



# The Burn Support Group Summer Newsletter

www.burns.org.nz

December 2020

## A tribute to Alan Jeffry Breslau

This year saw the passing of a true gentleman, on behalf of the Burn Support Charitable Trust we remember with much fondness and appreciation the wonderful dignified, witty, charming, passionate, dedicated life that we have all had the privilege to share with Alan. Words alone can not express the extensive journey Alan has shared globally, touching the lives and hearts of so many fortunate people. Alan's talents, pioneer foresight with compassion and empathy shall never be forgotten, his well deserved accolades and awards always the reminder of this beautiful man's achievements. "Alan will be missed by many, but remembered by all."

**Burn Support Group Charitable Trust NZ.**

*A legend.*

*A truly amazing man.*

*A man who truly made a difference.*

*A golden heart stopped beating.*

*Inspired many for strength and healing.*

*A Life fully lived.*

*A true legacy and inspiration.*

*He made a difference.*

*A victor of circumstances.*

*This man leaves a lasting impact on us all*

**Pete Sharp, ex President of B.S.G**



*"At a time I was so weak. A time I hadn't accepted my new journey in life. A time my life was falling apart pushing the people I love most away because of my thoughts of being a victim, and not a survivor. For this I thank you Alan, for giving me the tools of this new journey, being grateful, having a purpose and loving myself, hopefully in due time loving someone else. It was an honour to know you my friend."*

**Troy Hall, Burn Survivor**

*"Alan Breslau's passing has left a massive hole in the Burns community but it has also left hunger and passion for us all to live up to his legacy and to support and strive for burn survivors and their families across the globe."*

**Briana Meldrum, Camp Volunteer, sister of B/Survivor**

*"I met you when I was 8 or 9 at Rongomai Primary School with Mata. We were the NZ Burn support group of what is known like the Phoenix Society in America. What I do recall of you Alan was that you played the Piano so well and I never forgot that day we first met you trying to teach me Mary had a little lamb. I looked up to you as a great teacher with a lot of knowledge to share and give to anyone and everyone who would listen including myself. I remembered you saying to me TRUE beauty is Skin DEEP. We wear our scars on our sleeves, don't hide them, accept them, and I did Alan as a kid and still do now as a lady. Thankyou for not only touching my life but a lot of others worldwide. You will be missed"*

**Darlene Fenton, Burn Survivor**

## Remembering Carol Ann Mayer....

The Burn Support Charitable Trust wishes to express our deepest condolences to the Mayer family, and to our Australian friends. Carol attended 2019 Women's Burn Retreat where we met an incredibly inspiring, courageous woman who was as real as they come, with a desire to support, educate and care for burn survivors within the community. Carol will always be remembered for her smile, her generous heart and the ability to make everyone feel beautiful.

R.I.P CAROL, you'll always be in our hearts....



1966-2020

**Māngere-Ōtāhuhu  
Local Board**  
Auckland Council



**Howick  
Local Board**  
Auckland Council



B.S.G are extremely grateful receiving a grant of \$1826.09 from AUCKLAND COUNCIL, Mangere-Otahuhu Local Board. These funds assisted in providing hygiene kits which are available to adult burn survivors during their hospitalization.

Working in conjunction with LIFE PHARMACY BOTANY, this new partnership has enabled the latest project to provide kits to Waikato, Lower Hutt and Christchurch Hospitals along with the National Burns Centre. The new constructed kits provide the patients with items of personal touch. Thank you for the opportunity to support and enhance the wellness of individual burn survivors and whanau/family...



WELCOME to our newest sponsorship, CROSS FIRE LTD. Crossfire is a leading Fire Engineering practice based in Auckland, New Zealand. Founded in 2012, the firm is well-known for its reliability and innovation in fire safety management and advice. Thank you to Jeff Parkinson for the interest in the Charity and giving us the opportunity to become recipients of the generous monthly donations..

HOWICK LOCAL BOARD.....grant funding has been gifted to the B.S.G for the transport required for 2021 Children's Camp. \$2282.00 will contribute to the necessary vans which Camp Leaders with support volunteers will take the campers venturing around the sites of Howick and activities that will be on offer for Camp Awhi. This camp will be held at Willowpark, Eastern Beach, thank you to the local board for assisting in costs.



### A Splash of Colour

Has a simple mission: To provide a fun environment where you can unleash your creativity in a relaxed and supportive environment. We knew from the very beginning that we wanted our events to be about fun, socializing, community and creativity, rather than a structured art class. At an event you will create your own masterpiece, make new friendships and have fun. A Splash of Colour supports charities in the community through our Painting for a Cause program.

Our artists host a painting event to raise funds for local or regional non-profit organizations. To experience the joy of a social painting session.

Contact Tracee Mac 027 587 2233





## Mens Day Out 2020....



### Testimonial from Bruce Holland,

*"What a great event ! Simple but effective. Wonderful atmosphere. Relaxed and yet engaging. It was really good to listen to what others had to say about their experience, how their burns had / were affecting their lives, and in some cases, the challenges they faced / were facing daily. It certainly opened up my eyes to a lot more to things around burn treatment and rehabilitation. And then there was the emotional aspect of it all. I didn't realise I took so much for granted. Being able to share something that I had learned with someone who was struggling with an issue, and seeing the benefit in that....Thank you so much for such a great experience. The opportunity was really appreciated."*

26th September saw the 2nd held Men's Day out and the Charity is very happy to see the number of those attending is on the increase. This fun day out on the harbour fishing charter provides an informal opportunity for burn survivors to enjoy the company of others similarly affected. A warm welcome was given to those partaking for the first time, it's great to see the growing connections.. SEASPRITE CHARTERS, with skipper Alan, assisted with his boat skills and a welcomed BBQ at the end of the trip.

MEN'S DAY OUT is designed and available to male burn survivors, father's of burn survivors and peer support males over the age of 18. If you or you know of someone who has sustained burns please be sure to contact BURN SUPPORT GROUP for further information.

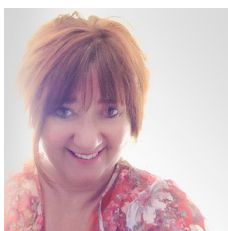
**Juliana Carvalho**, a disability advocate, published author, motivational speaker and award winning professional. Juliana explores the human capacity to build resilience and overcome obstacles, she shared her journey of recovery and self-awareness. Juliana has written her autobiography 'IN MY CHAIR OR YOURS' a blunt, honest and refreshing session that everyone could relate, display empathy and appreciate life in general.



**Trudi Brewer**, with a wealth of knowledge providing lovely goody bags for the ladies, this session was a total enjoyment. Trudi provided education on skin and body care, shared a wonderful insight into her story, with a presentation of her work commitments and achievements... Lots of facts, humour and discussions around the most important subject women! [www.beautyeq.co.nz](http://www.beautyeq.co.nz)



**Maddie Thibaud**, fabulous photographer! For a very special treat Maddie was on hand to take stunning photos of each lovely lady to remember and reflect on their time during Retreat. With the stunning back drop of Castaways, Maddie showed the beauty on the inside and outside of each individual lady. [MaddieAboutYou.com](http://MaddieAboutYou.com)



## "Womens Burns Retreat 2020"

None of this is possible without the generosity of sponsors and donations received, of which the Burn Support Group are extremely appreciative. On behalf of all those ladies attending, we wish to extend a sincere "thank you" for all contributions in making this the fabulous, inspiring, enjoyable and confidence building retreat that is it!!



Kapa Haka (Waiuku College)  
Smiling Dragon (Yang Sheng)  
Sonia Lloyd (Hypnotherapist)  
Ian Paton (coffee truck)  
Rebecca Staunton (W&I)  
Lincoln Limos  
College of Massage  
Kentish Hotel  
Sidharth Pagad (drumming)  
Bob Queres (musician)  
Castaway Resort  
Petra Kippenberger  
(The Goodness Kitchen)

Gill Warren (journals)  
Clevedon Coast Oysters  
Vendela (gowns)  
Why Knot (cheese platters)  
Make up artists:  
Penny Taylor  
Samantha Jane  
Claire Hamlet  
Shona Kelway  
Brittany Waha  
Reminess Symons  
Nastassja Hadley

## 4 // The Burn Support Group

### Survivor Sunday / Christmas Party

Sunday 13th Dec. was the last event held by the B.S.G for 2020. Wonderful to see so many show up at the lovely venue, FISHER HOUSE, High-brook. We wish to thank those that contribute to these events throughout the year and we look forward to seeing everyone again in 2021. BOUNCY KIWIS CASTLE HIRE LTD, pop corn, candy floss and the slide castle, a winner for the kids.. ANGELA JORRING & TABATHA FAWCETT, fabulous face painters offering your time and talent... TAYLA & LAURA, candy floss, popcorn queens SAM BARNES, Home and Safety Networks DONNA MARIE AUSTIN, providing terrific sounds, karaoke and tribute song .



B.S.G. Board, WISH EVERYONE SAFE HOLIDAYS, WITH THE PROSPECTS OF A FABULOUS 2021....

"Thank you for the continued support during this difficult year felt by many"

#### DATES FOR THE DIARY 2021:

- . Board Meetings: 23rd Feb, 18th May, 3rd Aug, 2nd Nov
- . AGM Meeting: 8th June
- . W/B Retreat: 28th April - 1st May
- . C/B Camp: 22nd - 26th January
- . M/D Out: 9th October
- . S/Sundays: 28th March, 27th June, 26th Sept, 12th December



### Te Kuiti School Visit - Thursday 19 November 2020

Thank you teacher Ms. Paula Guilford for having Burn Support Group join your class discussing hazards and safety regarding Fire and Burns.

Hamiora Reihana, young burn survivor is part of this wonderful class and as he attends Camp Awhi each year, it was decided to share his experiences and chat on the adventures the camp provides.



It was extremely pleasing to see the awareness these young children already have an enjoyable time had by all.. Our thanks to Paula and Jan for providing this event.

### Westfield Hero Award



Last evening I had the privilege of attending the presentation of the Local Hero Westpac Awards at Manukau City. For Michele to be acknowledged as one of the six finalists was a prestigious honour for both her and our trust. She not only received a certificate and bouquet, but also an assurance from Westpac for support to our charity around Christmas... Watch this space! -

Delwyn Breslau.