

## Promotional Items

The Marlborough Group has promotional items for sale. These items are able to be viewed at our AAPNZ meetings. Please contact Kay Houlker if you are interested.



Executive Satchel	\$37.00
Compendium	\$27.00
Travel Alarm Clock	\$18.00
Manicure Set	\$16.00
Calculator/Ruler	\$15.00
Monza Pen	\$ 7.00
Glass Coasters (not shown)	\$12.00

## Aims and Objectives of AAPNZ

- To promote and develop the standards for administrative professionals.
- To provide guidance and advice for continuing personal and professional growth.
- To recognise members' achievements.
- To provide the opportunity for mentoring and networking nationally and globally.
- To provide the opportunity for a free exchange of ideas, opinions and experiences amongst members.

**2004/2005 Theme**  
**—“Up, Up & Away!”**

## September 11, 2001

*You may recall in last month's newsletter, I met up with an American associate in Christchurch (JJ Murphy) whilst down there for the Southern Gathering. JJ was in New Zealand on holiday. Here is her account of that tragic event.*



September 11, 2001 was a glorious autumn day. I voted in the primary election and went off to a Chamber of Commerce committee meeting. Some time before 9:00am the phone began to ring incessantly. After 15 minutes we gave in and answered it. The caller told us to turn on the TV. We stood speechless at the sight of the first World Trade Tower collapsing. I burst into tears while everyone else grabbed their cellphones, unable to get through. My colleague put her arms around me as I sobbed that my husband was working not far from the WTC site at the US Postal Service. We cancelled the meeting—and the two-day Business Expo we'd worked for a year to set up. I don't remember driving home.



By the time I parked the car, the second tower had collapsed and two planes had crashed. A friend of my husband called about noon to tell me he was OK, but that all the bridges and tunnels out of NYC were shut down. I went outside and sat by my little pond. The normally soothing sound of the waterfall and bullfrog's song did nothing to comfort me. I tried to focus on the beauty of the crimson and gold maple leaves against the cloudless blue sky. I was convinced that this was the end of the world. I prayed, “Please God, remember that two acres of planet earth are cleaner for my having been here.” We'd worked so hard to turn our homestead into a nature retreat. My husband finally got home some time after 10:00pm. He'd gone outside after hearing the first tower collapsed and watched as someone jumped from the collapsing second tower. Dust and debris had covered everything for miles. He certainly has not been the same since that day. It was not the end of the physical world, but life in the US will never be the same. I grieve for the loss of innocence and for the children who will never grow up with the sense of safety and freedom that allowed me to become a confident adult.

***Thank you JJ for sharing this with us. JJ is a Virtual Assistant working out of USA—[www.lookgoodonpaper.com](http://www.lookgoodonpaper.com).***

*Early in her career, JJ took on word processing assignments, while freelancing as an independent film/video producer and resident artist in public and private schools. Her exposure to corporate, legal, and medical environments provided her with a diverse background. She has a passion for words (she is also a published author) and her ability to support writers without taking their voice away, results in top-quality work. JJ applies her expertise as a writer, a broadcast journalist, a naturalist, and an educator.*