



# The Burn Support Group Spring Newsletter

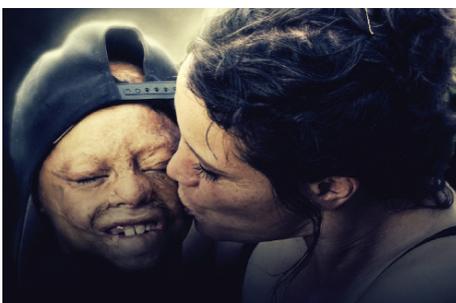
www.burns.org.nz



## WILL YOU SPONSOR A CHILD??

**D**ukie King is a 5% total body surface area burn survivor. He was 23 months when he had his accident. When Dukie was 4 years old he attended a Kindergarten in Wairoa and his specialist teacher phoned his mother Andrea when Dukie drew a picture of himself as a monster.

They got together and decided to search for anyone on the net that may know of other burn survivors in Aotearoa that Dukie could meet so that he could relate to other people who have the same injury as him. As luck would have it Andrea came across the Burn Support Group Charitable Trust Facebook page. She made contact and Dukie was invited to Camp Awahi.



Camp Awahi is a FREE 5 day sleep-away experience for children aged 7 - 17 years who have had a burn injury. It is an opportunity for children to have fun, learn life skills, meet other burn survivors and share their stories. Although Camp Awahi campers are of varying ages, activities and groups are tailored towards each camper's developmental needs.

The camp has been instrumental in Dukie's emotional well-being when he was transitioned into school. His confidence and attitude towards his injury after camp has been amazing and without the camp programme to boost these attributes Andrea is sure it would have been hard for him and his family to cope on their own. The Burn Support Group offers other services to parents to help them cope as well and share stories about their children and how the accident affected them. They give tools on how to think positively about the future.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SPONSOR A CHILD AT CAMP AWHI or you are interested in attending or being a volunteer at Camp please contact [michele@burns.org.nz](mailto:michele@burns.org.nz) or look at our website [www.burns.org.nz](http://www.burns.org.nz).

Local Howick residents Carol & Gary Vernon have chosen to sponsor a child for Camp Awahi. "The chance to help a child to enjoy life and mix with other children that have been through the same experience and show them that they are not alone."

## Saying Farewell to Rosemary

We would like to extend our well wishes to Rosemary Barling for her exciting new future with her family down Nelson.

Rosemary has been part of the Burn Support Group since 1993, joining as a Board Member, until her role as Secretary of the Minutes.

Thank you for your dedication and support, Rosemary, you will be fondly missed.

If anyone knows of someone who may show an expression of interest to join the Burn Support Charitable Trust Board please call Michele Henry on 09 2700640.

## Farewell to an ex-president of the Burns Support Group

Condolences to George's family from everyone connected to the The Burns Support Group.

George held the positions of President and Trustee with the trust from 2010 until his resignation in 2013, was well respected and held in high esteem by all who came into contact with him.

I can think of many words that one could use to describe George – caring, compassionate, dedicated, energetic, humble, kind, passionate about what he did. He was one of the most community minded and spirited person I know – the generosity of his time, the energy he put into tasks. He was personality plus – a great sense of humour, a belly laugh, a real people's person.

George had the ability to relate to anyone and at all levels.

It never ceased to amaze me, that where ever you went, you always met up with someone who knew George whether it was through our group, the Fire Service or on some other committee – Kiwianis, Kids Safe, Plunkett, Senior Citz, Grey Power – George was very quick to point out he wasn't old enough to 'officially' belong to the last two!!

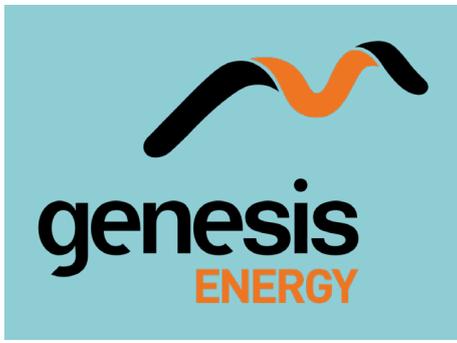


### Charity Night Achievement



Charity night was a big success! \$8995 was raised to contribute to the Annual Children's Camp. A big thanks to Melissa Stokes who was the quiz master and Maria Stephens who was the auctioneer, and to all those that joined us on a fun night. Also a big thank you to all those that donated to the raffles and auctions we are extremely grateful...





Michele presented to a very attentive group of Genesis Energy staff aspects about burns and burn treatments. Steve Duxfield (System Specialist at Genesis) covered the importance of always being prepared to attend to hot fluid spills by and around young children at the dinner table.

Michele presented some statistical data and covered some of the most common accidents such as those caused by hot drinks and noodles. Michele highlighted the first aid treatment and described the many aspects of after care of the burnt victim and the victim's carer. As there were a number of parents at the meeting it was well received.



Albert Vete from the NZ Warriors dropped by our stand at the Auckland Baby Show. He was very impressed with the work the charity is doing. 16,000 public went through over the weekend. The Baby Show is a great opportunity to talk to new and existing parents about the unfortunate incidents that can happen around the home.

Thank you to volunteer Jaxs Ross for her support.



We are happy to announce Burn Support Group are now part of the Hamilton Safekids Coalition. Members from the Fire Emergency, Western Community Centre, Kids at Home, ACC, Waikato DHB, Plunket, Maori Women's Welfare League and Te Runanga O Kirikiriroa are working together sharing information and resources to support the general public throughout the Waikato region.



Burn Support Group Charitable Trust are extremely proud of Mata La'akulu who has been nominated for Kiwibank Local Hero Awards. She will be receiving a medal at the ceremony to be held on 29th November, 2017.

Congratulations from all your BSG family - a beautiful and supportive lady that is well deserving of recognition.



*Janine Baker hands over funds raised to Michele Henry from Burn Support Group*

Most children light fires because they are curious or find it fascinating says Janine Baker, centre manager of Active Explorers, Highbrook. In order to raise funds for the Burn Support Group, the Early Childhood Centre with 150 children and 35 staff organised a three-day fundraiser with a Circus theme. A bouncy castle took centre stage as some of the staff members encouraged parents to try their hand at a variety of games made from recycled materials. Ms Baker says that Active Explorers which is located in the heart of the business hub in East Tamaki, hosted the Circus Day not only to raise funds but also to make children gently aware of the dangers of lighting a fire.

## FACTS

According to the University of Otago Injury Prevention Research Unit there have been 3440 hospital discharges for burns related injuries between the years 2011 and 2015.

About 60 per cent of those injuries were related to hot substances, like boiling water, compared to 30 per cent a result of fire. In the past year there have been 423 new claims and 689 active claims for burns injuries through ACC, costing \$4.9 million in total.

## A Big Thank You .....



LtoR: Paul Evans, Jarrod Harris, Leon Foley, Michele Henry, Jackie Maskell, Nigel Porter

**L**ocal business Thermal Solutions have very generously chosen the Burn Support Group as the recipients to receive \$1500.00 raised to sponsor TWO children to the Annual Burn Children's Camp. Michele Henry (administrator) was fortunate to meet with the Directors and accept on behalf of the Burn Support Group this very appreciated donation.



LtoR: Mark Van Dorsten, Michele Henry and Bernard Phillips.

**S**tarting from the 1st October 2017 we look forward to a wonderful future with PSL Fire and Safety. They have chosen the Burn Support Charitable Trust as one of their Charities to support. BSG is extremely grateful for such a donation, the funds will contribute to enhancing the lives of those that are affected through burn injuries and their families.



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Thank you yet again to the Management at the Botany Warehouse. This year with their support and the generosity of the public, \$910 has been awarded to the Burn Support Group to assist with the funding of the Children's Burn Camp. B.S.G is extremely grateful for the continual support provided by The Warehouse Botany.



Merchant Wholesalers, Chapel Road, Dannemora raised money through a donation box on the counter. Thanks to the public, management and staff for supporting BSG.

## FISHING AND OUTDOORS NEWSPAPER

A big Thank You to Graham Carter from Fishing & Outdoors Newspaper for his terrific support providing BSG with free advertising. You can view at [www.fishingoutdoors.org](http://www.fishingoutdoors.org).

## World Burn Congress Applications Open

World Burn Congress applications are open!!!

View the website [www.burn.org.nz](http://www.burn.org.nz) for information on the 2018 Phoenix World Burn Congress to be held at Grand Rapids Michigan between the 12th and 15th September 2018.