



ROTARY CLUB OF WAITAKERE CITY

Making a difference in our world

P O Box 104-017 Lincoln North, Waitakere 0654

www.soapboxderby.co.nz

2010 Soapbox Derby Newsletter #5

10th March 2010



Dear School and Sponsors,

Welcome to our new sponsors and schools. Please copy this newsletter and distribute to all of the people involved in the event (or better yet give me their email addresses so they get their own copies. Don't forget the children and parents... so far we have only 2 on the mailing list...)

The Countdown is on and race time is rapidly approaching...

Web Site:

We thought we'd make the web site easy to find so came up with a new name:

www.soapboxderby.co.nz

Newsletters and information about the derby are available on the site.

Site Information:

We are still working on turning a paper hand drawn map into a pretty computer one but food stalls will be located on the sloping grass site beside the track and it is on a "first come, first served" basis.

Rotarians will be on site by 7:30am and we ask schools to set up their tents and gazebos at 8am so they are ready to race at 9am.

Once barricades are in place and racing starts vehicles will not be able to escape till the end of racing at around 3:30pm.

Parking:

The Salvation Army will be providing parking at their site opposite on Don Buck Road. Entry is by a gold coin donation with all profits from this going to the Sallies.

A secure area, no risk of being blocked in or towed with money going to a good cause... Sounds like a good deal!

Please advise parents NOT to park in the Mitre 10 car park. They have a business to run and need the parking for their customers.

Feedback:

Most years we get a little bit of feedback as to how some schools are going, but are completely in the dark as to others.





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Yesterday I sent out individual emails to all schools and we have now heard back from most of them. Thank you to all who replied – it has given us a good picture as to where everyone is at – and added a few food stalls to the list.



As teachers are in class, thus generally unavailable for phone calls, we rely on email or you calling us if you have problems or concerns. Contact details are on every newsletter – so if you need help – please ask.

Schools:

Pomaria School have pulled out of the race and Birdwood School has joined us.

Stickers:

We will be providing the following stickers for cars:



If you need help with Sponsors stickers – please let me know NOW so we can ask the sponsors for them, or if necessary get the stickers printed.

<p>101 (Car Numbers)</p>	<p>Who has repainted their car and needs a new number sticker?</p>
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NOTE: If you need to remove existing stickers use a hot air gun or hairdryer to heat the sticker then peel it off gently.

Errors:

If you find any in the following – please let me know. It has been a busy week so information may have been overlooked.

Sponsors:

Mary is still out there talking to a few potential sponsors so we hope to have the gaps filled shortly. If you spot any errors in the following list – please let us know urgently.

Future Cuisine in Swanson signed up for full sponsorship for the Swanson car this week. Now what, you are probably asking yourselves, does a supplier of (rather delicious I might add) smoked and marinated mussels have to do with racing cars? OK, they cook and sell them on Swanson Road, but what is the connection between fishy things and soapbox derby cars?





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It turns out that the new owner, Joe Kouwenhoven, is not only keen on helping his local school but also a racing driver himself. Sadly he won't be at the derby as he will be Targa racing on the day but he is keen to hear how his team get on. To check out the delicious fishy stuff: www.futurecuisine.co.nz



And speaking of racing drivers, John Blewett of West City Holden www.westcityholden.co.nz on Central Park Drive, also spends time behind the wheel of racing cars so is keen to support our up and coming race drivers.

Schools and Confirmed Sponsors to date

School	Full Sponsors	Part Sponsors
1 Birdwood Primary		
2 Bruce McLaren Intermediate	Waitakere City Council	
3 Henderson Intermediate	DARE	
4 Hobsonville Primary	Western Leader	
5 Kelston Boys High		ACS Panasonic (1/2)
6 Lincoln Heights		Euro Tattoos
7 Liston College		
8 Massey High 103	MD Aluminium	
9 Massey High 104		Testing Station, KTS, Massey & Birdwood Settlers Assn
10 Rangeview		West City Holden (1/2)
11 Riverhead	Metro Roofing	
12 Rutherford College	Air Conditioning Services (1/2)	
13 Sunderland School 120	The Web Co (1/2)	
14 Sunderland College 129	Warehouse Building	
15 Swanson School	Supplies	
16 Taupaki School 128	Future Cuisine	
17 Taupaki School	Douglas Pharmaceuticals	
18 Whenuapai		Metro Roofing
		Airfoam (1/2); First National; FBN Contracting; Residents and Ratepayers
19 Waitakere Primary		





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Food Stalls:

The following schools have advised us that they wish to run food stalls. Have I missed any? Do you have any fundraising teams in your school who would like to make the most of this opportunity? ALL profits from any food stalls go to the school that run them.



Food Stalls

School	Food
1 Bruce McLaren Intermediate	American Hotdogs and Cold Drinks
2 Henderson Intermediate	Sausage Sizzle
3 Hobsonville Primary	
4 Kelston Boys High	
5 Lincoln Heights	Hamburgers
6 Liston College	
7a Massey High - German Field Trip	sausage sizzle, chocolates, cold drinks, cakes
7b Massey High - First 11 Football	bacon sandwiches
8 Rangeview	
9 Riverhead	
10 Rutherford College	
11 Sunderland School & College	Water, fruit, lollies
12 Swanson School	
13 Taupaki School	Shaved ice, Donuts
14 Whenuapai	Sausage Sizzle, water and soft drinks
15 Waitakere Primary	Candyfloss, cold drinks

Practice Sites:

Simpson Road:

The new Titoki Rise subdivision - Vino Cina Heights
Off Simpson Road (near number 48) in Ranui

Feedback we have received so far from a couple of schools is that this is a good site for practice, particularly for beginners.

At one school's request we rounded up a few hay bales to stop kids hitting the power pole and box on the corner. It has come to our attention that these do get moved – whether by schools or by local kids with nothing better to do we don't know. If more are needed – tell us.

We are not supervising the site so please keep an eye out for these yourselves and make sure your drivers are safe. Kids, SBD cars and power poles are not a good mix!

Please also keep an eye on other users of the road. Soapbox Cars coming down with kids walking back up... I'll leave the result to your imagination.





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Westgate Drive (Royal Road end):

This road is a steeper and therefore a faster road than Simpson Road. If the drivers can handle this confidently then they are well set to race in the Soapbox Derby.



We will have the starting ramps there during the following times:

Practice Times: Westgate Drive

Day	Time
Saturday 13th March	9am to 4pm
Sunday 14th March	9am to 4pm
Monday 15th March	4pm to 6pm
Tuesday 16th March	4pm to 6pm
Wednesday 17th March	4pm to 5:30pm
Thursday 18th March	Testing Station - vehicle check
	No Practice time
Friday 19th March	4pm to 6pm
Saturday 20th March	9am to 4pm

Kerry will appear at random intervals during these times to see answer any questions and give any help required – but has point blank refused to be there for all 29 hours!

If you need help give him a call to arrange a time to meet.

Weights:

We will have the scales at the testing station next Thursday for accurate weight recording. In the meantime the suggestion is to use a set of bathroom scales and a calculator.

- Put a wooden box on the scales and weigh it.
- Add the soapbox derby car and subtract the weight of the box
- Weigh each driver and add it to the car weight.

This method will give you a fairly good idea as to how much weight to add to bring it up to the maximum permitted amount. Fine tuning can be done when you see our scales.

Latest Television News:

Te Radar, Shawn and the Riverhead team seem to be having fun. We have received a request for Radar to unveil and display a "mysterious beast" during the lunchtime break. Having established that it will be used in the television program, won't bite and is very well behaved – we have said "Yes!" Watch out for it!

The German television crew will also be out and about. Lincoln Heights took up Monique's offer of sponsorship so look like they are in for a spot of International exposure.

And for our local camera-kids busy filming their team? Photos of cameramen filming can be great if you see them.





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Photos from last year's Close Up filming

Contacts:

The Rotary core team for the event and contact details are:

<p>Kerry McMillan Derby Director and Technical Support clanmcmillan@xtra.co.nz Phone 832-3229 or 021-416-777</p>	<p>Lyn Parts Phone: 021 251 5490</p>	
<p>Mary Day Secretary and Promotions madpromotions@xnet.co.nz Phone home: 826-5001 or 021-127-6294</p>	<p>Heather Pattison Project Manager heather@details.co.nz Phone 810-9589 or 0274-719-569</p>	<p>Alan Pattison Assistant alan@details.co.nz Phone 810-9589 or 0274-80-88-30</p>

Heather Pattison

