



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 #6

12th April 2011

Dear School and Sponsors,

Please copy this newsletter and distribute to all of the people involved in the event.

We've Done It Again!

The NZ Finals of the All American Soapbox Derby was held at Whangaparaoa on Sunday 10th April 2011 and once again a **West Auckland team won!**

24 drivers from the 4 race centres lined up to compete for the highly coveted title of New Zealand Champion and once again **West Auckland** came to the fore.



The races ran on an elimination time trial basis with each race consisting of 2 runs (A and B) down the track, once in each lane with the times totalled.

Of our 6 drivers

- 6 drivers competed in the 1st race (24 drivers)
- 5 drivers competed in the 2nd race (16 drivers)
- 3 drivers competed in the 3rd race (8 drivers) and
- 2 drivers made it through to the Final 4.

The NZ Final rule of one driver per car created "interesting challenges" for the Team Managers (try maintaining and transporting 2 cars)

Ashley Pearce from Taupaki in the Douglas Pharmaceutical "Hairy Lemon" car found the rough stone chip surface of the Whangaparaoa track disconcerting. A crash during practice when the steering failed didn't help to build confidence either. Well done for taking on the Challenge Ashley!

Oliver Burnett from Taupaki School in the Massey High "MD Aluminium" car came 4th in Race 2A but accidentally crossed the centre line in the 2B one. This slip caused disqualification

(Alan saw Oliver's face when he did it – and wished he'd had a camera)
Better luck next year Oliver!

Carlos Clarke from Waitakere in their "Multiple Sponsor" car came 10th in the second race – but didn't quite make it to the top 8 in order to progress to the next round.

Reece Cook from Riverhead driving the Scouts "North Auckland Caravans / Harkins House Haulage / Avondale Blasting & Coatings" car won the first race; came 2nd in the second race





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and 3rd in Race 3A. Unfortunately although he aced everyone in most of his races in the right lane for some reason he didn't do at all well in the left lane and he was out of racing in the 3rd round.



This left two of our West Auckland drivers in the Final 4:

- **Aaron Kinge** from Waitakere in the Swanson School "Future Cuisine" car and
- **John Tulloch** from Riverhead in their "Fumacare / Shewee / Kumeu Indoor Sports" car

The other two drivers came from Whangaparaoa and were racing on their home track

- **Yasmin Pena** from Orewa College and
- **Marcus Monguzzi** from Stella Maris

(And did they want to win or what!)

<Neither of them was driving the car that won the Whangaparaoa SBD Aerial championship – as seen on the front page of today's Rodney Times. A copy of the Rodney Times article is on our website>



Well... I entered the times in the database and even I didn't know who had won until I went to the results page... It was that close.

So... what you have all been waiting for... the Winner of the 2011 New Zealand All American Soapbox Derby is...

<Drum Roll>





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Aaron Kinge from Waitakere Primary



And the cars that took him to victory?

Waitakere Primary car in the Local Race



The Swanson Primary car in the Finals



Sponsors:

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- Treehouse Print;
- Smith & Partners;
- Swanson Medical Centre;
- Waitakere Residents & Ratepayers;
- Sean Quinn Barrister;
- Kumeu Computer Services;
- Power Forklifts;
- Pirtek

Sponsors:

- Future Cuisine
(Suppliers of excellent mussels and the like. Very tasty)





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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. A formal invitation will come out later but the date for this is Wednesday 4th May.

At this night we will also present the Technology Prize. For those who are working on this we need a disk containing your entry prior to the end of the School Holidays. Email me for an address to send the disk to (and if you need digital copies of logos I have these too).

Website:

www.soapboxderby.co.nz

Check out the website for photos from the various race centres, articles and the results for both our race and the Finals.

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

<For those who are confused as to the domain name – it points to a page in the middle of our Rotary site. We shifted this to point to a page for the Finals – but our own derby page is still there and can still be found through the menu at the top under Fundraisers>

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