



21 December 2010

## MEDIA RELEASE

### **Sports Trust benefits from HBS Bank fundraiser**

HBS Bank has boosted the Christmas spirit amongst the team at the Jarrod Cunningham Youth Sports Trust after raising around \$1500 for the trust through a special fundraiser held during HBS Bank Christmas in the Park.

Jarrold Cunningham Youth Sport Trust spokesperson Damon Harvey said it was great to raise \$1500 with the support of HBS Bank and the generosity of the local community. He added that being involved in such a large scale event provided their team with a great opportunity to raise the awareness of the trust and its activities.

"HBS Bank is local like the trust and any funds we raise are put back into the promotion of youth sport," Mr Harvey said.

HBS Bank manager Blair Cross said getting on board with HBS Christmas in the Park as the principal sponsor this year provided his team with the opportunity to spread the good will and Christmas cheer even wider into the community.

In the lead up to HBS Bank Christmas in the Park people were invited to make a gold coin donation in either the Napier or Hastings branches and they could go in the draw to win a Nintendo Wii or one of four HBS Bank prize packs. The team then took the competition along to the HBS Bank marquee on Saturday night and people could enter up until the emcee made the prize draw at the event.

"Needless to say our local winner Toni Bingham was more than delighted to pick up the Nintendo Wii. She knows it will be a big help in keeping her young family entertained during the school holidays over the coming weeks."

Mr Cross said finding additional ways of giving back to customers and the community had always been a key priority for HBS Bank and fundraising for the Jarrod Cunningham Youth Sports Trust through the event was another way they had been able to achieve this.

"We have a long and proud history of giving back to our customers and our community and the trust fundraiser was a way we could take our involvement in partnering HBS Bank Christmas in the Park even wider in the stakes of giving back and supporting our community.

"The trust's mission to nurture the youth of Hawke's Bay through involvement in sport because it develops their life skills and wellbeing was a perfect fit for us because the positive development of our young people is an investment in our region's future.

"Sharing the proceeds from our fundraising efforts was also another way we could help heighten awareness about HBS Bank's long-standing commitment to our people in the Bay while helping to increase the profile of such a worthy trust that makes such a positive impact in our community."

Mr Cross said HBS Bank was also delighted to be able to make a donation of \$250 to the Connect Community Trust for the assistance that their team of volunteers provided during the HBS Bank Christmas in the Park event.

**For further information contact:**

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