

Out & About & Around McConnell Group

Round the Bays

The annual 8km plus Auckland Round the Bays event during March was once again a winner largely due to the exceptional organisation of Hawkins' Tracey Standing, ably supported by husband Aaron, Merv MacDonald, Alison Smith, Nicki Gee, numerous others and the weather. More than 90 competed with partners, families and pets in support 'at the end'....and what is more...it was just as much fun with half the budget!



A Few of the Winners: (L-R) Tracey Glendinning (Merv MacDonald's daughter), Owen Frenzt (Ian Fiatau's brother -in -law) and Erin Tolhurst (Nancy McConnell's 'runner') completed in 39:12 min, 43:26min and 36:13mins respectively. James Hawkes came in at 42:45 minutes with Daniel Brown on 43:31mins. And David McConnell ran in on 44:56mins but there are some that think he had an overly advantageous start!



(L-R): David McConnell, Bernard Hill, John Overton, Terry Buchan, Nancy McConnell, Mark Scott, Mike Wardle.



Elegance was more important than speed for some. Vanessa and Marie Armstrong with Nicole Macalpine sporting Louis Vuitton...and make-up all in the right places.



Great marketing on a very well positioned site.



Time to relax.

500 plus at Hawkins Christmas Party



Hawkins extended a Christmas treat to Auckland-based families of McConnell Property, McConnell Group and Steelpipe by including everyone in their Rainbow's End celebration - presents, rides and burgers for more than 235 children with 270 adults in tow. And Connor O'Brien (pictured), two year old son of Paul and Helen is a budding racing car enthusiast.

Hamilton Mayor into Innovation



Hamilton City Mayor, Bob Simcock (right) with Central Region Project Manager Dave Middlemiss (left) at Waikato Innovation Park in Hamilton. Dave took the Mayor for a guided tour of the emerging three storey office building, chatting about the merits of 'green building'. This is the second building on the Park and is due for completion in July.

Hawkins for Habitat



(L-R): Visiting American, Christy Felner and Paul Cooper (Hawkins Construction), were two of the volunteers who recently gave their skills and time to build a Habitat for Humanity home for Frances Taka and her four children in Auckland. Reg Ritai (Hawkins Construction) was also part of the crew and for the Hawkins volunteers there was a very special connection - Frances dad, Richie, who passed away 10 years ago, had worked with Hawkins at the airport.

Community Day at Addison

To celebrate the recent launch of the third stage of Addison, (Papakura, Auckland) - 201 homes known as Addison Gardens - the Addison community social group organised a sausage sizzle which McConnell Property sponsored complete with farm animals and fairies.



\$60,000 for Breast Cancer



Kathryn and Graeme Cox (Coxie) have big hearts. Kathryn, diagnosed with breast cancer at 44, was determined to fight to win back her life for her two young sons, Matt and Josh and her husband of 20+ years, Graeme, Hawkins Services Engineer. More than a year on, following a mastectomy, chemotherapy and radiation treatment, Kathryn is well and her tests are clear. But Kathryn also chose to put their story out in the public domain to assist in raising awareness and funds for the Breast Cancer Foundation. And to date her efforts, have raised an additional \$60,000 towards the cause.

Well done Kathryn. Ring 0800 902 732 to support.

(Pictured: Graeme & Kathryn celebrated 20 years of marriage, oblivious of the challenges ahead.)

Hawkins First in Team Icebreaker Event

In March, 12 Hawkins riders set off on the Motatapu Icebreaker, a 50km high country mountain bike race from Lake Wanaka to Arrowtown with over 2000 competitors. A perfect day was put on by the deep south - it was fine, still and warm. In the teams event, Hawkins Queenstown (Andrew Holmes, Duane Francis and ring-in Jet Bishop) came first in their category with a combined time of 08:53:49, and Hawkins Christchurch (Quin Henderson, Phil Griffiths and ring-in Roger Syme) finished 3rd in the same category. First Hawkins rider in, for the second year in a row, was Andrew Holmes in a time of 2:53:38 (a couple of minutes quicker than last year) but he must have really pushed

his bike though because not long after he finished his back tyre blew apart. Mike Murray proved to be the most improved rider, finishing a whopping 41 minutes ahead of his 2008 time.

On a much sadder note, Steph Mahan unfortunately never made it to the end after suffering a bad cut to her leg which later required 10 stitches. Steph and John Meenhorst also spent two hours in the middle of the race administering first aid and CPR to a gentleman who suffered a heart attack and unfortunately passed away.

Are there plans to race again next year? Only time will tell, but already there is talk of some scores to settle!



Waiting to go - Andrew Holmes, Steve Taw, Quin Henderson and Mike Murray.



Final pre-stretch - Duncan Kenderdine and Andrew Holmes.



The start line.



And they're off - John Meenhorst, Phil Griffiths and Andrew Rowden.



The big finish from Quin Henderson.