



## President's Corner

**W**ell, that was a great night last Tuesday evening, thanks one and all for the well wishes!

The Waltzing Matilda intro set up the segment and what a surprise! That has been duly noted for the Jan 27<sup>th</sup> meeting next year — one day after Australia Day.

At the Changeover celebration I spoke metaphorically on DK LEE's Rotary International theme 'Make Dreams Real' in the context of our ability to achieve one's vision.

Dong Kurn Lee's actual dream is to curb the world's child mortality rate. It is believed 30,000 children die every year under the age of five. Obviously the majority of this unfortunate statistic is in the third world countries. We will wait until we see DG Jack Davies' position on the theme before we can potentially align to any specific program.

We will find out that at the District Changeover on Sunday.

After Jack Davies gives his views on his Rotary year, Howick Rotary may be able to, in a small way, do something to assist DK Lee achieve his objective. Many of you would be aware of our sister club in Fiji (Suva Peninsular Sunset); for the 2008/9 year, Jack has asked Howick Rotary to pair up with the Rotary Club of Alfriston and take on our new Sister Club in Fiji, and that is the Rotary Club of Savusavu. Savusavu is on the other big island in Fiji and they may be represented at the District Changeover. More on this later.

Next Tuesday the July 1<sup>st</sup>, we have a big program to kick off the new Rotary year; and this meeting will be followed by the Club Assembly on July 8<sup>th</sup>.

Our guest speaker on Tuesday is Leah Gates. Leah is the Special Project Manager for the Auckland

Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber of Commerce is working on a number of exciting projects that include youth employment, women leadership and recruiting off-shore talent.

Also on Tuesday, as our special guests, we have six RYLA Rota Pacific attendees, so we have a full program to look forward to.

Whilst on the speaker program, Rob has teed up Atlantic rower Kevin Biggar as our guest speaker on July the 29<sup>th</sup>. This will be a not to be missed meeting.

In conclusion, for this first President's Corner, I shall once more advise how much of a privilege we feel to be part of the Howick Club and its presidency. As the year works through, one trusts that for the most part it shall be business as usual, and at best a somewhat exhilarating ride.

**Garry**

## This Week 1 July 2008

The Weekly Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Howick, Inc.  
[www.howickrotary.org.nz](http://www.howickrotary.org.nz)

## 1<sup>st</sup> July Leah Gates Chamber of Commerce

### Duties July 1

<i>Host</i>	Michele Zackey
<i>Reception</i>	Steve Whitehead
<i>Inv/Thanks</i>	Hal Martin
<i>Backup</i>	Gary Willcocks

### Duties July 8

<i>Host</i>	Rob Mouncey
<i>Reception</i>	Bill McKay
<i>Inv/Thanks</i>	Clive Kilgour
<i>Backup</i>	Sue Ellis



## Secretary's Notes

**T**his week the **changing of the guard** took place before an enthusiastic and well nourished attendance of 120 members, partners and friends.

The special guests and friends of Past President Rob and new President Garry helped to make it a most memorable evening. Thanks were given to ADG Janet who introduced Incoming ADG Ingrid who has the RCOH under her wing for the new Rotary year. Our Honorary Member and stalwart of Howick Rotary, Dulcie Howells, received special mention for her Masters Games success and continuing support of so many club activities. The special event of the evening was the presentation to members of two new Paul Harris Fellows — Graham Loughlin and John Spiller - and a Sapphire pin (second PHF) to John Richardson. The introduction addresses by the three presenters now follow.

### John F. Richardson

It is indeed a great privilege to be asked to introduce a new recipient of a Paul Harris Sapphire Pin. The object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of Service as a basis of worthy enterprise and this awardee certainly exemplifies the notion of Service above Self. He has served on every Club Committee and was our President in 1998/99. However he is probably best known as a very long-term member of the joint Regatta Committee and more recently, as its Convenor. The continued success of this joint Howick / Half Moon Bay Regatta which has raised well over \$1.25M for local charities is in no small way due to the contribution, commitment and extreme hard work of John Richardson. John was made a Paul Harris Fellow in 2001 and on that occa-

sion Past President Brian Hanlon eloquently described to us John's Wellington origin, Hamilton education and upbringing and High School romance with Anne. He told us how John was at this point much more interested in Rugby (he had 3 years in the 1st XV) than he was in education and learning. John's long service, culminating in being the Managing Director for SE Asia, Australia and New Zealand, with the Marley Company and his ongoing contribution to the Plastic Industry are legendary and were recognised by the conference on him of Life Membership of the Plastics Institute. His focus on his family, their education, sports and careers are exactly what we would all aspire to, but just expect of John. His interests in tennis, fishing, rugby and house building in Pauanui all demonstrate what a well-rounded person he is. This award of a Sapphire pin marks around 37 years of exemplary service to Rotary, more than 31 years with the Rotary Club of Howick and a real contribution to our local community, Rotary's International endeavours and his Vocation - the Plastic Industry. For myself I will always regard the manner in which John led the Plastic Industry as its National President and has guided the combined Regatta Committee through the many issues and difficulties which arise in a project jointly run by two voluntary organisations whose officers change each year and whose representatives on the committee change regularly. In both situations John never appears phased, frustrated or angry but somehow always manages the achievement of the best possible outcome for all concerned. Everyone who comes in contact with or works with John is truly impressed and has the highest possible regard for him. He is one of nature's true gentlemen. In

giving you this award John, your valued contribution and Anne's tremendous support of you are recognised and of course the Rotary Foundation benefits. Your Rotary friends have tonight the opportunity to congratulate you and thank you - we are privileged to have you as a member of our Club.

Bob Mackie

### Graham Loughlin

It gives me great pleasure to introduce our next Paul Harris Fellow. He has lived all his life north of Taupo. Having been born close to the sea in the early 40s, the call of work brought the move south to the interior for the next 20 odd years. Then they saw the light and moved to the big smoke north of Bombay. During this period, the marriage of Graham & Faye Loughlin took place, two sons and a daughter resulted, followed many years later by more weddings and seven wonderful grandchildren. Over the years, participation in groups such as Scouts, Jaycees, and Kiwanis introduced Graham to community service with the application of hard work and resultant pride in achievement. In recent years a desire to put something back into the local community brought him to Howick Rotary, where he has been actively involved in Directorships, community projects such as Koromiko Gardens, Selwyn Road Playground, Mangemangeroa Reserve, Bookarama, Yacht Regatta and many others. He has owned and operated his own businesses successfully over some 35 years and continues today. Many hobbies occupy his time: golf, cars, reading, vintage cars and aircraft and still allow him and his Faye to enjoy quality time together. His family have played a significant part in their life and they now are in a position to enjoy and share in the lives of the children and grandchildren. He is

## Diary July-Literacy month

- 8-Jul. **Club assembly**  
*Zoe Dix - Exch. Student*
- 15-Jul. **New members -**  
*Hal Martin,  
Colin Monk*
- 22-Jul. **RYLA Awardees**  
*TBC Clive Derbyshire*
- 29-Jul. **Kevin Biggar -**  
*Atlantic Rower  
and author*

## Exchange Student

**W**e will have an exchange student arriving in NZ on July the 16th. Her name is Camille Habet from Belgium. Camille will be staying with Lyn and David Fels for the first 3 months.

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## Secretary's Notes

currently spending hundreds of hours not to mention dollars doing a complete rebuild of an Austin Healey at home in preparation for a rally early next year. Some years ago they took a trip out to Ardmore. A morning tea took place at the Big Tree Company. Faye stayed to find specimen trees for the garden while Graham went to the Ardmore aerodrome. On his return some one hour later at the Tree Company to pick up said wife, he appeared quite distressed when he saw the quantity of plants Faye had bought in the interim. It was only much later that he revealed - it was not the quantity of trees, but that on arriving at the airport he had hopped on board the plane to experience half an hour of aerobatics and to study the intricacies of the brown paper bag. Graham's hands-on hardworking attitude has been a great asset to Howick Rotary in recent years with hundreds of hours devoted to the development and operation of the club and associated community projects. I am indeed honoured to introduce Graham Loughlin as our new Paul Harris Fellow. He has contributed greatly to Howick Rotary and the wider community, so ably supported by Faye. Well done, Graham!

John Osborne

### John Spiller

A Paul Harris Fellowship recognises a person's contribution to Rotary or the community with a US\$1000 contribution to The Rotary Foundation, towards its objective of the achievement of world understanding and peace through international, charitable and educational programmes. That's what the good Rotary book says, but how can you possibly describe to someone what effect that money has when applied to saving the life of a child, or for that matter countless children in a third world country? Here at

home, some of that money is also applied to assisting those less fortunate in areas such as education. As a service club, a charitable organisation, we have to work with partners to do the greatest good. In our community, that means working, among others, with elected officials. Sometimes, those people are totally in tune with our community. Tonight we are fortunate to be able to recognise someone who has been singing from the same song sheet as Rotary for many years. John Spiller. Up to last year, John was a member of the Howick Community Board for 12 years and chairman for the last term of three years. As a Howickian, born in the Selwyn Maternity Hospital (as were his brothers), schooled here and currently living close to the heart of the Village, John's family name is synonymous with retailing in Howick. You may not know that it was in 1942 that his grandfather established the first Spiller's general store, about where Crandall and Peters are now. The move across the street occurred in 1952 and in recent memory - 1992, the store was demolished and rebuilt to become Spiller's Hammer Hardware. The family business has been a shining beacon of service to our community for all those years. But only because of the people who work there - people who care. Our Rotary motto for this year has been Rotary Shares and next year will be Make Dreams Real. Well, the Spiller family have been both sharing and I guess endeavouring to make dreams real for many years. And so it is with John. He has given unstintingly to the community. As Community Board Chairman, his style in the hot seat was said to be quiet but assertive, he never got into a flap, feathers unruffled. A great sense of humour livened up the sometimes dull meetings.

John has strong values and is not easily swayed off them. He stands by his opinions having made his mind up - a difficult task when under fire, but he stayed strong. John took a gamble at last year's elections, deciding to only stand for Council, not wanting to settle for second best. In our democratic society, that meant he missed out, but watch this space, he'll probably go for broke again. In the meantime he is keeping his hand in the community. A keen conservationist, he is one of the Friends of Mangelangoeroa and committee member; a busy member of the Howick Tramping Club; he is working on conservation projects in the northern Pureora Forest to help save the Kokako (back of the \$50 note) one of our most endangered species. He has volunteered for a similar project closer to home in the Hunuas. Needless to say - he loves the mountains and bush. John has recently married Moira - I'm not sure whether she joins in those expeditions yet or not! Rotary has four avenues of service - International, community, vocational and club, and in two of these, community and vocational, John really fits the bill! With Rotary's guiding motto being "Service Above Self", which he lives, it is therefore very fitting that as Rotarians we recognise his outstanding contribution to our community with this Paul Harris Fellowship.

PDG Rob Crabtree

Finally, as next week's meeting is President Garry's first, we look forward to a good attendance for the dinner meeting (and the committee meetings - where applicable.)

Until next week,  
**Allan Riley**



**John Spiller**—Paul Harris  
Fellow

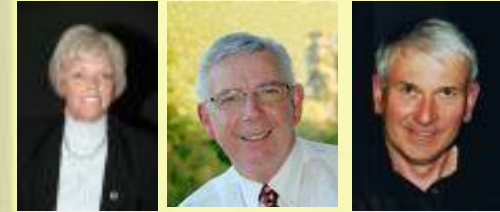


**Graham Loughlin**—Paul Harris  
Fellow

**John F. Richardson**—Paul Harris  
Sapphire  
Pin



The New Team



Changeover Night

