



Whangarei Rotary

(Chartered 1925)

District 9910



Chronicle for 12 August 2015

Int President K.R. Ravindran

President – Gail Taylor, Secretary- Alison Rossiter, Treasurer – Bill Rossiter, Chronicle - Andrew Bax, Community – Andrew Bax, International - Roger Barber, Programme –Mike Elrick, Almoner - George Wilson, Historian - Lloyd Morris, Website - Andrew Bax, Youth – Maurice Schicker,
District Governor – Peter Garnett, Assistant Governor – Rosemary Meyer

President Gail (back from Australia) welcomed members to the meeting on the 19th President Elect Shirley held the fort in Gail's absence.

Apologies: Maurice, Jack & Barbara Lucy, Peter & Margaret, Mike & Pat, Frank

One minute notices

- Another Octagon Theatre successful evening was had by all
- AK Franks advertised Aug/Sept.
- Bill moved "The Rotary Club of Whangarei Charitable Trust will be closed and funds transferred to the McCoy Trust for our club to utilise". Andrew Seconded, All trustees agreed with proxy vote form 2 absentees.
- We welcomed John Barber to our Club, another member joined our family.
- Next year we have a RYLA participant.
- Shirley & Maurice attended the Rotary Leadership Course and found it very useful and made a few good contacts.
- DG visit on 2 Sept, we will start at 11:30 and all welcome.
- Gail has fumbled her way through the paper work and we are now qualified for District Grants.
- Roger has asked for LOA from 5 Sept to 21 Sept, he is attending the World Avocado Conference.

Guest Speaker – Jeremy Busk – Dragonfly Wetlands.

In 1988 United homes purchased the land off the end of Raumati Crescent with the aim to build 73 houses. This is in the area of the "Sunken Village". After some campaigning WDC didn't want to buy this land. At This stage Jeremy read a book called "How to retire and live longer". So he decided to try and get hold of this land and develop it into wetlands, natures filter system.

In 2004 the land came up for auction and 2 hrs before the hammer went down Jeremy did the deal!! That was the beginning of Dragonfly Wetlands.

In 2006 Jeremy sold his business, acquired a contract Tractor, set up Management plans, Ecology plans and set about developing the 15 acres. Eventually they involved a 22 Ton digger and a 15 Ton digger and copious volunteers that shaped and planted the wetlands. There are now over 40 species of birds in the wetlands and Jeremy runs environmental education programs for the primary schools. 40 BNZ staff got involved with the "Close for Good" campaign. Now the wetlands cleans most of the water from Onerahi before it enters the Harbour. 4800 reeds were planted and the wetlands is open by appointment during the winter and in summer they have picnic days etc.

This has been a labour of love and Jeremy has a passion for protecting our environment. This is a real asset to the Onerahi Community and Whangarei as a whole.

Roger congratulated Jeremy on a beneficial project well-conceived and run.

Duty Roster (a.m – 11:30 for noon, p.m. – 5:30 for 6:00pm)				
Lunch first, dinner second – 1 st Wed lunch 2 nd dinner etc Notify Club of apologies – 4387429 (by Tuesday)				
Duties	26 Aug (pm)	2 Sep (am)	Hospital	
Speaker	Milan Ruka	DG Visit	Gail	
Host	Maurice	Gail		
Thanks	Maurice	Gail		
Reception	Everyone	Everyone		
Parting Thought	Maurice	Gail		

Parting thought from Gail

“Do it NOW, if you wait for the perfect conditions, you’ll never get anything done”