



Day out at Percy's Reserve

Manaaki
ABILITY TRUST 
YOU CAN!

NEWSLETTER | **NOVEMBER 2019**

Message from Paul

Season's greetings to you all,

The year has passed so quickly and it has been a memorable and productive one. We have a full role of clients and a very busy programme of activities. Making up the Manaaki community here on site we also have Kimi Ora School, Literacy Aotearoa and Little Seeds Bakery; a diverse group who add much vibrancy to the culture here.

To some recent people changes. I would like to welcome two new members to our Board of Trustees. They are Lesley Clarke who is CEO of the NZ Medical Association and Karen Tate who has a senior management role with Fujitsu and is Secretary and Trust Member of the Kingfisher Trust. Both Lesley and Karen have already demonstrated what great experience and skills they bring to our board.

We farewelled Lachlan Mackay one of our community coordinators who had been with us for 18 months. Joining us on staff is the very talented Janelle Douglas who was previously a teacher aide with Kimi Ora School.

I would like to make mention of the Hutt City Council Community Arts and Culture

fund which is generously providing funding for our drama (playback theatre) programme. These classes are run for our clients by Claire Hewitt of Creative Spark and are very much enjoyed.

I would particularly like to thank two of our regular volunteers. Sue Rhoades who takes reading recovery classes on Wednesday mornings and Stephen Fallon who organises our gardening and horticulture team with such enthusiasm.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the passion and dedication of the great team of staff we have here at Manaaki Ability Trust. It is due to their efforts as well as the contribution of our Board of Trustees that we have such a wonderful programme to offer our clients.

I hope that you all have a wonderful Christmas and holiday season.



Paul Mainwaring
General Manager

Annual General Meeting

WEDNESDAY 27 NOVEMBER
2.00PM AT MANAAKI ABILITY TRUST

60 Woburn Road, Lower Hutt

www.manaakiabilitytrust.org.nz

Drama Club

Here at Manaaki Ability Trust we believe in diversifying skills to meet both the needs of artistic play and building on individual skills for working with others and supporting skills in employment through drama club.

A big part of drama club is showing the capability of people with disabilities and celebrating the contributions they have to make to the arts, community and culture of the Hutt Valley.



A lot of fun is had whilst learning to work together, continuing to build on existing skill sets and creating long lasting friendships.



Garden group at Thumbs Up

Gardening Group

Once a month our MAT volunteer garden group goes down to Thumbs Up to help out at their site and tidying up their garden space. A big thank you to Richard Bialy and his Thumbs Up team for welcoming our Manaaki Gardeners.

The gardening group has also been

mucking in around the centre with our GM Paul, to beautify and improve our centre by tidying up our massive garden space. A big thank you to Shane Ford, Scott Apanui and Shian McCartan who have worked alongside Paul and our volunteer Stephen, to improve the outside areas of Manaaki Ability Trust.



Gardening at Manaaki



Disability Pride Parade

On Saturday 21st of September the Manaaki Ability Trust's clients decided to make a trip out to the first Disability Pride Parade held at the Wellington water front.

The weather did not disappoint, and many people from all over the Wellington region came out to see all the wonderful

performances and Paula Tesoriero, the NZ Disability Rights Commissioner shared words of empowerment and equality.

Our clients even got to meet Jacob Dombroski who was the first character with Down Syndrome to be cast this year on Shortland Street.

*From all the
staff at Manaaki
Ability Trust, we
wish you a safe and
Merry Christmas!*





Manaaki participants

Rotary Club Speech Contest

Each year the Rotary Club of Plimmerton host the Prepared Speech Contest for Young Adults with Learning Difficulties and/ or Intellectual Impairment. This attracts contestants from around the North Island.

For the second year running Manaaki Ability Trust clients took part in this event which was held on Saturday 7th September at Anchor Church in Whitby.

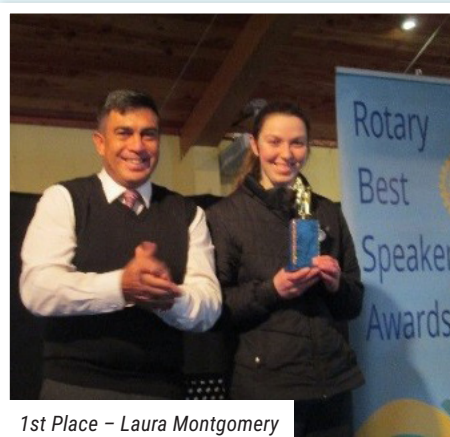
1st place was awarded to Laura Montgomery, 2nd place to Jenna Maguren and 3rd place to Conor Metcalf.

The speech topic this year was MY SUPER HERO. We witnessed enthusiasm, rawness, courage, bravery, patience, emotion and pride. A lot of mana was displayed on stage by all the contestants.

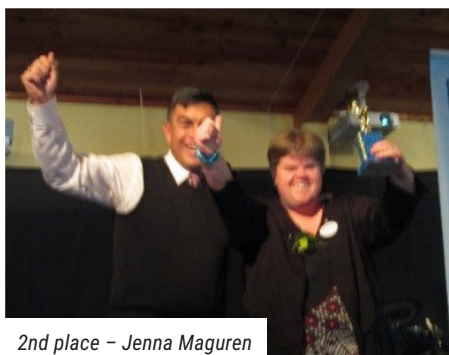
Laura's speech was about her grandad who

recently passed away and there wasn't a dry eye in the room. Jenna's super heroes were all of the support people who have made her the person she is today. Conor's hero was TJ Perenara, Amelia – her sister, Damien – Billy Connolly , and Scott's heroes were the Hurricanes.

A huge thank you to Bill McAulay and all the volunteers from the Plimmerton Rotary



1st Place – Laura Montgomery



2nd place – Jenna Maguren



3rd place – Conor Metcalf

club for a fantastic day and to Shelly Goldsmith and her team from Whakatane.

Awards were presented to our clients by the

Mayor of Porirua Mike Tana.

Congratulations to all of our clients who were involved in the day.

In Memoriam

It is with much sadness that we farewelled Josef Krummenacher who passed away in his sleep on the 14th September. He was 27 years old.

Josef has been a client at Manaaki Ability Trust for six years and was a member of our Young Guns group.

Josef loved a good game of pool and would spend time at the centre having a game or two with other clients. He would even give the staff a run for their money on the pool table.

He was a very personable and outgoing



young man and he will be missed by all of us at Manaaki Ability Trust.

Our condolences to Josef's Mum Denise and family.

Fun Fridays

TE PAPA

A great day exploring all the fantastic art exhibitions throughout Te Papa and enjoying the beautiful surroundings of the nature bush walk along with the wonderful weather.



WAINUIOMATA HILL WALK

The group ventured out to the Wainuiomata hill to use their fitness skills that they have been working on in training! The upgrade to the hill was found to be very user friendly and a much more accessible walk for everyone. The majestic view of Wellington Harbour from Pukeatua bridge was absolutely breath taking!



WOMEN'S REFUGE COLLECTION

Another Fun Friday the clients gave back to their community by contributing their time to a charitable organization. We contacted The Hutt City Woman's Refuge to be a part of their collection team for the Annual Appeal.



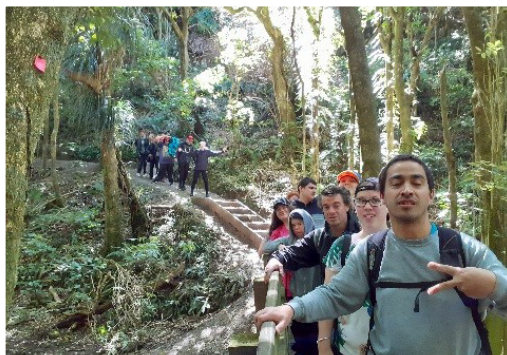
H2O POOL

Fun Friday at H2O Extreme Pool involved many firsts for the clients. Confidence was gained with their first jump, first wave pool experience and for some it was their first time at H2O pool.



PERCY'S RESERVE

The group explored the hidden gem and what nature has to offer throughout Percy's Scenic Reserve. They enjoyed the beautiful surroundings of the nature bush walk to the waterfall and enjoyed lunch outside in the glorious weather.



Welcome to Janelle

Welcome to Janelle Douglas who has joined us at Manaaki Ability Trust as a Community Coordinator.

Janelle has a talent and passion for music and the arts and has a good background in working with people. Janelle likes to keep busy with photography and painting. She also hosts karaoke for functions for some of the community groups our clients attend.

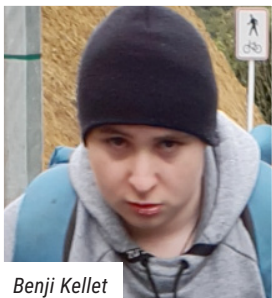
Having worked out of Manaaki with Kimi Ora School, Janelle has already built relationships with clients and staff, and is looking forward to being a part of an amazing team.



Janelle Douglas

IMPORTANT DATES: The Centre will be closed from Thursday 19th December until Monday 6th January

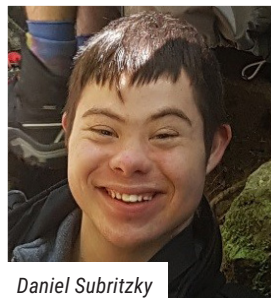
Our New Clients



Benji Kellet



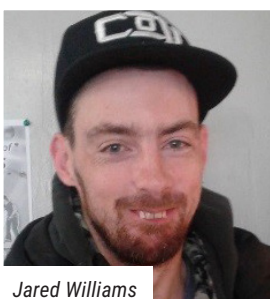
Chelsie Parson



Daniel Subritzky



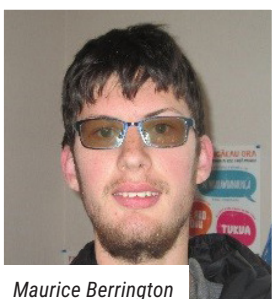
Hope Owens



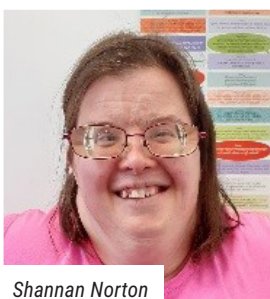
Jared Williams



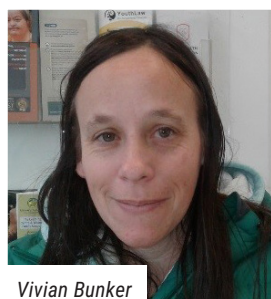
Kirstie Wake



Maurice Berrington



Shannan Norton



Vivian Bunker



Duke of Edinburgh participants

Duke of Edinburgh Programme

We have seven clients who have taken up the opportunity to participate in the programme and are now completing their hours towards their Bronze Award. Well

done to all our guys, working hard and dedicating hours towards participating in community activities, learning new skills and completing physical challenges.

You're invited to
 MANAAKI ABILITY TRUST'S
CLIENT
Christmas
LUNCH

12PM ON THURSDAY 19 DECEMBER
 PETONE WORKING MEN'S CLUB

Please *Rsvp* your attendance to Jess
 at reception by Friday 6 December



