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SJB students make case for seatbelts



Students from St John Bosco Primary School presented the findings of their recent school bus safety research project and made a strong case for the importance of wearing seatbelts on school buses. In fact, the students will now write a letter to the Prime

Minister requesting legislation that makes the installation and wearing of seatbelts on school buses compulsory.

A group of 13 children were involved in the research, which was conducted over 2 months through a range of group activities. The children visited other schools, the local bus depot and even Shell Todd Oil Services HQ in New Plymouth to find out more about attitudes towards bus safety. They took photos, created short DVD presentations and delivered their final report in the style of a creative "TV news broadcast" during afternoon assembly on 27th October.

Following the presentation, the students invited the whole school to participate in a mini road safety event in the school playground. Activities included a ride on the seatbelt simulator and a sausage sizzle from the Police Blue Light BBQ. Children were also invited to find out whether they still needed a booster seat by checking their height on the Kidsafe Taranaki booster seat height check station.



New Plymouth Armed Robbery Seminar



New Plymouth Police are planning an Armed Robbery Seminar that will comprehensively cover the topic of armed robbery. Speakers at the seminar will include New Plymouth CIB (investigation techniques and offender profiles), Armed Offenders Squad (weaponry and methods of seizure) and Crime Prevention (survival skills and advice).

Local businesses are encouraged to send their staff along to the seminar to find out more about the risks associated with armed robbery and how they can best respond if faced with such a situation. As with previous armed robbery seminars interest is expected to be high so those planning to attend are advised to book early.

The event will be held on Monday 15th November, 6pm-8pm at New Plymouth Club, Gill Street. The cost of the seminar is \$20 and a light supper is included.

If you are interested in attending this seminar, please contact Karen Drysdale on 06 759 9486 or email karen.drysdale@police.govt.nz.

Due to the popularity of these seminars it is necessary to restrict attendance to a maximum of 200 people. Places will be allocated on a first come first served basis with priority given to pre-paid registrations.

QPR Training still available!

If you haven't had a chance to sign up for our free QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer) suicide prevention training, there are places still available. The free training, which usually costs \$50, is accessed on-line and takes about an hour.

To register for the training, please contact Kris Ramsamy by emailing kris.ramsamy@otago.ac.nz.

Further information about NPiS: New Plymouth injurySafe Trust office (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 * Jo-ann Pugh (Dept of Labour) 759 9401 jo-ann.pugh@dol.govt.nz * Cllr Andrew Judd (NPDC) 759 6060 andrew.judd@npdc.govt.nz * Dr Rachel Fletcher (Kidsafe Taranaki Trust) Rachel.Fletcher@tdhb.org.nz * Andrew Brock (Peak Health Taranaki / Taranaki PHO representative) 769 5491 andrew@peakhealth.org.nz

Mayoral Tea Party celebrates over 95's on special day...



A Mayoral Tea Party for those aged 95 years and over was just one of the special events held in celebration of this year's International Day of the Older Person (1st October 2010). Over 60 older folk, including a number of centenarians, turned up for the tea party which was held in the District Council Chamber.

New Plymouth District Council supplied the afternoon tea and arranged for the Tea House on the Lake to serve it on their beautiful bone china crockery complete with tea pots and three tier cake stands. The council chamber was transformed with fairy lights and 12 tables decorated with table cloths and lovely floral centrepieces.

During the afternoon tea a photo montage of New Plymouth in times past was shown and entertainment was provided by the Living Harmony choir. The event was Mayor Peter Tennent's final public engagement as Mayor

of New Plymouth as he prepared to stand down for the local body elections in October.

Other activities celebrating the International Day of Older Persons included a live debate (organised by Te Hauora Pou Heretanga), an activities taster session at the YMCA and a Nostalgia Concert organised by the Disability Centre.



Bell Building celebrate safety success at Business Awards



Local building firm Bell Building are celebrating after receiving a commendation in the Shell Todd Oil Services Ltd. Health & Safety category of the Taranaki Chamber of Commerce Business Awards 2010. For a small local company, formed in 2007 by brothers Andrew and Steve Bell, this is a huge achievement and one that the company are extremely proud of.

Andrew Bell has thanked the Taranaki Construction Safety Group, of which he is a member, for playing an important role in their success through the provision of assistance and advice on health and safety issues and the development of safety systems, processes and procedures.

Bell Building have also been supporters of the annual Trades Apprentice Safety Challenge held at the Taranaki HSE Centre (now known as the BeST Centre). Despite being a small company, they

enter a team of apprentices each year because they are keen to upskill their apprentices and do all they can to ensure their safety. New Plymouth injurySafe and the Taranaki Construction Safety Group were delighted to hear that Bell Building's commitment to health and safety at work has been recognised in this way. Well done Bell Building for all of your hard work!

Years of safety efforts recognised as STOS win premier safety award



Bell Building are not the only ones celebrating recognition of their workplace safety achievements! Shell Todd Oil Services (STOS) in Taranaki have won the Excellence in Health and Safety Award at the inaugural NZ Energy Awards. The judges were seeking the overall demonstration of health and safety by an organisation operating in the NZ Energy sector. The category was assessed for the 12 months to 31 March 2010. The other finalists were Methanex and UGL Infrastructure. Shell Companies in NZ Chairman, Rob Jager (pictured right in photo), said the award was fantastic recognition of efforts over many years.

The New Zealand Energy Sector Excellence Awards provided an opportunity to recognise excellence and achievements across the electricity, oil, gas and petroleum industries. 2010 was an inaugural event. 90 entries were received across ten categories of awards. The awards were attended by more than 600 people and presented by the Hon Pansy Wong, Associate Minister of Energy and Resources, at a black tie gala at the Wellington Town Hall in September. New Plymouth injurySafe extends their congratulations to STOS for this well deserved award.