

INNER WHEEL CLUB OF MATAMATA

President: Gail Pearson. Tel 07 888 8977; verdant412@gmail.com
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Meetings held second Monday evening, 7.30pm, in members' homes.



October 2020

Greetings Roses Far and Wide

Will 2020 be remembered as the year of washing hands?

I wonder how many people have kept a 2020 journal this year? I know many children were encouraged to do so as they (and we) are definitely living through history that should be recorded. And, while Covid-19 has brought unutterable tragedy to countless throughout our global village, I do believe it has brought out the best in so many people as they have reached out as never before to support others in their communities.

And, as Inner Wheel members, looking out for other is what we do well...wherever our corner of the world. Let's keep leading that change!

Our numbers swelled recently with the induction of new member Lynn Egen, pictured with President Gail Pearson. Clubs always benefit through fresh ideas and we must always be thinking of ways to make membership attractive.

We have also had a couple of great speakers recently. One of these was local lad Dr James Sainsbury who gave the most delightful, informative and stimulating talk on bees. These were introduced to New Zealand in 1839 and were transported by sea, being kept in hibernation for the journey by being packed in blocks of ice.

While bee-keeping was initially a cottage industry, the first commercial enterprise was initiated in the 1880s. From that small beginning grew an industry that now boasts around 1 million hives throughout New Zealand and earning \$400 million per year.

While it is now widely recognised that manuka honey has amazing healing properties, this knowledge is not new. Indeed, I remember hearing at school how the Romans used to carry pots of it on their chariots when they went to war, using it to treat battle wounds.

We loved hearing how bees communicate through their 'waggle dance' and how they 'vote' on new pastures. Clever and hard-working wee souls!

Our club had a very successful sausage sizzle at the Matamata market earlier this month; raising funds that will benefit community organisations.

Our annual sizzle and raffle is great fun and certainly raises the profile of our organisation. We also provided dessert for Rotary one evening and, safe to say, the delicious dishes certainly went down a treat, as well as adding funds to our coffers!

As always, we send our best wishes to your club and families and look forward to hearing from you.

In Friendship

Sandra

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