



Amputee
Society
of Taranaki Inc.

Amputee Society of Taranaki Inc
Te Whanau Mutu Mutu O Taranaki
Affiliated to the Amputees Federation of
New Zealand
www.af.org.nz

March 2015

Society Secretary:
Tracey Rees
143c Wills Road Bell
Block
New Plymouth
(06) 7554346
jon.tracey@xtra.co.nz

Monthly Meetings
& Events

AGM

21st of February 2015
11:00a.m.

Bev & Cliff Marx
57 Duthie Rd RD21
Stratford

Please bring a plate

21st of March 2015
11:00am.

Monthly Meeting,
New Plymouth Club,
New Plymouth

16th, 17th, 18th April 2015
National Conference
Wellington

*Everyone is welcome
if you would like to attend
but are having transport
problems we maybe
able to help you.*

Presidents Report

The past few months have gone by in a blur. End of year, Christmas time, New Year and before you know it, January is done and dusted.

The Society has held some successful meetings over the last three months.

Novembers was held at the South Taranaki Club in Hawera
Decembers was a Christmas function at your Presidents home in New Plymouth.

Then we met at the New Plymouth Club in January.

I believe the benefits of holding our meetings/social events at various venues around the province cannot be understated. It is proving a popular method of attracting our existing and new members. I am very pleased with the turnouts and the inputs from those attending.

They can help identify issues that the Society sometimes is unaware of.

As you will notice the Society has picked up and adopted the new logo from the Amputees Federation which brings a far more modern and fresh look to our letterheads etc.

If you are having problems arranging transportation through WINZ to your respective Limb Centre's, please let either our Secretary Tracey Rees - Phone (06) 755 4346 or myself Wally Garrett Phone – (06) 757 2435 know.

There seem to be more than one or two isolated incidents occurring. The more we hear about, the more ammunition so to speak.

Something has changed to the detriment and I would like to see if we can help get it back to the streamlined system that worked well in previous years.

Please remember our two field officers Colleen Mundt -Sth Taranaki, and Margaret Barraclough -Nth Taranaki, are only a phone call away for any enquiries.

The AGM will be held 11.00a.m. 21st February 2015 at Cliff and Bev Marx's home at 57 Upper Duthie Road Mangatoki Stratford

Wally Garrett – President
wal.barb@xtra.co.nz ph (06) 7572435

Field Officers News from Colleen Mundt – South Taranaki/Wanganui

I hope everyone had a great Xmas and a good new year and I hope to see you all soon.

The Limb fitter will be at Taranaki Base Hospital on the 12th of February, for an appointment ring the Auckland Limb Centre on 0508630630 and in Whanganui on the 16th of April – ring Wellington Limb Centre on 0508389389

Colleen Mundt- South Taranaki/ Wanganui Field Officer – (06) 2788997

2015 - AGM

Membership is very important to the sustainability of our society so we hope you continue to support your local branch.

Useful Websites & Channels

- www.amputee-coalition.org - Amputee Coalition of America
- Amputee OT – Youtube Channel– Instructional videos
 - www.af.org.nz- Amputee Federation of NZ

Field Officers News from Margaret Barraclough– North Taranaki

Now that Christmas and New Year is over our world as we know it is finally back to normality and I have been out visiting or phoning our local members.

Our numbers are static as two have left and two have joined us, one member has gone without a trace and another has moved to be closer to family.

On the brighter side we have two new members who seem to be enjoying our company and what the Society has to offer so welcome David and Bevin.

Margaret Barraclough North Taranaki Field Officer (06) 7533207



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Taranaki Regional Limb Clinic

12th of February 2015

Taranaki Base Hospital Orthotic Department

For an appointment please ph Auckland Limb Centre Toll free- 0508630630

Whanganui Regional Limb Clinic

16th of April 2015

Whanganui Hospital

For an appointment please ph Wellington Limb Centre Toll free- 0508389389

Contributions to the newsletter are welcome please contact:

Sara Garrod – (06) 2726401/0272393902 or email- saracorey@xtra.co.nz

Events, Meetings & Publications for 2015

Please be aware that dates and times may change at short notice.

For more information please make contact with our Events Coordinator:

Christine Windle – 238 Egmont Street, Patea, Taranaki – 06 2736088 – christinewindle@xtra.co.nz

| <u>EVENTS FOR 2014</u> | <u>MONTH</u> | <u>DATE/S</u> | <u>TIME</u> | <u>LOCATION</u> |
|------------------------|------------------|---------------|-------------|---|
| | JANUARY | | | |
| MONTHLY MEETING | | 24.01.15 | 10.00am | NP Club – New Plymouth |
| | FEBRUARY | | | |
| AGM & MONTHLY MEETING | | 21.02.15 | 11.00am | Bev & Cliff Marx – 57 Duthie Rd, RD21, Stratford. Please bring a plate |
| | MARCH | | | |
| MONTHLY MEETING | | 21.03.15 | 10.00am | NP Club – New Plymouth |
| | APRIL | | | |
| NATIONAL CONFERENCE | | 17.04.15 | | Wellington |
| | MAY | | | |
| MONTHLY MEETING | | 23.05.15 | 10.00am | South Taranaki Club – Hawera |
| | JUNE | | | |
| LUNCHEON | | 20.06.15 | TBC | TBC |
| | JULY | | | |
| MONTHLY MEETING | | TBC | | |
| | AUGUST | | | |
| MONTHLY MEETING | | TBC | | |
| | SEPTEMBER | | | |
| MONTHLY MEETING | | TBC | | |
| | OCTOBER | | | |
| MONTHLY MEETING | | TBC | | |
| | NOVEMBER | | | |
| MONTHLY MEETING | | TBC | | |
| | DECEMBER | | | |
| CHRISTMAS SPECIAL | | TBC | | |

Home Alterations Information

MOH criteria for funding (To access an assessment from Occupational therapist you require a referral from your GP)

Your therapist has identified that you:

- Have a long term disability
- Are a New Zealand resident
- Live in the region for which funding is available

There are also clinical criteria regarding your level of need that your therapist must assess you for. As well as funding and clinical issues, the following are other criteria to be considered by you, the therapist and the homeowner (if you are not the home owner).

1. Funding will only be granted for **essential** alterations, ie. The most cost effective option to meet your essential disability needs.
Nothing more will be funded although you can pay for any additional work to be done at the same time if you want to. This must be negotiated between you and the contractor. Let your therapist know immediately if you wish to do this, as it needs to be planned for from the beginning.
2. If you have optional extra work done, this must still be approved by the occupational therapist as being suitable for your needs. If it is not suitable, funding will not be approved for the essential work that meets MOH criteria.
3. If your home is considered 'not readily and basically accessible' (e.g. split level home on a hillside section) then **Enable NZ** may decline the application.
4. If you live in a rented property, or your home is going to cost a lot to alter, **Enable NZ** requires your therapist to ask you to consider shifting to a more suitable property. The MOH does not cover the cost of such a move, but may consider lesser alterations that may be required if the new home is going to meet your long term needs.
5. Funding will usually only be granted once in your lifetime, unless unexpected significant changes occur in your condition. If you move for social, rather than disability related reasons, funding will not be granted to have another property altered for you. If you have a progressive illness, the therapist may recommend alterations that seem slightly more than essential at the moment, but which you are likely to need in the future,
6. If the quote for alterations is less than **\$200**, they will not be funded at all. This is the minimum amount for which funding is available.
7. If the cost of a modification to provide external access (e.g. a ramp) is above **\$15,334** (incl. GST), this is the maximum level of funding that will be granted.
8. Applications over **\$8,076 (incl.GST)** require an asset and income test to be done by WINZ. If this shows you can contribute to the costs, \$8,076 may be the maximum grant given. If you cannot contribute, then the grant will be for the full cost involved. If you have had other alterations done previously (e.g. handrails in another part of the house) the cost of these will be deducted from the new grant.
9. **Absolutely no funding is granted for work you have already had done or ordered.**
10. **Enable NZ will not approve MOH funding for any home maintenance that needs to be done in order to complete the alterations. This is the responsibility of the home owner; e.g. if rotten framework, below standard plumbing or electrical cables are found in the course of construction, the owner would be required to fund the repairs & maintenance to fix this.**

Finance

Please note subscriptions are now overdue
If you have not paid please do so

Annual subscriptions are due on the **1st of April 2015**. Please post your subscription to:

Mrs. Margaret Simpson, (Patron) 14 Exeter Street, Stratford, 4332

| | |
|--|---------|
| MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION (\$10.00) | \$..... |
| Associate Membership for your partner/spouse (\$10.00) | \$..... |
| Donation to Society funds (donations over \$5.00 are tax deductible) | \$..... |
| Total enclosed | \$..... |

Please make your cheque payable to the Amputee Society of Taranaki Inc.

Direct payment may be made using internet banking or at any TSB Branch

(Account-15-3953-0457601-00) Please include your name as reference if paying electronically or at the TSB

Name.....

(Include: name below of partner/spouse if subscribing as an Associate Member)

Name.....

Address.....

Phone Number/s.....

Email.....