



**Amputee
Society**
of Otago &
Southland Inc.

Coordinator

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Newsletter November 2018 No. 199

Hi Everyone,

Wow, as a Society we in Otago/Southland are almost 75 years old! (*Fortunately I only feel that old occasionally*). Back in 1975-6 when I had my amputation things were really getting high tech – modular components



were the new big thing, fibreglass was being used and some of the amputees were still having limbs made with trusty old willow – good for cricket bats and legs. I was fitted with a limb because of the work behind the scenes of the Amputee Societies and the Federation (*or as it was known then – the New Zealand Civilian Amputees Association*). Back then they fought for equity between War Amputees and Civilian Amputees, then it was equity between ACC funded and Medical amputees. These Societies and the Federation are



working quietly away in the background seeking the best possible outcome for each and every one of us. If you think too little is being done come to the next National Conference, which is to be held in Dunedin in about 5 months and make your concerns felt. I am sure someone there will be of help to you. You will see

75th Anniversary 2019 Amputee Society of Otago & Southland Inc

examples of computerised limbs, osseointegration, running and dancing blades, even 3D printed components, things have come a long way in a

relatively short time.



Please keep the weekend of 12-14 April 2019 free. This is one week before Easter. It is our 75th Jubilee which will be held in conjunction with the 72nd Amputees Federation of NZ Inc. Annual Conference. Registration forms and programme will be available in about a month and we will be highlighting the south with a Scottish theme. Full details of speakers etc. will be in the next newsletter (*Number 200*) in February.

If you have never been to a Conference, please come while it is in our neighbourhood, there are always quality speakers and everyone will find something of interest, and help. The planning is well underway and as details are settled upon we will be letting you all know.

Pre-CHRISTMAS DINNER – Saturday 10 NOVEMBER

Here's something different as a lead-up to our Jubilee celebrations – a Christmas Banquet Dinner on Saturday 10 November at 6 pm at the Equinox (formerly Wobbly's), 146 Victoria Rd, Dunedin. The cost to members and partners will be \$20 pp – the rest of the cost of a delicious 3 course menu (check this out on their website www.equinoxdunedin.nz) will be subsidised by the Society. This recently refurbished restaurant is a must to experience and the ample parking and wheelchair access is a bonus. Please ring Lorraine on 455-6347 before Wednesday 7th November to confirm you'll be there – we look forward to seeing you!

SOUTHLAND MEETING & DINNER – Saturday 17 NOVEMBER

Our annual **Meeting and Dinner** will be held on Saturday 17 November at the Working Men's Club at 154 Esk Street, (corner of Esk and Ythan Streets). Time of the meeting is 4.15 pm, to be followed by a buffet meal which will be available from 5 pm (cost \$28) and the Society will provide a subsidy of \$10.00 which you can put towards your meal or drinks. Ring David and Vonnie on 214-1548 before Wednesday 14 November and let them know you'll be there. We look forward to seeing our regular attendees, as well as some new faces.

MEMBERSHIP

Deceased - We have recorded with regret the passing of Marion van Harten and Mervyn Tippett both of Invercargill. Our condolences go to their families and friends. We take this opportunity to thank the family and friends of Marion who generously gave donations to our Society at Marion's funeral. A total of \$292.00 was received.

New Members - Welcome to our new members: Errol Johnson of Mosgiel and Sandy Gilmete of Invercargill, (Who is Sandy? – check out page 4 of the latest "Purpose"). Welcome aboard both of you, maybe we will see you at some of our get-togethers.

ARTIFICIAL LIMB CENTRE CHRISTMAS DATES

As Christmas falls on a Tuesday this year NZALS has decided to close all Limb Centres from close of business on Friday 21 December until reopening on Thursday 3 January 2019.

This year they will have a Clinical Prosthetist on call from 4pm on Friday 21 December 2018 until normal business hours resume on Thursday 3 January 2019. If a client rings a Centre, they will get a voice message saying the Centre is closed and to ring a mobile number if they need any urgent assistance.

OUR GRANTS

Applications are invited for grants from the following funds:

Meffan and Pankhurst Funds - Welfare grants up to a maximum of \$300 in any one year are available to members to help improve independence and quality of life. Some examples of purposes for which grants can be made are: health and medical services; subsidising of travel over and above taxi vouchers; home comforts, e.g. wood, coal etc; equipment which will assist independence and/or mobility.

Coyle Young Achievers' Fund - Grants up to \$500 in any one year are available to young people up to the age of 30 to help with cultural and sporting interests and hobbies. Young people are encouraged to get in touch with the Coordinator or a Committee member to discuss possibilities.

Application Forms for all grants are available from the Coordinator and will be considered by the Finance Sub Committee after the closing date of 30 November. Applicants must have been a financial member of the Society for at least two years and, if successful, grants will be paid only upon the supply of a quote or invoice, with payment made to the service provider. Note that it is our policy that grants will not exceed the interest earned on our investments in any one year.

DONATION Thanks to the Lottery Grants Board for their grant of \$7,500.

Newsletters by email:?

Maybe you could help the Society finances by getting your Newsletter by that modern thingy called email. Now that postage has gone up to \$1:20 every letter we don't send out saves \$4.80 per year not including printing. Contact Lorraine at lorrystan@xtra.co.nz



Amputees Federation of New Zealand Inc.

Website: <http://www.amputee.co.nz/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Amputees-New-Zealand-171106899632566/>

OUR VISITORS –

Get in touch if you would like a visit or just a chat.

Dunedin and Districts - Lorraine Peacock 455-6347

Invercargill - David Johnston 214-1548 and Alice Smith 216-4271

Gore - Bill Lee 203-8263

Oamaru - Jan Browne 439-5543

Lakes District - Tetli Carey 409-0484



SUBSCRIPTIONS - There are still a few outstanding subs (\$10 per year) owing from 2017. If you are one of these, there'll be a red dot on your newsletter and this will be your last unless your subs are brought up to date. Currently there are 50 members who haven't yet paid for this year (2018), we have highlighted this [HERE](#) on your newsletter if you are one of these and payment would be appreciated before the end of this year - either to Sue at the Limb Centre, by post to Lorraine, or by direct credit to our bank account 031355 0277644 00 (please identify with your name).

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Patron: Mr C L Birks, MB, ChB, FRACS
Affiliated to the Amputees Federation of New Zealand Inc.