



## Barrier Free Newsletter – February 2010

Welcome to the February Newsletter for the Barrier Free NZ Trust. Our focus in this newsletter is to inform you of our intentions for 2010.

This month we will cover:

- **New Seminars for 2010**
- **Tailored Seminar for Rodney District Council**
- **Accessible Tourism**
- **Disability and Maori in New Zealand 2006**
- **Trust Welcomes New DPA CEO**
- **Advisory Groups**
- **Resource Handbook**
- **Funding**
- **Upcoming Barrier Free Seminars**

### **New Seminars for 2010**

This year Barrier Free NZ Trust has introduced several new seminars to its programme.

#### **Half Day Seminar for Architects and Designers**

This seminar is specifically tailored for Architects and Designers on Creating the Accessible Journey. It will give an understanding of what is required in the design and documentation process to ensure an accessible built environment that complies with NZ building legislation.

Ron Pynenburg will be preparing and presenting these seminars across the country. Ron has extensive experience with the Trust as both a presenter and a consultant. He is currently the Chairperson of NZRAB, life member and fellow of NZIA and past member of the Architects Education and Registration Board.

#### **1-Day Refresher**

This seminar has been prepared and will be presented by Richard Cullingworth.

This new seminar has been developed to give practical advice on the design and assessment of buildings to enhance their usability. It will cover subjects such as colour, contrast, signage, available technical guidance and how accessibility can be integrated into each stage of the design process. Exploration into the development and assessment of designs which do not follow the acceptable solutions or NZS4121 will also be covered.

This seminar is open to and appropriate for those who have previously attended a 2-day seminar.

### **Half-Day Seminar for Educators**

This seminar will raise awareness of barriers in the environment and what they mean to a person with a disability as well as exploring minimum standards and better and best practice for education providers. The content of the seminar is aimed specifically at schools, early childhood and tertiary education providers.

### **Accessing the Built Environment after 60**

As the population ages and there is a growing number of over 60's, many of whom may have some form of disability, it is important to be fully informed about what to expect and what we should expect in public spaces. Our seminar will target physical and sensory disabilities and will suit anyone either in or caring for someone with a disability in this age bracket.

Places will fill up quickly, so to confirm a place in one of these new seminars, book now via our website, <http://www.barrierfreenz.org.nz/index.php/training-and-education/registration>.

### **Tailored Seminar for Rodney District Council**

Barrier Free recently worked with Rodney District Council to provide a special tailored seminar, bringing the 2-day Barrier Free seminar directly to its staff.

Simon Tonkin presented the seminar, with Red Nicholson also presenting on the first day. Participants said 'Simon Tonkin has vast knowledge on the Accessible issues and he shared those amongst us' and it was 'very well presented/facilitated and encouraged good discussion and time for questions'.

In April we intend presenting a Module 5: Becoming a Barrier Free Advisor seminar to the staff.

If you would like a Barrier Free seminar specifically tailored to suit your staffing needs, please contact the office on [admin@barrierfreenz.org.nz](mailto:admin@barrierfreenz.org.nz) or 04 915 5848. Whether you would like a brief "Introduction to Access", an industry specific seminar, or are meeting time and staffing constraints, we can help.

### **Accessible Tourism**

The Trust continues to explore ways to improve the information provided to tourists to New Zealand who have a disability. Recent meetings with the Ministry of Tourism, Qualmark and AA reinforce the need for the Trust to advocate for improved and accurate information. We will keep you posted on our endeavors!

### **Disability and Maori in NZ 2006**

A report, 'Disability and Maori in New Zealand in 2006', commission by the Office for Disability Issues and published jointly with Statistics NZ, has been released. It is one of a

series presenting findings on disabled New Zealanders.

This report found that an estimated 17% of Maori living in New Zealand (95,700 people) were disabled and 16% of non-Maori were disabled. Mobility disability was the most common disability among Maori adults, with an estimated 10% having this type of disability. An estimated 8% of Maori adults have an agility disability, and 5% have a hearing disability.

Minister for Disabilities, Tariana Turia stated that “it confirms that the rate of disability is greater for Maori than for non-Maori” and “it also reveals that Maori uptake of some disability supports lag behind that of non-Maori”.

‘While this is not news to the disability sector, it does provide clear statistical information which Government can use to establish strategies to strengthen and improve support systems for disabled Maori and their whanau”, said Mrs Turia.

‘All New Zealanders, including disabled Maori, have the right to enjoy good health, be well educated, have adequate housing, access to meaningful employment, be valued by others, and have the capacity to realise their own potential.” “The ‘*Disability and Maori*’ report will be useful in addressing current discrepancies to make the progress we need to achieve these basic goals”, said Mrs Turia.

The Trust is aiming to provide an education, advocacy and technical advice service to all New Zealanders. We would welcome any suggestions on how our service might become more accessible to and appropriate for Maori.

### **Trust Welcomes New DPA CEO**

In 2009 the Trust and DPA renewed its Memorandum of Understanding on the use and monitoring of the ISA. Following on from a collaborative relationship with DPA’s past CEO we welcome Ross Brereton as the new CEO and look forward to working together with DPA to further our mission.

### **Advisory Groups**

The Trustee advisory groups are proving to be a useful source of advice and guidance. We have appreciated the offers of support from interested parties and invite any further expressions of interest from people interested in joining the groups, which are: education; business development; technical advice and guidance; and research and initiatives.

### **Resource Handbook**

We are currently in the process of viewing and reprinting our handbook. This should be available in April.

People wanting to order a copy of the handbook are advised to wait until April, however if you contact the office staff, they will let you know when it is ready.

### **Funding**

The Trust continues to appreciate the financial support provided by Lotteries Board, the

Ministry of Health, Wellington City Council and most recently, the Pelorus Trust.

## **Upcoming Barrier Free Seminars**

There are several seminars coming up in the next few months. Places fill up fast so get in quickly!

### **2-day Barrier Free Seminars**

Auckland: 9-10 March 2010 – Open for registration  
Dunedin: 6-7 April 2010 - Open for registration  
Wellington: 12-13 May 2010 - Open for registration  
Hamilton: 16-17 June 2010 – Open for registration  
Christchurch: 15-16 July 2010 – Open for registration

### **1-day "Becoming a Barrier Free Advisor" Seminar**

Auckland: 9 July 2010 – Open for registration

### **1-day Refresher**

Auckland: 11 March 2010 – Open for registration  
Dunedin: 15 April 2010 – Open for registration  
Wellington: 14 May 2010 – Open for registration  
Hamilton: 18 June 2010 – Open for registration  
Christchurch: 14 July 2020 – Open for registration

### **Half day Seminar for Architects and Designers**

Wellington: 22 March 2010 - Open for registration  
Auckland: 24 March 2010 - Open for registration  
Christchurch: 16 April 2010 – Open for registration  
Hamilton: 18 June 2010 – Open for registration

### **Half day Seminar for Educators**

Auckland: 16 July 2010 – Open for registration

### **Accessing the Built Environment After 60**

Wellington: 21 May 2010 – Open for registration

We look forward to receiving your enrolment.

Register online: <http://www.barrierfreenz.org.nz/index.php/training-and-education/registration>. For more information, email [admin@barrierfreenz.org.nz](mailto:admin@barrierfreenz.org.nz) or call 04 915 5848.