

Report from the
29th National AGM of the
60sUp Movement of NZ Inc
(Hastings Branch)

Held in Masterton --- 27th – 29th June 2010

Sunday 27th

After a somewhat staggered start, a few clouds, otherwise brilliant sunshine we began our journey south to Masterton.

8 members – Faith, Beverley, Reg & Natalie, Coral, Dorothy & Ray & Molly – were aboard our mini bus driven by Ray.

- Dannevirke didn't disappoint with their weather – cold – after a T & P stop we motored onto Eketahuna – *Eketā* what!! for a leg stretch & a very warm & hearty bowl of soup & sandwiches, arriving at Solway Park Hotel, Masterton at 2pm – bit of a hitch here as two members didn't have a booking! Soon sorted & we settled into our very warm & comfortable rooms.



Registration, followed by Mix & Mingle in the evening gave those a chance to renew friendships & introduce themselves to other branch members. Our evening ended after a light supper at the onsite Café.

Monday – after a very, very hearty breakfast we relaxed in cool, but brilliant sunshine until heading to the meeting room at 9.30am.

---- after a warm welcome from our National President, Barry Jackson & singing of the National Anthem, Wairarapa MP, John Yates, officially opened our 29th National AGM. With the business end of the meeting (*apologies, '09 AGM Minutes, Presidents Report, Financial Report*) moved thru', & election of officers for 2010/2011 taken care of with Barry Jackson again in the dual role of President/Treasurer. This again sparked discussion from the floor on the legalities. After a short debate, interest rose from a member from Maidstone keen to take on the role of Treasurer. Once obligations etc were explained Carole accepted the position & was dually elected National Treasurer, with obvious relief from Barry.

- Other business followed & a new name was agreed to for our annual gathering – it will now be referred to as a '*Conference*' in place of '*Meeting*'.
- The last debate was on a membership campaign – especially targeting the newly retired or almost there – your delegate will bring you more information about that at our meetings.
- The importance of updated Branch Websites was also brought to the fore - & it was very surprising to see, after a show of hands, how few of those present had a computer.

.....The meeting wound up around 12.30pm & our group gathered again in search of food
..... !

Among our group were 3 old girls (oops, pupils) & ex boarders of Wairarapa College, so our first call was a drive round/thru' the college grounds with a photo shoot on the front step, with a very warm welcome to walk around & about the school as we pleased, but with time (& tums) being against us we again boarded our bus & headed south to Carterton where again we found a delightfully warm & clean café



with a lovely choice of food. 'Selves satisfied, our driver had a surprise for us & we headed to Greytown to the *Cobblestones Early Settlers Museum* – we spent a full hour here enjoying days gone by – a



complete school, hospital, stable, woolshed, church, cottage, fire station – furnished as they would have been in the late 1800's, plus horse drawn vehicles & farm equipment. A 'must see' if you are



travelling in the area.

Our day was quickly slipping by & the skies darkening but one last stop to make – Paua Factory – another hour & more coffee (free this time) a few purchases & back to the Hotel at 5.30pm to dolly up for dinner.



Your group didn't disappoint & we were decked out in our finery complete with the obligatory Mask

A very enjoyable dinner & dining companions followed by 6 youngish lady comedians with their interpretation, costumes & movements to several made up songs and our Faith was a winner of one of the six Raffles drawn - this completed an enjoyable evening which finished around 9.30pm.

Tuesday – we were back on the road home around 9.30am after a smaller portion from the breakfast menu. The day was rather bleak with heavy cloud & drizzly rain – Mt Bruce was going to be too damp underfoot & over head for a stroll around the park, but we did get to see two very chubby Takahe from the observation veranda. Heading onto Woodville to stock up on vegetables & a wee stop at Yummy Mummy's Cheesecake Shop A leg stretch & lunch at Dannevirke & the ladies spent a little time in Ballentyne's, our last stop before home - (thank you men for your patience) –

To be dropped off at our door completed a great 2 nights away (seemed like a week)

A big thank you to Ray, our bus driver, you were very patient & accommodating to our requests (he only had one of his own –“if I can't get a park I am not stopping”!!!)

60sUp Movement of NZ Inc **30th** Annual General *CONFERENCE* is to be held in **Tauranga 27th – 29th June 2011** – you have now got twelve months to save your pennies staying at the Armitage Hotel

