



**NorthAble**  
DISABILITY SERVICES

### NorthAble Information Update 18/05/2016

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, contact:

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Email: [drc@northable.org.nz](mailto:drc@northable.org.nz).

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Web: [www.northable.org.nz](http://www.northable.org.nz)

### Events – Seminars – Courses – Meetings

**NZSL Week – PechaKucha.** Wednesday 18 May, 7.00pm - 9.30pm, ONEONESIX, 116A Bank Street, Whangarei. Come along and join the fun. PechaKucha is a world-wide phenomenon where presenters can stand up and have their say on anything they feel passionate about. The rules are – you are only allowed 20 slides, and each one is only 20 seconds long. Six minutes and forty seconds is all you have! We have a fabulous line up of Deaf and hearing people, all presenting on various aspects of “The Deaf World. “It’s fast, it’s fun, and you are guaranteed to be entertained. Bring your family and friends, for this unique insight into the Deaf Community’s very rich culture.

**‘Join the Conversation’** on Friday 20 May 2016, 10am – 1pm, at Forum North, 7 Rust Avenue and help build a new Disability Strategy for New Zealand. Public event. What are the most important things for you and your whānau to live a good life?

Parents of disabled children. Have your say: Friday 20 May, 1.30 – 3.30pm. Towai Room, Blomfield Special School & Resource Centre, 31 Maunu Road, Whangarei. Contact: Sophia Green, Vice-Principal, on 09 438-2105.

The new strategy will provide clear direction for the government over the next ten years, helping them to make informed decisions on issues that impact disabled people. You can visit [www.jointheconversation.nz](http://www.jointheconversation.nz) to give your views. Bear in mind, the survey closes on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2016.

**Mental Health/Addiction Panui.** A call out to our people who with Māori whānau in the Mental Health & Addiction services and roles in Te Tai Tokerau Northland. We are coming together in Kawakawa this month 20 May 10.00am – 2.00pm to strengthen our network. Whānau we will be meeting at Ngāti Hine Health Trust 3-5 Rayner Street. Join us. RSVP to [segina@hauorawhanui.co.nz](mailto:segina@hauorawhanui.co.nz). #mauriora #kawakawa #onlyinAotearoa #MāoriNetworks

**Tiaho Trust and Work and Income** are running a series of free seminars throughout Northland to inform about what products and services are available to you/caregivers or whanau. Also Northland DIAS collective, CCS Disability Action. Dates: Kaitiaki: Wednesday May 25, 10.30am-12.30pm, Far North Reap Seminar Room, 33 Puckey Ave, Kaitiaki. Kaikohe: Wednesday June 1, 10.30am-12.30pm, Baptist Church, cnr Broadway and Hongi St, Kaikohe. Kerikeri: Thursday June 2, 10.30am-12.30pm, St John Ambulance Station, 367 Kerikeri Rd, Kerikeri. Dargaville: Wednesday June 15, 10.30am-12.30pm, Plunket Room, 29 Hokianga St, Dargaville. Hokianga (Rawene): Wednesday June 22, 10.30am-12.30pm, St John Ambulance Hall, 22 De Thierry St, Rawene. For more information, please contact 09 430 3406. RSVP to [saffron@tiaho.org.nz](mailto:saffron@tiaho.org.nz)

**Parafed Northland Adaptive Football Programme.** Tuesdays from May 24-28<sup>th</sup> June. 4.30-5.30pm. Play football, learn new skills! Open to 5-21 year olds with a physical impairment who are either ambulant or use a walker or stick for mobility. Invitation extended to siblings. Tikipunga Sports Park, Reed St, Whangarei. Register, contact Jo Burgess email: [admin@parafednorthland.co.nz](mailto:admin@parafednorthland.co.nz) or phone 027 795 9520. For more information go to [www.halbergallsports.co.nz/events](http://www.halbergallsports.co.nz/events) or search Halberg Disability Sport Foundation on Facebook.

**Working Together for Vulnerable Kids** - FREE Seminar - Kaikohe 24th May 2016. These seminars are an opportunity to create a child protection network in your community. Exploring the current landscape of child protection, what defines a vulnerable child and the role each person has in keeping children safe this seminar provides a great foundation in how to work together for vulnerable kids. These seminars are designed for professionals working with children, including teachers, health workers, and social service providers. [www.childmatters.org.nz/186/child-protection-training/seminars](http://www.childmatters.org.nz/186/child-protection-training/seminars)

**Kiss goodbye to MS.** Wear Red Lipstick, Clothes, hair, whatever! Wednesday May 25<sup>th</sup> WORLD MS DAY. Why not hold a 'wear red day' in your office – for a gold coin donation to NORTHLAND MS A local charity supporting the local community.

**Child Poverty Action Group:** Special lunch the day after the Budget has been announced, on Friday May 27 at 11.30pm - 2pm, at Manaia PHO rooms, Rust Ave. A chance for us to reflect with national speakers on the implications of the Budget, especially in relation to child and whānau poverty... as well as discussing local responses to local issues like housing and welfare that relate to poverty. If you can come, rsvp to [www.cpag.org.nz/the-latest/upcoming-events/](http://www.cpag.org.nz/the-latest/upcoming-events/) for catering purposes.

**Northland Powerchair Football** - Skills, Drills and Fun. Time 10.30am - 1.00pm. Date Sunday, 29 May, 2016. Venue ASB Stadium, Kensington Park, Western Hills Drive, Whangarei. Come along and learn about powerchair football - an active sport for powerchair users requiring teamwork, skill and competitiveness. To register, or for further information, contact Jo Burgess on 027 705 9520 or [admin@parafednorthland.co.nz](mailto:admin@parafednorthland.co.nz). For more information go to [www.halbergallsports.co.nz/events](http://www.halbergallsports.co.nz/events) or search Halberg Disability Sport Foundation on Facebook.

**Petting Zoo – diary it now.** Sunday 17 July 'Northland Equestrian Petting Zoo' inside at the stables at 2760 SH1 Ruakaka. Animal petting zoo, bouncy castle, activities, pony rides, food and drinks and more. Family fun for all ages. Part of the petting zoo is concreted and hardened - wheelchair friendly. Free entry. Fundraiser for SPCA. Between 10am - 3 pm contact Maryke 021 0668 546. See website [www.northlandequestrian.co.nz](http://www.northlandequestrian.co.nz) or Facebook [www.facebook.com/NorthlandEquestrian](https://www.facebook.com/NorthlandEquestrian)

### Information of Interest

**LYNKZ Needs you!** Vote for us to receive a share of \$4,000 from Z Kamo Service Station. We're one of the four groups being supported through Good in the Hood at Z Kamo Service Station. That means we'll get a share of \$4,000 from Z Kamo Service Station—but how much depends on how many votes we get! To vote for us, all you need to do is buy something from Z Kamo Service Station during May. You'll be given an orange token to put in the voting box. So please head down to Z Kamo Service Station during May and vote for us!

### In the News

**Disability Games a joy for Asher.** Whangarei Leader 18 May 2016. Maungatapere school student Asher Hovell, 9, travelled to Cambridge in the school holidays to take part in the Halberg Junior Disability Games. He also took part in golf, tennis, rowing, equestrian, athletics, swimming and paddleboarding. Asher has limb girdle muscular dystrophy.

**Don't 'dilly dally', advises eye patient.** Northern Advocate. May 17 2016. When Lorraine Morgan first heard she would have to have injections in her eye to save her sight, it just about sent her "to the moon". But now the Hikurangi 92-year-old says the treatment was no big deal and is encouraging other other people who notice changes in their eyes not to "dilly dally". Mrs Morgan spoke out ahead of Macular Degeneration Awareness Week, the most common cause of blindness in New Zealand, affecting about one in seven people over 50. Macular degeneration (MD) can quickly lead to blindness - even within weeks of the first symptoms - if it is left untreated.

**Kiwi amputee and family inspire with book.** Stuff.co.nz. May 16 2016. When 4-year-old Trixy Wuts had both feet amputated there were no children's books to help her parents explain the surgery. Five years later the Hawke's Bay couple from Haumoana have written and illustrated the children's book called Little Jellybean, designed to support families with a child preparing for amputation.

**Brittle bone adventurer Samuel Gibson has died.** The Dominion Post. May 16 2016. Brittle bone disease campaigner Samuel Gibson has died in hospital, surrounded by family. The 39-year-old father of two is thought to have fallen forwards from his wheelchair when it stopped during a half marathon event on Saturday, and hit his head. His family issued a statement on Monday morning. "It's with heavy hearts and great sadness that we share with you Samuel's passing earlier this morning. The family would like to publicly thank the ED and ICU teams at Hawkes Bay Hospital who were so kind in their care for Samuel. Unfortunately the injuries that Samuel sustained were not survivable."

\* Info Update last week featured this New Zealand Herald. 6 May [Video here](#)

**Golf: Boost for disabled sport.** Northern Advocate. May 13 2016. Disabled young Northlanders wanting to advance their sporting prowess and junior golfers will benefit from a charity golf tournament held in Whangarei. Yesterday 144 golfers teed off at Whangarei Golf Club in the annual Eagles Golf Tournament that raises money for the Halberg Disability Sport Foundation and junior golf in the region. Eagles Golfing Society Northland captain Hugh Tennent said the tournament will raise up to \$4500 for the foundation and around \$2000 for junior golf. In the 20 years the tournament has been running Eagles had given about \$113,000 to the Halberg Disability Sport Foundation.

**Celebrating NZ success at the Invictus Games.** NZ Government Press Release. May 13 2016. Disability Issues Minister Nicky Wagner congratulates the New Zealand Defence Force team on their success at the 2016 Invictus games in Florida. The Invictus Games are a Paralympic-style sporting championship for wounded, injured and sick military service people, both serving and veterans. Our 21 competitors won 9 medals. For more information: [www.invictusgamesfoundation.org/games/2016](http://www.invictusgamesfoundation.org/games/2016)

**System 'set up to fail' people with neuro-disabilities.** National Radio. May 12 2016. Amidst calls for inmates to be screened for neuro-disabilities, a woman has told Nine to Noon how her grandson, who suffers from Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder, was jailed as a teenager. Research suggests that people with neuro-disabilities are highly over-represented in prisons. Neuro-disabilities include learning differences like dyslexia, through to Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD), Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and Autism Spectrum Disorder. Her grandson was eventually sentenced to two years under the Intellectual Disability (Compulsory Care and Rehabilitation) Act

**Actor's turmoil made into play.** Northern Advocate May 11 2016. Actor Rob Mokoraka performs a play exploring the desperate place he was in when he attempted to get killed by police.

**Sign language celebration.** Whangarei Leader. May 11 2016. It's pecha kucha night on Wednesday May 18 from 6.30pm at OneOneSix. The PK night coincides with New Zealand Sign Language Week.

**Input sought.** Whangarei Leader. May 11 2016. Jonny Wilkinson, CE of Tiaho Trust, part of an initiative to develop a new disability strategy for New Zealand, asks Northlanders to get involved.

**Budget 2016: More kids to get teacher aide help.** New Zealand Government Press Release. May 11 2016. An extra 1250 students will benefit from extra teacher aides thanks to a \$15.3 million Budget 2016 funding increase for in-class support, Education Minister Hekia Parata announced today. "The operating funding increase, to be spread over four years, will ensure that students with a range of learning difficulties receive support tailored to their individual learning needs," Ms Parata says. "Together with the increased funding in last year's Budget, the Government is now funding an extra 550,000 hours of classroom support for students with additional learning needs."

**\$15m special needs boost a 'patch job'.** New Zealand Herald. May 11 2016. "Any investment is good, but \$15.3 million over four years is not nearly enough. Teacher aides are a valuable part of the solution -- but we need much smarter thinking and a far greater commitment to our children's future."

