

**disability  
connect.**

*helping families*

*Vision*

That people with disabilities and their families are able to lead the lives they want

*Core Value*

To respect and support choice

*Mission*

To lead change and influence change for people with disabilities and their families.

**e-bulletin – week beginning 7 November 2016**

Parent & Family  
Resource Centre  
Trading as  
Disability Connect  
[www.disabilityconnect.org.nz](http://www.disabilityconnect.org.nz)  
Phone: 09 636 0351  
PO Box 13385, Onehunga  
3B Olive Road,  
Penrose

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**Embedded in the text of this E-bulletin are links which open up to pages of more information. Any blue underlined text is a link and can be clicked on for fuller information. We do this in order to provide you with as much information as possible in our E bulletin.**

**Please note that going forward due to increasing costs, it is necessary for us to charge professionals \$50 including GST each per seminar. There is no charge for parents. We hope that you will continue to attend our robust and informative seminars.**

## **Disability Connect news**

### **Support groups – Disability Connect**

Disability Connect offers culturally appropriate support (including three support groups) to families with children of special needs as part of the CALD service (Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Disability Information and Advisory Service):

#### **Chinese Families Autism Support Group**

Runs every third Tuesday of the month. Please contact Sanny Chan at Disability Connect for more information on our meetings. Our next meeting is on the 15<sup>th</sup> November - 09 526 1298 (DDI) / 09 636 0351 or [sanny@disabilityconnect.org.nz](mailto:sanny@disabilityconnect.org.nz)

#### **Culturally Diverse Support Group (Otahuhu)**

This support group runs monthly. All families with special needs are welcome to join this group – we welcome everyone from any culture and any disability. It is a great opportunity for parents to share their experience and network with each other. Our next Culturally Diverse Support Group be held on 15<sup>th</sup> November at Mt. Richmond Special School, Otahuhu 5.30pm till 8pm. The topic of this months' meeting is Family Collectives and Family Governance presented by Lawrence Chok of Family Action Support Trust. Please contact Asoka at Disability Connect for more information or bookings – phone 09 636 0351 or 027 457 8571 or email [asoka@disabilityconnect.org.nz](mailto:asoka@disabilityconnect.org.nz)

#### **Indian and South Asian Families Support Group (Clover Park)**

This hugely successful support group was established in October and after a successful meeting we agreed to continue. A November meeting is scheduled for 8<sup>th</sup> November at Clover Park Community House. Indian and South Asian families raising a child or supporting a person with a disability are very welcome to this meeting. It will follow a relaxed 'conversational' environment with Lisa presenting for half an hour in regards to recreation opportunities, holiday programmes etc. (this is useful with summer holidays approaching). Everyone is free to talk amongst themselves, make new friends, connect for support or just ask any questions you may be interested in. 8<sup>th</sup> November at Clover Park Community House, 16 Israel Ave, Clover Park 6pm - 8.30pm. Please email [admin@disabilityconnect.org.nz](mailto:admin@disabilityconnect.org.nz) or [asoka@disabilityconnect.org.nz](mailto:asoka@disabilityconnect.org.nz) or phone 09 636 0351 or text/phone 027 457 8571 to book. This meeting is additional to the broader Culturally Diverse Support Group held at Mt Richmond Special School in Otahuhu.

#### **Disability Connect has a Social Worker**

This [social worker role](#) is to provide advocacy, support and practical help to families and individuals with a disability. Click on the link to find out more about this service which is free to families. We welcome new referrals either directly from families or from professionals. Referral forms are available on our website.

## **SEMINARS/TRAINING/ CONFERENCES**



### **Disability Connect Seminars – Series 2**

**Please note increased charge to professionals mentioned above – it is now \$50 including GST for each professional attending our seminars.**

#### **November-December seminars:**

##### **“Education Legal”**

West Auckland – 8<sup>th</sup> November, 7-9pm, MPHS Hub West, 27 Corban Ave, Henderson

##### **“Individualised Funding including Respite”**

Central Auckland – 17<sup>th</sup> November, 12-2pm, Disability Connect premises, 3b Olive Road, Penrose - CHANGE OF DATE

##### **“Living Options”**

East Auckland – 7<sup>th</sup> December, 7-9pm, Highland Park Community – CHANGE OF DATE

##### **“Planning for Adulthood”**

South Auckland – 29<sup>th</sup> November, 6.30-9.30pm  
Nathan Homestead, 70 Hill Road, Manurewa

##### **“Transition”**

East Auckland – 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 7-9pm, Highland Park Community

##### **“Work and Income Supports”**

Central Auckland – 9<sup>th</sup> November, 7-9pm, Disability Connect premises, 3b Olive Road, Penrose  
North Auckland – 22<sup>nd</sup> November, 7-9pm, Yes Disability Resource Centre, 3 William Laurie Place, Albany

**(Click on the links for more dates)**

#### **Childrens Autism Foundation – Hands on Workshop**

Free tickets for family members, gain practical tools that you can easily implement in the home, classroom or community. Topics include: Guide to autism, Strategies for behaviour, Social skills and communication. 19<sup>th</sup> November, 9am-4pm, Hillsborough Baptist Church, 179 Hillsborough Road, Hillsborough. Please email [enquiry@autism.org.nz](mailto:enquiry@autism.org.nz) or more information or phone 09 415 7406.

#### **Child’s Play Picky Eaters Workshop**

Learn about sensory and behavioural approaches to support picky eaters. Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November, 7-9pm in Albany. Hosted by Lindsay Mawdsley, Occupational Therapist. \$50 per person, limited spaces. Please contact [enquiries@childsplayot.co.nz](mailto:enquiries@childsplayot.co.nz)

#### **“Ice-Breaker” Anti-Bullying Workshops for Young People**

A workshop designed by *The Cube and Yes Disability* delivered by six young leaders from within the disability sector. Have a look at the [flier](#) for contact details.

#### **Manawanui InCharge - Conference on Self Direction**

On 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> November Manawanui-in-charge are hosting an International conference on Self-Direction. The purpose of this conference is to explore the range of options available to people with disabilities or long term conditions to support them in leading a personally meaningful life. The conference features Simon Duffy (UK), gold winning Paralympian Mary Fisher, Michael Kendrick (USA/Canada) and Marc Fenton as well as a performance by blind singer Natalie Te Paa. For more details please look at their [flier](#) above.

#### **Sensory Issues and Autism**

Thurs, 24 Nov, 7-9pm, Freemans Bay Community Centre. Sensory input, sensory differences and sensitivities in relation to autism. Tool kits for use at home and in the classroom. Speakers & Facilitators: Christine Farquharson (Occupational Therapist), Sacha Crutzen (Family Consultant). Cost: \$10 family/students, \$20 for professionals. RSVP: [enquiry@autism.org.nz](mailto:enquiry@autism.org.nz)

#### **Support Parent Course**

If you are a parent, step-parent, grandparent of a child with a disability and would like to support other parents, why not consider training to be a volunteer support parent? 5-6<sup>th</sup> November, Otimai Lodge, 1 Kauri Loop Road, Oratia. To register interest please contact Elaine on 09 625 5021 or email [auckland@parent2parent.org.nz](mailto:auckland@parent2parent.org.nz).

#### **Understanding Autism Workshop**

Thursday, 17 Nov, 7-9pm, Pukekohe High School Harris Street, Pukekohe  
A workshop for families & educators - Come and learn more about autism in an open, supportive environment. Facilitators: Christine Farquharson (Occupational Therapist), Sacha Crutzen (Social Skills Consultant). Entry by donation - All proceeds support the ongoing work of the Children’s Autism Foundation. Please register online: [www.autism.org.nz](http://www.autism.org.nz)

#### **Conferences outside Auckland**

##### **Brainwave Neuroscience Extension Training**

Are pleased to offer a two day interactive workshop for those who wish to understand more fully the importance of the early years for children’s health and wellbeing. 28-29<sup>th</sup> November, 9am-5pm, Wellington.

##### **International Initiative for Disability Leadership**

The best learning initiative for Disability Leadership is a unique international leadership forum that shares knowledge, innovation and effective practices to support the vision of a full life in the community for children, adults and elders with a disability. IIDL is a

collaboration of four countries: Australia, New Zealand, Ireland and Canada. 27-28<sup>th</sup> February, Auckland and 2-3<sup>rd</sup> March Sydney Australia.

### **Passing Foundations Forum**

PASSING is a five day, live-in workshop where you will deepen your understanding of the lived experience of devalued people, the services that serve them, and the SRV framework. You will visit two human services and have interviews and conversations with the people being served and those serving them. Led by a highly knowledgeable teacher of SRV and a team leader, you will then explore your observations through the SRV framework to unpack the complexities of service design and delivery. Past participants of the PASSING workshop have found it to be an eye-opening, mind-expanding training opportunity that deepened their understanding and strengthened their commitment to serving devalued people. Pricing - \$850 early bird special! (Register and paid by 31 December 2016) \$990 full cost (RSVP closes Monday 13 February 2017). Please note: \$100 nonrefundable amount for all cancellations, please see cancellation policy on page 2 for more information What does the cost include?

- Includes 4 nights' accommodation\*
- Most meals

For more information and registration form click [here](#)

### **Transformative Change Workshop**

Presented by Te Aroha Noa and Practice Research and Professional Development Hub, Massey University, Palmerston North. 7-9<sup>th</sup> November. For more information click [here](#).

### **Understanding Autism Workshops, 7-9 November 2016**

FREE for whanau/families, caregivers, education workers, support staff and community members living or working with a child(ren) with autism.

Our 'Understanding Autism' workshops are to help equip more people with strategies, knowledge and confidence to better support children with autism.

Speakers - Elisa Slaat – ABA Therapist and CAF Services Manager, Arletta van den Bosch – Lead Family Consultant/Child Counsellor, Gera Verheul – Family Consultant/Learning Support

#### **Kaitia Workshops, Monday, 7 November, at Te Ahu, South Rd, Kaitia**

12:30 – 2:30pm, Understanding Autism workshop for whanau, community and educators

3:45 – 6pm, Understanding ASD & Social Challenges workshop for whanau & educators

#### **Taipa Workshops, Tuesday, 8 November, Taipa Area School Library**

12:30 – 2:30pm, Understanding Autism Workshop for whanau, community and educators

3:30 - 6:30pm, Understanding ASD and related behaviours workshop, Professional Development for educators, **Dargaville Workshops, Wednesday, 9 November, Lighthouse Function Centre, 32 Mount Wesley Coast Rd**

12:30 – 2:30pm, Understanding Autism workshop for whanau, community and educators

3:45 – 6pm, Understanding ASD & Social Challenges workshop for whanau & educators

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**



### **Attention Autism Programme Two Day Course**

The training focuses on the practical aspects of intervention, working in a team and offering an irresistible invitation to learn. The Attention Autism programme targets the teaching of attention, communication and social interaction skills. Training is run applying the principles of the attention autism programme throughout each day. There are demonstrations of the techniques in action, films of the work with children, practical hands-on experience for participants and ideas for activities. The intention is to share the practical skills needed for participants to feel confident in setting up and running the intervention immediately. 23-24<sup>th</sup> January – North Shore, 26-27<sup>th</sup> January – West Auckland and 9-10<sup>th</sup> February – South Auckland days available.

### **Attitude Awards 2016**

Check out all the wonderful finalists in mini documentaries of the 24 most inspiring New Zealanders who have excelled in their fields. Place your vote [here](#).

### **Auckland Disability Law AGM**

17<sup>th</sup> November, Potters Park Event Centre, Auckland Deaf Society, 164 Balmoral Road, Balmoral - 5.30pm chat and snacks. Guest speaker Judge Phil Recordon – What does access to justice look like for disabled people in 2016. Please RSVP to [info@adl.org.nz](mailto:info@adl.org.nz) or text 027 457 5140 or ring 09 257 5140.

### **Clip n Climb North Shore**

Come along to try it out, Session for families with autism. For bookings email [info@clipnclimbnorthshore.co.nz](mailto:info@clipnclimbnorthshore.co.nz) or ph 09 447 1428

### **Circability**

We are offering a new [Applicable Circus Class](#) for physically disabled people (16-30yo) and a new [Funky Friday](#) mixed ability class for all ages at Circability Central in Victoria Park. Please register [here](#).

### **Deepening Community Conversations**

Coffee, croissants and Inspiration. Norman King Community Hub Boardroom, 65 Pearn Crescent, Northcote, 12.30-1.30pm. Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November. Everyone come along and share something that inspires you. At the moment we face a number of challenges across all sectors and communities. This conversation is about lifting our eyes and sharing those things that inspire passion and action. RSVP for catering purposes, [brigid@raeburnhouse.org.nz](mailto:brigid@raeburnhouse.org.nz)

### **Free Open Day – Asthma COPD Day**

Could it be Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)?, 581 Mt Eden Road, Mt Eden, 10am-3pm, Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November.

### **Halberg Junior Disability Sports Day**

A one day event for physically disabled primary and intermediate school students. This is your chance to compete in Boccia, adapted football, table tennis and more. 17<sup>th</sup> November, 10am-1.30pm, St Kentigern Boys School, enter school gate 5, Shore Road, Remuera.

### **Good Shapes Exhibition – Mapura Studios**

7<sup>th</sup> November 2016 – 15 January 2017, 72 Hillsborough Road, Hillsborough. Māpura Studios is pleased to submit five artists that have extreme emotional intelligence heightened by their own creative thinking. These artists have the ability to discern and add meaning to various shapes, particularly the understanding to conceive “Good Shapes”. The viewer is challenged to engage both visually and emotionally with what it takes to define a good shape demonstrated in these works by Matthew Allerby, Russell Julian, Christina van der Hooft, Matthew Tucker, and Halina Janiszewska.

### **Imagine Better Assembly 2017**

Will you friend me? Imagine Better is pleased to introduce you to Dr Al Condeluci and Janet Klees, who will be presenting at the February 2017 Imagine Better Assembly – Will You Friend Me? Both Al and Janet come with a wealth of experience, having been involved in the community sector, particularly building social capital and community bridges, for many years. At the session *Will You Friend Me?*, key aspects related to social capital will be explored; examining it from a generic perspective and looking at the possible strategies, actions, or aspects that may be utilised in support of any vulnerable population who have limited opportunities to build friendships.

Our other session is *Building Community through Social Capital*. Individuals with disabilities and their family members (as well as professionals who are involved with the family) are interested in seeing themselves or their son/daughter/relative be successful in life. In fact, one of the biggest fears individuals and families have is that their loved one might be lonely or at serious risk when they are no longer around. By understanding the impact of friendships in our lives, we can look at ways and means to better prepare for the future. Sociologists call this “social capital” and it is amazing what our relationships do for us. This session will help you think about how friendships can be better developed over time, and, in turn, build a more inclusive community.

### **Mind over Manner – Sensory Processing and Cognitive Differences**

For parents, family, community professionals and teachers. This workshop is highly relevant to all people who live and work with young people who have sensory, cognitive and learning differences. 15<sup>th</sup> November, 7-9.30pm, The Gym, The Arts Centre, Christchurch. For more information contact [sue@mindovermanner.co.nz](mailto:sue@mindovermanner.co.nz) or 027 665 8084 (text only)

### **Pasifikability – Free Disability Dance Classes**

Proudly presented by Niu Ola Trust. Classes starting on September 2<sup>nd</sup> 11am- 12pm (every Friday until 16<sup>th</sup> December) excluding School Holidays and Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 11am-12pm, every Friday until 19<sup>th</sup> December (excluding School Holidays). For more information click [here](#)

### **People First Meetings Across Auckland**

Click on the various locations for dates  
[West](#) – Waitakere Resource Centre, 8 Ratanui St, Henderson  
[North](#) – Phab, 8 Auburn St, Takapuna  
[Central](#) – Yarnton House, 14 Erson Ave, Royal Oak  
[South](#) – The Station – 145 St Georges Rd, Papatoetoe  
[East](#) – Howick Leisure Centre, 563 Pakuranga Road, Howick

### **Sensory Processing Disorder and Sensory Diets, workshop.**

January 25-26<sup>th</sup> 2017 Waitaha School, Christchurch is hosting a 2 day workshop. Would be suitable for Parents, Teachers, Teacher Aides, RTLB and SENCO. Guest speaker is Gwen Wild, a leading authority on this topic from USA. Click on link above for more info.

### **Show Your Ability Expo**

Free entry to the Disability Equipment Expo. ASB Showgrounds, February 14<sup>th</sup> 9am-3pm.

### **Spirit of Adventure Trust 5 Day Inspirational Voyage**

The Spirit of Adventure Trust was established to provide the youth of New Zealand with access to a character development programme conducted in a maritime environment. Our voyages are seen as an unique environment for youth development. Where the focus of learning for the trainees is on team-work and developing skills of communication, self-reliance, self-discipline, self-esteem, resilience, confidence and leadership. The voyage is from Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> March – Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> March.

### **Stars Dance Therapy and Art Therapy**

Groups available in Onehunga on Tuesday, Mt Albert Wednesday and Thursday, Pakuranga on Friday and Northcote on Saturdays.

### **Tani Regional Network Meeting**

The Asian Network Inc (TANI) supports and works with the Asian community to improve wellbeing. Come to this meeting, from 10am–12pm, and hear about healthy families and student health access and network. Held at Onehunga Community Centre, Pearce Street Hall, 3 Pearce St, Onehunga. RSVP to [helena.ong@asiannetwork.org.nz](mailto:helena.ong@asiannetwork.org.nz)

### **Thrive Annual General Meeting**

Thrive Teen Parent Support Trust, AGM 10<sup>th</sup> November, Thrive, 34 Lincoln Road, Henderson, 2pm.

### **Universal Design Symposium**

Universal Design makes things safer, easier and more convenient for everyone. The Universal Design Hub provides access to a range of resources and guidance to support a design process that recognises our common needs through each of our individual life stages. A universal approach recognises human diversity and various life scenarios such as pregnancy, childhood, injury, disability and old age. This means developing places and homes that can be used and enjoyed by as many people as possible. Here you will find resources to ensure your next project is built to be accessible for all life stages and scenarios. For more info email [universaldesignsymposium@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:universaldesignsymposium@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)

### **Way to Play Autism Workshops**

This is a one-day introduction to playing with children on the Autism Spectrum. Playing with a child with autism can be challenging, so the Way to Play workshop offers simple, easy to use strategies to begin playing joyously together. 1<sup>st</sup> December in Auckland, email [training@autismnz.org.nz](mailto:training@autismnz.org.nz) or ph 04 803 3501.

### **What is a Home**

November workshop – spaces still available. The concept of "home" is often reduced to one's place of dwelling. However, in reality, "home" is much more a reflection of the overall person, their life, their nature, their relationships, their passions, their purposes. ImagineBetter is hosting Dr Michael Kendrick to deliver two workshops in Bay of Plenty (9<sup>th</sup> November), with LifeUnlimited hosting Dr Kendrick for the Wellington workshop on 10<sup>th</sup> November. Registration is essential.

## **NOTICES**



### **Alongside You counselling service**

"Alongside you" - Gabi Zundorf is a counsellor who is now offering support to parents with special needs children. She wants to "walk alongside the family" at a time of need. Her own experience with raising two children with special needs means she will bring a lot of empathy when meeting you. She will meet you wherever it is easiest for you. Call her on 027 489 8819 or email [alongsidedisability@gmail.com](mailto:alongsidedisability@gmail.com). You can also find on her Facebook page "Alongside You". Click on title link to view the pamphlet.

### **ASD Basketball Programme**

Siblings and peers welcome. NZ Breakers stadium, 7 Atlas Place, Mairangi Bay. All sessions are on Sundays. Cost \$40 per family/per term. ASD Kids Trust run this event.

### **Auckland Disability Law Supported Decision Making Resources**

They have developed a set of resources as part of a project. The resources can be downloaded and distributed. If you would like printed copies please email [info@adl.org.nz](mailto:info@adl.org.nz). [Let's talk about Supported Decision Making](#), [Let's talk about Supported Decision Making – easy read](#), [Promoting Supported Decision making and the protection of personal and property rights act](#) and a [roadmap to success poster](#).

### **Auckland Down Syndrome Association Charity Golf Day**

27<sup>th</sup> November Pukekohe Golf Club, 654 Karaka Road, Karaka. The cost of the team is \$400 and includes one team consists of 4 players, sausage sizzle, prizes, drink cart and light evening refreshments.

### **Autistic Disabled Person Organisation Survey**

A group of self-advocates are in the stages of forming this. They would appreciate you filling out their survey.

### **CCS Disability Action – How's it Going?**

Opening up new conversations is a free tool that can support people to work out whether they are living the life they want. People can also use it to talk, or think, about where they are at and where they want to be. For more information click [here](#).

### **CCS – What's new in the Library**

You can request free books from this service from CCS and will be couriered to you, like a library. Latest update November 2016

### **Centre for Chiropractic Research – Volunteers needed**

The Centre for Chiropractic Research, with AUT University, is involved in a research project that is being run as part of a Master's thesis by Dr Alice Cade. This study investigates if there are any changes in eye tracking abilities before and after getting a chiropractic adjustment. The focus of the study is that a chiropractic adjustment may make eye tracking easier thereby improving ADHD kids' ability to read, learn and behave in class. This study is not a treatment for ADHD or eye tracking problems. Children will take part in two sessions (around 30mins each) over a week at the New Zealand College of Chiropractic in Mt Wellington. To be eligible to participate, kids need to be:

- 8 – 15 years of age
- Have a previous diagnosis of ADHD
- Not have any major visual disability (seriously impaired vision, cataracts or eye trauma)

Please contact Alice Cade for more information. Chief Investigator: Dr Kelly Jones  
Co investigators: Dr Kelly Holt & Dr Alice Cade  
email [alice.cade@nzchiro.co.nz](mailto:alice.cade@nzchiro.co.nz) or 021 400739

### **Communicare Friendship Centres**

Located all across Auckland and a wide variety of activities available to all. Great for company and just to be able to have something to do.

### [Deaf Aotearoa New Zealand INC - AGM](#)

19<sup>th</sup> November, 10am-2pm, Manawatu Deaf Society, 55b Totara Road, Awapuni, Palmerston North.

### [East and South Auckland Special Needs Support Group](#)

Christmas Dinner – Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November, Barracuda Restaurant, 32 The Esplanade, Eastern Beach. 7.30pm. Either bring a \$10 present or a homemade gift (we are giving options this time). Also Christmas Support Group – 8<sup>th</sup> December, 7pm at 22 Bronte Place, Howick, please bring a dessert to share. Email [suemcgehan@ihug.co.nz](mailto:suemcgehan@ihug.co.nz) to book for dinner on the 30<sup>th</sup>.

### [Education for All Rally/Picnic](#)

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November - 12-1pm, in front of the Rotunda, Auckland Domain. Join us at the Auckland Domain for a short, family-friendly event. **INVEST IN INCLUSION!** We are disabled people, parents, educators and allies. We are tired of years and years of waiting and fighting for our children to access education. It's time for us to rally, to show solidarity and to send a clear message to Government. **Our Call:** Every child has the right to fully participate, succeed and benefit from education. The whole system needs to change. No more tinkering, no more taking support off one child to fund another. We deserve a well funded, responsive and working system. Our schools must be supported and resourced to cater for every child, regardless of their learning needs. To sign the petition <https://www.change.org/p/minister-hekia-parata-education-for-all>

### [Footpath Users Survey](#)

This survey request is from the same people who conducted the Kiwi Travel survey late last year. Please can you give your attention to this survey and complete. The wider variety of answers to the survey, the more useful the survey results will be to all groups of footpath users.

### [Good Start project for 0-8yo with a disability](#)

Listening to the voices of parents or whanau. They are working with a group of government and community agencies on a project called *A Good Start in Life*. It's about improving support for parents, family and whānau of children with disabilities, aged 0-8 years. The focus of the project is how the system works as a whole, creating a system that makes it easier for families. They are particularly interested in what a good start in life looks like for you, what it's like when it is going well or not so well. If you would be interested in participating in this project they would love to talk to you. There is a \$40 warehouse voucher as a thank you for your time to be interviewed. The project co-ordinators are Sarah Scott - [sarah@connectandco.net](mailto:sarah@connectandco.net) or Adele Carpinter [adele.carpinter@education.govt.nz](mailto:adele.carpinter@education.govt.nz). Please read the [flier](#) for more information.

### [Good Vibrations Music Therapy](#)

Sophie Buxton is a qualified and registered music therapist who has just started to offer this therapy in Helensville in term 4. She is available to provide sessions for children, teenagers and adults with

intellectual / physical disabilities. Sophie Buxton 021 525 609, or email [sophieb@musictherapy.associates](mailto:sophieb@musictherapy.associates)

### [Lifekidz Team Leader needed](#)

After school and holiday programmes for special needs children. Part time 25 hours per week (increased hours during school holidays). We are looking for a person experienced in looking after people with disabilities/special needs. The applicant must be flexible, positive, enthusiastic and energetic and have excellent behaviour management strategies with strong planning and organisational skills. The ability to supervise, support and mentor young staff members in a busy, challenging, rewarding environment would be advantageous. Email cv to [deearna@lifekidz.org.nz](mailto:deearna@lifekidz.org.nz)

### [Ministry of Education Proposed changes to ORS funding.](#)

There is a petition set up by Kirsten Murfitt, Lawyer and mother of a son who receives ORS funding. If you could read my letter and fill in the petition it would be greatly appreciated. Background details [here](#) on proposal written by Kirsten and petition details are [here](#) on change.org.

### [Ministry of Health – Respite Strategy – Have your Say](#)

The Ministry is developing a Respite Strategy to improve the way we purchase respite or short breaks across the country. Please fill in the survey at the bottom of the [page](#).

### [Mum creates the easiest cookbook](#)

Wellington mother Jenny McClure has released a cookbook she wrote especially for her son and others that struggle with traditional cookbooks. 30 year old Joe McClure suffered a traumatic brain injury after he was hit by a car while cycling in Cambridge, UK, 17 years ago. The then 13 year old spent 10 days in an induced coma and underwent major surgery. Years later when he left home to go and live by himself, it soon became clear that standard cookbooks didn't work for him, she couldn't believe how crazily and complicated they were and her son really struggled to follow them and so the idea for Short Takes: Making cooking simple was born.

### [Music Therapy – Raeburn House](#)

Good vibrations, community music therapy for new migrants, from 20<sup>th</sup> October (for 9 weeks) 10am-11.30am, Norman King Community Hub Level 1, 65 Pearn Crescent, Northcote. This is free to enrol.

### [MyCare](#)

The new way to find support workers. MyCare is bringing technology and community together in a dedicated online platform for people needing at-home care and support. They've built a mobile marketplace, connecting individuals needing help to live comfortably at home to a nationwide network of care workers, part-timers and volunteers. The service aims to break down the barriers. The site already has nearly two thousand workers from nurses and care workers to students looking for work while they study. Here is their updated [flier](#). Visit [www.mycare.co.nz](http://www.mycare.co.nz)

or phone 0800 677 000. In October, we released new tools and people can now set up a contractor agreement using MyCare's templates, book their support worker's visits through their MyCare account, assign tasks for the day and keep their support circle of family and friends in the loop. They'll be able to see all visits at a glance and know what's happening every week. Once they've registered, users will have access to these tools:

- **Match** – find someone to provide support or care for themselves or a family member
- **Manage** – it's easy to coordinate support visits and pay workers safely and securely
- **Share** – invite family and friends into the support circle so they know what's happening just by logging in.

If you have any questions about how the service will work for members of your community, you may like to visit our [Help Centre](#)

### **Numicon**

Want to learn more about the Numicon approach click [here](#). Their new firm foundations info is [here](#) - Learning through play is the key feature of this new publication. Teachers are loving it! They are enjoying conversations with children in play and workshop situations, even talking about numbers higher than 20! Early childhood teachers and New Entrant teachers are using New FF. [Upcoming courses](#) for term 4 2016. And also all their new resources are [here](#).

### **NZ Down Syndrome Association – Ministry of Education Survey**

July 2016 Cabinet paper "Strengthening inclusion and modernising learning support" and the "Learning Support" (previously Special Education) Update. [Cabinet paper Strengthening Inclusion and Modernising Learning Support July 2016](#)

### **Occupational Therapist Student looking for work**

Emma Thomas is currently looking for some part time work. She is enrolled in a Bachelor of Health Science (Occupational Therapy) at AUT as of last year. She has put her studies on hold and is looking for work in this sector. She wants to eventually work in Paediatric Health. She has had work experience at Wilson School and her dream job is to work with disabled children. Her contact details are [emmammthomas@hotmail.com](mailto:emmammthomas@hotmail.com) or 021 184 7472. And she lives in Browns Bay.

### **Parnell Festival of Roses Sunday 13 November, 10.30am – 4pm**

[Click here](#) to view information about the Parnell Festival of Roses. There will be NSZL interpretation, audio described opportunities and accessible transport.

### **Phab Social Groups**

Our North Shore senior social group (age 35ish) and over are looking for new members, if you or anyone you know is keen please email [chewy@phab.org.nz](mailto:chewy@phab.org.nz) or call 09 488 7490. The group runs in Takapuna on Tuesday from 6.30-8.30pm. Our social group runs throughout school terms and involve different activities such as ten pin bowling, movie visits, baking

nights, meals out, community projects and more. The group decides at the beginning of each term and we support them in their social outcomes. This is fun and interactive way to make friends and get out in the community.

### **Phd Student requiring participants into peoples insights into holidays with their disabled family members.**

Brielle is a student at the University of Waikato. Alison, Cheryl and Simon are her supervisors. Brielle will interview you for her study. Alison might help her interview you. The study is about your experiences of travelling on holiday with your family, carer or support worker. By helping us with our study, we can help other people travel with their family, carers or support workers. The aim of this study is to develop a more holistic understanding of what care means to your lives, in the hope that we can further support and enable independent travel for other carers and people with intellectual disability, and raise awareness of the valuable 'work' you do, in wider society too. For more information please look [here](#) to see if you would like to participate. Carer and support information [here](#).

### **Rare Disorder Specialist Directory**

As part of our Rare Disorder family we are very excited to let you know that, as a result of our working group meeting with primary care practitioners (GPs), we at NZORD are looking to create a comprehensive national directory of specialists who specialise in various rare disorder fields across New Zealand. This directory, will be a pivotal tool for primary care practitioners to use; and one which they themselves identified as a way to improve and empower knowledge and connections within the rare disorder space. But to do this we need your help. Can you please provide us with the names of the specialists who look after you; what their specialty is; and also ensure that we know which Rare Disorder you represent? E.g. Dr Joe Bloggs, Rheumatologist, EDS. We will then compile all this information into a directory that is quick and easy for GPs to use. Approval will be sought from specialists prior to inclusion, and access to the database will be via health professional membership log in only. Please RSVP send this information to [vikki.ambrose@nzord.org.nz](mailto:vikki.ambrose@nzord.org.nz) by Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October.

### **Smalltalk Therapy**

Have some sessions available with a speech language therapist who have specialist skills in paediatric disability. They cover East and South Auckland.

### **Special Children's Christmas Party**

We will be receiving tickets in November some time – we are still unsure of the date as of yet, so please watch our [facebook page](#). This year we will have very limited tickets and they will need age and gender of your child as requested by the organisers to ensure they have the right quantity of presents for the children. The tickets will be a limited to one ticket per family and they must have special needs and up to age 12 only. We have decided to promote these tickets on Facebook as this is the fairest way. You must be a member of Disability Connect. We will not be taking pre-orders. Please like us and follow us on our [Facebook page](#).

### **Survey about Tourists with disabilities and elderly**

In this survey there are questions about frequency of travel, preferred destinations, means of transport etc. In addition to this there are other questions in travel aimed to evaluating the satisfaction about the accommodations or adaptations of tourist facilities, resources and services regarding to the travellers needs and preferences.

### **Thrive Clinic**

Thrive Clinic is a naturopathic practice, founded on the principle 'Supporting best-possible health outcomes for children and young people'. They support all children facing health challenges. Children with special needs, learning and behaviour disorders are their specialty. [www.thriveclinic.co.nz](http://www.thriveclinic.co.nz)  
Contact Debbie Walsh 021 441 220.

### **UBU Playgroup for our kids with a difference**

Starts 7<sup>th</sup> November, Grey Lynn Community Centre, Monday 1-3pm. We're encouraging parents and caregivers to come along, connect and support one another at our new pre-schoolers playgroup with a focus on our children with extra needs. Differences are embraced in a fun and safe environment which offers free or supported play. Contact 378 4908 for more information.

### **Upside Downs Share the Dream 2016 event**

UpsideDowns Education Trust hosts a fundraising evening named 'Share the Dream'. This cornerstone event outlines the benefits of the charity to all present. A live and silent auction raise funds on the night. 12<sup>th</sup> November, 7pm, Hopetoun Alpha, 19 Beresford Square, Auckland. Tickets are \$50.

[Counselling Services and Support Groups](#)

[Disability Sector Project Information and research](#)

[Discounted Activities across Auckland listed by Region](#)

[Holiday Programmes and Holiday Activities](#)

[Other organisations information](#)

[Playgroups, activities, after school and holiday programmes](#)

Please click on the above section links to see more information and providers

Please look on our [Useful Links](#) section of our website for more services / organisations

**Articles of interest:**

[Inclusive workplace has perfect brew](#)

[UN recommendations on children with disabilities welcomed](#)

[Hamilton host city for Deaf games 2016](#)

[Parent to Parent have new logo](#)

[What happens when my son with Down Syndrome is no longer cute](#)

[Mother shares heart warming moment for her autistic son meeting his service dog](#)

[Disabled caregiver wins unsung hero accolade](#)

[Disabled athletes urged to take advantage of ample support in Wellington](#)

[Party plans underway for Jonty fifth birthday after Smiledial helps out](#)

[Disabled Children given new found freedom with custom BMWs](#)

[Helping people with sight loss use currency with confidence](#)

[Writing disability is no barrier to high achieving Napier teen Louis Daysh](#)

[Handover of petition for visual fire alarms](#)

[Nature photography joy for disabled nurse](#)

[Paralympians aim to inspire at open day](#)

[It's reduced barriers – blind kiwis want funding for life changing smartphones](#)

[Deaf counsellor – Celia King says hearing impaired need mental health resources](#)

[Amazing lessons from blind champion who wrestled the doubters](#)

[Doctor Strange's surprisingly thoughtful exploration of disability](#)

**In order to keep informed about important issues, seminars and changes to any seminars it is important that you LIKE us on Facebook !**

**Please visit our Facebook page [here](#) and 'like' us. You can follow us on Twitter [here](#)**

# **NEWSLETTERS**

[Altogether Autism Journal](#) – Issue 2 2016

[Brainwave](#) – November 2016

[Cald Newsletter](#) – September 2016

[Carers NZ](#) – November 2016

[Changing Minds](#) – September 2016

[Children's Autism](#) – October 2016

[Dance Therapy NZ](#) – September 2016

[Deaf Aotearoa week beginning 7 Nov](#)

[Talking Hands Magazine](#)

[Dotty Wobble](#) – November 2016

e-Cald news - [October](#) 2016

[Ethnic News Link](#) – September 2016

[Expressions](#) – Spring 2016

[FASD Update](#) – September 2016

[Health Quality & Safety Commission E-update](#) – November 2016

[Idea Services](#) – August 2016

[Independent Living Service Newsletter](#) – September 2016

[Mapura Studios](#) – September 2016

[Ministry of Health NGO newsletter](#) – September 2016

[Chair update Sept 2016](#)

[My Care – November 2016](#)

[News from the Land of Be](#) – November 2016

[On the Radar \(Rare Disease Advocacy and Research\)](#)

[Parent to Parent newsletter](#) – October 2016

[Magazine](#) – September 2016

[Phab – Quarterly Newsletter](#) – Issue 1

[Raukauri Newsletter](#) – August 2016

[Recreate NZ newsletter](#) – Term Four 2016

[Special Olympics Fanletter](#) – October 2016

[Tani Newsletter](#) – Spring 2016

[Vaka Tautua](#) - September 2016

[Whanau Ora](#) – September 2016



*helping families*

**From the Disability Connect Team**

**Lisa, Virginia, Robyn, Angela, Asoka, Sanny and TingTing**

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

Join us on [Facebook](#) and follow us on [Twitter](#)

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