



## ANGEL BALL A COMPLETE SUCCESS



*The Angel Ball room - Sheraton Hotel*

The valuable support of more than 80 organisations ensured that the inaugural Angel Ball was a great success, raising more than \$40,000 for the Laura Fergusson Trust.

Nearly 400 people attended the Angel Ball held at the end of November, the purpose of which was to increase the Trust's profile, to enhance relationships and to raise funds to improve the quality of life for people with disabilities.

All guests enjoyed what has been referred to

by many as a truly memorable event. Everyone received special gifts by way of Thierry Mugler Angel Perfume and Trelise Cooper scarves.

The Angel Ball was compered by television personalities Eric Young and Charlotte Dawson. During the evening guests were entertained with a stunning Trelise Cooper fashion show, both live and silent auctions, and music from New Zealand entertainers Rikki Morris, Debbie Harwood and Kim Willoughby.



*Eric Young and Charlotte Dawson*



*Guests viewing items for auction*

The dinner menu was specially created by Sheraton Hotel chef Stephen Thompson and featured the best New Zealand salmon and beef accompanied by award winning wines.

The success of the Angel Ball exceeded the Trust's expectations, thanks largely to the unflinching support of the many sponsors, supporters and guests. This event also received great publicity with articles in the Sunday Star-Times, women's magazines and online in an Xtra fashion/entertainment feature.

The money raised will assist with the completion of several current, urgent projects. These include the essential maintenance of our rehabilitation and live-in facilities, access to international research to ensure the Trust provides the very latest specialised treatments, plus staff training and development.

The Laura Fergusson Trust is especially grateful to BDM Grange for Thierry Mugler Angel Perfume, Smith & Caughey's, Trelise Cooper, Lion Foundation, Sheraton Hotels and Montana Wines for their outstanding support in conjunction with the Angel Ball.

A promotional video featuring highlights of the Angel Ball has been produced and this will be used as part of future fundraising efforts. Photos taken on the night are available from Professional Photography and can be ordered via [www.prophotography.co.nz](http://www.prophotography.co.nz)

## Another successful Christmas fair

Our annual Christmas fair was once again a very popular fundraiser, making around \$13,000 for the Trust.

Many people worked hard to make the fair so successful and our particular thanks go to the team of angel-makers, who meet every Monday for most of the year. The cake stall was the best it has ever been with a wonderful presentation of cakes and confectionery by the Women's Committee.

President, Maralyn Davies has received many positive comments about the wonderful atmosphere and the happy, hardworking team which makes this event such a success.



## Update from the General Manager

It has been an exceptionally busy time since our last newsletter. Major capital works in the residential recreation and administration area and hydrotherapy pool are nearing completion. These projects have only been possible through the support of the Laura Fergusson



Trust Women's Committee, ASB Trusts and the Southern Trust.

There is a waiting list for all services and this will continue as housing options in the community for people with a disability are scarce.

Recruitment of professional staff has been successful with appointments of a Physiotherapist, Occupational Therapist and an Enrolled Nurse.

2003 will be a busy year for service delivery under new contracts, fund development, preparation for a Health and Disability Sector Standards audit and supporting the Women's Committee's many events.

I look forward to keeping you advised of our successes and challenges. Thank you for your ongoing support.



## Upcoming Events

### Top soprano in charity concert

An afternoon charity concert featuring world-class musicians and benefiting the Laura Fergusson Trust is to be held on June 7.

The concert will feature top Japanese soprano, Yuko Takahashi, accompanied by pianist Lynne Daniell. They and top male soloist, Grant Dickson, who recently sang with Dame Malvina Major, will entertain 400 guests at St Columba Church Hall, Ti Rakau Dr, Pakuranga. Two talented young violinists, sisters Christabel and Natalie Lin, will provide additional entertainment with their pianist, John Chen. Tickets are just \$25 and can be purchased from June Campbell by phoning her on 528 9664. The concert begins at 2pm.

### Raceday

And on Saturday, June 14, several hundred people are expected at the annual charity race day champenoise luncheon at Auckland Racing Club, Ellerslie, where races are sponsored so generously. Always fun, this event earns around \$50,000 for the Trust with the proceeds going towards the refurbishment of residential units. Tickets cost \$85 and may be purchased from Patricia Rand, on 534 3987.



## Highest honour for Gladys

The Trust's Finance Manager, Secretary and Treasurer, Gladys Carew, has been awarded Fellowship status, the highest grade of membership of Chartered Secretaries New Zealand.

CSNZ is the New Zealand division of ICSA International, the leading worldwide professional body for company secretaries and administrators. Gladys, who holds a Post Graduate Diploma in Corporate Management, has been with the Trust for nearly three years.

## Professional visit pays dividends



Recently, one of the Trust's two Occupational Therapists, Lynn Peat, along with its Physiotherapist, Michael Coombe, visited the United States to witness first-hand rehabilitation therapy there.

Lynn says the opportunity to visit the world-famous Kessler Institute, Boston University and the North East Centre for Special Care was "inspiring". She and Michael were able to

meet with their professional colleagues, setting up extremely useful networking contacts for the future. They were also given a wide range of professional materials and information.

As a consequence of the trip, which was paid for by a grant from The Lion Foundation, Lynn has been asked to be the guest editor of the American journal Work.

She has also returned inspired to build the occupational therapy department, confident in the knowledge that the care the Laura Fergusson Trust gives its patients is the equal of any in the world.

## Tribute to Trish



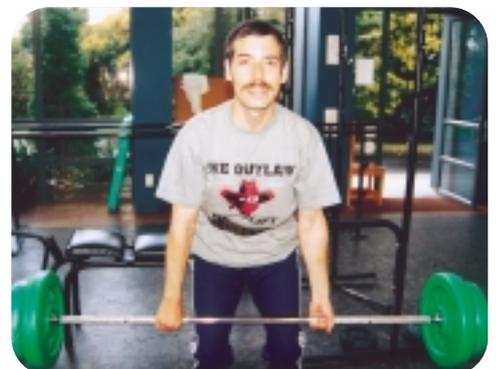
One of our most loyal supporters and a founding member of the Women's Committee, Trish Horrocks, passed away on March 4. Trish worked hard and tirelessly for the

Trust over many years and our sincerest sympathies go to her family. We shall all miss her. A memorial fund will be used to complete seating and landscaping under the oak tree in front of the Wilson & Horton building.

## Client Success

Barry Polkinghorne's dream of representing New Zealand at the Special Olympics is a step closer following his win at the recent Outlaw deadlift weightlifting competition. Barry, who himself weighs just 66 kg, lifted a 110 kg weight to win the disabled category. Barry came to the Trust in 2000 to gain some independence and self-help skills. He has had Petit Mal epilepsy all his life which is well-controlled by medication.

Such has been Barry's progress, that he has moved to a supervised, on-site flat with two other flatmates where, with some assistance, he is coping with planning, shopping and preparing meals. When he is not training, Barry has a part-time voluntary role with Auckland City Mission.



Barry powerlifting his way to the Special Olympics