



NorthAble

DISABILITY SERVICES

NorthAble Information Update 8/11/2017

NorthAble receives information from our many networks, which we disseminate through this Electronic Weekly Update. Feel free to share and use this information. For further information or to place a notice:

Phone: 09 430 0988 / 0508 637-200.

Facebook: www.facebook.com/NorthAble

Email: drc@northable.org.nz.

Web: www.northable.org.nz

Information of interest

All Terrain Buggy: NorthAble Equipment Plus are excited to advise that our fundraising campaign to purchase an All Terrain Buggy raised a massive amount of \$1,540.00 and NorthAble have donated the remaining balance of \$710.00 required to purchase this fantastic piece of equipment to have available in our hire pool for families who have children with a disability to access.

This buggy can support a user weight of 70kg and is ideal for children who have out-grown their standard buggy. This buggy can be used in terrain that may not be suitable for a standard wheelchair. We are hoping that it will enable families to get out together and enjoy some of our fantastic Northland bushwalks, beaches and general community activities.

The cost to access the buggy will be a Gold Coin donation for up to 3 hours of use, or \$8.00 for a full day hire. All money collected goes towards the ongoing costs to upkeep the buggy including regular maintenance, cleaning and administration costs.

A big thanks to all of you that supported this fantastic cause and gave a little. For more information phone 09 430 3469.

Para-cycling opportunity: A Whangarei man being touted as a future Paralympic coach wants to see para-cycling take off in Northland. Kerry Reyburn is hoping 2018 can be the year a para-cycling club starts in Northland. While Reyburn has been recognised with a national level scholarship, he is aiming to start a para-cycling club with Parafed Northland - who are all about inclusive sport and recreation opportunities for physically disabled Northlanders. If you're interested in getting involved with para-cycling in Northland, sign up at www.parafednorthland.co.nz

Card of the Year competition. People First New Zealand is happy to say that applications are now open for people to enter our Card of the Year competition for 2018 Artists with a learning disability are invited to enter a piece of art they have made that shows the work of People First New Zealand. People First NZ teaches members about rights and how to speak up for them in your life, in your community and to government. The artwork can be made in any way the artist wants to – as a drawing, a painting, a sculpture or a photo. Applications are open until 1 February 2018. www.peoplefirst.org.nz/applications-now-open-for-2017-card-of-the-year-competition/

Free: Stair lift chair to give away. The lift can only be used on a single flight of steps and can't be used where there are separate landings. There is no warranty – as is condition. All enquires please contact: Shirley – Secretary/Treasurer of the Northern Wairoa Country Women's Club based in Dargaville. E: Shirley.andrews90@xtra.co.nz Ph: 09 439 8800.

In the news

Struggling schools need 'genius' fix. Sunday Star Times. 5 November 2017. A pupil turns up who poses such a physical risk to other pupils and staff that a school cannot safely manage them in a classroom. That, it seems, is the view taken by Christchurch's Woodend School, in expelling a 9-year-old high-functioning autistic boy this week.... That is why everyone involved – the School, its community and Christian's family – will welcome new education minister Chris Hipkins' acknowledgement that special needs ed is under-resourced and teachers aren't provided enough training. www.stuff.co.nz/national/education/98553931/Jonathan-Milne-Education-for-troubled-children-until-they-threaten-our-own-kids

LOCAL. Playground depicts Ngatiwai identity. Northern Advocate. 4 November 2017. "We saw immediately how this new playground was already doing what we most hoped for. It was speaking to and extending our tamariki." The community secured a grant of \$10,000 from Foundation North to add to local fundraising and donations to build the playground. www.nzherald.co.nz/northern-advocate/news/article.cfm?c_id=1503450&objectid=11940116

Scientists' baby-saving research hailed. NZ Herald. 2 November 2017. The Auckland researchers behind a treatment credited with saving thousands of babies with brain injuries worldwide have been hailed with another major award from New Zealand's science community. www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c_id=1&objectid=11939429

Virtual reality technology helping kids with sensory challenges like autism. TVNZ1. 1 November 2017. Christchurch's Allenvale School has found something to help bridge the gap. www.tvnz.co.nz/one-news/new-zealand/virtual-reality-technology-helping-kids-sensory-challenges-like-autism

LOCAL. Taxi chits to change in Whangarei disability scheme. Northern Advocate. 30 October 2017. New electronic swipe card system will replace vouchers in a scheme that helps people with disabilities travel around Whangarei and the wider district. www.nzherald.co.nz/northern-advocate/news/article.cfm?c_id=1503450&objectid=11937656

Woman, 80, gets apology for parking permit mix-up. NZ Herald. 30 October 2017. A private parking enforcement company has apologised to an 80-year-old woman after they ticketed her for parking in a mobility space - even though she has a valid permit. www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c_id=1&objectid=11937517

Intellectually disabled men lose court case. RNZ. 30 October 2017. Three intellectually disabled men who claimed they had been mistreated while held in health board care have lost their High Court bids for compensation. www.radionz.co.nz/news/national/342695/intellectually-disabled-men-lose-court-case

Mother: How I took on my tormented son's bullies. NZ Herald. 29 October 2017. New Zealand has one of the worst problems of bullying in schools in the world, creating a nightmare of helplessness for parents. Today, one mother tells her story of the fight to protect her son. www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c_id=1&objectid=11937834

Events – Seminars – Courses – Meetings

NOVEMBER

1-30th. Epilepsy NZ 'Talk about it' campaign month www.epilepsy.org.nz

8th: Kaitaia Seniors' Expo. Wednesday November 8. Te Ahu Centre Kaitaia. 10am-2pm. Everyone welcome. Donation entry. A one-stop information expo for seniors. Ph 0800 430 3406 or 09 408 2997.

8th. Age Concern Senior's expo. Kaitaia 8th November 2017. A one-stop information shop for seniors. Donation entry. Held at the Te Ahu Centre, Kaitaia from 10am until 2pm. Contact Age Concern Kaitaia and District 09 408 2997.

8th. Epilepsy - parent's support group in Whangarei. Every second Wednesday of the month in 2017. Come along and meet other families living with epilepsy. Morning tea provided, toys available for your children to play with. Lounge 3, (next to the Toy Library), Central Baptist Church, 202 Bank Street, Whangarei. 10.30am to 12 noon. Contact Margaret Dunn Phone (09) 4385498 or 0272916869 or email: northland@epilepsy.org.nz

8th & every Wednesday. Agewell. 9am to 12pm at Senior Citizens Hall, Kaikohe. Expect a speaker and activities and trips. Lions van will pick people up. Contact Diane 09 405 2248 or 027 7140430 dianekathleen18@gmail.com

9th. Epilepsy Information Seminar Kaikohe: contact Margaret Dunn 09 438 5498 or northland@epilepsy.org.nz

10th. Kaikohe Stroke group meeting 10th of month, 10.30am, Malahi Café, Kaikohe. Stroke people, families and carers.

10-11th. NorthAble EQ+ display at Bay of Islands A&P Show Waimate North. See you there!

16th. Understanding Autism' and 'Social Skills' workshops. Children's Autism Family Consultants, Arletta van den Bosch (Child and Family Counsellor), Christine Farquharson (NZROT) and Gera Verheul will be in Whangarei to present our 'Understanding Autism' and 'Social Skills' workshops. In this interactive 3 hour workshop, you will gain knowledge about the autism spectrum and how you can best support a young person, as a parent/carer or a professional. 16 November, 9am – 12 pm at NorthAble, 40 John St, Whangarei. FREE for families and carers that register or \$40 for professionals (unless you bring a family with you). enquiry@autism.org.nz

30th Nov- 5th Dec. Disability Pride Week 2017 is happening around New Zealand this year from November 30 to December 5 2017. Disability Pride Week is about bringing disabled people together to celebrate their common humanity through a variety of activities, sharing our stories and our creativity. See www.disabilityprideweek.nz or go to Facebook: Disability Pride Week Aotearoa.

DECEMBER

4th. Disability Awareness Workshops. NorthAble is excited to launch their Disability Awareness Workshops aimed at (but not limited to) staff within NGOs, service providers, allied health providers, government and community agencies. Monday, 4th December. Time: 9.00am – 12.30pm (morning tea included) Venue: NorthAble Disability Services, 40 John Street, Whangarei. Cost: \$65.00 per person, or \$50 per person if 3 or more attend from one organisation. For bookings/information, contact Raewyn Fowlie or Cheyenne Harris ph 09 4300988, email northable@northable.org.nz