



MEDIA RELEASE

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CRUISE-FOR-A-CAUSE FUNDRAISER SELLING OUT BEFORE ANNOUNCEMENT IS MADE

This year's annual Cruise-for-a-Cause recipients, the KidsCan Charitable Trust and Wanaka Search & Rescue are both off to swift start with their fundraising efforts.

Real Journeys provides an entire overnight cruise in Milford Sound and Doubtful Sound, including vessels, crew, dinner, breakfast and water activities – at no cost. All the recipients have to do, is sell the tickets and keep 100% of the proceeds.

Wanaka Search & Rescue is selling the Doubtful Sound Overnight Cruise and has only two cabins and a couple of quad berths left for the cruise in three months' time.

Wanaka Search & Rescue chair Bill Day says the organisation is enormously grateful for the chance to be part of the annual fundraising event.

"The Cruise-for-a-Cause award reflects a shared philosophy with Real Journeys in our love and appreciation of our southern National Parks and wilderness areas.

Every berth sold will support one of our volunteers through advanced first aid training, a four-berth cabin will buy us an hour of essential helicopter training time. On top of that, we need to ensure the people we put into dangerous situations have all the equipment they need to keep them safe. All of this costs money and supporting the Doubtful Sound initiative will put us in a solid position for the next year at least," says Bill.

The Milford Sound Overnight Cruise, is held later in September, and the KidsCan Charitable Trust has already sold seven of the 28 cabins. The cruise in the deep south of New Zealand will go towards helping children in the far north.

"The impact of this incredible trip will be huge. Funds raised will help kids in need at Tikipunga High School in Whangarei through KidsCan's programmes for two years. What a wonderful way to help by experiencing a very special place in New Zealand, I can't wait to join KidsCan supporters on the cruise," says KidsCan Founder and CEO Julie Chapman.

Funds will go towards essentials like food, clothing and healthcare to ensure kids make the most out of their learning and reach their potential.

Real Journeys has held its Cruise-for-a-Cause since 2015 and raised over \$100,000 for five conservation or charitable organisations.

For more information please visit: <https://www.realjourneys.co.nz/en/about-us/cruise-for-a-cause/>

To buy a ticket and help KidsCan visit: <https://www.kidscan.org.nz/events/milford-sound-cruise-for-a-cause>

To buy a ticket and help Wanaka Search and Rescue please contact: phillip.melchior@gmail.com

For more information or high-resolution images please contact Tsehai Tiffin Ph: 021 523 899 or ttiffin@realjourneys.co.nz

