

Southern touch

Singer-songwriter Jason Kerrison, of Opshop, lived in Invercargill before moving to Canterbury with his family when he was 12 years old. He admits to **Amy Milne** that Southland has never been far from his heart.

Turn to page D5



Southland memories: Singer-songwriter Jason Kerrison, of Opshop.
DOMINION POST

Quick facts

Jason Kerrison from Opshop:

Age: 34

Marital Status: Engaged

Favourite food: Japanese

Favourite drink: Spirulina

Favourite holiday spot: Rome

Most recent embarrassing moment: A noise control officer asked Kerrison and the band members to keep it down while they were busking in Auckland City during May, New Zealand Music Month.

Proudest moment: Playing at the Super 14 Final this year and Canterbury won.

Five famous people (dead or alive) that you would invite to a dinner party: John Lennon, Nikola Tesla, John F Kennedy, Jesus and Sir Edmund Hillary (all deceased).

Snow time for sleep

MATE
MARK WILSON

IM a bit jaded this morning — one of the side effects from seven days of Queenstown Winter Festival overindulgence.

It's Thursday and I'm battling to get this column in before I head up Coronet Peak for the Speight's Dog Derby. One of an array of weird, wacky and often extremely festive events staged in the Southern Hemisphere's biggest winter party.

The dog derby is a magnificent event that causes absolute pandemonium on the mountain. Imagine 80 dogs, owners in tow, marauding around New Zealand's busiest ski field during one of the most congested weeks of the year.

The first dog-and-owner pair to get successfully down the mountain and negotiate some form of an obstacle course wins a few dozen cold ones and a great Speight's kit for their troubles.

As with any form of competitive endeavour there are a few casualties. The pristine snow being one of those to suffer the dogs' wrath as it is left a slight tinge of yellow and brown.

Unfortunately, a few dogs manage to go walkabout each year leaving a swag of farmers searching in earnest while the rest of us enjoy a snag on the barbecue out the back.

Hopefully, with all dogs and most of the owners recovered from the snow and herded back down into the bright lights of Queenstown, the Dog Barking Competition can take place on the village green.

For a few of our festival guests this is quite an eye opener as usually well-trained dogs run amok downtown and embarrass their owners, who must front up to the judges with a rollicking back if the mutts fail to deliver.

A trip to the big smoke gives the rural lads a good excuse for a bit of a leer up . . . over the years some have taken this a bit further than others. The nude dog-barking antics of a crew from the deep south, a few years back, comes to mind (good on ya lads) . . . Barry Harcourt sure got more than he bargained for as he went in for the close-up shot . . . or perhaps it was a little less in Queenstown's frigid winter air.

I had better wrap this up and go and grab my mate Jimmy's fox terrier Jose, who has faithfully frozen his bits off for the past two years to follow me down the hill . . . I'm hoping after some tough words and an ample supply of racy pictures depicting alluring female dogs Jose has managed to bury his embarrassing habit of humping all dogs regardless of gender, which has seen him become an infamous part of the event over the past few years.

He is, however, quite a hit with the human ladies up the mountain, so I won't complain about that.



MASSIVE SAVINGS - 20% OFF *



Awnings



Balustrade & Pool Fencing



Sliding & Hinged Gates



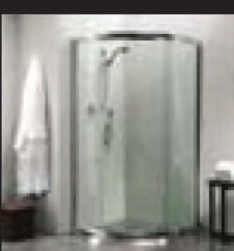
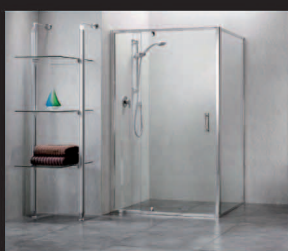
Security & Insect Products



Wardrobe Doors, Internal Sliders & Wardrobe Organiser Systems



Custom made Showers, Replacement Shower Doors and Shower Combos



Order any of the above product in July and receive 20% OFF the Recommended Retail Price

Phone us Now for your FREE, Measure, Design and Quotation.

*Conditions Apply: Discount is 20% of RRP Price,
Product must be ordered by 31st July 2008.
Not to be used in conjunction with any other offer.

0800 HOMEPLUS or 0800 466 375

www.homeplus.co.nz

HomePlus Southland Limited, 46 Yarrow Street, Invercargill

Custom made for your home

