

meet lance from asb

ASB Private Bank Manager, Lance Hutchison is now in his third year of volunteering his time to cook and coordinate a team of ASB staff for our weekly family dinners.

ASB Bank became our new bankers in 2006; "We wanted to be more than just 'bankers to the Trust'," says Lance "hence the ASB Volunteer Cooking Project was born." Having put a call out amongst ASB Auckland Central staff for more volunteers to assist with the Family Dinner programme, Lance now has a waiting list of employees a mile long.



The dinners are no easy fete as Lance points out, "With about 12 staff volunteering for each dinner and the shopping and preparation time, we would collectively volunteer about 80 hours per dinner!" And what a feast they deliver! Every six weeks families get to enjoy the culinary talents of the ASB cooking group – from roast chickens to BBQ's, and not to mention the yummy cheesecakes.

Aside from his day job at ASB Bank and being a valued volunteer at the House, Lance also devotes his time to being a marriage celebrant, a Justice of the Peace, mentor, and played a big part in the establishment of Harold (the Giraffe mascot) and the Life Education Trust in Auckland which he is still heavily involved with. We are very lucky to have him!

new barbeques

Thanks to Kingdom Trust, ASB and Lance, Mitre 10 Warkworth the House's volunteer cooks have 5 new barbeques just in time for our 14th birthday and the summer season.

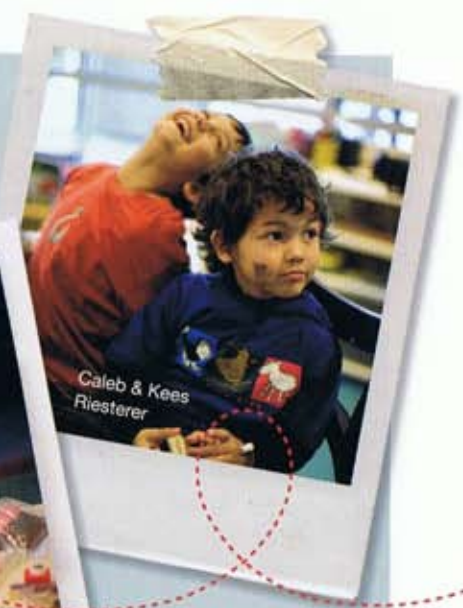


A new addition to the House calendar is our scrapbooking class which happens one Saturday each month. Run by two of wonderful volunteers, Ceciley Young and Jen Harll, these classes give our House guests (including Mum and Dad!) some time out to have fun and be creative. Scrap books, cards, bookmarks – the options are endless and all the scrapbooking materials are kindly donated by Stampin' Up! NZ.

families get
crazy



Kees Riesterer 'Stampin' Up!



Caleb & Kees Riesterer

activities hit jackpot

NZ Lottery Grants Board has again made our families lives easier by funding our very special volunteer activities, helping to make our House a home.

Additional funding for 2008/9 will enable us to better support those families we have to accommodate offsite when our House is full. With the assistance of NZLGB we are now able to dedicate one of our special members of staff to ensuring the wellbeing of these families, along with volunteer support, during their stay.

We are also happy to report that since the NZLGB made our Volunteer Manager, Jessamy, a reality last year we have significantly increased volunteer participation in the House as well as the frequency we are able to provide our shared family dinners to at least twice a week all year!

many hands make light work

Thanks to the Lady Joyce Fisher Charitable Trust we were able to purchase 17 new double beds which arrived in August.

What might have otherwise been a logistical nightmare was made easy with the help of six marvellous volunteers from McDonald's Head Office. Lauren, Carol, Donna, Tracy, Kate and Thonia spent the day helping our housekeeping staff dismantle old beds, make up new ones and vacuum so the whole task was completed in no time at all.

