

## MEET ED JONES:



Ed was born in 1973 in Te Awamutu where his father was stationed as a Church Minister. At the age of 4, the family moved to the Toronto area in Canada where his father worked for another 2 years before the family returned to NZ and lived in Putaruru for the next 3 years. When Ed was 9, another move took them to Lower Hutt where they put down roots and Ed's parents and two older siblings still live there. Ed has clear memories of living in the snow in Canada and enjoyed white Xmas's. He claims to have had an adventurous & happy childhood surrounded by a very good family environment. Obviously, Ed attended many different primary schools but completed his secondary schooling at Lower Hutt High School. While there, in 1989, Ed was involved in a serious motorcycle accident which caused him to have his left leg amputated below knee and Ed said that returning to school after the amputation was one of the hardest things he had to do in his life.

Ed decided to leave school at this point and in 1990, he started his apprenticeship as a fitter/welder and worked on many major projects around the Wellington area including Queens Wharf & Te Papa. While on the Te Papa site, he had a serious accident whilst coming down scaffolding when he fell and a concrete beam came down and struck him in the chest causing a rib to puncture a lung. After 8 years with his original company, he moved to another employer where he stayed for around 2 years and it was at this time that Cate & he were married. Their wedding was held on a bluff above the same river at Otaki where he recently attended the rafting activity with the youth group from GIAG at conference. For the last 3-4 years, Ed has assisted with the youth group at conference and he said that not only has he immensely enjoyed this but has also gained a lot of satisfaction from spending time with our young people.

In 2000, Cate & Ed made a move to Christchurch where they set up their own engineering business and they continue to run a successful business completing general engineering and making Jungle gyms. Around a year ago, the family moved from Heathcote Valley to a 10 acre property at Templeton where they thoroughly enjoy their new lifestyle. Ed & Cate have 2 children, Tamzin (16) & Regan (14) who are both heavily involved in sport and this provides Ed & Cate with much satisfaction in supporting their children in their endeavours. A few years back, Ed coached his son's rugby team with the current Crusaders coach, Scott Robertson & thoroughly enjoyed the experience of "running" with the boys. Around 2 years ago, Ed was involved in a serious accident near Porters Pass and

suffered a head injury that has "slowed " him down somewhat with his own activities but he claims to now be improving to the point where he can return to his own outdoor activities. Ed said that he loves being around water but is also very keen on snowboarding, cycling, trail running, quad bike activities and triathlons, of which he has completed about 10 of. He has twice been NZ champion for athletes with disabilities and represented NZ at the Oceania Triathlon Championships in Devonport, Tasmania in 2015. He has also completed the 26km running race from Camp Bay to Ships Cove in the Marlborough Sounds as well as the round Lake Rotoiti race near St Arnauds which he described as "very challenging". Ed claims to be most happy when he is fit, running and spending time with his family on holidays and watching, supporting his children at sport. What he does find hard is to have to take his prosthesis off when sore and not being able to do anything.

FAVOURITE FOOD: T-bone steak.

FAVOURITE MUSIC: From 70's-90's. Led Zeppelin, The Doors. Pink Floyd.

FAVOURITE MOVIE: Braveheart.

FAVOURITE BOOK: "Pillars of the Earth" by Ken Follett. Likes any thriller/drama type books and the author James Patterson.

Ed said that when he was young, he thought anything was possible as long as one set their mind to it and looks back on his life as "interesting"

Cate and Ed had their honeymoon in Vietnam, he has climbed Mount Kinabalu (higher than Mt Cook) in Borneo's Crocker Range and has travelled to Canada, England, Australia, Fiji, Singapore & Malaysia.

*Ed has been an Amputee Society committee member for the last 5 years and looks after the distribution of "Welcome Packs" to the hospitals for new and prospective amputees. Thanks for all you do Ed to help your fellow amputees.*