



May 2010 Issue 53

Tenix lead the way at Trades Challenge



A team of three apprentice linesman from Tenix (pictured above) won the 2010 Trades Apprentice Challenge after an extremely close competition against 8 other teams.

Nine teams from local engineering and construction companies participated in the annual event, held at the Taranaki HSE Centre on 12th May.

The teams faced 10 practical activities designed to test their safety knowledge and skills. Tasks included putting out a small fire, dealing with a mock (but gruesome looking) first aid scenario, attaching a safety harness and loading a truck.

The Challenge, organised by the Taranaki Construction Safety Group focuses on safety issues within the workplace as well as those outside of work. It provides an opportunity for a range of community based organisations to engage with workplaces. This year's Challenge benefitted from the involvement of Police, Fire, Roadsafes Taranaki, Red Cross, SADD and Civil Defence, along with Department of Labour, ACC and industry groups.



Grim sight at local intersections...



Ralph Barton has stepped into the Grim Reaper role with ease after winning our competition to find a lookalike for the creepy character from the NZTA TV campaign around intersection safety. Ralph beat 4 other potential Grim Reapers in the local competition and won the

right to sit alongside the "Wheel of Misfortune" at some of New Plymouth district's riskiest intersections.

The local campaign has generated plenty of interest from passers by as well as local and national media. Feedback has been very positive with many motorists tooting their horn and giving Ralph the thumbs up as they drive past. The campaign ends with a final 'haunting' by Ralph and his Wheel on Friday 11th June. The Grim Reaper campaign, which was funded by Roadsafes Taranaki, launches a longer term strategy to address intersection safety in the district.

Skills Bus Tour takes to the road again



Taranaki's Skills Bus Tour 2010 took to the road last week, promoting the trades as a career choice for young people.

Year 10 students from 7 secondary schools took part in the tour which included visits to local engineering, construction and dairy worksites, all of which are predicted to face long term skill and labour shortages. The Tour was organised by New Plymouth District Council in partnership with ACC, Career Services, WITT and Department of Labour.



The importance of health and safety was highlighted at the beginning of the day with a briefing at the Taranaki HSE Centre where students took part in a range of activities designed to raise their awareness of safety issues in the workplace.

Further information about NPiS: Channa Perry (Programme Manager) (06) 753 7777 x8792 npis@tdhb.org.nz * Kath Forde (ACC) 759 0730 kath.forde@acc.co.nz * Matiu Julian (Tui Ora Ltd.) 759 4064 matiu.julian@tuiora.co.nz * John Nicholls (NZ Fire Service) john.nicholls@fire.org.nz * Craig Campbell-Smart (NPDC) 759 6060 campbell-smartcraig@npdc.govt.nz * Inspector Blair Telford (New Plymouth Police) 759 5500 blair.telford@police.govt.nz * Brenda Archer (Taranaki DHB) 753 7799 brenda.archer@tdhb.org.nz * Brett Murray (Dept of Labour) 759 9401 brett.murray@dol.govt.nz * Cllr Andrew Judd (NPDC) 759 6060 andrew.judd@npdc.govt.nz * Deb Parry (Kidsafe Taranaki Trust) d.parry@witt.ac.nz * Andrew Brock (Peak Health Taranaki / Taranaki PHO representative) 769 5491 andrew@peakhealth.org.nz