



Rotary Club of Christchurch South Inc.

P O Box 12-243, Christchurch 8023, NZ.



36 for

Bulletin

02 April 2025

Bee Awesome – Educating our youth, why Bees are so important to our Ecosystem



Lesley Davidson-Hurst presented a lively and informative talk to the club on Wednesday 2 April, punctuated with a number of bee-related activities including a team anagram competition. She also conducted a simulation of what happens when bees pollinate flowers which she developed for explaining the process to children. Fascinatingly, bees develop a positive charge on their bodies during flight because of the rapid beating of their wings and as the pollen on the target flowers is negatively charged, this aids in harvesting of the pollen for transfer back to the hive. The positive charge on the bee is transferred to the flower so that the next bee ignores it and flies on to a negatively charged pollen-rich flower. Bees ARE awesome!

Bee Awesome was started during Covid as a community project aimed at educating schoolchildren on setting up and caring for beehives and their environment. The programme informs the children how beehives work and answers the question, why should we care about bees? It is headed by Hayley Guglietta (Director / Queen bee) who is a qualified beekeeper and is responsible for the bee hives at Richmond Community Garden. The Bee Awesome lessons for schoolchildren have been designed by Lesley who has been a teacher for 20 years and is passionate about the environment. In the lessons she emphasizes the importance of biodiversity, food security and sustainability. Through lessons and hands on activities schoolchildren are taught the art of beekeeping and how to inspect a beehive for hive health and pests such as varroa mites. They are also taught how to harvest honey. There is no charge levied on the schools for the hives and costs are recovered through the sale of honey, bees wax and the sale of packets of wildflower seeds, some of which she kindly left with us. Lesley left us with some of the bee facts she shares with her schoolchildren

- 75% of what we eat involves pollination by bees.
- In a honeybee hive, three types of bees exist:
 - i. **worker bees (females)**, not capable of reproduction but performing the tasks necessary for the hives survival including foraging for food (nectar, pollen, water); building and repairing the hive; caring for the queen and brood; cleaning and maintaining the hive. They are also thought to guard the hive from intruders and regulate temperature and ventilation although I am sure I have seen drones doing this in my hives.
 - ii. **Drones (males)** lead a rather idyllic life , their sole purpose supposedly is to mate with the queen but they do die after mating.
 - iii. **The queen bee** - the only female bee in the hive capable of laying eggs that develop into either worker bees or drones. She produces pheromones that maintain hive cohesion.

Presently, 12 schools are involved in the Bee Awesome programme most with on-site hives established and maintained by Bee Awesome, another model being adopted in Lincoln where the bee hives are located in the community garden. They have capped the programme at 12 schools with many more seeking to join as they have reached their capacity. Bee Awesome are seeking sponsorship to expand their staffing and expand to other schools in our area.

Thanks to Geoff for the report and Viv for the photograph.

Upcoming Meetings

9 April

Dr Charles Simpson - Enhancing health through exercise physiology

16 April

David Broderick – Chair SPCA New Zealand: Protecting New Zealand’s animals for over 150 years .

23 April

Mark Christensen - New Zealand Nature Fund: Leading the fight against the extinction of our most endangered species.

April Walk

Come join us on our walk and/or lunch on Thursday 17 April

Date: Thursday 17 April

Park/Meet: Halswell Quarry Park, Cashmere Road

Time: 10.30am

Walk: Halswell Quarry

Lunch: 12 noon at The Old Vicarage, Halswell Road

Organisers: Andrew & Rosalia

cont'd

If you are unable to join the walk, then come and have lunch with us.

If the weather is unsuitable for walking, we will still meet for lunch at 12:00 noon

Please let David (david.buist@xtra.co.nz) know if you are walking, lunching or both.

- **Mother of all Clean Ups – River Clean Up**

Saturday 10 May

Meet 10am beside the Beckenham Scout Den Centaurus Rd (by the Brickworks)

Finish by 12:00 and meet at The Brickworks for a drink or lunch.

Thanks to those who indicated that they could help.

Viv.

- **Save the Dates**

23 April Hornby Rotary Club are visiting us.

4 June we are visiting Hornby Rotary Club. Meal is \$25 with a choice of 3 mains. More details nearer the time

- **John Taylor Walkway**

Saturday 03 May 2025

10 -12pm BBQ lunch afterwards.

Street Appeal Dates:

- **Aviva**

Saturday

May 24th.

New World, St. Martin's.

This date will all be confirmed nearer the time of the appeals.

- **Ranui House- Vocational visit**

Wednesday 1st October

@ 6pm for a tour of the new apartments and then the Sugar Horse Pub for dinner afterwards.

- **Dates for the Pink Ribbon Street Appeal for 2025 – 17-18 October 2025.**

Notices:

Fundraising Committee - Polio Plus



New season's Walnuts in shell.

1.5 kg bags. \$10 = chock full plastic bread bag. Order with Mel or Bev. Ph. 3841306.

Orders pickups any club night at club.

Research:

Pohatu Penguins

This 2025 season, **250 birds were microchipped** : 55 adults + 195 chicks. Which makes a total - since September 2022 - of **767 penguins microchipped in the Pōhatu colony.**

The research team deployed **30 GPS devices** on adult penguins this season, 26 of them provided data: 6 penguins during **pre-breeding**, 6 during **incubation**, 10 during **guard stage**, 4 during **post-guard stage.**

We
saw
the
same

tendencies as last year, with long foraging trips down the East coast



Inner Wheel Club of Christchurch West

Book Sale

Saturday 12th April 9.00am to 3.00pm

Near New, Good Quality Women's
Books

\$2.00 and \$3.00

Cash only

38 Pentonville Close Westmorland

Proceeds to: The Christchurch Aunties

Supporting Inner Wheel!

**GHOSTS ON
EVERY
CORNER**

A SOLO EXHIBITION & BOOK BY
GHOSTCAT

29TH MAR - 30TH APR
THE ARTS CENTRE - CHCH

@ghostcat_mb

Lime
Gallery

N.B. Ends 30 April.

Duties:

Duty	9-Apr-25	16-Apr-25	23-Apr-25
Cash Desk	G Bailey	M Bruce	H Garlick
Cash Desk	D Buist	A McCully	A Kim
Reception	A McCully	D Buist	R McKinney
Speaker's Host	H Garlick	D Peterson	A McCully
Grace	H Garlick	D Peterson	A McCully
International Toast	A McCully	D Buist	R McKinney
Thanks to Speaker	D Buist	A McCully	H Garlick
Quote for the Week	G Bailey	M Bruce	A Kim
Speaker Reporter	A McKinnon	V Ellis	A Airay
Sergeant	G Dockrill	G Bailey	D Buist

The link for the club web pages is www.christchurchsouthrotary.org.nz

The link to club Facebook pages is

<https://www.facebook.com/ChristchurchSouthRotary/>

Reminders:

APOLOGIES

Record your apology at the Reception Desk at a prior meeting, OR email: chchsouthrotary@gmail.com before 11.00am Wednesday.

You will get a reminder a couple of days before the meeting re apologising and to advise if bringing a guest.

Emergency apologies to Alan McKinnon (021 142 7668)

OR, Club Secretary Viv Ellis (027 490 3161)

DUTIES If you are unable to carry out your allocated duty, it is YOUR responsibility to arrange a substitute.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Please advise all leave of absence of 3 or more weeks to the Secretary, by email or in writing