



New Zealand College of Air, Surface & Transport Nurses Magazine
College of the New Zealand Nurses Organisation

COASTN Committee 2017



Rear Left to right: Annie Bradley-Ingle, Joanna Knight, Kelvin Still,

Front Left to Right: Angela Coward, Toni Johnston, Gill Robertson, Rachel Pringle, Anju Sethi

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Welcome to the July 2017 Edition

Hi all,

I hope everybody is staying safe and warm during our winter flying. I have been lucky enough to escape some of the winter by working in Iraq for 2 months where the temperatures are in the 30's and 40's. (Yes I like the heat)

Even while I have been away there has been lots going on within the New Zealand Aeromedical world. With the Ministry of Health holding meetings around New Zealand in an attempt to gain favour for some form of national aeromedical coordination. This has and will have its issues.

I believe that the biggest piece of misrepresented information is that it is assumed that Intensive Care Paramedics and Intensive Care Nurses are the same. As those of us who have and/or do work in the Frontline Ambulance System and

also within the hospital systems know, this is not the case.

As a former Advanced Paramedic and current ICU Flight Nurse I have nothing but the upmost respect and admiration for my former ICP colleagues and for what they do, but they are not a one man ICU retrieval team. ICU retrieval teams are a specialised teams of individually picked persons for that mission.

The drive by the MOH and St John to use ICP's to replace ICU retrieval teams has potential to put our generally unaware public at risk.

Whilst the MOH process continues, COASTN along with others are attempting to put our concerns forward. This is a topic that should concern all flight nurses in New Zealand. It is not about saving our jobs, because I believe that if the ICP's could do it better, then I would support that. However I do believe that each has a role to play and although the skill set is similar, the type of work we are talking about is very different. I'm sure St John would have something to say if ICU Flight Nurses hit the road and started working as Intensive Care Paramedics.

Moving on I hope that everybody has booked their place for the Christchurch Symposium. The Christchurch Team are working hard to turn it on for us. (See the information further down)

Please consider standing for the COASTN Committee. Every transport nurse in NZ has something to offer

Also don't forget about the ASA conference in Sydney in August. The ASA team always put on a conference, worth attending. (see the upcoming events page).

Happy and safe flying.

Kelvin

(kelvin.still@gmail.com)

(Cover Photo From Toni Johnston, Dunedin Helipad)

Chairpersons report:



Greetings from the wintry South – although as I write this it appears the entire length of New Zealand is experiencing the joys of snow, wind & rain. This is particularly applicable to all of us who fly – as with winter down here it can be a real challenge to compete with adverse weather conditions when mission planning, and we have a degree of our trips that then become road-based (which, if the weather is bad enough that we can't fly, then driving in an ambulance is often not a fun "Plan B"!).

Lately a lot of us have been involved in attending structured regional meetings for the Air Ambulance co-design project. It was pleasing to see the wide cross-section of the industry invited to & attending these meetings – from providers through clinicians & also consumer representatives. The Christchurch meeting that I attended seemed to generate a lot of discussion, with lots of common themes occurring at all stages of service provision.

But what was also evident was the huge variation in service structure & function across the country, and how changes to policies in one sector (such as the newly introduced destination policies for the Ambulance service) impact on service provision as a whole. We await feedback from these meetings along with the plan for what is to happen next.

The destination policies – for spinal cord injury, trauma, & STEMI – are causing concern for some of our services, insofar as they have the ability to significantly impact the workloads of some services (where the national air desk may task pre-hospital providers such as St John or Wellington Free with the job of transferring patients that would previously be retrieved by a DHB-based flight service). Submissions on such policy changes & participation in discussions from those affected are vital if anyone is offered the opportunity to participate – as often the role of transport nurses is poorly understood & not very visible.

Please remember to register for the COASTN symposium & AGM being hosted by Christchurch on November 13th this year. The organising committee has put together a fantastic programme & encourage all attendees to stay for an extra few days in the beautiful garden city & enjoy the spectacle that is NZ Cup Week. The city is extraordinarily busy at this time, so it would pay to organise travel & accommodation soon.

Take care & here's to better weather as the days get (theoretically) longer & the weather improves!

Toni Johnston

Dunedin



New Zealand Nurses Organisation | College of Air & Surface Transport Nurses

One Day Symposium & AGM

Commodore Hotel, Christchurch Airport

Monday 13th November 2017



COASTN Aeromedical Symposium

“Ready Steady Go...”

Commodore Hotel, Christchurch Airport
13th November 2017

INFORMATION

Our next symposium is designed as a one day “fly-in fly-out” to save costs on accommodation for those who cannot be away overnight. With a starting time of 9am and with late flights departing Christchurch to all major cities there will be time to enjoy refreshments at the Commodore Hotel Bar prior to departing.

GETTING THERE:

There is a courtesy bus to and from the Commodore Hotel situated outside Christchurch International Terminal beside the Domestic Terminal, operating 24/7. The Commodore Hotel is situated 2.2km from the airport, at 449 Memorial Ave.



WHATS ON:

For those of you fortunate enough to get time off to stay overnight for the Tuesday following the symposium (14th November), the New Zealand Trotting Cup meeting is held; New Zealand’s equivalent to the Melbourne Cup! This is a great opportunity to get your colleagues together following the symposium to enjoy some team bonding at the races.



Admission to the NZ Trotting Cup ranges from \$20-\$70; and many pubs do pre-booked champagne breakfasts with transport to and from Addington raceway. The first race starts at 11:50, with the NZ Cup at 17:30, not to be missed.

ACCOMMODATION:

As this is the beginning of Canterbury Cup and Show week ensure you **book your accommodation** early to avoid disappointment. Many websites offer accommodation with **free cancellation** and no deposit such as WOTIF.COM, so book even if you are unsure of your plans. Cancellations are accepted up to 72 hours before the booking date in most instances.

Accommodation on Wotif.com near the Commodore Hotel and Symposium venue includes:

The Commodore Hotel 5 star \$250 p/n.

Airport Gateway Motor Lodge \$159 p/n (500m walk to symposium venue)

Airport Palms Motel \$165 per night (550m walk to symposium venue)

Airport Christchurch Motel \$182 p/n (600m walk to symposium venue)

Airport Delta Motel \$196p/n (650m walk to symposium venue)

GARDEN CITY AIR CENTRE:

If anyone is interested in viewing the new Garden City Air Centre then there is opportunity on Tuesday morning for a short tour. The multi-purpose centre is the largest of its kind in Australasia offering a fully integrated, single-purpose Emergency Medical Service air ambulance facility, and a purpose-built reception gateway base for the rapidly growing tourism and corporate jet market. The new 9,000sqm building currently under construction air-side along with new runway access at Christchurch International Airport is due for completion in May 2017. Email COASTN2017@outlook.co.nz to express your interest in a look around on the Tuesday morning.



OTHER ACTIVITIES:

The **International Antarctic Centre** is a short walk from the Airport and has real snow and ice, little blue penguins, Hagglund rides and is the closest to Antarctica you can get. Come and enjoy one of New Zealand's best tourist attractions.



The **Air Force Museum of New Zealand** is the national museum for the Royal New Zealand Air Force (RNZAF) and one of New Zealand's premier attractions. Located on the site of the former Air Force Base at Wigram, the Museum offers a unique and memorable visitor experience. With over 30 historic aircraft, hands-on exhibitions and programmes, guided tours and even a flight simulator, all with FREE entry, it is the ideal place to come for plane enthusiasts.



The **Gondola** offers a unique Christchurch sightseeing experience that you'll never forget. Soar suspended above the valley as the birds fly beneath your cable car. Enjoy breathtaking views of the Christchurch cityscape, over the Canterbury Plains out to the mighty Southern Alps and the dramatic hills of Banks Peninsula.



The Christchurch **Rebuild Tour** offers a unique guided experience through the past, present & future of Christchurch city. Follow the innovative progress that Christchurch is making following the earthquakes of 2010 and 2011.

The Rebuild Tour is one of the best things to do in Christchurch and one of the best ways to experience the sights of this emerging, new city.



Punting



Tram



Botanic Gardens

THANK YOU:

On behalf of the Christchurch Air Retrieval Service and the COASTN Committee we thank you in advance for your support of the COASTN 2017 Symposium and hope it will be beneficial to your practice and the people you care for. We also hope you get the opportunity to explore Christchurch and meet some of the wonderful, resilient people who live here.



Aeromedical Symposium

“Ready Steady Go...”

Commodore Hotel, Christchurch Airport

13th November 2017

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Submission deadline: 31st July 2017

You are invited to share your knowledge, skills and experience through presenting a piece of research or a clinically based, issue of development. Presentations will be 15 minutes + 5 minutes for questions and answers (we would like to encourage audience engagement).

Abstract Content and Format Guidelines:

- 11 or 12 point font.
- Maximum of 250 words.
- Only use standard and well-accepted abbreviations.
- Include the background, purpose, method and results (or summary of clinical/ practice issue or innovation) and conclusions.
- The theme of the symposium is “ready steady go” looking at decisions made prior to and during transfer. Your abstract may focus on any topic relevant to the aeromedical field, including research or practice.

Submission Details:

- Email abstracts to: COASTN2017@outlook.co.nz
- Submissions must be received by 31st July 2017

Abstracts will be reviewed by the organising committee and you will be contacted by email when the process is complete.

Thank you for supporting this symposium

This is Canterbury Cup and Show week so ensure you book early to avoid disappointment, many websites offer accommodation with free cancellation.

Aeromedical Symposium

“Ready Steady Go...”

Commodore Hotel, Christchurch Airport

13th November 2017

REGISTRATION FORM

NAME

ADDRESS

EMAIL

PHONE

WORK AREA

NZNO COASTN MEMBER YES/NO

SPECIFIC DIETARY REQUIREMENTS

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION (Before September 8th 2017) \$150 ☐

LATE REGISTRATION (After September 8th 2017) \$180 ☐

Direct Debit to Bank: ANZ

Account name: NZNO-COASTN Conference

Account Number: 01-0505-0713049-00

Cheques payable to “College of Air & Surface Transport Nurses”

Email Registration form to: COASTN2017@outlook.co.nz

Or post to: COASTN Symposium

C/o Katrina Andrews

524 Downs Road

Eyrewell

Rangiora RD 6 7476

For further information: www.nzno.org.nz/groups/colleges_sections/colleges

Or email: COASTN2017@outlook.co.nz

This is Canterbury Cup and Show week so ensure you book early to avoid disappointment, many websites offer accommodation with free cancellation!

Upcoming Events



AirMed 2017 World Congress

The key driver for improvements and innovative change has always been constructive criticism, be it in terms of medicine, management, flight operation, maintenance, design or development guidelines. For more than 30 years, AIRMED World Congresses have been organised to inform about the latest facts, share experiences and define the future in professional aeromedical services.

It's about time for the next AIRMED World Congress.

Please **mark your calendar** for the **3-5 October 2017, ExCel Exhibition Centre, London. United Kingdom.**



31 AUGUST - 3 SEPTEMBER 2017, CROWNE PLAZA QUEENSTOWN



The triennial combined AMSNZ and ASAM conference will be held on 31 August – 3 September 2017 at Crowne Plaza Queenstown in the southern hemisphere's premier four season lake and alpine resort, Queenstown New Zealand. The conference theme is "Horizon Scanning - Improving Aeromedical Risk Management". - See more at:

<http://event.icebergevents.com.au/amsnz2017><http://event.icebergevents.com.au/amsnz2017>

Confirming the dates for the 2018 Aeromedical Retrieval course 16th -20th April 2018

Information about this course
will be available on the NZNO
COASTN Resources page
under Education later in the
year.

Regional



(Napier Port, Estuary & Airport
Kate Tweedie)

Roundups



**NEW ZEALAND
AIR AMBULANCE
SERVICE**

*Saving Lives
IN THE South Pacific*

NEWSLETTER

July 2017

Greetings to all of our flight nurse colleagues throughout New Zealand. Hopefully everyone is keeping dry in this wetter than wet winter.

Here at NZAAS we are in full swing of the busy winter season and we have had a spike in the number of intubated and ECMO patient transports over the past couple of months to reflect this.

We are delighted to have of staff recently. Justin has commenced with us as a line pilot and Robbie as a first officer, they will both be flying the King Air domestic service. welcomed several new members Claire is joining our flight nurse team.



She comes most recently from an ICU background and I know that she is looking forward to the challenge of aeromedical and transport nursing as she starts her orientation and training.

A few of our crew are looking forward to attending the ASA conference in Sydney next month and the Flight Nurse symposium in Christchurch in November. We find conferences offer a great opportunity to meet and learn from other flight teams and keep up to date with what's happening in the wider flight community. Safe Flying, here's hoping that drier weather and sunny skies are on their way.

From the

Team at NZAAS

WAIKATO ICU TRANSPORT TEAM

Waikato Hospital ICU transport team regional round up

Greetings fellow flight nurses throughout New Zealand.

Hope you are continuing to fly both fit and safely. Also thinking of our colleagues further south with severe weather conditions as I write this. No doubt this has curtailed some of the flying (or has it increased it?!)

As I've not been on a transport for the past few weeks due to carrying out another role, I had a peek at our transport log book to see what the team has been up to (also an interesting way to spend the time flying to a job.)

Here is a synopsis of where we went and for what kind of patient for the month of June:-

5 to Gisborne; 4 to Taranaki; 3 to Whakatane; 2 to Thames and one each to Taumaranui, Tauranga and Tokoroa. Added to this was the repatriation of a child to Wanganui.

4 of these were NSTEMIs; 2 cases of encephalitis and one each of sepsis; respiratory failure; cerebral bleed; sub arachnoid haemorrhage; seizure patient with a decreased GCS; urosepsis; gunshot wound; traumatic brain injury secondary to an assault; compartment syndrome;

cholecystitis; VF arrest and respiratory failure secondary to influenza.

It was a bit sad to see a GWS occurring in little ole NZ.

Also of note was a compassionate road transport of a 20 month old child for palliation at Rainbow Place, our special place in Hamilton for seriously ill children. The child was ventilated for the transport and extubated by our team.

A couple of recent additions to our fleet are 2 road ambulances to facilitate transfers from Hamilton Airport to Waikato Hospital and from New Plymouth Airport to Taranaki Base Hospital. These will be 'piloted' by our fixed wing pilots and negate the need for St John ambulances.

This should significantly reduce the delays we have so often experienced before in these places.

Last Tuesday saw a few interested parties having a brain storming session as to what to include in the flight nurse symposium to be held in Hamilton 2018.

What a great way to think of ideas! We could run a 3 day meeting with what people came up with. The social side was high on the agenda as well!

Watch this space! It will be interesting to see what becomes of the planned National Coordination of flight services by the time we hold the symposium.

Hope you all continue to fly safely and survive what remains of the 2017 winter intact.

Fay and the Waikato ICU transport team



Whanganui Flight Team

Regional Round Up – Whanganui Flight Team (July 2017)

Hi from Whanganui, like everyone else we're enjoying the joys that winter brings with the chilly weather and rain. Looking forward to the warmer weather ahead. We are about to recruit and look forward to bringing new faces onto the team, to accommodate ongoing increase in transfers.

Wishing you all well for the rest of the chilly season

Jo – Whanganui



Canterbury

It has been awhile since Canterbury has appeared in the 'Up and Away' magazine. We continue to be busy and we have just had June as our busiest month so far. Along with the larger numbers there also has been an increase in complex retrievals.

We have had a lot of change over the past 12-18 months. Our coordinator, Shane, has been busy putting in a business plan to increase our flight nurses FTE's, with an aim to better provide and cover our service, and also reduce the amount of overtime and flight fatigue. We were given approval to a 12 month trial with an increase in FTE, and we welcomed three new staff members for the trial, Pete Daniels, Helen Poole and Francine Buick, all experienced ICU nurses at CHCH ICU. With the increase in workload it didn't take long for them to orientate to flight nursing and they seem to be enjoying the challenges of the role. With the increase in FTE's we were able to look at our 24hr cover, the shift hours and amount of on call needed. We are currently able to have an am and pm flight nurse with some overlap during the day and early evening to allow for potential two retrievals at one time. Also we have been able to cut back on the amount of on call needed with just a 12 hour shift overnight.

I am sure I can speak for most of the flight team in saying that we are enjoying the new shifts/roster. We have just been informed that the trial has become permanent, well done Shane for all the work on this.

We have also had some changes within our pilots. We welcome back Scott Karon and new Pilots Greg, Rupert, Warrick and Henry.

Our new Garden City Air Centre is near completion in August. The multi-purpose centre is the largest of its kind in Australasia offering a fully integrated, single-purpose Emergency Medical Service air ambulance facility and a purpose-built reception gateway for tourism and corporate jet market.

We were able to have a tour of the facility on our last flight study day and we all look forward to move in this year. We hope you can come and see it for yourself at the Christchurch Flight Nurses Symposium and AGM on 14th November.

Some members of our flight team have been busy organising the Symposium and it would be great to see you here. We suggest you book early as it is also 'Cup Week' here in Christchurch.

Safe travels and keep warm!

Rachel Riach



Dunedin

Greetings from the Southern DHB AME team, based in Dunedin Hospital ICU. We've survived another summer of population explosion with the influx of home-grown and overseas tourists into Central Otago & the Lakes district – the adventure capital of New Zealand – which often increases the workload of the flight team. Unlike a lot of our counterparts across New Zealand our team is mainly rotary wing aircraft based – rather than fixed-wing. This arises from the fact that many of the populations we service in the smaller southern communities do not have operational airports, and the ones who have large commercial facilities (such as Queenstown) are subject to restrictions in operational hours, due to challenging terrain and flying conditions. So night flying into/out of Queenstown is only possible by helicopter – but this may change in the future with the drive of Queenstown airport to extend its operating hours. Our heli operator (Helicopters Otago) is currently working towards full IFR rating for its rescue pilots, supported by the installation of the necessary hard and software in 1 of our 3 available aircraft. An estimation is that this may reduce the number of missions declined due to adverse weather events (in terms of VFR flying) by up to 50% for destinations such as Kew Hospital in Invercargill – very useful as with the seasonal changes of autumn and winter fast

approaching these impact on our ability to fly. We are currently struggling to facilitate retrieval missions by road as an alternative to flying, due in part to the lack of ambulance personnel available to drive vehicles and the stricter enforcement of LTNZ rule 62001 – which governs work/driving hours. A workshop was held 10 days ago with interested parties from the smaller referral centres (Kew, Dunstan, Queenstown) present, along with representatives from the Ministry of Health and staff from Dunedin ICU, in an effort to try and identify then resolve the challenges that arise when the ICU team are unable to fly to retrieve patients. Main issues appear to be that of resourcing – with availability of appropriately trained staff at the top of the list, followed by adequate transport equipment (ventilators, pumps, etc). Many of the smaller healthcare facilities operate on skeleton nursing and medical staff, especially outside of standard working hours, so removing clinical staff from the environment in order to facilitate meeting the ICU team halfway on a road journey is often unachievable. Increasing staff availability (by on-call rosters and such) has a significant financial implication for the health budget across one of the biggest geographical regions in the country, trying to service one of the smallest populations! Issues such as this will

not be unique to us in the South, but certainly provide on-going challenges and the need to regularly liaise with all the parties within the retrieval/patient transport chain.

Another challenge for us is the loss of our on-roof hospital helipad – which is out of action for 6 weeks due to the need to replace the stanchions and safety nets surrounding the pad (which is 10 stories above the busy intersection the hospital is situated on!) and upgrade the support structures securing the helipad to the roof – due to a recent Ministry mandated seismic survey it was discovered that the current structures are no longer compliant with the upgraded building codes (which changed after the Canterbury earthquakes). Being very accustomed to just landing on the roof and having instant access to all hospital facilities (ED, Radiology, interventional cardiology, ICU, etc) the requirement to land at a secondary ground-level helipad 8 minutes journey by road from the hospital has presented some logistical challenges – so roll on an earlier-than-anticipated completion date for the building works!

2015 sees 21 years of the AME service run by the Dunedin ICU team. Celebrations are planned for late April – so hopefully there will be some interesting photos to share with you in the next magazine

Toni Johnston, ACNM, Dunedin ICU.

NZ FLIGHT SERVICE CONTACTS

Northland	Sarah.Pickery@northlanddhb.org.nz
Auckland NICU	SPeachey@adhb.govt.nz
Auckland NZAAS	assistance@nzaas.co.nz
Starship	assistance@nzaas.co.nz
Waikato ICU	christine.craig@waikatodhb.health.nz
Tauranga	Dianna.Keys@bopdhb.govt.nz
Gisborne (Tairāwhiti)	Jacqueline.Johnson@tdh.org.nz
Hawkes Bay	Maatje.Hiko@hawkesbaydhb.govt.nz
Wanganui	joanna.knight@wdhb.org.nz
Wellington	
WGTN NICU	Sarah.Cody@ccdhb.org.nz
Nelson	Robyn.Price@nmhs.govt.nz
Christchurch	shane.mckerrrow@cdhb.govt.nz
Christchurch NICU	Sue.moore@cdhb.health.nz
Dunedin	antonia.johnston@southerndhb.govt.nz

Wanted desperately

Articles, items of interest,
& photos!

Have you got an article or update that
could go on this page. Photos always
appreciated.

Send it to the magazine editor

Kelvin Still

C/o Transport Team

Hawkes Bay DHB

University of Otago, Wellington



WELLINGTON

Postgraduate Certificate in Health Sciences (Aeromedical Retrieval and Transport)

AVME719 Operational Aspects of Aeromedical Retrieval

- General organisation and structure of retrieval systems
- Aeromedical environment and physiological implications
- Aeromedical aircraft and aviation processes
- Safety and survival

AVME720 Clinical Aspects of Aeromedical Retrieval

- Crew Resource Management, human factors and the impact on safe aeromedical practice and patient care
- Fatigue and systems for identification and management
- Clinical considerations and constraints
- Specialist clinical retrievals
- Integration of theory into independent clinical practice

Graduates of AVME719 and AVME720 will have met the educational requirements set out in the NZ Air Ambulance/Air Search and Rescue Standard, the NZ Standard for Ambulance and Paramedical Services (NZS8156:2008), the educational requirements of the NZFNA and the educational standards for the Aeromedical Society of Australasia (ASA).

Graduates have the opportunity to continue towards a Post Graduate Diploma or Masters in Health Science endorsed in Aeromedical Retrieval and Transport (AeroRT).

For further details please contact: oamu@otago.ac.nz or check out the website: otago.ac.nz/aviation_medicine

