

New car thrills Maunu pair

Ngaire and Bruce Mclean of Maunu had to overcome odds of more than 51,000-to-one to own their first new car.

Now they are driving around in a flash, red, Holden Barina three-door manual 1600cc worth about \$19,000 after winning the *Northern Advocate's* "Win A Car" promotion, in conjunction with Mark Cromie Holden.

The delighted McLeans picked up their vehicle from Mark Cromie Holden on Thursday and were so overwhelmed they presented Northern Publishing general manager Alex Lawton and Mark Cromie Holden dealer principal Richard Evans with thank-you cards. The couple will also make a \$200 donation to Project Promise fundraising, which aims to raise \$3 million to build a new cancer treatment unit in Northland.

Ngaire turns 70 next week, and Bruce is 73.

The "Win A Car" competition, which ran for 13 weeks from March 29, was open to *Northern Advocate* subscribers. The newspaper received 51,804 entries.

Ngaire said the couple owned a 1995 Ford Telstar which they had hoped would outlast them, but the new Holden, which they would keep, was the first new car they had owned.

"When Jo Ann [Hogan, *Advocate* promotions co-ordinator] rang to tell us we'd won I just screamed," she said. Said Bruce: "I thought somebody had had a baby she was yelling so much."

He said they would put the Barina through its paces on a trip to Auckland to watch their grandson competing in a go-kart race.

"My son and his children are all Ford while my daughter's Holden, so this might cause a bit of a wedge between the family," Bruce joked.

Ngaire said the whole family had been affected by cancer and they



WINNERS: Northern Publishing general manager Alex Lawton (left) with Northern Advocate "Win A Car" winners Ngaire and Bruce Mclean and Mark Cromie Holden dealer principal Richard Evans. They are with the new Holden Barina the McLeans won in a joint promotion by the paper and car company.

PICTURE / MICHAEL CUNNINGHAM

wanted to give something back by donating something to Project Promise after their win.

"Bruce was diagnosed with prostate cancer recently. It's in its early stages, while I and my daughter have had breast operations and our son is living with melanoma. Bruce has also had three melanoma operations," she said.

"That's why we chose Project Promise. We really believe we need better facilities for cancer treatment in Whangarei."

Mr Evans said the fact the

McLeans were keeping the car meant the company would extend the car's three-year factory warranty for another two years. "It's got a five-star safety rating with all the whistles and bells and it's got great fuel economy," he said.

Holden had five of the cars to give away nationally and Mr Evans said Mark Cromie got enormous value out of running the competition with the *Advocate*.

Mr Lawson said: "We're very pleased to have been a part of this competition, and it's great that the

prize is going to such a nice, local couple as Ngaire and Bruce.

"We hope they have many years of happy motoring in it. Working with Mark Cromie Holden on the competition has been a fantastic experience and we look forward to more successful partnerships with them in the future."

Mark Cromie Holden is also a big supporter of Project Promise and has donated a car, similar to the one won by the McLeans, for a Project Promise auction on September 4 at Forum North.