



Meet Debbie Hockley-Physiotherapist ChCh Limb Centre

Debbie was born in Christchurch in 1962 and grew up in the seaside suburb of North New Brighton along with her 2 sisters and a brother. She attended North New Brighton School before moving on to Avonside Girls High for her secondary schooling. She recalls her childhood being very enjoyable living close to the sea and being involved in many sports activities along with happy days of playing with local children. Debbie says that her family times, even to the present, are fun-filled, happy and the entire family is supportive of each other.

Upon leaving school, she worked in a market garden before becoming a motorcycle courier and in 1986, she moved to Auckland to complete 3 years of study at the Auckland Institute of Technology to obtain her diploma in Physiotherapy. Being an adult student and away from the learning environment for some years, Debbie found the whole learning process to be very challenging. She returned to Ch-Ch in 1990 and started working at Burwood Hospital in 1991. Debbie has, since this time, always been employed by the CDHB and has held various positions at all Ch-Ch hospitals. In 2003, she carried out a significant project in conjunction with the NZ Artificial Limb Board in relation to the journey amputees take through their entire procedure within the hospital system. At one stage, she worked as an educator for the Canterbury/Westland Amputee Society which progressed to her being employed for a considerable period of time with the CDHB as an Amputee Specialist Educator.

A move to Adelaide in 2012 for 4 months was a most rewarding experience and upon her return, she obtained the position of Physiotherapist at the Limb Centre in April 2013 where she now works part-time on a Tuesday and Thursday. Debbie states that she enjoys immensely working at the centre with amputees and fellow staff.

Debbie has had an illustrious sporting career in her chosen sport of cricket and in 2014, she was inducted into the ICC's Hall of Fame for her services to women's cricket in a ceremony at the Sydney Cricket Ground. Her fellow inductees at this time were, Bobby Simpson, Adam Gilchrist and

Waqar Younis so she was in esteemed company. She represented NZ from 1979 (as a 16 year old) until 2000 appearing in 118 one-day games as well as 19 test matches. Debbie had the distinction of captaining NZ over 4 different periods of her career.

- Favourite food: Pasta and roast lamb.
- Favourite place: The south of England, Italy but most especially NZ and the Marlborough Sounds.
- Favourite music: U2.
- Favourite movies: Shawshank Redemption/Notting Hill/Schindler's List.
- Favourite authors: Elizabeth George/Michael Connelly.

Hobbies/activities: Walking on the beach/Tramping (completed The Routeburn track last Easter)/Soccer/Cycling and watching sport. Looking back on her life, Debbie says feels blessed with the opportunities she has been provided with in both work and sport. The greatest risk she ever took was to give up full-time work but she states that this decision has also provided her with many wonderful opportunities. Debbie has travelled extensively with her work, sport and also in her personal life to Australia, Europe, Asia, the South Pacific and the USA. She admits to finding it hard to exercise in the chilly winter months of Christchurch but really enjoys reading and taking walks on the beach, especially at Sumner where she has lived for the last 20 years. To finish, Debbie states that she absolutely loves spending time with her friends and family and creating experiences to relish and enjoy.