



**NorthAble**  
DISABILITY SERVICES

## NorthAble Information Update 23/03/2016

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](mailto:drc@northable.org.nz).  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NorthAble> Web: [www.northable.org.nz](http://www.northable.org.nz)

## In the News

**Father inspired by blind children, urges businesses to employ people with disabilities.** [stuff.co.nz](http://stuff.co.nz). March 20 2016. Adrian Coysh discovered his children were slowly going blind. Now he's on a mission to make their world a better place, so the 16, 17 and 22-year-olds can lead fulfilling lives.

**A Life Story - Marion Bruce, founder of Autism NZ, dies aged 90.** [stuff.co.nz](http://stuff.co.nz). March 19 2016. Marion Bruce spent her life trying to make a better world for her autistic son. In doing so, she helped scores of other autistic children and their families. She was effectively the founder of what is now Autism New Zealand after persuading the Intellectually Handicapped Children's Association to establish an autism sub-committee in 1969.

**Genetics and Neurological Disorders.** Sunday Morning – RNZ. March 19 8:40 AM. Professor James Gusella and Professor Marcy MacDonald are genetic scientists from Harvard University who are working to find therapies to treat neurodevelopmental disorders, especially ASD. They discuss the role that a person's genetic makeup plays in the development of nervous system disorders and how certain gene mutations can help to predict developmental degenerative disorders.

**Kapiti man's cycle of New Zealand raises \$50k for Halberg Disability Sport Foundation.** The dominion post. March 17 2016. A Kapiti father has cracked \$50,000 as he nears the end of a length of NZ fundraising ride Adrian McKenzie began his 2170km ride from Cape Reinga on February 28.

**Ministry of Education projects aim to bridge gap for special needs children.** [stuff.co.nz](http://stuff.co.nz). March 16 2016. A new education project aims to bridge the gap in a critical moment of schooling for children with special needs. Services which help children with additional learning needs often lag behind during the jump to primary school, hampering a child's entire education.

**Taking the LEAD on disability employment.** New Zealand Government Press Release. March 16 2016. Disability Issues Minister Nicky Wagner has launched the 'LEAD toolkit' providing resources and advice to help public sector agencies take the lead on employing and retaining disabled people.

**Sign Language Action Plan marks milestone.** New Zealand Government Press Release. March 15 2016. Disability Issues Minister Nicky Wagner says the newly released New Zealand Sign Language (NZSL) Board Action Plan outlines the Board's priorities for the promotion and maintenance of NZSL.

## Newsletters across our desk – contact [drc@northable](mailto:drc@northable) for a copy

**Disability Support Services e-newsletter.** Special Edition March 2016.

**CommUNITY Weekly** newsletter from Deaf Aotearoa's Northland office.

**Autumn Infolink** - disability news and information on behalf of Life Unlimited.

**Disability Support Services e-newsletter.** No. 60 March 2016

## Events – Seminars – Courses – Meetings

**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. Look out locally for the Canopy Bridge in Whangarei and it's purple theme.

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

**Cybersafety presentation.** April 4, 5.30pm, MANAIA PHO, 28-30 Rust Ave, Whangarei. Mikayla McKeague and Manaia PHO bring a one off community presentation by John Parsons. If you are a parent or you work with children and young people then this workshop is not to be missed. Topics will include; sexting, cyberbullying and online grooming. To enrol email [AudreyJ@manaiapho.co.nz](mailto:AudreyJ@manaiapho.co.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](mailto:northland@parkinsons.org.nz)

**Work & Income Support Seminars for individuals and families raising a child with a disability.** April 6, 7-9pm. Disability Connect is running seminars to explore Work and Income supports related to disability. Their presentation will be broad and informational, no individual cases discussed. Disability Connect, 3b Olive Road, Penrose. Phone (09) 636-0351 or email [admin@disabilityconnect.org.nz](mailto:admin@disabilityconnect.org.nz)

**Understanding Epilepsy.** Epilepsy Association of New Zealand Inc Northland Branch a seminar, Thursday March 31, 10-midday. Venue 71 Bank Street, Whangarei. Also Kaitaia Thursday April 14, 10-midday. Venue: Kaitaia, Reap Far North, 33 Puckey Ave. To book, phone (09)4385498 or 0272916869 (leave a message) or Email: [northland@epilepsy.org.nz](mailto:northland@epilepsy.org.nz)

**Mindfulness course.** May 5- June 23, Thursday Evenings 6-8pm, at Red Cross, 59 Bank Street Whangarei. Mindfulness as a way of bringing meditation and it's benefits into every day life. It is used in NZ hospitals to help patients manage pain and is used to manage both depression and stress. Wise View also present a course to classes of children in some schools in our area to provide them with life skills. See [www.wiseview.co.nz](http://www.wiseview.co.nz) Email [denise@wiseview.co.nz](mailto:denise@wiseview.co.nz) or [antonia@wiseview.co.nz](mailto:antonia@wiseview.co.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 email [emma@hauora.co.nz](mailto:emma@hauora.co.nz) or telephone (09) 300 3734.

**Safekids Aotearoa** and Manaia Health PHO invite you to attend the 2016 Child Injury Prevention Workshop Series being hosted in Whangarei. Thursday June 2. Ratu Room, Manaia Health, 30 Rust Ave, Whangarei, 9.30am – 3.00pm Please RSVP by May 30. Email [victoriaj@adhb.govt.nz](mailto:victoriaj@adhb.govt.nz)

## Information of Interest

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

**NZSL Week** May 9-16 2016 will focus on 10 year celebrations and young deaf people. The future of NZSL is in their hands. The new First Signs website launch is during NZSL Week.

## Situations Vacant

**LYNKZ** Assistant Position 0/5FTE - 20 hrs p/wk. NorthAble has this new position advertised. See <http://www.seek.co.nz/job/30553912> Applications close on Wednesday, March 30.