



Cancer Society of New Zealand
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MEDIA RELEASE

14 April 2007

Michael's Toe-Bar Auctioned on Trade Me

Michael Laws' broken big toe could turn out to be a 'happy accident' for the Cancer Society, with the solid metal bar he injured himself on being auctioned off on TradeMe this weekend.

Michael was practising his moves at the Wanganui Darts League hall in preparation for the opening night of *Dancing with the Stars*, when he cracked his toe on an Oche bar. An Oche is an 80x800cm solid steel bar, positioned at ground level, and used to distance darts players from the board.

The Oche has been autographed by both Michael and Lauren, and all proceeds from the TradeMe auction will go to the Cancer Society of New Zealand.

Wanganui Darts League President, Laurie Jarman, says:

“We didn't realise just how difficult it would be to get the bar out of the ground, it took several burly men. We hope the efforts will raise more money for the Cancer Society.”

Michael broke his toe on Friday 30th March while practising with his professional dance partner for the show, Lauren de Boeck. At first, Lauren thought he was having her on, and wasn't having a bar of it:

“We were dancing around the hall then Michael cracked his toe. He sat down suddenly and said ‘I’ve broken my toe and I’m going to the hospital!’.

“At first I didn’t take him seriously, and was staggered when the Doctor told me he’d broken it in two places.”

Michael’s injuries have meant that he has had to attend numerous appointments with the Doctors. He says:

“There’s not much time for practising with Lauren, between going for X-rays and Doctors appointments, and my broadcasting and mayoral duties, but I’m doing all I can to stay in the competition, and continue raising funds for the Cancer Society.”

VOTE MICHAEL

Laws is the lowest scoring contestant so far in the competition, and needs the public vote to keep him in. To vote for Michael, phone 0900 89 815, or text the word **Michael** to 8981.

Media Enquiries:

For more information, or for a high resolution photograph of Michael and Lauren with the Oche, please contact Dalton Kelly, Chief Executive for the Cancer Society of New Zealand, on DDI: 04 494 7273, or email dalton.kelly@cancer.org.nz.