

Kia Ora

I take great pride in nominating Dean Brennan, chair of IT's Accessible Trust which maintains the webpage [www.repeatreadaloud.co.nz](http://www.repeatreadaloud.co.nz) which serves as a learning portal, holding valuable resources such as training videos, volunteer manuals and the important contribution from read aloud groups, Kete-Community Journals which hold the precious work they produce to share with others.

Not only that, with Dean's quiet and persistent work from his home where he is confined most of the time to the support he needs with his quadriplegia, [www.repeatreadaloud.co.nz](http://www.repeatreadaloud.co.nz) can publish u-tubes of the Tiriti / Treaty of Waitangi read aloud by citizens in their language of home. Have a look! A pioneering continual breakthrough.

Dean does this because he is a life-long learner, and an avid enabler of others who want to learn like him. It was Dean who coined the phrase ABC= Accessing & Building Community. Without him we could not have continued with Read Aloud Projects, because it is the webpage that published the Kete which enables our volunteers, through the creative commons copyright, to print and photocopy and read aloud together!!! Otherwise our volunteer groups would not have the funds to legally photocopy material to read aloud as a group.

Dean has had to find strategies to enable him to learn at home e.g. Lynda.com. He also manages volunteers to create webpages through [www.itsaccessible.net.nz](http://www.itsaccessible.net.nz) to help other communities.

Because of his physical disabilities, without the privilege of being able to enter tertiary education, I think Dean deserves a commendation, a prize, a certificate to honour his achievements as a learner, a facilitator and as a teacher.

I bless the day Cheryl Martin from Volunteering Auckland introduced me to him at a meeting in West Auckland.

Sincerely

*Cecilia Lindsay*

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[www.repeatreadaloud.co.nz-connecting-communities](http://www.repeatreadaloud.co.nz-connecting-communities)