



EBOP Post Polio Support Group Newsletter **February 2010**

We hope you all had a good start to the new year and are ready for a fresh beginning for the Post Polio Support Group.

In March Gisela is going to Germany for several months as her mother has not been well. Dale Hikuroa, who many of you know as the Equipment and Information Officer from the Disabilities Resource Centre Trust, will extend her role as your new Field Officer and will bring her wealth of knowledge to this position.

The first meeting for the new year was held at the end of January, and the group had the chance to meet Dale, the new Field Officer. Dale is excited about her new role and looks forward to meeting you all individually and getting the chance to hear your stories. Dale is also interested in the concept of having your polio stories compiled and maybe formatted into a publication. Who knows, it may even grow into a larger project. The new Community Service Manager, Catherine Tangiora, introduced herself and her position. She is Manager of all the Disabilities Resource Centre Trust's Field Officers, Vocational service and Equipment and Information service.

The group has decided that the next meeting will be held on

3 March 2010 at 12.00 pm
At Palmers Garden Centre Café
Thornton Road (just past the airport turnoff)

This will be a good chance for you all to wish Gisela well on her extended visit home to Germany and to get to know Dale.

Library

The Disabilities Resource Centre Trust Library has just ordered in a few more books that may interest you.

- *Mind Over Muscle: Surviving Polio in New Zealand* is the first book accessed that has relevance to New Zealand.
- *I Can Jump Puddles* is the autobiographical account of Allan McDonald, a young Australian boy, who contracts polio in the early years of last century.
- *Small Steps: the Year I Got Polio* shares author Peg Kehrets' journey with polio after being the only child in her town to contract polio that year.

These books will be processed and added to the library as soon as they arrive and will be brought to the next meeting if available.

Websites of Interest

http://www.rte.ie/tv/outbreak/s1_ep3.html is a documentary on three Polio survivors in Ireland. A book on Irish polio survivors is also available as a downloadable two part book on <http://www.ppsg.ie/dloads/PolioPart1.pdf> and <http://www.ppsg.ie/dloads/PolioPart2.pdf> .

We are looking forward to seeing you at the next meeting.

Gisela Sonntag
Outgoing Post Polio Field Officer

Dale Hikuroa
Incoming Post Polio Field Officer