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NEWS THIS MONTH

By Chris Taua

Greetings from my first newsletter as 'acting editor' until this position has been decided.

It is indeed with some sadness that we say farewell to Thelma in her role as editor of the college newsletter. Many thanks to you Thelma for all you have done to advance and promote this newsletter into its current format. As your sub editor (in training) I have certainly learnt from your encouragement, skills and expertise. However, with anticipation I am sure we will hear from you at times through this media. I am pleased to say that Sam Kelly has agreed to stay on as coming events compiler.

This month sees the National Forum for Mental Health Nursing Education at Whitireia Community Polytechnic, Porirua, Wellington, 27 -29 April 2006. We look forward the reading the outcomes of this forum in the next issue of the newsletter.

Our Canterbury members and maybe some of you nationally will have heard by now of the tragic accident that took the life of colleague and Step Ahead Manager Linda Simson. Many of us who had the pleasure of meeting Linda over the years have been impressed with her passion and commitment to assisting people with mental illness within the mental health sector. Linda was a prominent advocate of mental health consumers and the CDHB mental health consumer advisor prior to taking on the Manager role at Step Ahead; a mental health day service. Our thoughts are with her family and staff and members of Step Ahead.

Important Date for your diary is the 2006 College AGM on Thursday 13th July 2006. See information later in this newsletter.

President's comment

By Tony O'Brien

The AGM and elections have been announced, and members will have noticed the call for nominations for the office of President. I have indicated that I will not be available for nomination. I have been in the position of President since the formation of Te Ao Maramatanga in 2004, and was formerly acting President of the NZ Branch of the ANZCMHN for a short time before that. It has been a great privilege to act as President of the College, especially at the

Diary note

*2006 College
AGM*

Thursday 13th
July

President's Comment continued

historic time of development of our own autonomous organisation. I have no doubt that the decision to separate was the correct one. Having our own College has allowed us to look more closely at what a New Zealand professional body should offer its members, and users of New Zealand mental health services. Much has been accomplished in the past two years, and I believe we have the organisational structures in place to build on the work put in by Committee members and office holders over the past two years. The Research, Professional Practice and Education Boards will enable the College to address key areas of professional practice and organisation without the constraints of the national committee decision making process. We have a sound Constitution, good relationships with key mental health and nursing bodies, and a growing sense that the local College members see the College as providing a professional body that can act at both local and national levels. The inaugural conference in 2007 will be another key event in the development of the College. There are too many people for me to thank in this report, but in my annual report to the AGM I will make mention of those who have worked with me in my role as President. There are, of course, many issues that remain to be worked on. Committee members and office holders need to hear from members on issues affecting our profession, and they also need non-elected members to take on tasks that will free them to work on policy issues and College strategies. I look forward to working for the College as an ordinary member, and to working with other members on mental health nursing issues.

Important Announcement

Inaugural
College
Conference
2007

19 & 20 July

Novotel in
Hamilton

Forthcoming changes to membership renewal processes

By Brian Phillips

Members will see some changes to the renewal process this year.

Firstly, renewal notices will be sent out by post rather than by email. It seems emails are easily overlooked!

Secondly, all members will be progressively changed to a 30th June renewal date. These changes will predominantly impact on those members who make an annual renewal payment. For existing members paying annually, 2007 will involve subscription payments to bring you into line with a June renewal date. For example, a renewal occurring in January 2007 will have a renewal notice sent for a 6-month renewal. For members paying through their payroll or by direct debit, the change simply means you receive a notice acknowledging continued membership in June/July each year.

Finally, the College hopes soon to have a section on the website for viewing and updating your membership details. With a bit of luck this will coincide with the other changes above. Read about this in the next Newsletter!

NOTIFY THE REGISTRAR OF CHANGES TO YOUR EMAIL AND MAILING ADDRESS

The College Boards

The three Boards are Professional Practice, Research, and Education. The purpose of the Boards is to promote, support and develop the professional practice of psychiatric mental health nurses in the three key areas. In time this will allow the College to be responsive to professional issues. Updates from the Boards will be regularly reported in the newsletter.

2006 Annual General Meeting

The 2006 Annual General Meeting (AGM) 12 Midday, Thursday 13th July 2006
Auckland (and by teleconference to other centers).

A notice of any proposed changes to the constitution must be received in the form of a notice of motion by the Secretary no later than Thursday 1st June 2006.

Call for Nominations for the offices of President and one committee member...further information is on the college website at [http://www.nzcmhn.org.nz/uploads/21290/files/Notice_of_AGM\[1\].doc](http://www.nzcmhn.org.nz/uploads/21290/files/Notice_of_AGM[1].doc)



Taranga Te Kumete
o
Te Ao Maramatanga

Maori Caucus

By Hineroa Hakiaha, Kaiwhakaha te Ao Maramatanga

Look for next month's newsletter for an up to date report.

Member Profiles

*Deborah Alleyne, RN, BN, PGDipHIthSc.
Chair Canterbury Branch NZCMHN*

My name is Deborah Alleyne and I am the Chair of the newly established Canterbury Branch of the College. I have been a Mental Health Nurse since leaving school and starting my training at Cherry Farm Hospital where I registered in 1984. Since then I have gone on to bridge to Comprehensive and completed my BN. Most recently I have completed my Post-Grad Diploma in Health Sciences and am on a journey (albeit an extended one) towards Masters. I have worked in acute and rehabilitation settings but most of my nursing experience has been in forensic. I was part of the forensic service when it was newly established in Otago in the late 1980's and I have continued my interest and involvement as this sub-specialty has evolved. I am about to embark on a new chapter in my nursing as Regional Clinical Quality Assurance Advisor for the Department of Corrections. I see this as an exciting opportunity to work with nurses who are employed in a testing environment. I will have a lot to learn but also intend to carry the banner for mental health in recognition of the high numbers of inmates who have mental health needs. Outside of nursing I am Tessa and Sam's mum and am married to Chris. We live at Templeton, on the outskirts of Christchurch, with a dog, two cats and two budgies. I have started martial arts (possibly a bit ambitious at 40-something), enjoy my garden and am an avid supporter of my children's current sporting activities.

Branch Activities

Auckland: Is organising the [Primary Mental Health Seminar Day, 13 July 2006](#), venue to be advised.

Waikato: Our Branch is getting stronger, and we are meeting every 6 weeks. Have had a few new members and lots more interest. The most important development is that we have developed a relationship with the Mental Health Nurses Forum (run by Suzette). This has an educational / professional practice focus. A meeting follows in the same venue which discusses local news as well as providing an opportunity to feedback info from the executive.

Wellington: Acting chairperson is Eileen Weekly. Branch meetings 2 monthly, venue rotates around Porirua, Hutt & Wellington.

(continued over)

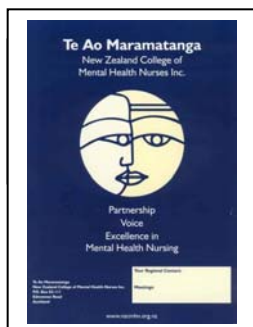
Canterbury: A successful meeting was held to establish a Canterbury Branch for the College on 28 March, 2006.

An interim committee was elected to raise the profile of the branch and increase membership. Branch members are excited about the opportunity to promote mental health nursing and support ongoing professional development.

Nurses, and student nurses, who have an interest in Mental Health are welcome to join this friendly group.

For any further information contact deborah.alleyne@cdhb.govt.nz

Otago: A Branch is in the process of formation.



A FRESH LOOK AT NURSING IN THE MENTAL HEALTH & ADDICTIONS SECTOR IN AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND

19 & 20th July 2007

Venue Novotel in Hamilton

Conference organisers: Six Hats: Amanda Graham

The Waikato Branch is organising the inaugural conference for Te Ao Maramatanga.

Organising Committee

Convenor: Suzette Gisler

Secretary: Denny Mc Nae

Jeff Symonds, Karin Haganaars, Heidi Steyn, Robyn Boladeras, Mark Smith,

Porirua Hospital Save Our Chapel /Staff Reunion

June 17th 2006 7 pm, Police College, Papakowhai, Porirua

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

A Trust has been formed to raise funds to move our Chapel which for many years has been a focal point and played a major part in the lives of both residents and staff alike.

As both a fund raiser and an opportunity to meet up again with previous and present staff we are proposing to hold a staff reunion on June 17th at the Police College, Porirua. **We need your support** for this to occur and invite you to advise other previous staff members of this upcoming event also.

Please register either your interest in attending the above function or your willingness to give a donation with -Joy.collins@ccdhb.org.nz

Or post to P O Box 50-233,PORIRUA

Coming Events

Incredible Years - Interagency Discussion Forum

Friday 21 April, Christchurch

Tuesday 20 June, Palmerston North

Wednesday 21 June, Lower Hutt

Tuesday 18 June, Hawkes Bay

Tuesday 1 August, Rotorua

Hosted by the Werry Centre for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Workforce Development, Auckland University

For further details contact jn.leef@auckland.ac.nz or

view www.werrycentre.ac.nz or 369 7320

24/25 May 2006 ~ Rotorua

Presentation Skills Training Workshop

A Henry Rongomau Bennett & Harry Pitman Programme

For Kaimahi and Tangata Whaiora Advisors Working in Maori Mental Health & Addiction Treatment Fields

For more information contact Krissy Bishop, (09) 307 4949 x 26014 or email:

krissyb@hauora.com

24-25 May 2006, Palmerston North

Fourth National Mental Health Promotion Hui 2006

A Holistic Approach to Mental Health Promotion: "Mind, Body, Spirit and Physical Activity"

Organised by the Mental Health Foundation, Public Health Services MidCentral DHB and Regional Public Health

Palmerston North Convention Centre, Palmerston North

For more information contact Marika at marika@mentalhealth.org.nz

June 25-30, 2007, Italy

30th International Congress on Law and Mental Health: University of Padua.

Includes nursing papers. For further info see www.ialmh.org

July, 2006, Palmerston North

Health Policy School, details to be confirmed.

Share your knowledge with the College:

Contact Samantha: samratkel@hotmail.com with coming events

Regional contacts

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Coming Events: Sam Kelly

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Remember
your annual
renewal of
membership.

Contact the
Registrar if
you need
assistance.