



ROTARY CLUB OF WAITAKERE CITY

Making a difference in our world

P O Box 104-017 Lincoln North, Waitakere 0654

www.rotarywaitakere.org.nz



2011 Soapbox Derby Newsletter #5

22nd March 2011

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.



The Great West Auckland Race

We should like to thank all the schools, sponsors, drivers, pit crews, families, friends and helpers for coming to the 8th Annual Soapbox Derby and making it a great event.

Despite the changing forecast over the past week the day dawned fine and clear and once again our local children took part in a spot of Street Racing on Westgate Drive – with the Police looking benignly on (and working on some infringement fines).



This year we did our best to distract the Riverhead School Team Manager, Shawn Dyer, to try to prevent his team from winning the Event again. It didn't work. He had his drivers, pit crew and adult helpers far too well trained.

Shawn has been passionate about the derby for the last 7 years and with his trip to the States last year as father of the NZ Champion has a huge amount of knowledge that can only benefit us all – and he is willing to share it.

Somehow he found the time between running the Riverhead School Team, the Riverhead Scout Team and setting up a Masters car for son Henry to drive... to help Lynn and Errol (father of James – the 2006 NZ Champion) with scrutinizing the cars. It was greatly appreciated.





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Shawn had also offered to help other teams set their cars up. Taupaki School were the only ones to avail themselves of this offer - and did extremely well in the races to the detriment of Shawn's team - the Riverhead Scouts.

Next year we'd like to see more schools utilize Shawn's extensive knowledge so that we can **REALLY** distract him!

We are looking to ask Shawn to run a Workshop a month before next year's Derby for those who are interested and a fine tuning session on the day before the Derby.

We may also find ourselves in need of helpers from the schools for next year's event rather than the Massey Scouts. The Massey Scout leader was looking at the Riverhead Scouts car with a very interested gleam in his eye.



The 6 West Auckland Finalists who will proceed to the NZ Finals on Sunday 10th April in Whangaparaoa are:

1. Reece Hawk Cook – Riverhead School
2. Carlos Clarke – Waitakere Primary
3. Aaron Kinge – Waitakere Primary AND John Ninja Tulloch – Riverhead School
4. Ashley Pearce – Taupaki School
5. Allie Burnett – Taupaki School

This year the NZ Race Director has declared "One Car, One Driver" for the Finals so we will arrange to borrow 3 cars from other schools.

The results of all our races are on our website: www.soapboxderby.co.nz



Western Leader:

The Western Leader published a full page article, complete with photos, today. A copy is on our website at: <http://www.rotarywaitakere.org.nz/news/articles>





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Photographs:

We have some photos of the Event from 3 Rotarians with more coming from elsewhere.

Steven from Auckland Sports Photography www.aucklandsportsphotography.com once again gave up a Sunday morning to take photos and is sending a disk by mail.

If anyone else has some good photos – we'd love to have copies. A selection of photos from the day will go on our website once we have had a chance to sort through them.

Sponsors:

Please remember your sponsors - these great people allow the derby to happen.

Also please contact your sponsor and ask where they would like the car displayed.

Do you have a space in your school foyer? Do you have any forthcoming school events where you can display it? Would the sponsor like to borrow it for a few weeks or months for a display in their showroom?

And remember to mention them in school newsletters, send them a copy – and ask if they would like to visit your school.



Dictionaries:

We promised schools who helped find sponsors a number of Rotary dictionaries. This has not been forgotten and will happen.

Thank You Night:

Once again we are planning a Thank You night for all teams and sponsors. We still have a number of prizes to give out on this night. Details will come out later but the date for this is Wednesday 4th May.

Website:

www.soapboxderby.co.nz

As information becomes available we add it to our website – including copies of the newsletters.





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Emails:

Please keep an eye on your emails as more information will be coming out soon. If you have other people who would like copies - email Heather with their email address and they will be added to the mail out list.

We have very few parents on the email list (we haven't been given addresses for them) so please ensure they get a copy and know about the website.

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

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| Kerry McMillan Derby Director and Technical Support clanmcmillan@xtra.co.nz Phone 832-3229 or 021-416-777 | Lyn Parts Phone: 021 251 5490 |
| Heather Pattison Project Manager heather@details.co.nz Phone 810-9589 or 0274-719-569 | Alan Pattison Assistant alan@details.co.nz Phone 810-9589 or 0274-80-88-30 |

