

# theword



Aphasia New Zealand Charitable Trust  
mate ngaronga reo



## Issue 34

Summer 2016/2017

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*giving a voice to people with aphasia*

### We have moved!

We're still at the University of  
Auckland (Tamaki Campus) – but we  
are now in Building 721.

Look for the AphasiaNZ banner when  
you exit the lift, or reach the top of  
the stairs.

**Bldg. 721: Rooms 330 and 331**



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Building 721, 261 Morrin Road, St. Johns, Auckland 1072  
Private Bag 92019, Victoria St West, Auckland Mail Centre 1142

## From the Executive Director

**Happy New Year** to all of AphasiaNZ's Friends, supporters, and people with aphasia in Aotearoa and overseas!

Christmas and the holiday period came and went so quickly...I am now officially *out* of holiday mode and have enthusiastically launched myself *into* planning mode for AphasiaNZ's 2017 activities and events.



Just prior to Christmas we moved buildings and offices here at the University of Auckland. As you may know, Tamaki Campus has been sold to a property investment company and the University is leasing back some buildings in the interim. **AphasiaNZ is now located in Building 721** – directly behind our old offices in Building 731.

We remain on Level 3 and when you reach the top of the stairs, or exit the lift, you will see the AphasiaNZ banner outside our offices. Even though there has been lots of reshuffling and some downsizing, the Tamaki Campus still remains a hub for all things aphasia.

Feel free to stop in and visit either myself or Melinda if you are on Campus. I am here most days while Melinda is here on Wednesdays, and Thursdays.

*Haere pai...Emma*

# AphasiaNZ Community Aphasia Advisors

Get in touch with us!

Auckland: **Melinda Dakin**

Email: [aphasianzauckland@gmail.com](mailto:aphasianzauckland@gmail.com)

Tauranga: **Kate Milford**

Email: [aphasianztauranga@gmail.com](mailto:aphasianztauranga@gmail.com)

Wellington: **Stephen Gibbs**

Email: [aphasianz.wgtn.sg@gmail.com](mailto:aphasianz.wgtn.sg@gmail.com)

Christchurch: **Annette Rotherham**

Email: [aphasianzchristchurch@gmail.com](mailto:aphasianzchristchurch@gmail.com)

Dunedin: **Alison Zani**

Email: [aphasianzdunedin@gmail.com](mailto:aphasianzdunedin@gmail.com)



*All Community Aphasia Advisors (CAAs) work part time hours, and may be unable to respond to you immediately.*

**Emma** is available Monday - Friday by emailing [info@aphasia.org.nz](mailto:info@aphasia.org.nz) or calling 09 373-7599 ext. 87781, or on our free phone number 0508 APHASIA (0508 274-274).



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## International Conference for People with Aphasia

### Living with Aphasia Conference: 5<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> of March 2017

Aphasia United has teamed up with Gill Pearl ([Speakeasy](#)) and people with aphasia from the UK and around the world, to organise the first international conference for people with aphasia!

The conference will be held over two days in Coventry in the United Kingdom. Coventry is located approximately 140kms from **London**.



The ***Living with Aphasia Conference*** will discuss ways that people with aphasia can 'live well with aphasia'.

Topics will include: Technology and aphasia, increasing awareness of aphasia and social media, sharing good practice from around the world, research, caring for people with aphasia, aphasia and the arts. There will also be the opportunity for networking and accessing rest and relaxation activities.

It will provide a much-needed opportunity for researchers, clinicians and academics from around the world to meet with people with aphasia and their families and carers, to share innovative ideas and inform research, therapy, and support for the future.

People with aphasia have been involved in the planning for this event. This activity was generously supported by the [Tavistock Trust for Aphasia](#).

### Conference Details

**Date:** Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> & Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March, 2017  
**Location:** [Warwick Conference Centre](#), Coventry, UK  
**Cost:** £100 for a 2-day ticket – including 4 meals and overnight stay. On-site accommodation is available and there are also accommodation options close by.  
**Enquiries:** Email [office@buryspeakeasy.org.uk](mailto:office@buryspeakeasy.org.uk)

The conference event page is available on **Facebook** (← *click there*).

Emma will be representing AphasiaNZ at the ***Living with Aphasia Conference***.

*If you are from New Zealand and have something which you would like to share with others attending the conference, Emma will be putting together 'Messages from Aotearoa'. Email your contribution to [info@aphasia.org.nz](mailto:info@aphasia.org.nz) and your message will be shared by Emma.*



*giving a voice to people with aphasia*



## Free Online Aphasia Therapy

**[www.aphasiatherapyonline.com](http://www.aphasiatherapyonline.com)**



John E. Pierce, an Australian Speech Pathologist (Speech-language Therapist) from Melbourne, has created a **free online aphasia therapy website**.

Some of John's patients/clients cannot afford an iPad, or therapy software for their laptops or computers. But, they still need and want to work on their language after acquiring aphasia. So, he created a free website which is easy to use.

People with aphasia can practice at home with more than just pen and paper, without needing help from carers or family members, and without spending money.

The website can be part of the therapy you are currently having, or, if you have finished therapy, you can use it to keep practising.

You can choose what you want to work on – reading, spelling, listening, or naming. You can choose a task, and adjust the settings.

To have a look at and to try out the website for yourself, go to [www.aphasiatherapyonline.com](http://www.aphasiatherapyonline.com)

And you can email John: [john@aphasiatherapyonline.com](mailto:john@aphasiatherapyonline.com)

[Click here for information about John.](#)



## Spotlight on...Wellington Activities

Stephen Gibbs is our Wellington Community Aphasia Advisor (CAA). Stephen has worked as a teacher, a musician, and a journalist. Stephen has aphasia.

Stephen is a resource and advocate for people who are new to aphasia. Stephen's role as CAA includes:

- Supporting people with aphasia to meet others with aphasia, who may be facing similar challenges
- Coordinating the Wellington Aphasia Hub – a group of people with aphasia, partners, carers, and interested professionals. The group meets on the first Wednesday of the month at the Johnsonville Community Centre
- Organising guest speakers for meetings
- Organising field trips and outings

At the end of November, Stephen led a trip to the Asia-Pacific Music Studio at the Te Koki New Zealand School of Music at the Victoria University Wellington. The tour guides Jo Hilder (Gamelan expert) and Gareth Farr (illustrious composer and percussionist) demonstrated how to use the instruments, and allowed the participants to have a go.





*Gamelan – pronounced Gah-Meh-Lahn – is an Indonesian orchestra made up mostly of percussion instruments.*



*Left to right: Gareth demonstrating a moustache oboe, and some of the group trying the instruments*

Another important part of Stephen's role is awareness-raising. Because Stephen has aphasia, when he tells others about what aphasia is, people are both able to see and understand the nature of and effects aphasia has.

At last October's Hutt Older Person's Expo in Petone, Stephen spoke with many people affected by stroke and aphasia.

Stephen also wrote and directed a video for the NZSTA (NZ Speech-language





Therapists' Association) video competition. [Click here for the video.](#)

**WE NEED YOUR HELP!** As we do not receive any government or regular funding, grants and donations are what fund the CAA roles, just like Stephen's, throughout New Zealand.

Without your help, we cannot provide this much-needed service to people with and affected by aphasia. If you can help us with a donation, or have any ideas for funding, please get in touch!

[Click here to donate.](#)

[Click here to email us with your ideas and suggestions for funding.](#)

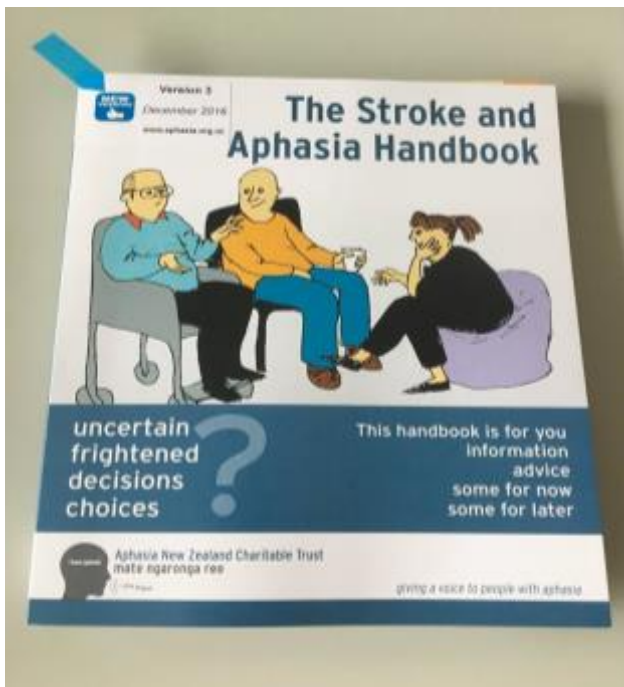


[Click here to visit and Like the Wellington Aphasia Community Facebook page](#)



*Left to right: Parliament on a beautiful Wellington day, and, at Government House*

## Hot off the Press – New Handbook!



Version 3 of the **NZ Stroke and Aphasia Handbook** arrived in the AphasiaNZ offices just before Christmas.

You can get your copy today by emailing [info@aphasia.org.nz](mailto:info@aphasia.org.nz)

They are \$35 each including postage (*which is well below cost*) - but - you will receive a copy when you **join as a 'Friend of AphasiaNZ'**.

**Join as a 'Friend'** for a one-off donation of \$45 (one person); \$50 (two or more people – family '*Friendship*') or \$80 (organisation / business).

And, if you become a 'Friend' or order a copy of the new handbook before the end of January, we'll also send you an AphasiaNZ t-shirt!

The new handbook contains lots of updates and more NZ-specific information for people affected by stroke and aphasia.

*An awesome resource to have at home to refer back to when you need information or extra assistance.*

[Click here to join as a 'Friend of AphasiaNZ'.](#)

## What's Happening Around New Zealand?

### Auckland / Tāmaki Makaurau

Melinda is back on board from Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January. She has lots planned for 2017...so get in touch with her by emailing:

[aphasianzauckland@gmail.com](mailto:aphasianzauckland@gmail.com)



### Wellington / Te Whanganui-a-Tara

What? Wellington Aphasia Hub meetings

Group outings and trips

When? From Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February

Where? Hubs are held at the Johnsonville Community Centre

Contact: Stephen at [aphasianz.wgtn.sg@gmail.com](mailto:aphasianz.wgtn.sg@gmail.com) for more information



### Christchurch / Ōtautahi

What? Christchurch Aphasia Hub & Gavel Club

When? Every Monday at 10.30am

Where? Papanui RSA

Contact: Annette at [aphasianzchristchurch@gmail.com](mailto:aphasianzchristchurch@gmail.com)



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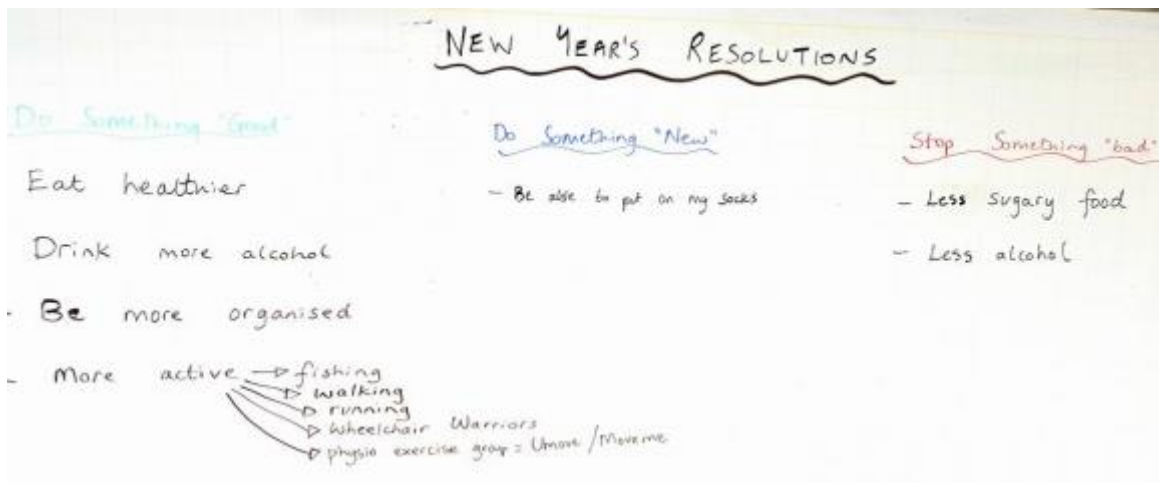
## Dunedin / Ōtepoti

What? Dunedin Aphasia Support Group

When? Fortnightly at 10.30am: *Next meeting on the 20<sup>th</sup> of January*

Where? Mornington Community Centre

Contact: Alison at [aphasianzdunedin@gmail.com](mailto:aphasianzdunedin@gmail.com)



## Gore / Maruawai

What? Gore Area Aphasia Group (GAAG)

When? Monthly on a Wednesday at 1.30pm

[Click here for more information](#)

Where? Seminar Room, 17 Eccles Street



*Anyone affected by aphasia from Gore, Tapanui, Balcultha and Invercargill and their support person welcome.*



# Can you help AphasiaNZ by making a donation?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, I want to support AphasiaNZ and people who have acquired aphasia in New Zealand

I want to help with a one off donation of:

☐ \$25    ☐ \$50    ☐ \$100    ☐ \$200    ☐ Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I've enclosed a cheque made out to AphasiaNZ

☐ I've made an online payment to AphasiaNZ's bank account

*ASB Pakuranga, Account Name: Aphasia New Zealand (AphasiaNZ) Charitable Trust: 12 – 3056 – 0165553 – 00*

I would like to set up an automatic payment and help with a monthly donation of:

☐ \$25    ☐ \$50    ☐ \$100    ☐ \$200    ☐ Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*We will send you an automatic payment form to take to your bank*

Please return your gift to AphasiaNZ, Private Bag 92019, Victoria St West, Auckland 1142

☐ Please send me information about leaving a bequest in my Will    ☐ I want to become a 'Friend of AphasiaNZ'

*Donations are tax deductible as AphasiaNZ is a registered Charitable Trust: CC47907*