

Toasts at 50th Anniversary

For those who are fortunate enough **NOT** to know me, my name is Robin Radford and I have been a member of the club for quite some time. Senior moments preclude me from knowing how long. Wife Jean has however been a member for 40 years.

The two longest continuous servers in their positions, Cheryl & Terry, are still there today, and it is appropriate to recognise this at this 50th anniversary lunch and it will be my pleasure to present the toast to them.

When arriving at club in the mornings we always seem to see Cheryl & Terry secret squirreling in the corner of the kitchen, which looks a bit odd, BUT, thank goodness because we once again reap the benefits of these meetings with what we are enjoying today and other times, with of course the backing up and help of the committee.

I decided that these two folk each deserve their own toasts and that of course bought up the first problem – who first?

Weeell using a sophisticated algorithm I hacked from Google I calculated that – alphabetically first name Cheryl comes first, Surname Ransom comes first, Age before Beauty (that is young age!), and of course for us older generation – ladies first.

Cheryl:

Has been a member of long standing and has been club captain for an unbroken 10 years. Her cherry disposition and efficient organisation and entrepreneurial skills are renowned in the club. Each morning tea break Cheryl announces what has happened and what will happen by way of interclub matches, meetings, duty roster and other good things that have happened – birthdays, overseas trips, births (grandchildren) with great enthusiasm plus those sad events like losing members to that great TT hall in the sky with sensitive thoughts and condolences. Not forgetting to mention the odd broken arm and hospital admittances.

Over the years Cheryl has brought forth many great ideas for luncheons, trips and Xmas functions.

Now who else could have possibly thought this one up and I remember as being one of her best designs – the 2010 – can anyone remember what it was? - “Xmas By The Sea” affair.

Here we were in the clubrooms (latterly known as the Red Hackle Inn – her idea too I think!), sitting around in a circle in the center of which was a child’s rubber paddling pool with a few inches of water therein.

Over our heads dangled a huge round cardboard yellow cut out AKA the sun of course.

As the festivities drew to close Cheryl was goaded into taking a dip in the pool accompanied by one Barbara Simmonds.

She duly stripped off her shoes, with her feet & toes then creating tidal waves with Barbara in their enthusiasm.

Believe it – here are some pics to prove it!!

Thank you Cheryl for your past and present efforts and lots more in the future.

TOAST!

Terry:

Is a very long standing member including now being treasurer for the last 13 years plus 4 years in the 1990's.

The job seems to incorporate Morning Tea duties, the putting up and storing away of the tables and lots of other admin duties and perhaps Terry has made it that way.

In 2013 it was decided to buy new tables and Terry spent some time evaluating alternatives and even went to Palmerston North to have a looksee at the Manawatu Assn variety of good tables and spoke with a supplier there.

After a lot of consideration he recommended the ones we now have and committee agreed. It was a good decision I believe – they are great tables to play on as you will all agree and are also used by other clubs now making an easy transition when playing away.

I don't know how long it has been going on – perhaps when these new tables arrived, and I suspect being protective of these valuable assets, he is at the club early - 8am? each club day to erect the tables ensuring all parts of their mechanisms work correctly. Those early arrivals have a lot to thank Terry for. Then he supervises the storage of the end of play.

It is quite noticeable (to me anyway), that when interclub results are announced at club these are usually from Terry – (who often plays but for the last one he travelled to Raumati to support the players). He always places a very positive outcome for Tawa whether or not we win or are thumped. He emphasises the good parts and give credit to the deserving ones. And that what the club is all about – positive social enjoyment of all getting together.

Terry - Thank you from all of us – keep it up!

TOAST!

Others:

There have been many administrators in the last 50 years all of whom have contributed to the successful continuation of the club and they must not be forgotten. There have been 19 Club Captains, 22 Secretaries and 16 Treasurers, plus of course the various committee members over the years..

Some notable servients have been - **Carole Greenwood** contributed 5 years as club captain and 5 years as Secretary, **John van der Kaa** (well known for his pumpkin soup) - 7 years as Treasurer, plus 2 as Secretary and **Dot Cooper** – and spread over a long period – 2 years as club captain, 6 as Secretary (3 in the 1970's and 3 more a decade later).

So to all those who have served a -

TOAST!