

WHAT'S UP AT THUMBS UP?

A new chapter for Thumbs Up

Thumbs Up Charitable Trust is now operating Thumbs Up Service!

In 2012 agreement was reached that the provision of Thumbs Up Service would transfer from Wellington After-care Association to Thumbs Up Trust beginning on 1 January 2013. While in the past the Trust's role has been predominantly one of supporting the service, it now has sole responsibility for its operation and development.

Thumbs Up Trust is grateful to Wellington After-Care Association for its pioneering initiative in working with a group of families to establish the service in 2007. The Trust looks forward to building on what has been achieved to develop an innovative responsive service that enables each individual attending to lead a fulfilling life in their community.

We have been overwhelmed with the incredibly generous support of many organizations and individuals to help us resource our new service.

We include in this newsletter a separate insert in which we gratefully acknowledge our very kind friends.

Issue 16

July 2013



Introducing Thumbs Up's New Manager



The Trust is very pleased to welcome Ms Briany Howes as Manager of Thumbs Up Service. Briany has a background in education and youth work, having worked for many years with VIBE, Lower Hutt's youth service, and most recently at McGirr Training, where she was Upper Hutt Service Manager.

Briany's strong management skills combined with high motivation and commitment enable her to provide the leadership needed for Thumbs Up Service to achieve its goal of delivering the highest quality of service to those who attend.

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Ladies Night Fashion Fundraiser

Friday September 13 at
Ballentynes Petone

To purchase tickets, contact
Jillian Green 971 8614 or
Lisa Bartosh
5891514



Thumbs Up Duke of Edinburgh Camp



In February Corey, Jessica, Andrew, Dion, Andrija and Daniel, supported by staff members Marlene, Ben, Kelvin and Jill, spent three days/two nights at El Rancho in Waikane as part of completing their challenges for the Duke of Edinburgh.

One of the challenges was crossing the river which was very cold compared to the swim in the sun heated pool!

Kite making and flying, making and extinguishing a fire, skimming rocks across and river and making a bivvy were fun and skill building activities. Silver level participants completed a big tramp.

The treasure hunt tested everyone's ability to read or listen to instructions, use the compass, and count "Andrija" steps. There were shouts of joy when the treasure was found.

At meal time people shared the tasks, including cooking on the BBQ on the first night, with special burnt onions!

Andrew and Daniel completed the camp for their bronze level award, and Jess, Dion, Andrija and Corey for silver level.

The camp was a great success with everyone working together as a team, and we are very proud of our Duke of Edinburgh troupers!

Thumbs Up Imagines Better

Thumbs Up contracted Imagine Better (www.imaginebetter.co.nz) to lead a strategic planning session for the board of trustees of Thumbs Up in February and a training session for staff in March. We were stimulated and inspired to think beyond what is, and to "Imagine Better" for Thumbs Up.

We talked about what constitutes a good life, and how Thumbs Up can be a vehicle to help people get a good life. We identified the importance of supporting people to get and perform roles which fit their individual skills and interests, enabling them to

contribute and develop relationships with others in their communities. We have created a vision of where we are headed, and identified goals we need to achieve to get there.

We also committed to some core values to guide us in our actions:

- honourable in our interactions
- responsive to the needs and aspirations of the adults at our service and their families, and to the changing context in which the service operates

-focusing on each person we serve as an individual, building on their strengths

-striving for growth and development (for clients, staff and trustees)

-being a family owned service, where families work together

-financially sustainable.

We acknowledge the past, appreciate the present, and look forward to the future of Thumbs Up Service!



A graphic representation of work done at the strategic planning session



Fundraising

Thumbs Up Trust Contact details

Postal address: PO Box 33082,
Petone, Lower Hutt 5012

Located at: 5 Elizabeth Street, Petone

Service Manager: Briany Howes,
Phone 586 8069, or 027 THUMBSU
email manager@thumbsuptrust.org.nz

Trustees:

Chairperson: Richard Bialy
Deputy Chairperson: Mike Browne
Treasurer: Rose Chadwick
Secretary: Lynn Bialy
Trustees: Lisa Bartosh, Jillian Green,
Margaret Perry
Email: trustees@thumbsuptrust.org.nz

Our website:
Thumbsuptrust.org.nz



Thumbs Up Stall at Petone Fair February 16th

Thank you to Petone Community Board forgiving us the stall to sell our wares!

Another sunny busy Fair day, run by Petone Rotary Club.



Corey and Steve Wilkie Meat Raffles

Corey and his dad Steve raised \$1500 for Thumbs Up by running meat raffles at their local pub over the months of January, February and March. Thank you Corey and Steve!



Petone Lions Club Mobility Scooter Run April 13

Thank you to Petone Lions Club for organising this event, which was opened by Deputy Mayor Ian McKinnon. Several of us from Thumbs Up joined members from Multiple Sclerosis Wellington for a promotional fundraising scooter ride and walk along Wellington Waterfront, with our buckets and bags ready for donations from those we encountered!



Garage Sale/Gala May 4

Lots of things donated and lots of things sold!

Thumbs Up at Jolt Dance

Thumbs Up spent a wonderful day with Jolt Interactive, watching performances and doing workshops as part of Jolt's tour of its work "Rain" to Wellington in April. Rain is an interactive dance theatre work designed specifically for people with significant needs and complex disabilities.

