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NEWSLETTER

No. 189 MAY 2016

Here we are, nearly half of the year gone already and the great weather continues - long may it last! With this newsletter is the March issue of *Purpose* - although late, I'm sure you will find it a good read.

NNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our 72nd AGM and dinner at the Otago Bridge Club on Saturday 12th March drew our usual core group of loyal supporters plus one or two newcomers. We were pleased to welcome and appoint Chris Birks as our new Patron (Chris has since been appointed one of the five Vice Patrons of the Amputees Federation of NZ). Following the meeting, Chris gave us an interesting talk on his background and the contribution he now makes to the Limb Centre as its consultant. David Johnston of Invercargill was elected President (great to see someone from the deep south in this position), Anna Grimaldi was elected Vice President, yours truly Coordinator, and other committee members are Tony Horsfall, Simon McMillan, Rory McSweeney, Rod Oakley, Holly Robinson, Graeme Sayer and Tony Wilson. It's really pleasing to have our three young budding paralympians on board again. Good luck to all of you for Rio - your lead-up of achievements in the last few months has certainly been impressive!). (See AGM photos taken by Jane Smith on our page of the Federation's website www.af.org.nz)

EW MEMBERS

After having reported a slight decline in the last newsletter, it's good to see that we're on the way up again! A warm welcome to Ngaire Harvey of Mosgiel, Jean Murray of Mosgiel, James Wilson of Mosgiel, Graeme Robertson of Riverton, Stephen Marsh of Kaitangata, and Catherine Richardson of Gore. Also, welcome back to Richard Johnstone of Balclutha, Jim Dickie of Gore and Judy Elliott-Hall of Alexandra.

BITUARIES

We have recorded with regret the passing of Dorothy Wilkinson of Oamaru and Albert Boks of Mosgiel.

EVAN MITCHELL CELEBRATORY DINNER

We're off to the Balclutha Town & Country Club on Saturday 23 July to enjoy each other's company and remember Evan who passed away two years ago. We'll meet at the Club (1 Yarmouth Street) at approximately 6 pm and there's plenty to choose from on an appetising menu at reasonable prices. Transport will be provided from Invercargill and Dunedin - ring either David in Invercargill (214-1548) or me in Dunedin (455-6347) by Saturday 16 July to arrange this.

ERE & THERE

Multisports - The 10 pin bowling and pool held over from last year duly took place in February and the overall winners were Rory McSweeney (1st), Tony Wilson (2nd) and Anna Grimaldi (3rd), the golf and clay target shooting events having been held in November.

Golf Cart - A reminder that our golf cart at the 12 Oaks Golf Course in Mosgiel is available to all members. If you wish to use it, please phone Tony Wilson to make arrangements (455-8426).

Our thanks to the Invercargill Licensing Trust for their recent generous grant.

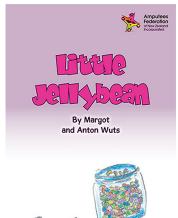
Emailed Newsletters - With the pending increase in postage from 80c to \$1, we are very keen for those members who are on email to receive their newsletters and Purpose this way. Please email me and advise (lorrstan@xtra.co.nz) or tick the box on the form on page 2.

Patron: Mr C L Birks, MB, ChB, FRACS

NONFERENCE 2016

With the support of Pub Charity to cover accommodation costs, Otago/Southland was well represented at the recent National Conference in Christchurch, and it was great that David Johnston was elected to the Executive Committee. A report on the conference will be included in the next issue

of Purpose.



One of the highlights, however, was the launch of *Little Jellybean*, a book written by Margot and Anton Wuts of Hawke's Bay, especially for child amputees and their parents. Here is an abbreviated synopsis from the book:

Trixie was diagnosed with Distal Arthrogryposis in utero, and from birth suffered through many procedures to try and correct the deformities in both of her feet. With no resolution in sight, and other parts of her body being adversely affected by the lack of improvement, amputation was considered. The medical professionals agreed that it would be the best chance of her having an active and hopefully pain-free life.....

This book promises to be an invaluable resource for the parents in particular of young children who have had or are contemplating amputation. Copies are available free of charge from the Coordinator.

That's all for now. Until next time, take care.

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

Dunedin and Districts - Lorraine Peacock 455-6347, Tony Horsfall 453-1261, and Rory McSweeney 027 264 0305

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

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