



**SOUTHERN CROSS KIDS  
CAMPS NZ**



**Annual Report  
2009**

*Making a difference, one child at a time!*





# SOUTHERN CROSS KIDS CAMPS NZ



## Annual Report 2009

*Making a difference, one child at a time!*

# **SOUTHERN CROSS KIDS CAMPS NZ TRUST BOARD**

## **Trustees;**

Shane Vermeer (Chairman)  
Ruth Bowers  
Eddie Davies  
Norman Thompson

## **Director:**

Anita Vermeer

## **Bankers:**

Kiwibank Limited

## **Auditors:**

PricewaterhouseCoopers  
Dunedin

**Charities Commission Registration No. CC21040**

## **Address:**

C/o Dunedin City New Life Church  
48 Stafford Street, Dunedin.

PO Box 1298, Dunedin, New Zealand .

*Cover picture: Flying free – with a safety helmet – at the 2009 Camp.  
(Photograph by Dave Pierce Digital Photography)*

# Annual Report of the Trustees of SOUTHERN CROSS KIDS CAMPS NZ

Our second camp, held in January 2009 at Camp Columba in Southland, was another brilliant success. Commencing on the next page in this report Anita, the Camp Director, gives a more detailed account of the highlights.

The months leading up to the camp were very demanding. However it all came together on the day – the camp site, the funding, the programme, buddies, staff and, most important of all, the kids.

What a thrill it was to see the big bus finally pulling out of the church carpark, laden with children and staff, all expectant, all looking forward to another five days of great experiences.

Many people and organisations provided support and help for this venture - financially, or by being a volunteer at camp, or by supporting the auction. We are grateful to every one and there is a list of acknowledgements on page 8. However we must pay particular tribute to the Otago Community Trust, Dunedin City Council and the Kingston Sedgfield Charitable Trust, whose grants were foundational to making the camp viable.

Financially the year has been very successful, with a nett surplus of \$3,453. This is due in no small measure to the financial discipline of the Director and her team in working hard to keep costs to a minimum and within budget. It was a great effort!

Many people helped behind the scenes. We take this opportunity to thank Miriam Mowat and Alison Tobin, who co-ordinated much of the trust's fund raising programme. We deeply appreciate the support and practical assistance provided by Southern Cross Kids Camps, Australia and our sister organisation in USA – Royal Kids Camps. Dunedin City New Life Church provided a base and office facilities, together with continuing support.

We owe a huge debt of thanks to our Director, Anita, who is the trust's inspiration, mentor and leader. We must also mention Averil Pierce who is our Assistant Director and who made a very valuable contribution by sharing the load of leadership. And, above all, we give thanks to God, our Heavenly Father, who made all this possible.

Shane Vermeer  
Ruth Bowers  
Eddie Davies  
Norman Thompson  
*Trustees.*

# 2009 CAMP REPORT

from Anita Vermeer, Camp Director.

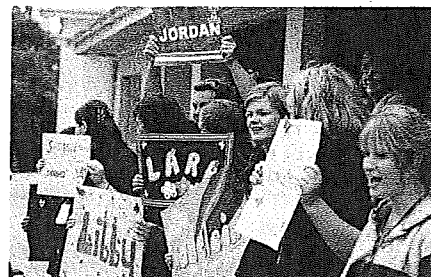
The second Dunedin Southern Cross Kids camp was held from 18 to 23 January 2009. There were 26 campers and 48 Staff. The ratio of approximately one child to two adults created a very supportive environment and the children were given unique care. As the children who attend camp have experienced trauma in some form, much care has been taken to screen and train volunteers.

This year's awesome team of volunteers dedicated one week to camp. They gave an incredible amount of energy, enthusiasm and dedication to making a difference in the lives of the children who attended camp. It was great to have two male buddies arrive from Australia to share their skills and knowledge and to lend a helping hand with equipping and encouraging buddies. Volunteers also came from Wellington, Cromwell and Gore, with the majority of volunteers from Dunedin.

In total the volunteers who came to camp gave approximately 5500 hours directly at camp. On top of this, they attended pre-camp training and many were involved in running an auction for our major fundraiser during the year. I feel especially privileged to work with so many caring, giving members of our community, who give up a week's holiday and time with their families, because they can see the results in children's lives. After camp had finished many were asking the dates for next year's camp, so that they can plan to be there.



*Camp 'Grandparents' are part of our team of helpers. When children are in care they can miss out on regular contact with extended family. Our 'Grandparents' encourage and support the children during the day. At the end of the day they read a bed time story before they say 'good night' to each individual child.*



*Buddies are vitally important at Southern Cross Kids Camps. Every child has a buddy, who is committed to devoting 100% of his or her attention to them for the duration of the camp. In this photo the buddies are waiting for the children to arrive at camp on the bus..*

The working Committee and Trustees spent at least a further 300 hours preparing and organizing the camp, applying for grants, fundraising and doing all



*The art of balloon making*

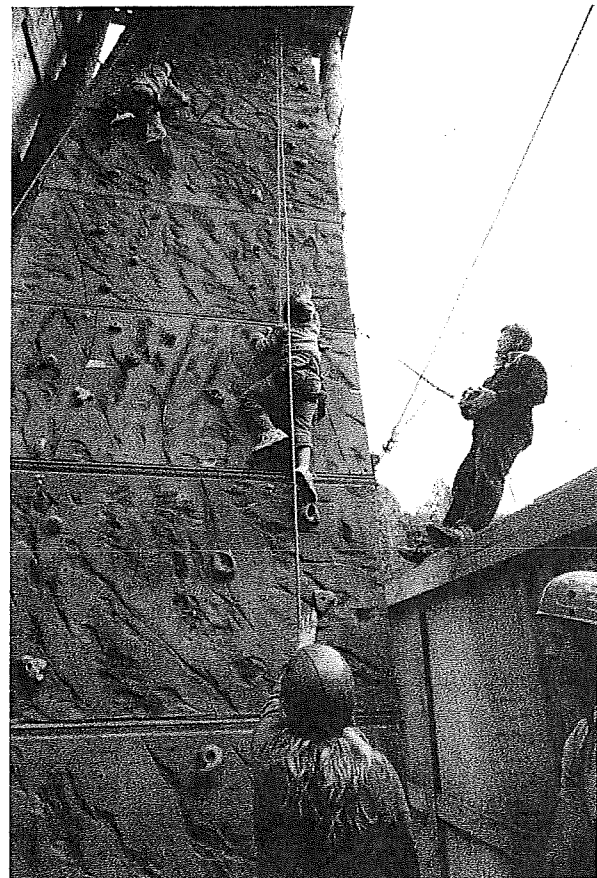
those jobs that need to be done behind the scenes. I know that without their commitment and enthusiasm these camps would be nothing more than a dream!

This year we had Caroline Gregan, the Youth Justice FGC Coordinator from Child Youth and Family, Dunedin, attend camp. She did an absolutely amazing job at camp, and below are her comments of how camp was for her:

***"I've been 'raving' about camp ever since I returned and the calibre of the people involved just blew me away with their dedication to the cause and particularly your amazing attention to detail - that's no small thing and makes the camp so much more special. The social workers were so very grateful for the photos as it brought the camp alive for them and I have at least two new referrals for 2010 already! ... I definitely got more out of it than I put in so thanks for having me as part of your team, it was a pleasure."***

One buddy said she would have to rate this week as being one of the most fulfilling life experiences she has had. It is powerful to hear that not only the children, but also that the volunteers, are profoundly changed by the camp experience.

This year the Bus Trip was in a word - LOUD! The Children who had attended camp previously, shared stories the entire way down. Each year we give the children a CD of the songs we learn at camp. On the bus trip, one wee girl was singing the songs and asked for us to all sing track 4 of the CD (staff who had been the previous year were amazed that she



*Climbing: Buddies are essential in helping to build confidence in this activity.*



knew all the songs in order – they had no idea what song it was). But it just goes to show that all the little extras we give the Children really matter! On arrival at camp the children were all looking for their buddies, and were so excited to be there.

A boy who was 12 turned up wearing gang affiliated colors, walking like a gangster. He had a hat pulled down over his face and a bandana around his neck and semi-covering his face, so only his eyes could be seen. It was incredibly heartbreaking to see this boy so desperate to belong, and to be seen

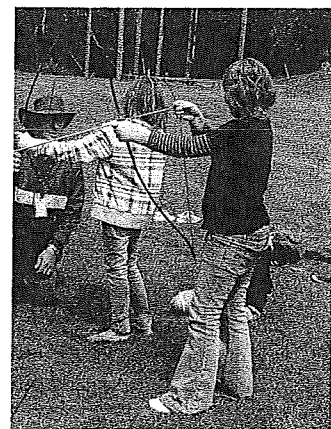


*Kayaking is a favourite activity!*

as being important, especially at such a young age. Over the period of the camp, I watched this hardened camper become just a child again. It started with a smile, and then laughter, and finally him getting alongside other children and playing and having so much fun!

A social worker reported that Camper X was a changed boy since camp. She said that prior to camp he would swear at his teachers and was a very problematic student. Ever since the camp he has been bringing home awards from school for his behaviour. The school has been astounded at the changes in him. They are absolutely convinced that it was camp that was the turning point for him. Camper X continues to show his camp craft work, certificates and photo album to all visitors.

We are but one link in the children's lives. Many of the children who have attended the last two camps will also be given the opportunity to attend future camps, until they reach 13 years of age. I am confident that we are making a huge difference in the lives of the children and their families, and that these are having a lasting impact. On return from camp last year I was speaking to a mother, and she said that her son had been to several schools last year, and there had been lots of tension at home. "But," she added, "When he comes back from camp he is so happy and has a sparkle in his eye." For her, seeing the difference in her son brought



*Learning archery*

her hope and a longing to have a life free of the violence and the uncertainty she had experienced.

Dunedin City New Life Church, once again, did a tremendous job of supporting us with administration help, and allowing us to use the venue on a regular basis throughout the year. They provided many meals, both for the training, and also



*The children built and sailed rafts*

for the debriefing dinner on our return from camp, where they feed at least 65 people who had actively been involved in some way with the running of the camp. Their prayers, encouragement, and passion for helping hurting children in our community undoubtedly contributed to the success of the camp, for which we are very grateful.

In today's economic climate the fundraising for many organizations has been really tough, and Southern Cross Kids' Camps NZ would be no exception to this! In fact we met budget on Thursday, only three days prior to camp, with a grant of \$6000 being sent to us. The financial structure is fundamental as to how successful the camp will be, and goes hand in hand with all that the team does. I am so incredibly thankful to all the trusts, businesses and people who have supported this camp.

Southern Cross Kids' Camps NZ was thrilled to receive the Runner-up Educational and Child Youth Development award in the Dunedin Community Awards 2008, sponsored by TrustPower and Dunedin City Council. This gives recognition of an outstanding contribution to the Dunedin Community during that year. To be alongside many other worthy organizations was very humbling and much appreciated.

My dreams of expanding throughout New Zealand are becoming a reality. We are facilitating Directors' training which will run alongside the 2010 camp. Enrolled already are volunteers from Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch.



*Arts and crafts are an important part of the programme*



Fellow scrap bookers from all around New Zealand have helped by contributing over 700 base pages for the albums and the buddies simply added photos to the pages. The standard of work, and creativity was incredible. The albums not only looked amazing, but the buddies were able to enjoy precious sleep by reducing time spent in preparing the albums. I truly believe that the children are, in some measure, aware that these books have been made with great and deliberate care. I believe that this reinforces to them that they truly are worthy and valued.

Once again, a huge thanks to the Trustees, Committee, Staff, Support workers and Buddies who made this camp possible. And a heart felt gratitude to all the sponsors – without you, none of this would have been possible.

Anita Vermeer  
New Zealand Camp **Director**



*Southern Cross Kids Camp s NZ Volunteers for 2009 camp*

**We are especially grateful to the following major financial sponsors:**

Kingston Sedgfield Charitable Trust      Otago Community Trust  
Dunedin City Council

**And also:**

AAW Jones Charitable Trust      Southern Victorian Charitable Trust  
The Perry Foundation      The Eureka Trust  
The McGuckin Trust      Nicola Williams, Barrister  
Greg Paterson      The Rotary Club of Dunedin South  
Youthtown      Farra Engineering Limited.  
Leith Valley Presbyterian Church      Psychology Associates  
Neill Dental Limited

**We would like to thank the following who assisted in the Auction Fundraiser:**

Taieri Hotel	Arrowtown Holiday Park	Bell Hill Dental
Burnside Service Station	Cadbury's	Dunedin Casino
Dunedin Print Limited	Elizabeth Russell House	Farnan Garthwaite Law
Farra Engineering	Fortune Theatre	Furniture Warehouse
Gibbston Valley Wines	Jacquie Wallace	Jim Takas Barrister
Macklins	Mr Minit, Meridian	Moana Pool
Nomad Safaris	Otago Packaging Supplies Limited	Puzzling World, Wanaka
O'Neill Devereux	Pasta D'Oro	Red Barn Garden
Quilters & Patchworkers of Otago		Taieri Gorge Railway
CentreRepco, Mosgiel	Southern Style Kitchens	Young@Heart
Unichem Pharmacy, Mornington		

**We have appreciated special help from:**

Dave Pierce Digital Photography      Dunedin City New Life Church  
The Chat Bus

**And, of course, nothing would have been possible without the wonderful co-operation and support received from:**

The staff and buddies who donated a week of their lives.  
Child, Youth and Family Service of the Ministry of Social Development and its wonderful Dunedin staff.  
Parents, foster-parents and caregivers,  
And those fabulous kids who entrusted themselves to us for those five magical days in January.

## SOUTHERN CROSS KIDS CAMPS NZ TRUST BOARD

### Statement of Financial Performance For the year ended 31 March 2009

2008		\$
	<b>Income</b>	
30,439	Donations and fund raisers (Note 5)	<u>33,580</u>
	<b>Expenditure</b>	
5,425	Camp food	4,924
4,690	Rent of camp site	4,407
2,298	Transport to and from Camp	2,420
1,112	Cost of activities provided on site	1,185
<u>7,455</u>	Camper activities	<u>7,633</u>
<u>20,980</u>	<b>Direct Cost of Operating Camp</b>	20,569
<u>0</u>	<b>Family Fun Day</b>	621
<u>2,752</u>	<b>Training and Support of Volunteer Workers</b>	2,291
1,452	Administration and Insurance	2,614
2,500	Audit Fees	2,313
0	Fundraiser costs	316
<u>0</u>	Promotional Material	<u>1,403</u>
<u>3,952</u>	<b>Cost of Administration</b>	6,646
27,684	<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<u>30,127</u>
<u>2,755</u>	<b>Surplus of Income over Expenditure</b>	<u>3,453</u>

### Statement of Movements in Equity For the year ended 31 March 2009

\$		\$
0	<b>Opening Equity</b>	2,785
30	Capital introduced	0
<u>2,755</u>	Surplus for period - total recognised income and expenses	<u>3,453</u>
<u>2,785</u>	<b>Closing Equity</b>	<u>6,238</u>

### Statement of Financial Position As at 31 March 2009

\$		\$
	<b>Current Assets</b>	
5,193	Kiwibank Current Accounts	13,700
0	GST refund due	1,442
<u>1,375</u>	Stock - Items for Next Year's Camp	<u>593</u>
<u>6,568</u>	<b>Total Assets</b>	<u>15,735</u>
	<b>Current Liabilities</b>	
3,783	Sundry Creditors	3,842
<u>0</u>	Grants Received in Advance (Note 3)	<u>5,655</u>
<u>3,783</u>	<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<u>9,497</u>
	<b>Equity</b>	
<u>2,785</u>	Total Funds held	<u>6,238</u>
<u>6,568</u>	<b>Total Liabilities and Equity</b>	<u>15,735</u>

# SOUTHERN CROSS KIDS CAMPS NZ TRUST BOARD

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 March 2009

### 1. Accounting Policies

The following accounting policies are adopted in the preparation of these financial statements;

- (a) General: The financial statements are prepared using the historical cost basis.  
(b) Stock: This consists of items that have been purchased in advance with the intention that they be used in the camp that is scheduled for January 2010. This stock is valued at cost. There is a stock of used material that is in storage following the camp held in January 2009. Together with other consumables, this has been written off against expenditure in the current year and is carried in the accounts at nil value.  
(c) Income: Income is recognised in the period it is received and banked.  
(d) Differential Reporting: The trust qualifies for differential reporting because it is not publicly accountable and is not large. All available exemptions have been applied.

There have been no changes in accounting policies during the year, except for a change in the way GST is accounted for. (See Note 4)

### 2. Reporting Entity

The trust is an incorporated society.

### 3. Grants Received in Advance

During February and March 2009 the trust received the three grants totalling \$5,655 that were made for specific purposes. Should the trust not spend these funds for the purposes specified, these moneys must be returned to the donors.

### 4. Taxation

The trust is registered as a charitable trust with the Charities Commission. As such, gifts to the trust are deductible by the donor as donations for tax purposes. Any surplus of income over expenditure is not taxable.

The trust registered for Goods and Services Tax (GST) on 1 December 2008. All moneys paid and received after this date are shown net of GST.

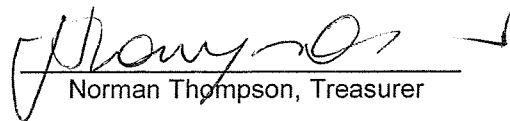
### 5. Income

Major sources of income are as follows:

	\$	Percentage of total
Community and Charitable Trust grants	17,499	52%
Corporate, community groups and individual cash donations	5,785	17%
Community group non-cash donations	2,304	7%
Camp fees	4,089	12%
Fund-raiser event organised by the trust	3,591	11%
Other sources, including Trustpower Dunedin Community Award	<u>312</u>	1%
Total Income	<u>\$ 33,580</u>	



Shane Vermeer, Chairman



Norman Thompson, Treasurer

May 2008



## Auditors' Report

To the members of Southern Cross Kids Camps N Z Trust Board

We have audited the financial statements on pages 9 and 10. The financial statements provide information about the past financial performance of the Trust for the year ended 31 March 2009 and its financial position as at that date. This information is stated in accordance with the accounting policies set out on page 10.

### Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for the preparation and presentation of the financial statements which give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Trust as at 31 March 2009 and its financial performance for the year ended on that date.

### Auditors' Responsibilities

We are responsible for expressing an independent opinion on the financial statements presented by the Trustees and reporting our opinion to you.

### Basis of Opinion

An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes assessing:

- (a) the significant estimates and judgements made by the Trustees in the preparation of the financial statements; and
- (b) whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the circumstances of the Trust, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards in New Zealand. We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatements, whether caused by fraud or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

We have no relationship with or interests in the Trust other than in our capacity as auditors.

### Unqualified Opinion

We have obtained all the information and explanations we have required.

In our opinion the financial statements on pages 9 and 10 fairly reflect the financial position of the Trust as at 31 March 2009 and its financial performance for the year ended on that date.

Our audit was completed on 13 May 2009 and our unqualified opinion is expressed as at that date.



Chartered Accountants

Dunedin