

SHARE AND CONNECT!



DECEMBER 2008

HELLO FROM WELLINGTON

The Wellington area has had a very busy time over the past few months. Two clients left us, and we wish Brent all the best in the Hutt and Chris all the best with his new agency. We have also welcomed Shauntelle into our area. Some of the Wellington clients have moved into new flats, with new flat mates, and we hope they enjoy their new living experiences.

Francine has had a wonderful holiday overseas, and would like to thank the Wellington clients for their patience and understanding while she was away, and also a big thank you has to go to the staff who shared the increased workload in her absence.

Also the Wellington office has moved into an exciting new location on Willis Street. This is bigger, warmer and now wheelchair accessible. A big thank you has to go to Walter and Paul for allow-

ing us to use their garage and house facilities for so long!

Wellington clients have started up their fortnightly social afternoons again, and these are enjoyed by everybody who attends. We wish you all a safe and Merry Christmas, and look forward to an exciting new year, with exciting new goals to achieve.

Francine Molloy



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DISABILITY FORUM

On Tuesday the second of September, I attended a Disability Forum held at Parliament. The forum was about disability issues for school leavers and how to meet their needs. We talked about how to improve access to services for young people with disabilities.

We discussed how there is a

limited amount of programmes specifically targeted at young people. There are difficulties with finding the funding for these programmes.

I found it interesting, but a lot of parents don't allow their kids to venture out more, that's why they often don't know what's out there.

When we look at housing there's not enough housing in the Wellington area that caters for people with disabilities. It feels like there's just nothing out there.

All in all, individuals need to get out more and get involved.

Report by Lee Rutene



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Thank you to everyone who contributed an article to this issue. Please feel free to send any ideas or articles you would like published to Tanya at the address below!

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.CCSLT.ORG.NZ

GETTING READY IN AN EARTHQUAKE

The best thing to do is still to get under a doorway or under a table.

Have a big plastic box with a lid on it with all your supplies in it. To make things easy to handle you could have a box which has wheels on it. Make sure you have enough food in it for three days or more (don't forget your can opener!). You will also need items such as toilet paper, rubbish bags, buckets and water. A radio and batteries would also be useful.

Put away a sleeping bag and pillow as well as blankets to keep you warm.

Lots of different books and games could be helpful too.

If you have medication you need to store you can contact Age Concern or a similar group who can give you a "Life Cube" to put all meds in.

First Aid Kit, dust masks, dried milk powder

Cell phone, and don't forget your pets needs

For anything else you might need give your City Council a call.

Written by Anna Zohrab



MEET CHRISTINE SPOONER

My name is Christine Spooner and I am Service Co-ordinator for the Hastings area and the outer suburbs of Napier.

I love my job and look forward to going to work each day as there is always something new to do or learn. I've been in the disability field for 22 years now.

Originally I was a Support Worker for IHC (now IDEA) for 16 years. I started off with a job supporting people in IHC run flats, then I worked in houses with four or more occupants.

Eventually I was responsible for running two homes catering for the elderly IHC clients.

In my time there I worked with people from the late 20s to 70 plus!

While I enjoyed working with them it was a different style of support from that provided by Community Connections.

I have been with Community Connections for xi years now and I really enjoy being part of the process of watching people become more independent and confident with the decisions they make for themselves.



DAY SERVICES ON THE MOVE!

After years of searching for new premises in the Hutt Valley for day service I can now confirm we have found a suitable base in the Lower Hutt area. There have been alterations done to the new place to meet the needs of the people we support. We've had meetings with families of the Clients to discuss the changes and reasons for the move with a positive response.

We will complete this year here in Porirua and start fresh in the new day base next year, feel free to come and visit us and have a look around. Our new address is 60 Woburn Street, Lower Hutt.

Poli

COMPETITION!!
We are still looking for names for our newsletter! Please send all suggestions to Tanya at the Porirua Office.
PO Box 50048 Porirua