

AUCKLAND CHARITY DRIVE DAY



John Stanley in his 328GTS.

Below from left: They lined up Le Mans style for the start. Over 30 Ferraris and Maseratis came to provide rides for the Heart Children and their families.

Joe Brownlee is a stalwart at the Charity Drive Day. Having fun in the 348 Spider.

The marshals all donated their time. A special thanks to this team of dedicated petrolheads. Gary (who is now inextricably associated with every Pūkōhke event) and Jens Fogelberg confer at the pit lane exit as Brian Day blasts out of the pit lane.

Jill Lawry hands out gifts in a lucky draw during the lunch break.

Below: One of the many youngsters who had the ride of their dreams. Finn Little shows his excitement!



Finn Little



Manager Nick. The track was opened for the drivers to familiarise themselves with it for a few laps before loading up with passengers.

Once they had warmed up, the first cars pulled into the holding lane to wait to be marshalled to the first loading bay. Cars were quickly loaded with smiling faces, old and young, and the first drivers were cleared by the Safety Check Marshal and sent out onto the track. The fun had begun.

The morning flew by and soon it was time for lunch to be served. Our chefs had silently slaved away in the background preparing burgers, sausages and salads for all to enjoy. During lunch, Jill Lawry drew ticket numbers from a box and handed out gifts donated by our sponsors. Guests received Bridgestone/Ferrari caps, drinking bottles, umbrellas and even a Ferrari watch. With lunch and prizegiving over, the drivers were rested, and

the track was reopened for another session of speed and fun.

As with every year, this event takes heaps of planning, thought and commitment to make the day fun and safe for all; a day which comes to an end too quickly. Hopefully we left many happy children with a memory that will last for a long time and a dream that had come true for some.

We would like to thank Counties Racing

for their kind donation of the track for the day, Continental Car Services for the cash donation to assist with covering the cost of the event, Bridgestone for the lovely Ferrari gifts, Budget Rental Cars for their assortment of gifts for our lucky prize draw at lunch time and last but not least, Jens Fogelberg and his group of marshals who kindly donated their Sunday in order to keep us safe on the track.

A special thank you to Jillian Lawry, Vicky

De France, Beth Shepherd (Beth travelled from Kerikeri for the event), Angela, Chris, Rose and Leonel for all their help in getting the lunch prepared on time and keeping up with the crowd's ravenous appetite. A very special thank you to Craig and Nick for their help with developing and running the event; it takes several weeks to organise, and there is much, much more work than people realise, so thanks to both of you for sticking with it!

Well, my name is Finn Little and I am 5 years old. This year I'll be cycling in the Taupo Ride for the Heart Children. I have a congenital heart disease called Tetralogy of Fallot. In 2001, I was one of 500 babies born in New Zealand each year with a heart defect. This makes my ribs a little harder than most 5 year olds, but I know I can do it for I've really hard. I've already had three open heart operations and numerous other procedures. Even though I am a "heart child" I like to think I am just as capable as my sister and brother and all my friends. My challenge is the 5km Taupo Children Ride as part of the annual Lake Taupo Cycle Challenge on 25th November, 2006. Please visit my website at www.fundraiseonline.co.nz/finnlittle. I am fundraising for heart children. So please support me in my bike ride to help raise funds for heart children.

Finn Little

Thank you for giving my son (and husband!) an absolutely thrilling and fun day at Pūkōhke. I haven't seen them both smile that much for a long time.

Carlene Little

Log into www.fundraiseonline.co.nz/finnlittle/ to make a donation towards Finn Little's Taupo Cycle Challenge.