



# RI president Mark Maloney to address Christchurch Conference



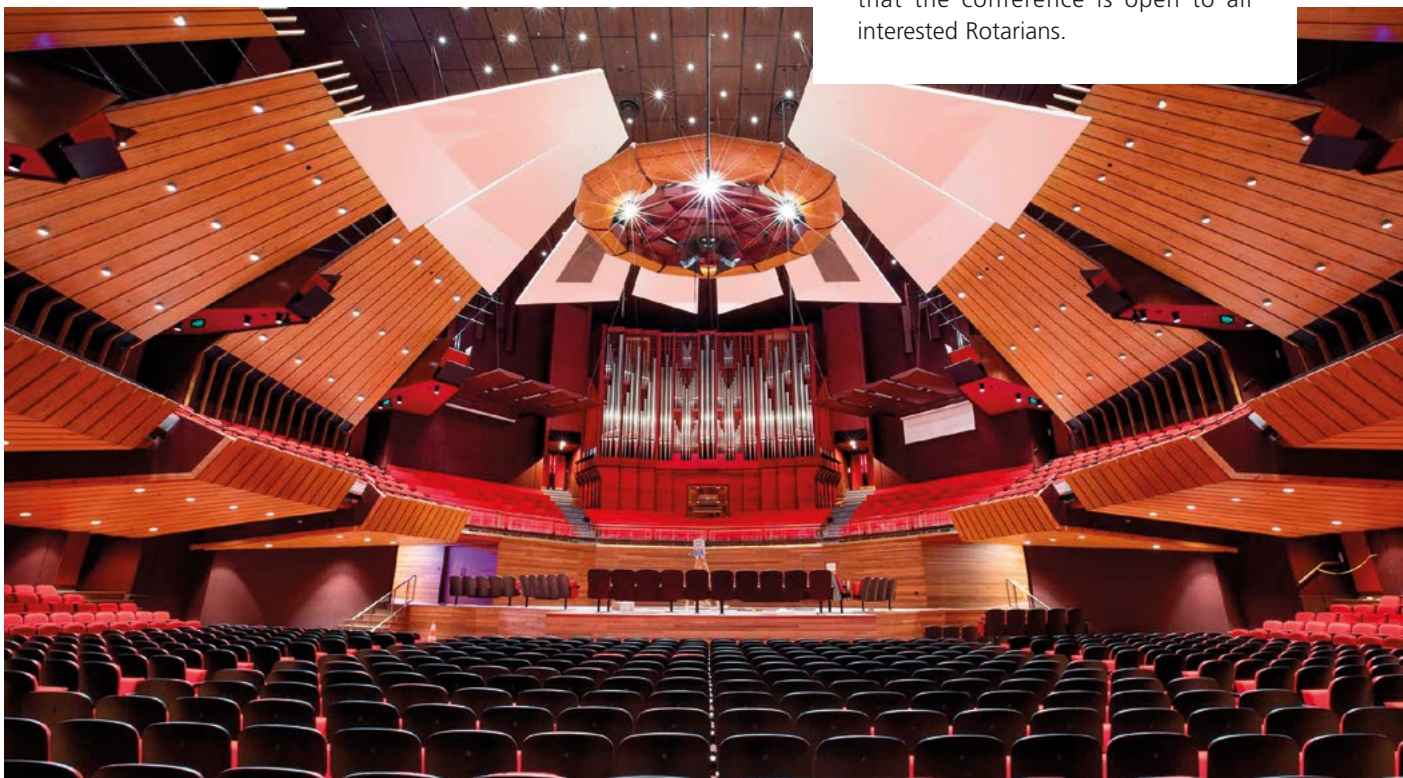
For the first time in many years, the incumbent Rotary International president will attend the annual Oceania Zone Conference (previously Institute), to be held in Christchurch, NZ, at the James Hay Theatre, September 20-22, 2019.

ABOVE: Enjoy a journey in style through the changing face of Christchurch's city centre on board a beautifully restored heritage tram, one of the city's leading attractions. (Photo: Graeme Murray) BELOW: Douglas Lilburn Auditorium at Town Hall, where the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra will play *The Planets* on the Saturday evening of the conference. Visit [www.eventfinda.co.nz](http://www.eventfinda.co.nz) to book.

**ROTARY** International President Mark Daniel Maloney and his wife Gay will be in Christchurch, New Zealand, for pre-conference training of Rotary's senior leaders and the conference proper to promote his 2019-20 theme, *Rotary Connects the World*.

The Maloneys will spend time with members of the G Train (district governors, governors elect, governors nominee and partners) and make several presentations on the conference program.

Immediate past RI director Noel Trevaskis has once again emphasised that the conference is open to all interested Rotarians.





New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern is the recipient of the first "Making A Difference" award, in recognition of her outstanding leadership at the time of the Christchurch tragedy early this year.



For many years, the annual Zone Institute (as it was then called) was a closed event, open only to Rotary senior leaders – past, present and future. Several years ago, it was decided that any Rotarian interested in growing Rotary knowledge would be welcome to attend, and many members have since taken advantage of that invitation.

Mark will address district governors, governors elect, governors nominee, Rotary coordinators and district trainers on Thursday, September 19, from 3pm, and will present the conference keynote address the following Saturday morning.

The conference will be opened by Christchurch's dynamic Mayor, Rotarian Lianne Dalziel.

She says her priority is making sure Christchurch seizes the enormous opportunities left in the wake of the 2010-11 earthquakes to reinvent the city and define the future.

A special conference highlight will be the presentation of the first "Making A Difference" award. The concept of RI past president Ian Riseley, the annual award will recognise a community leader who has made a real difference in our world.

New Zealand Prime Minister, Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern, is the recipient of the first award in recognition of her outstanding leadership at the time of the Christchurch tragedy early this year. Unfortunately, Jacinda will be overseas on Prime Ministerial duties and unable to accept the award at the conference. She has authorised the Member for Christchurch Central Duncan Webb MP to accept the presentation on her behalf.

Another agenda item certain to create interest is the 35-minute panel discussion on mental wellbeing and resilience, led by communications professional John Sellwood.

The topic is very relevant, given increasing societal awareness and concern following the earthquakes and other events in the region, including the mosque attacks.

A city of great natural beauty, conference visitors are urged to allow plenty of time for walking, with so many natural features in easy access – from Cathedral Square in the city centre to the Avon Riverside Promenade, from Victoria Square to the Bridge of Remembrance – there are so many memorable attractions.

For those not quite so athletic, Christchurch offers its unique Lime Scooter service to prove no stone is left unturned in this amazing city. Download the Lime Scooters App on arrival and enjoy the ride. The scooters can be found everywhere; outside coffee shops, in the malls, street corners, outside business houses and even at bus stops. Very safe and easy to ride, just hop on and get where you want to go with great ease.

For further information and to register, go to [www.rotaryoceania.zone/page/rotaryzone8conference](http://www.rotaryoceania.zone/page/rotaryzone8conference).

The Avon River in Christchurch City. (Photo: Graeme Murray)



## Must-do conference events

Apart from Rotary topics, there are many special events, both community-based and social, planned for the week of the conference:

- Wednesday 7pm: **Gala Peace Dinner** at the Transitional "Cardboard" Cathedral in Latimer Square – NZ\$75 per person.
- Thursday: Twenty-minute **Lunchtime Walk to South Frame** for G Train members. Pizza lunch at Kahikatea Common.
- Thursday 3.45pm: **Charity Duck Race** on the Avon River.
- Thursday 7pm: **Australian Rotary Health Chairman's Dinner** – email [arh@arh.org.au](mailto:arh@arh.org.au) or phone +61 2 8837 1900 to register.
- Friday 11am: **Rotary Showcase** featuring projects from all parts of Oceania opens.
- Friday 7pm: Past Officers/G Train/Rotarians Conference Reunion Dinner
- Saturday 7pm: **District Dinners** or **Christchurch Symphony Orchestra** – book at [eventfinda.co.nz](http://eventfinda.co.nz).
- Sunday 2.30pm: Twenty-minute 1.5km **Walk to World Peace Bell Pavilion** in Botanical Gardens via the Arts Centre and Turanga Public Library.