

Fund Raising



Balloons Over Waikato Park n Ride

This is turning into an annual event for the team (which is a great thing) and we're all getting to know the job pretty well by now. Setting up the sites, helping people onto buses, stamping hands and answering questions (mostly "where are the buses?"). There was a bit of stress again this year with 100's of people queuing and no buses to be seen, but once again the dragonboaters put on their charm and soothed and entertained the worried crowds. The transport team were just as frustrated as us after realising the private traffic management contractors were actually pretty useless and the traffic jams that ensued were a bit of a disgrace. I'm sure next year this will be all fixed and it will run like clockwork.

Thanks to all those who showed up for the fundraiser (which was actually the majority of the team) - pretty impressive to see you guys all pull together like that. Thanks to the Land Transport Team for making us first option, we'll be there ready and raring to go next year.



V8 Buses

Another generous fundraiser from the Transport Team. The inaugural Hamilton 400 saw the streets empty of cars (except the screaming V8 kind) and people flock to the buses. It was our job to make sure they all got back home safely. Over all three nights, our volunteers swarmed over the transport centre with timetables and maps at the ready. The buses were really well organised and flowed smoothly. We were there again to amaze and entertain the masses, and our efforts were really appreciated by the Transport Team. Special thanks to Tama and Murray who worked multiple nights and to those that took time out of their weekends and V8 watching to help out.

- Red

Bach Staining (Raglan) – 12th April 2008

April 08 was a very busy month for fundraising activities for the Dragon Boat team – with fundraisers booked into three consecutive weekends. The bach staining fundraiser was initially due to take place on Saturday 5th April however due to weather forecasts predictions it was delayed until the following weekend. This meant that two fundraisers would now be scheduled for Saturday 12th – the bach staining at Raglan, in the morning, and then the 'Balloons over Waikato' event in the afternoon/evening. All in all - it was set to be a very long day & night for those who were planning to assist at both fundraisers.

The day started off promising as there was no rain as we headed out from Hamilton and a early start would mean that we should be able to complete the staining job before lunch time. Following Kevin Collins clear directions we all managed to find our way & arrived at the bach location at approximately 8am to be warmly greeted by Kevin who after an initial look around instructed us on the task at hand. The bach is set in a stunning outback location on top of a hill which overlooks the Raglan Harbour – such a peaceful and tranquil setting with views to kill for. It was sure to be a relaxing experience as we could also hear the sounds of nature all around us. The staining team consisted of Paul, Nick, Murray, Helen along with, of course, Kevin and one of his trusty work mates Steve Bosak - we set to work laying out the tarps on the deck area and diligently started applying the stain. Ladders were used for the high bits whilst others carefully painted the lower sections (making sure they were wearing hats – of course!!!). It didn't seem long before we got into a good system and before no time at all we had progressed right around the whole building. Mission complete !!

The laying down of the paint brushes after a job well done happened at lunch-time as expected. The home-baking & liquid refreshments that were provided were gobbled down by the hungry appreciative team of painters before we said our good byes and hopped into our cars and headed back home to Hamilton for the next fundraiser.

- Helen Leslie