



The Burn Support Group Autumn Newsletter

www.burns.org.nz

March 2021



CONGRATULATIONS TO MR & MRS NIELSON, Nick (president) put a ring on it, marrying his lovely new wife Sarah on 30th January. From all of us at the Burn Support Charitable Trust, we wish the fabulous couple all the best for a magical future with many exciting adventures and a lifetime full of love and happiness....

WONDERFUL WORDS FROM A VERY SPECIAL LOVELY LADY....

When I established the Burn Support Group in 1986, I always envisaged it as a vehicle - think a train or a bus here. A vehicle which would always be reliable, always arriving on time, and always there for those who needed it totally irrespective of the numbers of people on board. From time to time there would be different 'drivers', and the board members would be the 'conductors' ensuring everyone was safe inside until they reached their 'destination'.

The number of 'passengers' would vary from time to time, and many may feel a need to hop on or off at different times. When on board, they would discover how beneficial it was to be able to sit alongside others to share their experience of the journey. Some 'passengers' would stay aboard for the whole distance, other 'passengers' would stay on board for just the distance they felt they needed to at that time, but they always knew they were welcome to hop on or off whenever they wanted to. Often it can be sometime after being burned (or having a loved one burned). that the need to undertake such a journey is realised.

This is quite okay because our 'vehicle' has a timetable and travels at a speed to suit all travellers. The fare is reasonable: just a little courage to venture from the familiar, but once started, a journey of discovery and healing is sure to eventuate. Guides (free of charge) have been this way before. They will inform and be there for you. The important thing about our vehicle is that it is always going places and the 'travellers' on board are united in as much as they are all travelling in the same direction! They might have hopped on at different stations and some may have only just boarded, but they are all united by a common bond. Once into a journey, it is not unusual to find those who boarded for their own benefit, are proving to be a benefit for others without them even realizing it!



This seems to be the way our vehicle functions best for everyone. - Delwyn Breslau February 2022

MEN'S DAY OUT, 26th February 2022....

WELL, it finally happened, the long awaited Men's Day Out fishing charter after three cancellations headed out to sea.. B.S.G would like to sincerely thank the patience of skipper Alan and the men that went out for the day.. This informal event gives the opportunity to speak with others similarly affected and meet the support people that offer their time, care and love to assist during burn recoveries.

A very special thank you to North Foundation and Merchant Liquor Botany, contributing funds enabling these events to grow and continue. Seasprite charters for your ongoing support towards the Charity since the establishment of Men's Day Out...

Due to the postponement , 2022 will see the event to be held again towards the end of the year, 29th October, mark this date in the diary and keep a look out for exciting new information coming your way! If you, or you know of someone who has sustained burn injuries, please direct them to the Burn Support Charitable Trust. B.S.G offers individuals and their families/whanau, emotional and practical support, during recovery and beyond...



Testimonial from Trevor Webb:

Eagerly anticipated, my first trip after covid postponds the M.D.O Waitemata fishing excursion finally leaving Westhaven in perfect weather conditions. Next stop was to anchor up out at the Noises. On board the charter vessel "SEASPRITE" we wanted for nothing. Warmly welcomed by B.S.G Trustees, Nick and Richard, introduced to each other. Whole day was great, nice to move around and get to know fellow survivors on the journey. So getting acquainted with, hearing their stories and coping with life, fellow survivors was the best part of the day for me. I came home somewhat exhausted but completely fulfilled. I take my hat off to Michele and B.S.G for this very rewarding M.D.O. long may this type of event continue - the camaraderie and getting to know the fellows is more than 11 out of 10...



SURVIVOR SUNDAY - 13th March

A fun day had by all, the first Survivor Sunday for some time. Wonderful to see the many that came and shared time. Many thanks to Pt Erin Pools, fabulous venue with the weather on our side.

B.S.G would like to thank Pt. Erin for hosting the event, Mr Whippy (Rebecca) for your continued support and Spit Roast Catering for providing the superb lunch. A special mention to Merran and daughter Catherine who made the trip up from Waikanae meeting and greeting other survivors. Everyone is aware of the challenging times all have been faced with over the last few months. The Charity hopes that during these times you, family and friends stay safe, be kind and look after each other...

CONGRATULATIONS to Toni McLeod, winner of the fabulous raffle..... Information will be available on the next S/Sunday to be held on 26th June

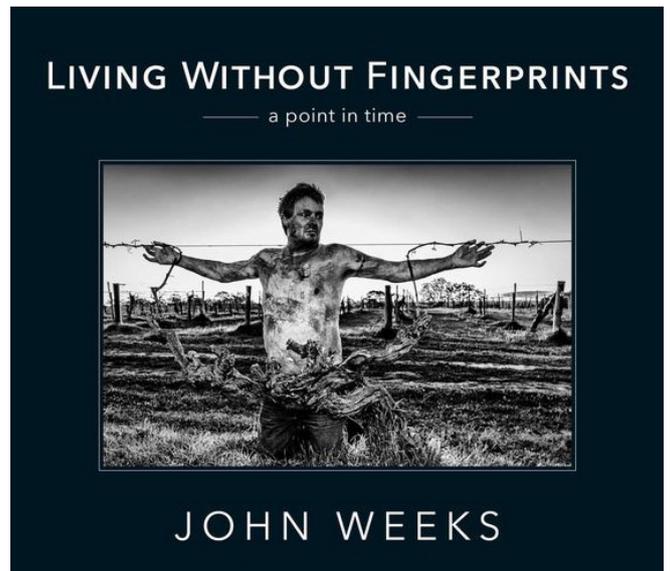


BURN SUPPORT CHARITABLE TRUST INTRODUCE Mr. JOHN WEEKS....

Join us later this year to meet John as we welcome him to N.Z promoting his excellent new book. John shares his journey as a burn survivor, it is truly inspiring, courageous and extraordinary humbling reading.... Information to follow with book launch details..

'John Weeks was a winemaker working all around the world, until an accident where he sustained burns to seventy percent of his body. He spent nearly a year in hospital and rehabilitation facilities undergoing multiple operations which continue to this day.

John's book 'Living Without Fingerprints' is his inspirational story and is relevant not only to those who have undergone trauma but also to those who are assisting as well.'



UPDATE ON CATHERINE....



"Being sponsored by the BSG, I recently had the pleasure of visiting burn survivor, Catherine Crowley and staying with her parents, Merran and Peter in their beautiful home in Waikanae.

At that time, and after being hospitalised for 16 months (three times a week to theatre for grafting and dressing changes for the first 8 months), it was very heartening to learn that Catherine was on the brink of discharge from Hutt Hospital. She will still require 24/7 care as she is still unable to feed herself due to the heterotopic ossification in her shoulder, elbow and knee for which she will require further surgery down the track. She is able to use an electric toothbrush now though, and apart from her left shoulder and two patches on her back, she is pretty much healed. With the deterioration of her vision, she has learned to use the tiny amount she has, but has had visits from Blind Low Vision Field workers to help her with her computer, phone and using a white cane.

She played the piano for me, and also a piece she had composed herself. Her church has organised a roster system for her to be able to go to church on Sundays and a homegroup on Wednesdays. She also stays at home for a couple of nights now and then.

Peter and Merran are amazing parents and do everything within the realms of possibility for their much loved daughter. We enjoyed several bush and beach walks over the three days I was there, in which their warmth, hospitality and appreciation for my visit was very evident as we reminisced over the many times we have met up during Catherine's long hospitalization and how we can best 'be there', for her after her eventual discharge.

Case Report: Burn



0800 734 221
oneuprehab.co.nz



Burns Support Group Offer

Contact us for a **FREE SAMPLE KIT** of

- Alhydran – Medical moisturiser
- Bapscar – Silicone gel
- Scarban - Silicone Sheeting

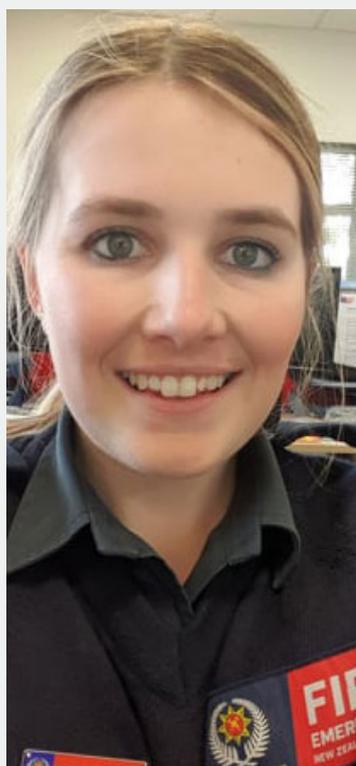
Contact

sales@oneuprehab.co.nz

0800 734 221

Reference: BurnsSupport22

Case SCARBAN and ALHYDRAN: Burn



Emma's Helpful Hints

Have you got a 3-Step Escape Plan and working smoke alarms?

This month we are encouraging everyone to have a 3-Step Escape Plan and a working smoke alarm. An escape plan is a simple plan that you and your family can create to ensure that, if there is a fire in your home, everyone knows how to get out and where to go. It's as simple as 1-2-3 and you can even create your escape plan online –

check out the details right: With daylight savings on the 3rd of April now is a perfect time to check that your smoke alarms are working to keep you and your family protected – because when you look after your smoke alarms they look after you!

Escape Plan

Fire gets real fast! That is why we encourage everyone to take 5 minutes to create a super simple 3-step escape plan:

1. First escape route
2. Second escape route
3. Meeting place

You can create your escape plan at escapemyhouse.co.nz or by scanning the QR Code

Press their button to make sure they're ready to protect you