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**Mental Health Nurses Section,
New Zealand Nurses Organisation**

Magazine, February 2017



Chair Report 2017

Once again, we have been very busy as a committee over the last few months. With mental health's high profile in the media we have conducted a survey to our members. Thanks for all those who responded as we had 130 responses, comprising 21% of our membership.

We are continuing to build up numbers on Facebook and I would like to thank all who contributed especially our committee members Mary and Elle for facilitating. As committee members we are often contributing to feedback on policy and have attended the NZNO AGM and conference and college and sections day. As we are asked for our opinions and viewpoints, having members respond to Facebook and our surveys allow us to feedback the wider voice of members.

We now have a monthly "Snippets" page from Linda Stopforth which give us up to date news items and reports around mental health. After our first distribution we received positive feedback of people finding useful articles.

Gina Soanes

Editors Report

Hello Colleagues

The nature of healthcare, in particular the mental health nursing practice area is constantly under review and highlighted by the media around the country. The amount of change in policies, documents and important mental health strategies and frameworks is constant. So much so that even as a Section representing you as our members we find it challenging to keep up with giving feedback on behalf of you our members.

The Mental Health Act and Human Rights discussion document is an important discussion document that I would encourage as many of you to read and comment on, (particularly the nurses working daily with the Mental Health Act, in particular Duly Authorised Officers). Please have a look at the information below. I apologise for the short notice but NZNO and the Section only became aware of this discussion document on the 9th February, last Thursday. Marilyn Head, Senior Policy Analyst of NZNO is collecting feedback which is due before the 23rd February, Marilyn's email address is Marilynh@nzno.org.nz. Remember you can send a submission from your workplace and as individuals straight to the Ministry of Health.

The Mental Health Act and Human Rights - discussion document

NZNO is seeking members' feedback on this discussion document.

This document explores the alignment between the Mental Health Act and our human rights obligations under the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 (NZBORA) and the Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities (CRPD).

The document sets out some of the key issues and concerns the Ministry is aware of, but would like to hear from you about your experiences, perspectives and challenges as nurses who care for service users under the Mental Health Act.

The discussion document is available here:

- <http://drivedirection.org/drive/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/Mental-Health-and-Human-Rights-discussion-document-copy.pdf>

Your comments may be guided by, but do not have to be restricted to use the questions in the submission feedback form. The pdf for this is available from NZNO here:

- [Mental Health Human Rights Submission Form](#)

Facebook!! AND have 200 members and growing.....

Communication via Facebook, and more recently Survey Monkey to meet the needs of our members via the social media platforms have been very successful. The Facebook page has now been going for nearly a year. We have over 200 members and this number continues to grow. We aim to have the page as a supportive place for information to be shared and topics to be discussed in a productive and solution focussed way. Please be aware of the NZNO social medial policy when using Facebook.

The best way that Nurses can be a force for change is if we all unite with a common and shared goal so get in amongst!

JOIN our Facebook page, just click on this link and you are there!

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=10153851139227164&set=gm.932333476842847&type=3>

Mental Health Nurses Section Committee updates...

We have a new member to the committee from the Wellington, Philip Ferris-Day. We are thrilled to have Phillip join us.

PHILLIP'S BIO.

Philip Ferris-Day: Master of Mental Health (QLD), Registered Psychiatric Nurse
Philip has been working in mental health since the 1980's and has worked in the UK, NZ and Australia.

He has worked in a number of locations, BOP, Manawatu, Hawkes Bay and NZ wide (NGO based), both clinically and in education. He returned to NZ after almost 10 years in Queensland where he held a state wide Risk Education role writing and delivering risk formulation workshops.

Philip's current role is for the MHAIDS 3DHB learning and development team (Wairapa, Hutt valley and Capital and Coast) in mental health education.



From the left: Elle Hayes: Secretary, Toni Djohanli: Treasurer, Philip Ferris-Day: Co Editor, Helen Garrick: Progression to College/Analyst, Diana Geerling: Admin. Officer NZNO, Grant Brookes, Mary McMillan: Editor, Anne Brinkman: NZNO Professional Advisor & Gina Soanes: President, MH Nurses Section.

We have just met in Wellington, and Grant Brookes, President NZNO joined us for an hour to give us his support and to update us on any information we require. We are immensely proud to have Grant as our president, of course being a Mental Health Nurse.

Our goal is still to continue progression to college status. There is work in progress to get to this desired point. We hope to progress that with your help at the NZNO Mental Health Nurses Section Forum on the 4th August 2017 in Wellington at St John's in the City Presbyterian Church, SO pencil in your diaries now!! The AGM and exciting speakers will occur. We hope for a quorum of members so can pass some changes to the constitution on this day, so please come enjoy the day of education and networking with us.

Mary McMillan

Mary.mcmillan@sit.ac.nz

**NZNO MENTAL HEALTH NURSES SECTION
INVITE YOU TO ONE DAY FORUM.
“RISK MANAGEMENT IN PRACTICE”.**

When

Friday, 4th AUGUST 2017

Where

**ST JOHNS IN THE CITY
Presbyterian Church
Cnr Willis & Dixon Street
Te Aro
Wellington 6011.**

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