

Riders Against Cancer Inc

Annual Report

2022-23

From the President

When I first had the idea of RAC I never thought it would grow so quickly. Riding with a brotherhood and sisterhood of riders is made even better knowing we are riding for a cause. We have put a great team together, and it is that teamwork that is to thank for how well RAC is growing.

I have organised a Ride in Support Charity Ride for 5 years before creating RAC and it raised a few dollars for the Cancer Society. Now that we have the infrastructure for merchandise and sponsors, 2023 saw this event raise \$5,110, way more than any previous event. This just shows how strong we can be when we look out for each other as a group. I thrive on the pressure of organising a charity ride, but I still get nervous right up to the time bikes start turning up. Then I can breathe as I see the first bikes arrive.

This first year of RAC has had more ups than downs, but it has had it's challenges. This will continue as we expand with new branches around New Zealand and replicate our main events in new towns. But this will also see our fundraising grow, meaning we will help way more people going through cancer, making it all worthwhile.

Thank you all for joining me in our first year (and getting lost sometimes). I am looking forward to seeing where RAC will go and how many people we can help.

Safe riding,

Danny Harrison
President.



Phil Kilmister was member number 021 and is now a Posthumous Life member of RAC.

Our story so far

Who are we?

We are a group of motorbike riders who like to hit the road and ride as a group. We ride weekly when we can, and head to destinations where we can support small businesses. The range of bikes, riders and experience is diverse, which leads to some interesting conversations and many new friendships.

Riders come from all around the lower North Island, from Kapiti to Whanganui, Foxton Beach to Palmerston North. There are no exclusions, everyone is welcome to ride.

But there is more to it than that.

We also ride for a cause
We ride to raise funds for cancer related causes. Each ride we ask our riders to add a few dollars to the kitty. Just the cost of a coffee or a beer can go a long way when we all contribute.

Why?

Because everyone has a cancer story. Be it themselves or someone close to them, cancer affects those around us. Although the cancer story is different for everyone, it is never easy. Riders Against Cancer are there to help make these stories just a little easier where we can.



A bit of History

A keen rider, Danny Harrison saw a way to give back to the community around him by combining his love of riding and fundraising for cancer related causes, and so Riders Against Cancer was established in December 2021.

The first official RAC ride was on Boxing Day, 2021. At this time Danny was just forming the idea in his mind of how RAC would work, and the type of people he would need to gather to make this a reality.

The Original 6 came together and the first committee was formed (keep an eye out for the 'Original 6' badge).

Fast forward to 22 April 2022, when the first RAC committee meeting was held. This meeting formed the groundwork for what is now Riders Against Cancer Incorporated. A registered charity as of September 2022, and with 81 paid RAC members in our first year.

The RAC National Committee



Our first year

Expectations versus reality

When we first started forming RAC as an official group, with goals and plans, we never thought we would be where we are now in just 12 months!

To become a charity we needed 15 people to join us as paid members, and we were a little nervous that we would not get the numbers. How wrong we were! Now with 81 paid members in our first year, we are still astounded at the support.

We have held three major fundraising events, raising over \$11,000 from these alone.

More than 30 rides have been organised, both local and further afield, with stops at cafes and taverns to support local businesses.

Paid RAC
Members in
our first
year

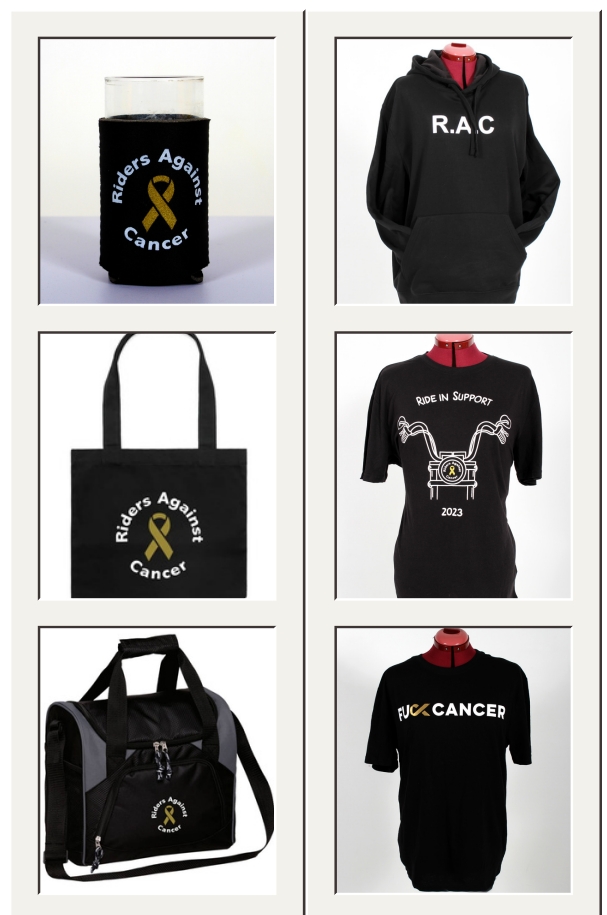
81

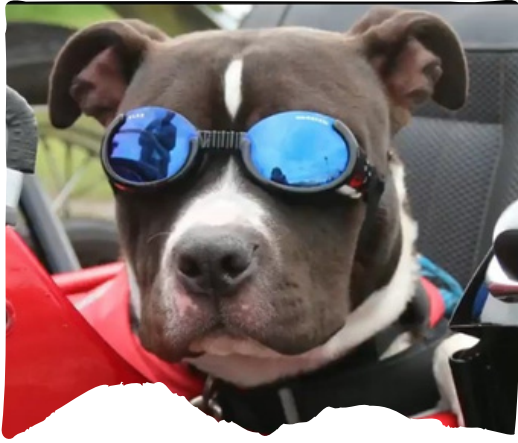
Merchandise is something that has been well received, and this is constantly expanding and evolving with what is requested. Putting all the systems in place for this was to be a long term project, with a slow growth predicted. But, once again, we have had to adapt rapidly with the demand.

And now, with world domination on the horizon, we have our first branch starting in Canterbury!

Long story short, we are about 3 years ahead of where we thought we would be.

There have been a lot of steep learning curves, and at times we have had to change what we are doing mid-stride, but with all the skills we have in the national committee, we are building on strong foundations (the fact that we now have to call it the 'national' committee says it all).





What's next?

Looking forward we have more fundraisers planned, as well as our first AGM as a registered charity. Although the number of paid members has far exceeded our expectations for the first year, we look forward to growing even more and adapting as new members join RAC.

Now with branches coming along organically we need to look at how this will work across Aotearoa.

We are working on Member Discounts with local and national businesses. This is a simple way to say thank you to our members, who all give in some way, be it time or donations, or both.

Although our 3 major events have been successful, there are always ways to make processes easier and the events better.

Show n Shine

Our Showcase event in November, this is the event that will see the biggest changes.

This was the first main event held by RAC so in 2022 we kept it small, with just the motorbikes on display. Having 72 registered bikes, 2 major sponsors and raising \$3,100 all took us by surprise. This means there is room for growth, so in 2023 there will be trade displays, cancer charity displays, and food trucks! The event will be bigger than before, giving us the arena to showcase what we do and who we fundraise for (as well as showing off our motorbikes of course!)

Ride in Support:

This is our Flagship event, held in January. There will not be many visual changes to this event as it is already a success on it's own. We will have a new route and destination venue, but that is a change that happens every year (we can't have riders getting bored).

Children's Charity Ride.

2024 will see some changes in fundraising for this event, held in April.

It costs \$2,700 to fund a child at camp Quality for a week.

With the introduction of rider peer-to-peer fundraising, the challenge will be out there to see who can raise the most, and how many riders will manage to sponsor a child with their own fundraising efforts.



Who we support

Proudly supporting the



Why is a lot of our fundraising focusing on helping the Cancer Society?

The Cancer Society's mission is to 'Reduce the incidence and impact of cancer in Aotearoa, New Zealand', and they cover 'every person, every cancer'.

They have the infrastructure there already to be able to reach out effectively, helping those most in need.

Last year the Manawatu Centre alone had:

- referrals increase by 13%
- 66 volunteer drivers undertake 1,739 drives for cancer patients, travelling more than 127,000km's
- financial assistance of \$15,502 provided to clients for items such as food, clothing and accommodation, to name a few.
- 40 Manawatu schools accredited as Sunsmart, with another 5 schools working towards this. The Relay For Life SunSmart Schools Grant Scheme helps to fund sunshades to help with this accreditation.

In our first year as RAC we have donated over \$8,000 to help fund the Cancer Society's activities.





At the beginning of the year some of the RAC riders had the privilege of joining Camp Quality for half a day and providing the campers with safe motorcycle rides. This gave us an insight into what Camp Quality does.

Their programmes provide a stress-free and caring environment for the children where fun and friendship are combined with achievable challenges – allowing the children to “just be

kids”. They get a sense of normality and independence and focus on the positive aspects of their lives.

Through Camp Quality, families get a much needed break and the opportunity to spend time with other siblings while their child is at camp. They do so with the assurance that Camp Quality has the finest programmes, staff, Companions, medical care and safety procedures in place.



But thats not all...

We also help smaller events and fundraisers when and where we can. There are so many out there that need help that we try to stay focused, otherwise the scope of what is needed becomes a bit overwhelming. All donations outside of the major charities are by committee vote only, so we know what is going where at all times.



Sponsorship

Local support

The support from local businesses has been strong for RAC, with their generosity covering the majority of expenses for all of our major events this past year. Each event has gone from strength to strength with sponsorship and we couldn't have reached our potential this far without our sponsors.



Through establishing relationships with local businesses, they have provided ongoing support with discounts for RAC members. As we venture into our second year of events, we have found our sponsors to be willing to be involved once again with dedicated support.

As well as the event sponsors, we have received many donations from regional businesses and further afield that have provided items such as petrol, grocery and meal vouchers, clothing, bike cleaning products etc. Some of these items have been used for raffles at events or monthly online raffles. We can't thank our sponsors enough!

Jo Dean
Sponsorship Coordinator

Major Sponsors for the 2022 Show n Shine



**MACHINERY
SPECIALISTS
LIMITED**



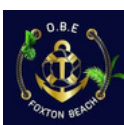
Major Sponsors for the 2023 Ride in Support

C & R Developments



Sponsors

These sponsors have helped out through the year with small donations, spot prizes, raffle prizes or discounts.



KillSwitch,
Whanganui



A quick learning curve.

This last year has seen RAC run to catch up with the support of members, donors and sponsors. We agreed to implement the accounting software Xero a lot sooner than expected, making it easier in the long run. Now with our first branch coming on board we are very pleased with that decision.

Expenses are only 13.75% of our income. This is due to generous sponsors covering the majority of costs, and the committee endeavoring to keep costs to a minimum with everything we do.

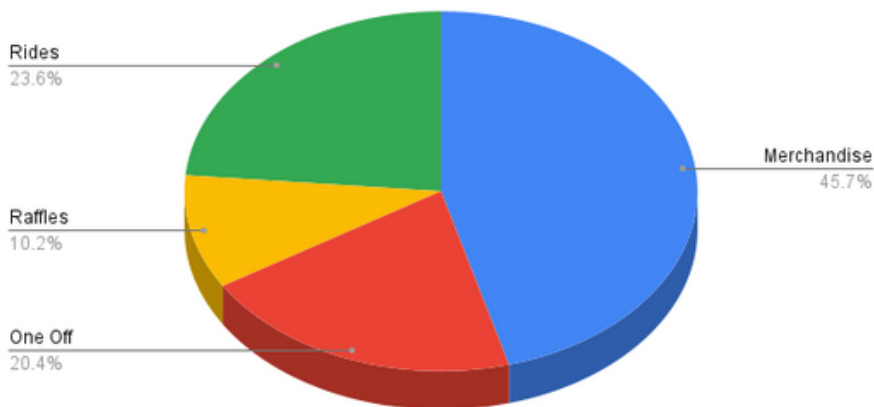
The one large purchase of a sound system now ensures we can be heard at every event without the added cost of hiring one. This was also purchased through a donation specifically given for this equipment.

Because of all this generosity we have been able to donate large amounts to specific cancer charities, as well as make several smaller donations as the opportunity arises throughout the year. The three large donation are in the graph below.

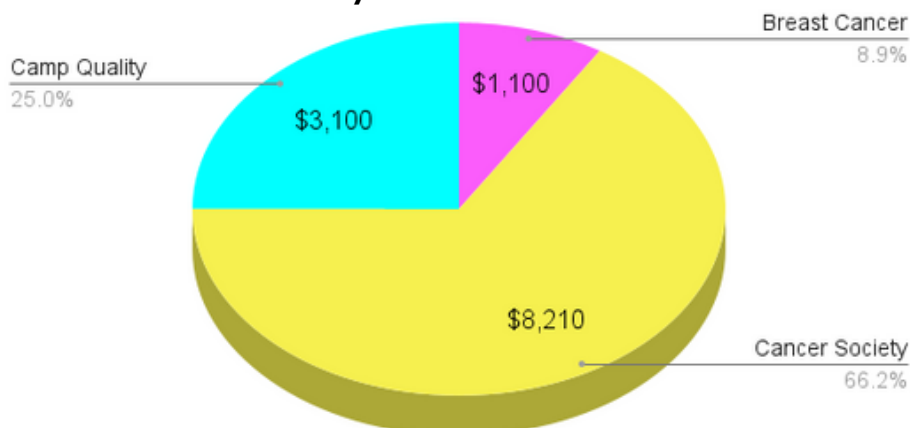
The full financial report is available.

Rachel Metcalf
Treasurer

Income



Charity Donations



3

Major Fundraising
Events

\$12,754

Raised

\$12,085

Raised through
Events
(incl some merchandise)

The National Committee



Danny Harrison - National President.
The vision and a part of all things RAC.
Other roles include: Merchandise, Ride and Event Coordinator, Road Captain



Rick Carter - National Vice President
Stepping in when Danny isn't available. Being the second voice of reason.
Other roles include: Ride Medic, Ride and Marshalling Coordinator, Road Captain



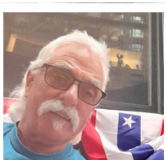
Sandy Carter - National Secretary
Policy writing, event documents and paperwork
Other roles include: Web master, Social Media, Membership



Rachel Metcalf - National Treasurer
All things money.
Other roles include: Merchandise and Event Coordinator



Jo Dean - National Sponsorship Coordinator
Building relationships and external support
Other roles include: Event Coordinator



Jimmy Robertson - National Committee Member
Road Captain, Marshalling, Sponsorship



Lesley Harrison - National Committee Member
Merchandise Coordinator at events



We thank you for joining us in our first year, and look forward to many more.

Acknowledgements

To be able to create a charity like this and give back to the community we live in is such a wonderful thing. But this doesn't just happen over night. A lot of hard work goes on behind the scenes.

The **Seven Committee members** who make things look effortless

The **sub committee members** who get in there and help wherever needed

The **photographers and video** who allow us to relive our adventures

The **sponsors and donors** who support RAC events

and the **RAC members** who help make this all possible

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