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IN YOUR COMMUNITY

# COMMUNITYMOVES

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**PATRONS**

Dr Roderick and Mrs Gillian Deane

**NEW ZEALAND LIFE MEMBERS**

Dr Donald Beasley CBE  
Dr Terry Caseley  
Dr Roderick Deane  
John Hanning  
John Holdsworth ONZM  
Sir Colin Meads KNZM MBE  
JB Munro QSO  
Barbara Rocco ONZM  
Neil Taylor  
Tony Shaw  
Charlie Waigh  
Maureen Wood

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# From the President



I have to begin my column by saying how relieved and pleased I am that an agreement has been reached in the sleepover issue. Chief executive Ralph Jones

and his team have worked through some very complicated issues and relationships to make this happen.

IHC's annual general meeting was held in late August and it would have been good to be able to announce the agreement then. But there were many other positive things to focus on. The Board has a number of challenges to focus on in the next twelve months. I am looking forward to getting further progress on projects such as the new generation project and the future direction for residential services. These projects will continue to take the organisation forward.

I was proud to award three life memberships at the annual general meeting. You can read about Maureen Wood, John Hanning and Charlie Waigh and the enormous contribution they have all made to IHC in this issue of *Community Moves*.

At the AGM we reflected on what a big year we've had – the situation in Christchurch has been unprecedented, our fundraising has been highly

successful, and we've had amazing support from communities. Given that New Zealand has had a hard year, both economically and socially, I was able to report on some good things going on.

Accessible Properties will be more involved with providing community housing in the coming year. It is already an extremely good provider and this sets it up well to meet the challenges to come. One of the areas to focus on is the number of people wanting independent supported living and other living options, such as living in their own home or flat with flatmates. People also want to live centrally in their community, close to transport and other services. Our purchasing and management of properties will have to consider all these things. We need to find out what people want, not just what we have purchased or provided in the past.

At the moment we have association AGMs happening all over New Zealand. I'm pleased that we still have 34 associations. We are still seeing new people step up and be part of the organisation. This is partly reflected in the number of people coming through willingly to be new association chairs. I'm very grateful to all our association chairs, new and returning, for their efforts and their support of the organisation.

Donald Thompson  
National President

# Personally Speaking

November 2011

Volume 50, No 3



You'll be aware that a strong focus over the last 12 months has been the sleepover litigation. There is more information about that on page 13. But in

this column I want to share information on some of the other projects happening through the organisation.

Within services there are four key projects: alternative residential services models; vocational modernisation; successful ageing; and future planning for young people. All of these projects involve consultation with services, staff, families and government. They are done over and above the work that we are funded to do by government.

These projects are all about looking to the future. Every indication is that there will be changes in the way we deliver services, and there is widespread agreement that changes are needed. There is certainly strong demand from many families. The Social Services Select Committee report in 2008 recommended a number of changes to ensure that the needs of intellectually disabled people are met.

That Select Committee, which received more than 150 submissions from individuals and disability groups and three petitions, says it heard a lot of evidence about where services are failing to meet people's needs. Nothing in that Select Committee report was news to IHC and the projects that we are working on will help us to meet the needs of

disabled people and their families better.

Along with having a look at services we also have to make sure we have efficient administration systems such as payroll, computers, health and safety programmes, phones and accounting systems for our 6000 staff. The engine room has to be run well. The website is being upgraded and the intranet is constantly refreshed. We need to get our administration as efficient as it can be so money and resources can go back into services and other activities.

So we are constantly trying to improve the way we do things. Those of you who have been involved with IHC over the years will know that we don't get it right 100% of the time, but we do learn from all our experiences.

As well as services and administrative improvements, we've also got some fabulous community activities and relationships underway. Our associations are doing good work in their community and we have hundreds of engaged and enthusiastic volunteers.

IHC remains unique in that we are a single organisation with many different functions - we are a service provider, a fundraiser, a large corporate, a community organisation, a major employer and an advocate for people with intellectual disability. The many different hats that IHC wears means we have many challenges. We also have many, many opportunities to make things better for people with intellectual disability in New Zealand.

Ralph Jones  
Chief Executive

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# A positive change for disabled New Zealanders

In the last issue of *Community Moves* IHC Chief Executive Ralph Jones said that he hadn't expected this government to value our sector in the Budget. He was therefore not disappointed in the 3% extra given to the sector, which didn't cover additional costs. Here is the Minister of Health's response to Ralph Jones' comments.



Minister of Health Tony Ryall

One in five New Zealanders lives with a disability. This number is expected to grow in coming years. We want people with disabilities to have the support, and freedom, they need to lead fulfilling lives.

This is a priority for the National-led Government. We have put in place a number of initiatives to improve community and home support services, support independent living, providing more respite care and meeting rising costs of equipment and modification services. And we've established a full-time Disability Rights Commissioner.

In Budget 2011 we put an extra \$130 million towards disabilities services, including more money to help people

at home to do things like showering, getting dressed and preparing meals. We're also funding the Be. Accessible campaign, which promotes positive attitudes towards people with disabilities.

All of these initiatives are helping us meet our goal of giving disabled people greater choice and control over the support they receive, and the lives they lead.

I recently launched an innovative programme in the Western Bay of Plenty that does just that.

Now, disabled people living in the region will work with Local Area Co-ordinators. These people will walk alongside them, helping them live the life they want.

We've seen great success with this approach in rural Western Australia. With the help of a Local Area Co-ordinator, an intellectually disabled woman found a flat and a voluntary job at the local community centre. Her family was supported throughout this time, and regular visits were made to the woman to ensure she was eating well and looking after herself.

We're also going to give people in the Western Bay of Plenty, and their families, more freedom to choose how their support funding is spent. Under the

flexible funding programme, they can choose exactly how much they want to spend on home help, or respite care, or other types of support, instead of having a set number of hours for each.

This new approach has the potential to change thousands of lives. It's a hugely positive step forward in putting disabled people in charge of their own lives.

We've already seen the benefits this brings. For some time now, people in the Western Bay of Plenty and the Hutt Valley have been able to fill out their own needs assessment forms. This may seem like a small step, but it enables people to tell their own stories in their own time. And they're telling us they appreciate the opportunity to do that.

This Government is absolutely committed to improving the lives of disabled people.

I look forward to continuing to work with our disabled community as we bring about further positive change.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tony Ryall".

# The show must go on – and it did

This year's IHC Art Awards were nothing short of a miracle. In the true spirit of 'the show must go on', the event went ahead despite earthquakes, volcanic ash and snow.



*Lower Hutt artist Stacey Hughes and her winning 'Mona Lisa' smile portrait.*

And nothing dulled the joy of the winners – Stacey Hughes, Paul Sedgwick, Denise Dennehy and Jamie McCullough.

The South Island regional judging was shifted to Dunedin because of the Canterbury earthquakes. And February's quake nearly put paid to entering the national art competition for the group of disabled artists, whose studio and art were wrecked in the red zone. They raced against the clock to replace lost art works they had planned to enter.

But the desire to tell their stories and express their hopes for a rebuilt

Christchurch was so strong that the result was nearly double the number of entries. Seventeen artists from this studio sent work to the regional judging in Dunedin, compared to nine last year.

Moving the exhibition and judging to Dunedin, on the other hand, was an enormous boost for local artists who were very excited about being able to exhibit their art in Dunedin instead of packing it up and sending it off to Christchurch.

And then ash from Chile's Cordón Caulle volcano disrupted flights,

meaning one of the Arts Awards judges, children's author Margaret Mahy, couldn't fly to Dunedin leaving Dunedin sculptor Olav Nielsen to judge alone, with Margaret viewing the works two weeks later.

The gala awards night – already moved forwards to August because of the pressure on event space in Wellington because of the Rugby World Cup – then looked dicey. It had started to snow, and snow, in Wellington. The 'Antarctic' storm blanketed the Capital disrupting transport and it wasn't clear how many of the finalists were going to make it. Most of them did and the event was a ball.

Lower Hutt artist Stacey Hughes won first prize of \$5000 for a powerful portrait with a 'Mona Lisa' smile. Second place went to Paul Sedgwick from Hamilton for Auckland Phonebook Goes to Milford – a series of notes on a board. Third-equal prizes of \$1000 were awarded to Denise Dennehy (Wellington) with a 3D work Blue and White Pills Going Up the Right Way, inspired by a Lotto spinning wheel, and Jamie McCullough (Katikati) for a paper and cardboard sculpture Ace, inspired by video games.

The winners were picked from the top 30 entries by Margaret Mahy, Auckland sculptor Brett Graham and Olav Nielsen. Stacey, 41, is the first Wellington winner of the national competition, which started in 2004 to showcase the talents of people with intellectual disabilities. Stacey says her winning portrait was inspired by a photograph in a magazine. She can't remember who was in the photograph, but it may have been a rock star.

# New life members recognised at AGM

## Maureen Wood: Fifty years of lobbying not over yet

Maureen Wood has been awarded New Zealand life membership of IHC exactly 50 years since she first made contact with IHC, in 1961, seeking support for her daughter Jackie.

Jackie was aged three with Down syndrome – “it was called Mongol then – but I didn’t know she was autistic too. I was advised to put her away in an institution and forget I had her”, Maureen says.

But she was told of a house in Mt Albert, where people with disabilities had a day service. “It was an IHC day service. Jackie went three days a week until she was five.”

Maureen joined the Epsom ‘Ladies Auxiliary’ and from that time she has been involved with IHC in one way or another lobbying in the best interests of people with intellectual disabilities. She singles out one critical campaign – to have institutions closed down “because of the pressure that was put on parents to have their children put in institutions”.

“There was a lot of insensitivity. The bond was broken with families and it’s very hard to get that bond back again.” She says she

would have lobbied “forever” to have the institutions closed down.

Maureen and her husband Ted raised Jackie at home – along with four younger children: Eric, twins Kevin and Wendy, and Sharon. Both were involved with IHC in West Auckland when Ted died suddenly in 1985. Maureen carried on caring for Jackie for another two years before deciding to find a residential home for her.

“It was the hardest thing I ever did and I still feel guilty at times, even though I know she is well cared for.” Jackie is now 53.

“I feel with IHC it’s my family. It’s been my family for 50 years. IHC is my choice. It’s part of me. If I didn’t like any of the services I was getting, I wouldn’t run away from it. I would say so.”

Maureen has served on branch committees and on the New Zealand Council from 1985 until 2009. Last year she stood down after 25 years as president of the West/Central Auckland branch.

Those who work with Maureen credit her with her ability to work for change for the

benefit of people with intellectual disability. But they might be surprised to know that Maureen doesn’t find change easy.

“The whole thing changes all the time; the trends change. What young people want is different from what we wanted. The young parents coming along now seem to expect it as a right that everything is done for them.”

In contrast, Maureen and her generation of parents knew they had to build the services they needed – and it gave them a sense of achievement in doing that.

Still, the news from IHC chief executive Ralph Jones and President Donald Thompson that she was to receive a life membership was a surprise. “I was really blown away when Ralph and Donald came up. I just felt humble really and proud that people had thought enough of me to give me this honour,” she says.

“I am grateful that there are so many people who want to do this job and to look after my daughter. And they get paid a very small amount compared to other sectors.”



*IHC’s newest life members (from left) Charlie Waigh, Maureen Wood and John Hanning.*

## Charlie Waigth: urges members to get connected

New IHC life member Charlie Waigth is encouraging IHC associations, members and parents to focus on being advocates for people with intellectual disabilities.

Charlie, 87, has been a member of IHC for 45 years. Now he is urging a return to our roots.

"We started as an advocacy organisation, but because there were no services we became a service organisation as well, and it sort of went on from there," he says.

But Charlie says services can now be left in the hands of IDEA Services and IHC associations can refocus on communities. "It's the lack of support in the general community that we should be concentrating on," he says.

"We should be concentrating on making sure that people get help and they know the help that is available to them. It's up to us as parents and members and association committees to be on the lookout."

Charlie says the challenge for associations is to get more people, particularly young parents, involved. "We have got to encourage them to look ahead."

Charlie is a member of the Counties Association committee and he has been involved in the key points evaluation of IHC services since the programme started.

"It was quite a prominent part of the committee's responsibilities over the years. Many associations, including our own, have decided it's well worth doing because it keeps us in touch with the people."

"When you walk into a house, you know if people are happy or things aren't going as they should."

He says when things are working well it is usually a combination of factors – good staff, good managers and places where people with disabilities are encouraged to be themselves and to be as independent as possible. He sees a good lifestyle plan as the key to good quality of life and happiness.

Charlie and others like him helped to build IHC services from the ground up in the days when there wasn't a lot of support for families who had a child with a disability. Charlie helped to set up the

Central Hawkes Bay sub-branch in 1966, the Pahiatua sub-branch in 1968 and the Manukau sub-branch in 1974. Charlie was president of the Papakura branch for 16 years from 1990.

He found himself starting sub-branches because, as a postmaster, he would shift his family to different towns every couple of years.

Charlie and his wife Mary were living in Takapau in 1966 when the Central Hawkes Bay sub-branch was born. Charlie and Mary's daughter Catherine, who has Down syndrome, was five years old and there were no services available for her. Mary died in 1998 and Catherine, now 49, lives in IHC residential care.

"You can only give life membership to a certain number of people. I am quite sure there are 20 times more people who really deserve that honour," he says. "Maureen [Wood] and I have trod similar paths for the past 30 years; parallel paths. The fact that she is getting a life membership probably makes me feel a little bit easier."

## Legal advisor saw behind-the-scenes dramas: John Hanning

For more than 40 years John Hanning has steered IHC through constitutional changes and episodes of high drama. But he has been conscious all along of the need to guard the rights of people with intellectual disabilities.

John became IHC's legal advisor in 1967 and now, in his seventies, he has handed over the IHC portfolio but continues to provide the benefit of his wisdom and experience.

In 1967 IHC was a very different kind of organisation. IHC branches were autonomous – raising and managing their own funds, building and buying property, appointing staff.

"June was always an exciting month when branch annual general meetings were held. I kept a copy of the IHC constitution by the telephone and had a hotline to JB [Munro, former IHC chief executive] as we tried to head off branch committee and presidential takeovers often in situations of high drama," John says.

"These were very exciting times because the people involved at the grass roots were so passionate and they did have a major role in staffing and property," he says.

"There was an occasion where one branch enrolled a huge number of members as branch members a week

or two before the annual meeting and then elected their favoured candidate." He says the rules were amended to fix a three-month qualifying period for voting.

John has been involved in two major redrafts of IHC constitutions including the latest in 2009 with the replacement of branches by associations.

In 1990–91 John played an important role when IHC was negotiating with the Government for support to resolve a major funding problem in an attempt to maintain services.

*Continued on page 8*

# 'I know a lot of people – no one gets angry'

Raewyn Taputoro recently met one of her biggest challenges.

She was one of a team of Maori wardens keeping people safe in the city during Rugby World Cup matches in Hamilton and Rotorua.

The 22-year-old, who has an intellectual disability, has been a Maori Warden since 2003. Every afternoon her job is to patrol the Hamilton bus terminal, working with her grandmother Jennifer Tapara. She also regularly patrols on Friday and Saturday nights from 10.30pm until 4am with Jennifer and the other wardens as part of the city's Ready Response team.

Raewyn has found a sense of purpose volunteering at the bus depot – making sure the students get on their buses after school instead of hanging out at the terminal. "I know a lot of people," she says. "No one gets angry."

Jennifer, 67, has cared for Raewyn since she was a child and they are supported by IHC's Family/Whanau services. Jennifer joined the Kirikiriroa Maori Wardens in 2001 – looking for her own sense of purpose when her husband died. Two years later Raewyn joined too and they became a tight team.

They head off to the bus station at 2.30pm every day – and then catch their own bus home at 5pm. Raewyn and Jennifer say they keep the children safe. "It's just a meeting place and I suppose



*The Rugby World Cup has given Raewyn Taputoro one of her biggest challenges.*

they find it a bit of fun," Jennifer says.

"We say, excuse me folk, I think you need to move on because you have got the buses there," Jennifer says.

Jennifer says the kids respect her and Raewyn for the work they do. "Some of these kids will give us lollies and fish and chips."

Joyce Williams, president of the Kirikiriroa Maori Wardens Association, says Raewyn loves to work with young people at the bus terminal. She says their role is to ensure public safety and discourage unruly behaviour from the students.

When they are working with the Ready Response Project, their job is to deal with alcohol-related incidents before people get hurt or Police intervention is needed.

During the three Rugby World Cup games at Waikato Stadium, the Ready Response team's role was extended to keep visitors and locals alike safe in the city. Raewyn and Jennifer were part of a team of 30 wardens on the streets – 15 from Hamilton and 15 wardens from Rotorua. The 15 Hamilton wardens returned the favour in Rotorua when the Rugby World Cup action moved there.

"I drafted the legal documentation for what became a \$10 million interest-free Government loan to IHC to be repaid at the rate of 1 million a year. This action negotiated by Roderick Deane saved the Society from a major financial crisis. And the loan was fully repaid within the 10 years."

John has always been a strong advocate for clients' personal and property rights, including estates, guardianship and related issues.

He served on a committee with Judge John Jeffries which did the groundwork for New Zealand's Protection of Personal and Property Rights Act 1988.

Any disputes involving personal rights can now be handled through the Family Court, but John says this can often be a complicated legal process. He believes it would be cheaper and simpler to allow an administrative tribunal to handle applications in cases where there is no opposition.

John's advice has been readily available to board members, the executive team and to managers throughout New Zealand, but "I always felt that I had to keep myself distant from the politics of the boards and committees".

He says the role of legal advisor has allowed him to see the national picture but he has also appreciated being involved with people throughout the country and helping them to work through legal issues.

# Ready, set ... vote

If you are struggling to get your head around MMP, FPP, STV and all those other capital letters then don't worry.

In the lead-up to this year's General Election, the Electoral Commission has produced a resource kit called *Get Ready and Vote*, to give people with intellectual disabilities the information and support they need to take part on Election Day.

Members of the IHC Self Advocacy team supported the project with its members taking key roles as presenters.

The very strong message from *Get Ready and Vote* is that everyone – and that means people with intellectual disabilities too – have the right to express their views on the issues that affect their lives.

"*Get Ready and Vote* is a big step forward in giving people with intellectual disabilities the information they need to feel confident in voting," says Caroline

Barnes, IHC's National Manager Self Advocacy. "We're thrilled to be launching this resource, and looking forward to using it throughout the country."

"Having a say on Election Day is the right of all New Zealanders," says Chief Electoral Officer Robert Peden. "On November 26, not only will New Zealand be voting for the politicians and political parties who will lead the country, we'll also be voting on the system we use to choose those politicians. Our goal is to make sure that everyone gets the information they need, in the way that best works for them."

The new DVD resource follows a group of friends as they learn about New Zealand's government, find out where to get the information they need to make their choices, and experience enrolling and

voting. They talk about some of the issues that are important to them in deciding who to vote for.

IHC Self Advocacy coordinator David Corner believes good public transport is essential for people with disabilities; Alyssa Dimock is concerned about having well-maintained roads; and Waata Houia speaks out on the need for inclusion and acceptance in schools.

All of them are engaged, articulate and passionate about the right of the disabled to vote.

The new resource is being widely distributed to service providers and advocacy groups nationwide. Copies are also available through the Electoral Commission [www.elections.org.nz](http://www.elections.org.nz).



*The launch of *Get Ready and Vote* was attended by the actors, and filmmaker, as well as the Electoral Commission and other guests.*



High quality care is ensuring that the focus is on the users of care, who should be treated as the most important people in the sector. ACT believes in choice and personal responsibility about the kind of education and healthcare people receive. The current education model funnels children with an intellectual disability into specialised schools even when they can thrive in any school given the appropriate care with the funding following the child. Schools will have the resources to fund carers to come to their school. The ACT system of funding will greatly benefit the families of people with an intellectual disability. They often make personal and financial sacrifices to take on a role as carer. Under a system run by a state monopoly, people have little control of their own healthcare and people like family carers miss out.

Providing choice in education and healthcare is the most effective way of solving the inequities in the current system. When people choose for themselves they can direct their money to the areas they recognise are best for them.

It is often the case that individuals and families are the first support network for people with an intellectual disability. ACT sees the continuation and support of this as vital; families know their loved ones far better than the state or other agencies. It is for this reason that many people with intellectual disabilities choose to as long as is practicable, be cared for by their family.



## Key Policy Principles:

That disabled people have: Access to education in an appropriate form. Access to, and information on, citizen rights and involved in decision-making affecting them.

Services must be responsive, flexible, assessable and culturally appropriate.

Barriers to active participation in society removed.

## Green Specific Policy Points

A national awareness-raising project on disability issues. Affirmative action on barriers to inclusion so people with impairments can be active in their communities. Ensure public transport is accessible to all.

Include disability awareness in public sector induction courses and continuing education. Enact legislation similar to the U.K. Disability Discrimination Act to close existing loopholes in our legislation. Ensure all new houses and buildings fully comply with disability access requirements unless specifically exempted.

Design and use processes that enable and empower people with impairments to become leaders at all levels. Include tangata whenua in auditing all services. Bring schools into the NZ Disability Strategy, and ensure they are fully resourced to educate children with impairments. Increase support for people with impairments to gain paid work. Provide assistance to employers of people with impairments for adaptations and special equipment.

Take steps to integrate and ensure services work for the users.

Establish Disability Issues Commission.

Services are based on level of need and are culturally appropriate.

Better support for families with high needs children.

Provide free, accessible advocacy services while supporting the right to self-advocate.

Encourage a culture that speaks out against and works to eliminate abuse.

Reinstate Parent Advocacy phone line. Ensure those who are competent to make informed decisions on their sexual and reproductive rights have the freedom to do so. No sterilisation of anyone under 18 unless to save the person's life.

Ensure screening for foetal abnormalities is not biased toward termination.

Full information must be given where an abnormality is diagnosed before the family makes their decision on whether to proceed with the pregnancy or not.



People with disabilities have a right to the best support. By investing more in health we can address the disparities in health outcomes.

Schools must be fully inclusive. The creation of a more inclusive and accessible education system that supports schools to provide students and parents access to quality services is vital. Additional funding is needed for improvements in leadership and professional development.

We support the IHC Start Strong campaign and would work with IHC to improve support for children with disabilities and their families. Labour supports people with disabilities entering the workforce, if there are support services and opportunities in employment available so that they can either work or participate in their communities in other ways. We support the change in emphasis around what people with disabilities can achieve, but we believe the focus on the jobseeker in National's welfare reform will lead to discrimination. We recognise there may be limited opportunities for people with disabilities to take up employment in the challenging job market.

We will work inclusively with disabled people, in partnership to support efforts to have the best lives they can. We will involve and resource people with disabilities to participate in decision-making and will enable their voices to be heard. We support the funding of vocational services to increase the participation of disabled people in employment and to increase the participation of disabled people in their communities. This will be achieved through planning and training for those entering employment, and the development of employment options that recognise the diverse needs of disabled people.

We acknowledge the disparity in support available to people whose impairment is acquired due to an accident and those whose impairment is due to a lifelong disability. We will seek to improve equity between ACC and non-ACC clients. We recognise the work of the disability workforce. Labour welcomed the Social Services Committee report which included appointing a lead agency, establishing a national plan of action, providing a career path and skills based pay system for the workforce. Labour would investigate and review the report in consultation with the disability community before implementing the recommendations.



We support proper recognition of disabled people and their families in the context of whanau ora. We believe that disabled persons have the right to participate in decision-making, be protected by law, and have control of their lives.

We have supported IHC's complaint to the Human Rights Commission that Government policy has impacted on the ability of schools to meet the educational needs of students with disabilities.

We support the establishment of an appropriately funded lead agency for disability issues.

We promote Government working in partnership with whanau to develop a framework for information distribution and flexible support.

The priority for the Māori Party is that disabled persons and their whanau can access support in order to have a life of their own, and to achieve that vital sense of purpose. We endorse the concept - nothing about us, without us. We will resource respite care and wraparound services for disabled persons to ensure they determine where they seek to live.

We support the Early Family Support System triggered by the first identification of disability, being universally available to families.

We support a review of the funding and contracting model for special needs in schools. Current provision is uneven and inequitable.

We will review income support to ensure full participation in family and community life in order that people with disabilities have better access to supported independent living.

The Maori Party disability policy will address the disparities between Health and ACC disability funding based on cause.



The biggest problem facing families today is the cost of living.

When families struggle to pay their grocery bill, rent and power then something is seriously wrong.

Wage and salary earners already work longer hours than comparable countries but are still fighting to make ends meet.

Most are worse off than their parents and our society is less stable, with large and growing social problems This is disgraceful in a land of plenty.

Inequality is increasing dramatically. Most are feeling the pinch while the richest 150 New Zealanders last year increased their wealth by \$7 billion.

Mana would lower taxes for wage and salary earners and increase taxes on unearned income. We would abolish GST completely and make the first \$15,000 earned tax free. This would be paid for with a proper capital gains tax, a Hone Heke tax on financial transactions, and a progressive taxation system which targets high and unearned income rather than wages and salaries.



Establish a health levy (or National Insurance Scheme) to provide a fund to address the disparity between trauma-based (ACC) and non-trauma based impairment.

Broaden community services card coverage to include subsidies for dental check-ups and basic procedures. Ensure all health disciplines include specific course content on best practise when dealing with disabled clients. Increase ORRS funding to schools by 10% and ensure that it is not pruned if a student makes academic progress.

Ensure that all teacher education includes more compulsory papers on working with students with disabilities. Encourage links and incentives between tertiary providers and industry to ensure that skills taught are relevant and required in the future labour market. A zero-fees policy for ALL tertiary education, accompanied by a push to increase the quality of tertiary education and protect the value of New Zealand degrees. This will apply to both full and part-time students.

Flexibility is important and income (regardless of how it is derived) should be separate from costs associated with personal care.

The sector needs to be client-driven not provider-driven. Better collaboration between what clients want and what services are available will require a change in funding and contracting. Where possible the client should determine the contract. Self-determination is extremely important as is having expectations that each person is able to meet their potential.

Early support and education is important for ALL children and their families.



As government National has delivered the following:

Committed an extra \$130 million towards disability services. The government was the first to report on the UN Convention on the Rights of Disabled People and established a separate Disability Humana Rights Commissioner.

Funded the Convention Coalition of disabled people's organisations as part of the monitoring of the UN Convention. The Ministerial Committee on Disability issues met with the Human Rights Commission, the Ombudsman and Convention Coalition to discuss progress and priorities with implementing the UN Convention. Since 2010 the government has funded a campaign to improve attitudes and behaviours towards disabled people.

The Welfare Working group recommendations are under consideration but no decisions have been made yet. The key support for children with special education needs to attend Early Childhood education is the early intervention services which provide support to 13000 children annually, including \$4 million for education support workers who provide direct support to children in kindergarten and help implement the child's individual plan. Support for access to schooling comes from a wide range of services and funding to schools. This includes \$15 million a year for modifications to school property and \$33 million in transport assistance. The government has done a lot of work relating to individualised funding and started a LAC pilot programme.



Supporting people with disabilities and their families is not about a balance sheet. Health spending in general should be at 10% of GDP. This will encourage better quality services, more options and better access which is the key to supporting people lead better lives. Residential care should be of the highest quality and support for families who care for a family member is imperative. There is considerable progress to be made around the rights of disabled people and better access in and around the community. We would support all moves towards this eventuating.

We understand that there are problems with the PPPR Act 1988 which can disempower intellectually disabled people and therefore want the convention principle of Supported Decision Making embedded in legislation.

# Politicians challenged to act now for children

In the lead-up to this year's General Election politicians have been talking about the needs of New Zealand's children. IHC says disabled children must not be forgotten in these discussions.



*Disabled children are part of the community of all children.*

IHC has produced a 'Children's Call to Action' election document, which identifies the areas where politicians need to act on behalf of children with intellectual disabilities.

"It's a political document and a lobbying document," says IHC Director of Advocacy Trish Grant. "This is a reminder to Government and others that disabled children are part of the community of all children and don't want to be forgotten."

Trish says the Government's Green Paper on Vulnerable Children, released in July states that the Government's vision is that 'every child thrives, belongs, and achieves'. There is a growing awareness

that if we don't invest early in children, we are going to have to pay further down the track in multiple ways."

The IHC 'Children's Call to Action' identifies the specific areas where the country needs to try harder to support children with intellectual disabilities. These include the critical need for early, flexible and sustained support for these children. Families need access to good information about the services and support that is available. Full inclusion in the education system is another issue needing urgent action.

Trish says some of these issues have been around for too long without action being taken. She says the 'Children's Call to Action'

document will be sent to all politicians before the election and will be available to families and advocates who are planning meetings with their local MPs. "We are wanting it to be a basis for action," she says.

After the election, IHC will be focusing on the issues raised in the plan in briefings to incoming Cabinet ministers and members of Parliament.

Trish says if we can get it right for these children in terms of access to good, quality support and information, and effective and timely intervention, then we have started in the right place. "This could be the lifelong approach that we are calling for."

# Sleepover issue put to bed

The Sleepover Wages (Settlement) Act was passed into law on 17 October.

The legislation cements an agreement initiated by IDEA Services with the Service and Food Workers Union and the Government.

The organisation will borrow money to pay 50% of the backdated liability for current employees who are union members who lodged a claim with the Employment Relations Authority by Friday 2 September. The government will pay the remaining 50%. Staff employed as at 2 September 2011 who haven't lodged a claim will be paid on the same basis, but it will be funded by IDEA Services and Timata Hou.

The Crown has also agreed to pay IDEA Services additional funding to phase-in the minimum wage for sleepover by July 2013.

Both the union and IDEA Services made considerable concessions to get agreement.

"We have always said that the only solution to this issue was for people to work together," says IHC chief executive Ralph Jones. "I am aware that there is an expectation by many people that there will be some changes to services in the future."

IDEA Services has sought information from the Ministry of Health on whether people will be assessed to see if they need night time support.

"There are two key issues to work through. One is clarity going forward in the way we deliver services. The second is sorting out individual arrangements with staff. We have set up

a way for staff to access information as it comes to hand.

"Unions, staff, service users, families and providers need to work together to ensure the least stress and disruption possible," says Ralph.

Ralph says that a lot of work has been done on preparing for the future while the sleepover case has been running. This work includes the vocational modernisation project, the aged and ageing project, and looking at residential service models.

"We haven't been sitting back waiting, but looking forward. All these projects need more work over the next couple of years."

The sleepover case began late in 2007 when IDEA Services community support worker Phillip Dickson, supported by the SFWU, raised with IDEA Services whether he should be paid the minimum hourly rate for the sleepover period. The issue went to the Employment Relations Authority to decide whether Phillip was working when doing a sleepover. The Authority decided in favour of Phillip and said he was working when he did a sleepover, whether he was asleep or awake.

IDEA Services then took the case to the Employment Court. In 2009 the Court also ruled in favour of Phillip. The Court decided that support workers who sleep in homes at night should be paid an hourly rate rather than the allowance they are currently paid.

The sleepover case, then went to the Court of Appeal in late 2010, which also upheld the earlier decision.

At the time it was estimated that the Employment Court decision would have huge financial implications for the service arms of IHC – IDEA Services Ltd and Timata Hou Ltd. IDEA Services and Timata Hou quite simply did not have the money to meet these extraordinary costs.

As IDEA Services and Timata Hou were not permitted by law to continue in business when they do not have the money to cover their costs, the directors requested government appoint a statutory manager. Sir John Anderson was appointed by the Government to this position.

The appointment of a statutory manager in October 2010 ensured that Timata Hou and IDEA Services could continue to operate legitimately. It meant services could carry on when otherwise IDEA Services and Timata Hou would have to close down because of a contingent debt that massively exceeded the companies' assets.

It is expected that as an agreement has been reached, IDEA Services and Timata Hou will be out of statutory management by Christmas.

The sleepover action does not affect IHC and its charitable activities. IHC properties (Accessible Properties) and IHC Programmes have continued work as usual, along with the local membership associations.

# Fundraiser recalls some famous last words

Pausing for breath during one of her busiest times of the year, Lynda Young-Kennedy is reminded of some 'famous last words' from an old boss.

Years ago, her IHC manager in Invercargill asked her to take charge of the pledges from dairy farmers who were donating calves to the PGG Wrightson IHC Calf & Rural Scheme.

Lynda says he didn't think the scheme would take off. "There were not too many dairy farmers in Southland at that time. He said, 'it's never going to take over from the sheep.'"

But fast-forward a few years and Southland is surrounded by dairy farms, and fundraising has turned into a fulltime job for Lynda. "The dairying is massive; it's a big part of Southland's economy," she says.

As South Island fundraising coordinator for IHC's fundraising scheme, Lynda organises a team of canvassers who visit farmers throughout the South Island to encourage them to donate to IHC the proceeds from the sale of stock – sheep, beef or dairy. Lynda meanwhile liaises with stock agents, and keeps track of the pledges, the sales and the animals. She has an easy way with people and loves the land and outdoors.

"I would like to be out and about a bit more – that's one of the nice parts of the job, meeting the people." She says sometimes she gets caught up with keying in the data – "and you can forget what it's all about".

At sales time, from November to February, she does get out there. She likes to attend as many sales as she can and make sure things are running smoothly. Sometimes she has to chase up an animal that hasn't turned up at sale – it's sick, or not ready, or there has been a transport glitch.

"All in all, we like to get them to that first sale; that is when the Calf Scheme works best. But it's not always a perfect world. We try to do as much as we can from our end to make it simple and easy for them. For me, it's just making sure that farmers are happy."

Given the opportunity, Lynda, 54, might have chosen to make a living farming.



*Fundraising coordinator Lynda Young-Kennedy checks out some of the new Murray Grey calves belonging to IHC donor farmers Patrice and Nigel Dickson, near Edendale in Southland.*

She says these days there are more women farming in their own right. Growing up around her grandparents' Dipton sheep farm her job was to feed the lambs and she drove the tractor. More recently she has spent time lending a hand on a dairy farm – helping in the milking shed and looking after calves.

"Any opportunity I had I would get out on the farm. I don't mind the dirty work of farming either; that doesn't bother me."

But the family farm was sold and Lynda has to be content with her visits to other farms.

Lynda has worked for IHC for 15 years. She has two children, Jason and Marlena, and has two grandsons and two granddaughters all living in Invercargill.

Lynda says she had a call from a farmer recently. She already donated one calf and

wanted to donate two more. "She said, 'well we have three healthy children – that is least we can do'.

"The great stuff is seeing the outcomes – seeing the happy faces. That is the one thing we have to keep in mind. We work for people with disabilities; that is what it is all about."

Lynda is one of IHC's two fundraisers for the scheme. She is based in Invercargill and newly appointed North Island coordinator (Roslyn Coombes) works from a new North Island Calf Scheme office based in Otorohanga. And you will soon be able to spot them more easily. Lynda and Roslyn will be driving around in new silver Tiguan 4WDs with hot pink and black signwriting, provided by Volkswagen New Zealand.

# Sue and the sheep enjoy life on the edge

## Sue Smart wanted to be a sheep farmer – not a farmer's wife. But then she went and married a dairy farmer.

But now, with the kids grown up and gone, Sue and Keith Smart do both. Keith has 220 cows on their Ngahape farm near Te Awamutu; she runs the Mairoa sheep farm with 2000 sheep and 500 cattle at Pio Pio, 50 minutes away.

Cows don't inspire her. Sheep, on the other hand present a challenge. "With sheep farming you never know what is going to happen next," she says. "The chances of crises and dramas out in the paddock are more likely. You don't see your stock every day. It's seven kilometres to the back of our farm ... dairy farming is very routine and very predictable."

But it's precisely because dairying is predictable, that the IHC Calf Scheme has been a perfect fit, she says. "Everyone rears their calves at the same time; they are gathered together at the same time and sold at the same time. Not so with sheep."

Sue and Keith have been married for 28 years and have donated calves to the PGG Wrightson IHC Calf & Rural Scheme for more than 20 years. They don't have any link with intellectual disability, they simply thought it was a good idea to donate when a canvasser came knocking.

Sue first went to Te Awamutu to work as a field technician for the Ruakura Agresearch Centre. Her specialty was sheep genetics. She met Keith in 1980 at the Young Farmer's Club. "If I didn't want to marry a dairy farmer I probably came to the wrong place." She worked for Ruakura for seven years – fulltime until she had children (Matthew, Rob and Nikki), then part-time.

Sheep have always remained her preferred beast. "I am only 5 feet tall – sheep are easy to handle." So in 1986 they bought their first sheep farm – 50 hectares just outside Te Awamutu and that was just the start for Sue. "In 1999 we sold that small farm; that was when the last of the children went off to school. I said to Keith, I think I need a bit

more of a challenge. He said. 'Go out and see what you can find'.

"He was happy to let me grow my interest. He must have rolled his eyes a bit sometimes: my wife wants a sheep farm for goodness sake. What's wrong with a pair of shoes or a new car?" Sue says.

Sue found the Pio Pio property and for six years ran it with a stock manager. When the manager left Sue decided it was time for her to take over. "For the last six-and-a-half years is when I have felt I can really stretch my legs."

Keith, who in 2005 had handed over milking at the Ngahape farm to a sharemilker, was free to help Sue on the Mairoa farm. Since then they have built a new woolshed and sheep yards, and simplified the operation – getting rid of the "too problematical" bulls from the sheep farm and running young beef cattle with the sheep instead.

Sue has arranged it so that she doesn't have to be there every day. Contractors handle the shearing, dagging and fencing. She doesn't even use a tractor, relying on a motorbike to get around the farm. This frees Sue up for her other love – horse riding and hunting. The King Country Hunt, which she rides with, uses her farm for hunting hares.

Now that the Calf & Rural Scheme has expanded into sheep and beef farming, Sue believes it can work well too with a more unpredictable style of farming, where sheep farmers, in particular, have to be watching the weather and the market and be ready to sell when prices are at a peak. "The biggest buzz is when you juggle all the things and you pull it off."

Now that sheep and lambs are getting better returns – she sold some lambs recently for around \$120 each – they make a worthwhile donation. "You wouldn't

even notice it," she says. "When you are sending 100 lambs, send one to IHC."

Sue says the Calf & Rural Scheme works because it relies on relationships. "I think farmers in general are loyal people. They build up relationships – with their vets, and their accountants and their bankers and their stock.

"Farmers often don't have readies [but] you turn over such big amounts of money on farms, so one animal it's just nothing in the context of that. How cold-hearted would you be to put a line through that even in bad, bad times? You might not change your car, or take a holiday, but that [donation] comes out of the other pocket."



*Sue Smart. "When you are sending 100 lambs, send one to IHC."*

# Derek shows how it's done

Later this year, IDEA Services support staff will find out what it's like to be Derek – a man with dementia and an intellectual disability.

Starting in November, IDEA Services is launching dementia training based on a training package called 'Supporting Derek', developed in Scotland by the University of Edinburgh and the Joseph Rowntree Foundation.

"It is the only resource we could find anywhere that was specifically around intellectual disability and dementia," says Nic McKenzie, manager of IDEA's Successful Ageing Project.

This learning and development package includes a DVD that shows different aspects of Derek's life, together with tutor notes and hand-outs and more information, which highlights areas of good and poor practice.

"We aim to roll out the 'Supporting Derek' training throughout the country in

November and December – with 'train the trainer' sessions in Auckland, Palmerston North and Christchurch," Nic says.

"Often people with Down syndrome develop dementia earlier than other people – sometimes in their 40s and 50s. It's really important that we can identify dementia as early as possible."

As well as the 'Supporting Derek' training, staff will also be trained to use dementia screening tools, including ways to record detailed information about people's behaviour. "We will be adding some questions to people's annual health check. It's going to help people know when they need to seek more specialist support."

Karen Watchman, lecturer in Health and Social Care at the University of Edinburgh,

has helped to develop the 'Supporting Derek' resource. She says the roles are played by actors with disabilities – Derek Docherty and Peter Fleming.

"We hope that being able to relate to the very real examples of Derek and Peter will help staff to understand the experience of – and think from the perspective of – the person with dementia."

"I spoke to Derek and Peter this week and they are delighted that they are now 'international!'" Karen says.

Nic says the Successful Ageing team is making great progress, working with staff to improve support for people at home, in residential services and with end-of-life care.



Derek Docherty and Peter Fleming have some fun with the clapperboard while filming the DVD.

# GET CONNECTED –

what IHC Associations are doing

## *It made me feel that someone cared*

Lesley Paton, from Christchurch, has two children – disabled son Conrad, 11, and his younger brother Isaac, 8.



Lesley Paton says thank you to IHC Associations.

For Lesley, life since the Christchurch earthquakes has not just meant coping with the damage, the uncertainty and the stress of living in a broken city. As the mother of a disabled son, she does all that while at the same time trying to keep a child safe who doesn't understand the dangers.

Conrad is non-verbal and uses pictures to communicate. "He's really like a very active one to two-year-old. He is scared during the earthquakes and he thinks someone is chasing him," Lesley says.

Lesley is one of many people who are enormously grateful to IHC members throughout New Zealand who have tried to imagine what life is like for people in Christchurch – and have turned that thought into action.

Thanks to money donated by IHC Associations to the IHC 'We Can Help' project, Lesley has received a gas heater, woolrest, hat, scarf and gloves, thermos and knee rug.

"It made me feel that someone cared," Lesley says. "We can look at the heater and we know we'll be warm.

"We've had more flu and coughs than before. The underlay keeps the kids warm. I have something warm to put on the beds and take the stress off us. That has been huge.

"We are so, so grateful for everything. I feel far less stressed now, because I know that in an earthquake I can keep the kids warm."

Lesley is only one of many people who have written in to say thank you to IHC members who have donated money. Other messages from service users say:

"Thank you very much for the lovely torch radio. It has very nice stations. I like the alarm. From Elizabeth Joy Meldrum."

*"Thank you very much for the lovely blanket. It's nice and it's warm."*

*"On behalf of Gus, we'd like to thank you for nominating Gus for the electric blanket. He communicates to us by smiling when he gets into his warm cosy bed, indicating that he loves it."*

The amazing work of IDEA Services staff too has been acknowledged with gift vouchers:

*"Made me cry. It was so nice to have a lovely, unexpected token in the letterbox. Thank you so much for your kind thoughts." – Elisabeth.*

*"Thank you for the Farmers voucher. Put a smile on my dial after a sleepless night." – Belinda.*

*"It is indeed a lovely surprise to receive your gift card in the midst of all that is happening to us. It is good to feel remembered and thought of in a practical way." – Love Ellen.*

*"THANK YOU FOR THE SURPRISE GIFT. IT WAS GRATEFULLY RECEIVED. MAY LOVE SMILE UPON YOU ALWAYS." ANITA.*

So far more than \$266,000 has been donated by IHC Associations. Gifts that have been sent to Christchurch folk so far include: ugg boots, hats, gloves and scarves, holiday breaks at Hanmer for people who need to get away for a while, scrapbooking materials and indoor games for people unable to get out and about as easily, liquefaction removal, electric blankets, fleece blankets, knee rugs, thermos flasks, torches, gas heaters, care packages and vouchers.

### *Hutt Valley Association fashion parade*



Model Nicola Murphy enjoys walking the cat walk at the Hutt Valley Association fundraiser at Ballentyne's in September.

# GET CONNECTED –

what IHC Associations are doing

## Association Briefs

### WIDE-SCREEN TV BRINGS A WINNING SMILE

May Ruby ended up with the wide-screen television and the widest smile after the Gisborne IHC Association mid-winter swim.

May did what most people wouldn't want to do. She plunged into the sea in the middle of winter to raise funds for IHC after canvassing nearly \$1000 in sponsorship from Gisborne locals. She raised more than any other participant and that won her a 32 inch flat-screen TV from Smith City, which sponsored the first prize.

For 30 years or more, IHC supporters in Gisborne have gone for a mid-winter swim, says event organiser Tresna Forrester, who has a 23 year-old daughter with a disability. Tresna retired after her 20th swim, but she says there is always one representative of her family who plunges in.

Around 80 people turned up to the event on 19 June, including about 40–50 swimmers, who grabbed hot showers at the Midway Surf Lifesaving Club afterwards. "Some people are in and out in about 30 seconds and some people are in for about 10 minutes," Tresna says.

This year swimmers were encouraged to dress up as their favourite rugby star – but not May. She says "plain togs" were her choice. "I love the people there, they are great people."

May, who uses IDEA's supported independent living services, is a cleaner at the Gisborne motor camp and a local joinery firm, is also very fit. "Sometimes I go to the beach and go to the pool."

She worked hard to get supporters for her swim. Her approach was straightforward: "Could you put your name and your phone numbers down please," she asked. And people were generous – "sometimes \$10, \$20, sometimes \$5".

May says she has never had a flat-screen TV before and she watches "all sorts of programmes – Coronation Street, news and Close Up".

Tresna says the swim this year raised just over \$5000. "It stays locally in Gisborne – it's for educational equipment for vocational services."



May Ruby claims her prize after her cold-water plunge to raise funds for IHC in Gisborne.

### MUSICIANS SING FROM THE HEART FOR IHC



The IDEA Services Kapa Haka Group, were a hit at the Rotorua Musical Variety Concert – and are loving their new uniforms.

There was blues, classical guitar, opera – you name it. Above all there was the chance for talented soloists and bands to share their music and raise money for IHC at the Rotorua Musical Variety Concert in July.

The IHC Rotorua Association, which arranged the concert, raised nearly \$7000 from the night. The MC was Temuera Morrison and the show was packed with entertainment from 92 performers, with up to 600 in the audience.

"It was an opportunity for really good non-professional musicians to show their wares in Rotorua and to raise funds for IHC. It was largely local musicians, but Rotorua is blessed to have so much talent. No one charged for any of their performances," says association chair Roger Pedley.

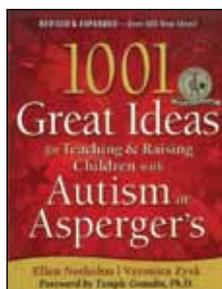
Roger says it was an "all-ages" concert and as good as many of the international acts that come through Rotorua. He says performers included the 24-strong IDEA Services Kapa Haka group, the Rhapsody 'n Rhythm women's choir, a classical guitarist and the Waiariki Academy of Singing and Music.

The Edward Brothers – a group of four singing brothers who work in town – were a highlight for many in the audience, he says. Stewart, a dentist; Harry, a lawyer, Dave, a retired sportsman; and Ian, a pharmacist meet weekly to sing together.

It wasn't just the musicians who backed the concert, there was free advertising promotion by More FM Rotorua, fliers printed by Dudfield Bryce Printers and sponsorship from the Rotorua Energy Charitable Trust.

"We ended up with a net profit of just under \$7000. We want it to go towards the modernisation of vocational services," Roger says. "It was an enormous amount of work and I am very grateful for what everyone did."

# What's new at the IHC Library

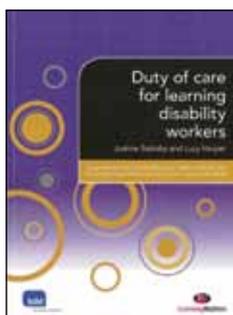


## *1001 Great Ideas for Teaching and Raising Children with Autism and Asperger's*

*Ellen Notbohm and Veronica Zysk*

Ellen and Veronica have developed a practical and inventive guide for helping children to develop language and communication skills, and social and daily living skills. Author Temple Grandin

in her foreword says "The advice on how to handle the dreaded trips to the doctor and the dentist is alone worth the price of the book!" Our borrowers have given this resource four and five stars and say: "This is excellent. Easy to read; practical. Should be in every resource room." "Fabulous resource of practical advice. "Very useful across a broad range of topics. It really does have 1001 great ideas." ID 27035



## *Duty of Care for Learning Disability Workers*

*Justine Barksby and Lucy Harper*

Written to help those who are studying duty of care within the health and social care sectors, or who are supporting people with a disability, this book will also be of use to those who have training or supervisory responsibilities.

The writers discuss the meaning of duty of care, dilemmas that may arise and how to handle comments, complaints and adverse events. Each chapter starts with a brief real-life account and there are pointers to suggested activities, and descriptions of potential dilemmas. Key points are highlighted towards the end of the chapter. ID 27606



## *The Art of Great Care: Stories from people who have experienced great care*

*Nationwide Health and Disability Consumer Advocacy Service*

The Art of Great Care came about when people were invited to share their experiences of outstanding care they had received. This book contains stories from books one and two as well as 24 new

stories. There is a wide age range represented and various types of facilities and care depicted. All the stories are personal accounts and will be useful as reassurance for any one feeling nervous before a stay in hospital, moving to a rest home or any other situation new to them. ID 26336

## Interesting and helpful URLs

<http://www.elections.org.nz/study/disability-resources/plain-english-guides.html>

This site includes all the information needed for anyone wanting to know how to vote in the General Election. It also has plain English guides and a downloadable poster.

This journal article may be of interest with the election coming up...

Use your vote! How can we get more people with learning difficulties to vote?

Holman, Andrew 2010

Andrew Holman points out that only 31 percent of people with learning difficulties voted in Britain's 2001 General Election. He looks at some initiatives to encourage voting among this population.

Community Living, 23 (3) 2010: 8-9 ID 26667

You can contact the library on:

Free phone: 0800 442 442

Email: [librarian@ihc.org.nz](mailto:librarian@ihc.org.nz)

Online catalogue: [www.ihc.org.nz](http://www.ihc.org.nz)

Facebook

<http://www.facebook.com/IHC.New.Zealand>



## *Out and about: Hello Mr Tumble*

This collection of episodes from the BBC kids' TV show Something Special includes scenarios in particular settings, including airport, bike ride, by the sea, hospital, garden centre, drive and house boat. This is a very popular series aimed at helping children with communication difficulties learn Makaton sign language. It is fun and kids love it. There are several titles in the series and the IHC Library also has Favourite Things and Where are you now Mr Tumble? DVD running time: 2hrs 15 mins – ID 27313



## *Body and Soul*

In 2005, Kathy Conour and Diana Braun were awarded an Illinois Human Rights Award. They were the first people with disabilities to receive this recognition for their hard struggle to be a part of the community. This is a story about their fight for the right to be able to live independently. Alice Elliott has done an amazing job of revealing the two women in their home and out in the community. Diana, Kathy's personal assistant, is a straight talker with a good grasp of essentials. Kathy, who has wit, grace considering her physical difficulties, and strength in the face of adversity is always willing to listen to Diana. They complement each other well as 35 years of shared living proves. DVD running time: 40 mins – ID 26935



# COMMUNITY *MOVES*

