

SOUTH WAIKATO ACHIEVEMENT TRUST

SUPPORTING PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES TO ACHIEVE THEIR GOALS

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FROM RUSSELL ENSOR:

CEO—SWAT - As the year draws to an end and the days are getting hotter, it is a great time to reflect on what a very busy and enjoyable year it has been. We have grown considerably over the years and this is reflected by the numbers of people with disabilities that want to join our service.

We are now full in our Residential Service and many of these people with disabilities are attracted to our Vocational Service both work units and community participation.

This is because we have :

- ◆ First class facilities and surrounding environment
- ◆ Diverse and skilled staff
- ◆ Strong leadership from our governing body
- ◆ Good family /whanau connections

A big pat on the back must go to all staff who strive so hard to give our people with disabilities a great and enjoyable life.

A sad end of the year was the passing of a long term client, Peter Buckeridge. Peter was with us for 31 years.

We will be thinking of Jim & Brenda Buckeridge and from all of us at SWAT we wish you a Merry Xmas and think of all the good times we had with Peter.

Finally, I would like to thank staff for a wonderful year and wish you all a Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year!



A visit from the former National MP member - Louise Upston before the election. Seen here with SWAT Trust Board member Warren Long, Russell Ensor (CEO) and Chairperson David Foote.

A few of the employees were lucky to speak to Louise as seen here outside the Packaging area.

Photo Below: Roberta, Alison, LOUISE, Alan, Stacy and in the front Brett and Pauline!



MARAE STAY (NOHO) -

As a part of 'Tikanga Maori Learning' option, our group attended a Noho (Stay on the Marae) at the Pouakani Marae in Mangakino, which proved to be very successful.

In a relaxed environment, staff observed increased interaction amongst our group.

Leading up to the 'Karanga' our clients followed all protocol expected of them at the welcome and as well as throughout their stay.

A great learning experience for all. The food and hospitality left some of them overwhelmed. Two staff members attended the stay with our clients, as well!

Photo Back row: Terry, Daniel, Teina, Noel, Alan, Kayne & Peter .

Front row: Rebekah, Melanie & Ashley



Christmas greetings

Creative Art are looking forward to the Xmas break this year. The 'New Year' offers new options that have been presented to our clients who are already planning their programmes themselves.

Festive greetings to all, have a safe and happy holiday break.



Tokoroa Xmas Float Parade:

Volunteers, clients and staff worked towards making the 'Mad Hatter's' float for the 'Tokoroa Community Gardens' another success. New staff member Rebekah (from the UK) & client Audrey rode on the float and was absolutely amazed by the whole experience.

Photo on the right:

This group of clients have done voluntary work at the **South Waikato District Library** here in Tokoroa.

The Library put on a morning tea for the group and presented them with a 'Gift Box'

Photo: Rawinia, Melanie, Micaiah, Jonathan, Ashlee & Sheree!

Well done, everyone!!!





Woodwork programme -

Bill (ACC client) working on 'Cat Scratcher poles' for the SPCA who were in need for the rescued cats!

Photo Right: Aotearoa Literacy provided personal development courses over a term, our group completed all requirements and looking forward to next year!

Congratulations to Ashlee, Rebekah, Alison & Theresa.



Photo above: Joseph shares his 'Harakeke' (Maori Flax Weaving) skills with the United Community Centre every Friday afternoon!



Wishing you all a Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year.

From us all at C.H.O.I.C.E.S

SPECIAL OLYMPIC 2017 WINNERS: WILLIAM JOHNSON, EDWINA STEWART AND LEAH MATETAKA



The Special Olympics National Games was held in Wellington for 6 days from the 26th of November until the 6th of December 2017. Leah, Edwina and Willie competed in the Indoor Bowls under the umbrella of the Tauranga team. The games were held at the ASB Arena with outstanding results from the indoor bowling team. There were 14 provinces who competed in the indoor bowls for the national games.

Leah Matetaka won Gold Medals in both the fours and the pairs.

Edwina Stewart won Gold medal in the fours and Silver medal in the pairs.

Willie Johnson won Gold medal in the fours and Silver medal in the pairs.



We had an opportunity to visit Te Papa museum and Cuba street, the opening and closing ceremony was held in Porirua Sports Arena. We stayed at the Joan Stevens Hall on the Terrace and walked down to parliament garden every morning to catch the buses to various venues to different events. We also were able to 'meet and greet' some of the politicians while waiting for the bus. The weather was beautiful, no wind, just sunshine.

Mark & Gerlik (Advocate/ Support person)



Photo right: Leah Matetaka with Bill English & two other contestants. Bill was mingling with some of the contestants that were waiting for their bus to take them to their Special Olympic venues.



Photo Above: Melanie & Alan show off their Rosettes that they received from RDA (Riding for the Disabled Association)!

OBITUARY: Peter Bruce Buckeridge

Born: 12 Nov 1969 Died: 5 Nov 2017

We sadly say Goodbye to Peter! A staunch
WAIKATO / CHIEFS & AB's
Supporter.

Peter was in our services
for 31 years since Sept
1986



I would think this would be one of Peters most treasured photos taken at SWAT.

Peter holding up the 'World Cup with Wayne Smith' taken last year !!!