

## International Relations, Annual Report 2011.

Good morning, Kia ora, Bon jour and Giddy gentlemen.

Later today in Toulouse, France the AGM of 41 International will start, as both our International Consuls were unable to attend we are being well represented by Bob Parton, Germany and Neils Holmen Anderson, Denmark who are delighted to be asked. I have sent over two banners (last of our old ones) and lapel pins plus one of my bow ties for Neils, Bob already has one plus a couple of NZ flags so they will be noticed.

There has been limited response from members to the idea of a "Pacific Association". However I am sure we would all welcome our very good friends from Noumea to explain more of what they are proposing later in the meeting. From our early days of Round Table and WOCO we have always had a great relationship with Apex, twinning of clubs and many visits which continue today. Noumea 41 Club has done so well coming to visit us and we must do better for them. Perhaps we could invite them to consider affiliating with 41 Club New Zealand so they may have a closer relationship with us as did Perth 41 Club?

Over the year I have received invitations to nearly all of the Associations AGM's and have sent out e-mails regarding these. There has been correspondence on many matters, especially disaster relief, we have looked at the "Shelter Box" scheme of Rotary and researched "Basic Needs Packs" for people heading into disaster areas but the one problem was communication, satellite phones have huge rentals and as standbys are therefore not practical. I believe this is being talked about in England as well.

I have written to 41 International and sent an article to the "Hinge Magazine" regarding the devastating earthquakes in Christchurch and have offered to find and coordinate a project for all the funds and help offered by the wonderful worldwide 41 Club Family. With Mark Peters help and advice we have set up a trust fund using Round Tables "Charitable Trust" designation to give this fund status and transparency. 41 International raised around 150,000 Euros and created a "Youth Hall" on Onna, Italy after the earthquake there, so now I have a huge challenge to find with your help another worthy project, for 41 International to get behind.

At the Christchurch "Meet and Greet" for the "Wild South Tour" Andy Waite, IRO for G. B. & Ireland inducted me into the "Golden Stomach" Club, a great honour indeed but I must say I was rather concerned as I had heard this involved large quantities of gin!!! "Golden Stomach" is for International IRO's who have served for several years and are invited to join this lifelong friendship, my number is 38 and I am looking forward getting to one of their get togethers sometime, somewhere.

I am delighted to report that a 41 Club is being formed at last in Auckland, North Shore.

Thank you to those who have helped me over the years and of course 41 Club New Zealand for having faith in me to do this job which has given me so much satisfaction. I offer myself once more for another term if you will have me.  
In Continuing Friendship.

*Derek Johns.*

## Tours Officer, Annual Report 2011.

Another busy year with 41er's from all around the world coming to tour NZ, they seem to like to come from November through to February and it becomes a bit of a traffic jam. However we are delighted to be able to help them out with their plans and many have stayed not only with us but many of you.

Thank you all for the help you continue to provide.

I must say the "Wild South Tour" has been such a highlight for Tina and I, such a great group to take, show some of our finest scenery, meet the wonderful people in our southern Clubs, enjoy their hospitality and to engage the group in activities and challenges they had not done before. Fantastic, 22 of us from 4 countries in 2 vans. We were greeted with enthusiasm everywhere we went and the Clubs involved went out of their way to host us all and to show us their favourite places.

Thank you so much, all of you involved.

My hope is that we also enthused them about their 41 Club, friendships, to travel to visit the rest of the NZ 41 family, AGM's and of course the world wide International 41 Club. There are now several asking about a tour in the North of the North Island!!!

Last year you may remember I asked if you were interested in taking our AGM offshore to Hervey Bay, north of Brisbane to join with Apex 40 and their Rort there May 25<sup>th</sup> -28<sup>th</sup> 2012. I have had responses from most Clubs and all said "Good Idea, why not".

Apex 40 and their Rort organiser are keen to have us reciprocate, there will be the Post Rort Tour the next week but I thought you would prefer to drive to Port Douglas and explore along the way then perhaps a Barrier Reef cruise return, a total of 16-17 days. Now I need some numbers, and your agreement to proceed.

Over the years we have hosted several Indian couples and YAP's, they have become quite insistent that we do a Tour there and have advised that the best time to visit climate wise is Feb but with Hervey Bay in 2012 then this would have to be 2013. I have asked for an idea of where to go while there and am working on that, I'm sure we would be very well looked after and have a wonderful time.

Krishna Kumar (Vice Pres 41 International) has also asked us to go to the International AGM in Chennai when he becomes President in April (monsoon time) 2012.

There is still the trip from Scandinavia via cruise ship to Mediterranean then Southern France, Northern Italy, Spain and Portugal sitting on the back burner, several have asked about going to South Africa and also Canada/Alaska but not a lot of feedback. I have also had requests for a trip to "The Top of Aussie", working on that.

Chris White has agreed to help me out with the Tours and learn how they tick; perhaps he will get you all enthused.

I am very pleased to find someone to give me a hand and keep an eye on how things are run, more transparency and another person to bring in other/fresh ideas.

Should you want I will continue to be Tour Leader for this next year.

In continued friendship

***Derek Johns***