

# All the action caught on TV

**E**ver fancied yourself as a star of the big screen? This could happen during the nine days of Cup Week events at Addington Raceway and Riccarton Park.

An on-course television production from both venues is one of the exciting new initiatives that will add to the festival atmosphere of Christchurch's most social week of the year.

"It's going to be an outstanding week with lots of racing, fashion, socialising and food," says John McKenzie, of enthuse Ltd.

"A roving camera crew will be out and about capturing all the action on and off the course at all the racing events."

Cup Week will be busy for McKenzie as he presents the on-course television programming at Riccarton and Addington, as well as performing master of ceremony duties and managing some of the entertainment at both courses.

"The television production will add some real value to the week at Riccarton and Addington. We'll be covering all the action and social activity," he says.

As a marketing communications consultant, television presenter, actor, entertainer, public speaker, master of ceremonies and events organiser, McKenzie will cover many bases during Cup Week.

"Having a background in marketing communications, events and the media is unique," he says.

"My varied experience means that I can plan and manage the

event and even be part of the entertainment if required."

McKenzie specialises in character acting as Austin Powers, but for corporate events and festivals has also appeared as Elvis, Bjorn from Abba, Gandalf from The Lord of the Rings and farmer Bob from the West Coast.

"Austin has appeared at both Addington and Riccarton before, but this year he's sitting at home with his feet up watching the TV while I'm out and about doing all the hard work," he says.

The television production is being brought to Christchurch by New Zealand Racing and will add greatly to the on-course atmosphere at Riccarton and Addington.

Balancing time between commitments, presenting TV coverage, managing some of the entertainment and hosting fashion events may be stressful for some people but not for McKenzie.

"There will be so much energy and excitement I won't have time to get stressed about anything.

"We'll have a great production and management team during the week, so I have no doubt it will all run very smoothly," he says.

The television production will mean the large screen will be packed up and moved between Riccarton and Addington during the week. During the day a director, floor manager and production team will work hard with the camera crew and presenter to ensure a high-quality programme makes it onto the large screen.

Cup Week revolves around the main horse-racing events, but it offers much more than just the racing, says McKenzie.

"The fashion competitions bring out the best in hats, heels, suits and hemlines on a day that is as much about socialising as it is about watching spectacular sport."

Bands, a big screen, fine food and refreshments will add to the colour, glamour and excitement that is Cup Week, which will include new features this year.

"Saturday, November 6, at Riccarton will be a retro fashion day," says McKenzie. "If you come dressed in '70s retro gear, you'll get in for free as long as you enter the retro '70s fashion event that will be on in the birdcage."

The day at Riccarton will also feature Limelight Dancers performing retro dance moves, and there will be continuous promotions and giveaways for the musical Saturday Night Fever.

On Tuesday, November 9, local character-acting performance band the Fab 3 will keep those in the Lindauer Lawn area at Addington entertained, and on-course bookies will shout out odds and give tips in the old traditions of horse racing, adding to the colour of the day.

Putters are encouraged to bring their best golf swing to Riccarton on Wednesday, November 10, to take part in a golf chipping competition sponsored by McDuff's World of Golf.

During the week there will also be a new car to be won.



Character actor, John McKenzie as Austin Powers.



## Canty truly comes alive

**S**howtime Canterbury Cup Week is known and res-

won, this is not something the entrants want to leave to chance.

The winner of the Columbus and Ware-Cambridge Clothing