

ADDRESS - PRESENTATION AT THE 50th ANNIVERSARY LUNCH 30 JULY 2016

These reflections will give past members, a refresher on where we were and where we are now, and for current members a brief look to the past.

Venues

1966 Catholic Hall Rewa Street
1969 Linden Community Centre
1987 Tawa Pipe Band Hall

Names

1966 Rewa Ladies T.T.C.
1976 Linden Ladies T.T.C.
1990 Tawa District Mid Week T.T.C.

Club Leaders over 50 years:

We have had 19 club captains to date, 9 with us today.

Margaret Mason 1966-68, Jean Radford 1977-78 Dot Cooper 1979-80,
Eileen Gray 1982, Noreen Richards 1984-87, Carole Greenwood 1996-00,
Velma Maunsell 2001-03, Gretchen Lash 2004-2006, Cheryl Ransom fom 2007.

We have had 22 secretaries to date, 9 with us today.

Dot Cooper 1970-72 and 1988-90, Jean Atkins 1974, Jean Radford 1981, Alison Burns 1982,
Carole Greenwood 1991-95, Gretchen Lash 2002-03, Dorothy Woods 2004-06.
John van der Kaa 2011-12, Bryan Thomson 2013-14.

We have had 16 treasurers to date 4 with us today.

Shirley Wilson 1981-83, Jean Radford 1991, John van der Kaa 1997-03, Terry Roche
1993-96 and from 2004.

Every club needs an auditor now reviewer, we had the good fortune to have the services of Dick Renouf for 25 years from 1989.

Membership

Waiting lists have been in vogue from time to time. We have capped our membership at 50 for some time and have a waiting list at present.

Men were invited to join in 1989/90 with 7 taking up the initial invitation.

Membership is now 23 ladies 27 men.

People

Table tennis brings us together, and the opportunity to enjoy the other talents members have.

I recall the following:

John McAllister in his scottish regalia and brogue to complete.

John Thompson in many social roles, a great father Christmas.

Rusty Norris also as father Christmas and a story teller.

Bryan Thomson, card calling skills – housie/bingo.

John van der Kaa, musician and provider of games of skill.

Hilda Callender for her wit humour and all round personality.

The dress up skills of Hazel and Hunt Dryburgh as their majesties at the Right Royal Do, and Denis Stephenson as Rod Stewart. the rock and rollers Janet Shrive and Peter Highsted. The camera wizardry of Robin Radford and the computer wizardry of Gay Kerr both major contributors to the 50th anniversary book project.

I invite the following to stand and be recognised:

Those who joined in the 60's and 70's ----- 80's and 90's ----- since 2000

Events

I recall the popular Saturday night socials in the eighties and nineties with Bill Rees husband of Elizabeth, being a popular mc.

In recent years we have enjoyed mid winter and end of year socials.

A wide variety including car rallies, film evenings, bus trips, visits to Te Papa and Government House, mid winter and end of year lunches at our club rooms and elsewhere from Tug Boat on the Bay to the Wine Makers Daughter (Te Horo) and the Red Hackle Inn. Also High tea at the James Cook, Mid Winter picnic, Right Royal Do, and the Rugby World Cup etc.

Of recent years club members have enthusiastically supported the clubs social programme.

Thank you all for that support, a fitting tribute to Cheryl for her ideas, skill and energy to enthuse and successfully bring to fruition many memorable events.

Table Tennis

Our year round programme includes doubles and singles days during the winter, and singles days during summer.

Our annual championships

Ladies singles – pre 1990 the ladies had a very competitive ladder system operating. In 1990 Jean and Robin presented the Radford cup for the open singles champion through to 1996, now presented to the ladies single's champion.

The club provided an open singles cup in 1997, now presented to the mens singles champion.

Penny and Jim Ross presented the Ross cup in 1992 for presentation to the winners of the annual handicap doubles competition.

In 1996 the club introduced an award for the most improved player. This cup is awarded annually.

The first winner was Maureen Hodges, here today.

We have regular home and away interclub visits during the winter, (Red Star, Kapiti, Waikanae) and we support the annual Empire Invitation Doubles Tournament.

Terry Roche

30 July 2016