



NorthAble
DISABILITY SERVICES

NorthAble Information Update 16/03/2016

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In the News

Minister of Health Awards open. New Zealand Government Press Release. March 14. These awards help to recognise the thousands of unsung heroes who support our health and disability services. Nominations close April 8, awards presented in National Volunteer Week, 19 to 25 June. <http://www.volunteerawards.health.govt.nz>

Students may be missing out on exam help. RNZ. March 14. The Dyslexia Foundation can't understand why more than 100 high schools didn't make a single application for special help for NCEA students sitting exams last year.

Wonderful good sorts rule the waves: Northern Advocate, March 12. A Different Light columnist and Tiaho CEO Jonny Wilkinson talks about good sorts who are the real deal: a bunch of volunteers who get together to give disabled people a go at surfing, this time at the Tiaho Ruakaka Surf Day.

Lions come to aid of special needs boy seeking outdoor experience. Whangarei Report. March 10 On Rare Diseases Day the Onerahi Lions sealed the deal to do yard work so Harvey Ellis can play safely outside at the Waikaraka home he shares with his mother, Jo. The condition of the section had been a barrier to him enjoying the outdoors at home like other children.

Child protection policies widened. NZ Government Press Release. March 10. From April 18, organisations that deliver family violence, addiction, mental health, disability and victims of crimes services to adults living in households with children, and which receive government funding, will be required to have policies in place.

'He's his best mate' - tale of Kiwi boy and his dog captivates the world. One News. March 9. TVNZ's Breakfast spoke to the Isaac family about the adorable and moving friendship nine-year-old James, who has an intellectual disability and autism, shares with their labrador Mahe. And the bond, including pictures of Mahe protecting James during an MRI scan, has gone global. <https://www.tvnz.co.nz/one-news/new-zealand/hes-his-best-mate-tale-kiwi-boy-and-dog-captivates-world.html>

Disabled enjoy thrill of the surf. The Northern Advocate. March 9. Dozens of people went along to the Ruakaka Surf Day to help at least 15 people with disabilities experience the joy of board riding at a Tiaho Trust organised event.

Locals support charity ride. Whangarei Leader. March 8. A man riding the length of the country to raise money for a disability charity, was joined by a group of Northlanders for a ride around the Hatea Loop. Adrian McKenzie set off on his 23 day ride from Cape Reinga on February 28, and rode from Paihia to Whangarei on March 1. Six disabled Northland youth got on their wheels and joined McKenzie, who is raising money for the Halberg Disability Sport Foundation.

Achilles half-marathoners get huge cheers. Northern Advocate March 4, 2016. More than 14,000 Kiwis ran in the Cigna Round the Bays in Wellington on February 21 including 60 Achilles charity members. The charity helps Kiwis with any disability take part in mainstream running events, writes Rachel Grunwell, an Achilles guide and Northern Advocate columnist.

Lions Club rewards courageous children. Northern Advocate March 2, 2016. Harvey Ellis, Kaleigh Soper, Niamh Adair, Max Thompson-Bailey and Rome Hepi were awarded Children of Courage from Whangarei's Lions Clubs, receiving plaques for either bravely coping with severe disability or supporting a sibling who does.

Lack of accountability angers brother: Northern Advocate, February 29, 2016. Andy Beech tripped on a kerb at McDonald's Whangarei and is now paralysed. His brother is advocating for him. Brother Barry remains unhappy that no one has been held account for the kerb, which he says was "an accident waiting to happen".

Events – Seminars – Courses – Meetings

Far North Wheelchair Basketball Competition: Thursdays until 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 www.halbergallsports.co.nz/events or on Facebook, search 'Halberg Disability Sport Foundation.'

Parafed Northland Trivia Night. Saturday March 19. Put your knowledge to the test and join us for an evening of fun and laughter. Spot prizes, games and auctions Starts 6.30pm at FC Football Club Rooms, Rawhiti Road, Morningside, Whangarei
Cost: \$90 for a table of 6 Adults (includes Supper)
Bar available. For information and to register a team/table contact Vicki on phone 027 476 1991. All proceeds will support the work of Parafed Northland.

Purple Day for Epilepsy. March 26. Purple Day is a grassroots effort dedicated to increasing awareness about epilepsy around the globe. People are asked to wear purple and spread the word about epilepsy. Make every day in March Purple Day! Look out locally for the Canopy Bridge in Whangarei and it's purple theme.

Work & Income Support Seminars for individuals and families raising a child with a disability. April 6. Disability Connect is running seminars in Auckland to explore Work and Income supports related to disability. Their presentation will be broad and informational, no individual cases discussed. Tea/coffee and biscuits will be available from 30 minutes prior to the start of the seminar. **Central Auckland**, Wednesday April 6, 7-9pm, Disability Connect premises, 3b Olive Road, Penrose. To book please contact Disability Connect on phone (09) 636-0351 or email admin@disabilityconnect.org.nz

Health Hackathon: Solving self-care. 6pm Friday March 18 to 4pm Sunday March 20, Tamaki Innovation Campus, the University of Auckland. An opportunity to work together over a weekend, to collaboratively explore and develop technology solutions in response to the problem of self-care for long term health issues. Free of charge – register now <https://www.fmhs.auckland.ac.nz/en/soph/about/hackathon-registration.html>

Understanding Epilepsy. Epilepsy Association of New Zealand Inc Northland Branch a seminar, Thursday March 31, 10-midday. Venue 71 Bank Street, Whangarei. To book, phone (09)4385498 or 0272916869 (leave a message) or Email: northland@epilepsy.org.nz

Parkinson's Northland invitation to members and others to hear guest speakers Monday April 4. Auckland Hospital's Dr Mark Simpson, neurologist and Lorraine MacDonald, movement disorders nurse will talk at the Kerikeri RSA, 10am-12.15pm. Morning tea provided. RSVP by March 25 to Trish on 09 437 6878 or email northland@parkinsons.org.nz

Training – health promotion. Forum *Te Pae Mahutonga (TPM) and Māori Health Promotion Planning*. Friday April 15. Whangarei, venue to be advised. Workshop will explore TPM from within a contemporary context and look into how health promotion practitioners can utilise this model in the planning of their work. Inquiries please contact Emma Frost by email emma@hauora.co.nz or telephone (09) 300 3734.

National Deaf Rugby Championships. Auckland, Easter Weekend. Support your team! Northern Marlins vs Southern Zone – Friday 25th March. Northern Marlins vs Central Zone – Saturday 26th March, Central Zone vs Southern Zone – Sunday 27th March. Ron Keat Drive, Papakura (Massey Park) Time: Friday and Saturday at 2:00pm, Sunday at 1:30pm.

Safekids Aotearoa and Manaia Health PHO warmly invite you to attend the 2016 Child Injury Prevention Workshop Series being hosted in Whangarei. Thursday June 2. Ratu Room, Manaia Health PHO28-30 Rust Ave, Whangarei, 9.30am – 3.00pm Please RSVP by May 30. Limited seats, register now. Email Vikki Jarvis – victoriaj@adhb.govt.nz

Information of Interest

Challenge Camp – Fantastic Opportunity. Whangarei South Rotary club is looking for a local candidate for the up and coming 'Challenge Camp', a week long live in event for people 16-24 who have a physical disability or a mild intellectual disability. If you know of Northlanders interested, contact Rosalie on 021 370093 for an application form. Applications close March 25. Full support is provided as required at no cost.

Get immunised! Flu can be anywhere. Don't get it, don't give it. Get immunised. Yes, it's that time of year. Find out if you qualify for free immunisation, speak to your doctor or nurse.

Healthy living workshops. Facilitated by Heather Gribben, Whangarei Anglican Care Trust, Anglican CARE Centre, 1 b Deveron Street, Regent. For dates, information Phone 09 437 6397, Fax 09 437 6304, Email: enquiry@whgcare.org.nz. Workshops include: Who am I/ Healthy communication/ Overcoming anxiety/ Managing stress/ Coping with change.

Youth position announced. Robyn Scott is appointed to the new role of Director, Ministry of Youth Development. This new role was established following the Cabinet decision to change the direction of the Ministry of Youth Development. A restructured Ministry of Youth Development. starts from Monday, 4 April and Ms Scott will take up the position in late April.

Reminder! Don't forget to vote in the final binding referendum on the future of the New Zealand flag! Voting closes on Thursday March 24. For info, go to www.elections.org.nz