



NorthAble Information Update 17/02/2016

NorthAble receives information from our many networks which we disseminate through this *Update*. Feel free to share and use this information. For further information or to place a notice in *NorthAble Information Update*, contact:
Phone: 09 430 0988 / 0508 637-200. Email: drc@northable.org.nz.
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NorthAble> Web: www.northable.org.nz

Events – Seminars – Courses – Meetings

Child Rights Training. Thursday February 18, Public Workshop – free but registrations essential. Ratu Room, Manaia Primary Health Organisation, 28-30 Rust Avenue, 2-4pm. Deborah Morris-Travers and Jacqui Southey from UNICEF NZ are visiting Whangarei in support our work to become a Child and Youth Friendly City. Learn more about children's human rights and how you can apply them to your mahi. Register: email hannahm@manaiapho.co.nz, "*Child Rights Training*" in subject title.

MSD - Your Entitlements: Thursday February 18. 10am – midday. Kaitaia and district Age Concern hosts Alanajoy Brown – Seniors Specialist from Ministry of Social Development. Find out what MSD entitlements you are eligible for and how to get them. Cornerstone Christian Centre, 79 Matthews Ave, Kaitaia.

Far North Wheelchair Basketball Competition: Thursdays February 18 -March 24. Open mixed competition with teams at least five-aside. Basketball wheelchair supplied., Time: 5pm - 7pm, Venue: Northland College Gymnasium, 62 Mangakahia Road, Kaikohe. For more information and to register, contact Cheryl Smith on 0274343417 or cheryls@sportnorth.co.nz See halbergallsports.co.nz/events or on Facebook, search 'Halberg Disability Sport Foundation'.

Alzheimers Northland free public talk. Monday February 22. Speaker Professor Graham Stokes has over 25 years experience in specialist dementia care practice and policy. Capitaine Bougainville Theatre, Forum North, Whangarei, 2pm-3.30pm.

Parent to Parent coffee group. Tuesday February 23. For families/whanau raising children with a disability or health impairment. Enjoy a coffee, chat, shared lunch. CCS Disability Action Centre, 291 Kamo Rd, Whangarei, 10.30am-12.30pm.

Osteoarthritis management help. Wednesday February 24. Learn about Arthritis and causes of pain, available help and what you can do to reduce your pain: 11am-midday. Osteoarthritis when joint replacement has been declined: 1pm –2.30pm. Arthritis New Zealand Office, Level 1 (Lift is available), 1 James Street, Whangarei. Registrations essential. Contact Sue Baker Phone 0800 663 463 or 09 459 6100 or email sue.baker@arthritis.org.nz to register or for further information.

Pasifica Fusion Festival: Saturday February 27. Great cultural festival with food and stalls – NorthAble will be attending along with many other great stalls. Town Basin by the Waka in Whangarei, 10am-2pm.

Family Day. Sunday February 28. Parent to Parent and Altogether Autism Northland. BBQ, picnic lunch, goodies for the kids. Whangarei Aquatic Centre, 5 Ewing Rd, Whangarei, 10.30am-1.30pm. RSVP by February 23 to Lynne Hansen, 09 437 3337.

Safe People Course. Mondays March 7 - April 11. Offered by Whangarei Anglican Care Trust. Ever wondered why some relationships seem to lead to growth and happiness and others to pain and injury? Facilitated by counsellor Joyce Beehre. Applications close March 2. To be held in the Anglican Care Centre *Te Whare Oranga*, corner Mill Road & Deveron Street, Whangarei, 7pm—8:30 pm. Enquiries and applications, phone 437 6397 or email enquiry@whgcare.org.nz

Arthritis New Zealand Conference 2016. Saturday March 5. At Te Papa, Wellington. Registration fee: \$50 for Arthritis New Zealand members and \$75 for non members. Registration closes February 20 - forms available from: Dayleen or Karen on 0800 663 463 or dayleen.troke@arthritis.org.nz or karen.baker@arthritis.org.nz.

Ruakaka Surf Day! Saturday March 5. Volunteer at the Tiaho Trust hosted upcoming Surf Day for people with disabilities! Sign in at 9am at Ruakaka Surf Lifesaving Club, Ruakaka Beach. Volunteers required for assistance in the water, BBQ, general assistance on land, 10am-2pm. BBQ for participants and volunteers. Information, volunteer registrations, contact: Saffron at Tiaho Trust 0800 430 3406 or email: saffron@tiaho.org.nz

Information of Interest

Captioning on Prime: From February 13 this year, captions have become available on some programmes on *Prime: Antiques Roadshow, Unforgotten, Limitless, University Challenge, Elementary and NCIS: New Orleans* to name a few. Go to <http://able.co.nz/news/entry/blog-captions-now-available-on-prime>

No Total Mobility: A newspaper advertisement for the local branch of the Driving Miss Daisy service mistakenly says it accepts Total Mobility cards – it does not. For info on this companion driving service email whangareieast@drivingmissdaisy.co.nz

NZSL Fund Applications: The second round of the NZSL Fund closes at 10am on Friday February 19. Questions, contact nz_sign_language@msd.govt.nz.

In the News

Foundation pours \$3m in grants into the North. *Northern Advocate, Wednesday February 17.* Northland charities, schools and community groups have received more than \$3million in grants from Foundation North. Included are \$60,000 to the Northland Disabled Charitable Trust and \$20,000 to the Far North Disabilities Resource Centre. And with national organisations getting grants from Macular Degeneration NZ and MNZ Epilepsy Association, more funding will be spent in Northland. Visit www.foundationnorth.org.nz

Mother's long battle for disability compensation reaches High Court. *New Zealand Herald, Monday February 15, 2016.* A mother's exhaustive battle to gain compensation for the care of her disabled son has reached the High Court, after more than ten years of fighting. Margaret Spencer is seeking hundreds of thousands of dollars in back pay following her repeated discrimination at the hands of government policies on family carers. She has looked after her Down's Syndrome son Paul, 47, since birth but until last year was unpaid as she is a family member.

Brazil's Zika-related abortion debate sparks backlash. *New Zealand Herald, Monday February 15, 2016.* Alarm in recent months over the Zika virus, which many researchers believe can cause microcephaly in the fetuses of pregnant women, has prompted calls, both inside and outside Brazil, to loosen a near-ban on abortion in the world's most populous Catholic country.

Let's joyfully embrace difference. *New Zealand Herald Monday February 15, 2016.* Government's dismissive attitude to those who don't fit in reflects poorly on NZ, comments reporter Deborah Hill Cone in her column after immigration authorities refused residency for a 13-year-old who has autism.

For me the New Zealand story ends. *The Herald on Sunday, Sunday February 14.* Auckland University maths professor Dimitri Leemans has decided to leave the country because immigration authorities have refused residency for his 13-year-old stepson, Peter Gourle, who has autism.

A Different Light. *Northern Advocate: Saturday February 13, 2016.* Columnist and Tiaho CEO Jonny Wilkinson asks what are the risks around not being part of the TPP and poses the question: will the rapid rise of globalisation affect the rights of disabled people? His theme explores how disability is global and also is vulnerable under the free market ethos of globalisation. He notes that countries lauded for the quality of their approach to disability issues have strong social welfare systems. See <http://www.tiaho.org.nz/news/entry/kiwis-tripping-up-over-tp>

Special trio power up for Legend swim. *New Zealand Herald, Saturday February 13, 2016.* Among hundreds of swimmers lining up for the first Rotorua Legend of the Lake open water swim, three athletes are winners before they even get wet: North Harbour Special Olympics swimmers Daniel Casbolt, Tate Pishon and Troy Rangī.