



Amputee  
Society  
of Canterbury &  
Westland Inc.

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## August 2024 Contents

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## Quote of the Month:

The way to get started is to quit talking and begin doing. -*Walt Disney*

Well done is better than well said. -*Benjamin Franklin*

## Fun Fact:

If a bottle of poison reaches its expiration date, is it more poisonous or no longer poisonous?

Which letter is silent in the word "Scent," the S or the C?

## Editor's Message

***Disclaimer: The information in this editorial does not necessarily reflect the views of the Amputee Society of Canterbury/Westland)***

At the end of May, we were treated to a controversial social media "rant" when Kiri Tamihere-Waititi, the wife of Māori Party Co-Leader Rawiri Waititi, unloaded an unbelievable commentary by way of a social media video that included disgusting expletives, highly inflammatory, divisive and combative statements that have the NZ Police investigating to determine whether crimes have been committed. To date, NZ Police have not released their findings. In her diatribe, she said, "And while you're thinking about that, you might as well also start thinking about how we're going to take our country back too. We're continuing to subscribe to a model that was designed to assimilate to continue to colonise and to keep us as second class citizens in our own country. By design we are not unified. Right? Just imagine just take one f\*\*\*\*\* minute of your day to imagine if we were all on the same page. Can you imagine the might and the power that we would have? We could overthrow any government. We could do whatever the f\*\*\* we wanted."

So much for unity, living in NZ as one people and advocating for a peaceful life. People like her, and her cohorts, quickly and conveniently forget that in 1831, 13 Maori chiefs wrote a letter to King William 4th. It's main aim was to seek the King's protection against the French. The chiefs were also concerned about inter-tribal conflicts and the misconduct of British subjects, and wanted the King to defend them against lawlessness so everyone could live peaceably together. I fear for the progress and future of this country when people like her are inflaming a narrative that is highly selective, divides and separates our communities to the point of her, and Te Pati Maori, intimating that a "rebellion" to overthrow a democratically elected government is a path they could go down.

## MEET ANDY THOMPSON:

Andy Thompson was born at Christchurch in 1966 and has one sibling, a younger sister who also resides in Ch-Ch. His Dad was a fitter/turner with NZ Railways and his mother was a nurse. The family grew up living near Riccarton Racecourse, the proximity of which ignited a passion for equine animals which has played a huge part throughout Andy's life. It was at this time that Andy met and became friends with another amputee, Richard Taylor, who was featured in the May newsletter. Andy recalls helping "Hookman" in those early days carting gear around for Richard's Karaoke business. Andy attended Russley Primary then went on to attend Riccarton High School where he became a keen and very accomplished golfer reaching a 3 handicap. He represented Canterbury in the Under 21 section and attended many national tournaments with a fair degree of success. He left school at 15 and completed a 4-year apprenticeship as a butcher with the then Woolworths before going to work as a lamb boner with Air Foods out near the airport where he earned a much better wage. While working there, Andy applied himself to take up another apprenticeship in the building trade and became a qualified carpenter, eventually going out on his own to become a self-employed builder. For the last 20 odd years, Andy has been involved as the owner of "Thompson Horses" on the 50-acre Kirwee property which specialises in the breaking in and schooling of horses for the equestrian sport. He has a stabling area for around 10 animals but can accommodate up to 40 horses on the property. Up until 2 years ago, Andy and the family used to have "kids camps" for budding horse enthusiasts where they would accommodate up to 40 youngsters for a week at a time but the demands of this became too much for this activity to continue. Andy has also become a trained farrier and shoeing horses is almost a full-time job.



As a teenager, Andy had met Lisa, started riding horses with her and their relationship blossomed. Due to the extensive travelling involved with his golf career and the need to be away a lot, Andy decided that he would give the golf away to concentrate on both his new career as well as his relationship with Lisa.

Andy & Lisa have 4 daughters aged, 28, 26, 24 and 22. The oldest lives in Hamilton and is a dental technician, the 26-year-old lives with her parents and is a professional horse-woman, the 24-year-old is an agronomist working in Gisborne whilst the youngest daughter is a cattle musterer in Western Australia. Andy & Lisa, (who is an equine vet technician,) have been married for 36 years and have been at their current 50-acre property near Kirwee for some 20 years. The house they live in on the property was built in 1890 so there is a lot of history surrounding them. Andy is heavily involved in the local Hunt Club and rides with the group on Wednesdays & Saturdays which he thoroughly enjoys.



Back in 2016 while roofing a new build near Norwood, Andy fell from the scaffolding and shattered his left ankle which despite ongoing treatment for the next 2 years, became seriously infected and on the advice from his surgeon, a below knee amputation took place in 2018.

## ANDY THOMPSON CONT:

Andy has adjusted well to his new life as a person experiencing limb loss and has not let this challenge stop him in pursuing his passion for horses. He rides every single day and attends to all the associated tasks around the farm with vigour and enthusiasm. He recalls that it was a chance meeting with the Paralympic swimmer, Sophie Pascoe, one day at the Limb Centre that has enabled him to "get on with life" and he attributes her sage advice as a major factor in his motivation to get the very best out of his life. Andy is drawn to "down to earth" types and does not suffer people who are full of BS!!

FAVOURIT FOOD: Lasagne.

FAVOUTITE PLACE: Sri Lanka. A beautiful country and it's people.

FAVOURITE ACTIVITIES/HOBBIES: All things equine, horses & hounds.

FAVOURITE MUSIC: Country genre.

FAVOURITE MOVIE: "Pretty Woman" starring Julia Roberts & Richard Gere.

FAVOURITE AUTHOR/BOOKS: not really a reader but loves "googling".

Andy has travelled to Australia, Sri Lanka, Rarotonga, Thailand and is due to holiday in Turkey & Greece later this year with Lisa.

Andy feels that the biggest risk that he has taken in his life was to buy a large block of land at West Melton, subdivide it and build "spec" houses. Given he and Lisa were the very first to do this around West Melton, it was a huge gamble but luckily all turned out well. After a long day on the farm, Andy likes nothing more than to "blob out" on the couch at night to relax.

*(Andy shown with 2 of his "staying" horses which he had just finished exercising when I arrived at the property)*



## NEED COMPUTER HELP OR ADVICE?:

*Many of you will know our valuable and hardworking committee member, Joanne (Jobee) who attends to our social networking and website maintenance but also operates a computer tutoring service.*

Hi there, do you need some help with your computer, mobile phone, iPad, or other device? I help people just like you to sort out their issues and make things easier to use. I have been working as a private computer tutor for the past 9 years working with a wide variety of students with different abilities. The lesson plans are all personalised and made up individually to meet the needs of each student. I can come to your place, or if you prefer you can come to my home office and use my computer if you don't have one.

**Mobile:** 027 2909 246 **Website:** [www.computertutor.nz](http://www.computertutor.nz)



## SUBSCRIPTION & NEWSLETTER REMINDER:

In the last issue, a reminder was sent out to members about unpaid subscriptions and I wanted to reiterate this once again by respectfully asking members to attend to their yearly subscription, if it remains unpaid. If you are in any doubt about your current status or if you are having trouble meeting this obligation, feel free to contact Justine (021 105 5189) and she will be able to advise you accordingly. Rest assured, if the latter situation is the case, your society will "look after you" and all discussion will be treated in the utmost of confidence. The \$10 subscription per year goes towards covering the printing & postage costs for the newsletter and the committee are united in keeping the yearly subscription at this minimal level. Once again, if anyone who is currently receiving the newsletter via normal mail but could **receive it through email**, we would love to hear from you so as to alleviate our overheads. Thanking you all in anticipation.

**Thank you!**



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## ASPIRE CANTERBURY:

I would like to highlight Aspire Canterbury, a terrific organisation that has as its mission statement, "*Inspiring Independent Living*". They are a disability services and support organisation based in the Braintree Wellness Centre at 70 Langdons Rd in Papanui.

Aspire Canterbury has been an integral part of the Christchurch disability and elderly community since 1982. They enhance the lives of disabled people, and people with impairments by enabling community participation and maximum independence. They do this by connecting you to the right resources and reducing everyday barriers, by being a trusted source of information, providing mobility products and associated services, and enabling people with impairments to achieve their best life. What do they offer? A service for G.P's, Health



Professionals and Community Workers. Whanau Information, Total Mobility Scheme, a Services Directory, Shop, Product Hire & Mobile Services. The new purpose built facility is a terrific addition to the disabled & elderly communities of Canterbury and the staff will extend a very warm and welcoming greeting to anyone who wants to call in seeking help, advice or just to say hello. The staff at Aspire are simply wonderful people who display a friendly and caring nature to all who they come in to contact with.

Aspire Canterbury.

Braintree Wellness Centre.

70 Langdons Rd, Papanui, ChCh.

03 3669093/0800 347242.



## AMPUTEES FEDERATION UPDATE:

We have been advised that the Amputees Federation of NZ Inc will be hosting the 2025 conference in Christchurch over the weekend of April 4-6th, 2025 at the same venue as in 2023, The Crowne Plaza.

Given the "change of guard", the Federation Executive have been extremely busy in producing a new and refreshed look with the website being completely updated and a modern version of the newsletter, formerly known as "PURPOSE", being available online in the very near future.



As you will all be aware, the 2024 conference was unable to be held due to a number of factors. No host society being available and venues in other parts of the country being totally unsuitable for our specific needs. I know that the Executive did their very best to make it happen but decided to forego this year's conference and concentrate on providing a "new" experience for attendees in 2025 so I am urging you to consider attendance at the event next April. More details will be provided in upcoming newsletters as details come to hand.

# GOOD TIMES

### FEDERATION NEWSLETTER:

In regards to the new version of the newsletter, can I ask that if you are interested in receiving this **DIGITAL** version, that you follow the details below to register your interest;

Go to [amputee.co.nz](http://amputee.co.nz)

Scroll to the bottom and click on [contact us](#)

Scroll to the bottom of this page and you will see a box marked "[sign up to receive our newsletter](#)"

Complete the details box and click on "[sign up](#)"

You will then receive an email verification request to confirm.

## 2024 QUIZ FUNCTION:

Our major fundraiser is approaching once again !!!!

Please see below for all the details. This will be the last newsletter before the event itself but we will re-contact those on the email list, as well as the event being promoted on social media, prior to the date. Please contact Justine or Mark for your tickets or to confirm numbers attending. It would be great to have your most appreciated support once again to assist us with our financial status as well as being able to enjoy an evening of fun with fellow members.

# QUIZ! QUIZ! QUIZ!

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> October

5pm for a 5.30pm Start



305 CRANFORD STREET, ST ALBANS

## \$10 A TICKET

**GET A TEAM OF 4 OR MORE TOGETHER**

(BY YOURSELF? LET US KNOW IF IT'S JUST YOU AND WE'LL FIND A TEAM YOU CAN JOIN)

COME EARLY FOR A BITE OR STAY AFTER THE QUIZ FOR DINNER.

# RAFFLES! LUCKY TICKETS!

# SPOT PRIZES!

Contact: Justine on 021 105 5189 [amputee.cw@gmail.com](mailto:amputee.cw@gmail.com)  
or Mark on 027 238 1958 [mark.bruce@xtra.co.nz](mailto:mark.bruce@xtra.co.nz)



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## Smile Awhile



## Web Sites

**Amputee Society of  
Canterbury & Westland Inc.**

[www.amputeeinfo.co.nz](http://www.amputeeinfo.co.nz)

**The Amputees Federation of NZ**

[www.amputee.co.nz](http://www.amputee.co.nz)

**NZ Artificial Limb Service**

[www.nzals.govt.nz](http://www.nzals.govt.nz)

**Peer Support**

[www.peersupport.nz](http://www.peersupport.nz)

**Parafed Canterbury**

[www.parafedcanterbury.co.nz](http://www.parafedcanterbury.co.nz)

**International Diabetes Federation**

[www.idf.org](http://www.idf.org)

**Amputee News**

[www.amputeenews.com](http://www.amputeenews.com)

**Disability Rights Commissioner**

[www.hrc.co.nz](http://www.hrc.co.nz)

**UN Programme on Disability**

[www.un.org/issues/m-disabl.asp](http://www.un.org/issues/m-disabl.asp)

**Paraloan 03 3795983**

[www.paraloan.org.nz](http://www.paraloan.org.nz)

Email: [paraloan@xtra.co.nz](mailto:paraloan@xtra.co.nz)

**Nation Wide H&D Advocacy  
Service – 0800 555050**

**Aspire Canterbury,  
Disabilities Information Service**

Braintree Wellness Centre. 70 Langdons Rd.  
CHCH

Website: [www.aspirecanterbury.org.nz](http://www.aspirecanterbury.org.nz)

Total Mobility. Contact Elaine (03) 3669093

[elaine@aspirecanterbury.org.nz](mailto:elaine@aspirecanterbury.org.nz)

**LifeLinks.** 0800 866 877

Web: [lifelinks.co.nz](http://lifelinks.co.nz) Email: [office@lifelinks.co.nz](mailto:office@lifelinks.co.nz)



**CCS  
disability action**

Including all people

**TE HUNGA HAUĀ MAURI MŌ NGĀ TĀNGATA KĀTOA**  
CCS Disability Action

224 Lichfield St, Ch-Ch. Thomas Callanan.

03 3655661/0800 2272255.

Email: [canterbury@ccsdisabilityaction.org.nz](mailto:canterbury@ccsdisabilityaction.org.nz)

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[alesha.kelly1618@gmail.com](mailto:alesha.kelly1618@gmail.com)

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021 1055189  
[amputee.cw@gmail.com](mailto:amputee.cw@gmail.com)

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[farmtree58@gmail.com](mailto:farmtree58@gmail.com)

**Other Committee Members**

Vaughan Mangan-Woods  
Janice Frost, Lisa Gray,  
Andrea Thompson, Ralph  
McGuigan.

**West Coast Contact**

Will Sturkenboom  
027 7328312  
[wsturk@xtra.co.nz](mailto:wsturk@xtra.co.nz)

**Total Mobility Scheme**

Agent: Aspire Canterbury  
03 3666189  
[julie@aspirecanterbury.org.nz](mailto:julie@aspirecanterbury.org.nz)

**Mobility Parking Permit**

CCS Disability Action  
03 365-5661/0800 2272255

**Life Members**

Rachel White Liz Rogers  
Heather Plows Ava Thomas  
Margaret Hunter Mark Bruce

**Peke Waihanga/Artificial  
Limb Service**

330 Burwood Road, Ch-Ch  
Phone 03-383-0501  
Fax 03-383-3566  
Hours: 8.00am - 4.30pm  
**Office administrators**

Lynleigh Ashcroft-  
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Caroline Leaper

[Caroline.Leaper@nzals.co.nz](mailto:Caroline.Leaper@nzals.co.nz)

**Amputee Society of  
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Westpac 03 0830 026 4400 00

**Burwood Hospital  
Hydro Pool**



**Wed: 4-30pm-6-30pm**  
**Sundays: 1pm - 2-30pm**  
This is with Parafed and there  
is a \$2.00 charge.



Christchurch City Council

**Disability Golf NZ**

For any enquiries about  
becoming involved, anywhere  
in NZ, please contact  
Andrew Woo, 021 885678  
[disabilitygolfnz@gmail.com](mailto:disabilitygolfnz@gmail.com)



**Need Computer Help ?**

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at very affordable rates.

[www.computertutor.nz](http://www.computertutor.nz)

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Home 942-5320

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