



Waikanae Conference

The New Zealand Faith Community Nurses Association (NZFCNA) conference was held September 26-29th at El-Rancho Centre, Waikanae, with 36 delegates from throughout New Zealand. The conference theme "Fresh Balm for Future Practice" underpinned all the events, spiritual concepts of healing balm mingled with practical nursing issues highlighting the holistic nature of Faith Community Nursing.

Report on page 2.



Dr Anne Van Loon (2nd from right) with members of the board.

Chairperson's Report

Wendy Scott our new chairperson has recently had surgery, so there is no report this issue.

The next board meeting will be held on the 29th November. If you have any concerns for the agenda please e-mail the secretary ASAP.

See page 4 for new board members.

CONTACTS:

Secretary/Treasurer:

Diane Webster
P.O. Box 64
Kaiapoi
Tel: 03 310 7222
Fax: 03 310 7223
e-mail: cgwebster@xtra.co.nz

Editor:

Kris Telfer
e-mail: krist@adhb.govt.nz

website: www.faithnursing.co.nz

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Fresh Balm for Future Practice

Conference Report

The main guest speaker was Dr Anne Van Loon RN, Senior Research Fellow at Royal District Nursing Service, South Australia, and Director of Development of the Australian Faith Community Nurses Association. Each of her sessions opened facets of the role of the FCN with wisdom meshed with professional expertise.

Frances Rabone, who has worked at Mary Potter Hospice as counsellor and member of the Spiritual Care team for 13 years presented insights into the care and support that the FCN can offer in sensitive end of life experiences.

Rev. Wyatt Butcher teased open the whole area of spiritual care in mental illness. He is Ecumenical Chaplain for Mental Health in Christchurch based at Hillmorton Hospital. We were challenged to explore assessment of spiritual need and through anecdotes he described times when he had been able to positively support severely compromised mental health clients within his role.

Lesley Batten, RN working toward her PhD presented a stimulating paper on Community Health based on experience in New Zealand and Africa. Lesley serves as a member of the Clinical Governance Council for Mid-Central DHB Primary Health Care innovation, and highlighted the importance of “building healthy community nurses” and concluding that the Faith Community Nurse has much to offer.

Hineroa Hakiha, RN is a member of the Mental Health Commission and Cultural Advisor to the Wairarapa DHB. She unpacked the spiritual dimensions of Maori

whanau heritage, identifying their needs, as she introduced her own heritage as a Whakatane Maori now living in the Wairarapa. She explained the development of Whanau ora and how faith community nurses could achieve a better understanding of how Maori clients can access mental health services. Empathising with our Maori clients involves taking into consideration their personal and group history to appropriately support them through our practice.

Rev. Duncan Macdonald, CEO of Selwyn Foundation Anglican Elderly Care Ministry, passionately challenged delegates to plan, strategise and to look long down the years to ensure that the FCN was relevant, on the cutting edge of tomorrow. He presented practical logistic guidelines to expand vision.

Professor Elaine Wainwright, founding Professor of the School of Theology at Auckland University introduced us to the historic role of women in healing from early Greco Roman days to the New Testament times interpreting gospel healing from St. Mark's Gospel and seeing faith community nurses as following in that role.

The conference enabled delegates to attend the NZFCNA AGM, to network with one another and to receive peer review for their portfolios. NZFCNA welcomes enquiries from interested nurses by emailing cgwebster@xtra.co.nz or visiting their web site at www.faithnursing.co.nz

Conference Feedback

The delegates loved El Rancho pity about the weather, liked the opportunity of staying together and spending time together getting to know each other more, a lot of people commented that they found the fellowship aspect of it spiritually enriching. Good price, felt they had real value for money!!!! And of course the food was without fault.

What people most liked about the conference was the opportunity to combine faith and profession, the networking that developed, companionship experienced as a group, the calibre of speakers was commented on over and over, loved the ecumenical flavour, no one denomination seemed to dominate, they loved the worship (especially how it so related to our theme, so well done Lesley)

Westberg Symposium – a “Rousing Success”

from IPNRC eNotes

by Rev. Deborah Patterson, Executive Director, IPNRC.



Dancing in a ball room to Samoan music, meeting with parish nurses from around the world, singing songs of praise and healing together laughing until tears ran down one's cheeks as speakers pulled heartstrings of joy and struggle – these were some of the highlights of the 19th Annual Westberg Symposium, held in St. Louis from September 30 through October 2nd.

Five hundred participants enjoyed pre-conferences, papers, posters, keynotes, and worship, and had the opportunity to browse in a sold-out exhibitor's hall.

Watch the next edition of Parish Nurse Perspectives for more highlights.

Save the date for next year – the 20th Anniversary Special Westberg Symposium will be held October 6–8, 2006 with the theme “New Horizons: Changes, Challenges, and Choices.

Call for Proposals, due by December 15th, 2005:
<http://ipnrc.parishnurses.org/west2003.phtml>

Elaine has registered with the list serve for the Parish Nurse World Forum which means that we can have access to messages and information globally. She has put our website down as a link.

If you are interested in joining, please visit the IPNRC website and click on the Resources page, then click on the line, "[Click to join pnworldforum](#)" under the button that says, "Yahoo Groups Join Now!"

That page is <http://ipnrc.parishnurses.org/resources.phtml>.

*Write Your Story.
Would anyone like to
write up their FCN
journey for inclusion in
Parish Perspectives – the
global magazine?
Contact etyrrell@xtra.co.nz*

Information Packages

Draft information packages are being sent to regional coordinators for critique.

If you are interested in Parish Nursing/FCN contact Elaine Tyrrell for a copy.
e-mail: etyrrell@xtra.co.nz

Parish Nursing is World Wide

This is from an e-mail from Deborah Patterson, from the International Parish Nurse Resource Center.

Crystal Clotey is a nurse living in Accra, Ghana. She is a public health nurse, leader of Nurses Christian Fellowship in Ghana, and a member of the Nurses Christian Fellowship International Board. I know Crystal personally, and she is a creative and wise leader among nurses, and in her church and community. One example: the NCF group worked with churches to do screening and health education related to sickle cell anemia, an important service in Ghana.

Crystal completed the Parish Nurse Preparation Course (using the International Parish Nurse Resource Center curriculum) taught by Marabel Kersey of NCF when Crystal was in the USA for an NCF International Board meeting several years ago. Crystal has received additional resources about parish nursing through NCF since that time (see www.ncf-icn.org and click on parish nursing

New Board Elected

The board was elected at the AGM held at the end of the Waikanae conference.

Chairperson: Wendy Scott

Secretary/Treasurer: Diane Webster

Elaine Tyrrell, Lesley Askin, Dorothy Finlay, Jane Maries, and Anne Davidson.



Regional Coordinators

We now have eight regional coordinators:

Auckland	Angela Anderson	ph 09 480 1003
Bay of Plenty	Dorothy Finlay	ph 07 570 1218
	Anne Davidson	ph 07 576 2432
Waikato	Joan Macmanus	ph 07 870 2677
Manawatu	Wendy Scott	ph 09 528 6824
Wellington	Jenny Campbell	ph 06 364 7099
Hawkes Bay	Anne Simonsen	ph 06 844 5799
Canterbury/West Coast	Lesley Askin	ph 03 327 2722

Contact your local coordinator to find out what is happening in your area



In his brief ministry Jesus did his best to give short term help in healings and feedings, He faced the fact that, that sort of healing can only be offered by those who embody it, whatever the cost.

But the thrust of his teaching was to get at the roots of evil and suffering, and his message of the Kingdom of God was about a healing which involved

love, trust, compassion, forgiveness, and radically inclusive hospitality.

From "The Shape of Living" by David Ford.

From the Editor

Hi, my name is Kris Telfer, your new editor. If there is anything you would like to see or include in this newsletter please let me know.

Please continue to pray for all the Faith Community/Parish Nurses in NZ, for the members of the NZFCNA Board, and the regional coordinators.

"May the Lord bless you and take care of you:

May the Lord be kind and gracious to you:

May the Lord look on you with favour and give you peace."

Num. 6:24-26 GNB

