

THE RISING

# NEWSLETTER

## TERM 1 ROUND-UP 2013

### The Chairman Report

Welcome to 2013 with The Rising Foundation!!

What a start to the year. The Gordon Ramsay fundraising dinner was a huge success and thanks to Gordon, Duco Events and Beko Appliances for your outstanding support. Without our sponsors support we would not be able to continue with our programme.

The first term of this year was a very busy one as the team continued our work at Papakura High School and consolidated our groups at Pukekohe High School and Sir Edmund Hillary Collegiate School (Otaru).

We are very excited to announce that Manurewa High School will be joining our programme commencing Term 2 (June) and we welcome all students, teachers and families on board The Rising Foundation.

Our thanks go out to our regular sponsors BNZ, Breville, Beko, Duco Events and all of the Trusts that support our Foundation.

Best wishes to our students and families. Continue working hard!!

Regards

John Bongard



### Trustee Member Spiel

My name is Peter Goldsmith and I have been involved in a number of organisational turnarounds, but I feel privileged to be a trustee of The Rising Foundation when one views first-hand the turnaround of kids and families experience throughout The Rising Foundation programme. This quote from Thomas Wolfe sums up why I am involved with the people on the board and the work we are doing in South Auckland:

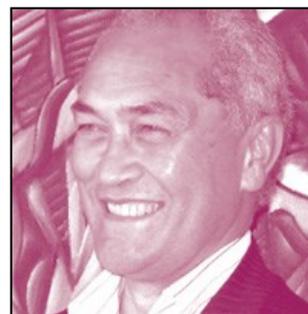
**“To everyone their chance, to everyone their shining golden opportunity, to everyone the right to live and work and to be themselves, and to do whatever thing their vision and character can combine to make them”.**

While I wasn't born in South Auckland, I have spent most of my working life here and know this community. My experience in education, sports management, and local government has convinced me that we need to do something different if we are to create the future that Thomas Wolfe is setting for our kids and families.

For most of our kids there are golden opportunities to live and work and be themselves, and do whatever thing their vision and character can combine to make them, but for a number that is not a reality for a variety of reasons. The Rising Foundation programme helps bridge those gaps and to see first-hand the change in character and vision of the students involved is worth every minute committed and every dollar spent.

There definitely is talent and leadership potential in South Auckland. Someone stated that if we fixed South Auckland we would fix Auckland. It's happening. You are very welcome to join us on this journey.

Peter Goldsmith



# TRF Papakura High Family Day Out Sunday 3rd February



The Rising Foundation Papakura High Family Day Out was an opportunity for our new families to come meet and greet The Rising Foundation team in a natural environment with a country backdrop.

Held at Papakura Normal School Field with up to 100 people, listening to live music from local band Urban Legacy and International renounce reggae band "Darky Roots". Supported by DJ Lenny and organised by Cops in Schools Constable Cory Lowe. What an awesome fun filled day.

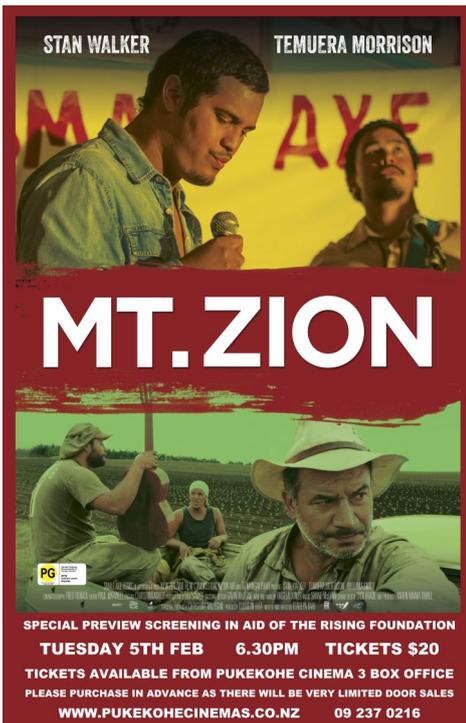
The Rising Foundation who have been the drivers of the White & Teal Ribbons since its conception and ensures to support the cause during the year discussing and listening to issues from others throughout the day. Our team had been busy through serving our families and community with sausage sizzles.

*What a beautiful start to the year for my boy heading to Papakura High this year, meeting the team from The Rising Foundation gives me a sense of peace knowing he's going to be in good hands....  
Year 9 Parent*



*An army of sheep led by a lion, will always defeat an army of lion's led by a sheep.....*

# Movie Fundraiser Evening Tuesday 5th February



Proudly donated by  
Pukekohe Vegetable Growers Association

On Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February The Rising Foundation put Pukekohe and its people front and centre in a special preview screening of Mt Zion, the hit New Zealand movie starring Stan Walker, Temuera Morrison, students from Pukekohe High School and locals.

Comfortably hosted in the inviting environment of Pukekohe Cinema 3, and attended by an enthusiastic crowd of 265. The NZ film was a great hit for supporters of The Rising Foundation and for the rest of the country, as it also recorded a first overall rating at the Box Office on the weekend of release. The special preview screening featured an appearance by Darcy-Ray Flavell-Hudson one of the stars of the movie who introduced it and welcomed the audience. As well as a neat twist on the 'giveaway' aspect -- instead of tickets or boxes hidden under a random seat for a lucky movie-goer, they found pieces of Pukekohe's finest produce, with vibrant baskets of locally-grown vegetables as the prizes on offer.

This wonderful evening raised \$3,028 for the students on our programme.

Thanks must go to Sony, Pukekohe Cinema 3, Pukekohe Vegetable Growers Association, Pukekohe High School and BNZ Pukekohe. You all made our first movie fundraiser night a great success.

# Community Events

## National Children's Day—Franklin Sunday 3rd March

Children's Day is a National Day which is celebrated each year on the first Sunday in March. Children's Day is all about treasuring our children, so that means supporting parents encouraging positive family time. The Rising Foundation joined Franklin Youth Advisory Board to celebrate Children's Day in Pukekohe. The Franklin Youth Advisory Board (FYAB) organised and ran a mini-fair for National Children's Day. We had everything from a massive waterslide to a bike trail and Olympian Sarah Walker. The Rising Foundation attended and pushed the White Ribbon in our community. The amount of people wearing and supporting the White Ribbon was truly amazing and overwhelming. We as The Rising Foundation are doing an awesome job pushing the White Ribbon and are continuing to make a positive impact in our community.



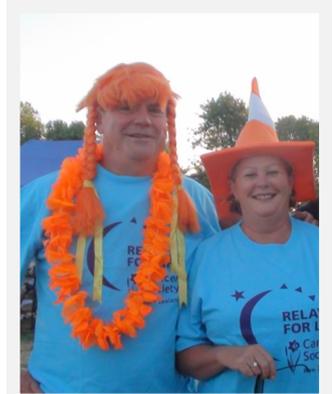
**Reece Morrison** Year 12 – TRF CEO Group 2  
& Franklin Youth Advisory Board Member



# Community Events continued.....

## Relay For Life

### Franklin Saturday 9th & Sunday 10th March



Relay For Life is one of the Cancer Society's biggest community activities. Over 20,000 New Zealanders in 21 communities helped celebrate, remember and fight back this summer! Often described as a life changing experience, Relay is a chance to celebrate cancer survivors, remember loved ones lost to cancer and fight back against a disease that affects one in three New Zealanders.

One of the motivations was the knowledge that our Board Chair John Bongard and Little Zachary Tulafono are both survivors of cancer but also others within TRF had families and friends impacted by the terrible disease and still on their journey. So TRF team organised Papakura High School and Pukekohe High School students together for the weekend to participate in Franklin's 2013 Relay For Life at the A & P Showground's. We were known as the "orange team" as our theme was to show people to be cautious and on alert in all that we do. Preventative is better than intervention by far so as we stood out and people noticed who and what The Rising Foundation stood for. 60 participating student's (past and present) with parents, caregivers, siblings and friends joined us throughout the day and night. Once camp was set up, we were ready to start the pounding of feet. Participates walk all through the night with at least one member on the track at all times. This represents the fact that cancer never sleeps.

Acknowledgment and a huge thank you to Neil & Vanessa Roach for supplying and donating all our gear to kit us out. Also to all those who donated food, drinks and supplied dinner for the orange team. We can all give ourselves a huge pat on the back as we walked over 1,800 laps and raised \$800 for the Cancer Society.

# TRF Pukekohe High School Family Day Out Friday 15th March



The Rising Pukekohe High Family Day out was our first initial open day for families/whanau of our new group members to learn about who we are, and what The Rising Foundation is about. This evening was important for engagement between students and their families, and was a great community event for all to enjoy.

In The Rising we have our four groups. Each group was given one of our four anchors - Collaboration, Mensa, Creativity and Accurate Representation. We were given the task to represent or give our families a demonstration of our group's views and meaning of these anchors. Our group also needed to come up with a dress-code or theme, needing explanations as to how it related to our group's qualities and values, using The Rising korero. We had basically showcased and entertained everyone, while teaching them about our Foundation and its values. Our abilities had been tested and showed how well we coped under pressure, giving us last minute instructions and details for the group to follow. This showed our individual groups how communication and understanding details is key when dealing with group activities, and gives students a taste of how unpredictable life can be, and that organisation is a key to success.

The competition was fierce between the groups, and we had undercover judges watching our every move and assessing our performances throughout the evening. This event impacted students and family to grasp our values and teach potential leaders to be challenged and rise for others to follow, because the only limitations we have are the ones we put on ourselves. Therefore having the mindset that you can do anything.

## **Billie Paterson Year 12—TRF CEO/Chair Group 2**



# TRF Pukekohe High School Family Day Out continued.....



*Effective leadership is not about making speeches or being liked; leadership is defined by results not attributes.- Peter Drucker*



*A leader is best when people barely know they exist, when their work is done, their aim fulfilled, they will say: We did it. - Lao Tzu*

# TRF Pukekohe High School Family Day Out continued.....



# TRF Holiday Excursion Term 1 break Monday 22nd—Friday 26th April



For many new members of the Pukekohe High Rising Foundation arriving to Papakura was a challenging experience, as they were faced with the unknown. Many were feeling vulnerable and out of their comfort zones, but soon overcoming this as we greeted one another with The Rising Foundation Papakura High and Manurewa High Schools.

As students got to know one another, new friendships were made and we were immediately put to the test, while being unaware of this at our first location. Tasks at Parakai Springs were set to mentally challenge the groups on time management and resisting temptations such as the hydro slide.

Key for this day was to have a balance of work time and relaxing time. Miranda Hot Springs was designed to bring the groups closer together in a more relaxed environment before the upcoming days of the camp, some interesting food was to be cooked (group cook off) on this day, some not quite as edible as the rest.

Although the weather on this day was not the best it challenged the groups to persevere through the hard times thrown at us. Thursday of the camp was a pretty relaxed day with us being allowed to have a sleep in before going to the movies as a group and then home to plan a group cultural dress theme for the night. Each of the groups went all out for this dress code with points going to the group who pulled it off the best. It was at this group dinner that the winner of the Term was announced with Group 2 coming in first place followed closely by the other three groups. The orienteering challenges at Totara Park were designed to get the groups working as one, for a similar goal.

# TRF Holiday Excursion Term 1 break continued.....

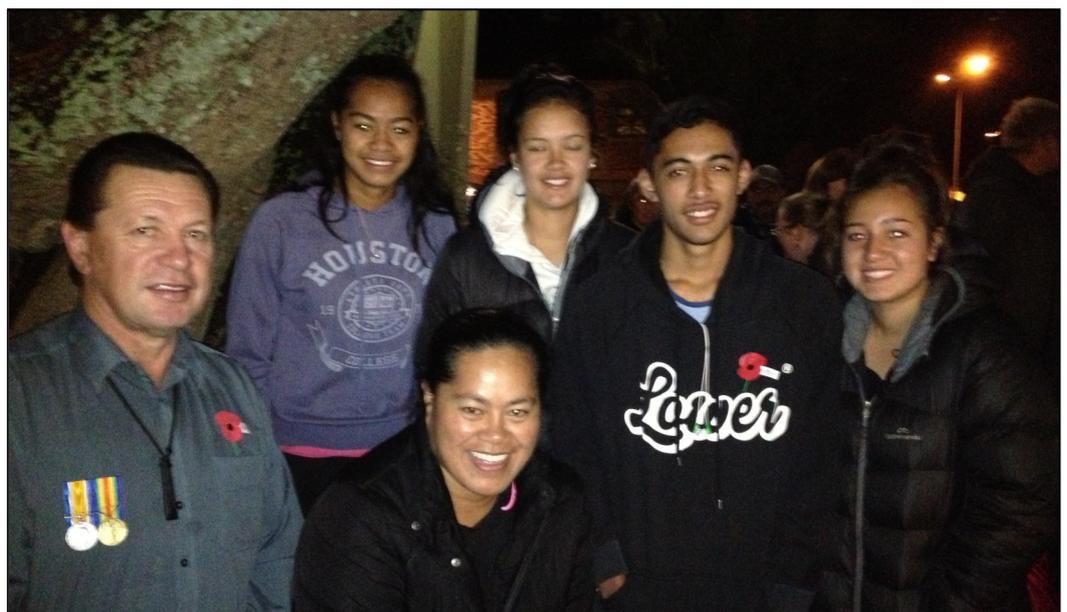


The final day of the excursions was kicked off with a powhiri for Gordon Ramsay at Papakura High School, followed by paintball which once again tested our team work skills (and allowed adult leaders to have a laugh at us getting shot). Key things that were captured by different members of the group from this camp were that it gave us a measurement of how the successful impacts were made on students. It also presented us with an amazing opportunity to make new friends or better friendships with old friends. The excursions taught us a variety of skills which will be helpful when making future decisions; it also showed us the value of relationships within the group and allowed us to strengthen group bonds. The excursions taught us the importance of setting timeframes and also the importance of everyone in the group getting involved in the activities, giving everything a go and encouraging each other. Our goal now is to put everything that we have learnt into place in our everyday lives.



**Kaitlyn Murray** Year 12 – CEO/Chair Group 4

*Leadership is a privilege to better the lives of others. It isn't an opportunity to satisfy personal greed.*



Franklin ANZAC Dawn Service (Lest we forget)

# BEKO Dinner with Gordon Ramsay Friday 26th April



We all know the name Gordon Ramsay, British celebrity chef, television personality, restaurateur, author and 11 Michelin star chef. But the chance to meet him and even to talk to him seemed well out of our reach. But for some lucky students from Papakura, Pukekohe & Manurewa High School and Sir Edmund Hillary Collegiate School, this dream came true on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April, a day the students will never forget.

On the morning of the dinner Gordon visited Papakura High School and was greeted with a traditional Maori welcome from The Rising Foundation students. The excitement on the faces of everyone attending was priceless; to see such an amazing well known celebrity in Papakura is something that doesn't happen every day. Gordon was most generous with his time spending it with many of our students and small group mentoring. Gordon was genuinely blown away with the work we are doing and more importantly the results being achieved by The Rising Foundation programme.



A special thank you to Beko Appliances for sponsoring this event, and making it possible for Gordon to visit New Zealand.

To Duco Events for organising this huge fundraiser evening, to all the sponsors for their amazing auctions, and to the guests for making this evening a memorable one.

We have raised in excess of \$100,000 which will be used to unlock the potential of many of our youth in the South.



# Capture of ones journey with The Rising Foundation

## Pukekohe High School

Being a Year 8 and coming into a group full of high schoolers..13+, I was terrified! I was expecting mean, arrogant teenagers! But somehow they just made me feel welcome and I felt as if they were like a family to me. Over the four days of the Transition Camp 2012, my view on life changed almost instantly. Within that short time it made me see that there is a purpose for school and that education is the key to getting a good job. It has also taught me to be myself! I captured that, what you want people to see and who you really are, are two totally different things. Actually now being a student at the High School has given me a different point of view yet again...being put to the test again and again, school work and everything! The Rising is my escape, it's where I can escape from everything and be my absolute self without being judged. The Rising in my eyes, has changed my life! So much so, I am even more confident than I usually am. I have gained so many new lifelong friendships! Not to mention the activities we get to do! I know that being in The Rising is going to be a fair bit of work! But I'm ready for the challenges that the next four years hold.

**Pita Phillips** Year 9 – TRF Group Secretary

# Capture of ones journey with The Rising Foundation

## Manurewa High School

To whom It May Concern

Re: Manurewa High School Induction to The Rising Foundation - Term 1 2013 Holiday Programme.

Firstly, we would like to thank The Rising Foundation Executive Board and Programme Director for its invitation for Manurewa High School students to participate in "The Rising Foundation"

The first impact was the genuine and warm welcome from all The Rising Foundation students as lead by the Graduates. Manurewa High students clearly felt exposed by the welcome, but as evidence from the skilled Rising Foundation team felt quickly part of the family. As was evident for one of our students who was apprehensive of getting out of the car on the first day, until a team leader as supported by the Graduates encouraged him to let go and trust us!

This was the overall theme that continued throughout the whole week. Where students from Manurewa High school were put outside their comfort zone and exposed to the world of "The Rising Foundation". Whereby activities such as the "Cook off" and "Flocking" was a few of the many constructive and fun activities enjoyed. Even the rain had no effect....wonderful TRF Team.

Even to this day we have Rewa Rugby boys cracking up hard on how anyone could make them dance like a fairy in the rain was "special". They thought this was meant to be rugby drills from what I had promise them is rugby development from former Warriors player Harold "The Hammer" So`e.... but no, it was The Rising Foundation doing what it does best by exposing young people to alternative values and principles that maximizes potential, possibilities, co-operation and purpose. Hence the raising their foundation.

I am sure that our Manurewa High students have not grapple the overall "Objective" of The Rising Foundation through its initial holiday programme. However there is clear evidence that all students at Manurewa High School want to be part of The Rising Foundation journey as represented by a quoted statement from student Barry Rangī after meeting Gordon Ramsay.

***"Meeting Gordon Ramsay through The Rising Foundation has inspired me to go back to school and take the personal words of advice I got from him "Work hard on my dreams and never let anyone stop you". Is The Rising Foundation coming back again Sir??...yes Barry they will be here soon and will be counting on your support...so watch this space!!!!"***

A big high five to all the Puke and Kura TRF students from The Rising Foundation, thank you for the unconditional love and sense of purpose that has inspired our students from Manurewa High. Yes of course to all the "JB Graduates" who are the inspirational foundation for which all students should aspire to. Thanks to the new friends I have met during this week and yes will meet again...promise.

**Mr H. So`e**

# Capture of ones journey with The Rising Foundation

## Papakura High School

I became a member of The Rising Foundation at fourteen years old; at this age I was very vulnerable to the influences around me. I enjoyed academic and sporting challenges but I lacked a sense of purpose. When I was first introduced to the group I was immersed into a group of students from the ages of 13-18 years of age. In this team we competed against the other three teams to gain points to win The Rising Foundation trophy. Although this group had a lot of fun competing against each other, this wasn't the main focus of the group; we also learned a lot of valuable principles that had the potential to change our lives. Throughout our journey we were exposed to many challenges within our groups. These challenges helped me consider my own strengths and weaknesses.

The concept of the group represented a seed, in my eyes we are all seeds. Naturally seedlings will sprout and grow into a beautiful, strong tree and eventually that tree will bear fruit and produce a resource for the people surrounding them, this to me is a process that helped me understand the growing up and transitioning into adulthood. I learnt that we all go through seasons, which are rough like winter; some are beautiful and bright like spring and summer. I have captured this because it made sense to me, I understood how sometimes situations feel like such a crisis, The Rising Foundation has given me the chance to gain the life skills to navigate through the storm. During camps I have participated in many team building, identity searching, potential unlocking, mind opening, vision developing workshops and I can honestly say I have learned something from each of them.

Each term we have a Theme. Each theme represents a principle that fortifies the previous year's themes and increases our capacity among those subjects. The biggest challenge for me is having the courage to grasp each concept and display it in a way that will inspire the younger generation and build them to think as we do. Through my journey I have discovered the importance of building a team of individuals that possess an equal capacity in knowledge. This knowledge is then used to build others so that they may find their own identity and purpose in life.

I would also hope to build a team that could influence their peers to strive towards finding their passion and purpose in life. If I am lucky enough I will plant a seed in the hearts of many. In this context a seed could represent a goal, a dream, an aspiration, a promise, a hope, a love, a passion, a desire, and a livelihood to be wholesome, good young people. The reason I want to plant a seed, is because I have seen how such a small seed could impact the lives of many and develop ripples throughout time. The Rising Foundation has helped me discover this through my journey, hopefully one day I will be able to impact the lives of many other students in New Zealand. No words could express how thankful I am to The Rising Foundation and all the mentors I have engaged with over my three year journey.

**Ngamira Warren** Year 12 - TRF Student Board Rep

## Programme Director Spiel

Greetings all, I hope this finds you well.

Since my last spiel things have been progressing rapidly. In such a short time we have seen major growth within TRF movement at each school. I must add even within myself I had to make a huge paradigm shift and having to track back as to when and why I changed.

As a team leader I seen movement of staff (volunteers) from all levels, and recently found myself with the view that when people would ask to help, my first response would be; "what can you offer our organisation?" & "how can it benefit our foundation"? Looking back over the years and the growth of our foundation, I can almost see how this thinking crept into my own practice. You see I found that way of thinking, alone contradicts what we teach in our leadership training! Although it sounds reciprocal, it really is selfish in its ways.

We are a service provider and therefore our service should be adding value to people. The above thinking teaches us to live, but first does it benefit me, is it going to get me ahead? But the focus when others ask to help should be, "what is it that our organisation can do to help you achieve what you want to achieve"? and instantly, we're won their attention. This way of thinking breeds "value", value breeds "commitment", commitment breeds "loyalty". They will run the extra mile, even when they're not asked too.

My attitude changed dramatically when finding myself having slipped, but the key was reflective thinking of what I was doing that hindered growth. True leadership has many interpretations, but to me it is helping others to attain their achievements and to be the best they can be. This method does away with the empire building mentality, therefore breeds trust, honesty, integrity and much more. It's awesome to see our students with this way of thinking and the impacts it creates.

Our lines are always open and if you feel compelled to help us for a day or two, or even want to come on a camp to get a glimpse of what we do, we extend an invitation to all! So please pick up the phone and get involved. We want you not just because we want you to help, we want you because we too want to help you! We don't keep score cards, we don't keep track! What we do keep is the legacy you leave with us!

Thank you all for your commitment to The Rising Foundation, and please stay safe!

Eli

## Students Achievements

### Pukekohe High School

- 2012 NCEA Level 1 Pukekohe High School Maori/Polynesian students pass rate went from 45% to 66%. This improved statistic was heavily influenced by The Rising Foundation programme being active at the school, as stated by Pukekohe High School Principal Ian McKinnon.
- Eight out of twelve Rising Foundation students in senior school were selected as Prefects this year with two as Head Girls.

### Papakura High School

- Eight senior students from The Rising Foundation were selected as Prefects, with two as Head Girls.
- Four of The Rising Foundation graduates have been privately sponsored to attain Social Worker degrees and will come back to the programme as trainers.

## Acknowledgement of Sponsors & Partners

Our programme has been made possible thanks to the support and contribution made by sponsors, school staff, parents and trustees.

Without such donations and the generosity of our sponsors, these opportunities would otherwise not be available to our students.

Thank you for choosing to support The Rising Foundation; it is truly appreciated by all.

Arohanui



**Breville**  
Thought for food

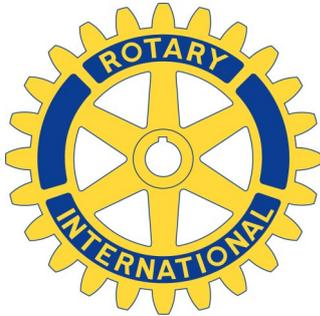


# Acknowledgement of Sponsors & Partners

continued....



PUKEKOHE *Vegetable* GROWERS  
ASSOCIATION



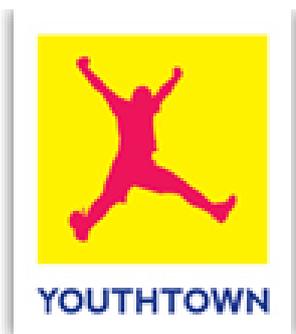
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Thank You all for your continued support  
From all of us here at The Rising Foundation