

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**30 January 2006**

## **NEW MARTINBOROUGH HEALTH CENTRE BOOSTED BY \$20,000 DONATION FROM WINE FESTIVAL**

Martinborough's planned health centre has been boosted by a \$20,000 donation from the town's annual Toast Martinborough wine and food festival.

Toast Martinborough Chairman Andrew Shackleton said that each year the festival donates some of the proceeds to community initiatives. Previous donations have funded tree planting, improved street lighting and provided support for the local schools.

"As a major event in the town's calendar that involves large numbers of local people, we like to contribute to initiatives that benefit everyone in the Martinborough community - and for long after each festival has finished," Mr Shackleton said.

"This year we have made a larger than usual donation to the planned health centre in recognition of its importance to the local community."

Building work on the Martinborough health centre is planned to start in about April. Ruamahunga Health Trust Chair Ro Griffiths said that Toast Martinborough's donation would bring the health centre a step closer to reality.

"This donation from Toast Martinborough will make a big difference to us in reaching our fundraising targets and establishing a new, modern facility to provide quality health services for local people," Mr Griffiths said.

The health centre is designed to replace the existing centre that is small and outdated.

"The new centre is essential in attracting and retaining doctors to work and live in the local area, and in ensuring the community receives a good level of medical services," Mr Griffiths said.

The planned centre is due to be completed by the end of the year and will provide services to an estimated 2,500 people in the wider Martinborough area.

### **Note: Toast Martinborough's Andrew Shackleton and Health Trust Chair Ro Griffiths are available for a photo of the donation handover.**

Photo options include the pair 'toasting' the donation with a local wine at the site for the proposed health centre or doing the donation handover among the vines of one of the participating Toast Martinborough vineyards.

**For more information or to arrange photos please contact:**

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