



Ashleigh Luke, 15 - Currently Teen Miss Huntly

Ashleigh loves all sport especially rowing. She has travelled with her family and enjoys the outdoor way of life New Zealanders have. She is a student at Huntly College.

What are your current interests? Have they changed because of the pageant?

I am very keen on sports. I have excelled in rowing and touch rugby, so being in a pageant must be the other side of my coin.

Did you ever think that you would be in a beauty pageant? What do your friends and family think?

No, I didn't, but I was thrilled. My family were very excited and my friends were shocked!

Tell us about taking part in a beauty pageant? What's it like?

The most wonderful thing about the pageant for me was making lots of friends and I enjoyed dressing up and being a young lady for the first time in my life.

If there was one outstanding thing you gained from the experience so far what would it be? And what's the hardest?

The experience has helped me to gain self-confidence and self-esteem because I could not walk in high heels, not did I own a pair until the pageant. The hardest part was wearing heels!

What do you think is the biggest challenge for young people today?

Some of the music these days is sending messages to kids to do stupid things like drugs and alcohol.

Which celebrity would you invite to a dinner party and why?

Rihanna because she seems really cool and I like her music and want to meet her.

What is your definition of success?

When you have completed something for your self and it makes you feel good.

If you could change one thing about the world what would it be?

That everyone would stop fighting, because if everyone got together we could find a cure for cancer

If you could be on the cover of any magazine, which would you chose and why?

Cosmopolitan because it's my favorite magazine.



Carlie Dyer, 15 - A student, is Miss Teen Te Kauwhata

Has this experience changed what you want to do in the future?

No, I still want to be a physiotherapist, but taking part in pageants has changed my perspective on life and beauty. Before I took part I thought it wasn't really my scene and wasn't interested in it. But when I did compete, I really enjoyed it and got a lot from it – such as building confidence and making friends from everywhere.

What quality do you like most about yourself and why?

I like that I can be myself. I'm not afraid to speak out and do what I want to do and stand up for what I believe in. I have figured out that trying to be like other people is too hard, you just end up being self conscious.

What do you think is the biggest challenge for young people today?

I think it's pressure to do things that other people are doing, whether its sex, drugs, alcohol etc. Because maybe you don't want to do any of those things but feel pressured by your friends to do it. Also when you're young and your parents divorce, it's hard to cope with that sort of trauma.