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Journal of the



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Federation**  
of New Zealand  
Incorporated

November 2022



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are invited  
and welcome

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**Contributions welcome.**  
**Deadlines for articles**  
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**and October each year.**

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# **AMPUTEES FEDERATION OF NEW ZEALAND INCORPORATED**

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# EDITORIAL

October 4<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> marked the second annual Amputee Awareness Week (AAW). This year the Federation with help from Peke Waihanga (Artificial Limb Service), Ambrosial Studios, and 3 Sweets were able to provide some promotional material to Societies which was, from feedback so far, a huge success.

Whilst AAW is in October any time is a good time to promote awareness and some societies have chosen to use these promotional items throughout the year. Local Societies are the key to a Successful AAW, so I encourage purpose readers to think about next year's AAW and what you could do to assist your local committee.

In other new Conference is confirmed for April 14<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> 2023 in Christchurch. Conference and GIAG (Give It A Go) are an opportunity for Amputees to learn new and exciting things from speakers and sponsors, meet other amputees. I look forward to getting to know and meet more of yous on this great weekend.

As we close of the year and get ready to enjoy our Christmas Functions, i wish everyone good health, safe travels and a nice relaxing holiday season.

I look forward to getting to know more of you as we travel along this journey together.

With good wishes *Alesha Kelly*

Search **Amputees New Zealand** on Facebook  
and **Like** us (Closed Group also available)



# PROFILE - BOB NEWBY

Bob and his wife, Tricia, have lived at the Charles Upham Retirement Village in Rangiora since April, 2016. Bob was born in 1937 at the now defunct St Helens Maternity Hospital in Christchurch. He was the second child of four born to his parents who lived in Heathcote.

Bob was heavily involved in cross country running and harriers and it was in 1954 whilst competing in the Takahe to Akaroa race that he first met Tricia and started going out with her a year later. Bob recalled that he ran over the top of a hill and there was Tricia “waiting for me”. They married in 1959 and have 5 children, the oldest a daughter (born Greymouth) living in Australia then came identical twin daughters (born Westport) followed by identical twin sons (born Christchurch), all of whom live in New Zealand.

After leaving CBHS, he attended ChCh Teachers Training College for 2 years. His first posting was to Woodend then to Cobden (Greymouth) for 2 ½ years before moving north to Sergeants Hill School near Westport in 1961. Bob then moved to Port Levy on Banks Peninsula for another 2 years before the family shifted north to Hukanui in the northern Wairarapa in 1965 where they spent 3 years until returning to ChCh to take up a position at Isleworth School.

In 1973, Bob made the decision to leave teaching and take a position with Ashton Scholastic who specialised in educational publishing. A promotion to the role of Marketing Manager in 1977 saw the family move to Auckland where they lived in Half Moon Bay.

In 1980, Bob made the move back to teaching where he had positions at Tamaki Intermediate and Flat Bush School, the latter as Deputy Principal until 1984. He then went back to educational publishing for a year before he and a colleague purchased a garage building company in Taupo. Another stint of teaching in Taupo followed before they decided to buy a native plant nursery in Oamaru which they ran until 2004 followed by their last shift to Christchurch to retire.

Being an avid outdoorsman, Bob has tramped extensively all over NZ and while on a tramp in the Travis Saddle (Nelson Lakes) in 1999, while guiding a group of young people for their Duke of Edinburgh Award requirements, he suffered a fall which seriously damaged cartilage in his knee which eventually led to a total knee replacement in 2007. He contracted an infection which caused issues and a further replacement was carried out in 2011. All was well through until 2017 when another infection of the knee caused massive issues he ended up having a left AK amputation in May, 2019.

Bob & Tricia have been caravanning since 1972 and a few years ago bought the motorhome which they absolutely love getting away in to explore new and far-flung, remote parts of NZ. Due to his physical challenges, Bob said he misses his gardening and “making things” in his garage and being able to walk New Zealand’s magnificent high country. But that latter is now a new challenge that has to be conquered.

# Could a Mobility Dog help you?



I'd like to say hello and introduce myself; my name is Gamma Overton and I am the Client Coordinator – Applicants, at Mobility Dogs. I am your first point of contact when you send through an enquiry or apply for one of our service dogs.

I absolutely love my job. Being able to support people to live the life they choose and watching the difference one of our Mobility Dogs can make is a wonderful rewarding experience.

Mobility Dogs are specially trained to help disabled New Zealanders with their individual, unique needs. Through practical support, companionship and unconditional love, these dogs truly transform the lives of their partners, who enjoy greater independence and quality of life. The dogs also help build stronger relationships and communities. The bond between mobility dogs and their human partner can enhance a more active life, improve social interaction and increase confidence and self esteem.

There are three main programmes:

- **Mobility Dogs:** are trained to help people living with a disability with everyday tasks. They also provide companionship, emotional support and a connection to the community.
- **Community Dogs:** are trained to provide emotional support just like a Mobility Dog. Places that may benefit from working with a Community Dog include rehabilitation clinics, educational environments, medical practices, or even dental clinics. In conjunction with the organisation we tailor the dog's skills to best suit the needs of their clients.
- **Companion Dogs:** go through a very similar training programme to a Mobility Dog and these incredible dogs have extraordinary, innate therapeutic abilities. Often the bond between a dog and its human can help overcome many emotional impacts of their human's conditions and can allow an individual to gain confidence in themselves that may have been lost, as well as provide friendship, love and emotional support.

The application process is in three stages. Each stage is reviewed by the Mobility Dogs team, and you may be asked to continue to the second, and then the third stage which involves a functional assessment with a physiotherapist or occupational therapist, or you might be advised that your application has not been successful.

If you are successful then the placement process can begin. This is where we start looking for a suitable Mobility Dog with the training, skills, personality and physical requirements to match your needs. This can happen quickly or take significant time to find a suitable match.

All Mobility and Community Dogs have the full support of Mobility Dogs until they reach retirement.

**"What it's like having Darby with me is hard to explain. It has changed me on so many levels - physically, emotionally, psychologically, and spiritually. I have my dignity back and I feel complete!"**

Mobility Dog client Linda-Lee talking about her Mobility Dog Darby





# PROFILE - IVAN KIPPENBERGER

Ivan's parents had moved to Gisborne during The Depression where they met and later married. In 1944, he became the 3<sup>rd</sup> born son after which the family then moved to the King Country for 4 years where his father was involved in the sawmilling industry as a trained saw doctor. His father's involvement with the "wood" industry played a part in Ivan's (and later Caryl's) many moves associated with his vocation in Forestry. During his formative years, Ivan gained a passion for the outdoors, especially pig hunting and would often go hunting on his own.

Straight out of school, Ivan joined the Forest Service as a ranger trainee which included both practical and theoretical training at many different locations around NZ. It was while being based in Reefton in 1964 that he first met Caryl, a local Reefton girl and even though their vocations took them away from Reefton, they remained in contact over the next few years. By 1966 in his 4<sup>th</sup> year of training, Ivan was transferred to Tapanui where he was in charge of a pruning/planting gang. During this year, Ivan also completed his National Service training at Burnham Military Camp before returning to Tapanui. He returned to Reefton where Ivan became a Junior Instructor at the NZ Forest Service Ranger Training School but Caryl had moved.

They became engaged while Caryl was still in Hawera and Ivan in Reefton but another move beckoned so they could be together. In early 1968 Caryl obtained a transfer to teach at Lower Moutere and Ivan to Golden Downs Forest.

Ivan's continued passion for outdoor pursuits saw him go pig hunting with a colleague in February 1968 but an accidental discharge from his partner's rifle hit Ivan in the lower left calf causing major damage. While his partner went for help, Ivan was very resourceful and used his belt as a tourniquet to restrict blood loss whilst resting his damaged leg placed up in the air against a tree trunk. He finally got to Nelson Hospital for treatment but after 5 days, the surgeon decided that amputation was necessary due to there being very poor circulation in the damaged lower leg. With Caryl's wonderful support, Ivan recovered well and, in the October, they were married in Reefton whereupon they moved back to Golden Downs to start their married life together.

. In 1985, as part of the NZ aid programme to the Pacific Islands, Ivan accepted the role of Chief Forest Officer in Tonga on secondment to NZ Foreign Affairs. After 2 1/2 years in Tonga, they returned to NZ but as a lot of the Government Departments had been privatised around that time, Ivan found himself out of work without a job. In late 1987, Ivan was offered a role with NZ Foreign Affairs in Samoa as a forest advisor and in February, 1988, he and Caryl moved to Samoa where they spent the next 2 years.

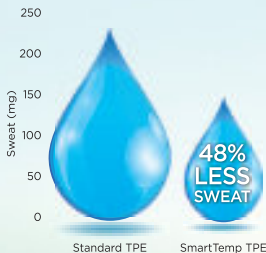
In May, 1990, the role finished so he and Caryl headed off on a 3-month holiday travelling all around Europe and the UK. In February, 1991, they purchased a market garden property in Walters Rd, Marshland where for the next 29 years, they grew capsicums & micro-greens using the NFT (Nutrient Film Technique) hydroponic method. They are enjoying their new life and Ivan is attending the gym, swimming, playing golf and making superb coffee on his "pet" coffee maker. Ivan said the greatest risk/s he took in his life was to go hunting on his own. In a strange twist, he said that if he had been on his own, the rifle discharge would not have happened but without a partner to go for help, he could well have died from blood loss.



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\*Study data on file and online at [willowwood.com/core](http://willowwood.com/core)



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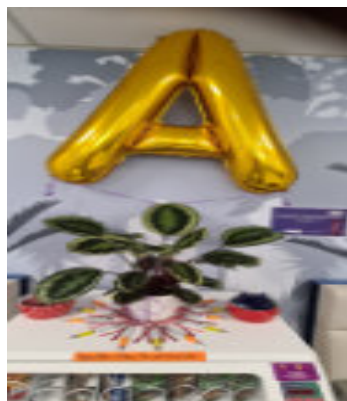
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# Awareness Week 2022









# SOCKET COMPETITION

**Design an arm or leg socket that you would love to wear!** Pre and finished design ideas welcome!

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Let your imagination run wild - anything you can print on a t-shirt can work as a design on a socket\*.

## How to Enter

Send your design/illustration/photo to [info@amputee.co.nz](mailto:info@amputee.co.nz) along with your:

- full name
- phone number
- postal address
- short description of your design.

**There are fantastic prizes to be won!**

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Entries open on **1 May 2022** and close on **28 February 2023**.

\* Please keep your entries PG- we are a family-friendly group!



**Have you seen our two publications?**

*A New Challenge - Advice for New Amputees*  
and *An Ongoing Challenge* (reprinted 2022)

Both are available from the National Coordinator  
or your Regional Society

*If you are receiving Purpose in printed form and would like an e-copy emailed to you, please let us know.*

*“A party without a cake,” is really just a meeting.*

*— Julia Child (June 2020)*

**SOMETHING TO LAUGH ABOUT**

*The following extracts are from short and funny quotes .....*

“When tempted to fight fire with fire, remember that the Fire Department usually uses water.”

“Age is of no importance unless you’re a cheese.”

“I used to think I was indecisive, but now I’m not so sure.”

“It could be that your purpose in life is to serve as a warning to others.”

“Never put off until tomorrow what you can do the day after tomorrow.”

“The best things in life are actually really expensive.”



"The road to success is dotted with many tempting parking spaces."

"Well-behaved women seldom make history."

"A clear conscience is a sure sign of a bad memory."

"Always remember that you are unique – just like everybody else."

"Nothing is impossible, the word itself says "I'm possible!"

"The difference between genius and stupidity is; genius has its limits."

"When I hear somebody sigh, "Life is hard", I am always tempted to ask, "Compared to what?"

"Bad decisions make good stories."

"Opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work."

*As you slide down the bannister of Life may the splinters  
never point the wrong way.*

### **"Gems" from our History**

"Prisoners 'High' on Limb -An amputee was accused of smuggling cocaine inside his wooden leg, in fact 200g were found stuffed in the top of the leg. But after he was arrested, agents decided against inspecting the inside of the entire leg. After the prisoner got to jail, he was able to keep his cellmates 'high' for a month. After a guard became suspicious, offers drilled into the sealed calf area where more drugs were found. Some had already been used for spiking the prisoner's coffee."

"When Bristol Hospital in England gave Henry Lovell an artificial left leg, he ended up with two right feet. The 72 year old pensioner hobbled around for days wondering why his new limb hurt. Then, as he was changing his socks, he noticed that his new toes were pointing the wrong way. "It would be laughable if it wasn't so serious," he complained "That foot passed through the hands of three hospital experts."

"A suggestion has been put forward that we adopt the tune "Footloose" as the National Anthem of the Amputees."

## NEWS FROM THE REGIONS

**A**uckland & Northland - Nothing to Report

**W**aikato, Bay of Plenty & Districts -Over the last few months our Society has enjoyed connecting with our members. We had a great turn out for our coffee meet and greet gatherings and a BBQ lunch for Amputee Awareness Week. Our Society has also partnered with Good Neighbour and are offering food packages for our members and those in need. *(Matthew Bryson, President)*

**H**awke's Bay/East Coast - Amputee Awareness Week was held recently and we had 3 displays set up in different locations. The Urban Market in iClive Square, Napier was a huge success with loads of conversations around living life as an amputee and the different types of prosthesis and support services that are available. We were visited by some of our current members and gave information to others to pass on to recent amputees. A new transport initiative has also been rolled out in Hastings recently called MyWay, this on demand service replaces 3 of the previous bus routes and accessible transport can now be requested when you want it to where you want it by using the app or calling the 0800 number. If successful I'm sure this will be rolled out across the region. Looking ahead, we will be organising our Xmas function soon which is always well attended by our members. *(Korrin Barrett, Treasurer)*

**M**anawatu & Districts - Nothing to Report

**G**reater Wellington Region -We had a fantastic response to the various events that we ran for Amputee Awareness Week. Thanks to the hard working committee for your commitment. We will be having a Christmas dinner for members and family on Monday the 5<sup>th</sup> December at the Quinns Post restaurant in Upper Hutt. RSVP to [rob.penhey@gmail.com](mailto:rob.penhey@gmail.com) to book your place. 1 annual Matariki Mid-winter dinner - *(Rob Penhey, Secretary)*

**Top of the South** - The Society have been busy fundraising & bringing an awareness of our Society to Nelson by holding sausage sizzles. Outside Mitre 10. We have had 2 with 2 more booked in October and November. It's been a lot of fun - we have arms and legs on display for people to pick up and look at and our large sign brings in lots of comments and questions. We are really appreciative of the donations we have received. We also held a darts afternoon at the Nelson Dart club - we found out we have some pretty good dart throwers amongst us. Everyone who attended enjoyed it and are looking forward to another one in the future. Shane, our President and Field Officer, is meeting with the Nelson Hospital surgeons and Allied Health staff on the 14<sup>th</sup> October to talk about what our Society can offer their patients. Our Society sent out letters during Covid lockdown introducing Shane and his role as a field officer, and the other Nelson and Blenheim contact people and this invitation to speak came from those letters. *(John West, Secretary)*


**Canterbury & Westland** - Canterbury/Westland Society are ticking along nicely and we are receiving great support from not only our members but also the wider community. At the end of August, we held a most successful fundraiser in the form of a Quiz evening where we were able to raise over \$1400. During Amputee Awareness Week, members helped man stands at The Palms Mall and the Riccarton Market. It was most heartening to see the "buy in" from the wider community and we were lucky enough to raise more funds by way of some very generous donations. Our next function is the Xmas dinner at The Redwood Hotel on Sunday December 4<sup>th</sup> *(Mark Bruce, President)*

**Otago & Southland** - The Meridian Mall in Dunedin was the venue for an Amputee Awareness Week display of our publications and a variety of prostheses provided by the Limb Centre. We are looking forward to our end-of-year functions - a meeting and dinner in Invercargill on 12<sup>th</sup> of November and a Christmas get-together in Dunedin on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of December. *(Lorraine Peacock, Coordinator)*

**Newsletters** of Regional Societies are available on the Federation's website ([www.amputee.co.nz](http://www.amputee.co.nz)) along with other useful information.

## AFFILIATED AMPUTEE SOCIETIES

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Remember that you're not the first person to have lost a limb - many others have passed along the same route and achieved conspicuous success.

If you wish to do the same, you are more than half-way there - the remainder is as easy or as difficult as you make it.

