



# Amputee Society of Manawatu Inc.

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## Newsletter June 2016.

### Greetings ASM members,

As I write and complete this newsletter I want to focus on some positives and by comparison suggest we are lucky to live in NZ with a relatively stable government and economy. July will start before this newsletter arrives with you and until now winter has been relatively mild but damp. The shortest day has passed and daylight saving is only 12 weeks away. Yeah. With the AB's dealing to Wales and the four nations looming followed by the Olympics we have a lot to look forward to. By comparison the future of the UK, the election in the USA and even the election in Australia seems to hang in the balance. I suggest you stay indoors and warm and look forward to increasing daylight.

**Next member function Sat 9<sup>th</sup> July 2016:** This will be held at the Woolshed which is located on SH1 just south of Sanson on the right as you head towards Foxton. Please let either Lis Cottam, myself or Janice in Wanganui know **of your intentions to attend by Weds 6<sup>th</sup> July**. A meal rebate of \$10/member with subs paid up will be offered to those attending.

**AGM:** On a second attempt the AGM was held Sat 19<sup>th</sup> March with 17 members present. Reports were presented, a new committee elected with Beverley Cook joining the committee and Justine McLeod accepting the position of Treasurer. At the conclusion of the meeting refreshments were enjoyed with muffins and hot crossed buns provided.

**Conference 2016 15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> April.** This was held in Christchurch and the Canterbury Westcoast Amputee Society is to be congratulated and thanked for hosting such a successful weekend. Manawatu was represented by four members with Lis and Lester Cottam as delegates. Reports from those attending are included with this newsletter for member information. As first time attendees I'm sure Beverley Cook and Justine McLeod have a much greater appreciation of the Federation of Amputees and what it offers. Conference 2017 will be held in Auckland and all members are encouraged to consider attending.

**Membership subs 2015.** Subs were confirmed for 2016 at the AGM "A Smiley Face" on this newsletter indicates subs are already paid. The "INVOICE" stamp indicates subs are now due. At \$5 for both amputee and able bodied members this represents very good value. Subs can be posted to the treasurer Justin McLeod ( address above) or paid by internet banking to ASM BNZ account **02 0719 0142317 000**.

**Limb Centre:** The next regional clinics will be held in Palmerston North on 27<sup>th</sup> Oct and in Wanganui on 28<sup>th</sup> Oct. Members need to contact the Limb Centre 0508 389389 to make an appointment and confirm available times.

**Home and hospital visits:** These are available on request so please contact one of the office holders so that arrangements can be made.

**Purpose and attached letter:** Please find attached your copy of the latest "Purpose". A good read by all accounts and open to your contribution. Take note letters to the editor are limited to 300 words.

### **Conference reports:**

On the Friday night the Business Meeting was held and all the delegates from all the Branches in New Zealand sat around the Table for the Council Meeting. This is when the Executive is elected for the coming year and there have been some new executive members elected including Claudia Teague a younger member from Auckland Branch. There was some discussion about the role of Vice Patrons and whether it was necessary to have 4 Vice Patrons. We were informed that these people represent the various Limb Centres in New Zealand. And this has remained unchanged. There was a lot of discussion about osseointegration and a Remit was submitted by Taranaki Branch. This Remit asks for the Executive to support more choices for Amputees in New Zealand including osseointegration. Hopefully we can expect to hear more about this in the near future. Keep an eye on Purpose!

At Conference each Branch brings a Banner to display depicting their Branch. I took note that Manawatu Branch is not up with the play! Our Banner has the old Logo and currently we do not have a stand to effectively display the Banner like the other Branches have. Hopefully we will have a new Banner to take to the next Conference.

Conference was an enjoyable and interesting experience and I am grateful for the opportunity to be a delegate and attend the Conference.

### **Elisabeth Cottam President ASM**

The participants in the "Give it a Go" programme reported back to conference on Sunday morning. This group of 15 young amputees thoroughly enjoyed the experience of the various activities undertaken. Horse riding, jet oating, and high wire course. Each participant reported where they were from and the amputee society that encouraged them to participate. They also commented on the activity they enjoyed the most. Each participant thanked the Federation for the opportunity to take part. One young participant from Auckland (Claudia Teague) is now a member of Executive and will take over the coordination of GIAG for next year.

There was also an inspirational address by John Aye, BK amputee, Patient and Family Outreach Coordinator from New Orleans USA. John outlined his and his family's experiences and he certainly has had some major obstacles and trauma to overcome- and he did! He faced the challenges of his life with a positive attitude and has overcome all adversity.

### **Lester Cottam: delegate**

On Saturday afternoon, a session gave the Limb Service a chance to report on their service. Funding to NZALS comes from Ministry of Health. Orthopro is subcontracted by NZALS with a limited budget while ACC funds both NZALS and Orthopro. The future may see more private practice in more centres allowing for possible easier access for patients with less delay and reduced travel time.

### **Beverley Cook: observer**