



**LIT NEWS**  
**January 2011**

## **RAISING UP YOUNG LEADERS**

Our first **Transformers Raising Up Young Leaders** camp was held in Oxford in April 2009. Since then more than **100** Leaders in Training (LITs) have attended Transformers Camps and returned to their churches to develop their leadership skills working with their mentors. LITs have attended camps in Waihi, Dunedin, Foxton and Featherstone. Some of you have sent us stories of your leadership progress which is so cool. Read them here or check them out on our new **transformersruyl blog** ([www.transformersruyl.wordpress.com/](http://www.transformersruyl.wordpress.com/)). I hope these stories inspire and encourage all you LITs out there. And for those who haven't sent stories, please email them to [jill@kidsfriendly.org.nz](mailto:jill@kidsfriendly.org.nz) and send photos too. Or post them on our blog. **You guys are awesome!**



**LITs from Chartwell Cooperating Parish** in Hamilton have been very busy all year developing their leadership and serving others.

In June they washed 18 cars to raise enough money for 7 Ugandan households to build rain harvesting tanks.

In December they visited old people living alone to give them a wee gift and some Christmas cheer!



### **News from Palmy LITs**

#### **St David's LITs organize awesome youth event**

St David's LITs Jessica and Melissa decided to plan a 'Spotlight' night at their church for youth. They publicized the event to the community and lots of young people came even though the weather was terrible so spotlight had to happen inside the church building. "It was really cool," says Melissa, "we turned all the lights off and people hid in corners, under furniture and all sorts of hard to find places!"

Jessica writes: "As the church lights dimmed and the counting started I sprinted towards a place where I thought I would be safe. The darkness made me feel secure and sure that I would not be found. Suddenly a beam of light probed the pew a few rows away. I hunched myself as small as I could go and held my breath. The blinding white strip scanned the room, and then the yell "SPOTLIGHT!". I came out of my hiding place defeated yet thrilled. I couldn't wait for the next round! Who knew playing spotlight at church could be so fun!" Says Mentor Silvia: "It was an excellent night and it was great to see both girls step up to the leadership challenge!"

## St David's LITs continue leadership training at 'Kids Peak' camp

Three 'Leaders in Training' from Palmerston North (Daniel, Moses and Christian) continued their Transformers journey at the Blue Mountain Adventure Centre at Raurimu over the October school holidays.

Daniel writes: "It was fun, great, cool! We did lots of activities: rock climbing, sledding on the snow up Mt Ruapehu, caving, abseiling, white water rafting down the Tongariro River, a high ropes course, and an over-night tramp. I learned lots of stuff, like how to put a harness on. I also learned more about God and spent time talking to him.

I had a cold night's sleep with my summer sleeping bag in bitter mountain temperatures under a tarpaulin. We tramped up to a camping spot in the mountains from where we could see the three mountains: Tongariro, Mt Ruapehu and Ngaruahoe. We collected dead wood from the forest and lit a fire in a circle of stones. It was cool to see everyone's faces lit up by the fire.

The camp theme was "following and trusting Jesus". When we were caving we were going through small gaps in the rock and through a river. It would've been easy to slip so we had to trust our leader and follow where he was leading even when we couldn't see where he was going.

We practised our Transformers codes as we put others needs before our own, set a good example and respected ourselves and others. Trusting others and being trusted was definitely a big thing for the abseiling as you have to trust the person guiding the rope, and trust that the rope won't break."

**Blue Mountain Adventure Centre is run by the Salvation Army, and is an awesome spot with great activities and people. 'Kids Peak' camps are for those ages 8-13, and they do camps for teenagers. Check out the website:**

[bluemountainadventure.org.nz/kidspeak](http://bluemountainadventure.org.nz/kidspeak)

## And some news from the South....

### Dunedin Transformers LITs serve and lead at Worship



**Flagstaff's LITs** led a worship service with Kids Friendly Coach Cheryl Harray in November. Cheryl and the LITs met the week before to discuss the theme (Little is much when placed in the hands of Jesus) and planned a service to use their gifts. As the story was the feeding of the 5000, it seemed appropriate to serve breakfast. Teremoana Hamblin was a great 'behind the scenes'/servant leader as he helped prepare breakfast for 40 people. Jesse Sims greeted children and handed out resources for them to use in the service. Kapura Spooner helped operate the PowerPoint and Matt van't Wout, Blossom O'Neill and Nathaniel Weston shared their musical gifts by joining the worship team. Mikayla Scott used her gift of dance and did a ribbon dance to the music 'Indescribable' which played to a PowerPoint of images created by Matt van't Wout.



Good work Duffers LIT's!