T. Galloway	(Ian)
1969-70	E.B. Dalmer	(Erle)
1970-71	C.W. Campbell	(Clyde)
1971-72	A.B. Ryan	(Bruce)
1972-73	D. Smith	(Don)
1973-74	A.J. Voice	(Alan)
1974-75	A.C. Iggo	(Ave)
1975-76	G.B. Dryden	(George)
1976-77	C.B. Bowman	(Cliff)
1977-78	R.A. Proctor	(Ron)
1978-79	B.T. Berry	(Bernie)
1979-80	W.G. Barber	(Warner)
1980-81	R.C. Forbes	(Ralph)
1981-82	M.M. Toomer	(Mervyn)
1982-83	E.B. Hilson	(Euan)
1983-84	I.A. Baxter	(Ivan)
1984-85	G.M. Shields	(Gordon)
1985-86	G.S. Brockett	(Graeme)
1986-87	J.D. Reid	(Jim)
1987-88	C.A. Barltrop	(Charles)
1988-89	W.D. Goode	(Warwick)
1989-90	P.A. Jordan	(Paul)
1990-91	R.W. Nicholl	(Rob)
1991-92	I.B. Sim	(Ian)
1992-93	M.G. Taylor	(Max)
1993-94	R.J.Hudson	(Jim)
1994-95	A.R. Bond	(Alan)
1995-96	E.J. Thomson	(Evan)
1996-97	R.D. Stirling	(Robin)
1997-98	B.W. Langley	(Brian)
1998-99	J.M. Paul	(Jeff)
1999-2000	P.E. Wilson	(Paul)
2000-2001	A. Bain	(Allan)
2001-2002	W. Lyons	(Wayne)
2002-2003	N.J. Courtney	(Nick)
2003-2004	M. Fahey	(Marie)
2004-2005	T. Tizzard	(Tony)
2005-2006	R. Thomson	(Rob)
2006-2007	A. Geerlofs	(Arie)
2007-2008	E.M. Courtney	(Liz)
2008-2009	L.W. Skiba	(Larry)

Murray Reid (right) was the first President of the Papanui Club. In his memory, school speech competitions were started and these are still run by Papanui Rotary today.

extensive alterations, additions and refittments to the building were carried out by Club members. We now meet at St Paul's Church Hall, Papanui.

One of our aims is to benefit the local community and to this end many projects have been undertaken. Early on, a major one was the establishment of the Groynes picnic area, which was converted from rough gorse and scrub wasteland to one of Christchurch's best recreational playgrounds.

Assisting disabled groups in conjunction with the Burwood Hospital Spinal Unit is an ongoing

Note the dress code for all meetings in the 1960s; (President Les Stewart) 1959-1960.

project for the Club with day trips for patients from the unit to a number of venues including the ex-Forestry Hanmer Springs Forest Camp, where the Club provided the initiative and much of the finance and labour to convert the camp to a residential recreational facility for use by disabled people, by schools and the public. Later, over $100,000 was donated for the construction of an "Abilities Lodge" at the camp, which provides a residential facility. Funding for the lodge was provided from the closure of an earlier abilities

The Groynes

Not many people are aware that it was the Papanui Rotary Club that was responsible for the initial work at "The Groynes" off Johns Road, Belfast. It was known as The Groynes because of woolsacks filled with concrete and forming a "breakwater" along a river bank to prevent erosion.

On any warm summer evening in the late 1940s and 1950s future "boy racers" would meet with their friends in Austin 10s, Morris Minors, Ford Prefects, etc, to eat fish and chips and drink a beer in a tangle of gorse, brambles and willows beside The Groynes.

A member of Papanui Rotary Club (who was the County Clerk of The Waimari County Council) suggested as a community project the Club clear the area in preparation for a much needed recreational reserve.

In 1961, equipped with axes, gorse slashers, a couple of double ended saws, one erratic chainsaw and two farm tractors – plus a heap of determination – Papanui Rotarians toiled for countless Saturdays. The weed clogged Otukaiakino River was a problem – until a large dragline was borrowed to clear the spring fed stream of matted roots, rubbish – and one car body.

A shelter belt to protect the cleared area from the "beastly easterly" was planted – only to be pulled out overnight! With great satisfaction the Rotarians watched on the following Saturday the offenders replanting the saplings under the watchful supervision of the local constabulary.

For over two years, working bees slashed, burned and cleared the area before it became finally grassed and mown.

The new County Clerk, Club member Jim Reid, ensured the continued maintenance and expansion of this area, which today comprises the finest reserves west of the City.

ROTARY CLUB MEN AT PICNIC SPOT

Three members of the Rotary Club of Papanui, from left: Messrs. R. G. Robinson (president), L. J. Dale (past president), and L. A. Holland (a director of the club) watch underwater enthusiast Ken Chambers about to make a descent, during their inspection to the Groynes picnic spot near Belfast this morning. The club has been developing this spot over recent months.

Groynes Transformed To Ideal Picnic Area

ONCE virtually neglected, a picnic spot near Belfast—the Groynes—has been transformed during the past year into a peaceful haven with an atmosphere all of its own.

This is due mainly to the Papanui Rotary Club which has made the Groynes its first major project for the benefit of the community.

Working in conjunction with the club in restoring the secluded spot on a branch of the Waimakariri River, off Johns Road, are the Waimairi County Council and the North Canterbury Catchment Board.

The area gets its name from the groynes —half-ton concrete cylinders — placed there years ago when the Waimakariri River threatened to cut in.

A few years ago the council leased the spot as a recreational reserve from the board but little work was done to it until now.

The fruits of the club's labours can be gauged by the increasing number of people who are taking advantage of its relaxing surroundings at the week-ends.

With the water deep on one side of a groyne and shallow on the other, the spot is ideal for all the family, whether swimmers or not.

Before the club got started the Groynes was "completely in the rough," said Mr L. A. Holland, a club director, when he described the club's activities.

The two to three acre picnic spot was overgrown with scrub and willow trees had fallen into the stream.

Working at weekends the able-bodied men of the club's thirty - five members gradually wrought a great change.

Mainly using their own machinery, the ground was bulldozed clear, rotary-hoed and levelled.

Grass seed was sown by the council and a catchment Board dragline pulled the trees from the stream.

Trees, including many poplars, were planted by the club, particularly along the north-east boundary to shelter the children's paddling pool.

Fireplaces

The council put in two concrete fireplaces and plans to improve the conveniences.

The entrance from Johns Road was widened and the frontage cleared of a tangled mass of blackberry, broom, and gorse.

With the planned addition of rustic seats and tables, and perhaps a diving board, the first stage of development will be completed.

Christchurch Star, Sat., Feb. 10, 1962 3

Hanmer Springs Forest Camp

The Hanmer Springs Forest Camp – situated on 10 acres of land off Jollies Pass Road in the heart of Hanmer Forest – first came into being as a New Zealand Forest Service timber treatment plant with single men's accomodation in the 1930s. In 1977 it became surplus to NZFS requirements and a committee – comprising Hanmer residents, holiday homeowners, the Workers Educational Association, public health and conservation interests, Papanui Rotary Club members, and other service organiations – was formed to ensure the preservation of the camp.

The committee formed a Trust with a constitution to establish maintain and manage educational, recreational and environmental camps at the facility, to provide low cost accommodation, and return all revenue to improve and upgrade the facility and to employ staff to assist the Trust.

Thus, Papanui Rotary Club was involved from the start, through the late Jim Reid QSM who became treasurer and then secretary/treasurer, the late Ron Proctor, and Ralph Forbes. They subsequently introduced the entire Rotary Club of Papanui.

The first school camp was held in 1979 and at that time the facility was so basic that schools were told to bring all necessities, including toilet paper! But the concept caught on and schools and recreational groups began what was to become an annual stay at the Forest Camp at minimal cost which, even today is only $7 per school child night.

Over succeeding years, to the rows of single huts, an ablution block, large kitchen and cooks' accommodation, there were added a recreation hall, kitchens and lounges. An "Abilities Lodge" was purpose built for use by disabled people. To build the lodge and raise the $250,000 required, the Papanui Rotary Club sold its sheltered workshop in Christchurch and used the money for building the Abilities Lodge. The Trust then set about raising the other half of the cost such that by 1986 the lodge (it slept 36 people) and was

Chairman Rosemary Ensor and Rotary President Tony Tizzard open the Rotary Centennial trail.

Time out during a Rotary working bee at Hanmer.

Trustees Rosemary Ensor and Paul Wilson.

completely debt free.

1997 saw the start of planning a new lodge comprising three buildings sleeping 108 people and two separate – wheelchair accessible – toilets and showers. The new lodge replaced half of the original single men's huts and was opened by the Governor General in September 2002. Twentyfour power-equipped cabins, with two single beds in each, are still in use.

In 2004, Rotary Club of Papanui opened a "Rotary Centennial" trail, suitable for wheelchairs, which around the perimeter of the camp; and in 2006 two fully accessible self-contained units were attached to Abilities Lodge, making the lodge more versatile.

The Rotary Club of Papanui continues to be involved with the Hanmer Springs Forest Camp Trust and currently provide the positions of deputy chair, treasurer and other Trust Board members.

Facilities currently include affordable accommodation for schools, people with disabilities, individuals or family, sports and social groups. There is sleeping for 192 people and a large tree covered area for unpowered tents, caravans and campervans. There is also an adventure playground, funded by Rotary International.

Pass and helped renovate cabins at Wainui, and packed Christmas food hampers. The concept of Defensive Driving was also introduced to New Zealand by one of our members.

Horticulture projects have been undertaken with work at the Fairhaven Rest Home, Burwood Hospital, Bethany Paparoa Street Salvation Army Home, Hanmer Springs Forest Camp, Heaton Intermediate School and Corsair Bay. The Club has also taken part in the Trees for Survival Programme and the establishment of a Horticultural Scholarship Fund. As part of the

Guest Speakers

Club meeting Guest Speakers have been (clockwise from below) Vicki Buck, Robbie Deans, Peter Snell and Ruth Richardson.

At right are the Club Directors of 1993-1994.

The Club in 1973-1974 (President Alan Voice).

A Rotary District Conference dinner at Akaroa.

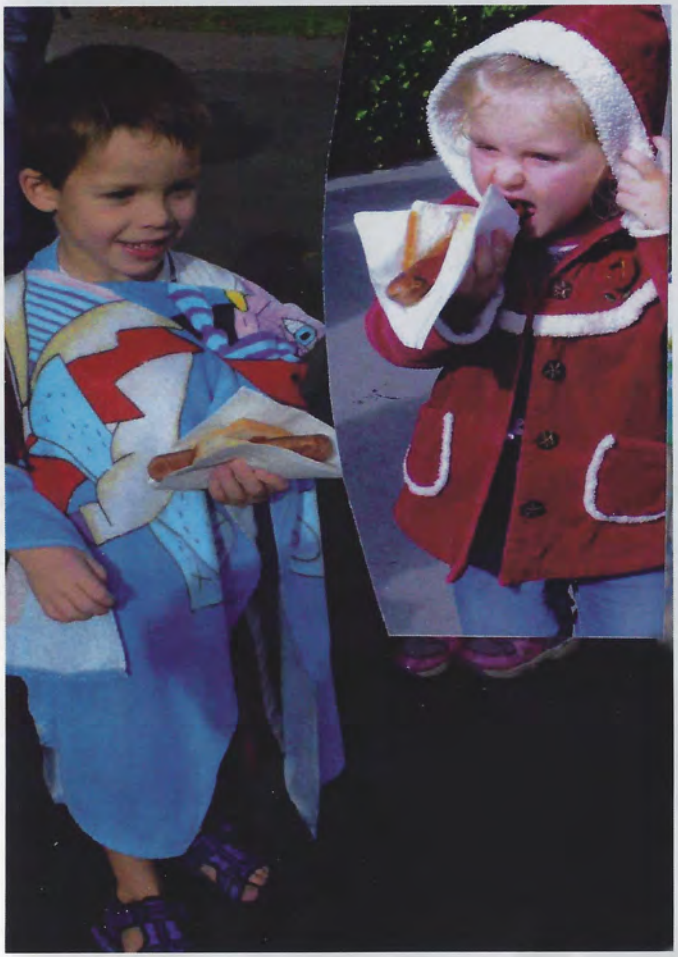
Club's 25th Anniversary celebration in 1983, a Water Feature was installed at the Papanui Memorial Reserve.

Another fund-raising project in conjunction with other clubs has been for the Child Cancer organisation, which received a cheque for $15,000 from funds raised through the sale of compact discs and recording tapes of a massed choir, being the "Rotary Children for Song" concert at the Westpac Centre.

In recent years, a Charity Air Rally for light aircraft that has been organised in the Canterbury area by Club members has raised considerable funds for The Papanui Rotary Trust for Children in Need, a trust started with seeding funds from club-

Not Mary Poppins but ex-President the late Marie Fahey.

Three past District Governors from the Papanui Club are (left) Jim Hudson, Euan Hilson and (seated) Ian Galloway.



Indonesia, and has been financially involved in a Water for Survival Project and other ventures in Africa. Individual members of the Papanui Rotary Club have at times provided their own services in many overseas locations and to many local volunteer organisations.

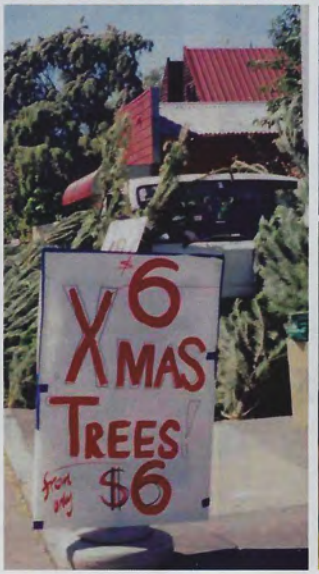
Youth activities have been well supported by the Club with young people (who are not members of Rotary) being funded to attend Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) leadership training programme. The Club also is directly involved

in Outward Bound, Siemens Science School and Genesis Summer Schools and with overseas student exchange programmes. It assists the J.R. McKenzie Youth Education Fund, which has been set up to support needy families, especially with school uniforms and books. The club also assisted with the funding of youth Peer Support, Reaching Out and Reaching Forward programmes; and with the formation of young Interact (secondary school)

Club member Keith Roper is in his 49th year as a Rotarian.

Club members sort for distribution the gifts placed under the Rotary Christmas tree.

Boy racer ! ?



Overseas-bound Rotary Exchange Students are Anna Nicholl and Gavin Romayne.

The Canterbury mid-Winter Charity Air Rally

Rotarians, a teacher and contestants at a recent speech contest at Heaton Street Intermiate School.

PAUL HARRIS FELLOWSHIPS

The following members have been awarded Paul Harris Fellowships for services to Rotary:

Allan Bain	Keith Mitchell
Warner Barber	Dave Nicholl *
Charles Barltrop	Rob Nicholl
Lesley Batty	Jeff Paul
Stuart Batty	Colin Perry *
Ivan Baxter *	Ron Proctor *
Alan Bond	Gordon Robinson *
Nick Courtney	Keith Roper
Bill Elliot	Jim Reid *
Marie Fahey *	Bruce Ryan *
Ralph Forbes	Joe Sedgley *
Ian Galloway *	Ron Sedgley
John Gimblett	Gordon Shields
Warwick Goode	Ian Sim
Richard Hamilton	Victor Smith *
Euan Hilson	Robin Stirling
Jim Hudson	Evan Thomson
Paul Jordan	Merv Toomer *
Brian Langley	Max Wright
Wayne Lyons	

(* deceased)

The following non-members of Rotary have been awarded Paul Harris Fellowships for services to Rotary and the community:

Jennie Barltrop	Vera Livingstone
Rosemary Ensor	John Sheat
Ann Hudson	

and Rotoract (aged 18-30) groups. School Speech Contests have been conducted by the Club for over 30 years, starting with Secondary Schools and later widening to include a Primary/Intermediate School contest, which is still held annually.

Other fundraising projects that have been undertaken by The Rotary Club of Papanui over its 50 years have included golf tournaments, plant auctions, Christmas tree sales, second-hand goods and garage sales, the administration of a Christmas puddings project throughout the upper South Island, and monthly "sausage sizzles" for the public at the Christchurch QE II sporting facility.

Other Rotary Clubs Established

Two other Rotary Clubs have been established through the efforts of the Papanui Club, namely The Rotary Club of Belfast (established in 1969), and the Rotary Club of Bishopdale/Burnside (1974. The Club also set up Probus Clubs at Merivale and at Papanui.

Would you like to work on a Rotary community project with these men?

These ladies from Rotary are seen enjoying the Rotary Centennial Ball in Christchurch, 2005.

Women in Rotary

As part of our 50th Anniversary, we would like to acknowledge the huge part played by women connected with our Club, be they members or spouses/partners of members, or the group of widows of now deceased members who we still communicate with and involve in our activities wherever possible. Their activities over the past 50 years have included funding our first piano, organising ladies luncheons, setting up produce stalls, assisting with fairs, etc, and – most importantly – being their to assist with just about all Club activities mentioned above. We have a growing group of women members, and the wives of male members are always very welcome to come along to our regular meetings and take part in all Club activities.

"Jubilee Clock"

A central feature of our Club's 50th Anniversary is the presentation to the people of Papanui, and greater Christchurch, a digital clock (see cover of this booklet). It is to be placed in the Papanui Memorial Reserve at the junction of Main North Road, Horner Street, Papanui Road and Harewood Road.

Club President Liz Courtney and in-coming President Larry Skiba at a recent District rifle shooting competition.

Fellowship in Rotary

In addition to providing worthwhile services to the local community, there is one other main enjoyable aspect to being a member of Rotary – the fellowship it provides its members.

Inter-acting with and getting to know other members of the Club – who come from all walks of life – is very much an integral part of being a Rotarian.

Although some Rotarians are semi-retired or retired, most have full-time jobs. These range from government department managers, school teachers, nurses and doctors to car sales people, real estate agents, bank managers and accountants.

Despite their other commitments, there are many times when Club members are free to relax and enjoy each other's company. They also have opportunities to display entrepreneurial and leadership skills.

Fellowship is also enjoyed during Rotary projects and during various visits to member's businesses and to other places of work.

The Club also organises occasions that involve family members and these include outings to interesting places, bar-b-q's, car rallies, picnics, rifle shoots, golfing and other sporting activities, fishing, boating, train trips, and film viewings.

The Club is also very supportive of its members and their families and spouses/partners whenever they are suffering illness or misfortune, and during periods of grieving.

The Club in 2007-2008 (President Liz Courtney).

Regular Meetings – Contact Us

The Papanui Rotary Club meets every Thursday night at 5.30, and at 6.00 pm has a meal followed by a guest speaker and Club business. Visitors and prospective members are always welcome and the club can be contacted about membership – or any other matter – initially via the New Zealand Rotary website at ***www.rotary.org.nz*** (follow the links to reach The Rotary Club of Papanui).

E&OE

This booklet was printed by The Caxton Press, Christchurch.