



## December newsletter and annual report (2007 – 2008)

### Chairperson's message



2008 has been another year of positive, steady growth for Citizen Advocacy Auckland Inc. Although we are small in numbers we know that Citizen Advocacy Auckland does have a deep and lasting positive impact on people's lives. This fact was made clear at the evening we

had to celebrate Volunteer Week at which Michael Shepherd, Ethnic Communities Ambassador was an honoured guest.

Michael emphasised how important it is that people find time in their busy lives to relate to and do things to support others.

Represented that evening were volunteers who had been in citizen advocacy relationships since 1990. This commitment was certainly something worth celebrating and everyone who attended that evening had a really good time

I wish to acknowledge and thank each advocate and protégée in the programme for your contribution to making Citizen Advocacy the fine programme it is today.

Throughout 2008 we continued to gather socially at our annual Christmas Party and the successful fundraising disco evening recently attended by about 60 people.

We continue to promote Citizen Advocacy at provider network meetings and at range of other community forums. We have recently updated our publicity material and have a new attractive and informative website. Many thanks to Fiona Spence, former board member who volunteered her time and skills to complete this.

We have had another injection of new energy and

ideas into the board with the addition of Debbie Espiner, Principal Lecturer, University of Auckland and Yvonne Riley, a former board member who has returned to share her wisdom and experience.

We have a multi talented and hard working board who are always prepared to go the extra mile for Citizen Advocacy. Many thanks for your ongoing support. Thanks to David Hughes who has co-chaired meetings this year.

A highlight of the year has been finding our new office space. Although we only have a two year lease, the location is convenient and ambiance pleasant. Thanks to Ana Maria for ensuring the move went so smoothly.

The last year witnessed the passing of some much beloved members with the deaths of Veranaisi Ole, Peter Bailey and Jenny Johnston. Our deepest sympathy to families and friends of the deceased members of our programme.

We have been fortunate to have had the guidance and support of Gwenda Reid of \$z & sense fundraising with fundraising applications.

I would like to acknowledge the generous donations of Lion Foundation, Ministry of Health, Disability Resource Centre Subcontracted Services (DIAS), The Southern Trust and St. Georges Church, Takapuna.

Many thanks to our volunteer auditor Bryan Wentworth who does a superb job auditing our books each year. Finally, I would like to acknowledge the great work that Ana Maria our Coordinator does in ensuring Citizen Advocacy maintains its reputation as a programme that really makes a difference in people's lives.

*Fran Hartnett (Chairperson)*

### Coordinator's report

#### **Core Activity:**

This is my fourth year in the role as a coordinator for CA. I have travelled many kilometres networking, distributing pamphlets, attending meetings and giving presentations.

Finding new advocates, recruiting advocates, keeping in touch with existing advocates and protégés plus administration duties and networking with other services and the community, are the major core activities that I perform everyday.

Also Citizen Advocacy Auckland Inc. (CA) has a contract with the Disability Information Advisory Service (DIAS). This contract is for CA to provide information about other disability services in the community when people request such information.

Finding new advocates and maintaining the matches is a big challenge for our organization. Nevertheless, we made 8 new matches between July 2007 and June 2008.



## Coordinator's report (Continued)

Because of changed life circumstances, 6 matches have ended. Sadly Verasini Ole an advocate of two years passed away. Peter Bailey passed away in April he was in our waiting list. Jenny Johnston a protégés of four years has passed away. They all brought special gifts to CA programme and they are missed (RIP).

We currently have 44 matches. From October 2007 to September 2008 the office handled 48 faxes, 2,295 e-mails, 1,567 phone calls and 994 letters.

**For my professional development** in May I attended the Going for Gold conference organised by the New Zealand Federation of Disability Information Centres (NZDIC). The conference was informative and motivating. Interesting topics were presented. I met inspirational people and gained some new ideas that will benefit the CA programme.

Since May every eight weeks I have supervision. I have found it a refreshing and positive experience in my solitary role as a coordinator.

I attended a three evening course for power point presentation skills that I applied at the Trusting Partnerships Conference on 30 October to 1st. November.

### **The Citizen Advocacy Board:**

Every 6 weeks, I present an administration and activities report covering the previous six week to the board. The board treasurer also presents a financial report at this meeting. Each board member contributes to CA in different ways which make our board strong with their personal and professional capacities on specific issues. I thank all board members for their support, guidance and collaboration during the past year. I couldn't do my duties efficiently without their support.

### **Funding:**

Both the Ministry of Health and the Disability Resource Centre have contracts until June 2009. Both these contracts require the CA to submit a report every three months. I make sure that all records and information have been sent according to the contractual agreement.

We were successful with our grant application to the Lion Foundation and

the Southern Trust. The Lion Foundation cover rent, electricity, telephone and internet cost. The Southern Trust gave support for accommodation for three delegates to attend the Trusting Partnerships Conference on 30th October to 1st. November.

The Karaoke and Disco fundraising evening held in August raised funds for our 2008 Christmas party. This event is very popular and provided an enjoyable evening for protégés, advocates and supporters. This evening event is another way to promote CA in the community.

Unfortunately for a second time we were unsuccessful with our application to BP for petrol vouchers for our volunteer advocates.

### **Advocates and Protégés:**

My role as a coordinator is to provide the advocates and protégés ongoing support throughout their journey. I do this by phone, fax, e-mails, newsletters and visits.

We have 44 dedicated Citizen Advocate volunteers. The advocates come from different walks of life with the desire to make a difference in one person's life as our logo states "When One Person Can Make a Difference"

I thank the advocates for their strong support of friendship, practical assistance, advocacy and for promoting and defending the rights and interests of the protégées as if they were their own. Thank you for the tools of self advocacy given / taught to your friends.

A special thank you to Stuart Mundy-McPherson, Yvonne Riley, Liz McAneny, Gunalan and Bhama Sivachelvan, for their support at CA workshops and events in the community. Thank you to all protégés and advocates for their collaboration to our Newsletter. Thank you for sharing your experiences which empower other peoples lives. Thank you for your responses to our invitations, thanks you for sharing your gifts that each of you bring to enrich our programme. Without the perseverance and support from the board, advocates, protégés and CA supporters CA wouldn't be able to exist. Thank you for sharing with us the CA vision and commitment to make a positive difference in people lives.

**Ana Maria de Vos Sánchez**



## Matches Anniversaries Congratulations!

### **Protégés - Advocates**

#### **December**

Elaine & Rosa Maria.... 4 years

Gavin & Gunalan..... 2 years

Peter & Viola ..... 1 years

#### **January 2009**

Jules & Christ..... 2 years

#### **February**

Marion & Julie ..... 16 years

Alison & Julie ..... 11 years

Stephen & Yvonne ..... 7 years

Lynette & Mary..... 4 years

John & Stuart ..... 2 years

Peter & Peter..... 1 years

#### **March**

Susan & Sue ..... 4 years

Heather & Mangala.... 2 years

Patricia & Jayshree.... 1 years

## Welcome new matches

William & Anthony

Qiujing & Rosa

Niharika & Christie

Dianne & Susan

Heval & Simon

*"We come to realize that the true measure of our lives is not how much we have gained for ourselves, but how much we have given to others"*

**(HH Sri Sri Ravi Shankar)**

## Sharing our lives

Raymond Valentine Fowlie (Willie)

15/8/1925 – 20/11/2008 R.I.P



**Willie & Margaret**

Willie passed away peacefully on Thursday morning aged 83 years. I have been a friend and advocate to Willie for the past 19 years.

At the age of 8 Willie was put into Oakley Hospital which became Carrington Hospital. He stayed there for 58 years. It is important not to judge his family. It was a different world in those days. I am sure it must have been very hard for his parents to make that decision and it would have been one that was encouraged by the medical profession at the time. It was a very different era and thankfully society's thinking has progressed. We know very little about Willie's early life but Willie always said "Mummy bring Mummy buy," so I feel sure that his mother sent care packages regularly to him and her little boy was always in her heart.

I have met different people who knew Willie in his time in Carrington. Apparently Willie would dress in top hat and tails, always with a big book under his arm. Barbara O'Loughlin tells me that Willie was a helper in the dining room setting tables.

When Carrington closed Willie moved into the Community. He lived for 18 years at Sylvia Road IHC house. For a large part of that time he lived with Tina, John, Gary and Audrey. Willie had a great life in the community. Going for walks in the neighborhood each day, weekly grocery shopping, holidays away. He really loved going to the Kingswood Centre where there were outings, activities, parties and the contract work he enjoyed. Judy told me of how Willie would redo other people's work. That didn't go down too well.

Willie loved trains and hot pools, showering and shaving. He would stash razors around the house. He would pick his moment and when staff were busy he would get in an extra shave or shower. Soap, shaving foam, razors and deodorant were on the list of presents he always requested.

Easter and Easter eggs, the Easter show and church were always remembered and we were reminded well in advance. Christmas was a favourite with its presents and food. Willie always enjoyed the Citizens' Advocacy Christmas parties. He always made sure that he got the present that I had taken for him, so much for secret Santa. He liked dressing up and made a great Friar Tuck and Father Christmas. He was a regular at the IHC ball. He could draw really well and always wanted more drawing paper and pens. He drew pictures of things

he liked, Easter eggs and plates of food. I remember he would draw a whole table setting with plates which had sausages, chips and peas. There would be three plates that had two sausages, a few chips and a helping of peas then one plate out of the four that had lots of sausages, heaps of chips and loads of peas. I think that was meant to be Willie's plate.

Keith and I would take Willie to Valentines every year for his birthday. The first time I took him I let me fill a plastic bag with jellybeans to take home. Every time we went after that he had a plastic bag ready to fill with jellybeans. What a memory!

Willie loved the sea and nature. I remember the first time he went into the sea. It was an amazing experience. He was full of anticipation, nervous and holding on to my hand. When he slowly immersed himself in the water he giggled and giggled. Willie loved water just like me. Showers, hot pools. Keith and I took him to Parakai and stayed at the Mineral Park Motel for his 80th birthday. He took such delight in splashing the warm water over himself.

We had a wonderful 80th Birthday party for Willie at Valentines with all his friends. It was just the way he liked it; big cake, lots of people, heaps of presents, plenty of food and fun.

Willie really knew how to enjoy himself. He loved parties and presents and being free. He was an independent man who lived through many different experiences.

Willie will be missed by all his friends. The big man with a hat and tie with a big book who, when he looked at you, he really looked at you.

We celebrated Willie's life at a Requiem Mass held at St Mary's Church in Northcote. This was the church that his friend Neil took him to every week for many years. Neil spoke beautifully of his friendship with Willie. It was very moving to see Willie's friends bring his favourite items up to the coffin, hats, ties, big book, pens and paper.

Thank you to Citizens Advocacy for being there for us over the past ten years.

**Margaret Fitzgibbon**

**Citizen Advocacy Auckland Advocate**

## LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEER ADVOCATES IN:

Takanini, Manukau, Papatoetoe, Greenlane, Royal Oak, Henderson, Ranui and the Northshore.

The Citizen Advocacy Auckland office provides support and training for advocates.

### **Next training:**

Saturday **18 April 2009** 9:30am to 1:00pm.

## Citizen Advocacy Board Members 2008-2009

**Fran Hartnett**

*Chairperson & CA Auckland founder*

**Liz McAneny**

*Secretary*

**Fred Yuen**

*Treasurer*

**Annette Rogers**

**David Hughes**

**Debbie Espiner**

**Jee-ho Rodriguez**

**Kevin Rogers**

**Yonne Riley**



## Information & Networking

### Conferences 2009:

Momentum'09 International  
Disability Art Symposium  
25-28 Feb. - Auckland

Momentum'09 will bring pace, perspective and prominence to disability arts and provide the next step towards a viable and global understanding of and respect for disability arts and culture. It will be a melting pot of innovation, inspiration, aspiration and the very best in performance and visual arts by disabled artists and performers from around the world.

[www.momentum09.com](http://www.momentum09.com)

### CCS - Total Mobility Scheme

For a mobility card form

**Phone:** 414 9780

### Mental Health Access Radio Show

Planet FM 104.6 FM  
Every Tuesday @ 12:30pm

### Holiday Programmes

Janet McVeagh – Recreation

**Phone:** 09-625 9534 (Kerrie)

**Mobile:** 021 211 9882 (Kerrie)

[jm.recreation@ihug.co.nz](mailto:jm.recreation@ihug.co.nz)

### Taikura Trust

Need assessment or request  
a referral form 0800 824 5872

[info@taikura.org.nz](mailto:info@taikura.org.nz)

### Visit and support

St. Georges Church sell clothing, small furniture pieces, utensils etc. The profits are distributed to assist organizations in the community.

### Mondays to Friday:

10am to 3:45pm.

### Auckland Disability Law

is a free community legal service in the Auckland region. It aims to help disabled people access legal services, and to increase awareness of disability law.

[www.aucklanddisabilitylaw.org.nz](http://www.aucklanddisabilitylaw.org.nz)

**Phone:** 09 257 5140

**Email:** [info@adl.org.nz](mailto:info@adl.org.nz)

**Mobile/Text:** 027 457 5140

### New Arts Youth Center

Try new things & make new friends.

### Phone Julie:

837 0581 (evenings)

[www.youthtogether@live.com](mailto:www.youthtogether@live.com)

### New disability.rec

Sports programs, music lessons, lifestyle skills and a range of respite care to choose from in different destinations around New Zealand.

**Phone:** 09-5328310

[www.disabilityrec@xtra.co.nz](mailto:www.disabilityrec@xtra.co.nz)

## Merry Christmas & a Happy New year



During the Christmas and new years holiday period, we reflect on how the year went and make new plans for the next year. Also we remember our loved ones.

For many people Christmas is a mixture of happiness and sadness. Many people feel isolated and abandoned during these festivities. Think about them and make a difference for someone you know.

The CA wishes you a peaceful and blessed Christmas and prosperity for 2009.



Have a safe  
holiday period!

## Invitation for advocates and Protégés

**Topic:** Your rights at work in  
New Zealand

**Date:** Thursday 29 January  
2009

**Time:** 7:00pm to 8:30pm

**Venue:** 44 Khyber Pass Rd.  
Grafton (CA office)

**RSVP by:** 15 January 2009

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Southern Trust — COGS — NZ Post  
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When One Person Can Make a Difference  
Citizen Advocacy Auckland since 1990

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