



Amputee Society of Otago & Southland Inc.

Coordinator

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Newsletter November 2020 No. 207

Hi Everyone,

We are still surviving covid-19 as the spring settles in. Lots of growth, calves, lambs, and new life everywhere we look. We hope all members are managing to feel the joy that spring brings. The old Government is back in power just with a new format, and feeling confident they have the support of the people. Your Society committee has continued to meet by using Zoom. This seems to be working well.

INVERCARGILL MEETING & DINNER

Our usual get-together will take place on **Saturday 14 November** at the Workingmen's Club at 154 Esk Street, (corner of Esk and Ythan Streets). Time of the meeting is 6.15 pm, to be followed by a buffet meal which will be available from 6 pm (cost \$30) and the Society will provide a subsidy of \$10.00 which you can put towards your meal or drinks. Ring David and Vonnice on 214-1548 before Wednesday 11th November and let them know you'll be there. We look forward to seeing our regular attendees, as well as some new faces.

Pre-CHRISTMAS DINNER – Saturday 5 DECEMBER

Here's something as a lead-up to your Christmas celebrations – a Christmas Banquet Dinner on Saturday 5th December at 6 pm at the Equinox, 146 Victoria Rd, Dunedin. The cost to members and partners will be \$25 pp – the rest of the cost of a delicious 3 course menu will



be subsidised by the Society. This restaurant is a must to experience and the ample parking and wheelchair access is a bonus. Please ring Lorraine on 455-6347 before Wednesday 2nd December to confirm you'll be there – we look forward to seeing you!

ARTIFICIAL LIMB CENTRE CHRISTMAS DATES

This year NZALS has decided to close all Limb Centres from 12:00 noon on Thursday 24 December until reopening on Tuesday 5th January 2021.

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.

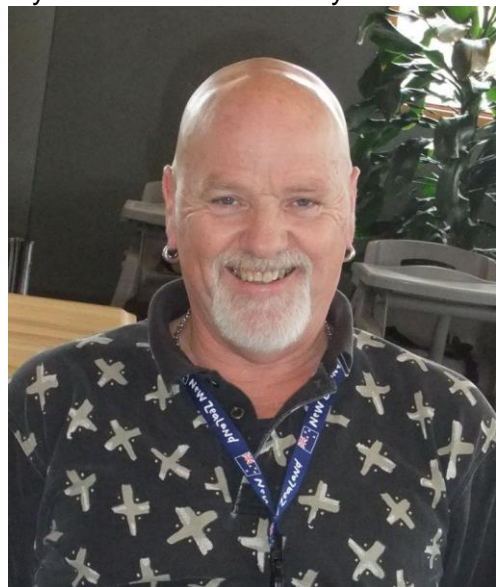
MEMBERSHIP

Deaths – Sadly we record the deaths of Don Duck of Oamaru and Roy Coombes of Karitane. Roy had been a member since 1968 and was a keen supporter of our golf days in earlier years.

New Member – A warm welcome to a new member Paul Devaney of Dunedin.

PROFILE – GRAEME SAYER

My name is Graeme Sayer and I live by the beach in Dunedin. I am 62 years old and have a right below knee amputation. I have been married to Mary for 40 years and have 3 adult children and 5 grandchildren.



I had a motorbike accident in 1986 which resulted in my right ankle being crushed. Modern medicine reconstructed my ankle and I became known as the \$6 man. I was a bit of a medical experiment and over time the ankle reconstruction disintegrated and became arthritic. In 2010 I made the decision to have it amputated. Of course the medical men took longer to make up their minds but

by September 2010 they did as I asked.

I have never looked back. I have been able to continue with my 44 year trade as a boilermaker and I enjoy my new life with a better leg than I had for 24 years. It has given me the opportunity to meet a lot of very interesting and inspiring people and make some new friends through my association with the Amputee Society. I have been a member of the Otago/Southland committee since 2012.

ANNA GRIMALDI



PERHAPS the Paralympics postponement was not such a bad thing for Anna Grimaldi (Our Otago/Southland Vice President). This time two weeks ago it had been four years since she set her personal best in T47 long jump of 5.62m — winning gold in Rio in the process. After a fractured foot and a long rehabilitation, she is finally back to her best.

Anna (23), who was born without a left hand, has exceeded that mark from Rio five times in the past two weeks. The farthest of those jumps came at last Thursday's twilight meeting at the Caledonian Ground in Dunedin. She set a New Zealand Para record of 5.72m.

It was a jump that would have won last year's world championships by 20cm. It also leaves her ranked fifth in New Zealand among all females — including able-bodied jumpers.

Off the track she has been kept busy studying a diploma in construction management, to complement the quantity surveying degree she graduated with.

She has a busy summer planned, competing both in Dunedin and heading to some meetings further north in the new year.

Total Mobility Taxis - As previously advised, our Society is no longer an agency for Total Mobility. A list of Dunedin agencies you can contact to obtain an ID smart card is available from Lorraine. For Southland members, you will need to contact Southern Mobility for photo ID and application forms, or call into the ICC to have your photo taken.



Accessibility Map in Southland - The Southland District Council has published an accessibility map of Southland. As well as showing accessible restaurants, toilets etc., the map shows accessible museums, libraries and walking tracks. The map is available on their website <https://www.southlanddc.govt.nz/home/accessibility-map/> or by emailing Janet Thomas at janet.thomas@southlanddc.govt.nz

Mobility Parks and Accessible toilets in Dunedin

Here is the DCC website link to downloadable maps around the city. <https://www.dunedin.govt.nz/services/parking/schemes-and-permits/mobility-scheme>. Toilets: <https://www.dunedin.govt.nz/community-facilities/public-toilets>.

An elderly deaf guy gets fitted for a hearing aid and it works like a charm. He comes back a week later and the Doctor asks "Is your family happy you can hear again?" And he says "I haven't told them, I just sit around and listen....I have changed my will 3 times!"

The therapist told me the way to achieve true inner peace is to finish what I start. So far I have finished 2 bags of M & Ms and a chocolate cake. I feel better already!

Amputees Federation of New Zealand Inc.

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

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

OUR CONTACTS

Dunedin and Districts - Lorraine Peacock 455-6347 and

Graeme Sayer 021 168 9221

Invercargill - David Johnston 214-1548 or 0274-548-483 and

Alice Smith 216-4271

Gore - Bill Lee 203-8263

Oamaru - Jan Browne 439-5543

Lakes District - Tetli Carey 409-0484

Newsletters by email:

With postage having again increased from July, it would be a considerable saving to the Society if you are able to receive your newsletters by email.

Contact Lorraine at lorrstan@xtra.co.nz

SUBSCRIPTIONS

There are still 8 members who haven't paid their sub for 2019 – signified by a red dot on this newsletter - and this will be your last unless your subs are brought up to date. There are also a number of members who haven't yet paid for this year (2020) and this is highlighted HERE if you are one of these. 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.