



1. Rotorua Supper Club 2025 team (from left): Reuel Christiansen, Zhen Christiansen, Arsh Kaur, Robyn Hall, Deborah Kay, Luke Nuttall, Melissa Nuttall and Joanne Keefe. (left) and Bob McLachlan won the 2025 Yukon 1000 and raised \$10,000. 2. Gordon Townsend 3. 2025 McDonald's Hutt Valley RMHC NZ Annual Golf Tournament.

The big hearts behind the GOLDEN ARCHES

McDonald's franchisees and their teams across the country work throughout the year to raise much-needed funds for Ronald McDonald House Charities® New Zealand.

PADDLING 1,600KM DOWN the Yukon River through Canada into Alaska may be a far cry from home, but for McDonald's Whakatāne franchisee Gordon Townsend, it was an unforgettable way to test his limits while supporting a great cause.

Townsend and fellow Kiwi Bob McLachlan recently won the world's longest unsupported kayak race – the 2025 Yukon 1000 – paddling from Whitehorse, Canada, to Alaska in five days, 14 hours and 46 minutes. Better still, their efforts raised more than \$10,000 for Ronald McDonald House Charities New Zealand (RMHC® NZ), an organisation that works tirelessly to keep families together when their children are in hospital away from home.

McDonald's New Zealand is RMHC NZ's founding and forever partner, and Townsend is just one of Macca's franchisees and crew members who go above and beyond to propel the RMHC NZ mission forward. McDonald's New Zealand Managing Director Kylie Freeland couldn't be prouder. "Every year McDonald's franchisees, crew and customers come together through a range of fundraising activities across the country, raising over \$2.5 million for RMHC New Zealand in 2024," she says. "From Supper Clubs and golf tournaments

to spirited store fundraisers, they spare no effort year after year."

The Auckland Supper Club is a shining example. Back this year after a six-year Covid hiatus, the 2025 sell-out event was hosted by franchisees Nick Garner and Michele Sang. It raised a whopping \$246,000 – enough to provide more than 1000 nights of care and comfort to families staying at RMHC NZ.

Further south, the McDonald's Rotorua Supper Club returned for its 15th year, led by Melissa and Luke Nuttall and Reuel and Zhen Christiansen, the new franchisees in the city. Since 2010, this calendar highlight has raised more than \$1.5 million to support the city's Ronald McDonald Family Retreats.

Supper Clubs aren't the only activities serving smiles beyond the drive-through. Hutt Valley franchisee Chris Boon hit the fairway once again for the McDonald's Hutt



Valley RMHC NZ Annual Golf Tournament. Since its launch in 2018, this community initiative has gone from strength to strength, this year attracting 36 teams and raising a record-breaking \$115,000 in 2025 for RMHC NZ.

It's been a busy year of fundraising for Macca's, but franchisees are not hanging up their apron strings quite yet. They're now gearing up for McHappy Season, McDonald's biggest annual in-restaurant fundraiser for RMHC NZ, coming this October 22 – November 1. This year will see the return of nostalgic McDonaldland cookies for \$3, with all proceeds going to RMHC NZ. Customers can also collect McDonaldland stickers, and \$1 from every Big Mac sold on McHappy Day (November 1) will go to RMHC NZ.

This McHappy Season, head into your local Macca's and play your part in helping keep families together when they need it most.

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