

## CONTACT US

FIND US ON  
OR ONLINE



BBBSCHCH.CO.NZ



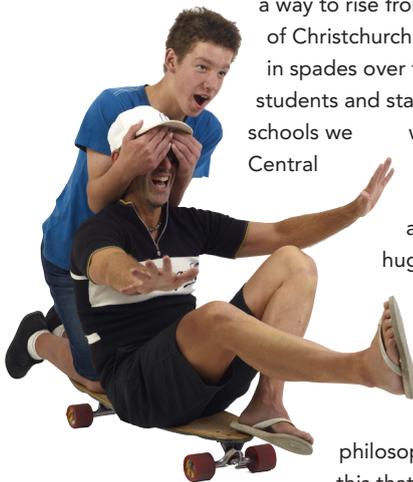
# ONE TO ONE

NEWSLETTER FOR BIG BROTHERS  
BIG SISTERS OF CHRISTCHURCH  
Winter 2013

Malcolm Averis & Winston in New Brighton

## "I GET KNOCKED DOWN..."

"...But I get up again" (Chumbawamba, 1997). Those were the lyrics we remember but what was the title of the song? Resilience: the quality that allows some people to get knocked down by life and come back stronger than ever. Rather than letting failure overcome them and drain their resolve, they find a way to rise from the ashes. The people of Christchurch have needed resilience in spades over the last few years and the students and staff at some of the great schools we work with—Phillipstown, Central New Brighton, Manning Intermediate—are going to need to be hugely resilient as they face the challenge of closure and merger.



Helping children to develop resilience is at the heart of the BBBS philosophy and it's at times like this that our mentors can make a significant difference to the lives of their young charges by helping them to handle the challenge of change. The contribution you make is always important but right now, it's priceless. By the way the single was called Tubthumping - but you knew that didn't you.

**Tim Webster**  
Chairman Big Brothers Big Sisters of Christchurch

## STANDING TALL IN THE EAST



Secret handshakes, mystery codes, model planes and a scrapbook of their shared experiences are just a few of the highlights of the mentoring sessions between Malcolm and Winston.

Malcolm, a retired architect from North Beach, started mentoring with Winston, a student at Central New Brighton school, in April of last year as part of a new school based mentoring programme set up with the assistance of the Youth Alive Trust and earthquake related funding made possible by the Vodafone Foundation.

Winston, who lives in a small house with his mum, two aunts and six cousins, was featured on TV3's Campbell Live earlier this year, highlighting the plight of families living in cramped conditions in the eastern suburbs of Christchurch. Passionate about kids and their development, Malcolm had volunteered at other local schools, helping kids with reading and other skills, but mentoring gave him the opportunity to do more for a young person.

A novice children's book writer, Malcolm was matched up with Winston who also loves creative writing. "We have now developed our own code to write secret messages to each other, and also have a secret handshake we exchange upon meeting up each week". Last term they dedicated their sessions to building a model plane. "We keep a scrapbook of all the things we have done with each other", says Winston. "Malcolm is awesome. He is fun and always has exciting new ideas of things to do".

## A SUMMER STORY TO BRIGHTEN YOUR WINTER



As Big Brothers Big Sisters Christchurch nears its ten year anniversary, long term matches bring forth stories of strong bonds which we hope will last a life time. Our newest Trust Board member, Summer Pringle, brings just such a story, all the way from home of BBBS, the USA.

Summer's father, Robert, started mentoring for Big Brothers Big Sisters while he was at University in Southern California. Matched with seven year old Derek, they would often look at Derek's baseball card collection together or just hang out and eat ice cream. Summer remembers, "My Dad would go to a lot of Derek's baseball games to cheer him on. On special occasions they would go to major league baseball and NBA basketball games together".

According to Robert, seeing Derek's smile and excitement when they would do things together was 'truly priceless'. Derek has always said that he really appreciated the quality time they spent together as he could talk about anything with Robert. Eleven years later, Derek aged out of the programme and moved away to attend university.

When Summer was born many years later, the relationship was still going strong so Derek was asked to be Summer's Godfather. Derek got married a few years after that, and Summer was the flower girl at his wedding. "Derek and his family have always been a special part of our family, so much so that Derek's youngest daughter was the flower girl at my own wedding in 2010".

"I really appreciate how important it is to spend quality time with young people to ensure they become confident adults. BBBS has a special place in my family's heart, and now that I live in New Zealand, I wanted to continue that link by volunteering to be a member of the BBBS Board in Christchurch and become a mentor myself in the near future."



## RESILIENCE PROJECT

A key indicator of resilience is the ability to think about others and further, to extend generosity towards them. Our volunteer mentors already embody these values and we would love our young people to experience the feeling of showing care towards others in their community. With this in mind, the BBBS Christchurch team have asked our mentor matches to dedicate one session this year to volunteering. So far, the response has been fantastic! We have a lot of motivated matches getting out there and doing some great things in the community. These have included helping the school caretaker, volunteering at the Cats Protection League, chopping and stacking firewood for someone in need amongst many others. If you have a small project that you feel may interest some of our matches to be involved with, please contact the BBBS office. We look forward to featuring a number of these in our next newsletter!

*What I taught my mentor ...*

*"To slow down at orange lights!"*

*What my mentor taught me ...*

*"How to make a fence, plant a vegie garden and about boats."*



## LASER STRIKE AND ARION FARM



Each Term, BBBS invites mentors and their young person to a fun event. Laser Strike and a visit to Arion Farm/mountain biking at Macleans Island have been highlights so far this year. For many of our young people, this is their very first experience of these activities. A special thanks to our funders who help make these special experiences possible.



Jo & Marena



Kate & Harmony



Alex & Kate



Femke & Charlotte



Tom & Zane



Winston & Malcolm



Ryan & Ronald



Matt & Keith



Kate & Cameron



Tyler & Steven

## OUR SUPPORTERS

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



Blogg Charitable Trust

Dove Charitable Trust

EB Milton Charitable Trust

BBBS Programme Givers

The Warehouse Northwood

Claire English



*What I learned from my young person ... "She brings me back to earth every single week."*



## KIWI LABELS

Our slick new newsletter layout is brought to you by the team at Kiwi Labels who have generously offered their staff and resources to assist Big Brothers Big Sisters Christchurch. A big thanks to Guy and Kyla at Kiwi Labels who have helped us with the graphic design and compilation of this newsletter! Their help has been invaluable and is greatly appreciated.

Do you have a business that could help BBBS Christchurch? Contact Craig on [craig.ogilvie@bigbrothersbigsisters.org.nz](mailto:craig.ogilvie@bigbrothersbigsisters.org.nz)



**MATCHES  
SERVED IN CHRISTCHURCH**

**163**

To June 2013

**113**

To June 2012

**SIX OF THE BEST!**



Sammie & Jill

Congratulations to Jill & Sammie who recently celebrated six years in their match.

"We do love our get togethers." "I love our friendship. Sammie is fun, we have lots of laughs and is good company", says Jill. Sammie also agrees, "My time with Jill has been the best. Jill is amazing ... it's really hard to explain, she just is".

**ENTERTAINMENT BOOK SALES  
SUCCESS**



We are ecstatic to announce that we have sold over 100 Entertainment Books since the 2013 book was released in May, our first year of involvement in this fundraising opportunity. A huge thanks to all those who purchased one, or encouraged

friends, family or work colleagues to do so. We look forward to building on this success next year!



**I WANT TO HELP**

- \$150 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 \$ .....

Name on Card .....

Signature .....

Visa  Mastercard

Card Number .....

Expiry Date .....

- Please send information on how I can support BBBS 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 .....

Postal Address .....

Email Address .....

Telephone .....

