



NorthAble
DISABILITY SERVICES

NorthAble Information Update 22/11/2017

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.

Email: drc@northable.org.nz.

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In the news

It's weakness to excuse cruelty. Rosemary McLeod Northern Advocate. 20 November 2017. You'd have to dig deep into your psyche's muck and slime before sinking to the level of mocking a disabled person for any reason, and I don't buy the explanation that teenage girls would do this merely to win merit points online.

Technology is enabling the disabled, but few work places are following suit. Stuff.co.nz. 19 November 2017. Microsoft's Seeing AI app gives his smartphone camera a voice, acts as his sight, telling him where he is going and the age and emotion of the people he meets...Be Accessible chief executive Minnie Baragwanath said, despite technology, New Zealand's qualified but disabled graduates are not so lucky with their career progression. www.stuff.co.nz/technology/98926622/technology-is-enabling-the-disabled-but-few-work-places-are-following-suit

Applied behavioural analysis could help improve communication among autistic children. TVNZ1. 20 November 2017. A lead autism researcher says applied behavioural analysis could help improve communication among autistic children. Interviewees: Dr Javier Virues-Ortega, University of Auckland.

Public toilet to be equipped for severely disabled. RNZ. 19 November. 2017. "There isn't anything that she can use, the disability bathrooms that you find in motels or anything don't mean anything to us, because there are a certain section of our society that can't hold their heads, can't sit up, can't hold their bodies in an upright position to sit up." www.radionz.co.nz/news/national/344202/public-toilet-to-be-equipped-for-severely-disabled

Vulnerable children put in adult mental care. Weekend Herald. 18 November 2017. Minister promises urgent action to end 'totally unacceptable' practice. Mentally unwell children - including an 8-year-old - have been admitted as inpatients to adult mental health wards more than 1300 times during the last five years.

Disabled school-leavers struggle to find work. RNZ. 16 November 2017. Advocates are concerned disabled school-leavers have no option but to work for free, with some spending years in unpaid work experience. www.radionz.co.nz/news/national/344202/public-toilet-to-be-equipped-for-severely-disabled

School, Ministry criticised over use of seclusion room. RNZ. 16 November 2017. A specialist Invercargill school and the Ministry of Education have been criticised by the Chief Ombudsman after a vulnerable autistic boy was kept in a seclusion room. www.radionz.co.nz/news/national/343993/school-ministry-criticised-over-use-of-seclusion-room

Disabled people still seen as a risk for businesses, institute says. Newstalk ZB. 15 November 2017. A report reveals more than 70 per cent of people with disabilities can't get or retain work despite their best efforts. www.newstalkzb.co.nz/news/business/disabled-people-still-seen-as-a-risk-for-businesses-institute-says/

Recidivist sex abuser jailed for sexually exploiting intellectually disabled girl. Stuff.co.nz. 15 November 2017. A Waikato man with a 66-year history of sexually abusing children has been sentenced to preventative detention for coercing an intellectually disabled teenager into doing sex acts with him. www.stuff.co.nz/national/crime/98898631/recidivist-sex-abuser-jailed-for-sexually-exploiting-intellectually-disabled-girl

Wellington East Girls' College confirms police investigating torment of student. Stuff.co.nz. 13 November 2017. Police are investigating the online bullying of a Wellington student with Down syndrome. On Sunday morning, following the publication of a story about 15-year-old Wellington East Girls' College student Holly Reed, the school sent an email to all parents and caregivers confirming police were involved. www.stuff.co.nz/national/education/98814474/wellington-east-girls-college-confirms-police-investigating-torment-of-student

Events – Seminars – Courses – Meetings

NOVEMBER

22nd: Blind Foundation Kaitaia - Support and Social Group. Wednesday, 22 Nov 2017. The Community Room, Work & Income, Kaitaia. An opportunity to meet others and share experiences in a safe, encouraging environment. Held on the last Wednesday of every month. For more information phone David Senior on 09 408 4135.

23rd: Parkinsons Northland Hydrotherapy Exercise. Thu, 23 November, 14:15 – 15:00. Hydrotherapy pool, Whangarei Aquatic Centre, Whangarei. Hydrotherapy exercise class for people with Parkinson's. Move and exercise gently in the 'weightless' environment of warm water. All enquiries and to register please contact Vicki Sadgrove, Parkinson's Northland Community Educator phone 027 2684973 or email educator.northland@parkinsons.org.nz

24th: Parkinson's Northland: Whangarei Support Luncheon. Fri, 24 November, 11:00 – 13:00. Masonic Hall, 224 Maunu Road, Whangarei. The Support Luncheons provide support for people with Parkinson's their caregivers and families. A social get together with entertainment and guest speakers of interest to the group. Bring a plate for a shared luncheon. Contact Trisha Ryan for more information. Phone: 09 438 4282 Email: northland@parkinsons.org.nz

27th: Blind Foundation Dargaville Support Group. Mon, 27 November, 10:00 – 12:00. Nurses Lounge, Dargaville hospital. The support groups provide an opportunity to meet with others who are living with a vision loss. It offers peer support and is a safe forum to share concerns, ask questions and come up with ideas and hints. Held on the last Monday of each month from February to November. Please contact Brian Gribble for more information on 09 439 4722.

27th: Parkinson's Northland: Kerikeri Support Group. Mon, 27 November, 11:00 – 13:00. St.Johns Hall, Kerikeri. The Support Luncheons provide support for people with Parkinson's their caregivers and families. Just a social get together where we provide entertainment and guest speakers of interest to the group. Everyone brings a plate for a shared luncheon. Contact Trisha Ryan for more information. Phone: 09 438 4282 Email: northland@parkinsons.org.nz

27th: MS Northland: Whangarei MS Exercise Classes. Mon, 27 November, 11:00 – 12:00. Kensington Gym Whangarei, Studio 2. Classes are facilitated by a physiotherapist. Classes free to MS Northland members thanks to the Oxford Trust. Carers welcome to join in. Contact Gaye or Wende for further information if required on 09 438 3945

28th: MS Yoga Classes. Tue, 28 November, 11:30 – 12:30. Yoga Central, 69 Bank Street, Whangarei. In the former Public Trust Building, 2nd floor - there is a lift. All Equipment is supplied, just wear comfortable clothing. Free for current MS Members thanks to a grant from The Oxford Charitable Trust.

28th: ADHD Support Group. Tue, 28 November, 13:30 – 14:30. Barnardos, 2 Armstrong Ave, Maunu, Whangarei. Meeting for whanau and carers of people with ADHD. Group meets on the last Tuesday of every month.

28th: Boccia. Tue, 28 November, 15:30 – 17:00. ASB Leisure Centre, Corner of Kensington Ave and Western Hills Drive, Whangarei. Get Rollin Join the Action! A sport designed for people with Physical Disabilities. For more information email luke@boccia.org.nz or phone 0800503603 extn 3 or check our website www.boccia.org.nz

29th: Young Enduring Social Support. Wed, 29 November, 14:30 – 17:00. Arthritis New Zealand office, 1st floor, 25 Rathbone Street, Whangarei. Support Group for anyone aged 20 - 40 or close to who has a long-term condition. Venue is wheelchair accessible. Tea and coffee provided. We look forward to meeting you.

29th.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. Free for paid Parafed Northland members, others 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. To register. www.parafednorthland.co.nz/events-1/surfing-1 Email parafed@parafednorthland.co.nz or call Cam on 0273104222.

30th: Whangarei Brain Injury Assoc. Support Group Meeting. Thu, 30 November, 10:00 – 12:00. 98 Cairnfield Rd, Otangarei, Whangarei 0112, New Zealand. The Brain Injury Association Support Group meetings are for people living with the effects of brain injury and their families/whanau/carers and friends For more information phone 09 459 5013.

30th: Parkinsons Northland Hydrotherapy Exercise. Thu, 30 November, 14:15 – 15:00. Hydrotherapy pool, Whangarei Aquatic Centre, Whangarei. Hydrotherapy exercise class for people with Parkinson's. A great way to move and exercise gently in the 'weightless' environment of warm water. Enquiries & registrations, contact Vicki Sadgrove, Parkinson's Northland Community Educator phone 027 2684973 or email educator.northland@parkinsons.org.nz

30th: Understanding Epilepsy. Thu, 30 November, 10:00 – 12:00, Brenda Gardner Lounge, Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB), 71 Bank St, Whangarei. The seminar is suitable for anyone living with epilepsy or who has a family member or friend living with epilepsy and all those caregivers in the community working with clients who are living with this condition. RSVP: Phone 09 438 5498 or 0272 916 869 (leave a message) or email northland@epilepsy.org.nz

Information of interest

Connect is a team of experienced professional New Zealand Sign Language (NZSL) interpreters with an in-depth knowledge of the interpreting process and the New Zealand Deaf community. We have experience managing both general and specialist services, including but not limited to: mental health, medical, legal, conference, social services, workplace, translation, media ...and a full range of other individual and group interpreting services. To make a booking or for more information, email booknz@connectinterpreting.co.nz

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.

Surfing New Zealand are hoping to send Piha Surfer Luke Darby to attend the International Surfing Association World Adaptive Surfing Championships in California at the end of the month. Duane Kale from NZ (Vice President of the International Paralympic Committee) will be attending the Champs in La Jolla. This is a very positive step for the IPC in terms of taking the upcoming paralympic surfing bid for inclusion seriously. Together with Luke Surfing NZ have set up a fundraising page www.givealittle.co.nz/cause/adaptivesurfingchamps2017
