

## 10. KIDS'N ACTION

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Corporate Plan Output: Recreation Programmes and Promotion	

The purpose of this report is to inform Community Board members of the recent Kids'N Action event delivered by the Recreation and Arts Team of the Leisure Unit in the Burwood/Pegasus wards.

The Kids'N Action event was held on 27 September 2000 at Queen Elizabeth II Park. The event was specifically staged for 10-13 year old participants who were interested in taking part in a team situation, involving role plays and problem solving. Forty children took part in the event.

Several emergency agencies from around Christchurch took part in providing scenarios that were fun, interesting and exciting. Participants were arranged in teams and were asked to find solutions to emergency situations that they may come across during the course of their lives.

The day came to a close with everyone participating in a sausage sizzle and presentation. All children were presented with a participation pack consisting of sponsored goodies and certificates from Christchurch City Council Leisure and the New Zealand Fire Service.

### **OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of the event were:

- To provide an opportunity to educate young people in emergency awareness and "what to do".
- To promote an awareness of the agencies/services in the Christchurch community.
- To provide a fun, safe event for tweenagers.

### **AGENCIES INVOLVED**

The following activities were set up by the agencies involved:

#### **Royal Life Saving Society NZ**

Teaching water safety, the necessity of life jackets, how to stay afloat in difficult situations when you are out of your depth in the water.

#### **Mountain Safety**

Produced a new game involving environmental awareness as well as fun. 'POSSUM' encouraged awareness of the damage that is being done by wildlife and what can be done about it.

#### **Civil Defence**

Once again a popular scenario amongst the participants, involving the rescuing of an injured person from the island at QEII lake. Great fun combining the use of ropes, rubber dinghy, ladders and great skill. Children had to work as a team and work out a strategy to cross to the island and rescue the injured person.

### **New Zealand Police**

A crime scene was set up and with the use of finger printing the teams were able to establish how to find the criminal.

### **The Order of St John**

St John's brought in a wrecked car and established an accident scene. Participants were able to act out the scenario with a cyclist being hit by a car. The objective was how to avoid this situation and how to provide first aid.

### **New Brighton Volunteer Fire Brigade**

Once again the hoses were brought out and a simulated fire situation was brought to a swift, wet conclusion!

### **PROMOTION**

The event was promoted in the following ways:

- Visits to classes with brochures, posters and also photographs from the previous year to the following schools: Chisnallwood; Freeville; North New Brighton; Central New Brighton; Queenspark; Parkview; South New Brighton; Windsor; Wainoni; Shirley Intermediate.
- Youth groups and Church groups were also approached with brochures and posters.
- Advertisements were placed in the Pegasus Post one week before the event.
- Media releases went to newspapers and radios prior to the event.

### **SPONSORSHIP**

The following sponsors were obtained:

**Todd Heller Meats** - Sausages.

**Antarctic Centre** - Passes.

**Garden City Bowls** - Passes.

**Cookie Time** - Cookies, badges, tattoos.

**Alpine Ice Sports Centre** - Passes.

**Tip Top** - Ice creams.

A letter has been sent acknowledging the contribution that these businesses have made to this community event.

### **RESPONSES FROM PARTICIPANTS**

Both parents and participants showed positive interest in the event, displaying a strong desire for their children to learn how to deal with emergencies.

Comments included:

- Something I like about the event was everything.
- Something I liked was being taken out of a very difficult situation on a stretcher.
- In the diving pool we had to save people.
- It was fun.
- Some activities were boring.

**COMMENT**

Numbers participating in the event were lower than expected, even with extra promotion. The Community Recreation Advisers are currently reviewing the event in terms of time of the year, marketing and targeted age range of the children, with a view to refocusing the event to appeal to a younger group of children.

**Recommendation:** That the information be received.

**Chairperson's**

- Recommendations:**
1. That the information be received.
  2. That the Leisure Unit staff and contributing organisations be thanked for their input to make Kids'N Action a success.