

# OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY NEW ZEALAND WHAKAORA NGANGAHAU AOTEAROA (INC)



## ANNUAL REPORT

April 2014 – March 2015

**Mission:** Championing the profession of occupational therapy/whakaora ngangahau

**Vision:** OTNZ-WNA is the touchstone\* for occupational therapy/whakaora ngangahau in Aotearoa New Zealand: empowering individuals, whānau, organisations and communities to achieve health and wellbeing through occupation

**Values:** occupational justice, biculturalism, integrity, professionalism, collaboration and transparency.

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\* Touchstone: The place to find out about or be advised about occupational therapy/whakarōa ngangahau. The place that occupational therapists/ngā kaiwhakaora ngangahau are nurtured from. The place that promotes excellence in occupational therapy/whakaora ngangahau. The place occupational therapists/ngā kaiwhakaora ngangahau connect back to the core paradigm of occupational therapy/whakarōa ngangahau so that they can empower others.

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### Tēnā koutou katoa

It is that time when we reflect on the commitment and dedication of our members, elected council, staff and supporters. The promotion of occupational therapy through member representation in a variety of sectors ensures our visibility. The ongoing contributions from all our stakeholders for the future of our association are much appreciated.

The framework of our strategic direction with the three key objectives of visibility, advancing skills, and organisational wellbeing, continues to support and embed our core values. These values further endorse the journey that is being undertaken towards embracing biculturalism - acknowledging the spirit and intent of Te Tiriti o Waitangi (The Treaty of Waitangi). Accordingly the revised competencies introduced by the Occupational Therapy Board of New Zealand Te Poari Whakaora Ngangahau o Aotearoa have enabled an alignment with the association to ensure relevancy and currency for our members.

In terms of our structure and systems, this year has seen the piloting of a treaty relationship governance model. Council meetings have been co-chaired by a council member from the tangata tiriti house and a

member – the current president – from the tangata whenua house. World views, including Te Ao Māori, are considered for any decisions involving cultural components. In this respect we have adhered to the rules of our constitution giving due regard to te tiriti (the treaty) and thus invoking the principles of participation, partnership and protection. The transition to this form of governance has been smooth and enlightening. Requests for information on the process have been received from other organisations and international interest has been noted.

We are continuing to consolidate infrastructures with upgraded technological systems, including the launch of our new website.

We eagerly look forward to hosting the Asia-Pacific Occupational Therapy Congress 2015 in Rotorua. The calibre of presenters attending will be outstanding and there is much interest in the range of topics on offer. The high number of registrations received nationally and internationally will certainly ensure the largest gathering of occupational therapists to be seen in Aotearoa New Zealand. The council of OTNZ-WNA looks forward to seeing you there.

Nō reira nau mai, haere mai ki ngā kaiwhakaora ngangahau.

Karen Molyneux  
President  
OTNZ-WNA



## Tēnā koutou katoa

I joined the association in August 2014, approximately four-and-a-half months into the new financial year. My baptism into the world of occupational therapy was softened by the valuable guidance of Tina Larsen, the acting Executive Director, who helped me bed in to the association business and mentored me in a new language and culture which was

quite foreign to the business language and culture of the corporate world from which I came from. I wish to record a debt of gratitude to Tina who has continued to retain a working relationship with the association.

While on the subject of bouquets, I would like to thank Alison Silcock and Morgan Martin, and acknowledge in particular the tremendous work completed by them during a period of significant pressure in early 2015.

Much has been achieved in the eight months from August 2014 to March 2015. The year was punctuated by the series of workshops on sexuality, intimacy and physical disability hosted nationwide, and by the OTNZ-WNA Blue Sapphire and Diamond Occupational Therapy Anniversary Symposium and Soiree in September last year. The symposium provided an opportunity for the association to showcase its Frances Rutherford Lecture Award (FRLA) winners since 1984. The poignant climax must certainly have been the attendance of our founder Hazel Skilton at the 65th Annual General Meeting who sadly passed away in January 2015 at the age of 101.

In August 2014, I had the opportunity to conduct an end-to-end analysis of the association's business model and to introduce and consider a range of business development initiatives to support and sustain the association into the future.

This exercise highlighted two vital imperatives:

1. It identified a range of potential new products and services that will enhance the benefits of being an association member.
2. It identified a need to ensure the association and the occupational therapy profession demonstrates its value as a visible, distinguishable and independent allied health profession.

Politically speaking, we're in an opportunity zone in the wake of the Ministry of Health's plans to foster allied health interdisciplinary workforce teams. This means that the association, in order to protect its members, needs not only to maintain its efforts on member benefits, but also to raise professional visibility and actively promote the profession. If we are to achieve this we need much more than 50% membership.

Successfully raising the profile of the profession benefits all registered occupational therapists. With more members comes more financial resources and the funds that will allow us to achieve the goals as identified in the end-to-end analysis.

We can look ahead to raising our profile; developing products and services; bedding in the brands of the association, profession and members; leveraging every opportunity to advocate and comment, and make submissions and influence authorities and key stakeholders; and aspiring to a leadership position among our allied association colleagues.

In January 2015 the association initiated a membership drive targeting DHB's, in particular, highlighting the MECA where a significant proportion of the cost of professional body membership fees are reimbursed. We planted the seeds in 2014 and now we must tend to our garden of opportunity and harvest the reward as the profession emerges into the limelight of tomorrow.

Peter Anderson

Executive Director OTNZ-WNA



## In Brief: The Year in Review

### Association founder Hazel Skilton's passing



*(OTNZ) WNAs founder, Hazel Skilton turned 101 years old and celebrated her birthday with family and friends at a party in her honour*

It was with deep sadness that we reported to members that Hazel had passed away on Sunday 25 January 2015.

As an early leader in occupational therapy Hazel recognised the need for a national association which in 1949 was established as the New Zealand Registered Occupational Therapists Association Inc. It was Hazel's casting vote that brought about the formation of the association. She said the fundamental value of occupational therapy is that it gives hope: "I've seen people in hopeless conditions and occupational therapy helped them to take up their lives again."

### Symposium 2014

Heralding a change to the usual alternating of clinical workshops and conference each year, the association hosted a symposium in September 2014 combining the 65th anniversary with the 30th anniversary of the inaugural Frances Rutherford Lecture Award (FRLA).



*The plenary-only presentations were given by past recipients. Pictured are all the FRLA recipients since its inception in 1984*





A highlight of the symposium was the attendance of founder Hazel Skilton at the 65th Annual General Meeting. From left to right: OTNZ-WNA president Karen Molyneux, Hazel Skilton and FRLA recipient for 2004 Professor Clare Hocking

### Sexuality, intimacy and physical disability: a guide for health professionals

Nine workshops were hosted across the country in July 2014 to help practitioners working with adults with physical disabilities, neurological conditions and chronic illness to understand the potential impact of disability and illness on intimacy and sexuality. Hosted by the association, the workshop was developed and run by Australian therapist Narelle Higson.



### Foundations of Ethical Thinking

Led by Dr David Seedhouse, this course was designed to enhance critical thinking skills in the context of professional practice through a supported international online community. Many members enjoyed free 10-week online courses delivered through the Values Exchange programme by Dr Seedhouse.

### OT Week 27-31 October 2014

OT Week was celebrated by practitioners across the country with the theme “participate to your potential”. Celebrations included a presentation to a group of Wellington GPs as well as many shared lunches and promotion of occupational therapy in workplaces around the country.



2014 OT Week display

### New premises

The association office in Wellington moved from The Terrace to Boulcott Street in October 2014. Not only does the move save on rental costs but the new location carries a higher earthquake rating so is safer for staff.

### Student presentation

This presentation was held for Auckland University of Technology fourth-year graduates in December 2014.

### Membership drive

The membership drive kicked off in February 2015 during the Show Your Ability roadshows in Auckland, Hamilton, Palmerston North, Christchurch and Dunedin. Presentations were also made to occupational therapists at the Northland and Otago DHBs and to occupational therapy leaders at the National Occupational Therapy Leaders Network group meeting held in Wellington in March.

### Bicultural governance

In March 2015 the OTNZ-WNA council commenced modelling a treaty relationship governance model.

### Launch of new website

The new OTNZ-WNA website was launched in March 2015 with the URL OTNZ.co.nz. The new website includes a discrete member-only section and more items of interest to occupational therapy consumers and allows the office greater control over its functionality.



### Asia Pacific Occupational Therapy Congress (APOTC) 2015

Promotion for the APOTC 2015 saw OTNZ-WNA president Karen Molyneux attend the 16th International World Federation of Occupational Therapists (WFOT) Congress and 48th Japanese Congress and Expo 2014 in mid-June. She was “proud and privileged” to attend and represent our association alongside OTNZ-WNA WFOT delegate Tracey Partridge.



WFOT delegate Tracey Partridge with the APOTC 2015 promotional banner and APOTC 2015 supporters at the 16th WFOT congress. The banner subsequently travelled far and wide in the promotion of APOTC throughout the year

By the end of March 2015, members and staff had attended to the early demands of hosting the congress. This included the massive task for the APOTC programme committee, who assessed over 500 abstracts; the development of the cultural and social programme by the local organising committee; and the creation and sales of an enticing sponsorship prospectus to meet a sales target many more times greater than the association’s usual annual events calls for.

### Awards and grants



Hazel Skilton Founders Award 2014: Tricia McGuinness



Francis Rutherford Lecture Award 2014: Kirk Reed



OTNZ-WNA Achievement Award 2014: Maria Scott-Multani



AUT Graduate Award 2014:  
Sophie Lister



OTNZ-WNA New Graduate  
Award for Otago Polytechnic  
2014: Dawn Schwass

The Karis Boyd Hardship Grant was awarded to seven students and The New Zealand Occupational Therapists' Research & Education Trust granted monies to Shirley Collocott and Annie Baigent

## Visibility and advocacy

In the period under review OTNZ-WNA was engaged with the following organisations to help raise its visibility and advocacy:

- Health and Safety Association New Zealand
- Allied Health Aotearoa New Zealand
- The Occupational Therapy Key Strategic Stakeholders group
- Auckland University of Technology advisory committee

## Publications

The New Zealand Journal of Occupational Therapy Te Hautaka Whakaora Ngangahau o Aotearoa (NZJOT) Vol 61 (issue's 1 and 2), and OT Insight Māramatanga Whakaora Ngangahau Vol.35 (No.1 - 8) were published by Tasman Image/Adprint Ltd.

Members received an eOTI in April and September to coincide with the distribution of the NZJOT, and OT Pānui each calendar month.

## Leadership

Council members are responsible for setting and achieving the guiding vision, mission and strategic direction of the association.

President	Karen Molyneux	2013 – current
Māori perspective	Sharon Harth-Bryant	2013 – current
WFOT delegate	Tracey Partridge	2013 – current
Council member	Ruth Spain	2011 – current
Council member	Jo-Anne Gilsenan	2011 – current
Council member	Clare Thompson	2012 – 2014
Council member	Randa Abbassi	2013 – 2014
Council member	Bronnie Lennox Thompson	2014 – current
Council member	Jane Wilson	2014 – current

## Special interest groups

The association has 22 special interest groups. These are vital for networking and resource sharing. Thank you to the convenors: Rita Robinson, Kevin O'Leary, Alison Derbyshire, Jill Judson, Pam Schofield, Shona Paterson, Tanya Loveard, Bronnie Thompson, Joanne Harper, Kirk Reed, Ann Christie, Merrolee Penman, Carolyn Simmons Carlsson, Grace Imiolek, Maria Whitcombe-Shingler and Tracey Partridge.

## Local area networks (LAN)

Thank you to the LAN convenors: Anne Holmes (Auckland), Carolyn Paddy (Waikato), Mary Silcock (Waikato), Lyndal Henry (Taranaki), Sarah Stevens (Tairāwhiti), Jane Cowan Harris (Canterbury), Catherine Fink (Canterbury), Anne Gosnell (Central Otago) and Rachel Wallace (Southland).

## Staffing

Staff and contractors as at 31 March 2015:

Executive Director	Peter Anderson
Tikanga Advisors	Mātua Wereta (Rackie) Pahau & Whaea Iris Pahau
Special Projects & Communications	Tina Larsen
Office Manager	Alison Silcock
Accounts Supervisor	Jane Howley
Marketing & Membership Services	Morgan Fitzgerald
OT Insight Editor	Angie Cairncross
NZJOT Editor	Grace O'Sullivan

## Summarised financial statements

### Statement of Profit and Loss

	2015 (\$)	2014 (\$)
Total income	406,987	460,181
Total expenses	461,606	481,397
Net surplus/deficit	(54,456)	(21,216)

### Balance Sheet

	2015 (\$)	2014 (\$)
Total assets	534,325	424,769
Total liabilities	335,833	176,809
Equity	193,504	247,960

Members can access the full audited financial statements for the year ending 31 March 2015 at [otnz.co.nz](http://otnz.co.nz) or contact the association office.