

doing more
with less!



Amputee Society

Canterbury & Westland Inc

PO Box 26-148 North Avon

Christchurch 8148

E-mail: amputee.cw@gmail.com

Web site: www.amputeeinfo.co.nz



Affiliated with the Amputees Federation of New Zealand

Feb 2022 Contents

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Quote of the Month:

Before I got married I had six theories about bringing up children; now I have six children and no theories.

-John Wilmot

Fun Fact:

Celery has negative calories! It takes more calories to eat a piece of celery than the celery has in it to begin with. It's the same with apples!

Editor's Message

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

As many of you will be aware, the nationwide Peer Support service is well and truly up and running after being launched in August, 2019. The scheme is a collaboration between Peke Waihangā (NZALS) and the Amputees Federation of NZ. As part of the schemes Advisory Group that spent nearly 18 months preparing to "go live", we leant heavily upon the expertise and experience of Melissa Noonan/Limbs4life Australia where their programme has been running successfully for 15 plus years.

At our last meeting, Matt Bryson from Peke Waihangā, who is the coordinator of the programme, let us know that since it's launch, support has been delivered in various forms to over 520 new and prospective amputees. This is a very heartening result and shows just what a need there was for this type of united approach to a life changing event in someone's life. There are 81 trained volunteers from Northland to Invercargill and there are a further 19 people wishing to undergo training. Two training sessions are planned for this coming year where we hope to be able to significantly add to our volunteer pool. Matching volunteers to recipients is based on certain criteria; age, gender, type of amputation, location (face to face meetings are preferred) and interests. It is with much satisfaction for me personally to see just what value this initiative is having within our amputee community and I am extremely proud of the success that this service has achieved. Anyone wishing to become a volunteer can contact Matt Bryson on 0508 733778 or visit peersupport.nz



MEET KEVIN HARRIS:

Kevin was born in 1946 at Christchurch and was the 8th and last child born to his parents. Sadly, his older sister (by 16 years), number 3 born and Kevin were the **only** children that got past 2 weeks of age. Kevin's older sister passed away around 3 years ago. The family grew up in Sydenham and his Dad worked for NZ Railways most of his life while his mother was generally a stay-at-home Mum. Kevin attended Sydenham Primary before moving on to Ch-Ch South Intermediate where he only stayed for one term. His father had retired from the Railways and purchased a 4 ½ acre plot of land out at Rangiora where he grew vegetables in his retirement. Kevin's schooling continued at Rangiora Borough then at Rangiora High School.



He left school at 15 in 1961 and started at the Addington Workshops of NZ Railways as an apprentice carpenter. In 1962, Kevin was involved in a motorcycle accident in Dallington and spent a considerable amount of time in hospital recovering from his injuries. As a result, his apprenticeship was extended by 6 months but he qualified around 1966. He married his first wife in 1967 and they purchased a home in Halswell then their first child, a son Darrell, was born in 1968 and in 1969, Sonya arrived. It was around 1968 that Kevin left the Railways and started working as a maintenance carpenter for the Hospital Board but left there after 3 years when he found a position in the central heating industry. Whilst on a job over at Franz Joseph, he fell through the framing while working at a height and severely ruptured his ankle and was taken to Hokitika Hospital for treatment. In the ensuing months while he was recuperating from his injury, Kevin's marriage broke down. Kevin had known his current wife Helen for many years and in 1976 he started "going out" with her and they married in 1979.

After his mishap at Franz Joseph, Kevin found a position in a joinery shop working for John Heinz in Burwood and stayed there for around 8-9 years. During this time, Kevin built their family home in Queenspark and in 1986 he started his own joinery & cabinet making business at Kaiapoi where he used to commute every day from Parklands. He did this for around 2 years before deciding to move to Kaiapoi to ease the burden of commuting.

By 2001, problems associated with his Franz Joseph ankle injury started to have an impact upon his life and a surgeon operated to try and reconstruct the ankle. Unfortunately, the surgery did not go well and Kevin was forced to have his right leg amputated below the knee. On a prosthesis, Kevin was able to carry on with his joinery business but this was now from a large workshop at the back of their new property in Briggs Rd, Shirley. Around 2007, they moved to Bexley and once again Kevin was able to continue with his joinery business from the large 4 car garage. The 2010 Ch-Ch earthquake badly damaged their home and once the major earthquake occurred in 2011, their house was completely unliveable. Kevin & Helen put their belongings in to storage at Rolleston and moved to their holiday bach at Hakatere at the Ashburton River mouth where they lived for over 2 years.

MEET KEVIN HARRIS CONT:

By this time, Kevin made the decision to wind the business up as it was simply too hard without all his machinery available. They also made a decision to move back in to town after 2 years as Helen became unwell and needed to be closer to hospital services. Their house in Bexley was rebuilt following the earthquakes and they moved back in to their new house in 2015 and still live there today. Although retired, Kevin likes to "tinker" in his garage and said he is happy, "Everyday is a good day"



Favourite Food: Seafood.

Favourite activities: Getting out and about/ driving/making things/crosswords.

Favourite Music: Used to be a member of the Cliff Richard Club. The Bee Gees/ Adele-and all easy listening music.

Favourite Movie: Any musical and enjoyed Mama Mia.

Helen has 2 children and between them they have 6 granddaughters. They have had a holiday on Norfolk Island, taken bus tours all around NZ and have enjoyed a cruise around NZ shores. Around 2 years ago, they bought a caravan which they hope to be able to use a lot more in the future. Of note, at the age of 10, Helen became the first person in the Southern Hemisphere to undergo open heart surgery from the world renowned surgeon, Sir Brian Barratt-Boyes.

If anyone is looking to have any joinery/cabinet making work done, feel to contact Kevin directly to discuss your requirements on 03 388-0054.

PERSONALISED SOCKET DESIGN:

The convergence of newfound technologies alongside graphic design has led to many options for patients who want to customize their prostheses, including ultra-realistic covers, fabric covers that patients can change according to their mood or occasion, decorative elements built into the prosthesis and high-end fairings. With advances in technology, patients can get almost any design they want. Patients working alongside their design-minded prosthetist can have a design built into their socket. Speak to your prosthetist about the unlimited possibilities.



AGM 2022

Sunday March 13th, 2022 @ The Hornby Club. AGM @ 10.15am and morning tea @ 10.30am.

The society will cover the cost of the morning tea for those attending. Numbers attending are lower than our Christmas function but it would be great to see a good turnout. We would especially welcome anyone wishing to put their name forward to serve on the committee for the coming year. Please advise your attendance to Justine 021 1055189 or Mark 3375747/027 2381958 by **March 8th.**

Please be reminded that the Hornby Club will require a valid vaccination pass to be produced to allow entry.

AGM

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



SUBSCRIPTIONS DUE.

A reminder that subscriptions (\$10) are now due and it would be appreciated if payment could be made at your earliest convenience. Payment can be made online by using internet banking or at any Westpac Branch (details on back page). If you wish to pay by cash, please contact Justine to arrange this. If making payment at the AGM, please put it in an envelope with your name indicated. A receipt will be issued at a later date. We greatly appreciate your continued support of the Society.

Limb Centre Update:

Construction halted over the holiday season but is now back in full swing on the site. Foundation work and services are almost complete so we should see some vertical progress in the very near future. An estimated date for completion is the end of September this year and it will be exciting to monitor the progress towards "our" new limb centre.



Smile Awhile

**GOOD JUDGEMENT COMES
FROM EXPERIENCE.**



**AND EXPERIENCE? WELL THAT COMES
FROM POOR JUDGEMENT.**

I just want to be as happy as that camel.



Web Sites

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

www.amputeeinfo.co.nz

The Amputees Federation of NZ

www.amputee.co.nz

NZ Artificial Limb Service

www.nzals.govt.nz

Peer Support

www.peersupport.nz

Parafed Canterbury

www.parafedcanterbury.co.nz

International Diabetes Federation

www.idf.org

Amputee News

www.amputeenews.com

Disability Rights Commissioner

www.hrc.co.nz

UN Programme on Disability

www.un.org/issues/m-disabl.asp

Paraloan 03 3795983

www.paraloan.org.nz

Email: paraloan@xtra.co.nz

Nation Wide H&D Advocacy

Service – 0800 555050

**Aspire Canterbury,
Disabilities Information Service**

17 E Bishopdale Courts, Bishopdale Mall CHCH
Website: www.aspirecanterbury.org.nz

Total Mobility. Contact Julie (03) 3669093

julie@aspirecanterbury.org.nz

LifeLinks. 0800 866 877

Web: lifelinks.co.nz Email: 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

Amputee Society of Canterbury & Westland Inc.

PO Box 26-148
North Avon CHCH 8148

President/Newsletter Editor

Mark Bruce 03 337-5747
027 2381958
mark.bruce@xtra.co.nz

Vice President

Alesha Kelly 021 708863

Secretary/Treasurer/Funding

Justine Mangan-Woods
021 1055189
justinemw@me.com

Web Site Manager

Jo Boereboom 03 942-5320
farmtree58@gmail.com

Marketing Coordinator

Ed Jones 03 347-4942
ed@jungletoyz.co.nz

Visiting Coordinator

Lisa Gray 027 339 2678
lisagrey1@xtra.co.nz

Other Committee Members

Vaughan Mangan-Woods
Janice Frost
Bob Newby

West Coast Contact

Will Sturkenboom
03 732-8312
wsturk@xtra.co.nz

Total Mobility Scheme

Agent: Aspire Canterbury
03 3666189
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

Peke Waihanga-Artificial Limb Service

330 Burwood Road
Phone 03-383-0501
Fax 03-383-3566
Hours: 8.00am - 4.30pm

Office administrators

Pauline Afitu/Lynleigh Ashcroft
www.pw.co.nz

Amputee Society of Canterbury/Westland Inc

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.

Disability Golf NZ

For any enquiries about becoming involved, anywhere in NZ, please contact Andrew Woo, 021 885678



Need Computer Help ?

Contact Joanne for advice at very affordable rates.
www.computertutor.nz

Mobile 027 2909246
Home 942-5320

Thanks to Our Sponsors:

