



OXFAM AWARDS: Mike Plant, Diane Plant, Monica Julian, Dianne Bulled, Paul Julian, Neil Spanhake, Theresa Gee, Bronwyn Rofe, Casey Box, and Te Mauri Apiata with Rachael Le Mesurier and Zeb Stone of Oxfam New Zealand.

Photo Andy Taylor

Oxfam salutes entrants and volunteers

OXFAM New Zealand celebrated entrants and volunteers with an awards night staged in the Whakatane district.

Trailwalker 2016 raised just short of \$1 million and although the weather was a challenge for many during the event, organisers and participants rated it highly.

Mayor Tony Bonne, who spoke at the awards, said it was fantastic to see the community come out in support of Trailwalker.

He said he would be entering next year. He urged

Whakatane people to support the event and start training early.

Several Whakatane people featured in the awards, with Te Mauri Apiata accepting an award on behalf of Te Kura Whare in Taneatua for best checkpoint, Casey Box, of Whakatane District Council, being rewarded for his mapping efforts, and the Merry Berries and Woodchuckers teams were also on hand to collect awards.

The \$967,794 raised so far by the event will be used by Oxfam to provide aid to Pacific Island nations.