



**NorthAble**  
DISABILITY SERVICES

NorthAble Information Update 15/11/2017

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](http://www.facebook.com/NorthAble)

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

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

### In the news

**School-leavers with disabilities struggling to find work.** Radio NZ. 13 November 2017. Advocates are worried that disabled school-leavers have no option but to work for free. With just a few weeks of the school term left, young people with physical or intellectual disabilities are struggling to find employment or enter tertiary education. Some are spending years in unpaid work experience. [www.radionz.co.nz/national/programmes/morningreport/audio/2018621391/school-leavers-with-disabilities-struggling-to-find-work](http://www.radionz.co.nz/national/programmes/morningreport/audio/2018621391/school-leavers-with-disabilities-struggling-to-find-work)

**Are flexible learning environments working in NZ schools?** Nine to Noon. 13 November 2017. Significant investment is being made into so-called Innovative Learning Environments in New Zealand schools but there is little data to support their use. Dr Wesley Imms is from the University of Melbourne, he's the lead chief investigator on ILETTC (Innovative Learning Environments and Teacher Change) project. It's a huge research project funded in part by the Australian Research Council, and in part by 15 Partner Organisations including the New Zealand Ministry. The first part of the four year study has been completed and Dr Imms joins Kathryn to talk through the early results. [www.radionz.co.nz/national/programmes/ninetoon/audio/2018621406/are-flexible-learning-environments-working-in-nz-schools](http://www.radionz.co.nz/national/programmes/ninetoon/audio/2018621406/are-flexible-learning-environments-working-in-nz-schools)

**The Nation: Tracey Martin interview.** The Nation Press Release. 12 November 2017. Minister for Children Tracey Martin says there's a need for a permanent independent authority like the IPCA to monitor the treatment of children in state care and handle complaints. [www.scoop.co.nz/stories/PO1711/S00140/the-nation-lisa-owen-interviews-tracey-martin.htm](http://www.scoop.co.nz/stories/PO1711/S00140/the-nation-lisa-owen-interviews-tracey-martin.htm)

**Teenage girls torment Down syndrome student.** Stuff.co.nz. 12 November 2017. A gang of teenage girls urged a 15-year-old special needs student to flash her breasts and then filmed and shared the footage online. The Wellington East Girls' College students pretended to befriend their schoolmate Holly Reed, who has Down syndrome, and encouraged her to perform tasks like licking the ground. They then shared the footage on Snapchat and Facebook with captions such as "slag" and "yummy". [www.stuff.co.nz/national/education/98768417/teenage-girls-torment-down-syndrome-student-post-bullying-photos-on-snapchat](http://www.stuff.co.nz/national/education/98768417/teenage-girls-torment-down-syndrome-student-post-bullying-photos-on-snapchat)

**Concern over high unemployment rate for Kiwis with disabilities.** Newshub. 12 November 2017. Paula Tesoriero, disability rights commissioner, says she is concerned by the growing number of young disabled kiwis who are unemployed. 42 percent of young disabled kiwis are either not employed, in education or training. [www.newshub.co.nz/home/money/2017/11/concern-over-high-unemployment-rate-for-kiwis-with-disabilities.html](http://www.newshub.co.nz/home/money/2017/11/concern-over-high-unemployment-rate-for-kiwis-with-disabilities.html)

**It's in the eye of the beholder, mate.** Northern Advocate column - A Different Light, 48Hours. 11 November, 2017. So, what forward thinking restaurateur or bar owner, community group, CBD landlord or gallery manager would like to fill an empty wall or two with some stunning photographic work that celebrates sexuality and disability?" [www.tiaho.org.nz/news/entry/its-in-the-eye-of-the-beholder-mate](http://www.tiaho.org.nz/news/entry/its-in-the-eye-of-the-beholder-mate)

**Gangs, disability and beating cancer shape new MP's views.** NZ Herald. 10 November 2017. He was given a window into a very different world when his disabled son Michael had to be cared for by residential care provider Hohepa. "I discovered there are people in this country who, for very little financial reward, work tirelessly and with a humbling devotion to not only keeping our disabled dependants safe, but also giving families like ours our lives back." [www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c\\_id=1&objectid=11942829](http://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c_id=1&objectid=11942829)

**Kiwi on a Mission.** This inspiring Kiwi is on a mission to help other non-verbal New Zealanders find their voice. NZ Herald . 10 November 2017. [www.facebook.com/nzherald.co.nz/videos/10155023686596302/](http://www.facebook.com/nzherald.co.nz/videos/10155023686596302/)

**Attitude Award for employing disabled people.** Stuff.co.nz. 10 November 2017. Fairfax Media scooped an Attitude Award on Thursday night for its inclusiveness towards people with disabilities. The annual Attitude Awards celebrate the achievements of people who live with disabilities and Fairfax won the Attitude ACC Employer Award, announced on Thursday night. [www.stuff.co.nz/national/98739122/fairfax-media-scoops-attitude-award-for-employing-the-disabled](http://www.stuff.co.nz/national/98739122/fairfax-media-scoops-attitude-award-for-employing-the-disabled)

## Events – Seminars – Courses – Meetings

### NOVEMBER

**16<sup>th</sup>. '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](mailto:enquiry@autism.org.nz)

**19<sup>th</sup>. Tutukaka Annual Water Sports Day.** 10.00am - 2.00pm. Sunday, 19 November, 2017. Venue Kowharewa Bay, Tutukaka, Whangarei. Register now for a fun day on the water and experience the thrill of paddle boarding, waka ama and sailing! Participants and volunteers, register for this free event, visit: [www.halberg.force.com/forms/activityfundformevent](http://www.halberg.force.com/forms/activityfundformevent) For further information, contact Halberg Adviser Maia Lewis on maia@halberg.co.nz or 021 995 951.

**29<sup>th</sup>. Tutukaka Surf Day.** Thanks to the amazing support of Tutukaka Surf and Halberg, Parafed Northland is able to offer an adapted surfing day on Wednesday, November 29 at Sandy Bay from 10am-1pm. The day is free for paid Parafed Northland members, otherwise there is a \$5 charge. For Northlanders living with a physical disability who are keen to get on a board and in the water. There's plenty of support on hand to get you on/off a board or in/out of the water so you're able to simply enjoy yourself. If you're keen to get involved in the day, then please do register. [www.parafednorthland.co.nz/events-1/surfing-1](http://www.parafednorthland.co.nz/events-1/surfing-1) It'll be a great, relaxed day all about soaking up the beach vibes. If you've got concerns or questions around the day, email [parafed@parafednorthland.co.nz](mailto:parafed@parafednorthland.co.nz) or call Cam on 0273104222.

**Until the 30<sup>th</sup>.** Epilepsy NZ 'Talk about it' campaign month [www.epilepsy.org.nz](http://www.epilepsy.org.nz)

### DECEMBER

**4<sup>th</sup>. 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, 4<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:northable@northable.org.nz)

**Until 5<sup>th</sup>. 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](http://www.disabilityprideweek.nz) or go to Facebook: Disability Pride Week Aotearoa.

**8<sup>th</sup>. 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](mailto:northland@epilepsy.org.nz)

**8<sup>th</sup> & 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](mailto:dianekathleen18@gmail.com)

**10<sup>th</sup>. Kaikohe Stroke** group meeting 10<sup>th</sup> of month, 10.30am, Malahi Café, Kaikohe. Stroke people, families and carers.

**Applications close February 2018. Card of the Year competition.** People First New Zealand 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 NZ which teaches members about rights and how to speak up for them in your life, in your community and to government. Submit a drawing, painting, sculpture or photo. Applications are open until February. [www.peoplefirst.org.nz/applications-now-open-for-2017-card-of-the-year-competition/](http://www.peoplefirst.org.nz/applications-now-open-for-2017-card-of-the-year-competition/)

## Information of interest

**All Terrain Buggy:** NorthAble Equipment Plus All Terrain Buggy available in our hire pool for families who have children with a disability to access. Can support a user weight of 70kg, ideal for children who have out-grown their standard buggy. Can be used in terrain that may not be suitable for a standard wheelchair. Gold Coin donation for up to 3 hours, \$8 for full day hire. Money goes towards buggy upkeep. For more information phone 09 430 3469.

**Free:** Stair lift chair to give away, 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](mailto:Shirley.andrews90@xtra.co.nz) Ph: 09 439 8800.