# The Rotary Club of Christchurch Sunrise



the First Ten Years
4989 to 1999

# **PREFACE**

This booklet fulfills a promise I made to Harry Wicken, our first club president, on the occasion of the club's 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. As the further 10-year gestation period suggests, the accumulation of content for the booklet has been frustratingly difficult. This is an issue the club needs to address if a similar publication is planned in the future.

What is recorded in the following pages hopefully illustrates the enthusiasm of those early members and the enjoyment they had in each other's company.

Clubs must change over time but it is hoped that reading about those first 10 years will encourage current members to retain the unique character of our Rotary club that developed during that period.

My thanks are extended to Harry Wicken and Brent Goldsmid for sharing memories with me and to Graham Harrington for getting this record into a publishable format.



Ian Thomas



Published July 2009

# THE BEGINNINGS

"The Rotary Club of Christchurch Breakfast", "The Rotary Club of Mid-City Christchurch" or how about "The Breakfast Rotary Club of Christchurch"? These and other names for a new Rotary Club were discussed and the final choice made at a meeting of potential members on 26 May 1989. It was appropriately at a breakfast meeting held at the Latimer Motor Lodge, which was to be the home of the new club for the next five years.

A lot of hard work had preceded this meeting. The idea of a breakfast club had been circulating around District 9970 since 1986 but it wasn't until August 1988, when District Governor Murray Anderson asked Wayne Anderson to act as his special representative to establish a new club in Christchurch that the idea took on some substance. By this time three other New Zealand cities had Rotary breakfast clubs and Murray did not wish to see Christchurch languishing.

The Christchurch Rotary Club agreed to act as sponsor to the new club and its past president John Shipston became involved in the project along with the District extension committee chairman, Gerald Austin.

Other clubs in the District were advised of the intention and a meeting of interest was called for Tuesday 28 February 1989 at the Chung Wah restaurant. Seven Rotarians attended. After this inauspicious start, the steering committee of Wayne, Gerald, John and new recruit Trevor Duston (Hornby club) turned up the heat on all club presidents and by April, thirty former, present and prospective Rotarians had been targeted for membership of the new club and each had received a personal letter of invitation to a meeting on 5 May.

At this meeting 27 people attended and 16 completed membership forms, 5 of them new to Rotary. There was overwhelming support for a Friday morning meeting but a debate about a club name was not resolved. A further meeting was held on 19 May at which a nominating committee of Gerald Austin, Russell King and Trevor Duston was set up to receive nominations for club officers and directors.

There were by now regular meetings. The meeting on 26 May was notable for the final choice of name and Terry Jacobs' talk on taxidermy. Terry commenced by explaining that taxidermists do not "stuff" animals they "mount" them and wondered why everyone laughed. To a question on what was his biggest mounting, he replied that it was the rear end of an elephant. More laughter. An entrance fee of \$40 and a members' subscription of \$60 for the first six months was also decided.

President
President Elect/Club Service
Paul Kennett
Secretary
Russell King
Marshall Wright
Sergeant
Neville Brenssell

Directors Community Service Bill Taylor

Vocational Trevor Duston International/Youth Ken McNee

The above officers and directors were appointed during the 2 June 1989 meeting at Latimer Lodge at which 20 were present. After a talk on finance, bylaws and the constitution by PDG Brian Lee, the standard Rotary Club constitution and recommended Rotary by laws were adopted. Other resolutions passed were the ratification of the \$60 six monthly subscription and that the "Rotary Down Under" magazine be received by all members.

On 8 June Harry Wicken held his first directors' meeting at his home when by then all the necessary application forms for chartering the new club had been sent to Rotary International. The important matter of food was hammered out — a continental style breakfast for \$10 with a cooked breakfast being available on request for \$14. The Directors set an objective of 30 members by June 1990 and decided whenever possible preference would be given to new Rotarians rather than existing members of other clubs. At a later Director's meeting it was acknowledged that there was a clear indication from members that the club should tread warily over any intention to invite a female member but if a suitably qualified female was nominated for a classification that was open, such nomination would be accepted on its merits regardless of gender. (How times have changed!)

Prompted by Gerald, many District clubs sent monetary donations for the necessary equipment and chattels, adding \$1100 to the new club's bank balance. When the news came through from Rotary International that as from 13 June 1989 Sunrise was to be an official Rotary Club, District Governor Murray Anderson was so excited that he personally purchased a gavel and stand and presented it to the Club. The Hornby Club presented a framed copy of the Rotary Grace.

The first meeting as an official Rotary Club, albeit one with no members at that stage, was held on 23 June at which Harry W introduced himself to the Club. Even

then he described himself as semi-retired and proceeded to tell a fishing story which the Bulletin editor at the time reported as the "most unusual one-that-got-away tale he had ever heard". Brent knows Harry much better now!

Planning proceeded for the Charter meeting which was finally organized for Saturday 29 July 1989 at the Ngaio Marsh Centre, University of Canterbury

Programme	- Total	ey Ouw of Onrus	tchurch Sunvise
WELCOME Chairman: Wayne Anderson	President:	H. W. Wicken (Harry)	Dentistry (Private Practice)
GRACE	President Elect:	P. M. Kennett (Paul)	Trustee Services
	Secretary:	R. King (Russell)	Hotel Management
INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUESTS, APOLOGIES AND PRESENTATIONS	Treasurer:	M. Wright (Marshall)	Local Government Administration
	Director:	W. S. Taylor (Bill)	Radio Communications
INDUCTION OF CHARTER MEMBERS District Governor: Ellis Buchanan	Director:	T. Duston (Trevor)	Marketing Consultancy
	Director:	K. McNee (Ken)	Life Insurance Broking
PRESENTATION OF CHARTER Past District Governor: Murray Anderson	Sergeant at Arms:	N. Brenssell (Neville)	Antenna Services
Community of the Hamiltonian Community and the Community Service and the Service Interest the Service Community Service		I. Barritt (lan)	Soft Furnishing Wholesaling
ACCEPTANCE OF CHARTERPresident: Harry Wicken		B. Goldsmid (Brent)	Computer Form Printing
CANADA CA		M. Gousmett (Michael)	Charitable Trust
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT His Worship the Mayor: Hamish Hay		N. L. Hey (Neil)	Architecture
GREETINGS FROM OTHER CLUBSPresident: Lew McIvor		C. Hindson (Colin)	Public Relations
Rotary Club of Christchurch		T. Jacobs (Terry)	Taxidermy
		B. Larson (Bill)	Packaging Manufacturing
SERGEANT Neville Brenssell Charter Member		S. Parr (Steve)	Office Furniture Wholesaling
CLOSING REMARKS President: Harry Wicken		R. Skinner (Ross)	Interior Design
NATIONAL ANTHEM		T. Smither (Tom)	Petrol Engines Reconditioning
SATISTICAL PROPERTY.		A. Trent (Alan)	Glazing Services
FELLOWSHIP		I. Whiting (lan)	Motor Cycles Retailing



Harry Wicken at the Charter Breakfast

commencing at 8.30am. This took the form of a champagne breakfast attended by 128 people at which the 19 new members of the Rotary Club of Christchurch Sunrise were inducted and the charter presented to Harry W by Murray Anderson. 20 members were the minimum required for chartering but Colin Hindson pulled out at the last minute.

The speakers for the subsequent meetings largely consisted of members on their life and times to ensure members got to know one another. In keeping with the then Rotary International theme of "Enjoy Rotary", Harry ran some hilarious meetings and was never predictable.

The Bulletin editor breathlessly reported that Rotary Grace had been said in the correct place now for three (!) consecutive meetings. Guests received special attention – regular visitor Keith Dowson hardly knew when to stand as he was called a different name each time and one guest was enthusiastically welcomed when not even there!

The Club was well represented at District events. There was heady success in the indoor bowls and pool at the club's first attempt but only four members (no



Changeover Dinner Bill Taylor, Harry Wicken and Paul Kennett

wives) attended the District Conference in Ashburton – a far cry from subsequent efforts.

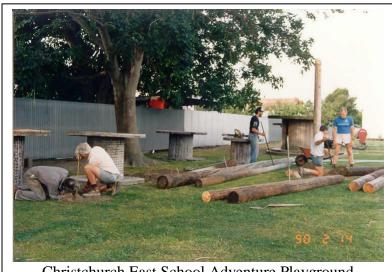
Our first fund raising effort got underway in early 1990 when we borrowed equipment from Hertz to etch vehicle windscreens as a theft-proofing measure for \$20 a time at various shopping malls. Members were asked to volunteer their cars for practice purposes! The funds raised enabled us to cover a US\$1000 contribution to Rotary Foundation and some support to the City Mission.

The dinner celebrating the first changeover of club officers was held at Latimer Motor Lodge in late June 1990. In all other Rotary clubs it is usual for the incoming President to organise this function- but not Sunrise! Harry W took on this task and ever since the outgoing President has organised the changeover dinner.

**Membership** – At the end of the year there were 28 members and one honorary member (Wayne Anderson). 10 new members were inducted during the year, 3 of them in the first two weeks after the charter breakfast-a good effort for a new club.

Even more impressive was the attendance at meetings. There were nine 100% meetings during the year and 27 members had 90% attendance. Consequently the club won the first of many Belfast Trophies for best District attendance record.

**Community Service** - The building of a confidence course



Christchurch East School Adventure Playground

at the Christchurch East Primary School was a great way for a new group of people to get to know one another and was our first encounter with the school caretaker's home brew. This was also the first time we met Marg. Robson, the principal of the school, who was subsequently to become a club member.

**Fellowship** - In addition to a BBQ at Tom Smither's, there was a Christmas picnic, a theatre evening, a number of pub social evenings with partners and a progressive dinner organized by the International committee.



These Christchurch East



Christchurch East School Adventure Playground

President Paul Kennett
President Elect/Club Service Tom Smither
Secretary Russell King
Treasurer Marshall Wright
Sergeant Harry Sweeney

Directors Community Service Neil Hay

Vocation Terry Jacobs
International Trevor Duston
Youth Michael Gousmett



DG Ellis Buchannan Presenting Wayne Anderson with a PHF



Rock and Roll Demonstration

The first Changeover dinner at the Latimer Motor Lodge, which ushered in the new Rotary year, was notable for a Rock and Roll demonstration by members Neville Brenssell and Bill Larsen. In recognition of his sterling work in setting up the club, Wayne Anderson was presented a Paul Harris Fellowship by the club. Interestingly the guest speaker was Joe Bennett, some time before he became a noted columnist and author.

Other speakers during the year included two cabinet ministers (David Caygill and Margaret Austin) Elvis Presley (Reg. Garters) and the Wizard who freely admitted he was insincere and untrustworthy in his battle with the Dept. of Statistics over his census forms.

Our first involvement with the Rotary Youth Exchange program was the selection of Katrina Jones, a 6<sup>th</sup> form student at Christchurch Girls High, to spend a year in Sweden. Afterwards Katrina returned to Christchurch to complete her

university degree and then worked all over the world until finally returning here in 2008 with her Turkish husband and baby.



Rotary Youth Exchange Programme

# Accent on culture and travel

The nine students from Canterbury and Westland who took part in the 1991 Rotary youth exchange programme have returned with more than a host of badges and new accents to try on their friends.

They see themselves as cultural ambassadors for New Zealand

One said the experience had taught her more about her own country. After fielding questions from her overseas hosts, she knows more about New Zealand now than when she left.

While away, the students stayed with several families. One student, Aroha Rangi, aged 18, stayed with six families in Japan.

All used the chance to travel during their time abroad. Several went to Eastern Europe during the northern summer break.

Exchange students are expected to tell others about their experiences, and may give talks to up to 40 groups while away.

Most of the group returned to Christchurch last week.

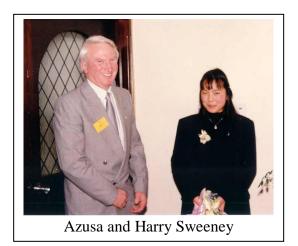
The local Rotary district is now hosting 12 overseas students.

Seven students also left Christchurch for their 12-month adventure on Sunday.

> Rotary Youth Exchange Programme Story

Our club also hosted a Japanese student for a year from April 1991-Azusa Shimazu who Harry Sweeney referred to as the "happy Jappy"! Unfortunately we never heard from her again after her return to Japan.

The main fundraiser continued to be the vehicle windscreen etching which allowed the club to donate two "Mosquito" children's wheel chairs to the CCS, a particularly worthy cause as Harry Wicken's granddaughter was to use one of them.



An interesting experiment was the 6.45am start to meetings and an 8.15am finish. Perversely this was tried in mid-winter and only lasted 2 months. More enduring was the no smoking rule introduced in May 1991.

**Membership** -At the end of the year the club had 29 members and retained the District Belfast trophy for the best attendance at meetings.

**Community Service** -In keeping with the Rotary theme of "Preserve Planet Earth" we did more planting at Christchurch East School and helped protect its special Kauri tree. We also demolished a small building for the Leprosy Trust.

**Fellowship**- The tradition of the family Christmas breakfast was starting to emerge. Nine partners attended in 1990 to listen to Geoffrey Hall, an undertaker, (at Christmas!) who described himself as a professional boxer and was rather humorous.

This breakfast was preceded by a Christmas party at the Smither's early in December. A black and white progressive dinner in May 1991 ended at Camelot Court for liqueurs and coffee. (a different attitude to drinking and driving in those days). A more representative group than last year attended the District Conference in Akaroa which appropriately had a French theme. Our initial decision to dress as bunches of grapes was thankfully rescinded in favour of a French artist's costume.



9

President Tom Smither
President Elect/Club Service Harry Sweeney
Secretary Russell King
Treasurer Marshall Wright
Sergeant Terry Jacobs
Directors Community Service Barry Swaney
International Roger Turner

Youth Steve Parr Vocation Ian Thomas



Changeover From Paul to Tom

The main fund-raiser this year was running a Square Dance at the Pioneer Stadium from which the club raised over \$2400. More than 400 people attended. We also organized a food fair in conjunction with the Christchurch Dragon Boat Festival. \$2365 was raised and this was donated to Cholmondeley Childrens' Home.

The International committee ran a film evening that raised \$1000 for a sewing machine for St Christopher's

Orphanage in Fiji - the start of an ongoing relationship with this institution that has brought satisfaction and frustration in equal measure. The film itself was described by some members as truly international, others that at least it was a night out and others are still searching for a description!

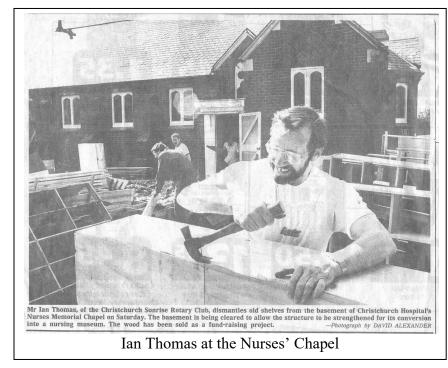
Our support for Christchurch East School continued and the first involvement in the school fair started in October 1991, although then it was called a boot sale. The \$2000 raised was used to buy school library equipment.

Sam Scott was our second outward Rotary Youth Exchange- this time to Germany. Other youth awards were Jacquiline Smith, Michael Turland (RYLA) and Nikolai Cannock (RYPEN)

It has become the practice, in Australia and New Zealand at least, to award members a Paul Harris Fellowship for outstanding service to the club and Rotary generally. This year the club awarded a Paul Harris Fellowship to its first President Harry Wicken - making him the world's 341,301<sup>st</sup>!

**Membership** - In a period of declining numbers in other clubs we welcomed 9 new members and increased our membership to 34. Attendance remained in excess of 85%, the third best in the District.

Community Service - At various times during the year we were involved in clearing parts of the Bridle Path reserve and replacement tree planting. In September 1991 we cleared the basement area of the Nurses Chapel at Christchurch Hospital to enable restoration work in the chapel to be undertaken. This involved the removal of all fittings, salvaging and selling any good timber.



**Fellowship** - Two vocational visits to the French Bakery and Linc Development Centre doubled as social events for members and partners. More than 50% of members went to the District Conference in Westport as Chinese market gardeners. District sports events were well attended. A ski day at Porter Heights, nights out at the Court Theatre, the musical "Chess", indoor basketball and an Orana Park BBQ, were just some of the regular monthly events. The Christmas function was held at Godley House via the Diamond Harbour launch, where some "ungodly" scenes were witnessed!

President

President Elect/Club Service

Secretary Treasurer Sergeant

**Directors** Community Service

Youth

International Vocational

Harry Sweeney Steve Parr Russell King Marshall Wright Paul Kennett Brent Goldsmid Ross Skinner Hugh Gibbons Neville Brenssell

The highlight of this year was probably the Weka Pass train trip organized by the Youth committee for Christchurch East School pupils and parents. The school fair was also a success and it was pleasing to see the PTA getting more involved.

Thanks to the earlier efforts of Harry S, a sister club status was established with Frankton Sunrise, Victoria with

an exchange of club gavels by Ian Thomas during a visit there in July 1992. The first of many interclub visits followed in May 1993 when seven club members of our club contingent to the **Rotary International Convention** in Melbourne attended Frankston's International These breakfast that year. members caused an international incident at the Convention when. during a very serious Rotary quiz session, suggested that Rolf was the name of Paul Harris's brother.



Weka Pass Outing for Christchurch East School



At Frankston Rotary Club - President Paul McCallum exchanges gavels with Ian Thomas

We also welcomed our first Rotary Ambassadorial Scholars in February 1993, Shawn Baldy and Robert Uy. Shawn from Charleston, North Carolina, initially had trouble with our kiwi accents and wondered why we wanted to show her the "pot holes". A visit to the Port Hills enlightened her. Shawn made a huge impact on this club and was an honorary member for some years before she (finally!) left New Zealand. We also sponsored a matched student exchange to Australia (Wayne Hocking) and although a further student (Marama Hussey) was sent later, it was generally agreed that it was of more benefit to the club to be involved in the older student programmes.

Despite police warnings to stay off the road, 4 members turned up for a meeting during the August 1992 big snow. Tom, Trevor and Barry were identified but the other member remained hidden under a blue anorak and hood and his name is still a mystery.

Breakfasts were held at Willowbank and McDonalds by way of a change. At the latter venue, Warner Barber produced yet another non-standard grace, following on from his thanks to God for the hard little apricots we had for breakfast at the Latimer. Another innovation was the father/son breakfast meeting.

Russell King was awarded a Paul Harris Fellowship at our Changeover dinner- a well-deserved honour.

**Membership** - The Belfast Trophy for club attendances was regained. Ten new members were inducted during the year, resulting in a membership of 39 by year-end. There was some debate about pausing membership at 40 as the Latimer Lodge could not cope with more. The consensus was to seek a new venue.

Community Service - A lot of work for little return was involved in organizing a sponsored race meeting at Addington in March 1992. It was big time stuff -a car given away live on 3ZB, but unfortunately costs were high and only \$750 was donated to the Bone Marrow Trust. Selling chips at the Carnival Fair in Hagley Park was also hard work, but other fund raising efforts were more



successful. The Square dance raised \$4400 and wine sales \$3900. Giessen products were promoted for sale – Mueller Thurgau, passe even then, \$10 a bottle and Chardonnay \$16. The Diabetes Trust (\$4300) was the main beneficiary.

**Fellowship** - Visits to the Court Theatre and basketball at Cowles Stadium were features of the social year, apart from the Christmas function poolside at the Russley Hotel and changeover at Otahuna, Tai Tapu. Under Harry W's leadership a 4WD expedition to Lake Rotoiti was made, the first of many similar trips that are still part of the club's social programme.



Ambassadorial Scholars Shawn Baldy and Russel Uy with Harry and Steve at Changeover



**First 4WD Expedition** 

President
President Elect
Barry Swaney
Secretary
Marshall Wright
Treasurer
Trevor Bailey
Sergeant
Matu Rangiuia
Directors
Youth
Malcolm de Joux

International Lyall Lukey
Community Service John Vale

Vocational Warren Thompson

In July 1993 members' partners discussed the idea of joining Rotary Inner Wheel but felt that their Rotary involvement should be directed towards club activities and to that end decided to form their own social group called Inner Tube. The first "leak" from the Inner Tubes was that they wished to change our meeting to a Friday evening as due to the current early start members were no good for anything by that night!

The main fundraisers were the square dance (\$3800), wine sales (\$3000) and Carnival week (\$2800) when we dispensed beer from the DB tent in Hagley Park. The Dragon Boat Festival food-stalls, Classical Sparks collection and Corporate-box seat sales at Lancaster Park also contributed some funds.

Speakers included Kenny Stone of the Canterbury Rams at the father/son breakfast and member Trevor Duston who waxed lyrical about the harvesting of rabbits for meat and other by-products. In thanking Trevor, Lyall said he would be concerned about aids and hepatitis from such usage as rabbits did not practice "safe

sex". Harry S was also in the limelight one breakfast when he was served the full meal which he missed when he and Jo failed to turn up at the Harrington's for dinner the night before – beer, nuts, kumara soup, chicken and wine!

In June 1994 we moved venue to the Netball Centre in Hagley Park on a regular basis to accommodate current membership numbers. Club caps made their first appearance.

Tracey Brice arrived from



Tracey Brice and Host Parents Thomas's, Hamptons & Turners

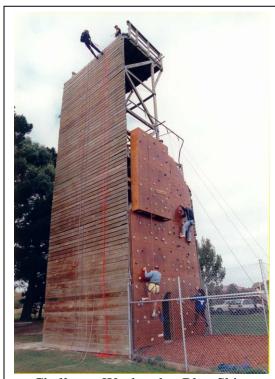
Canada as our Rotary Exchange Student for the year as did our new Ambassadorial Scholar Christine Kohn from California, joining our resident "overstayer" Shawn Baldy.

A Young Totara award was made to James Tyson, presented by Leanne Dalzeil MP, and Lynne Graham, Robert McPherson were sponsored to the NZ Science Summer School.

**Membership**- Five new members were inducted during the year, including our first woman member, Marg Robson. At the end of the year we had 42 members plus Wayne Anderson who was still an honorary member.

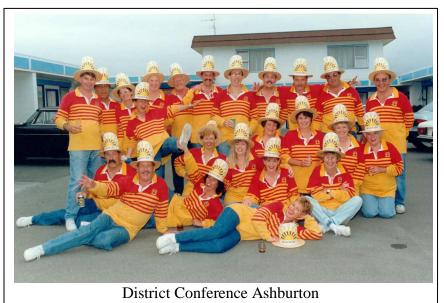
Community Service- The main project for the year was the Challenge weekend for disadvantaged youth held at Blue Skies camp. Although numbers were disappointing for the outlay (\$5000), we did enhance the lives of nine young adults.

The Christchurch East School "fort" structure was completed at a cost of \$1000 and much hard work. St Christopher's Orphanage in Fiji was the recipient of a commercial clothes dryer which Frankston and ourselves treated as a joint project. George Manning House received a wheelchair.



Challenge Weekend at Blue Skies

Fellowship- With Show
Day on a Friday we
combined with Garden
City for a breakfast on the
preceding Tuesday
morning at Rosebank
Winery. This was so
successful that it became a
regular event for many
years thereafter. Not so
enjoyable was getting
thrashed at cricket by
Garden City at Sydenham



Park in March 1994 – the best Sunrise player by far was Lyall's daughter! District Conference in Ashburton was well attended and our costume for the Saturday night was again eye catching. An excursion to Greymouth on the TranzAlpine, visits to MM Cables and the Antarctic Centre and our Christmas function at the Raceway completed a very good social year.



Fort at Christchurch East School



Fifth Year Anniversary Photo

President Barry Swaney
President Elect/Club Service Trevor Duston
Secretary Marshall Wright
Treasurer Trevor Bailey
Sergeant Lyall Lukey
Directors- Youth Roger Turner
International Roger Forgie

International Roger Forgie
Community Service Graham Harrington

Vocational Clive Earl

The Rotary Club of Christchurch Sunrise Charitable Trust was established with effect from July 1 1994 with the intention of channeling all the clubs charitable

activities through this entity. A decision was also made to incorporate the Club, further reducing the personal liability of members.

The 1995 changeover breakfast was particularly notable for the picturesque setting and Shawn Baldy's farewell. The venue was Okuku Lodge,



On the snow covered lawn at Okuku Lodge

North Canterbury, an old beautifully timbered building which looked magnificent surrounded by overnight snow. Shawn had participated in all the club's activities for 2½ years and was known with warmth and affection throughout the Rotary district. The farewell was emotional with tears coming from both Shawn and members.

This year the Challenge Weekend (cost \$4300) attracted 22 young, unemployed people to Blue Skies that hopefully would lead to their full time employment. One participant's written feedback about the weekend was that it was "s--- hot all round" Under Harry Sweeney's editorship, the club's bulletin emerged as the "Dawn Breaker" for the first time in September 1994.

The name has continued despite ribald comments about other connotations. Another first was the introduction by Matu of singing "Happy Birthday" under water – a practice which has baffled visitors to meetings ever since.

Rebecca Gilroy was selected as our outbound Rotary Exchange student to Canada and it was fitting that her first host parents were those of Tracey Brice, our inbound Exchange student the previous year.

Youth awards this year- David Gibbons and Sandra Quick (RYLA).

At one meeting in April, a visiting Rotarian from Perth, Australia, gave her classification as Sexologist. After a very interesting introduction of herself, there was a concerted effort by some members to have her replace the guest speaker!

The main fundraisers were again the square dance (\$3000), organised by the Youth committee and wine sales (\$3200) – it was perhaps coincidental that our wine supplier went into liquidation at this time.

A large number of members were seen at the Police Station on October 28 but it was explained to others in the building that it was just a vocational visit. A new twist was introduced whereby job-talks were



Ambulance officers Jocelyn Marxen, front left, and Graeme Hill, await the landing of the Westpac Rescue helicopter at the new Hagley Park helipad yesterday watched by Sue Bramwell, left, and Keith Drayton, of the Air Rescue Trust, Alan Beuzenberg, of Canterbury Health, Bernie Chatterton, of St John Ambulance, and Barry Swaney, president of the Sunrise Rotary Club.

# Ambulance access improved

Ambulances will have easier access to helicopters landing in Hagley Park with patients for Christchurch Hospital, thanks to an improved the landing area.

More than \$4000 donated by the Sunrise Rotary Club has allowed construction of an ambulance access and turnaround area next to the Hagley Park helipad.

The asphalt and astro-turf access will overcome problems experienced by ambulances in muddy winter conditions. While it was under construction, Canterbury Health took the opportunity to improve the helipad. Sunrise Rotary Club president Barry

Swaney said meeting weekly at the netball centre, which overlooks the helipad, had made members aware of the increasing number of medical flights and the need for quick access for emergency vehicles.

Regional chief ambulance officer Bernie Chatterton said the problem had been highlighted last year when an ambulance sent to pick up a boy badly injured in a railway accident had become bogged.

The helipad now had a permanent marker installed by Canterbury Health. The previous painted one had tended to fade, and pilots liked to have a clear marker to aim for, said Mr Chatterton.

Hagley Park Helipad

given by members after interviewing the subjects in their place of work.

**Membership** – Four new members were inducted during the year bringing the total membership to 45 at year-end. The club was runner-up in District rankings with 87% attendance.

#### **Community Service -**

\$4200 was spent upgrading the vehicle access to the helipad in Hagley Park. We also constructed a wooden deck and ramp at the Step Ahead Trust's house in Stanmore Road. Our involvement with the Christchurch East school fair, the Dragon Boat festival and the Classical Sparks collection continued.



Step Ahead Trust Deck team

Fellowship – Club events included visits to "Cats", "The Rocky Horror Show", the Casino Charity Evening, as well as a "Guess who's coming to Dinner" and the Christmas function, this year at the Camelot. District Conference at Blenheim was attended by 19 members and their partners, which resulted in the club winning the Owen McDowell trophy for attendance. It was noted that other clubs are now copying our introduced practice of dressing to a theme for the main social evening.



President
President Elect/Club Service

Secretary Treasurer Sergeant

Directors - Youth

International

**Community Service** 

Vocational

Trevor Duston
Ian Thomas
Trevor Bailey
Andrew Ott
Brent Goldsmid
Marg Robson
Ross Skinner
Bernie Chatterton

Harry Sweeney



Clive, Ian B and Lyall hands-on at the Film Festival



24-Hour Relay

This was the first year of our volvement in the Film Festival, hich took our charitable fund lising to a new level. The club's ewly formed Trust's net gain was 29,600, which came as a surprise to the Trustees as they had only lanned for modest distributions that ear. The National Child Research oundation (\$3500), Step Ahead (\$4800) and Cholmondeley Home (\$2400) were the main beneficiaries.

There was some debate about the ethical issue of lending our club's

name to an event where the producers of the Film Festival took such a large cut of the proceeds. The positive response from the disadvantaged children that attended the film shows persuaded the club to continue and the event was destined to be the Trust's main source of funds for many years. The Club also participated in a 24-hour relay at

QE11 to raise money for the Westpac Helicopter Trust. We raised \$6000 by our efforts alone. The fitness (or lack of it) displayed by our members was amazing.

District announced that Matu is the new District Governor nominee, nominee – another first for the club.

Harry Wicken gave a moving eulogy to his Lada (a source of many fines), which passed on after a 13-year relationship. A one-minute silence was observed at our breakfast meeting, followed by two minutes silence for the new owner. Most members attended evening CPR courses at St. Johns and it was generally agreed that should an emergency occur it should not be when Clive and Harry S were around. The new storage cupboard or mobile coffin first appeared this year thanks to Harry S and provided wrestling exercise for many a morning thereafter.

An unforgetable speaker at one breakfast meeting was Kevin Uselinger who,

after a very motivational speech, sold many members a piece of equipment called the Isorbic Exercise System, all of which finally ended up at the next Christchurch East School fair. There were some very fit-looking Somalis the following year. The vocational breakfast meeting this year was at the Meadowfresh milk factory. At another meeting, as part of our regular Rotary information section, Ross reiterated the Club's policy toward the Rotary Student Exchange programme. This was a three- year cycle involving an inbound student the first year, an outbound student the next and then a year off- summarised by Ross as



"in/out/rest" a sequence all too familiar to our ageing members.

The District
Conference was held at
Kaitereteri and
attracted 60 members
and partners – a record
which won us the
Owen McDowell
trophy once again. In
recognition of the
passion of president
Trevor, we all went



dressed as rabbits to the Saturday social. When we paraded into the venue (late) to find no seats for us, some of the carrots we had got misdirected and we made an impact in more ways than one. We are not sure whether we have yet been forgiven by District. Derek Scott was a recipient of a Young Totara award presented by Christopher Doig. Other youth awards were to Simon Pophan (RYLA) and two others to RYPEN

**Membership** – Increasing still to 48 at year- end after four new inductees during the year.

**Community Service** – The usual projects of Christchurch East school fair, Dragon Boat festival and Classical Sparks collection continued with the addition this year of a tree chopping project at which we saw that a "Tim the tool man" attitude to chainsaws was not confined to television. Planting shrubs around the Netball Centre was our

environmental project.

Fellowship - The highlight of the social program was the International committee's fund raising (mosquito nets for Vanuatu) pot- luck dinner at the Sierra Lounge in November. Each committee provided the entertainment to much hilarity. Other events included supporting the Rams (more like lambs that night!) at Cowles stadium, a Court Theatre visit, wine tasting at St Helena, the show "42<sup>nd</sup> street" and an afternoon Christmas function at the Marine Hotel garden bar area. The club changeover dinner was held at the Russley Golf Club.



Brent doing his best to raise money

President Ian Thomas

President Elect Bernie Chatterton

Secretary Trevor Bailey
Treasurer Terry Jacobs

Sergeant Clive Earl

Directors- Club service Ross Milne Vocational/Youth Robin Schultz

Community service Ian Brownlee

International Philip Robinson

The Canterbury Asthma Society was the recipient of our largest Trust grant to date (\$20,000).

We also donated an exercycle to Step Ahead and made other smaller grants but generally it was the feeling of the then Trustees that it was better to make large grants for maximum beneficial impact.

Our new inbound Rotary Exchange Student, Martin Winiger arrived from Switzerland in August. He was formally farewelled at our changeover dinner in 1997 when he gave a humorous, self-deprecating speech. Martin could never be identified as verbally impaired.

The Club's selection and nomination of Amanda Dewar as a member of the Group Study Exchange to Chicago was successful. We also sponsored Stephen Fortune to the Physics Olympiad in Oslo and awarded him a Young Totara award on his return. Stephen



Ian Tests the Exercycle for Step Ahead

was subsequently judged New Zealand's top all-round academic student in 1996. Other youth awards we made were to Hemi Rennie (RYLA), Dylan Goldsborough and Alastair Buttemore (RYPEN)

At a Club assembly, the clubs four oldest members made a plea for a substantial reduction in their subscriptions on the grounds of financial hardship. Suitably dressed for their roles, the four described themselves as

- -a gum digger from Reefton who was forced to live off his meager gold claim. (Harry W)
- -an indigenous member who had to live in urban neurotica because he could not afford the bus fare back to Ruatoria. (Matu)
- -one who was eking out a living building swimming pools under a subsidised employment scheme. (Harry S)
- -a wheel-chair bound member whose mind had gone through the damaging effects of calicivirus. (Trevor D)

They were all deaf too as their rendition of "Hallelujah I'm a Bum" attested. The subscriptions remained unchanged.

Andrea Lord from the Incontinence Clinic had us wetting our pants with laughter over a subject that is basically unfunny. Her analogies with various wines for colouring and her comments on splash factors and frequencies were hilarious. Our Christmas breakfast not only captured the spirit of Christmas but also epitomised the spirit of our club. All members attended and only two partners were absent. Other meetings were held with the Rangiora club, first at the Telecom satellite station and then at Orana Park. We also had breakfast at Boaters after a vocational tour of the Convention Centre.

Marshall Wright was awarded a Paul Harris Fellowship in February bringing our total number of PHF's to four (Matu, Harry W, Russell and Marshall)

Membership - The highlight was inducting our 50th member (Trevor Dawson). The club again won the Belfast trophy with an average attendance of 91%

Community Service - This year our involvement in the Dragon Boat festival was in dispensing food and drink at the teams' party. This was a welcome change and a lot of fun. One hungry female competitor, havingalready used her food voucher, asked what she had to do to get another burger. At the



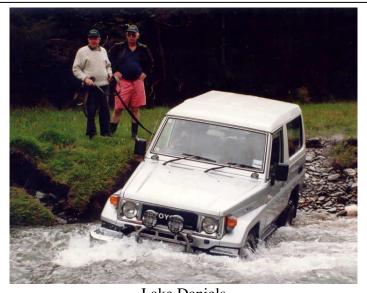
suggestion of the dispensing Rotarian, who shall remain nameless, she pulled up her

top and did. She got two extra burgers! We were collectors at Classical Sparks and were again at the Christchurch East School fair. Clive collected some of the leftover goods from the Fair and presented them to members at the next meeting. The most memorable and printable was a fitness book ("Chunk to Hunk") for Matu and a sports bra for Trevor Bailey.

Fellowship - A very full programme included a Mystery Dinner destination which turned out to be a launch cruise on Lyttelton Harbour (who were those people playing Frisbee off the back of the boat with dinner plates?) Other social occasions were participation in the first Rotary Black Jack challenge at the Casino for charity, a Trans Alpine steam train trip, a CSO performance, the "Chorus Line" show, a 4WD trip to Lake Daniels, an evening visit to Canterbury Breweries, a Little River picnic, a repeat of the "mosquito nets for Vanuatu" pot luck dinner at the Sierra Lounge (where Simon gave a great rendition of "Mack the Knife") regular visits to members' favourite watering holes on Friday evenings & of course our own changeover dinner at the Showgate lounge.



Matu in Full Cry at the Rangiora Conference



Lake Daniels

# **1997 – 1998**

President Elect

Secretary Treasurer Sergeant Directors

Club service Vocational/Youth

Community International

Bernie Chatterton Brent Goldsmid Trevor Bailey Terry Jacobs Graham Cargill Roger Forgie Barry Gatehouse John Harrington

Charlie Ives

Matu became the club's first District Governor from July 1997 and as a result of his position, the Rotary World President, Glenn Kinross attended our breakfast meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> August 1997. This extremely rare event in a club's history was recorded by Graham H by taking lots of photos but discovered later that he had no film in the camera! (no digital cameras in those days) Glen presented our Trust cheque for \$20,000 to Dr Chris Atkinson of the Oncology department at Christchurch Public



Matu and World RI President Glenn Kinross

Hospital for the purchase of a freezer for comparative cancer studies of tumours and blood samples. The recipient was particularly appropriate as a few weeks earlier Trevor Duston (Club President 1995/1996) had died of cancer. It was arranged for a plaque to be placed on the freezer in his memory. Trevor was an ardent Royalist and it was at his request that we sing "God Save the Queen" at the Friday meeting of Queens Birthday weekend.

It was a traumatic year for the club, as besides Trevor's death, we at one time had four members or wives seriously ill in hospital including President Bernie. The Rotary theme that year was "Show Rotary Cares" which our club followed with more fervour than usual.

Our outward-bound Rotary exchange student Mathew Scott departed for Chicago and we welcomed our Ambassadorial scholar, Shea Hembrey from Arkansas

who studied Maori art at the University of Canterbury. Youth wards were made to Robert Millar, Victoria Pearce, Rachel Craddock (all RYLA) and Josh Neville-Whyte (RYPEN). It was also largely through members' efforts that Josh got a full time job after his course.

The club was involved in two inter-club challenges during the year – trivial pursuit against Christchurch West and ten- pin bowling against Belfast. Harry S insisted that we practice before the District Pool competition at Lincoln. This more serious approach was a

disaster – we were far more successful when we just turned up on the night and drank plenty of beer!

Our combined breakfast meeting with Garden City Club was notable as it was jointly chaired by the two presidents – Bernie for Sunrise and his wife Mary Pauwels for Garden City. The vocational visit was to the new international wing at Christchurch Airport followed by breakfast at Cheers.

Early in the Rotary year we received a request from St Christopher's Orphanage in Fiji for a new washing machine. So began the year-long saga that cost Charlie dear in hair, time and fines. Eventually the machine arrived but only after the ship freighting it broke down on the way to Fiji.

As part of the club's obligations to Matu as District Governor, we (mainly Russell King) organised the District Conference at Methven. The financial support the club gave



Ambassadorial Scholar Shea Hembrey meets PM Jenny Shipley



Sunrise Methven Conference



President Bernie recognises Lynne Brownlee for her work on conference decorations and costumes.

district and Matu personally this year and the year prior was well in excess of \$11,000, a significant obligation that was largely funded by a management fee taken from Film Festival proceeds. This method of funding caused some debate and later resulted in some clear guidelines for the future on the distribution of funds raised for charitable purposes.

**Membership** – The club gained 5 members during the year but lost 3, making membership at year end 52. 16 members had significant District roles this year, which created a major workload for them.

**Community Service** - In March we organised a 4WD trip and BBQ at Waipara for the Child Cancer Society. 13 vehicles provided transport for the 35 children attending. Other projects included the Special Olympics, Dragon Boat Festival, "Classical Sparks" collection and the Christchurch East School Fair.

Fellowship- The first highlight of the social year was the boating expedition down the Avon from Tom's house in Riccarton to Deans Ave. This was a BYO (boat) occasion and attracted the ire of residents with stream boundaries, the fascinated stare of Japanese tourists and even got an unsolicited mention in "The Press". A BBQ followed at Tom's. The second highlight was a St Valentines Day evening at Larcomb's Vineyard. Not much can be remembered from the evening except that Clive swapped everyone's shoes around during the gumboot waltz! A Court Theatre visit and a members' 4WD trip to Lake Rotoiti rounded out the programme.



**Avon Boating Expedition** 

**President** Brent Goldsmid President Elect/Club Service Ross Skinner Secretary Trevor Bailey Treasurer Terry Jacobs Malcolm de Joux Sergeant **Directors Community Service** Neville Brown Gary Barber International Murray Ellis **New Generations Brian Smith** Vocational

The major grant from the Trust this year was \$14,200 for the completion of the Sunrise Club lounge at the Burwood Hospital Spinal Unit. This had more than the usual significance for the club as Roger Turner had spent some time as a patient at Burwood.

A decision was made to participate in the Books in Homes programme. After an aborted start with Woolston School, we made a long term commitment to supply books to Hammersley Park School. A co-operative effort between the club and the Model Engineering Society saw pupils from Cholmondeley, Christchurch East and Woolston schools enjoying a great day out at the Society's facility.

Our sister club, Frankston visited us during the year and a full weekend of activities was organised for them, including a welcome gettogether on Friday, a joint project Saturday, a 4WD day on Sunday and a farewell dinner on the Monday. The joint project was bulb planting in Hagley Park under the supervision of Council Parks and Reserves staff.



Planting Daffodil Bulbs in Hagley Park with Frankston Club

One passer-by commented to our supervisor that the group looked a little old to be doing periodic detention.

Youth awards this year went to Adam Jackson, Adrienne Ellis, Gareth Brookes (RYLA) Rebecca Pardoe, Jamie Quy (RYPEN).

The death of Bernie Chatterton (Club President 1997/1998) cast a shadow over the club. Bernie put up an extremely brave and determined fight against cancer, finally succumbing in November 1998.

Harry Wicken fittingly organised the clubs 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary brunch. It was a grand affair with more than 40 special guests as well as members and partners. The reminiscences and tributes flowed and it was difficult for Brent to keep to the time allocated. The function concluded with Tom Smither and Harry Sweeney being presented with Paul Harris Fellowships.

**Membership** – We started the year with 51 members and finished with 51.

Community Service - Manpower for the Film Festival continued to be a large commitment for the club. The old projects continued – Christchurch East School Fair, Dragon Boat Festival, Classical Sparks collection and the Cancer Kids 4WD day. Hands-on help was given to Gill Sheehan, an Age Concern volunteer, and many members gave blood during an organised visit to the Blood Bank.

**Fellowship** – In addition to District activities that have always been well supported by the club, the emphasis was on individual committees organising fellowship events for their own committee. All-club activities included some Court Theatre shows, and a "Guess who's coming to dinner" function.



Then District 9970 Governor Bruce Knowles and Past President Mary Pauwels of the Rotary Club of Garden City Sunrise, N.Z., at the unveiling of a plaque at the opening of the Sunrise Club. Mary is the widow of Bernie Chatterton, a past president of the Rotary Club of Christchurch Sunrise. Mary and Bernie were club presidents in the same year. The Sunrise Club project was initiated in PP Bernie's year and is dedicated in his memory.



The dining room at the Christchurch Spinal Injuries Unit has been upgraded and renamed the Sunrise Club. Providing coffee and snacks in a refurbished environment complete with a new sound system, the club is fast becoming an important social centre for spinally-impaired people to hang out with their friends as they recover.

The upgrading has been a project of the Rotary Club of Christchurch Sunrise, N.Z.

According to Unit Director, Professor Alan Clarke, a paraplegic himself, the Spinal Injuries Unit is not a sleepy backwater where paraplegics and tetraplegics come to terms with their disabilities.

"Rather it is a fast-moving scene where medical and surgical action demand concentrated expertise and teamwork and where acute personal and social crisises demand grit and determination from both patients and families," he said.

The Sunrise Club fits into this empowering approach by providing social opportunities and interaction. An on-going Christchurch Sunrise project is the raising of funds for the Allan Bean Centre based at the Spinal Unit to help people to gain control of their lives after a severe illness or injury.

The centre is named after the senior consultant of the Burwood Spinal Unit, Mr. Allan Bean, an internationally-respected spinal rehabilitation physician who recently retired.

Chris Wornall, a paraplegic, is the official fundraiser for the fund raising which is looking for project partners.

RDU Write-up

# CONCLUSION

Always thought- provoking, Lyall Lukey contributed an essay to the Bulletin following our 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations. It is reproduced here as an appropriate ending to this booklet.

# Happy Birthday To Us But Beware Complacency!

The older we get the faster time speeds up because the human yardstick is subjective. A decade can go past pretty fast unless we are paying attention. The Christchurch Sunrise 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary snuck up pretty fast, despite the urgings of late Club President Bernie to raise our awareness of the impending milestone by gathering memorabilia for the historic record.

It was good to see sponsoring Rotarians and founder members (some playing both roles) get such a thrill out of having been there at the conception and birth of the new club. It was nice to catch up with past or temporarily absent members and representatives from other clubs and the Rotary District. It was also great to hear the accolades about our "revolutionary" morning club- and Past DG Matu was obviously the club's most significant contribution to the evolving Rotary culture in this part of the world.

The anniversary event was well organised and flowed in good Sunrise fashion under the paternal eye of Harry W and with the effective chairmanship of Brent, who kept things moving while involving a lot of people, none of whom were allowed to get totally bogged down in nostalgia.

The highlight, perfectly timed and perfectly appropriate, was the well-merited "gonging" of Tom S and Harry S with Paul Harris awards. It is the first time that either has been genuinely speechless.

Anniversaries are certainly time for fond remembering. They are also an opportunity to look ahead to new challenges. As a pretty dynamic club with lots of talent, we are very strong on fellowship, despite the teetotal hour at which we meet. But do we do nearly enough to use our organising and other talents to make a real difference in our community and our world? For the first time ever Rotary International last year saw a drop in total members. Some clubs surveyed demonstrated that if there is not the right mix of worthwhile community projects balanced with social and networking activities, clubs find it hard to attract and retain quality members. Our present membership is four down from its peak and there are perhaps good reasons for this, but is it also a straw in the wind? In the euphoria of

reaching a significant milestone are we in danger of becoming complacent and becoming a bunch of middle aged and elderly Rotary Turks?

"Credibility" and "Continuity" are key elements of the new Rotary International slogan for Rotary 2000. Perhaps on the cusp of the new millennium, it is timely for us in our turn to start a new club and also start to get involved in some significant projects which might transcend one year. What could we really achieve in the next ten years if we put our collective mind to the challenge?



# Club Members Who Joined in the First Ten Years

		Date	Date
Nickname	Last Name	Joined	Resigned
Ian	Barrett	29/07/1989	6/07/1990
Neville	Brenssell	29/07/1989	
Trevor	Duston	29/07/1989	12/07/1997
Brent	Goldsmid	29/07/1989	
Michael	Gousmett	29/07/1989	1/11/1991
Neil	Hey	29/07/1989	
Terry	Jacobs	29/07/1989	
Paul	Kennett	29/07/1989	16/01/1998
Russell	King	29/07/1989	
Bill	Larson	29/07/1989	1/05/1992
Ken	McNee	29/07/1989	
Steve	Parr	29/07/1989	
Ross	Skinner	29/07/1989	
Tom	Smither	29/07/1989	
Bill	Taylor	29/07/1989	7/02/1992
Allan	Trent	29/07/1989	7/06/1991
Ian	Whiting	29/07/1989	5/06/1992
Harry	Wicken	29/07/1989	
Marshall	Wright	29/07/1989	
David	Clark	4/08/1989	4/05/1990
Barry	Swaney	11/08/1989	
Harry	Sweeney	11/08/1989	
Robin	Schulz	22/08/1989	
John	Vale	1/09/1989	
Ian	Thomas	15/09/1989	
John	Dyer	2/03/1990	5/10/1990
Hugh	Gibbons	23/03/1990	
Don	Hampton	23/03/1990	22/11/2002
Roger	Turner	23/03/1990	
Wayne	Anderson	1/06/1990	3/06/1994
Bill	Johnstone	1/06/1990	5/10/1990
Clive	Earl	30/06/1990	
Roger	Forgie	30/06/1990	
Barry	Gatehouse	30/06/1990	
Warner	Barber	3/08/1990	5/05/1995
Barry	Stevenson	3/08/1990	1/11/1991
Warren	Thomson	1/07/1991	1/02/2003
Matu	Rangiuia	5/07/1991	
Lars	Lindeman-Backius	2/08/1991	5/06/1992
Stuart	Rose	30/11/1991	2, 33, 1992
Graham	Harrington	30/05/1992	
	_		1/04/2002
Lyall	Lukey	30/05/1992	1/04/2002

Trevor	Bailey	31/05/1992	
Laurie	Rickard	7/08/1992	4/06/1993
Defyd	Williams	4/09/1992	6/10/1995
Graham	Cargill	30/09/1992	
Bernie	Chatterton	20/11/1992	5/11/1998
Malcolm	de Joux	30/05/1993	
Brian	Phillips	30/05/1993	
Grant	Hart	30/06/1993	
Ross	Milne	30/06/1993	
Marg	Robson	30/06/1993	
Mike	Prendergarst	5/11/1993	4/03/1994
Gerard	Burgers	1/03/1994	
Ian	Brownlee	30/06/1994	
Andrew	Ott	30/06/1994	
Brian	Smith	30/06/1994	13/09/2000
Neville	Brown	30/10/1994	
Shawn	Baldy	2/06/1995	6/06/1997
John	Harrington	30/06/1995	
Charlie	Ives	30/06/1995	8/01/2007
Simon	Kane	30/06/1995	23/01/1998
Philip	Robinson	30/06/1995	
Liz	Wooster	3/11/1995	3/01/1997
Phil	Graham	7/06/1996	1/11/1996
Gary	Barber	14/06/1996	
Pam	McLean	30/11/1996	10/02/2001
Paddy	Brandon	21/02/1997	27/03/2008
Murray	Ellis	9/05/1997	
John	Eldershaw	28/05/1997	14/02/2001
Trevor	Dawson	20/06/1997	5/06/1998
Geoff	Pearman	24/10/1997	18/02/1999
Fred	Dodds	5/12/1997	30/12/1998
Tejinder	Hansra	20/03/1998	31/12/2000
Cathy	Adams	29/05/1998	1/02/2001
Pauline	Delaney	3/09/1998	11/10/1999
John	Luxton	26/03/1999	
Raewyn	Raynel	4/06/1999	25/07/2003

Members who resigned and later returned to the club are shown at their original date of entry. If they are presently in the club then the date of resignation is blank