



The KeyWay



President's Corner

There are a lot of people whom you come across in your life that you instantly admire. For me, Martin Casey is one of these people who, despite having only 5% long sight in one eye, manages to get around, prop up a bar, play with his small son and is part of a team that raise over \$16M a year for the Royal New Zealand Foundation for the Blind. His relaxed and enthusiastic approach to his job of Regional Fundraising Manager is a tribute to the level of independence that can be achieved for blind and vision impaired people. It is this personal independence that is the goal for the Foundation's many and varied programmes, which Martin outlined for us during his presentation. It was also good to have a couple of volunteers, Wendy and Michael, come along with Guide Dog Puppy Don to join Martin and give us a little indication of the amount of training that a dog needs to make them suitable for their role. The cost of training each dog is an amazing \$22000, so it is easy to see why the Foundation needs to raise a lot of money from the public. The Foundation has been one of those

This Week 22 April 2008

ROTARY CLUB OF HOWICK

The Weekly Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Howick, Inc.

www.howickrotary.org.nz

22nd April ANZAC week

– a time for remembrance and thanks for past deeds. **Royal NZ Navy Commander Corinna Bruce** from Devonport Naval Base with a presentation of today's navy and it's role in the defence of our country. (*A ladies/partners invited night*).

15 April – Condolences for the tragic loss of seven young lives from our community

New Zealand institutions that have been helping people for a long time. It has its origins in the Jubilee Institute for the Blind in 1890 and has been a landmark in Parnell for many years. It was a pleasure for me to make a small donation on behalf of the club to Martin of an immediate cheque of \$500 to be topped up with the proceeds of Sergeant John's

session on the night. These funds come from the Sergeant's "extractions" and the Shrapnel fund.

I apologize that the "hierarchy" had to leave the meeting early, but we had the important role of representing the club at a celebratory function for a member of our club that I am sure that we also all admire. Ian and Robyn Fox braved the weather at Government House during the afternoon for Ian to receive his Queen Service Medal for services to education. The day was topped off with a wonderful function at their home for family, friends and colleagues. And we did represent you well!

As I mentioned, Ian and Robyn were looking for a way to involve the entire club in their celebration, and I am sure that all those that partook of the "bar shout" appreciated their generosity. Thank you, Ian and Robyn!

For those interested, we now have an official "Seal" for the Rotary Club of Howick Inc. How did we manage without one! It was needed on this occasion to fix to our Trust document prior to submitting it to the Charities Commission. Now that we have one, perhaps we will have to think of some other uses for it!

Have a Good Week!

Rob

Secretary's Notes

President Rob was pleased to welcome members and two guests, Stephen Clarke (guest of Steve Whitehead) and our speaker, Martin Casey, Regional Fundraising Manager for the Royal NZ Foundation for the Blind. Martin was later accompanied by a local puppy walker for the Foundation, Michael and his daughter Wendy and puppy Don, a 7 month old black Lab.

Martin was introduced by Fred Holland, who said that Martin's challenge is to raise the annual sum of M\$17, the balance of the Foundation's M\$23 annual budget. Martin's talk traversed the wide sphere of operation of the Foundation, starting with the most well known - the Talking Books and Guide Dog Training programmes. Then followed mobility training and trauma programmes where clients and their caregivers need to cope with sudden impairment of sight. Children's services assist children and their parents better cope with loss of sight. All this and more. The vote of thanks was given by Gary Willcocks.

Here's a few Foundation Facts:
65% of members are aged 65 years and over.

Talking Books and Guide Dog programmes do not receive any government funding.

8000 items like books, tapes and magazines are sent out each week.

Having side-stepped the CD era, the Foundation see their talking book future in Internet and Data File talking books.

There are 270 active guide dogs at work in NZ.

The Presidential trio Rob, Bob and Garry left after the speaker's talk to help Secretary Ian Fox celebrate after his investiture today. Well earned Ian, and thanks for including us all with your generous bar tab.

Now for the 'stats',

- Steve Noles did a make-up at Somerville - Howick Rotary;
- Allan Riley and Jim Duckworth won the meat/wine raffle.
- The Golfing day last Sunday at Whitford was a benefit for the Duckworth's with daughter Rachel having the longest women's drive; Judy - the women's trophy while Jim cleaned out the men's.
- Fay Loughlin and David Fels celebrated birthdays, while Ann & Barry Nicholls and Chris and Rob Crabtree - their wedding anniversaries.
- Clive D spoke to our RYLA involvement

- Jim announced the Rotary tree planting day at Mangemangeroa Reserve for members, families and friends is on Saturday 10th May. Meet at the Barn in Somerville Road at 8.30am. Eco-sourced trees and refreshments provided.

Allan Riley

Secretary-in-training.

Birthdays

18-Apr *Gavin Green*
19-Apr *Peg Percival*
19-Apr *Sanjay Sathe*
20-Apr *Joseph Heays*



Duties April 22

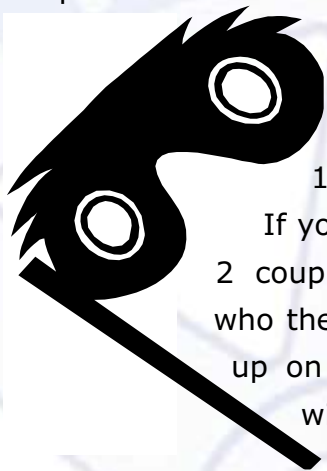
<i>Host</i>	Steve Whitehead
<i>Reception</i>	Bill McKay
<i>Inv/Thanks</i>	Clive Kilgour
<i>Backup</i>	Sue Ellis

Duties April 29

<i>Host</i>	Stephen Noles
<i>Reception</i>	Tony Twigge
<i>Inv/Thanks</i>	Rod Somerville
<i>Backup</i>	George Tyler

Mystery Dinner

It is that time of year again when you can enjoy each other's company over a sumptuous meal and fine wine.



Our annual Mystery Dinner will take place on Saturday 10th May

If you wish, you can host 2 couples you won't know who they are until they turn up on the night, but they will bring Entrée, Dessert and Wine.

If you wish to be a guest, you will find out closer to the date where you will be hosted and you will supply either Entrée or Dessert and Wine.

Lets get into the fun of the night, you never know, you may find a Gordon Ramsey or Jamie Oliver at your dinner party, but you will never know unless you are there.

If you weren't able to put your name on the list just email Bill Charkow at bill.c@scottpapers.co.nz and leave the rest to the Fellowship Team to organise.

Auction of Promises

You heard about it last week from the able lips of Glen Donaldson. Your Fellowship Committee is raring to go with this brand new project and has now set the date . . . Tuesday 10th June, so please give some thought to making an offer for this auction. You could offer anything, anything that folk will want to bid for. Secretary Ian listed some ideas in last week's Keyway and this could be a good place to kick your imagination into gear. **This project is now well advanced and should be a pile of fun for all concerned.** Any Queries? Discuss with someone from Fellowship.

Brian Hanlon

Sergeants Session

A good response with \$160-00 being collected for the Foundation For the Blind , which with our Club donation of \$500-00 will assist in a very worthwhile area.

Items for publication should be sent to mihai@meritofmeasurement.co.nz

Tree planting

10 May 2008

Mangemangeroa Reserve

Meet at the old barn on Somerville Reserve at 9:00am

For further details contact the organiser – **Jim Duckworth**

Entertainment Books.

A small number of books are again available to members @ \$65.00 each. Contact **Glen Donaldson**.

An Opportunity to Learn about another Country and Culture

Graham Rea from the District IYE Committee will be giving us a short presentation offering an insight in to the rewarding experience your family can enjoy by hosting a student from a different part of the world. This is a partners invited night, so please bring your wives and partners along so they can hear first hand about this important programme, and what it can mean for you.

David Fels