

# The Burn Support Group Spring Newsletter

www.burns.org.nz

October 2022



### **Burn Camp Poem - Winter Camp Ohakune 2022**

COVID put paid for the summer camp we had planned but there was no way we intended to see our plans canned then Michele had a brainwave - "Why not a winter one instead?" All sorts of ideas then - buzzzzzzed around in her head!!

We'd all soon be off to have fun in the snow she booked all of our fares, to Ohakune we'd go! Flying into Palmy North from ALL over the land in our winter woollies, with a glove on each hand.

Taylors wonderful lodge - was to be our great venue as we each took our turn in serving UP each day's menu! We had hamburgers and nachos and hot dogs too thanks to Mark for the garlic bread, and the soups he did do.

The Old Coast Road proved to be a great bicycle ride some of us were fit - and some almost died! The rock climbing was only for the ever so brave when you got to the top, we loved seeing you wave!

We went for a walk, in the cold freezing air and met the Alpacas - such a real cutesy pair under some old rusty iron, a geo-cache, we found! We added a note, and put the box back in the ground.

We lined up the sofas and quilts on the floor snuggled into cushions - almost out to the door Movie Night by the fireside - the experience was beaut 'Scene 2' was the movie - with characters ever so cute

We went up the mountain - and had an IN-CREDIBLE ride The Sky Waka was fabulous - smiles ever so wide! The sledding was fun as we sped down the hills roly polys for some as we laughed at the spills!

A restaurant dinner - with all of the trimmings no less our tummies were full - we have to confess! Kings did us proud, as did Dempsey's with their bussing they got us around without any fussing.

Publicity's important - we gave inter-views for the press Jovana and Tom really gave editor Robert, their best our article will be in The Ruapehu Bulletin next week hoping other survivors 'out there', our group they will seek.

The Talking Stick magically helped us to heal as our stories we told, became very real They all really bonded us, as by experience we knew learning a little more about you, and what you've been through.

Now, the incredible Dinosaur House, had us all sooooo AMAZED! And the National Army Museum REALLY did have us fazed the quiz night with Nick - had our brains worked to the core and those chocolate eclairs! OMG! They were WORTH dying for!

Our fabulous talent show - has REALLY been soooo much fun when you show us your talents, all our hearts you have won each of you tonight - have gone, the extra mile to bring to our faces, a really big smile.

# Our heartfelt gratitude to all those that contributed to this wonderful adventure.....

- P.S.L FIRE AND SAFETY
- INDUSTRIAL TUBING
- · HOWICK LOCAL COUNCIL
- · LIONS FOUNDATION
- FRESH CHOICE
- TOTAL CALIBRATIONS
- HOME CATERING
- SOUTHERN STARS
- TAYLOR LODGE
- · KARL AND JAN BRANNIGAN
- VERTIGO CLIMBING
- TCB BIKE RIDING
- · WHAKAPAPA SKY WAKA & SLEDGING
- · KINGS RESTAURANT
- NICK, OUIZ MASTER
- NATIONAL ARMY MUSEUM
- N.Z. FAVOURITE ECLAIR SHOP
- DINOSAUR HOUSE
- · CAPTAIN KUNE'S FISH N CHIPS
- DEMPSEY BUSES
- RUAPEHU BULLETIN
- AUCKLAND RUGBY

Michele, we all thank you from deep in our heart As we all say goodbye, because tomorrow we part because everyone here has scars from their burn you may feel when you're home, there is NO place

Do feel free to call on any burn buddy friend you know they'll be there for you - right to the end think of the times you have shared here as one the strength you have gained, while you also had fun.

Back into the community, where we all have our place but it's really soooo hard if your scars are not just on your face be proud of your scars and wear them with pride like medals of honour - which you NEVER would hide!

When you tell others your story, your healing's really begun there'll be much admiration when others see how far you have come. Go out into the world now - and be your own beautiful you with a whole brand new confidence - and energy too.

Knowing we all love you, and that we'll ALWAYS be here... Already, we CAN'T wait - to see you next year!

Poem by Delwyn Breslau July 2022



This year's lucky camper winning the Grant A Wish scheme is -Tayla O'Connor.

Tayla has started her apprenticeship for hairdressing, something she is passionate about, and we wish her luck as she embarks on a new chapter of her young life. Tayla was given her first hairdressing kit, supplied with the necessary tools to assist her in her new career, with a number of items necessary for the trade!

Well done and congratulations Tayla, watch out world as this talented professional makes her debut. Grant A Wish is offered to all those that attend camp, an opportunity to express something needed or wanted. On the last day of Camp the lucky recipient is chosen and plans will be put in place to provide the "wish"



#### **KIDZ FIRST GIFTS**

Play Specialist June Tuake, was given educational and fun items for the play centre to be used by the young patients during their stay in hospital.

Kidz First Play Specialists use psychosocial assessment to identify and support the specific needs of your child to manage their hospital stay. Our goals are to minimise stress and anxiety associated with the hospital environment and medical interventions through increasing your child's understanding and knowledge. Through play we are able to identify your child's stress points and implement age-appropriate coping strategies.





My name is Karter, I'm 2 years old and have 3rd degree burn injuries to 19.5 percent of my body.

I'm healing well and I have had my skin graft which has 98% stuck. I've been in hospital for 7weeks so far.

I want to say a big THANK YOU to the Burn Support group for their help, support and yummy meals gifted to my mum and dad to make things easier while they are busy caring for me.

Mandala Mobile Massage is a mobile massage therapist service so the client can enjoy as relaxing massage in the comfort of their own home.

I have been volunteering for the burns retreat for the past 3 years and have developed an appreciation for the struggles that my clients face. Mandala is a safe, non-judgemental service that can assist with stress relief, relaxation and can also aid in the softening of scars. The client also benefits from having the same therapist every time, building trust and a rapport over time.

I gained my qualification through the New Zealand Collage of massage and have been working for 2 years on my own business. I have developed a loyal client base.

SERVICES "20% discount first treatment"

Patrice

Mobile: 021 192 9237

Email: mandalamassaging@gmail.com





# AMAZING 2022 RESULT WITH THE TELEMARKETING CAMPAIGN

Our sincere appreciation for the wonderful team at Southern Stars for your hard work and dedication to the burn survivors through N.Z. The Charity expresses their deep appreciation and gratitude to the public and organisations that contribute to the many initiatives provided supporting the burn survivor community. Thank you for your compassion and generosity....



### Hope for burns survivors

Zoe Garden

-June 28, 2022



The members of the Trust, burn survivors, and parents/peer support including Judy Hohaia, far left, attended Survivor Sunday at the Bucklands Beach Yacht Club. Photo Zoe Garden

Judy Hohaia was four years old when she was badly burned in an accidental fire

Growing up in Hokianga, Hohaia's life was permanently changed when she suffered burns from petrol being put in the coal range fire.

"I was the burnt black girl," she says. "I had no friends. I thought it was normal but it wasn't normal, it wasn't normal what I went through."

#### 26th JUNE: SURVIVOR SUNDAY.

Thank you to Doctor Julian Loft MBChbFRACS, discussing 30 years experience in plastic surgery and skin, ways research has developed and methods that have proven to be successful and options on how to move forward in relation to burn injuries.

Along with raising the awareness of house incidents, Sam Barnes (Home Safety Networks), gave a friendly reminder of getting house ready with the Winter season upon us, visual presentation of how easy fires can start with general items in the kitchen cupboards!

It was also a wonderful opportunity to credit ANDREW CAMERON (burn survivor) for all he has contributed during his time on the board as he sadly leaves us for work commitments.

We all wish Andrew the very best and know we will still see him at many events.



#### CALENDAR DATE: ALL WELCOME TO JOIN IN THE END OF YEAR XMAS PARTY



## Bring along the children for fun and games



Venue: 117 Kerwyn Ave, East Tamaki Highbrook 2013

# Survivor Sunday Xmas Celebration

11<sup>th</sup> December 2022 11am-3pm

- Meet and greet
- Light catering provided
- Raffles

#### A WARM WELCOME TO VAUGHAN FIESST



B.S.G are excited to acknowledge Vaughan for his valuable input and his support to the team as the newest board member....

Vaughan completed his PhD creating an opportunity for him to begin a research project in skin engineering, growing skin in the laboratory that could be used to treat burn wounds. This seemed like the perfect opportunity because in his words "He wanted to be able to do research that would improve health outcomes for people".



#### THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND SERVICES:

The Burn Support Charitable Trust wishes to acknowledge and express our deepest appreciation to Linda Legge, Clinical Nurse Specialist at Kidz First Hospital, for the past 15 years working with burn survivors from throughout New Zealand.

From the Trustees, Board Members and staff at Burn Support Group we wish you all the best for your future endeavours and what life has in store for you!





### **Emma's Helpful Hints**

Recently we have attended several fires caused through the charging of electrical devices, especially those with Lithium-Ion Batteries such as smart phones, laptops, e-bikes/scooters and e-cigarettes. In day to day use and when charged and used correctly these devices are safe however damaged or defective batteries can sometimes overheat and catch fire. Here are a few key tips to make sure your devices are safe:

Charge devices on a hard service such as bench top or bedside table. These devices need to have air flow around them to prevent overheating so never charge them under a pillow or on the bed or couch. Make sure your batteries and devices are in good condition. Don't use or charge a battery that shows signs of swelling, overheating or damage

Only use the battery that is designed for the device Make sure you are using the correct charger for the device and that any cables are not damaged or frayed. Store batteries away from anything that can catch fire and don't leave them in direct sunlight or hot vehicles.