



Dear HIANZ Members,

A week has gone by since HIANZ members were in Queenstown at their Industry Conference & Trade Day – what a truly magnificent event!

The level of feedback from delegates and exhibitors is overwhelmingly positive! The awesome destination and great weather coupled with the networking opportunities, camaraderie, activities and exhibitions made the conference a real success. The first day of conference included a number of updates on key projects, open discussion on Hire Excellence Awards, 'Never say never' – a well received presentation from board member Tom Kimber, report from board member Andrew Messent relating to changes to DG rules for the transportation of Diesel and a brief outline on safety belt compliance. The day also included, a presentation from Westpac's Chief Economist Dominick Stephens, and an inspiring and motivation key note from Mark Inglis. Day 1 concluded with the Association's AGM which was very well subscribed with an attendance of 104.

Change of office at this year's AGM included a farewell to Wayne Hood (Past President) who was replaced by Greg Ward from Continental. Keil Davies was re-elected as one of the supplier reps. The HIANZ board are elected by members, and these people are your representatives – please make yourselves familiar with the current board, as detailed here, www.hianz.net.nz/board

The Southern Challenge (day 2) certainly entertained members, starting with helicopter transfers from Queenstown to the venue kindly sponsored by Kubota. 15 exhibiting suppliers lined the circuit with Marquee's making it possible for supplier presentations and product demonstrations. The day included activities similar to last year such as Rally Cars, Clay bird shooting, Digger challenges, Golf Driving. The location was near the base of the Remarkable's, alongside the Kawarau River flanked either side by snow peaked mountains – simply stunning! The challenge concluded with a couple of refreshing beverages and a drawn spot prize (50" TV) sponsored by the team at Edwards Sound – the winner being Mr Glen Sarsich from Carlton Party Hire.

The 2012 event culminated with the Annual Dinner, hosted by Principal Sponsors Youngman Richardson & Co Ltd at Moonlight Country located in the Clear Valley, where delegates enjoyed a Southern Man themed evening, including a great meal, drinks, entertainment and a number of prizes awarded to winners of the day's challenges.

Then the surprise of the evening – when Life Membership was awarded to Past President Wayne Hood from Rangiora Hire. Wayne served the membership for 13 years on the board of directors, and 5 of these as President. A great celebration in recognition of outstanding service to the Association!

The Party & Events delegate numbers continue to grow each year. A sponsored Baytex (Party & Events) function was held for 53 delegates aboard the TSS Earnslaw that took them all cruising across Lake Wakatipu to dine at Walter Peak Station. A good night had by all, and a real chance for this sector of hire to network together. The Party & Events delegates had an itinerary of their own this year that included a dedicated meeting with presentations from a number of suppliers, before being flown to the Southern Challenge site to participate in the activities and complete a table setting challenge arranged and sponsored by Pacific Linen.

We must also make mention of our friends and industry colleagues from Australia. We have been very privileged to have the attendance of HRIA staff and their members yet again and numbers increase each year which is simply fantastic. The trans-tasman relationships are strong and very much valued.

A big thank you to all HIANZ members who attended Conference! Thanks to the HIANZ board of directors and to our trade exhibitors (suppliers) who pull out all the stops to be with us in Queenstown.

Thanks to our Silver Sponsor Baytex, and our Support Sponsors ICIB, NZI Insurance, Kubota, Pacific Linen, Brent Smith Trailers, Edwards Sound, and Endraulic.

Special thanks to Youngman Richardson & Co Limited who, our Principal Sponsors, who have participated fully yet again and provide fantastic support to the Association throughout the year.

In the meantime, we wish you all well in your respective businesses, we thank you for your participation as members of HIANZ and we look forward to seeing as many members as possible over the next 12 months.

Best regards,



TIM MIKKELSEN
President



PHIL TINDLE
General Manager