



SIX AND TEN



"My first 'role model' was Steve Austin - the Six Million Dollar Man", divulges Phil Trotter who this year has celebrated 5 years of mentoring Michael, now 16 years old. "Dad left when I was 7, we were pretty poor and there were no males around to look up to or help us get involved in sport or the like.

Mentoring would have been good for me", he says humbly.

Step forward a generation and Phil, now a father of four somewhat unsurprisingly found himself working in the Youth sector. Responding to a survey that indicated that young people in the north-west of Christchurch were lacking positive role models, Phil and a team of enthusiastic locals set up North West Mentoring, a program that started out as a school based programme at Breens Intermediate. One of the first youth workers to step up as a volunteer was Matthew Button. "Matt was passionate about the concept of mentoring and really championed it", says Phil.

After a couple of years, they aligned with Big Brothers Big Sisters, utilising the research and systems of BBBS International to make the local programme even stronger. Celebrating ten years of mentoring this year and over 500 matches served in Christchurch, Matt is still working for Big Brothers Big Sisters as Manager (and mentor to Keith) and Phil is on the Trust Board that oversees the Programme.

Michael, now a year 12 student at Burnside High School speaks highly of Phil. "He is caring and friendly and knows

when I'm struggling". Michael feels that Phil has been a great role model for the way he connects with people, following his example by volunteering at local after school and holiday programmes as a youth leader. Certainly Phil's ethos of giving back to community is rubbing off on Michael.

According to Phil, "It takes just six positive adults to help a young person succeed in this world, so if I can be 1/6th of the solution, great! Being a part of Big Brothers Big Sisters has been one of the greatest joys of my life".

IN THIS ISSUE

- Couples Mentoring
- Good in the Hood
- Coffee Anyone?
- The Legend of Curtis

MENTORING MATCHES SERVED 2014: 167

THE POWER OF TEN

10

This year Big Brothers Big Sisters of Christchurch celebrates its tenth anniversary. During that period we have evolved from a small organisation based in the north-west of the city to one of the biggest mentoring programmes in the country. I would of course like to claim

most of the credit for this but, sadly for my aspirations of a knighthood, there are many others who have made this possible: My predecessor Mal Falloon laid a great platform for us to work from. We have an outstanding operational team led by Matthew Button. We have an extremely talented and hard working Board, which gives the organisation clear direction and focus. We have the most wonderfully committed group of mentors – and have had for the past ten years. And we have an extremely supportive patron in the All Blacks coach Mike Cron. So, truth be told, all I do is sit in mission control and



listen to story after story of how this organisation makes a difference to so many young lives in Christchurch. How hard is that? Here's to the next ten.

Tim Webster
Chairman Big Brothers Big Sisters of Christchurch.

DOING GOOD IN OUR HOOD

Big Brothers Big Sisters Christchurch applied to be part of Z Stations 'Good in the Hood' promotion for the first time this year and we were delighted to be nominated at four separate locations! Z Stations in Hornby, Brougham St, Barrington and Burnside all had voting boxes where customers could vote for their favourite local charity to receive a share of \$4000 per site. After voting had concluded we found that we had won \$4000 thanks to the efforts of our supporters in the community. A huge thanks to station owners Hamish Wright and John Allen whom also often support us with free tickets to the Tactix Netball games for our mentors and kids to enjoy. Thanks guys! You brought a lot of good to our hood!



DINE OUT, SAVE AND SUPPORT!



We still have a few 2014 books available for immediate delivery or you can opt for the new digital smart phone app version. See our website (bbschch.org.nz) for the link to order online or phone us on 358 4019.

TWO GOES INTO ONE



Stepping back to about two years ago, Christchurch couple Kate and Damien were looking to do some volunteer work. "We wanted to do something good for someone, something unselfish and something we could do together", says

Kate. Enter Cam, a 12 year old now at Christchurch South Intermediate in need of a Big Brother mentor. Unusually, Cam got more than just a 'big brother'. He got a 'big sister' as well! Whilst Big Brothers Big Sisters predominantly match an individual mentor to a child, there has been a slight growth recently in the number of couples interested in mentoring a child together. According to Kate and Damien, it offers another level of support. "Having someone else to bounce ideas and approaches to situations, sometimes as they happen, is really helpful" says Damien. They've found mentoring as a team also allows them to remain consistent with their meetings with Damien. If either Kate or Damien are unavailable due to another commitment, one of them can still catch up with Cam. Now they hang out with Cam every

Tuesday. They go on bike rides, play tennis, head to the beach or feed the ducks at the park. "We try to do things that don't cost money."

According to Cam, they

are fun, nice to be

around and "are always including me". "They have taught me how to play cricket properly and how to make biscuits. I've also gained a couple of friends and I feel more confident."



WHAT OUR MATCHES ARE UP TO..



ROBERT AND TIPENE WENT TO THE BEACH • STEVE AND KEANU DID A JIG SAW PUZZLE • MICHAEL AND PRESTON JUST TALKED • LILLY AND CHANTELE MADE A PHOTO FRAME • JANE AND DANIELLE MADE APPLE

CRUMBLE • JAMES AND CAM WALKED THE DOG • PETE AND TAINIE PLAYED BATTLESHIPS • PIP AND HOPE MADE A CAT PICTURE • TOM AND ARCHIE PLAYED CHESS • CAROLINE AND HAYLEY PLAYED UNO • KELLY AND KEIARAH WENT TO THE BEACH • FEMKE AND CHARLOTTE HAD A BREAKFAST BURRITO AT THE MARKET • GAYLE AND PIPER-ROSE WENT TO THE LIBRARY • KARA AND ZOEY MADE A DREAM CATCHER • DAMIEN AND SCOTT PLAYED BASKETBALL (DAMIEN WON!) • MIKE AND RUSLAN WENT TO THE MUSEUM



WARM HEARTS AND HOT COFFEE



At the top end of Barbadoes street is a little café doing a lot of good thanks to an initiative by Dutch owner Madeleine de Jong. Customers at Café Ristretto have an opportunity to buy a 'suspended coffee' as well as one for themselves. A suspended coffee is where an additional coffee is bought by a customer but is kept on hold for someone in need who can receive it for free at the discretion of the staff. Over the last few months Madeleine has given away coffees to hundreds of people. She also very generously offers suspended coffees (and hot chocolates) to Big



Brothers Big Sisters mentors and their mentees who drop in. Ristretto is a great place for matches to go on a cold wintery day when it's hard to do things outside. Thanks Madeleine and your team. Our mentors really appreciate your kindness and support!

OUR SUPPORTERS

We gratefully acknowledge grants and support recently received from the following funders and donors, without whom we could not operate.



New Zealand Charitable Foundation

Blogg Charitable Trust

EB Milton Charitable Trust

Keith Laugeson Charitable Trust

Steve Clancy and Ben Johns (IT Support)

Maurice Carter Charitable Trust

CPIT Social Work Students

Ristretto Café

John Allen – Sabema Ltd (Z Stations)

Hamish Wright – Hatrick Services

(Z Stations)

United Way

Jack and Marjorie Ferrier Charitable Trust

Copy Print Riccarton

Sara Murray : BBBS Charity Shop

St Andrews College

Rotary Burnside/Bishopdale

BBBS Regular and individual donors

Alastair Bean and Associates



AIMING STRAIGHT!

Thanks to generous support of Riccarton Park Mini Golf and Garden City Bowl, and our wonderful funders, we have been able to run two events for mentors and their young people this year. This is one of the few chances we have to see our matches in action. It's incredibly satisfying to see the strong rapport constantly developing between the mentor and the child they volunteer to hang out with. Magic!



**COST PER DAY
TO RUN
BIG BROTHERS
BIG SISTERS
CHRISTCHURCH**

\$650

REGULAR GIVERS PROGRAMME

Our generous Regular Givers set up a automatic payment (weekly or monthly) to support Big Brothers Big Sisters Christchurch. With your help we can continue to support existing mentoring matches and increase the number of children in Christchurch who could benefit greatly from having a such special person in their life.

Email or call us to discuss this opportunity further.

KIWI LABELS



We gratefully acknowlegde the support of the team at Kiwilabels who donate the design and layout of this newsletter to Big Brothers Big Sisters. Thanks to Florin, Nic and Guy for their patience, creativity and valuable time!

**Do you have a business that could help BBBS Christchurch?
Contact Craig on craig.ogilvie@bigbrothersbigisters.org.nz**

LA RACE ET LE LEGEND



Curtis Higgenson, mentor to 9 year old Christchurch boy Jerry, likes a challenge! So when he spotted the poster for the annual 'Le Race' from Christchurch to Akaroa, the 28 year old Welshman thought he would 'give it a go'. A recent arrival in Christchurch, the enormity of the challenge only came to light as he started the gruelling cycle up Dyers Pass Rd. Surrounded by seasoned cyclists on expensive bikes sporting lashings of lycra, the journey quickly became a daunting one! "I bought a retro road bike on trademe for \$125. I did get a few funny looks on the start line!", he said. Ten kilometres from the finish line, he was in last place



Curtis and his retro bike.

and then his bike chain broke! He pressed on and crossed the finish line to a resounding applause from the crowd. Telling his story on stage, even more donations flooded in, raising a grand total of \$785 for Big Brothers Big Sisters Christchurch. Thanks Curtis. You are a legend!



I WANT TO HELP

- \$200 pays for our office rental for a month
- \$127 recruits a new volunteer
- \$90 pays for 6 children to attend one of our group events
- \$56 pays for resources in a school for a mentor
- \$26 pays for training a new mentor

Please fill in this form and return it in the enclosed reply paid envelope.

Cheques should be made payable to Big Brothers Big Sisters Christchurch

Or debit my Credit Card with\$

Visa Mastercard

Name on Card Signature

Card Number Expiry Date CCV Number

Please send information on how I can support Big Brothers Big Sisters through regular giving.

Please send information on how I can help Big Brothers Big Sisters through volunteering.

Please send information on how I can help the Big Brothers Big Sisters through my will.

Full Name

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