



## Fishing contests in Auckland lend support to some excellent causes



**Geoff Thomas**

Three local fishing contests in Auckland will be held over the coming weeks solely to raise funds for some excellent causes.

The first is today at the Maraetai Boat Club, organised by Temira and Tai Mataroa to raise funds for the neurological ward at the Starship hospital.

“The people in the ward were wonderful when we lost our little girl, and we want to put something back. So we came up with the idea of holding a fishing contest to raise funds for equipment for the ward,” said Temira.

Tickets are \$50, which can also include entry for two children under 12, and can still be obtained this morning at the club. The weigh-in will be from 3pm to 5pm at Maraetai, and Ewen Gilmour will host the prizegiving.

There are good prizes for snapper, kingfish, kahawai and trevally, including a mystery weekend for two people for the average weight snapper, and an auction which includes a New Zealand Rugby League heritage jersey signed by the 2010 Kiwis from the Four Nations tournament.

Another contest in the same area will be based at Pine Harbour Marina next weekend. It is the annual Stevenson Marine Pine Harbour Fishing Contest, and all proceeds will go to the Canteen fishing contest for youngsters who live with cancer, which will be held in mid-May.

The Canteen day out has been

held for several years, and organiser Paul Gapes said that without the help of Stevensons through next weekend's event it would be difficult to put on the day for the Canteen kids.

“This day is the highlight of the year for these kids, and we really appreciate the support from Stevensons, Pine Harbour, the boat owners and all of the sponsors who help us with prizes. Every kid goes home with some great prizes, and to see the smile on their faces is a real treat for everybody involved.”

Gapes urged people to support the Stevensons contest next week.

Fishing starts at 6am on Saturday, April 9, and finishes at 2pm on the Sunday. Tickets are \$45 and the prizes include a grand entry prize of a helifishing trip for four people to Great Barrier Island, worth \$3500; \$2000 cash for the mystery weight snapper; and a list of prizes for snapper, kingfish, trevally and kahawai.

For information contact Gary Richmond on 029-2014746.

For fishermen out west, the annual Weekender Tournament based at the Te Atatu Boating Club is on next weekend, with proceeds going to the Christchurch earthquake appeal.

Tickets are \$40 and can be obtained from Norcross Fishing World, Dive HQ New Lynn, Westpark Chandlery or the boat club. There are good prizes for snapper, kahawai, kingfish and john dory. The public are invited to go along on the Sunday

afternoon for family entertainment, a sausage sizzle, raffles and an auction of sponsors' goods and fish.

Plenty of good fish should be weighed in all three events. Snapper can still be found in all the popular areas, plus kingfish and kahawai.

Small snapper can be a nuisance, and one solution is to use fresh bait like piper, kahawai or jack mackerel.

Squid and mullet are also working well, but tough, fresh bait will deter the little pickers until something larger comes along. Drifting with soft baits and a tough bait on a regular outfit, rather than anchoring and deploying berley, is another way to avoid small fish.

The skipjack tuna which have proved a bonus for those fishing off the Noises have moved north to Whangaparaoa Bay, and some good-sized fish are among them.

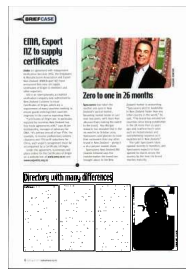
Kingfish action is picking up in Northland, although bronze whaler sharks are a problem as they love to attack hooked kings. The only solution is to move to another spot rather than continue feeding the sharks.

Blue marlin are becoming scarce, but striped marlin are still not far offshore. In the Bay of Plenty, kingfish are moving to deep water, but snapper fishing in close continues. Fishermen are doing well off the beaches.

• More fishing action can be found on Rheem Outdoors with Geoff, 5pm TV3, and on [www.FishnHunt.Tv](http://www.FishnHunt.Tv).

**This day is the highlight of the year for these kids, and we really appreciate the support.**

**Paul Gapes, organiser of the Canteen day out**



## Directory with many differences

**GoSmart** is a local online business directory with many points of difference.

“At goSmart our registration process is simple and once completed business can upload photos, videos and their business logo to create an instant modern webpage,” says spokesman Edmond Stack. “In addition, consumers can obtain directions with full screen maps for local businesses. Consumers can request a quote, make a booking or an appointment from goSmart businesses with the click of a button.

“The directory has a Q&A section which allows consumers to ask questions for local businesses to reply to. We also have an Articles section where consumers and businesses alike can publish useful or inspiring information, share knowledge or simply use it as part of their search engine optimisation programme.”

The directory also offers businesses the option of becoming verified, which means goSmart independently checks company identity, accreditations, insurance

and references and issues a verified seal next to the business listing.

“This allows companies to showcase their credentials and sets goSmart above any other New Zealand directory,” says Stack.

“goSmart is about keeping it simple; it’s about values just as much as value. Just by using our services people will be supporting our partner charity CanTeen. When a business takes out a paid listing with us we donate 20 percent to CanTeen.”



EDMOND STACK



# Long distance bike rides honouring lost mates

BY CHRISTINE MCKAY

Postie Colin Anderson's pride may be dented after a fall while delivering the mail, but it hasn't put the skids on his cancer fundraising rides.

"I'm letting the bruises settle and my pride rejuvenate after I ended up laying under my heavy, old, postie's bike, before I'm out again training for my next big ride." Anderson, a former Dannevirke resident, said.

"There's no point in going slow, you only live once and I still enjoy riding, so why not?"

With his 64th birthday looming, Anderson said he wanted to dedicate his ride in the Marlborough Grape Ride on April 1 and 2 to Dannevirke's Eric Kells, while also raising funds for CanTeen.

"Eric died from cancer in November 2010, and was a great cycling cobbler and fellow member of the Manawatu Masters Cycling Club and of course, like me, he was a product of Dannevirke," Anderson explained.

"Eric was a respected, regular group rider who would have relished taking photos of the scenic Marlborough Sounds, where I'll be riding through come Friday."

It's always been Anderson's tradition to dedicate his major rides to friends he's lost

along the way.

In the 2009 Watty Round Lake Taupo enduro ride Anderson's 21st time in the event -- it was the late Ross Abbott, another former Dannevirke rider, who was his inspiration.

"Having someone at the back of my mind keeps me going, even when the going gets tough," he said.

"I won't be using a back-up crew for the 500km ride, but will be doing it just on my own. It's mainly about getting around and enjoying the companionship of fellow riders.

"Hopefully some old mates from Dannevirke will join me in Blenheim as well."

"I did ride this 500km event in 2009, the last time it was run, and completed it in 19 hours and 23 minutes, which gave me just seven minutes for a quick change of clothes and to refuel before jumping back on my bike for a 20km cancer ride.

"It was a busy night and day and this year the ride starts at 2pm on the Friday, so it's another long night out. 500km may not sound far, but it's approximately the distance from Waiouru to Kaikoura and it's on the bike, non-stop for 18-20 hours."

Anderson is also heading off overseas in August to ride in two endurance events and says there's no way he's going to live life in



the slow lane, despite being diagnosed with prostate cancer in 2007, and undergoing a radical prostatectomy.

"When I'm training I usually clock up 100km, in three-to-four-hour rides," he said. "Sometimes I take to the hills of the Pahiatua Track and other times I ride the flats around Palmerston North.

"As a postie you get up and do your job whatever the weather and training for the rides isn't any different. It's just pedalling, day-after-day."

In 2007 Anderson tackled the 1200km Paris-Brest-Paris ride, completing the distance in a credible 66 hours, and in August, he's set to ride the 24-hours velo ride on the Le Mans Bugatti circuit in France, along with 3000 other competitors.

"It's a heck of a start to the race, riders even have to run across track to collect their bikes to start, just like the car racers," he said.

Then after a quick strip and pack up of his loan cycle, from Pedal Pushers, it's off to Washington to ride in a 24-hour cancer fundraiser as part of the LiveStrong Lance Armstrong Foundation, on August 27 and 28.

"Taking a nasty tumble of my postie's bike hasn't helped my preparations, but I guess you could say I've started my taper a bit early," he said.

■ You can support Colin Anderson in his fundraising rides by going to [www.fundraiseonline.co.nz](http://www.fundraiseonline.co.nz)



**THUMBS UP:** Colin Anderson competing in the Paris-Brest-Paris ride in 2007. Anderson is tackling the 500km Marlborough Grape Ride this Friday raising funds for CanTeen.



# SLICE OF LIFE

**Samantha Curley and Nikita Vincent**  
 Outside Countdown  
 Pukekohe Friday  
 March 25, 9.40am

Best friends and year 11 Pukekohe High School students Samantha Curley and Nikita Vincent were outside Countdown collecting money for the Child Cancer Foundation.

Students from the school, all of whom have had some experience with cancer themselves or in their family, took turns manning the collection stall.

## Nikita

Nikita always puts her hand up to volunteer for anything to do with cancer, as she was diagnosed with a brain tumour in December 2009.

When she leaves school she would like to be a teacher but would also like to continue working with CanTeen, which she has a lot to do with.

She is currently trying to become a CanTeen leader, which would see her look after patients on the camps run by the organisation.

“I’ve been through the kind of stuff that they’re going through, so I can understand.”

When she’s not fundraising and helping out cancer-related charities, the busy teenager



plays netball, does jazz and hip hop and cheerleading.

## Samantha

Best friend Samantha volunteered to help out at the fundraising stall to support her best friend.

The two share a love of dance

and Samantha also plays netball. Like many teenagers she isn’t quite sure what she wants to do in the future but thinks it will have something to do with the arts, possibly working for a magazine.

She loves drawing and painting and is taking art practical this year.



# Last race helps CanTeen

The State Beach Series came to a colourful conclusion last Tuesday evening with the CanTeen Charity event.

Every dollar that each entrant contributed to the race helped raise \$5934.60 for CanTeen – supporting young people with cancer.

Event director Scott Rice says: “People’s generosity at this time is truly amazing and I am humbled to run an event that the community really supports and this charity race really shows the true colours of those supporting CanTeen.”

The event had an array of participants in costumes especially from the very colourful stand-up paddlers .

There were participants dressed as Neptune, pirates, Native Indians, gladiators, Top Gun fighter pilots, jailbirds and even a person dressed as a gorilla, adding to the atmosphere on Takapuna Beach.

CanTeen director Brian Barnett attended the event.

“I am overwhelmed



**Stand up support:** Anthony Willis as Neptune supports CanTeen during the Beach Series at Takapuna. He finished second in the 40 to 49-year-old stand up paddle. **Photo: SAM MAYHEW**

with the support shown CanTeen members,” Barnett says.

The State Beach Series begins a new season on November 1.



## Skydiver's close shave to help cancer kids

Brookby skydiving enthusiast Kie Eloff is shaving off her hair to raise funds for Kiwi kids with cancer.

Jumpstart is a charity event that gives teenagers from CanTeen and Project K the chance to complete a tandem skydive from an RNZAF C130 Hercules. This year's event is being held this weekend at Whenuapai airbase.

"I was privileged to be at Whenuapai for Jumpstart last year and it was amazing to see all of these kids so excited," says Kie.

"It became something very close to my heart so because I can't be there this weekend for Jumpstart 2011 I thought I would get my hair shaved off

and try to raise donations instead."

Kie has two uncles who died of cancer. She also knows a couple in her skydiving club who's son has cancer.

"My thoughts and prayers go out to anyone affected by cancer and this fundraiser is just my way of helping."

Jumpstart is seen as a generator of growth and confidence for young people with challenges in their lives. Close to 50 young people a year have had the chance to experience a skydive through Jumpstart since it started five years ago, fully supported by the RNZAF.

Kie has so far undertaken seven skydives herself- six static lines and one freefall - and she is hooked.

"It's all about the experience of feeling alive and the adrenalin rush you get from it and that's what Jumpstart gives these kids."

Kie will be having her hair shaved off at Essential Hair Boutique at 301 Botany Rd at noon on Tuesday 22 March.

"I would just like to thank all those who are willing to contribute to my efforts for these kids," says Kie.

All funds raised will go towards helping sponsor Jumpstart.

If you would like to make a donation go to [www.fundraiseonline.co.nz/KieEloff/](http://www.fundraiseonline.co.nz/KieEloff/) or contact Kie on 021 056 1871.



**Kie Eloff (right) before one of her jumps with skydiving instructor Peter Barnett.**