

A MARATHON CELEBRATION

During the later months of 2006 I learnt that Jack was going to be 80 years old and doing his 80th marathon at Rotorua in 2007. I had done a grand total of two Rotorua marathons but I had my sights on the New Plymouth marathon in 2007.

Feeling that the club should recognise this great occasion I decided to travel to Rotorua but only take part in the 10km event to free myself to help celebrate the day. Enid was also celebrating. At 85 years and still mastering marathons. These two club members amongst others are a real inspiration to me.

Friday evening Sharon and I along with Karen and Carmel travelled down to Rotorua. All four of us competed in the 10km event. The weather forecast was not looking good but hey that had not stopped us before.

The new Rotorua Event Centre was the centre of choice for 2007. I had not been there since it's opening, what an impressive place, a credit to Rotorua. A good number of club members competed and/or supported on the day and because I had only done the 10km was able, along with Sharon to watch and cheer on the others as they came in to the finishing chute.

But the main aim was to be there with as many club members as possible to see Jack and Enid come in with banners, balloons and noise. All of which was to be a surprise.

We were there to congratulate Jack and Enid with cameras clicking it was priceless to see their faces. I do hope it was a surprise for them as it was a pleasure for us to be there. Well done you two and all the best for future events. Thanks everyone for a great day

Raewyn Richmond