

doing more
with less!



Amputee Society

Canterbury & Westland Inc

PO Box 26-148 North Avon

Christchurch 8148

E-mail: info@amputeeinfo.co.nz

Web site: www.amputeeinfo.co.nz

April 2017 Contents

Editor's Message

Article/Messages

Society news/Smile awhile

Federation/Limb Centre

Website links & Sponsors

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:

Dolphins are so smart that within a few weeks of captivity, they can train people to stand on the very edge of the pool and throw them fish !

Editor's Message

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

I like many other people all over the world, was somewhat shocked by the result of the US Presidential elections late last year when Donald Trump became the President elect. Personally, I didn't give him a show of winning but having travelled to the USA in August last year, there was certainly a lot of divided opinion that I experienced as to his popularity. What I did pick up was that a lot of people disliked Hilary Clinton so much, they were prepared to give their vote to Trump. Now, 2 months after his inauguration, he continues to display some very un-President like behaviour and keeps making outlandish claims about a numerous issues.

Even though the FBI & NSA Directors have appeared before a congressional hearing and stated that there is no evidence to support Trump's claims that the Obama administration ordered the wire-tapping of Trump Tower, the President remains defiant and continues to make all sorts of claims on Twitter. He also uses Twitter to tell the world what a "bad man" the North Korean leader is...be careful Donald because Kim Jong-un is one un-hinged and unpredictable individual. Social media seems to be his preferred method of communicating given his hatred & distrust of what he calls the "False Media". He has pushed crazy conspiracy theories about all manner of things along the way, from the wire-tapping, illegal voters and crowd numbers at events. To me, it just doesn't seem to be the behaviour expected of a President of a large and influential country like the USA.

So, why does it matter?. I think the right question isn't so much as whether a President's credibility matters but "what matters more than credibility" In NZ over the last few years, our leaders have had to face the country in dealing with tragedies & disasters. This President & White House have yet to be challenged by events out of their control and have not been forced to move beyond partisanship and beyond Twitter. When it comes time to comfort grieving parents after mass shootings, an event like the Gulf oil spill, deal with a military conflict or a gross act of terrorism, this will be a turning point of Trump and his administration as to how well they handle matters.



Affiliated with the Amputees Federation of New Zealand Inc.

Limb Centre Article-Scott Stringer/Prosthetist

Late last year the New Zealand Artificial Limb Service (NZALS) launched its new website www.nzals.co.nz. The change in URL from the previous *.govt.nz URL reflects a new direction for the service. Like the Accident Compensation Corporation (ACC), the NZALS is repositioning itself as an independent entity and not a 'government' body.

The website has been completely overhauled to make it more user friendly and informative. The website sports a fresh, clean design and a palette based on the new NZALS brand colors. Having some web development experience, I was asked by NZALS CEO Sean Gray to assist with the website development.



Search 

services

support

resources

products

feedback

noticeboard



The website is backed by a CMS (Content Management System) called SilverStripe. The service providers had set up the basic structure, so my input was largely to fill in the placeholders with actual content and to ensure that the website was easy to access.

The incentive to overhaul the website was to make more information available to the end users; primarily the patients, their families, caregivers and supporters. What's on the NZALS website? First and foremost, the website has on every page the contact details of each Limb Centre and National Office. We should be much easier to find from now on!

Services: this page explains how the service operates. There is information on clinics, and the professionals (surgeons, Occupational Therapists, ACC Case Managers, etc.) attached to the service.

Support: offers some points of contact for various bodies involved in and around our service. This page features a large number of personal stories from amputees and their families.

Resources: this page contains a number of downloadable resources for the amputee. The Kia Kaha booklet is available from here for example. Also available for download are various posters, fact sheets, FAQs and a helpful jargon buster. Want to know the difference between adduction and abduction or flexion and extension? This is the place to start.

Products: this page and the many sub pages under it show of a wide range of the components we use. Covered are Knee Joints, Feet & Ankles, Upper Extremity and Suspension systems. The last sub section has a particularly good introduction to the subject of Osseointegration (bone implanted prosthetics). All of the featured products have a downloadable fact sheet. Numerous links to the manufacturer's websites have been provided if you wish to gather more information on a particular product.

Feedback: Here you can find various ways to contact the NZALS and allied professionals.

Noticeboard: News and amputee centric stories form the NZ and world scene. This page is regularly updated. If you're looking for news and technology stories with an amputee focus – start here.

Scott Stringer – Prosthetist (and occasional Web Designer/geek)

Mid Winter-Fun Indoor Sports

We are intending to hold a Fun Indoor Sports afternoon at the Hornby Club on **Sunday, 16th July**. The committee feel that a fun get together in the middle of winter would appeal to members so we are canvassing support at this stage.

Dependent on numbers interested, we are envisaging drawing names into teams of 2 to compete. Activities on offer will be, Quoits, Darts, Indoor Bowls & Mini-Golf so nothing too strenuous and a friendly, fun competition will run with the top teams receiving prizes.

Details are;

When: Sunday July 16th starting at 1pm till 4pm

Where: Hornby Club, Carmen Rd

Cost: \$8 pp payable on the day which includes, hire of the hall, use of the equipment and a light afternoon tea.

We will make further mention of the afternoon in the June newsletter but in the interim, could you please give Margaret a call (349-7585) and let her know if you are interested in attending. **Please support** this initiative and we hope to see you at this fun afternoon.



www.shutterstock.com · 335703968



Society News:

Many thanks to everyone who has paid their subscriptions for the current year, your ongoing support is greatly appreciated. There are still a number of subscriptions outstanding but we have chosen to continue sending the newsletters to those people in the hope that you may be able to see your way clear to continue your membership. We, as a committee, invest a great deal of time & effort in keeping our society a strong and vibrant organisation so your support is not only welcomed but greatly appreciated. Subs can be paid online (details on back page), or by cheque sent to P O Box 26-148, North Avon, Christchurch.

Our AGM was held on Sunday, March 12th at the Hornby Club and although the turnout was not large, the meeting went well and it was great to catch up with fellow amputee friends, new & old and have an enjoyable meal in the Bistro afterwards. It was most pleasing to welcome onto the committee, Justine Mangan-Woods as our new Treasurer and committee member, Alesha Kelly.

Congratulations to all the other people re-elected and thank you for putting your name forward. To Kathy Barnes for her service to the Society over the last few years but did not stand for re-election this year...many thanks Kathy.

If any members are able to donate items for our regular raffles, could you please make contact with Margaret, 03 349-7585. Your generosity is most appreciated and can I sincerely thank those members who have contributed to our fundraising efforts.

Response to February Editorial:

The editorial opinion piece from the February newsletter drew a response from one of our members, Justine Mangan-Woods. Justine submitted a very well thought out response to me and I was most appreciative of the balanced and respectful manner in which she approached the issue. Thank you so much Justine and in the interests of balance, free speech and the right for people to have their say, I am most delighted to publish her thoughts below.

I don't usually take offence or get upset at opinion pieces and what people write in editorials as they are just that opinions. But in this case I've thought quite hard about it and feel like I should respond and give you another opinion, or viewpoint.

Just to give some insight I am by no means a rugby or Richie McCaw fan - I can take it or leave it. Don't get me wrong, I always want the All Blacks to win but it's just not my game. So when I read your editorial and your attitude to them asking for privacy and the money they received for their wedding photos was way over the top and not balanced at all. For me I think it is actually part of the problem in NZ society and psyche with regard to public figures, especially All Blacks and the attitude that because they are "Our Team" that we should have access to them 24/7 and know all about their lives. There are those people that do seek the attention and I'd say all fair - but to me Richie McCaw has never been one of them. He's always been quite a private person. I agree he was paid well as an All Black and in that role as a professional he fulfilled certain obligations to the public and many organisations that wanted a piece of him, to claim him as ours etc. When someone becomes that famous and recognisable to a certain extent there is an expectation that people want to know them and therefore private life and public life intertwine.

However, he is no longer a public figure, he is retired and chosen a field of work where he is not in the limelight. Saying this of course, people are going to be interested in his wedding but just because he was/is a public figure does not give the public a right to intrude on his life. However, he DOES have a right to privacy just as you or I do. If I were in that position, I would be mortified if on my wedding day all I could hear or see were helicopters, or if uninvited people turned up for my service - as I'm sure most people would.

Knowing people would be interested in his wedding, he did sell his story and photos to a magazine, as a lot of other sports people have done. What I would like to know though is how many other sports stars donated this money to charity ?.

From my research, (simple internet searches), a lot of this money is going to his iSport charity, which was founded by Richie, Dan Carter and Ali Williams. Along with Dan Carter, Richie is known for his generous donations to charity and giving his time to the community. As for the no fly zone, this was not something he asked for - it was the flying community that he is a member of that decided that they would not fly over this area on the day.

So really what has he done to deserve such a backlash? He asked that he have privacy on his wedding day but understanding the public interest, has also shared the day with the public by allowing exclusive photos to be taken by a magazine. By doing that he accepted money, which he generously donated to charity. The people in his work community decided to stand together and allow the couple to marry without strangers hovering over them trying to get photos of a private precious moment in their life. As I said I'm not a great rugby fan, I'm more of a league girl than a rugby girl but what I do think is that he is a decent person who he has given much pleasure to the public in his years of playing rugby for his province and country. We as the NZ public loved watching it and idolised him for it. Therefore, I believe Gemma and Richie deserved their day to be **THEIR** day. Putting them down and bashing them for it says more about the public than about them.

Smile Awhile



My brain is like the Bermuda Triangle.
Information goes in
and then it's never
found again.



Web Sites

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

www.amputeeinfo.co.nz

The Amputees Federation of NZ

www.af.org.nz

NZ Artificial Limb Service

www.nzals.govt.nz

Amputee Information

www.mossresourcenet.org

Parafed Canterbury

www.parafedcanterbury.co.nz

Disability Awareness in Action

www.daa.org.uk

Amputee News

www.amputeenews.com

Disability Rights Commission

www.drc-gb.org

UN Programme on Disability

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

WEKA-NZ Disability Info

www.weka.govt.nz

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

Disabilities Information Service

314 Worcester Street, Christchurch

PO Box 32-074, Christchurch

(03) 366-6189

(03) 379-5939

9.00am - 4.30pm

Email: admin@aspirecanterbury.org.nz

Website: www.aspirecanterbury.org.nz

Kipp's Patch

www.kipps-patch.com

International Diabetes Federation

www.idf.org



**CCS
disability action**
Including all people

TE HUNGA HAUĀ MAURI MŌ NGĀ TĀNGATA KĀTOA

CCS Disability Action

224 Lichfield St, Christchurch.

03 3655661 or 0800 2272255.

Email: canterbury@ccsdisabilityaction.org.nz

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

PO Box 26-148
North Avon CHCH 8148

President

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

Vice President

Margaret Hunter 03- 349-7585
jim.marg.hunter@clear.net.nz

Secretary

Eileen Popplewell 03 349-9415
ceallaigh4@xtra.co.nz

Taxi Co-ordinator

Ava Thomas 03-382-1873
avat@clear.net.nz

Funding Co-ordinator

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

Events Co-ordinator

Margaret Hunter 03-349-7585
jim.marg.hunter@clear.net.nz

Newsletter Editor

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

**Treasurer/Web Site
Manager**

Jo Boereboom 03-942-5320
farmtree@paradise.net.nz

Marketing Coordinator

Ed Jones 03 384-4947
ed@jungletoyz.co.nz

Visiting Coordinator

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

West Coast Contact

Will Sturkenboom
03-732-8312

Life Members

Rachel White Rod Boyce
Liz Rogers Ray Boundy*
Heather Plows Ray Newton

*Deceased

Artificial Limb Service

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

Office administrator

Pauline Afitu
www.nzalb.govt.nz

Association Bank Info

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

Need Computer Help ?

Contact Joanne for advice
at very affordable rates.

Mobile 027 2909246

Home 942-5320

Amputee Golf NZ

For any enquiries about
becoming involved, any-
where in NZ, please contact
Alan Dearden, 03 383-3766.

Thanks to Our Sponsors:

