

# Chairpersons Report 2007/08- Auckland Branch

How proud I am to be a member of the Auckland Branch of CFANZ. I remember the first meeting I attended about 11 years ago and how then I thought that this was a group that actually "had it together", actually seemed to genuinely like each other and were achieving good things on behalf of its membership. The way we do things may have changed but, the spirit and determination to support people with CF and their families is as strong as ever.

The past year has been one of trials, where many times the Auckland Branch committee has had to pull together- and we have.

Branch successes this year include:

- Raising \$10,000 during CF Awareness Week, through events, street collections and schools fundraising.
- Achieving significant success with Trust grant applications allowing the purchase many new E Flow and Pari Boy nebulisers, funding for rent for our CF Office at the Parent and Family Resource Centre, funding for our Branch Administrators salary and most recently, funding for National Conference attendance for up to 20 Branch members.
- The re vamping of our Branch newsletter with formatting being "outsourced" due to our voluntary editor stepping down to have a well earned break.
- Successful Fundraising events like the Film evening, the Sunny Valley Art weekend and the sale of Entertainment books
- Reviewing the Community Physiotherapist job description and consolidating the management of both of our staff members.
- Getting Christmas gifts donated for Branch pre schoolers.

In the year just gone we have had good representation at the National CF Conference, that was held in Wellington and Auckland Branch had two representatives attend the CFANZ Chairperson/Branch representatives Conference that was held in Christchurch. The time that people spend away from family is greatly appreciated as there is a lot of organisation needed to allow this kind of participation.

As I mentioned earlier it has been a year with ups and downs and there are many people I would like to thank for their hard work, dedication and support.

To Alex Powell huge thanks for all that you have done and all that you do now. Although Alex has stepped down as Chairperson for the last few months of the year, we know that Cystic Fibrosis is your Charity of Choice and that you take every opportunity to promote our cause and continue to make the Branch stronger.

To our staff...Helen Geary and Janine Mortimer. You are legends and, along with Sally Carron, our North Island Fieldworker, I don't know how we ever survived without all of you. You also have the cause of Cystic Fibrosis in your heart and this shows in everything you do.

My grateful thanks to all the Auckland Branch committee for the time and energy you put into the branch. A special mention for Allyson Harvey, our Treasurer, who has put in years with us lot and (thank goodness) keeps coming back each year and for Robyn Somerville who now carries the title "Grant Seeker Extraordinaire" may this fantastic trend continue!

Thanks to Sue Heath our newly "retired" newsletter editor, many hours of work producing a quality Branch newsletter that has help people stay in touch with what the Branch is up to.

The Branch thanks Warren Weir, also newly retired, who has through his work encouraged CF as a Charity of Choice for those who have to donate through the police "Diversion" system.

The Branch thanks all our wonderful and generous supporters: PANPRINT, Boehringer Ingelheim, Muffin Break, Dominion Finance, Auckland City Council, Sunny Valley Art and Be Natural

The heart of our organisation is people with Cystic Fibrosis. The daily challenges that people with cystic fibrosis face and the huge impact that cf has on their lives are the reason we have a branch, national office, cf medical/allied health teams, friends and supporters. I look forward to 2008 as a year of Branch growth and development so that we may even better serve the developing needs of our CF Community.

Jane Drumm  
Acting Chairperson  
CFANZ Auckland Branch