



## NorthAble Information Update 1/3/2017

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:

Phone: 09 430 0988 / 0508 637-200.

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

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/northabledisabilitiesservices](http://www.facebook.com/northabledisabilitiesservices)

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

## In the news

**Part of the learning journey.** NZ Herald. February 28 2017. Teaching special needs pupils is challenging but also rewarding, says a teacher at one of 12 state-run special schools in Auckland-Northland and 28 in New Zealand. [www.nzherald.co.nz/education/news/article.cfm?c\\_id=35&objectid=11808925](http://www.nzherald.co.nz/education/news/article.cfm?c_id=35&objectid=11808925)

**Life after school. Nine to Noon – RNZ. February 27 2017.** Kathryn Ryan talks with special education advocate and researcher Mark Shanks, who says students with disabilities are being ill-equipped for life after school, because of a fragmented, dysfunctional system. Mark is joined by the Ministry of Education's Head of Learning Support, David Wales. [www.radionz.co.nz/national/programmes/ninetonoon/audio/201834710/preparing-disabled-students-for-life-after-school](http://www.radionz.co.nz/national/programmes/ninetonoon/audio/201834710/preparing-disabled-students-for-life-after-school)

**Death of disabled Auckland man in care leads to changes. Stuff February 26 2017.** The parents of a disabled man who died while in care say they feel betrayed by his care facility and let down by the system. Extensive changes have been made at the Auckland residential care facility Creative Abilities and the caregiver in question has resigned. [www.stuff.co.nz/national/health/89672832/death-of-disabled-auckland-man-in-care-leads-to-changes](http://www.stuff.co.nz/national/health/89672832/death-of-disabled-auckland-man-in-care-leads-to-changes)

**Human rights watchdog flags concerns over refugees and treatment of disabled man.** New Zealand Herald. February 22 2017. The treatment of intellectually disabled man Ashley Peacock's case at a Porirua mental health unit has been included in Amnesty International's annual global report on human rights abuses. [www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c\\_id=1&objectid=11805630](http://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c_id=1&objectid=11805630)

**Joyce unveils first social bond pilot.** BusinessDesk Article. February 21 2017. Finance Minister Steven Joyce unveiled the first social bond pilot to support getting people with moderate mental health problems back into the workforce. [www.scoop.co.nz/stories/BU1702/S00670/joyce-unveils-first-social-bond-pilot.htm](http://www.scoop.co.nz/stories/BU1702/S00670/joyce-unveils-first-social-bond-pilot.htm)

**Police 'default' mental health service as attempted suicide call outs jump 30 per cent.** Stuff.co.nz. February 21 2017. A 30 per cent jump in the number of attempted suicides handled by police is an indictment on New Zealand's mental health system, the police union says. [www.stuff.co.nz/national/health/89633923/police-default-mental-health-service-as-attempted-suicide-call-outs-jump-30-per-cent](http://www.stuff.co.nz/national/health/89633923/police-default-mental-health-service-as-attempted-suicide-call-outs-jump-30-per-cent)

## Events

**NEW! Sailing at Waitangi.** Parafed is offering members an opportunity to learn to sail with the Bay of Islands Yacht Club next to Copthorne Hotel, Waitangi. March 2 and every Thursday - 3.30-6.30pm - and Sunday - 10am-1pm. Cost \$20, register, email [parafed@parafednorthland.co.nz](mailto:parafed@parafednorthland.co.nz) or [rob@yachtingnz.org.nz](mailto:rob@yachtingnz.org.nz).

**Whangarei Parkinson's Support Group** 1st Friday monthly, next meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 10.30-midday, The Kamo Club Rooms, Meldrum Street, Kamo. Contact Trisha Ryan, Parkinson's Northland, E: [northland@parkinsons.org.nz](mailto:northland@parkinsons.org.nz) Ph: 09 437 6878.

**Macular Degeneration.** How's your eyesight - do you know anything about Macular Degeneration? 1 in 7 people are affected by this - head along to the FREE seminar and find out more. Saturday March 4. 10am-11.30am. Toll Stadium, Level 2, Main Lounge, 51 Okara Drive, Whangarei. To register call 0800 MACULA or email [info@mdnz.org.nz](mailto:info@mdnz.org.nz)

**Epilepsy support group meeting.** Whangarei, first Tuesday of each month, next meeting 7<sup>th</sup> March. Come along and meet others living with epilepsy. The Northland Epilepsy Educator available to provide information and support. All welcome. Brenda Gardner Lounge, Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB), 71 Bank Street, Whangarei, 10.30am to 12 noon. (morning tea provided). Phone (09) 4385498 or 0272916869 (Please leave a message). Email: [northland@epilepsy.org.nz](mailto:northland@epilepsy.org.nz)

**Understanding Epilepsy - Kaitaia:** Thursday 9 March, Reap Far North, 33 Puckey Ave, Kaitaia (check with reception whether Seminar or Nikau Room) 10.00am -12.00pm. Covers: What is epilepsy, what causes epilepsy, recognition of seizure types, first aid for seizures, seizure triggers, recording seizures, principles of anti-epileptic medication, life style issues, etc. Phone (09) 4385498 or 0272916869 (Please leave a message) Email: [northland@epilepsy.org.nz](mailto:northland@epilepsy.org.nz)

**Making it Work: Employer Obligations & Individualised Funding workshop.** Wednesday 15 March 10am–2.30pm. Distinction Hotel, 9 Riverside Drive, Whangarei. Brought to you by Auckland Disability Law, Te Pou and CCS Disability Action. Free workshop for people who employ or intend to employ support staff, for themselves or for their family and/ or whānau. RSVP by 3 March to Michelle Devine, 09 437 1899, text 021 774 230 or email [Northland@ccsDisabilityAction.org.nz](mailto:Northland@ccsDisabilityAction.org.nz)

**Kerikeri Parkinson's Support Group** every 3rd Thursday monthly, next 16<sup>th</sup> March, 11am-1pm, St Johns Ambulance Station. Contact Trisha Ryan, Co-ordinator, Parkinson's Northland at [northland@parkinsons.org.nz](mailto:northland@parkinsons.org.nz) Ph 09 437 6878.

**Caring for Your Brain Workshop.** Presented by – Eileen Goldthorpe. Seizure Support Northland. Thursday 16th March 10.00 am – 12.00 noon. Interactive workshop on the overall approach on how to care adequately for your brain as you age. Organised by Age Concern Kaitaia and Districts. Held at the Cornerstone Christian Centre (formerly Kaitaia Baptist Church Hall) 79 Matthews Ave, Kaitaia. Bookings essential. Phone Gayle on 09 408 2997 to reserve your place.

**Waipu Parkinson's Support Group** 3rd Friday monthly, next meeting 17<sup>th</sup> March, Waipu Presbyterian Church Hall. Contact Trisha Ryan, Co-ordinator, Parkinson's Northland. Email [northland@parkinsons.org.nz](mailto:northland@parkinsons.org.nz) Phone 09 437 6878.

**UPBEAT**, a group for newly diagnosed and under 65 Parkinson Sufferers. March 19, 11.30am function at the Quarry Gardens Whangarei including garden walk and café lunch. To attend ring/ text Lorraine 09 4346874 or 0211353919.

**Calming Strategies for Children with Autism.** Kaitaia. Tuesday 21st March, 9.30am to 12pm. At Far North REAP 33 Puckey Ave, Kaitaia. Set children up for life by teaching them how to self-calm in a mindful way. This practical workshop looks at how breathing, movement and sensory exercises can be fun and relaxing while improving well-being. Facilitator Theresa Bourne. Cost: parents/adult family members no cost, professionals \$65. See [www.ihc.org.nz/workshops-and-training](http://www.ihc.org.nz/workshops-and-training) To register e-mail: [mary.romanos@idea.org.nz](mailto:mary.romanos@idea.org.nz) Phone: 0800 273 7587.

**NEW! The Blind Foundation** needs a generous helping hand and is calling for volunteers for the 2017 Red Puppy Appeal on March 24 and 25 to raise funds for the breeding and training of guide dogs. To volunteer as a street appeal collector or make a donation, visit [www.redpuppy.org.nz](http://www.redpuppy.org.nz) or call 0800 PUPPIES.

**Purple Day** – for epilepsy. March 26. a grassroots effort dedicated to increasing awareness about epilepsy around the globe. People around the world are asked to wear purple and to spread the word about epilepsy. Register online: [www.epilepsy.org.nz](http://www.epilepsy.org.nz) or Call: 0800 EPILEPSY (374 537).

**NEW! Enabling Good Lives Workshop** - Embracing and Leading Change. NZDSN Provider Development Programme March - May 2017. Whangarei 27 March. For more detailed information and to register - go to [www.nsdnsn.org/events](http://www.nsdnsn.org/events)

**Understanding Epilepsy - Whangarei:** Thursday 30 March, Brenda Gardner Lounge, Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB), 71 Bank Street, Whangarei, 10.00am -12.00pm. Covers: What is epilepsy, what causes epilepsy, recognition of seizure types, first aid for seizures, seizure triggers, recording seizures, principles of anti-epileptic medication, life style issues, etc. Phone (09) 4385498 or 0272916869 (Please leave a message) Email: [northland@epilepsy.org.nz](mailto:northland@epilepsy.org.nz) Public car park at the back of building. Public car park off Vinery Lane via Hunt Street.

**Dargaville Parkinson's Support Group** 1st Thursday every 2nd month, next meeting 6th April. Usually at 10.00am either at the Community Services Centre Dargaville Hospital or at one of the local Rest Homes, sometimes elsewhere. Contact Trisha Ryan, Co-ordinator, Parkinson's Northland. Email [northland@parkinsons.org.nz](mailto:northland@parkinsons.org.nz) Phone 09 437 6878.

**Kaitaia Parkinson's Support Group** 3rd Tuesday every 2nd month, next meeting 18th April. Usually at the Union Parish Hall at 11.00am. Contact Trisha Ryan, Parkinson's Northland. Email [northland@parkinsons.org.nz](mailto:northland@parkinsons.org.nz) Phone 09 437 6878.

## Vacancies

**Jigsaw North Family Services.** This voluntary organisation providing counselling, social work support and parenting programmes for family and whānau in the greater Whangarei area welcomes interest from potential trustees for the governance board. Contact Libby Jones Manager for more info - email at [libby@jigsawnorth.orgnz](mailto:libby@jigsawnorth.orgnz) ph 022 0438944.