



ROTARY CLUB OF WAITAKERE

Making a difference in our world

P O Box 104-017 Lincoln North, Auckland 0654

www.soapboxderby.co.nz

2015 Soapbox Derby Newsletter #5

29th March 2015

Dear School and Sponsors,

NZ Soapbox Finals:



7 Masters car drivers and 18 Super Stock drivers from Waitakere, Auckland East and Whangaparaoa lined up for an intense day of racing.

18 Super Stock drivers reduced to 12... then to 6....

The final 6 super stock drivers, in no particular order, were:

Daniel Mollet	Meadowbank Primary Auckland East Rotary	<p>NOTE:</p> <p>Whilst Bairds Mainfreight Primary is a South Auckland school they have raced in the Soapbox Derby since it first began in NZ thanks to their, and our, sponsor Mainfreight.</p> <p>Originally they raced with Northcote but this year Waitakere Rotary was delighted to welcome them aboard to race with us.</p>
Nicolai Foenander	Meadowbank Primary Auckland East Rotary	
Kaythi Fynn	St Kentigern's Girls Auckland East Rotary	
Tyson Hepana	Bairds Mainfreight Waitakere Rotary	
Rose Hinton	Waitakere College Waitakere Rotary	
Luke Andrew	Waitakere Primary Waitakere Rotary	

But before progressing to the super stock results let's back up a step...





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Masters' Cars

For the last few years we have been running not only Super Stock but Master's cars. Until now these races have been run as a "demo" series of races. This year for the first time they have been run as official series races with the winner going to Akron in July.

This year the Master's car drivers, who raced at each of the Race Centres and the NZ Final's were:

193	Ambrose Young-Hill Waitakere Rotary	194	Maddie Pester Waitakere Rotary
190	Aaron Kinge Waitakere Rotary	191	Matthew Fishlock Whangaparaoa Rotary
192	Stone Simpson Whangaparaoa Rotary	195	Jamie Parkinson Waitakere Rotary
196	Sam Pester Waitakere Rotary		

Deb Knox and her partner Shawn Dyer have spent countless hours in the last few years assisting the drivers with the building of these cars, helping the drivers – and this year turning 7 highly competitive and competing drivers into a well functioning supportive team. Deb was Race Director for this and both Deb and Shawn have had major involvement in making the event fly.

On Saturday Ambrose's car had a minor "barrier issue" after the finish line – and a while later I spotted (unfortunately without a camera in hand) all 7 of the drivers hard at work reassembling the car in time for the next race.

Late that afternoon, when the teams had gone home and Rotarians were chatting over drinks and nibbles, we discovered a small group hard at work around the back of the tents stripping the car to discover and replace a small part (a bush was slightly damaged) and check the alignment.

Dave Hannah (Rotarian), Deb Knox, Stone Simpson, Matt Fishlock, Shawn Dyer and James Clarkson (Terry's grandson) - with Alan and Heather watching the fun



Matt working on Ambrose's car



Shawn in teaching mode explaining the physics to an interested audience





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Well the racers raced and the winner of the series was...



Aaron with his mother

Note: The bottle is sparkling grape juice!

2015 Masters Champion Aaron Kinge Waitakere Rotary

Aaron was our 2011 Super Stock champion



Once the Masters award and medals had been given out the team had a surprise presentation of their own for Shawn and Deb.

Driver Matt took the microphone and to everyone's delight presented Deb and Shawn with two tee shirts with "a photo of our faces on the front so they won't forget us" and large letters on the back. One saying, "Soapbox Dad... Shawn" and the other "Soapbox Mum... Deb"

Don, from Mainfreight (left) watched this with a giant grin.



Deb and Shawn were wearing these tee shirts when the Super Stock winner was announced





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Super Stock Finalists

It wasn't just the Masters who worked together as a team. The Waitakere Super Stock teams all worked together in total harmony. Drivers came from Bairds Mainfreight School, Matipo Primary, Waitakere College and Waitakere Primary and all mentioned the great co-operation and support they all received from each other.

Of our 6 drivers Harry Ward-Colman and Jadzia Hobby (Waitakere Primary) and Jacob Webster (Matipo Primary) were knocked out in the first round. But very well done to them for making it to the Finals!

The other three made it through the next two rounds – 12 drivers followed by 6 drivers.

Six drivers went to four, then 3, then 2...

Luke Andrew from Waitakere Primary with Rose Hinton of Waitakere College
By now they know that one of them will be 1st, the other 2nd





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2nd place is announced - Rose Hinton

(Jo Hinton claps loudly, Luke locks eyes with driver Jadzia as reality dawns and Rose smiles)



And ... Drum Roll...

First Place is announced – and Luke discovers it is really, Really, REALLY true!

2015 NZ Super Stock Champion: Luke Andrew





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And his highly delighted - but somewhat overwhelmed and shaking - parents!



Shaun Andrew as manager of the Waitakere Team is another of our parents who has devoted many, many hours to soapbox.

2015 Super Stock Finalists

1 st	Luke Andrew Waitakere Primary Waitakere Rotary (in the borrowed Swanson School car)
2 nd	Rose Hinton Waitakere College Waitakere Rotary
3 rd	Nicolai Foenander Meadowbank Primary Auckland East Rotary
4 th	Kaythi Fynn St Kentigern's Girls Auckland East Rotary
5 th	Tyson Hepana Bairds Mainfreight School Waitakere Rotary
6 th	Daniel Mollet Meadowbank Primary Auckland East Rotary

Many thanks go to all the children, parents, teachers, families and sponsors who made this event such a fantastic success.

And also thanks to the Waitakere Race Director Kerry McMillan for his excellent commentary on Finals Day.





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Website:

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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.

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 clanmcmillan@xtra.co.nz 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 heather@details.co.nz Phone 810-9589 or 0274-719-569	Alan Pattison Technical Assistant alan@details.co.nz Phone 810-9589 or 0274-80-88-30
<p>Rotary Meetings:</p> <p>Wednesday 6pm to 8pm</p> <p>Waitemata Rugby Club Rooms 96 Swanson Road, Henderson</p>	<p>Are YOU the missing piece?</p>  <p>Rotary Membership Enquiries Welcome!</p>

Heather Pattison

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

