

PwP Inc Partners with World Parkinson Congress (WPC)

Did you know that People with Parkinson's Inc is now a partner of the World Parkinson Congress (WPC). That means this organisation supports the philosophy and the work of the WPC.

Where will you be on September 20th. I am planning to be in Portland, Oregon for the fourth World Parkinson Congress. It would be great if you could come too. Congress is held once every three years and this time it is expected that about 4000 people will attend.

These are unique events because they include all of the Parkinson community. That means researchers, clinicians, nurses, physiotherapists, nutritionists, occupational therapists are all there AND so are people with Parkinson's and their supporters. This inclusive approach of valuing the contribution of all is what attracts me to WPC. Those who are involved with Parkinson's through their employment as well as those with the condition have equal status and contribute as equals.



The Auckland delegates at WPC 2013

Each congress has seen the numbers of people from NZ and our involvement grow. At the first Congress PNZ staff were represented but no PwP attended. Lloyd Jenkins from Auckland and I attended the second Congress but it was the third Congress where NZ really made its mark. There were four PNZ staff members attending and this time there was also a group of People with Parkinson's from Auckland who went. There was much excitement when Andy McDowell from

Auckland won the video competition. Our involvement continues to grow. In 2014 I was appointed the first WPC ambassador from NZ and at this next congress Andy McDowell and I are privileged to be invited to give presentations.

If you want to know more, the WPC website has heaps of information and their facebook page WPC2016 will keep you up to date. These sites are worth visiting whether you are attending the Congress or not as they are full of interesting and useful information. Following are some of the WPC initiatives you will find on their pages.

<http://www.wpc2016.org>

<http://www.facebook.com/worldpdcongress/>



Podcasts

If you haven't yet discovered the Portland Countdown podcast program you are missing out on a treat. These easy listening half hour programmes make the science and treatment of Parkinson's understandable and bring you up to date with the latest advances and thinking. They are hosted by two award-winning journalists, Dave Iverson and Jon Palfreman, who are also living with Parkinson's.

Videos

WPC video competition has closed and you can now view the entries and vote for your favourite. Last congress this competition was won by Andy McDowell with his beautiful video "Smaller". These 4 minute videos come from around the world and amongst them you will find some inspirational gems.



Blogs

WPC has recruited 16 bloggers as blog partners and links to their blogs can be found on the WPC page.



Lloyd Jenkins with WPC 2013 Ambassador Bob Kuhn

Parky's Travels

In 2012 Bob Kuhn, an Ambassador for the 3rd World Parkinson Congress, decided to create a "companion" mascot named Parky for his around-the-world trip. He

visited New Zealand on his travels and was hosted by Lloyd Jenkins. Now Parky has become official WPC mascot. Funds from sales go to the travel fund used to help bring junior researchers as well as people living with Parkinson's to the WPC. Parky now has his own page and you can follow Parkys adventures including travels in New Zealand.
whereisparky.org

A number from New Zealand have enrolled for WPC 2016, it is not too late to join us. Please feel free to contact me by email or message through this site if you have any comments or questions.

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Dilys Parker and Andy McDowell