



## ROTARY CLUB OF WAITAKERE

Making a difference in our world

P O Box 104-017 Lincoln North, Auckland 0654

[www.soapboxderby.co.nz](http://www.soapboxderby.co.nz)

## 2013 Soapbox Derby Newsletter #7

**10<sup>th</sup> April 2013**

Dear Schools and Sponsors

### Update:

What a month! The National Drought broke on our Derby Day; a combined race with Northcote the following week; the Easter Break and... The NZ Soapbox Derby Finals!

### Thank You Night and Prize Giving:

What:	A time to celebrate our successful Soapbox season, award prizes, watch the schools' videos, mix and mingle
Food & Drinks	A finger food evening meal and soft drinks will be provided  Cash bar
Date:	Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> May 2013 (first Wednesday of Term 2)
Time:	6pm to 8pm
Venue:	Starling Park Club Rooms 34 Glen Road, Ranui
Who:	All those who have been involved in the Derby – Sponsors, parents, teachers, children, Rotarians from other Derbies...
RSVP:	For catering reasons we need an idea of numbers. Please email me: <a href="mailto:info@soapboxderby.co.nz">info@soapboxderby.co.nz</a> with (approx) numbers of those who will attend

### The Great Waitakere Rained Off Derby:

Weather forecasts are highly unpredictable.

- Last year the NZ Soapbox Finals could easily have been cancelled due to the forecast. But instead we proceeded – and had a full day racing
- This year we ran with it despite the forecast. But the forecast turned out to be correct – the National Drought broke at 8:30am. The one day this year where it rained ALL day!
- Next year? An inflatable kayak race as a Backup Plan?





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Henry Dyer, our 2010 champion checked the track in the rain. Look at his face!

## Northcote/Waitakere Race:

This year we joined Northcote Rotary for a combined soapbox derby. Backup plans were made in case we were unable to complete both sets of races in the time allowed but everyone worked together to make it happen. Thank you to EVERYONE involved!

All our drivers raced twice – once in each lane – and the top 12 drivers went on for a one lane shoot out to select our Champion and the 6 finalists for the NZ Derby.



- 1st: Joe Grevel, Waitakere Primary
- 2nd: Maddie Pester, Waitakere Primary
- 3rd: Robbie Craig, Bruce McLaren Intermediate
- 4th: Rose Hinton, Waitakere Primary
- 5th: George Prinsloo, Bruce McLaren Intermediate
- 6th: Bas Daengkham, Massey High

Results of all races, along with links to a few newspaper articles, are at: [www.soapboxderby.co.nz](http://www.soapboxderby.co.nz)

### Photographs – to come...

Unfortunately our official photographer was unavailable on the rain date due to a wedding assignment. I have some but promised photos from others haven't arrived yet.

**Prize giving:** Deferred to our Thank You night due to the joint race





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### The NZ Finals:

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April saw the Whangaparaoa Derby (the forecast predicted some rain but the dark clouds came... and moved on out to sea)

Sunday dawned fine and clear and the day started. First up – the parade:



The police band



2012 Champion Gemma with her trophy from the AASBD International race

Then ... **RACING!**

Super Stock, Masters, Corporate, Super Kids... everyone had a turn and had a positive day.





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The Race Directors' race  
Terry leading by miles!



NZ SBD Race Director Terry Clarkson  
in the Clarkson car  
(Does he practice secretly on his drive at home?)



Waitakere Race Director Kerry McMillan  
Our 10<sup>th</sup> year – and Kerry finally finds out what  
he has subjected hundreds of children to!



The Super Kids cars drew a lot of interest this year  
from a few adults as well as our special needs children.





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Riverhead Scout Fairlane Walsh drove one of the cars at ALL the races.

Fairlane came 4<sup>th</sup> in the NZ Finals last year but chose not to race super stocks this year. She did a fantastic job with the Super Kids.

One previous champion drove the second car at one or two races - and the Masters drivers stepped in for others.

### And the Finalists?

For the first time in their 5 years of racing, Whangaparaoa have finally beaten the West. Auckland East also did very well. Congratulations to Dylan Smith of Orewa College

The top 7 drivers in the NZ Finals were:

1	308 A Dylan Smith Orewa College
2	412 A Andrew Jantke Meadowbank Primary School
3	313 A Danielle Foote Orewa College
4	416 A Harry Clarke Remuera Intermediate
5	111 A Rose Hinton Waitakere Primary DARE
6	114 A Bas Daengkham Massey High School MD Aluminium
7	115 A Maddie Pester Waitakere Primary Waitakere Sponsors

The 8<sup>th</sup> driver was disqualified due to a significant weight issue.

For the 11 year history of NZ Champions: <http://www.rotarywaitakere.org.nz/our-fundraisers/soap-box-derby/sbd-history>





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### Email Feedback:

The Auckland Race Director forwarded an email from one of his teams. An extract follows:

...Just to tell about a driver in our team that was a bit of a loner who confided in me that he was getting bullied last year.

He now has a whole lot more self esteem, 10 new friends and envy from his peers. All because of the Soapbox derby

Job well done guys. That is why I do it, and I'm sure it's why you do too.

### Video Award:

As you may have worked out by now the original idea of a "winning video" didn't quite work. Since we thought up this idea we have received far too many excellent entries to even want to determine "the best!" All are unique in their own ways.

What we have done instead is to award good prizes to ALL those who submit an entry. So get those creative ideas flowing!

Logos, rules etc at: <http://www.rotarywaitakere.org.nz/our-fundraisers/soapbox-derby-2013> in "Video Award" section.

We would prefer videos of around 3 minutes but if it is longer or shorter we will accept it. Reason for 3 minutes? It is a good length for viewing (one school video was shown at our Rotary District Conference last year as part of a 10 minute soapbox derby presentation)

For logistical reasons (teacher time, giving us a chance to source prizes) we would like all entries completed by the end of term 1. Upload to YouTube and send me a link or email me for a postal address [info@soapboxderby.co.nz](mailto:info@soapboxderby.co.nz)

This year Riverhead School have submitted their first ever video via YouTube link <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cXfv6wprKNs>. This is a brilliant idea (Whilst videos can be played from disk problems have arisen in the past with music copyright when it I uploaded a school video to YouTube)

### Apologies:

Please accept my apologies for the lack of newsletters recently. Family commitments kept me well away from computers for over a week immediately after our Rain Date Derby and I'm still catching up...

### Website:

[www.soapboxderby.co.nz](http://www.soapboxderby.co.nz)

As information becomes available we add it to our website – including copies of the newsletters. Photos, videos etc from past derbies are also on our site.





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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:

Kerry McMillan Derby Director <a href="mailto:clanmcmillan@xtra.co.nz">clanmcmillan@xtra.co.nz</a> Phone 832-3229 or 021-416-777	Lyn Parts Phone: 021 251 5490  The storeroom is located behind Grasslands at 570 Swanson Road. Ring Lyn first to ensure he is there.
Heather Pattison Project Manager <a href="mailto:heather@details.co.nz">heather@details.co.nz</a> Phone 810-9589 or 0274-719-569	Alan Pattison Technical Assistant <a href="mailto:alan@details.co.nz">alan@details.co.nz</a> Phone 810-9589 or 0274-80-88-30
Shawn Dyer Home: 412 9500 Mobile: 027 390 9885 Chief Scrutineer	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Are YOU the missing piece?</b></p>  <p style="text-align: center;">Rotary Membership Enquiries Welcome!</p>
<p><b>Rotary Meetings:</b></p> <p>Wednesday 6pm to 8pm</p> <p>Starling Park Sports Grounds          34 Glen Road          Ranui</p>	

Heather Pattison

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

