

Captive audience



Novel entry: Manawatu prisoners got a special visit from Bulls flying doctor David Baldwin, who was promoting his latest book Healthy Bastards. Inset: Doctor David Baldwin had a room of 80 men in tears of laughter with his presentation on male anatomy.

Photo: JONATHAN CAMERON

Flying doctor drops into prison on a mission

BULLS' flying doctor landed inside prison walls yesterday, to give 80 inmates a health session.

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Dr David Baldwin flew his own helicopter to Manawatu Prison to promote his new book *Healthy Bastards* to a room full of low-tomedium-security prisoners.

Prison manager Peter Howe said Dr Baldwin approached the prison to see if he could make the fleeting visit.



"These guys are the worst accessors of health care ... it's about educating those people who

need to be educated," Mr Howe said.

And on top of the important health messages, the interesting way Dr Baldwin arrived also caused a bit of a stir.

"No-one has ever landed a helicopter in the prison before, so it was a bit of a novelty."

With non-politically correct humour, Dr Baldwin had the men in fits of laughter with fun

and - at times - explicit anecdotes.

"I don't like reading, I don't like writing or big words, so I just like straight shooting, no bull.... type stuff. I came here to level with you to try and push the message across," Dr Baldwin said.

The full and frank presentation covered a range of male health issues, including sex education, ageing, cancer, mental illness, alcohol and tattoos. Dr Baldwin said there was a niche market for a book like this.

"There are many books out there targeted at the worry well [white-collar workers], but there is nothing that is straight to the point and I hope this book can educate everyone," he said.

Dr Baldwin works at the Bulls Medical Centre, but also travels around the country medically examining pilots.

Police prepare for rowdy season