

# SOCIAL SIDE *by Gail Mouldey*



Gail Mouldey

With the men meeting every Wednesday night and Sunday mornings for their long runs, and us women at home with the kids, Lee Stevens organised Friday nights that became the *Jog N Jills* night for the ladies, while the men stayed at home and looked after the kids. We met at the old clubrooms and ran around the Birkenhead area. These were great times. We usually ran/jogged for about 40 minutes, then back to the club for a wine. Lots of story telling went on during those runs and a little bit of abuse mainly towards Lee when we were led into short cuts that never were short cuts and usually all uphill, but Chris Barker could always be relied on to tell us a story so we could get up the hill. Then back to the club for a wine before going home to rescue the men. (Story has it that we only went around the block and then back for a wine – this was untrue) From this group several girls went on to competing for the club, plus doing their first half marathons and marathons.

After the cross country and road races on a Saturday most club members and their families went back to the clubrooms for a social get together. Most Saturday nights turned into a

SOCIAL PROGRAMME		
DATE	EVENT	VENUE
SAT & SUN 9-10 APRIL	<b>PEPSI</b> 24 HOUR <i>Relay</i> 2 TEAMS OF 20 TEAM CAPTAINS: ROB PURDIE & RAY ARCHER	10AM SAT TO 10AM SUN MT SMART
SAT 23 APRIL	MULTI SPORTS <i>Extravaganza</i> Directed by Judy FAMILY, FRIENDS, FUN FILLED FROLICS	SHEPHERDS PARK BEACH HAVEN 6PM - 10PM
SAT 21 MAY	<i>Trivial Pursuit</i> TEST OF KNOWLEDGE BYO BRAINS	CHELSEA COMMUNITY CENTRE 7PM - 10PM
SAT 25 JUNE	MID YEAR <i>Xmas Dinner</i> CLUB MEMBERS & FAMILY ONLY VOLUNTEERS FOR THE FAIRY PLEASE!!	CLUBROOMS 7PM - 11PM
SAT 30 JULY	<i>Auction Night</i> WITH A SURPRISE GUEST SPEAKER BYO MYSTERY BOTTLE WRAPPED WITH A NOVEL INSCRIPTION	CLUBROOMS 7PM - 10PM
SAT 20 AUGUST	<i>Black 'n' White</i> PARTY PRIZES FOR STYLE, CREATIVENESS, QUALITY, QUANTITY OR LACK OF IT	CLUBROOMS 7:30PM TILL WHENEVER
WED 14 SEPTEMBER	<i>Pie 'n' Jug</i> INVITATION NIGHT OUR GUESTS TAKAPUNA & NORTH SHORE BAYS	NORTHCOTE TAVERN 6:15PM MEET AT CLUBROOMS
SAT 1 OCTOBER	<i>Club Trip</i> RED STAG RELAY MEMBERS & FAMILY ONLY	ROTORUA PUHUNUI MOTEL

Social Programme 1994

*takeaway night* taking turns to have everyone come back to a member's house with Fish n Chips. Many a good night was had, amazing no hangovers in those days. Our kids have now all grown up and they still talk about those days of cross-country and takeaway nights. It was very much a family atmosphere.

Also we had many *Progressive dinners* (from the mid 80s for many years). These were awesome nights. Starting with nibbles and wine at the first house then onto main course at the next house. We tried to have this course at the home with a dishwasher. Then on to the last house for pudding and let loose. Lots of laughter and dancing, even some of the guys got into it, especially with Jean Forbes teaching us all the latest disco moves. There were a few dinners that fell on special nights. Rugby game nights turned out to be very tricky getting everyone to move on to the next course while the game was on. One of these nights a very brave lady (me) turned the TV off and sent everyone on his or her merry way to the next course. She was not very popular and still isn't to this day, as they missed the very try that won the

## SOCIAL SIDE *by Gail Mouldey cont.*

All Blacks the game against the Aussies. Sadly and with hindsight these dinners have been phased out with the drink driving and people are now scattered all over and out of Auckland.

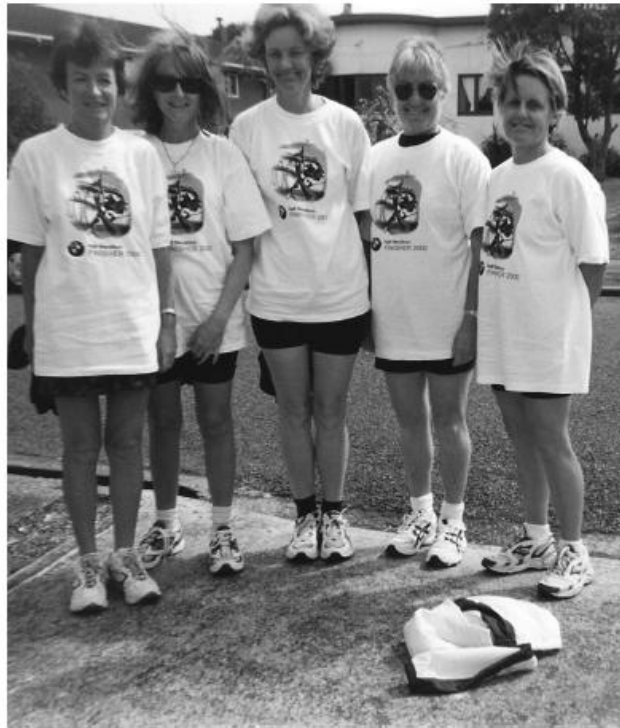
**Mystery bottle auction nights/ Mid-winter Xmas dinners** – were always great you never knew what you were bidding for, some were lucky getting whisky, good wine, or others received water, cheap plonk, tomato sauce and even a frog. We have now dropped the bottle auction and just hold the mid-winter xmas dinner usually with a dress-up theme, which brings lots of laughter and noise. This year was especially good with several of the guys doing a recital to Swan Lake. Awesome legs you guys.

### **Bledisloe cup nights**

were also nights not to be missed. They usually were held at the Glens' place. Several people got into trouble over those nights, maybe drinking Murray's home brew had something to do with this. Peter Forbes driving down the wrong side of the road, one gentleman forgetting to tell his family where he was, and after one match at 5.30am all the guys decided to have their Sunday morning run before heading home to bed.

**Easter camping** trips started happening in the mid 80s. Word got around that a few club members were going away, this grew to quite a few members borrowing caravans and tents from their families, bunking in with others, eventually buying their own tents with around 40 of us heading up to Kai Iwi lakes. John Phyllis and Lance Smith got themselves into trouble with the group, being leaders who knew shorts cuts that never were. That could take up to an extra hour of running time. There is a group of six couples still camping

at Easter together, all grandparents now. But we now try to go to different locations each time. Not a lot of running goes on. We're more walkers now.



Auckland half-marathon 2000  
G. Mouldey, S. Martin, C. Purdie, G. Green, N. Sinclair

There is now a group of walkers at the club. Apart from meeting on Wednesday night we also meet every Saturday for a 2-hour walk. We meet at Takapuna boat ramp and walk to Devonport and back along Takapuna Beach. Or another favourite is to meet at Browns Bay Beach, walk along the coastline to Castor Bay and back to Browns Bay for a coffee and a muffin. With the start of the millennium year we decided to get serious and train up for the Auckland half marathon. Well the bug caught us all and

we are still going strong. Competing in a couple of half marathons and relays each year and all doing well in our age groups. Each year several of us go up to Kerikeri half marathon and make a weekend of it. Visiting all the craft shops and the cheese factory shop as well. Rumour has it that we talk as fast as we walk (not too far wrong).

Each week there is a greyhound of the pack, with this honour getting passed around depending on who on the night is striding out.

