SUNSHINE CLEANS UP IN THE ANNUAL TE HOIERE SEAGULL FUNRUN 2019.

Saturday the 30th of November 2019 saw a mixture of boats assembling at the Havelock launching ramp for the annual Te Hoiere Seagull Funrun.17 boats competed, boats of all shapes and sizes entered, with 3 entries made from Mussels Buoys, Classic clinkers, Tin Billies, plastic fantastic and fibreglass. Entries came from as far away as Lake Paringa at Haast, Wairau Valley, Renwick, Havelock & Wakamarina.

The Fleet was given the H&S run down, our Divine One, Blue, blessed the fleet, Ant the harbour master, dropped the flag and signalled the start of the race, then it was all on, for some of the fleet.

First away was Bob & his Labrador dog in the Ruby K, closely followed by Hudson & his first mate Zac black Labrador, with the sound of seagull motors echoing around the harbour. After a slow start the remaining boats managed to leave the launching ramp and head off to Te Hoiere riverway.

First under the Awanui bridge was Sunshine & black Pete, followed by Linton, Krusty Krab, Pee Wee and the Sand-fly. Engine malfunctions saw the sand-fly retired and completed the race towed in by one of the support boats the Orange Roughie.

Back in the waterway, first breakdown was the Shady Lady, followed by the Mod Buoy, with the Mod Buoy getting towed by Captain Dave in the 2nd support boat up to the Double Crossing.

The Phar Kit crew Ruth engaged in a spot of fishing along the way, eventually, missing the run of the tide with their 2hp motor unable to navigate the running rapids further up the river, and emergency phone call saw the Phar Kit getting towed out and becoming the Rear End Winners of the race with appropriate prize to match .

The front runners passed the next point at Kowhai Terrace, with Linton, just edging ahead of Sunshine & Black Pete, a fuelling issue for Linton, saw Sunshine pull away and power on home as winners.

First home: Sunshine & Black Pete over all winners and 1st team

2ndLinton Brown

3rd: Krusty Krab

1st lady home: Shady lady

2nd: Tracey from lake Paringa with The Rhino.

2nd team home: Waka Wombles Melissa & David.

After match function was held at the Havelock Hotel, with prize giving and food blessed by our Divine One “Blue” a spread of whitebait, mussels, smoked salmon, groper, chips & mixture of salads, followed by Chocolate gateau, courtesy of the Sneaky Beach Café, cupcakes, and an array of different cakes, finishing off with chocolate fish.

The organisers would like to acknowledge and thank, our 2 support boats, Vince on the Orange roughie, Captain Dave & our on water happy snappa Paddy, Trish, Robert, Bob & Mary onshore photographer’s.

Special thanks to our sponsors, Havelock Hotel, Port Marlborough, Sneaky Beach Café, Rays Place, Town & Country Builders Ltd & Pirimoana Holding’s.