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Journal of the



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of New Zealand  
Incorporated

July 2022



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## **PURPOSE**

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are invited  
and welcome

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**Contributions welcome.**  
**Deadlines for articles**  
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**15th February, June**  
**and October each year.**

## **Included in this Issue**

The National Executive	2
Editorial	3
Profile - Katrina Bungard	4
Conference 2022	5
Profile - Noel Lang	9
Something to Laugh About	12
Gems from our History	13
News from the Regions	14
Affiliated Societies	16

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Journal are not necessarily those  
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# AMPUTEES FEDERATION OF NEW ZEALAND INCORPORATED

## The National Executive

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# EDITORIAL

As I sit and write this editorial I felt it would be a great way to formally introduce myself to all members of the Federation.

My name is Alesha Kelly and I have had the great honor of stepping into Lorraine's shoes as the new Coordinator. I am a born and bred Christchurch girl who has been lucky enough to have lived both overseas and in other parts of New Zealand.

I joined the Canterbury Westlands Society about 4 or 5 years ago while working as a support worker. After finishing in that role I was asked to step up and become the Vice President. I went to my first conference this year and had the pleasure of meeting some of you all in person.

A little bit about me I am a mother of a 23 year old son so I know all about multi tasking which I have already found is something that you need to have in this role. I have worked in advertising for about 4 years before deciding to open my own car detailing business in Auckland. After choosing to move back down to Christchurch for family reasons I was asked to be a support worker for a lady that was a double below knee amputee, this is how I first got to be part of Canterbury Westlands Society. Joining the society has been one of the best decisions I have made as with the support of the members I have been able to navigate my own personal health struggles and learn that they do not define me but make me stronger. Because of all the amazing support and friendships that I have made through joining the Society I always have wanted to give back in whatever ways I can, so when this position was brought to me I thought this would be a great way to give back.

I had a great time meeting everyone from around New Zealand at the 2022 Conference and I look forward to the next one, for anyone who has thought about going but is a bit shy about coming I can tell you first hand everyone is really friendly and you are made to feel like you have known them for years.

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

With good wishes

*Alesha Kelly*

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and **Like** us (Closed Group also available)



# PROFILE - KATRINA BUNGARD



Katrina is an above knee amputee, having lost her left leg to bone cancer (osteogenic sarcoma) at the age of 11 years. She is now 38 years old and lives in Auckland with her husband Mark, and their two sons, Nathan (age 14 years) and Samuel (age 10 years). She has been a member of the Amputee Society of Auckland and Northland (Incorporated) since 2018 and the President for the second year.

Katrina is a member of the NZ Institute of Directors; Katrina has spent 9 years in local government and has held a variety of positions and portfolios as an elected member of both Counties Manukau District Health Board and the Howick Local Board of Auckland Council. She has also been an active member of the Auckland Disability Advisory committee; a director of the Manukau East Council of Social Services and a member of Parafed Disability Sports.

Katrina also works in Education Leadership and Management. She has taught in a number of secondary schools over her 15-year teaching career, enjoying a variety of positions as a Head of Department and Deputy Principal. Katrina currently is employed at Mahurangi College as The Lead Programme Manager for Special Education and ORS funded students.

Katrina is passionate about ensuring equitability across the disability sector; particularly in regard to addressing the disparities between ACC and MoH Funding. She would like to become more involved with Amputee Federation of NZ Incorporated to ensure that these issues are appropriately addressed during this time of Health sector reforms and the amalgamation of the District Health Boards.

# CONFERENCE 2022 AND THE NEXT 25 YEARS

Hi everyone, I have been in my role as President for the Federation for 2 months now and although I'm still settling in I just wanted to say what an honour it is to represent you all at this level.

What a whirlwind the first half of the year has been but one of the highlights was the fact we were able to hold our National Conference and 75<sup>th</sup> Jubilee in April after having to cancel the two previous years due to Covid-19.

Conference this year was held at Brentwood Hotel in Wellington and began on the Friday night with an official opening by Paula Tesoriero, NZ's Disability Rights Commissioner and fellow amputee followed by a meet and greet.

Saturday morning the Give it a Go participants left for their day of axe throwing and white-water rafting fun and the remaining attendees joined the Executive Committee and society delegates for the National Council Meeting. Lorraine Peacock, our Coordinator extraordinaire, stepped down from the Executive after 36 years but agreed to assist with the transition and I know will still be there to prop us up when needed. It was at the National Council Meeting that I was elected as President alongside Graeme Sayer (Vice President), Alesha Kelly (Coordinator), Justine Mangan-Woods (Treasurer) and executive members Mary Humphries, Andrea Thompson, Matt Bryson and Katrina Bungard. Mark Bruce has also taken a well-deserved sabbatical however we won't let him go too far.

The meeting was followed by a session on The Next 25 Years and a few of the discussion points included membership drives, what the Federation can do to further support societies, the need for more representation on advisory groups within local and regional councils, the huge inequities between ACC and DHB funding, having more social media presence and possibly moving memberships online. I will be sending the notes from this session out to all societies for comment.

The remainder of the conference included a number of wonderful speakers and sponsor presentations, dinner and a band on Saturday night and a great opportunity to mingle with fellow amputees and make new friends.

If you haven't attended conference before I highly recommend you come along next year. All societies can apply for funding to cover flights and accommodation so personal expenses are kept to a minimum, it's well worth it.

Take care and stay warm.

Regards  
Korrin Barrett



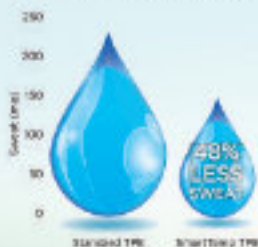




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## PROFILE - NOEL LANG



Noel was born at Riccarton in 1946 and was the 4<sup>th</sup> born child to his parents. He has 3 brothers and one sister, all of whom are still alive. His father was a reaction engine driver and spent a good deal of his life working for Bowmans transporting threshing around the rural areas of Canterbury.

Noel's father worked for the Riccarton Borough Council driving the steam roller and Noel recalls his dad coming home for lunch on the machine and being taken for a short ride behind the steering wheel. His Mum was a stay-at home housewife but sadly she passed away at the early age of 38 when Noel was only 7 years old. His Dad remarried a few

years later and Noel has fond memories of the family going to Waikuku every year for the Xmas holidays.

The family had moved from Riccarton to St Martins and after his father remarried, they moved to Waltham, living right across the road from the Waltham Pool. It wasn't until this move happened that Noel's father bought a car so before that, a bicycle was the only form of transport and Noel can recall being put on the bike seat and his father riding to Riccarton to get supplies.

Noel didn't start school at Beckenham Primary until he was 6 due to ill health and then moved on to ChCh South Intermediate. His secondary schooling was at the ChCh Technical Institute but Noel couldn't wait to leave school.

As soon as he turned 15, he left school and obtained a farm labourers job for the Broughton family at Waireka, near Darfield where for the next 2 years he did all forms of farm work including driving machinery.

After this, he moved to another farm at Killinchy near Leeston for another year before moving back in to town to, in Noel's words, "chase the girls". For the next 2 years Noel worked for the ChCh City Council on the rubbish collection trucks, a job which he loved and kept him very fit. He was living in a boarding house and became friendly with a chap who hailed from Hokitika. His friend invited Noel to join his family for the Xmas holidays and it was there that Noel met his friend's sister, Rea.

Noel and Rea started dating and over the next few months Noel recalls making many trips over to Hokitika to spend time with Rea and he decided to give up his CCC job to move to Hokitika permanently where he obtained a job with the NZ Forestry Service that involved clear felling and planting.

Noel and Rea married in 1966 their first child, Toko, was born in 1967. Shane was born a year later in 1968, Fiona in 1969, Gary 1971 and lastly, Jacqueline in 1972. All the boys still live in Hokitika while the two girls reside in Napier. Around 1972, Noel and the family moved back to ChCh where he took truck driving jobs and then worked for the NZ Railways based at Springfield.

In 1977, the family moved back to Hokitika where Noel worked for the next 5 years at the Fletchers mill at Ruatapu, a private sawmill at Three Mile for the next 5 years before another 5-year stint on the gold dredge at Kumara before being made redundant from this position. The marriage broke down after this so Noel moved back to ChCh where he worked for many years for the Municipal Electricity Department (MED) as an underground cabler.

In 2005, he contracted an infection on the back of his right hand which Noel states was mis-treated by the medical authorities ultimately leading to amputation of his right arm at the shoulder in 2007.

Noel has been retired for a number of years now and has lived for the last 9 years at a camp ground at Ouruhia (near Chaney's Corner) in his very well set up caravan. Noel said that he thoroughly enjoys his current life and works part-time for numerous racing clubs as an attendant. Noel is an avid sports fan and his favourite sport to watch is rugby league.

Noel cherishes the close relationship he has with all his children and grandchildren. Noel said that the greatest risk that he ever took was re-marrying in his second wife Sylvia in 2010, but sadly she past away in 2015. Travel to Singapore, Thailand, Australia and many parts of New Zealand remain as wonderful experiences with great memories.

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## **ACC VS MINISTRY OF HEALTH (MOH) - WE NEED ACTION AND THE TIME IS NOW!**

***Have you ever experienced inequity in funding requests based on who your funding provider is?***

***Perhaps you were declined for prosthetic equipment that would greatly improve your quality of life?***

The Health System in New Zealand is about to go through a major change and it's now that we need to get letters into Parliament asking why there has been such a large disconnect between our two funding providers and what they plan on doing about it?

**WE WANT TO SHARE YOUR STORIES!  
WE WANT TO BE YOUR VOICE!**

If you have a story or comments to share, please email them to [president@amputee.co.nz](mailto:president@amputee.co.nz) and we will submit letters on your behalf to the Prime Minister, Rt Hon. Jacinda Ardern, ACC Minister, Hon. Carmel Sepuloni and the newly formed Ministry for Disabled People.

**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

*“You've gotta dance like there's nobody watching,  
Love like you'll never be hurt,  
Sing like there's nobody listening,  
And live like it's heaven on earth.”  
— William W. Purkey*

**SOMETHING TO LAUGH ABOUT**

*The following extracts are from dealing with customers .....*

\*I worked in an aviary with 60+ exotic birds. A photographer came in and asked if I could get all of the birds to fly down and sit in one place for a group picture. I thought he was joking and asked if he wanted them arranged shortest to tallest. He said “yes please!” in earnest.

\*Bagging a large grocery order I was told not to use too many bags, and also not to make them too heavy. Physics has laws, ma'am.

\*Worked at a streetlight outage hotline. Got a lot of people convinced that we were tracking them through the lights, but the one that stands out was a little old lady demanding we switch her street back to gas lamps because she preferred them.

\*I told a supermarket customer that, while we had run out of milk, the delivery was in the loading bay and I'd get his milk once the meat delivery was out of the way.

He yelled "I'll have your job."

I assured him "wait right here sir," and got him an application.

\*In high school I worked as a cashier at a grocery store. One evening, a lady placed a huge grocery shop on the belt and demanded that I bag her groceries in alphabetical order.

\*I once had a customer demand that I go on a date with her. 15 years later we're married with 2 kids. I take customer care very seriously.

\*While working at a bakery, my friend was asked to put a loaf of sliced bread into the oven to bake it back into a single loaf...

\*I worked at a plant nursery. A woman came in and asked me if I had Chlamydia.

"Ummm...no."

I asked her if she meant Clematis. She was very embarrassed.

\*I don't know if this counts but when I was working at HMV, a woman came in asking if we had a copy of 3 Dalmatians. To clarify, I asked "3 Dalmatians?" And she angrily answered "I don't know, there could be more"

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

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

\* Henry William Paget, Lord Anglesey, spent 20 years in the House of Commons without making a single speech. He had much more to say to the ladies, among them the beautiful Duchess of Rutland, a widow twelve years his senior. The war with Napoleon was just what Paget's exuberant spirits needed, and he whipped the British Cavalry into a crack fighting force. He was watching his men smash the French at Waterloo, when he was hit. "By God, Sir, I've lost my leg" he exclaimed according to legend. Wellington lowered his telescope and replied, 'By God, Sir, so you have,' and screwed the telescope back to his eye.

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

\* An Amputee batsman's wooden leg come off as he was running between wickets. Relying on momentum and his good leg to get him to the far end, he hopped in. A one armed player fielding at point swooped in on the wooden leg and used it to throw down the wicket. The umpire gave the batsman out.

## NEWS FROM THE REGIONS

**Auckland & Northland** - Mid December saw Auckland move into the Covid 19 orange traffic light restriction after nearly four months at the previous level 4 and level 3 restrictions. Northland stayed at red until mid January, then had three days at orange before all of New Zealand moved into red as the Omicron variant made itself known in the community. The restrictions of the latter part of 2021 has made many members of our communities very cautious about getting out and about. We have been unable to organise any events due to the uncertainties. We are all hoping that 2022 will be a lot less restrictive and that we can revitalise ourselves  
*(Kathy Palmer, Secretary)*

**Waikato, Bay of Plenty & Districts** -Our society organised a fishing trip with Wish4Fish recently out of Tauranga. We had a great turnout. A casual coffee meet and greet has been organised for Sunday, 19 June 2022 at Fat cat street coffee cafe, 291 maungatapu road, Tauranga. We are in the early process of organising a 4x4 outing the with Hamilton 4x4 club.  
*(Matthew Bryson, President)*

**Hawke's Bay/East Coast** - In April we had 5 representatives from our Society attend the National Conference / 75<sup>th</sup> Jubilee in Wellington. It was a fun and informative weekend and we encourage all members to attend future conferences. Korrin Barrett, our Treasurer, was elected as President for the Executive too. Our initial AGM in March unfortunately didn't reach a quorum so we had to reschedule for May. The May meeting was successful and we re-elected all current members into the roles of President, VP, Treasurer and Secretary and welcomed Geoff Hansen and Jessie Hawkes-Pearce onto the committee. We have a Mid Winter Lunch booked for 17<sup>th</sup> July at Clubs Hastings and plan on organising a few more events during the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the year.  
*(Korrin Barrett, Treasurer)*

**Manawatu & Districts** - The beginning of Ten Pin Bowling at Bowlerama every 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday afternoon each month has proved very popular with 3 events there so far. The Next event will be 11<sup>th</sup> July 2022 at 2pm starts. We would love to see you there. It's a lot of fun to have.

**Greater Wellington Region** -The Wellington committee wish to thank those who organised the National Conference - a fantastic time was had by all. After a delay caused by covid and the cinema chains, we recently held our delayed fundraiser of the movie Top Gun - 50 people



attended. We also held our inaugural annual Matariki Mid-winter dinner - a fantastic time to get to know the committee over food and liquid refreshments. Thanks to all who came. An event that we are partaking in shortly will be the Love Local Porirua expo being held at the Te Rauparaha arena - it's a fantastic venue (under cover) and is awesome exposure for us (given that we weren't able to run our amputee awareness week event last year) *(Rob Penhey, Secretary)*

**Top of the South** - We are excited that Shane Torrence has become our Field Officer with help from the Greater Wellington Society. The committee is busy introducing Shane to the surgeons and wards of Nelson and Wairau hospitals. On the 25<sup>th</sup> June the Top of the South are celebrating mid winter with a dinner at Trailways. After today's 8 degrees Celsius, winter is certainly here.


**Canterbury & Westland** - The Canterbury/Westland Society is going well as we negotiate the chilly winter season. After having our social events disrupted for the last 2 years due to the pandemic, we are excited about being able to have our fun Quiz event back on the calendar. This will be held on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> August at The Cranford Alehouse and we look forward to catching up with members/friends/family at that time. All details will be published in our August newsletter and we are hoping for good support to make this a fun and worthwhile fundraiser. See you there!*(Justine Mangan-Woods, Secretary)*

**Otago & Southland** - A small number of members attended our AGM at the Equinox Restaurant in February when all committee members were re-elected, with the addition of Noel Graham. Our Vice President, Graeme Sayer, was elected also as Vice President of the Amputees Federation at the 75<sup>th</sup> Jubilee Conference. *(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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Greater Wellington Region	Ken Te Tau <i>whanau.tetau@gmail.com</i> 27 Waiho Tce, Porirua 5022 Mobile 027 4876599



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