



## Waitakere News

May 7<sup>th</sup>

This week was 'Soap Box Derby Thank You Night' – a change in routine, with Starling park filled with the laughter, energy and young voices of those who made Soap Box Derby 2014 such a great event. Heather awarded all the prizes, we viewed a Rotaract Video of the day and the school videos, and everyone enjoyed the finger food (especially the hot doughnuts) which were provided. As you can see from the smiles, our major prizewinners, Barjonah Buxton from Bruce McLaren and Oliver Johnston (who made the very entertaining Waitakere School video), were very pleased with their prizes.



**REMINDER:** Monique is holding a '**Pink Ribbon Luncheon**' at Van Lier Nurseries to raise funds for Breast Cancer research - May 25<sup>th</sup> from 10.30am. Please advise Monique if you'd like to attend. (Numbers are needed for catering purposes)

### WHEELCHAIRS:

You may remember being advised a while ago that we were helping to fund the repairs for wheelchairs used by the local Wheelchair Basketball players (from our club funds, funds from Henderson Rotary and a Grant we applied for) – Alan has updated us on their progress...

*"The wheel chair repairs for the Waitakere Wheelchair Basketball Team have been done in West Auckland as they were given the full amount through Waitakere and Henderson Rotary. The team had been practising and last week competed in the Wheelchair champs in Cambridge where they won gold."*

### VANUATU:

Our intrepid travellers (Kerry and Peter) return from their week in Vanuatu, where they have been completing work at Orap School. A text from Kerry said:

*"Jobs all going well. Jocelyn (Community Nurse) rapt with water tank now up and inside sink bench with tap. Roofs all done, extra big water tank in place. Looking forward to piano recital in dining hall tomorrow with new electric piano and guitar. Peter taking heaps of photos."*

#### CHALLENGE CAMP:

Following on from his exploits at Waitangi, Vincent has this week been on Challenge Camp at Willow Park, Bucklands Beach .... for our newer members, this camp matches each IYE student with a physically disabled student from a local High School for a week full of challenges and fun ... our club sponsored Hipa Luka, who attends Rutherford High, on the recommendation of Fiona Wright (Kerry's daughter, who teaches there.) No doubt we'll hear all about it at Vincent's presentation next Wednesday!

#### INTERNATIONAL PROJECT:

We have recently made a donation to the following project:

*"Rotary Foundation Global Grant in Tanzania".*

*Mwika District in Tanzania has a 10-village population of 45,000 on the north eastern slope of Mt Kilimanjaro.*

*The project, run by PDG Merv Huxford and other PDGs, in the economic development area of focus, is a sustainable one that will enhance the standard of living through the villages .*

*Along with 100 biogas digesters for processing cow pats into methane and fertilizer they are also supplying 200 enhanced breed cows.*

*This project is in Partnership with NZ Ministry of Foreign Affairs*

#### FRIENDSHIP EXCHANGE:

*Greetings.*

*I have received an E.Mail from District 5020, British Colombia, asking whether our District is interested in hosting their District in a Friendship Exchange in March 2015, with a return visit to Canada in June 2015. Would your club be interested in hosting up to 6 Rotarian couples for 3 nights during their visit. ? I have attached details of host club responsibilities. Kind regards, Alan Boniface, D9910 Friendship Exchange Committee (Host Club responsibilities attached)*

#### ROMAC:

Another Rotary Programme request:

*Greetings all,*

*A number of members of Clubs at the recent District Conference at Waitangi expressed an interest in helping when **ROMAC** children arrive here for surgery from the Pacific countries we are involved with.*

*I am now coordinating a database for this so that we can be more effective in helping the child and their parent or guardian when they get here.*

*Orewa, One Tree Hill, Western Springs, Waitakere, East Coast Bays, Whangaparaoa and Epsom indicated interest and there are no doubt others.*

*There may also be an interest from 9920 which Romac will explore in due course.*

*The procedure is that when the 'patient' and guardian arrive they are met at the airport ( with an interpreter if necessary) and taken to Starship and settled in.*

*Rotarians then arrange to purchase food (refundable through the Romac treasurer) for them and maybe some local travel e.g. to the zoo, to Muriwai etc:*

*Then when surgery is closer just visit and know that we are present for them and maybe go and buy some little extras.*

*There is a ROMAC website for more general information.*

*If you, or members of your Club, can be involved, and it's not a huge committment, please let me know but also copy in Past DG Geoff Dainty who spoke at Conference(address above).*

*This is a jewel in our Rotary Crown and very satisfying for all involved. In fact it brings tears to the eyes seeing the dedication of all the Starship staff in action.*

### **Murray Allison**

Remember to check out our web site: [www.rotarywaitakere.org.nz](http://www.rotarywaitakere.org.nz) for up to date news and upcoming events (just click on the 'Calendar' ...)

Please advise Alan if you will **not** be attending on Wednesday (or if you're bringing a guest) [\*\*apology@details.co.nz\*\*](mailto:apology@details.co.nz)

Date: <b>Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>IYE: Vincent - Rotary Conference and Camp Challenge</b>
Meeting Manager	Derek
Sergeant	Mike
Speaker	<b>Vincent</b>
Greeter - Introducer	Bob
Grace	Jim
Squire 1	Sheilagh
Squire 2	Joy
Thanker	Craiger
Parting Thought	Alan

### ADVANCE NOTICE:

On Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May we will be meeting in the Grandstand At Waitakere Stadium ... more details later.

### Dates to remember

May 25<sup>th</sup> – Pink Ribbon Breakfast – Van Lier Nurseries

June 1-4 - Rotary World Convention Sydney

June 25<sup>th</sup> – Waitakere Change Over