Table of Contents

From the President ........................................................................................................................................................................... 2
From the Chief Executive ........................................................................................................................................................................ 3
Invitation to kōrero for the Kaipurongo................................................................................................................................................. 6
From the CPD Coordinator ........................................................................................................................................................................ 6
From the Competency Coordinator ......................................................................................................................................................... 8
ANZASW Discontinues Competence Assessment Service ....................................................................................................................... 9
Want CPD recording to be easier? Have your say on how this can be achieved ................................................................................. 11
ANZASW Media Release: Update on Changing the SWR Legislation Bill ................................................................................................. 12
ANZASW Submission on the Child Poverty Reduction Bill ....................................................................................................................... 13
Consultation Government Inquiry into Mental Health Services – we want your input! ........................................................................... 13
ANZASW Celebrates one of our Life Members: Mike O’Brien .................................................................................................................... 14
Our Relationship with Animals ................................................................................................................................................................. 16
Child-Centred or Context-Centred Practice? ........................................................................................................................................ 17
Māorifying Prisons isn’t the Solution to too many Māori in Prison ........................................................................................................... 19
The Case for Introducing Māori Wards in Local Government ................................................................................................................ 25
Research on School Based Social Work in Aotearoa New Zealand – New Publications ........................................................................... 26
NZ’s Underbelly of Forced Sex Trade involves Kiwis as Young as 12, Researcher says ........................................................................ 28
Looking to Migrate to Melbourne? ......................................................................................................................................................... 29
Interactive Drawing Therapy ....................................................................................................................................................................... 30
Postgraduate Options in Social Work & Social Policy ............................................................................................................................ 31
Dr Leah Giarratano: Treating PTSD 2018 Training Dates .......................................................................................................................... 32

Quicklinks

- Find a Job
- Recent ANZASW Webinars are Online!
- Find a Professional Development Event
- ANZASW Practice Standards
- ANZASW Code of Ethics
- Update your Contact Details
From the President

Ki te kahore he whakakitenga ka ngaro te iwi

Without foresight or vision people will be lost

Last week, on the 25 April, many of us took the time to pause and reflect, honour and to remember all those who have served their country in all wars and, in particular, those who have lost their lives in executing that duty. We remembered not just the individuals but also the families who lost them and the fledgling communities from which they came. The day of remembrance is a time when members of my family gather, share kai, listen, laugh and cry at the stories being recounted about the valour of our women and men. I acknowledge and respect that there are different points of view about Anzac Day. Notwithstanding those different views, it is also a time to extend hope to the people of the world to be able to live together in harmony and peace and for there to be social justice for all.

Social justice and having good legislation that supports a just and fair society, has also been a primary focus for ANZASW over the past two weeks. You will, I hope, be aware of how concerned we are about the Social Work Registration Bill. The report released from the Select Committee last week was disappointing. I was particularly displeased at the advice given by the Ministry of Social Development to the Committee which disregards over 80% of the written submissions which advocated that a definition by title and employment was insufficient. Regardless of this overwhelming response by the profession and other interested parties to the Bill, MSD’s arrogant recommendation was that there be no change to Section 6AAA of the Bill. MSD in its wisdom further recommended a new definition of ‘practicing as a social worker’. This new definition was developed without consultation with the wider social work profession.

To reiterate what I wrote earlier this week, I want to assure members that our position regarding mandatory registration has not changed. We fully support mandatory registration and that the protection of our professional title of ‘social worker’ is enshrined in law.

The release of the report last week from the Select Committee highlights the Bill is far from perfect. There are several sections that require amendments or repeals. From an ANZASW perspective we believe we can live with most of these being dealt with by SOP’s (Supplementary Order Papers). What we cannot be silent on, and in our view the Profession must voice its objection to how the Bill has defined ‘what a social worker is and is not’. The Bill in its current form, hands over that decision to an Employer (See Section 6AA and 6AAB). As a Profession we must lobby, advocate and apply pressure to change this section.

ANZASW and the SWRB have and continue to advocate for the insertion of the International and/or Regional definition of social work to be referred to in the Bill. At all stages through the development of the Bill, the Bureaucracy continues to report these definitions are too broad, wide-reaching and hard to implement.

We are currently working with the SWRB and other key people in our sector to find a resolution before the Bill goes to its second reading. Many of our colleagues are investing hours of their time to ensure this Bill enhances our profession. The good news is that as a result of our lobbying and utilizing the connections you have with politicians we have had direct communication with Minister Sepuloni. She has asked ANZASW for advice. She appears keen to hear our view and to find a way to progress the Bill that satisfies the Sector and our profession.

On Friday, we met with a wide-ranging representation of the Social Work Sector and the PSA. That meeting was to develop a collective view on what we wanted in the Bill, particularly in relation to defining social work. Our international definition underpinned those discussions. We are meeting with Minister Sepuloni again this week. Solidarity in Social Work!

Shannon Pakura
Greetings-Kia ora-Talofa- Namaste- Ni Hao

There is a lot happening in the world of social work at the moment.

Shannon Pakura has addressed the ANZASW concerns about the Social Workers Registration Legislation in the President’s column.

Since Shannon Pakura wrote the President’s column, she and I have met with Minister Sepuloni to present the alternative for the ‘definition of practicing social work’ in clause 6AAB, developed by a representative group of members last week.

The Minister was open to hearing our concerns and had considered the jointly written paper, with the amendments required by the sector, for the bill to succeed.

We are happy to report that the Minister is working collaboratively with us and we have received assurances that the issue can be resolved, and we remain confident that changes to the definition of social work can be achieved.

There will be further discussions with the Minister and her advisors and officials going forward.

What has been proposed as the alternative is:

Include the following technical definitions in the Interpretation (Section 4) of the Social Workers Registration Act 2003:

**Scope of practice** describes procedures, actions and processes that a social worker is permitted to undertake in keeping with the terms of their registration.

**Social Worker** means a person who is registered under this Act as a social worker as defined by the Social Workers Registration Board.

In clause 8 replace existing 6AAB Definition of practicing as a social worker with new 6AAB:

A person is practising as a social worker for the purposes of this Act if that person:

a) utilises social work knowledge, experience, judgement and skills obtained through the completion of a social work qualification and practical experience as a social worker and

b) is registered under the SWR Act and

c) holds a current practising certificate.

**Addition to section 99 of the SWRA 2003, Functions of the Board - Insert new 99(d)**

“Develop scope (s) of practice in consultation with the profession and stakeholders and publish by notice in the Gazette”.

**Competence Assessments**

The Social Workers Registration Legislation Bill has two sections relating to competence assessments. Section 6 of the current Act, Entitlement to registration for NZ qualified social workers, is to be amended to only require an initial competence assessment if information received raises doubts about the applicant’s
competence to practice, which means a graduate from a recognised New Zealand social work programme will be deemed competent unless concerns have been raised.

Social Workers with an overseas social work qualification will still be required to complete an overseas competence assessment and a full assessment once they have completed:

- 2000 hours of supervised social work in New Zealand
- 10 hours of continuing professional development relating to competence to practise social work with Māori
- 10 hours of continuing professional development relating to competence to practise social work with different ethnic and cultural groups in New Zealand

Clause 24 of the Bill repeals Section 44 of the current Act, “registered social workers to complete [competence] assessments every 5 years”. Once the Bill is enacted recertification assessments will not be required. It is important to be aware that until the Bill is enacted members who are registered social workers must have a current certificate of competence in order to have a valid APC.

While the requirement to recertify competence is to be repealed, the requirement to undertake 20 hours continuing professional development and record the CPD completed in a Log will remain a requirement. A revised CPD Log template has been developed which removes the columns “Reflection on the relevance of the learning to the selected ANZASW Practice Standard/s” and “Supervisor /manager / professional leader feedback and signoff”. The supervisor / manager completes the declaration at the end of the annual Log. The reflection column is now headed “Critical reflection on learning and development of practice and relevance to the SWRB Core Competencies / ANZASW Practice Standards”. Over a five-year period, professional development must enhance skill and knowledge in relation to all 10 of the SWRB Core Competencies.

The Mental Health and Addiction Inquiry is well under way with formal submissions closing 5th June 2018. For more information go to https://www.mentalhealth.inquiry.govt.nz/.

If you wish to contribute to the ANZASW submission, please forward your comments to lucysandford-reed@anzasw.nz no later than 25 May 2018.

ANZASW, specifically the President Shannon Pakura and I, made an oral submission on the Child Poverty Reduction Bill to the Social Services and Community Select Committee on 2 May. The submission was well received.

Over the weekend the Salvation Army were reporting unprecedented demand for food parcels with significant numbers of requests coming from first time users who were in low paid employment. http://www.salvationarmy.org.nz/poverty-levels-critical-new-families- seek-help.

ANZASW supports the Child Poverty Reduction Bill. The introduction of poverty reduction targets, the ability to facilitate accountability along with the requirement of “the government of the day to adopt, publish, and review a Government strategy for improving the well-being of all children, and that includes a particular focus on child poverty and the needs of children at greater risk” is seen as a positive beginning.

ANZASW is of the view that while setting targets, accountability, collaboration and the adoption of a strategy are important, real progress can only be made with fiscal measures that will reduce inequality and ensure that all New Zealanders have access to sufficient income and physical resources to participate in
society without the necessity of relying on charity to meet basic needs. No woman should have to resort to using socks for sanitary protection because they are unable to afford sanitary products. No child should have to go to school after a night sleeping in a car and without breakfast and a packed lunch.

According to The Child Poverty Monitor

- 295,000 children are living under the 60% income poverty line in New Zealand. That is 28% of all children.
- 155,000 children are living in material hardship in New Zealand. That is 14% of all children.
- 85,000 children are living in severe poverty and are in both below the income poverty line and severe material hardship. That is more than 8% of all children

If these children are to succeed both them and their families / whānau must have access to the resources to enable full participation in society.

The Future of the ANZASW

A few members have called National Office wanting to know what they needed do to when the ANZASW closed. I can assure all members that exiting the provision of competence assessments DOES NOT MEAN that the professional association is closing down!

Far from it. The ANZASW will be in a stronger position to provide services for members. Professional development offerings will grow using a wide range of delivery platforms. There are opportunities for ANZASW to develop a range of practice notes and guides for members. We will continue to be active in advocating for social justice and the profession of social work. The “voice” of the profession has never been as important as it is now given the political process around the Social Workers Registration Legislation Bill. Provision of professional indemnity insurance will remain a core service provided for members.

It is worth noting that there are three requirements for employers to report to the SWRB; when they on reasonable grounds believe a social worker is not competent, is engaged in serious misconduct or is unable to satisfactorily perform the functions required to practice social work because of a physical or mental condition.

Social workers are also required to report if they reasonably believe a social worker is unable to satisfactorily perform the functions of social work due to a physical or mental condition and failure to do so may constitute a professional misconduct.

People, other than employers and social workers, who believe a social worker may be unable to satisfactorily perform the functions required to practice social work may also report that belief to the SWRB.

These provisions are consistent with professional accountability. At the same time these reporting requirements underpin the need for practitioners to have professional indemnity cover.

In conclusion, the situation in relation to the Social Workers Registration Legislation Bill is very fluid at the moment and members will be kept informed as decisions are made and the legislation outcomes are known.

Na mihi nui,

Lucy Sandford-Reed

Back to Top
**Invitation to kōrero for the Kaipurongo**

ANZASW invites our Tangata Whenua members to contribute to Kaipurongo for the e-Pānui NoticeBoard.

Writing a kōrero for Kaipurongo counts for CPD hours and contributes to Standard 10 **Membership of the ANZASW is used to promote and support the SW profession with integrity.**

The publication dates are as follows:

- 20th June 2018
- 29 August 2018
- 31 October 2018
- 19 December 2018

**From the CPD Coordinator**

I am now two months into this new role and enjoying the challenges!

**Webinars.**

I am always interested in hearing from people (not just social workers) who have skills, knowledge or experiences that they would like to share to present a webinar. Webinars are easy to do!!! I will help you and you can add the experience to your CPD log.

If you don’t want to present a webinar but know of someone who has something interesting to say, has completed a topic that might be of interest to others then talk to them and convince them to present a webinar. Talk to them about it and then pass their information to me and I will contact them with more information.

Our Practice Standards include “Contributes to education and professional development of others” and “Is able to evidence safe and ethical and competent use of digital and internet technology”. PowerPoint is straightforward to use – and the time spent learning can also be added to your CPD log, under Practice Standards 7 and 10.

Make notes of what you want to say. Those notes become your headings in your PowerPoint presentation. Think about some of the extra things you want to say and write them in the notes section so you remember to talk about them when you are presenting. Add some photos, pictures, decorations and you have the draft of your presentation. If you want more help, support or advice, contact me. I am more than willing to help people put presentations together.

Are you interested in new learning?

I am seeking expressions of interest from social workers who are interested in being part of a panel who will review training programmes. ANZASW is planning some on line training programmes and in the future will look at other programmes too. We would like to put together groups of social workers from a variety of backgrounds, with a variety of experience to review training to ensure it meets needs and standards.

We are looking for a mix of:

- New graduates / experienced
- Aotearoa / overseas trained
- Non-social work experience
- Work across multiple areas of social work
- Genders

So - just because you are new to social work, new to Aotearoa, experienced somewhere else, do not think we do not need you. The training programmes will cover a wide variety of topics and be geared towards a variety of levels of experience, so we need your help too.

The time spent on this will also meet a number of practice standards. You can use the learning as part of your CPD log, and the time spent critiquing and assessing the learning is Part of Practice Standard 10.

**CPD Logs**

The [Social and Community Services Select Committee report](#) on the Social Workers Registration Legislation Bill was published on 13 April 2018. It appears that 5 yearly recertification of competency will no longer be a requirement, but it is clear that social workers will continue to need to maintain a CPD log. This might not need to be submitted for a 5-yearly assessment but will be subject to audit with very little notice – DO NOT GET SLACK!!!

Maintaining your CPD log is your responsibility, part of your professional practice. It is also good reflective practice to review any CPD you have attended, note which practice standards are met, reflect on what you have learnt and note how you will change / have changed your practice as a result of attending the training.

Advice from Duncan & Cotterill – providers of Legal Advisory Services for Lumley (The ANZASW Professional Indemnity Insurance Provider), 2014

The legal advisors for the ANZASW Professional Indemnity Insurance have provided the following advice for members who are registered social workers:

1. that it is the registered member’s personal responsibility to ensure compliance (not ANZASW’s or the SWRB’s);
2. that members should not see the APC process (including holding a current Certificate of Competency) as an administrative task, but rather as a fundamental requirement for practice;
3. that non-compliance is a criminal offence;
4. that there are significant penalties for non-compliance;
5. that the SWRB has consciously changed its approach to the issue since 2013 and is now enforcing the APC regime strictly and in accordance with the SWR Act 2003.

**Upcoming CPD**

We have a half day CPD session planned in Christchurch for the middle to the end of August. The theme for this day is to be “Social work with diversity”. If you or anyone you know works in social work which pushes boundaries, is a little bit different or has developed tools for social work or social services which utilise technology, I am keen to hear about it and see if we can fit a presentation in to this day. Some of the sessions will only be short – about 15 minutes – so they are easily doable. Remember, many of us think that the work that we do each day is standard and boring, but to anyone else, it gives a fascinating insight in to the variety and depth of social work.

ANZASW is having a CPD event around the AGM in Auckland on the 21st September. Keep an eye on the ANZASW website and emails to find out more about this day.
Other matters

Don’t forget ANZASW has a Facebook group page. Anyone who is an ANZASW member can apply to be a member of the group.

I am interested in hearing from social workers with further ideas for CPD – what would you like? What can you offer? What would challenge you? Ongoing CPD is part of our everyday practice. I would like to be able to shape CPD to meet our members’ needs and wants.

I am also keen to meet some of you in person. Over the next few months I hope to meet with members at your branch meetings. If you would like me to attend your branch meeting, please contact me so we can set up a time and date. We can discuss local CPD needs, what you want from ANZASW and the current hot topic: The Social Workers Registration Legislation Bill. I look forward to hearing from as many of you as possible.

Mauri ora

Anne MacAulay

From the Competency Coordinator

Changes to Provision of Competency Assessment Services


Registered social workers will still be required to maintain a current competency certificate to retain their APC until the change in legislation. Membership figures show that there are 106 registered social workers with recertification required from 01 July – 30 September 2018.

Most recertification portfolios due July should have been received in June. Those with recertifications due prior to the change in legislation are welcome to submit in June for ANZASW to assess.

We would prefer all portfolios for competency or recertification to be received at National Office ANZASW by Friday June 15, 2018.

Please note that that from 01 April 2018 the CPD log format was revised which included changes to supervisor sign off. The changes, including the social worker and supervisor declaration, can be applied retrospectively.


Submission to SWRB from 01 July 2018.

After 01 July all initial competency and recertifications still desired or required need to be sent to the SWRB.

The SWRB will accept progressively completed CPD logs on the ANZASW CPD Log using ANZASW Practice Standards.
If completing retrospectively after June 2018 use the SWRB CPD Log and the SWRB Core Competence Standards.  


Mauri ora

Shelley Crawford

Mobile: 027 2269279  
Email: compman@anzasw.nz

ANZASW Discontinues Competence Assessment Service

The ANZASW Board after much consideration has made the decision that from 1 July 2018 the Association will no longer provide a competency and recertification assessment service.

This decision has been reached after considering a number of issues.

1. The Social Workers Registration Legislation Bill is proposing to remove the requirement for New Zealand qualified social workers to complete a competence assessment at the time of registration and to repeal the requirement for social workers to recertify every five years. It is anticipated that the Bill will be enacted in the later part of 2018.

2. Another influencing factor is that since the Social Workers Registration Board began providing competence and recertification assessments in 2010 the ANZASW competence assessment business has become an increasingly smaller component of the ANZASW services and has become an increased financial liability.

3.Exiting the competence assessment service will enable ANZASW to focus on developing more services for members.

Please Note:
- Members who have paid for an initial assessment that falls due prior to 30 June 2018 but have not yet completed their assessment are encouraged to submit their portfolio prior to 15 June 2018. National Office will individually communicate with members who have paid for an initial assessment due after 1 July 2018 and not completed prior to 30 June 2018.
- Members who are due for recertification prior to 30 June 2018 are also encouraged to submit their portfolio by 15 June.
- If recertification is due after 1 July 2018 ANZASW can complete the assessment providing the portfolio is submitted by 15 June 2018.
• Members who are not currently registered, with a New Zealand qualification listed on Schedule 1 or 2 (recognised by the SWRB for the purposes of registration under the Social Workers Registration Act 2003) and for whom there is no pressure to register, could opt not to complete their initial assessment and wait until the amended legislation is in place, at which time a certificate of competence is not likely to be required unless a concern about competence has been raised.

• Registered Social Workers with recertification falling due prior to the enactment of the legislation will need to complete their assessment because until the Bill is enacted registered social workers will continue to be required to hold a current Certificate of Competence in order to have a valid Annual Practicing Certificate.

• Members with a recognised New Zealand qualification who are not required to register immediately may opt not to complete their recertification assessment and register once the certificate of competence requirements are repealed.

Social Workers Registration Board
SWRB recommends submitting your competence assessment portfolio at least 4 – 6 weeks prior to your current competence expiry date. From 1 April 2018, SWRB will not assess portfolios until they are paid in full. Competency portfolios can be emailed to the SWRB in a PDF format to comp@swrb.govt.nz

All competence assessment portfolios are sent to SWRB assessors on a Friday. If your portfolio and payment are received by the SWRB after 5.00 pm on a Thursday, it will not be processed until the following week.

Background
The competence assessment service was developed by the ANZASW in 1989. Members were required to complete an initial competence assessment as a criterion for membership and were required to recertify competence every five years thereafter.

When the Social Workers Registration Act was being developed the ANZASW competence assessment and recertification requirements were included in the Act as a requirement for holding an Annual Practicing Certificate.

From 2003 until 2010 ANZASW was a significant provider of competence and recertification assessments. During the period 2006-2008 Te Ara Aromatawai provided competence and recertification assessments.

In January 2010 the Social Workers Registration Board (SWRB) began offering competence and recertification services. At this point social workers could opt to complete assessments with either ANZASW or SWRB.

Social Workers Registration Legislation Bill
The Social Services and Community Select Committee has completed the report on the Social Workers Registration Legislation Bill which is tabled in Parliament 30 April 2018. While it is difficult to predict when the legislative process will be completed, it is anticipated that the Bill will be enacted in the latter part of 2018.

The Bill has two clauses which specifically relate to competence and recertification.
1. Clause 9 amends the requirement for New Zealand qualified social workers to complete a competence assessment. At the time of registration, a certificate of competence will only be required if information received by SWRB raises doubts about the competence of the applicant.

2. Clause 24 repeals the requirement for social workers to recertify competence every five years. Social Workers with an overseas qualification will continue to require an Overseas Competence Assessment and a full assessment at the end of their 2,000 hours supervised practice in New Zealand.

Continuing Professional Development

The requirement to undertake professional development once the Social Workers Registration Act is amended will continue. At this stage the requirement to complete 20 hours per annum is likely to continue. Social Workers will need to continue to record their CPD in a Log. A revised CPD Log is now available. The Supervisor’s comment is no longer a requirement but the Supervisor still needs to sign and date the declaration on the last page of the Log.

Please refer to: https://anzasw.nz/competency-and-recertification-information/

It is expected that social workers will complete CPD relevant to the 10 SWRB Core Competencies over a 5-year period. It is possible that SWRB may introduce a programme of random audits of a sample of CPD Logs once the requirement to have a Certificate of Competence is repealed. Members are encouraged to keep their CPD Logs up to date. A useful tip – put an appointment in your calendar every 2-3 months reminding you to update your CPD Log.

We will be keeping you up to date as the this CPD Policy is further refined and developed.

Want CPD recording to be easier? Have your say on how this can be achieved...

On behalf of ANZASW and Lift the Load, we would like to invite you to participate in a short survey about the recording of CPD (Continuing Professional Development).

As a social worker, Rachel Mackay knows that keeping up with CPD recording can be difficult. It is easy to get distracted, forget to write something down, or promise yourself that “I will do that later”, then never get back to it.

Lift the Load is looking at whether an app could make some of this easier by allowing “in the moment” recording, with reminders and a whole heap of other features included.

ANZASW, in collaboration with the SWRB, have also been developing an online mobile responsive CPD Log and along with Lift the Load think an online app is a great idea, so we would really like to know what you think?

ANZASW and Lift the Load are therefore jointly conducting a survey seeking members’ opinions. All responses are completely anonymous. The purpose of the survey is to find out: how social workers currently record CPD, if they have issues with their current methods, if an app could improve this, and what features social workers would like to see. The results will be analysed by Lift-the-Load and shared with ANZASW.

The survey (https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CPDforSocialWorkers) will take approximately 6 minutes. The survey will close on Friday 4th May. – Your feedback is invaluable!
Over the past two weeks the Aotearoa New Zealand Association of Social Workers (ANZASW) has engaged in a series of meetings to address concerns over the Social Worker Registration Legislation Bill.

On Friday April 27th we met in Wellington with a representative group from the social work sector to discuss the bill following the return of the Select Committee’s report to the House. Our main focus was the need to change section 6AAB of the bill which determines that only those working in jobs with “social work” or “social worker” in the title are required to become registered social workers. To this end we collaboratively drafted some key amendments for the bill for Minister Sepuloni’s consideration.

ANZASW’s position is firm, this clause is considered a serious flaw in a piece of legislation that is ostensibly designed to protect the public from unethical or rogue practice. We estimate that it will leave half the workforce unregistered and therefore unaccountable to clients.

We are also clear that social work should be defined by what social workers do, rather than what they are called by their employers; ANZASW and our colleagues in the sector want Section 6AAB amended to reflect this position.

Following the meeting with sector representatives, both ANZASW and the Public Service Association (PSA) have met with Minister of Social Development Carmel Sepuloni this week to discuss the sector response and to engage with her to progress the Bill.

The Minister has remained open to hearing our concerns and indicated her willingness to work with ANZASW and the wider sector to get this Bill right.

We are happy with the progress that has been made and the collaborative approach to the sector by the Minister.

We are assured that the issue can be resolved, and we remain confident that changes to the definition of social work can be achieved.

There will be further discussions with the Minister and officials going forward.

Shannon Pakura
ANZASW President
027 631 2655

Lucy Sandford-Reed
ANZASW CE
027 349 0190
ANZASW Submission on the Child Poverty Reduction Bill

ANZASW supports the Child Poverty Reduction Bill. The introduction of poverty reduction targets, the ability to facilitate accountability along with the requirement of “the government of the day to adopt, publish, and review a Government strategy for improving the well-being of all children, and that includes a particular focus on child poverty and the needs of children at greater risk” is seen as a positive beginning.

ANZASW is of the view that while setting targets, accountability, collaboration and the adoption of a strategy are important real progress can only be made with fiscal measures that will reduce inequality and ensure that all New Zealanders have access to sufficient income and physical resources to participate in society.

Poverty in general and child poverty, specifically child poverty, are issues faced by our members on a daily basis. Being able to work with families to address life challenges and enhance wellbeing becomes increasingly challenging when lack of housing or adequate housing and insufficient income, poverty, are the overarching factors.

Yes! I would like to read the rest of the report>> and/or listen to the RadioNZ Podcast: Govt Urged to Widen Child Poverty Reduction Bill>>

Consultation Government Inquiry into Mental Health Services – we want your input!

You can obtain the relevant information from the ANZASW Website>>

The Inquiry has an estimated timeframe for engagement:

- **Consultation document release**: end March/early April
- **Submissions open**: April – May 2018
- **Hearings**: May – June 2018
- **Direct engagement with interested parties**: March – August / September 2018.

ANZASW will be making a submission so we are interested in hearing from our members, particularly those working in mental health or members who work alongside mental health services.

It may be appropriate to include the experiences of members in particular areas of mental health such as Specialist Rural Mental Health Services in the submission.
It would be helpful for members to be thinking about content for the ANZASW submission. This can be done individually, in work places or at in Branch Roopu and Special Interest Group discussion.

If members want to contribute to the submission, please send material to lucysandford-reed@anzasw.nz by 25 May 2018. ANZASW Submission>>

Back to Top

**ANZASW Celebrates one of our Life Members: Mike O’Brien**

by Barbara Staniforth & Mike O’Brien

For the past fifty years, Mike O’Brien has devoted himself to the wellbeing of children and their families through his tireless work attempting to put an end to child poverty in Aotearoa New Zealand. This commitment has been demonstrated through his roles as social work educator, policy researcher and consultant, board member of numerous community groups, chairing of committees and lifetime membership of the Aotearoa New Zealand Association of Social Workers.

Mike has also made important contributions to the development of social work in Aotearoa and has trained thousands of social work students over his 37 years of work in social work education. He has supervised over 20 doctoral students to completion as well as supported 20 students to completion of their Masters degrees. He has contributed to the knowledge base of social work and social policy through the publication of over 100 articles, book chapters, and books. The students that Mike has taught have gone on to make a difference in helping the marginalised in our country and abroad.

Mike is due to retire from the University of Auckland in July of this year. In the excerpt which follows, Mike answers some questions about his time in social work, advocacy and education.

**How long were you in the social work field?**

I started in social work as a social work trainee with Child Welfare in Christchurch in 1966 and then began work in Child Welfare in Invercargill in 1968. At the beginning of 1971 I went to Victoria University to do the social work course, the then diploma. I returned to social work in Child Welfare in Christchurch in 1972 and then went to the Child Guidance Clinic before transferring to Princess Margaret Hospital as a Senior Social Worker in the Continuing Care Team responsible for mental health and geriatric services. I then went to York University in the UK in 1979 to do a Masters’ degree, returning to a university position at Massey in 1980. I moved from the Palmerston North campus to Albany in 1992 before retiring in 2011. I then began part-time at Auckland University.

**What influenced you to choose Social Work as a career path?**

On leaving school I started training as a priest in Christchurch. In my third year I was becoming convinced that this was not where I wanted to go and was reflecting on options when the then District Child Welfare Officer in Christchurch, Michael Lyons, made a presentation to us at the seminary and I realised that this was where I wanted to go. I began the traineeship a few months later. On a broader scale, my Catholic background and my family upbringing with a strong emphasis on commitment to others and Dad’s engagement with working class unions and my own early working-class employment were all part of the bigger picture.
What has been the highlight of your social work career?

Not sure where to start here. I think certainly the work with students over the years and seeing the subsequent contribution many of them have made has been really significant; the engagement through social work with a range of critical social and justice questions; the fantastic commitment of colleagues in relation to social change and to greater equity and equality; the period as Association President and the work we did then on a range of issues – these are the pieces that immediately stand out. I think as I reflect that I am reminded too of the tremendous pressures which people have faced and then managed to engage with those pressures and turn their lives and their family’s lives in a fresh direction also remain strong reflections.

What has been the biggest challenge you have faced in your social work career?

I think the challenges relate in part to the ways in which the broader social and economic environment impact on those we work and engage with, the growing inequality, the growing and deepening poverty over the last three decades, the growth of hostility towards the disadvantaged and marginalised, the growing individualisation and what I think can be called the blame (it’s their fault) culture would be the strongest immediate considerations.

What advice would you give a new Social Worker or someone thinking about a career in social work?

Don’t hesitate to engage and commit – there are exciting possibilities and experiences, chances to work and engage with some of the most significant issues facing individuals, families and communities, there is enormous satisfaction in working with and alongside individuals, families and communities as they engage with issues and with being part of the process of change.

Given your experience in the field what changes or progress do you want to see for the future of Social Work in Aotearoa?

One of the major issues for me is for social workers and the Association to strengthen its social commitment and engagement. Social workers are in a very powerful and privileged position on so many fronts and have enormous knowledge and experience to contribute to social change; have a professional and ethical responsibility to make that contribution but over the last couple of decades have lost some of that momentum and one of the major changes for me would be to reinvigorate that contribution. The most important thing for me is not what social work is but what it does and contributes. Being professional has to mean something quite different from the very traditional notions of professionalism which have dominated the last couple of decades.

What do you see as the most important issue that is affecting the Social Work Community and what should be done about it?

It will come as no surprise that for me the biggest issue revolves around issues of inequality and poverty. At the risk of being over-simplistic, a significant reduction in poverty and in inequality would make an enormous direct and indirect impact on so many of the issues with which social workers engage and to the lives, experiences and opportunities of the individuals, families and communities with which we engage. The effects of poverty are so pervasive and reducing it will have both direct and indirect results.

Where can improvements be made to services across the board in your opinion?

The obvious and immediate issue is around resources, but that is in many respects too simplistic and somewhat glib, even if it has a strong grain of truth to it. Greater advocacy with and for users is critical as is...
better and more effective engagement of users in service development. Part of the process of improvement means a move away from the risk, individualism and blame culture which has dominated so much of the development of social work and social services over the last 2-3 decades, a commitment to and engagement with issues of strength and difference (in all its diverse manifestations) so that those are the basis on which services are developed and provided. The other element, following the comments above, has to be a more public engagement with the substantive issues which create and sustain the pressures and difficulties of those with whom we work.

Our Relationship with Animals

By Nicole Robertson

New Zealand has the second highest rate of animal ownership in the world. We share our homes with 4.6 million pets and many of us consider our animals as members of the family. Our relationships with animals provide an opportunity to engage with children and adults, to teach children social skills, to support their moral development and to identify children and families at risk.

In 2016, the Royal New Zealand Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) launched a Learn to Read storybook series for all students in New Zealand primary and intermediate schools. The books were developed by teachers and align with the New Zealand curriculum to promote increased knowledge about companion and farmed animals and to promote the humane treatment of animals. Our storybook series has been a great success and every primary and intermediate school in New Zealand totalling 2,180 have received six complete sets of both storybook series one and two and the active use of the student and teacher portals continues to rise daily. The books have been so well received by children and their teachers that the Blind Foundation (New Zealand) has produced accessible formats (braille, large print, and e-text) of the six series one books. Both of the Learn to Read series are in the process of being translated into Te Reo Māori, Tongan, Samoan, and Mandarin. International animal welfare organisations hope to replicate the education model and are in negation with the New Zealand SPCA to share resources.

The SPCA Learn to Read storybook series has successfully raised awareness of animal welfare and the resources continue to support New Zealand children and their families and teachers to be responsible for the humane treatment of animals. This initiative has unexpectedly led to a significant increase in referrals by teachers, parents, and school counsellors and social workers to the SPCA for children who witness animal cruelty and children who act with cruelty to animals. A body of international research indicates that a child who harms an animal is likely to be a child who has been physically, sexually and/or emotionally abused. The Family and Whānau Violence Legislation Bill, 2017 identifies animal cruelty as a form of psychological abuse. The research evidence that suggests that up to 76 percent of perpetrators threaten, harm or kill animals in the context of family violence as a way to control the family or to punish children and their mothers for their acts of independence. Similar studies indicate that 80 percent of child abusers harm animals and that animals are frequently gifted to children by child molesters in order to gain their trust and compliance.
New Zealand has the highest rate of family violence in the world and by association, it is likely that we have the highest rate of animal cruelty that occurs in the context of family violence. Children who witness animal cruelty often have long-term adjustment difficulties and may experience post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety, complex loss and grief issues, guilt and shame, poor interpersonal skills and they may develop behaviour problems that include aggression towards animals and humans. Intergenerational studies have found that children who witness animal cruelty in the family home to be three times more likely to perpetrate animal cruelty as adults and five times more likely to perpetrate human violence. In mid-2017, the SPCA employed a senior social worker with extensive experience in child and adolescent mental health and with children and adolescents with challenging behaviours and complex family backgrounds as the National Targeted Interventions Manager. This role sits alongside the National Senior Education Manager and the National Secondary Schools Education Manager to provide integrated programme development that aims to embed humane education in the New Zealand curriculum and identify at-risk children and adolescents to ensure timely and appropriate support is provided.

The SPCA targeted Interventions Manager is collaborating with the leaders in child welfare, youth justice, and family health to develop animal cruelty training and resources to assist professionals working alongside vulnerable children and their families to identify and understand animal abuse as a significant marker for family violence and at-risk children and adolescents. The SPCA hopes this work will lead to an increase in the early identification of animal cruelty and expedite a targeted response to vulnerable children. The initiative aims to promote the cross-reporting of family violence, child abuse and animal abuse to provide a cohesive knowledge base; and provide direct contact points for professionals working with at-risk youth and families across New Zealand that support best practice with guidance and resources.

If you would like to be involved in this new initiative or would like more information, please contact Nicole Robertson, SPCA National Targeted Interventions Manager. P: +64 9 827 6094 M: +64 277003495

E: nicole.robertson@spca.nz

See also: Animal Abuse as a Significant Marker for Family Violence & At-Risk Children Webinar

Back to Top

Child-Centred or Context-Centred Practice?

By Ian Hyslop, written for Reimagining Social Work

In social work we are sometimes prone to the lure of mantras, because they can help to keep us focused – help to ground us and simplify our complex jobs. By mantras, I mean the idea of neat and self-evident truths
that can fundamentally inform or guide our practice. Politicians are also attracted to slogans. The pervasive concept of evidence-based practice is perhaps the most obvious current example of this. Who would argue with the idea that policy and practice should be guided by the notion of ‘what works’, and what can be shown to work? This is common sense, is it not? However, like all short forms of doctrine, such mantras always conceal as much as they reveal. Who defines the nature of problems? (Hibbs, 2005). Accordingly, what practice and policy outcomes are we looking to measure? Who decides what counts as evidence? (Pease, 2009). Ultimately, whose interests are served?

Pure or neutral concepts don’t really exist because they are applied in a social and political context which is constructed by relations of power. In order to understand power interests, we need to look below the surface of social relations. Arguably this insight is what distinguishes the identity of social work. Understandings of behaviour in the social world are informed by deconstructing the wider social and political context. Such an analysis can be discomforting, partly because it often takes us beyond assessments of good and bad; beyond simple black and white narratives. Social workers are required to engage with complexity.

This approach is also what gives social work its radical potential – its capacity to trouble the status quo by exposing concealed assumptions. We are potential canaries in the neoliberal mine. The current drive for trauma-informed and child-centred practice is a good example of a particularly powerful self-evident truth. Who could argue that the welfare and best interests of children must be kept at the centre of child welfare social work? Who would query the need to disrupt inter-generational cycles of trauma? However, if we begin to examine the wider ideological context, some troublesome issues are brought to light. In relation to the design of new statutory practice processes, the introduction of fresh tools or the elevation of practice principles like the contemporary mantra of child-centred practice, it is critically important to ask the question, ‘why now?’ in this place and time? (Garrett, 2009, p. 880). Is it a coincidence that the child-centric practice emphasis that colours recent changes in the law and related practice frameworks for state social work in Aotearoa-New Zealand has been accompanied by a renewed focus on parental responsibility for child well-being in a society riven by systemic social inequality? (Hyslop, 2017). Clearly children have a right to love and care and parents are normally the primary source of nurturing and security. But is it that simple?

No, it isn’t. Social workers realise that needs and responsibilities are met within a wider setting that reaches beyond individual choice and moral character. The capacity of caregivers is affected by the cards they have been dealt: by income levels, access to adequate and affordable housing, community supports, health, education and social services. In an economic context of relative deprivation and disadvantage, what does it mean to say we are ‘here for the child’? Children are more than an abstract bundle of rights that can be separated from the wider social context of family circumstances. So, while some argue that we should be more ‘child centred’, the way to actually change things for the child (as well as their parents) is really to be more ‘context centred’ – alert to the ways that the context of family relationships, material and social resources, and community factors affect childhood experiences. These are the targets for change. Often tragic child death cases are used as evidence that professionals had ‘lost sight of the child’. The more common factor is not that the child was not focussed on, but that there were crucial pieces of information not known to the child protection service. These are not the same thing.

Of course we are motivated to deal effectively with abuse and neglect but we need to recognise the struggle that goes with parenting in poverty if we are to create sustainable change. And as social workers we need to
unpack the hidden dogma of individuated neoliberal choice and self-responsibility that lurks behind the simple mantra of child-centred practice. We need to recognise that parental capacity is impacted by the social and economic policy choices which we make collectively: as a society. Slogans that serve to conceal such complex realities may help us to sleep at night, but for how long?

References


The Whaipooti name was created when Apirana Ngata was running for parliament, and part of the whānau, from up the coast, took the name Whaipooti. It comes from whai, which is to chase, and pooti, which is to vote. So the name was to tautoko him to get into and stay in parliament.

We’re Walkers and Tibbles from around Tutamatai near Ruatoria on Dad’s side. And my mum’s whānau are from Te Araroa and Hicks Bay. They’re Houkamau and Waihi families on her side.

*Tūturu Coastie,* by the sound of things. *Judging by your progress in the legal world, I’m assuming that school was a breeze for you. Was that how it went?*

Generally, it was pretty good. But a lot of that was over in Australia. We were living in Ruatoria, but then Cyclone Bola came along, and there wasn’t much mahi after that. And my mum really, really wanted her kids to have better opportunities. So we moved over to Cairns when I was young — and it was Australia where I grew up and went to school.

No one in my whānau had gone to university, but I knew that was something expected of me because my mum had the strong belief that, if we went to university, we’d be able to do well in our lives. So I took that for granted. I was also a naturally confident kid, even though we were a bit pōhara growing up. My parents were really hard working — they were always at mahi. And they gave me confidence.

Not just confidence but also an expectation that I had to do these things. It was almost normalised that, of course, we were going to go to school and do well because that was the only option as far as our parents were concerned.

And I really honour them for that. Especially in my mahi now. I’m working at the Office for the Children’s Commissioner and learning about the things that make the biggest difference — the aroha, love, and feeling confident in who we are. And the sense of belonging. I always felt I belonged in my family.

So I was a happy, outgoing kid who did well at school. But I also had the advantage of following in the footsteps of my tuakana, Kresta, who was three years ahead of me at primary and high school. I know my comfort at school was because I had her there. If I got bullied or anything, I could just go find her.

When we came back to New Zealand, to Blenheim, I had three years of college left and I worked part-time at a supermarket. I knew I had to go to university eventually, but I wasn’t gonna go right then because I didn’t know how to do it and I didn’t feel confident about it.

When I was growing up, people were telling me: “Oh, you’re going to be a lawyer.” Because I talked a lot. So I knew lawyering was a possibility, but I didn’t actually know what that meant except that, if you talk lots, you’re good. So I carried on at the supermarket.

Then I was offered a full-time job at Mitre 10 at 50 cents more an hour. But, on my last day at the supermarket, a customer from a big law firm gave me her card. So I worked one day at Mitre 10, and the following day, I started at that firm and spent two years there as a legal secretary.

And I could see then that becoming a lawyer was possible, because I was watching law clerks coming through from law school and I could see that I knew more than them, that I was already doing what they did. So I went off to law school.
I’m assuming that was at Victoria University? And I’m also assuming that there was a sea of white faces and very few brown ones.

There weren’t many of us, but we found each other as Māori. And also our Pacific brothers and sisters. It was like a pan-brown effect where all of us found each other at the start of uni and formed our own whānau. We helped each other through what sometimes were hard lectures. It was all so foreign.

The moment that was very pivotal for me was being in a criminal law class, and the discussion point was the horrendous statistics about Māori in the criminal justice system, with Māori making up more than half of our prisoners. And they discussed it as if Māori weren’t there in the class. And the conversations were being driven by non-Māori.

I felt really upset by that. Really uncomfortable. I couldn’t say why, but it triggered my focus on why this was the case, because I knew heaps of cool, on-to-it Māori. And I was torn by the fact that these statistics were true, and how it was spoken about like there’s something inherently criminal in being Māori when that’s not true at all.

I needed to have the answers to something that felt so wrong. So that triggered me into places like JustSpeak, and volunteering in community law, and the criminal justice kōrero and conversations that were happening around me at law school.

But I became acutely aware that I was Māori as well. Even though I grew up in Australia, I knew I was Māori. It was just a fact. When I reflect on where I’m at now, I know part of my journey was that I didn’t have the burden of growing up Māori in New Zealand.

I didn’t experience growing up here and feeling that there was something inherently negative in being Māori. Like sitting in class and hearing people talk about Māori as the kind of group that does bad stuff.

I didn’t grow up with that. I grew up proud to be Māori and proud of my whānau. Knowing that being a Māori isn’t criminal. And not needing to articulate why.

And I didn’t need to question whether I was Māori. I was like: I am Māori and what that looks like I’ll figure out, but I won’t let it be defined by law school or statistics that don’t describe us as a people.

Community Law holds an important place in our New Zealand society, because there are so many people who can’t afford the big bucks for the big lawyers. And that’s an area where you’ve worked for some time.

It’s such an important kaupapa — making the law accessible for whānau to afford it. People shouldn’t have to find a way to access their rights. I got exposed to that while I was at law school. One of the lawyers at Community Law visited our Māori law students to talk about the work they did — and so I began volunteering while I was at uni.

I hope that one day community law becomes redundant because you shouldn’t need to have a separate kaupapa so that people can access what they’re entitled to. But, unfortunately, it’s still very relevant and very needed.
For me, the law itself can be a blunt instrument. But most of the power in Community Law for whānau is just to be heard, because the law, too often, might not have a worthwhile response. So, it may not be about getting a legal outcome. Instead, it may be just having an opportunity to talk about the mamāe they’re experiencing and finding a way to sort out their rauru, which may not necessarily be a legal solution.

So I value Community Law in the sense that it looks at the person in front of you and the story that they come with, and it gives them the space to be heard and provides the opportunity to find alternative solutions.

Which brings us on to the subject of JustSpeak. I’ve had a lot of admiration for the work that Kim Workman has done here. Going by the international figures, New Zealand is one of the most punitive societies on the planet — and we all should be ashamed of that.

In pre-European days, we had our ways of dealing with offensive behaviour. But that’s got lost, and we’ve ended up with this “throw them in prison” attitude inherited from the British model. Some years ago, JustSpeak emerged with a strong sense of social justice and a hunger for prison reform. It’s been an impressive development. Could you tell us about your work there?

JustSpeak is turning six, seven years old now. And I’m on the board after chairing it for a few years. It started with a bunch of people who I’m proud to call my mates, predominantly Pākehā, working their way through law school, and learning about the unfairness of the criminal justice system, especially the high incarceration rate for Māori.

We imprison Māori at such huge rates compared to non-Māori for the same stuff. And it was hearing some of those stories that triggered our “we need to do something” response. Mātua Kim Workman and Judge Andrew Becroft actually put out a call to the under-40s to lend a hand.

And, from that initial move, JustSpeak was set up with a good many students who’re studying and learning stuff, the same way I did, and who’re finding an avenue to advocate for change when they see unfairness.

And we have a range of people supporting our kaupapa and being advocates for transformative change in the criminal justice system. It’s an everyday battle. There’s not going to be any easy wins. But it’s such an important kaupapa.

Although we’ve been weaving more Māori whakākāro into many aspects of our life, there’s been very little change in our Corrections sector. We could call it racism, unconscious bias or structural discrimination, but, whatever the term, our people are forced into a system where we’ve had little input. So what can we do?

Well, the starting point is recognising that the system wasn’t made by us. It comes from a Western Pākehā construct that was imposed post-colonisation. The attitude was: This is the way we’re going to deal with harm in this country. And, of course, it didn’t fit. Not when colonisation was having such an impact.

One of the consequences has been structural racism within the Justice and Corrections system. The statistics tell us that, if you’re Māori and if you’re convicted of a crime, you’re 11 times more likely to be sentenced to prison than non-Māori. And that happens every step of the way.
Groups like JustSpeak are advocating for making that system less harmful. There are ways we can do that if we change some laws and change some processes. There has to be some substance, though. There are a number of programmes which have been given a Māori name, and aim to embrace Māori values. But that doesn’t reduce the harm done to our communities and whānau.

The solutions should be led by Māori. We should have an independent working group that talks about what works for us — and we should be given the resources to make the changes. The pūtea that we’re spending on the current system should be in the hands of the hapū and iwi.

The Crown and Corrections are too prone to get things wrong. I remember very vividly how it made me feel when they organised a site visit to Rimutaka Prison to show the Waitangi Tribunal what “good stuff for Māori” they were doing to help reduce reoffending. They seemed really proud of themselves.

I’d been to Rimutaka a number of times in my capacity as a lawyer. And I remember this time how it hurt, how it broke my heart, going to the Māori focus unit and having the karanga come from within that unit, and having a pōwhiri from the Māori inmates, as tangata whenua, welcoming us in.

So, it was me, Crown lawyers and judges, being welcomed into the prison by this group — as if they belonged there and as if we were manuhiri visiting. And I felt that Māori do not belong in prison and that the appropriate response isn’t to "Māorify" a prison.

The appropriate response is to allow us to design what works for us in our different rohe. Putting in Māori programmes isn’t transformative change — although I acknowledge that it has changed the lives of some people who’ve gone through prison and made contact with their culture.

But that shouldn’t be the case. Prisons aren’t Māori. We can’t have kaupapa Māori prisons because we never had prisons in the first place. But we need to be able to pass power back to Māori, to whānau, to hapū, to iwi, to come up with our solutions.

**When you see prisoners, they’re still ours, aren’t they?**

They’re ours, they’re us. They’re someone’s child, mother, father, sibling. They come from whānau and from communities. And they’ll be put back into those whānau and those communities. So, how we bring them back, in a way that enhances their ability to contribute positively into those communities, is really important.

We spend more than $100, 000 a year to house one person in a prison. Then, when they come out into the community, we give them nothing. We offer no support. And they can’t get a job because they’ve got a criminal conviction. We set the conditions for failure. For hurting people. And for keeping our communities unsafe.

But the bigger issue is structural. It’s about how our prisons are failing. We know that once a person comes out of prison they’re more likely to reoffend — and reoffend more violently. We have people coming out of prison more broken than when they entered.

And yet right now this government is deciding whether to build another prison, a mega prison that will cost a billion dollars.
It’s Māori who are more likely to be stopped by police, more likely to be charged, more likely to be convicted, and then 11 times more likely to be imprisoned once convicted. We can’t keep investing in prisons when we know they don’t work. Building another prison with the same conditions will put us back another generation.

We know we have static and reducing crime rates. If we build this prison, we’ll need to build the next prison.

The current government has the most Māori in parliament sitting around the table considering whether to build another university of crime. We need our Māori MPs to step up and say that they’re not going to do this. We can’t imprison another generation of our children. That can’t happen on our watch.

It’s encouraging that JustSpeak and bright people of all ages — especially young law students — are pushing for prison reform. But what about the Joe Blows throughout our communities who don’t have any special expertise or leverage? What part can they play in putting an end to the draconian way we’re treating our own people?

Well, there’s not one answer to all this harm that’s happening in the world. But the best thing we can do is use the influence we have in our own whānau and communities. And it starts with our kids and our siblings. Are we making sure that we’re providing a strong base and the right support for the people close by? So that if someone mucks up their life, the whānau, the community are still there?

Do you find that some of our iwi and rūnanga are almost silent on this issue when you’d think they’d be championing change? Why should it be left up to young people like yourself and JustSpeak? Do you think the chorus should be louder from those who purport to be our leaders?

I have strong views around this. It’s a hard one, and I’m frustrated and impatient for change. I see people in rūnanga and iwi, sometimes saying that they need to be part of the solution. But their starting point is the system that’s harming us already. Their starting point is still a prison that hurts our people. So, I get hōhā about that, although I understand where that whakaaro can come from.

But I acknowledge those who have been working on this battle for longer than my lifetime. People like Moana Jackson, Annette Sykes, Kim Workman, and Tracey McIntosh who’ve been having this fight for our people for so long. It’s hard mahi.

And now you’re off to New York to the United Nations permanent forum on indigenous issues. What will be the crux of your brief address to them?

Well, the forum is pretty much like an international Waitangi Tribunal. And we’ll be talking about the mega prison and our broken criminal justice system and the impact that has on Māori. And about the successive failures by government to address this issue in a meaningful way. There’ve been lots of policies written about it, and there’ve been lots of giving Māori names to things, but we’ve failed to change the realities.
The Case for Introducing Māori Wards in Local Government
By John Shennan written for Stuff.co.nz

OPINION: When I was a boy growing up in the 1950s in New Zealand, television was little known or available and we went to the "pictures" for our entertainment.

At the start of every movie, the national anthem was played, and we were expected to stand for the duration. If we did not stand it was not uncommon to be hissed at or even given a shove or slap and told to "show some respect".

The national anthem was, of course, God Save the Queen and there was film of Queen Elizabeth II in a red tunic, sitting on a horse, saluting troops in London. By the early 1970s, the anthem had become God Defend New Zealand and somewhere in that decade the playing of the anthem ceased.

Whenever we heard the anthem it was in English. By the early part of the 21st century, God Defend New Zealand was played before major sporting events and at ceremonial occasions. Without any formal Government decision that I am aware of, the use of te reo was introduced.

There was some grumbling, but largely this development was seen as acceptable and made us feel distinctive. Now, there is no doubt te reo is an integral part of our national makeup and the anthem is proudly sung in a bicultural fashion.

I mention this to explain how the creation Māori wards in local government is part of a natural process of bicultural development in our country. It is about growth. It is about the future.

Māori wards are about implementing the tino rangatiratanga provisions of the Treaty of Waitangi. We are a bicultural nation and we must ensure both Māori and Pākehā are represented in political decision-making.

Māori, as the tangata whenua, have a right to determine who represents them in that decision-making. The talk of giving people of other ethnicities special wards is a total "red herring". Māori wards are about the Treaty, not about race.

Māori wards are about democracy. New Zealand is world-renowned as a democratic country that is enhanced by the way we have Māori representation in our Parliament – the Māori seats. Māori wards on councils simply make local government elections exactly the same as parliamentary elections.

Māori wards will bring a more meaningful and diverse viewpoint to decisions that relate to our community, capacity, environment and our future. Issues dealt with by councils are issues of deep importance to Māori, like water, urban planning and cultural heritage.

Māori wards will not mean additional cost to ratepayers. There are 15 councillors on the Palmerston North City Council and with Māori wards there will still be 15.

Two councillors would be elected by the citizens who are on the Māori roll and 13 elected by those on the general roll. Manawatū District Council already has three wards, so a Māori ward would simply mean there are four wards. Māori wards will not mean anyone gets additional voting rights. There will be "one person, one vote", as it is now.
Māori wards are not "apartheid", as previously known in South Africa. Apartheid barred indigenous people from having a vote or any role in government. Māori wards are exactly the opposite and specifically provide for Māori to stand for elected positions and to vote for their representatives.

Māori wards will mean improved relationships, less division and greater harmony as our community respects the nature of our bicultural society and we work together to provide a positive legacy for our whānau.

*John Shennan is the co-convenor of Unions Manawatū and committee member of Together, Kia Kotahi Mai.*

**Research on School Based Social Work in Aotearoa New Zealand – New Publications**

By Liz Beddoe & Irene de Haan written for [socialworknz](http://socialworknz)

Over the last two years we have been exploring schools’ responses to child abuse and neglect. In our [earlier post](http://socialworknz) we shared our initial findings about school social workers’ experiences.

We were interested in SWiS’s experiences working with teachers and principals in schools around the identification and response to child maltreatment. We also explored with participants their experiences of becoming a school based social worker, the strengths and challenges of the role. We reported some interesting recurring experiences that our participants shared. The major challenge we heard about was the complexity of relationships school social workers need to build and maintain in order to work effectively for children. (see Beddoe, 2017 for more).

We have now published two new articles which are now freely available in open access:

**Addressing concerns about child maltreatment in schools: A brief research report on social work involvement in reporting processes**

*Liz Beddoe, Irene de Haan*

**Abstract**

**INTRODUCTION:** School-based social workers (SWiS) in Aotearoa New Zealand work alongside teachers and principals to improve child wellbeing. The SWiS experience in addressing concerns about possible child abuse and neglect (CAN) is under-researched.

**METHOD:** In the first phase of the project, the authors undertook semi-structured interviews with 20 SWiS to explore their experiences of how school professionals addressed CAN.

**FINDINGS:** Some considerable variation in making formal notifications of concerns to the statutory agency was found. In some schools SWiS made all the notifications, in others none, and in some schools the process was variable. Stigma associated with child abuse was reported as a factor in attitudes towards reporting.
School-based social workers reported the need for better education and policy to guide schools to address CAN.

IMPLICATIONS: More joint education is needed to ensure a common knowledge base and better interprofessional work. There is potential for SWiS to support this work if better resourced.

Read full text here https://anzswjournal.nz/anzsw/article/view/421

If you could change two things: Social workers in schools talk about what could improve schools’ responses to child abuse and neglect
Liz Beddoe, Irene de Haan, Eileen Joy

Abstract
INTRODUCTION: Given recent legislative changes to the child welfare system in Aotearoa New Zealand, it was deemed timely to examine the challenges faced by school-based social workers and other school professionals in responding to child abuse and neglect (CAN).

METHOD: A qualitative study of school professionals’ responses to CAN included 20 semistructured interviews with school-based social workers. The participants were asked to describe two things that, from their perspective, would improve schools’ responses to CAN. This article reports on this aspect of the study.

FINDINGS: Four main themes were identified in social workers’ responses: the necessity for improved training for teachers on CAN; better support for teachers; a more holistic approach to child wellbeing; and enhanced understanding of child welfare.

IMPLICATIONS: These findings pose challenges to both initial teacher education and cross agency child protection. School social workers use their relationship skills and knowledge to act as bridges between teacher education, school leaders, teachers and the Ministry for Children Oranga Tamariki and believe they can do more.

Read full text here https://anzswjournal.nz/anzsw/article/view/420

References
Beddoe, L. Managing identity in a host setting: School social workers’ strategies for better interprofessional work in New Zealand schools. Qualitative Social Work, 1473325017747961. Read abstract here

Back to Top
NZ's Underbelly of Forced Sex Trade involves Kiwis as Young as 12, Researcher says
By James Paul written for Stuff.co.nz

Girls aged 12 or under are being forced into sex work in New Zealand, according to a Wellington-based researcher.

Natalie Thorburn spoke to dozens of teenaged sex workers for her masters degree in social work at the University of Auckland, and said they told her of their lives on the streets selling sex when they were aged between 12 and 16.

"It was very difficult to hear their stories," said Thorburn, who is working for Women's Refuge while completing a PhD.

The rise of sex trafficking had seen teenagers, and in some cases children, become exploited, she said.

"There is a rising demand for the young, developing adolescent as the ultimate sex object.

"But it's not like there was one club of men going around recruiting girls. It happens in all sorts of situations."

Commonly, victims fell prey to groomers who positioned themselves as a boyfriend, in a situation Thorburn described as the "love illusion".

"They try to get kids onside early, and then slowly exploit them until they are in a position of such force and violence that they felt like they had no choice but to continue.

"So they chose to [continue to have sex] because, if they didn't, they would be beaten or pack raped.

"I mean it's more common than people think because people don't think it happens at all."

In other examples, she said families often endorsed an adult and teenaged sexual relationship to gain a better standing in life.

"Their futures were so bleak, their positions were so hopeless that to meet an older man willing to, I guess, pimp them out but to look after them was deemed as a positive attribute.

"The thought of parents enforcing an adult/child sexual relationship [between] a 13-year-old and 28-year-old was just really kind of mind-boggling."

Thorburn believes there is lack of awareness surrounding labels like forced sex work or sex trafficking.

This leads to an absence of reported incidences, victims not being encouraged to come forward, or investigations by police or state departments.

"And so it really is no wonder it's not getting reported because, when people do go forward, it's classified as something different - family violence or sexual violence.

"I don't have a problem with our legislation, it's solid. Our problem is that we are just not applying it."

Thorburn hopes to see improvements in social work practice, in the health sector, and other agencies of sexual violence that come across victims.

"We need to be asking the right questions and getting the right information."

Back to Top
Looking to Migrate to Melbourne?

KLC Recruitment are excited to announce we are coming back to New Zealand. This time we will be visiting both Wellington and Auckland in May 2018!

This community Services Career Expo session is aimed at educating and informing social workers, psychologists, managers and allied health professionals who are potentially considering the move to Melbourne Australia.

For more information please visit the link below to reserve your free tickets:

Interactive Drawing Therapy

More than words...

A page-based way of working with words, images and feelings to access different parts of the psyche. The page becomes a mirror for your client, helping them see themselves more objectively from new perspectives, and facilitating insight, inner resourcefulness, and profound change. A unique map of the stages of the therapeutic journey guides you through the tasks, challenges, risks and interventions of each stage, dramatically increasing your effectiveness and ability to work safely.

Creative, Inspiring and Respectful
A client-centred process of disclosure and discovery in which you actively partner the client in the process of deepening their work, often through the development of visual metaphors. The counsellor does not interpret the client’s imagery.

Practical and versatile modality
that you can use across a wide range of situations, client groups and presenting problems and with other therapies. IDT can be used for self, individual, couple or group therapy, with all ages (including young children), with less verbally or conceptually fluent clients, cross culturally, and for short-term crisis to long-term developmental work.

Well-established (and growing)
with over 8,000 Australasian course registrations over the last 10 years, published in several peer reviewed journals, and presented at national and international conferences.

Widely-used by a diverse range of helping professionals
including counsellors & psychotherapists, social workers, psychologists & psychiatrists, doctors & nurses, occupational therapists, speech language therapists, guidance counsellors, teachers, youth workers, career practitioners, spiritual directors, staff from Aboriginal & Maori service agencies, alcohol & drug services, sexual abuse & refuge centres, immigrant services, hospices & stopping violence agencies.

What people say about IDT
“it’s the best psychological tool I’ve found and I’ve been working in the social welfare industry for 30 years.” “We continue to be delighted, excited and amazed at the wide uses of IDT in the mental health setting.” “Creative and empowering for the client, enlightening for the therapist.” “… a universal therapy … engages with ease & safety.”

To register or for more information visit

www.InteractiveDrawingTherapy.co.nz
Email: info@InteractiveDrawingTherapy.co.nz

IDT - Powerful Tools for Counsellors & Therapists
POSTGRADUATE OPTIONS IN SOCIAL WORK AND SOCIAL POLICY

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE AT THE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

PROGRAMMES

Doctor of Social Work
The first in New Zealand. This advanced professional doctorate provides social workers with the opportunity to develop expertise in policy and practice-based research and evaluation at the highest level.

Master of Social Work
The MSW equips social workers to develop and use research skills in their practice settings, and to keep current with the latest theories and practice.

Master of Arts (Social Policy)
The MA (Social Policy) enables students to pursue postgraduate study and research in social policy.

Postgraduate Diploma in Social Service Supervision
This diploma is for professionally qualified practitioners who are currently supervising social service and health practitioners and/or students on placements.

Postgraduate Diploma in Social Work
This programme is for social workers who wish to undertake an advanced study of social work by completing postgraduate papers.

Postgraduate Certificate in Social Work
The Certificate is made up of two papers drawn for the Master of Social Work (MSW) schedule and is an advanced qualification for professionally qualified social workers, who wish to undertake further study and provided a pathway into PGDSW and MSW particularly for those without a four year honours degree in social work.

socialwork@massey.ac.nz
0800 Massey
massey.ac.nz
2018 Trauma Education

presented by Dr Leah Giarratano

Leah is a doctoral-level clinical psychologist with
23 years of clinical and teaching expertise in CBT and traumatology

REGISTER OR PLAN NOW TO SAVE ON THE FEE

Two highly regarded CPD activities for all mental health professionals: 14 hours for each activity.
These workshops are endorsed by the AASW, ACA and ACMHN

Clinical skills for treating posttraumatic stress disorder
(Treating PTSD)

This two-day (8:30am-4:30pm) program presents a highly practical and interactive workshop (case-based) for treating traumatised clients; the content is applicable to both adult and adolescent populations. The techniques are cognitive behavioural, evidence-based, and will be immediately useful and effective for your clinical practice. The emphasis is upon imparting immediately practical skills and up-to-date research in this area. In order to attend Treating Complex Trauma, participants must have first completed this ‘Treating PTSD’ program.

3 - 4 May 2018, Sydney CBD
10 - 11 May 2018, Melbourne CBD
17 - 18 May 2018, Brisbane CBD
24 - 25 May 2018, Auckland (NZ) CBD
14 - 15 June 2018, Perth CBD
21 - 22 June 2018, Adelaide CBD
28 - 29 June 2018, Wellington (NZ) CBD
8 - 9 November 2018, Sydney CBD
22 - 23 November 2018, Melbourne CBD

Clinical skills for treating complex traumatisation
(Treating Complex Trauma)

This two-day (8:30am-4:30pm) program focuses upon phase-based treatment for adult survivors of child abuse and neglect. This workshop completes Leah’s four-day trauma-focused training. The content is applicable to both adult and adolescent populations. The program incorporates practical, current experiential techniques showing promising results with this population; techniques are drawn from emotion focused therapy for trauma, metacognitive therapy, schema therapy, attachment pathology treatment, acceptance and commitment therapy, cognitive behaviour therapy, and dialectical behaviour therapy.

19 - 20 July 2018, Sydney CBD
26 - 27 July 2018, Melbourne CBD
2 - 3 August 2018, Brisbane CBD
16 - 17 August 2018, Auckland (NZ) CBD
23 - 24 August 2018, Wellington (NZ) CBD
18 - 19 October 2018, Perth CBD
25 - 26 October 2018, Adelaide CBD
15 - 16 November 2018, Sydney CBD
29 - 30 November 2018, Melbourne CBD

Program fee for each activity

NZ Super Early Bird $550 AUD each when you register more than six months prior.
NZ Early Bird $615 AUD each when you register more than three months prior.
NZ Normal Fee $680 AUD each when you register less than three months prior.

NZ Residents attending
Australian workshops are charged a flat fee of $550 AUD each (subject to availability)

Program fee includes Australian GST, program materials, lunches, morning and afternoon teas on both workshop days.

For more details about these offerings and books by Leah Giarratano refer to www.talominbooks.com

Please direct your enquiries to Joshua George,
mail@talominbooks.com

ANZASW Registration form for NZ residents attending in Australia

Please circle the number workshop/s you wish to attend above and return a copy of this completed page via email

If you wish to attend our NZ workshops, please register directly at our website

Name: 
Address: 
E-mail: 
Type of card (circle one): Visa Mastercard
Cardholders Name: 
Expiry (MM/YY): 
Card number: 
CVN (last 3 digits on signature panel):

Creditcard payment is preferred. Simply complete the information above, scan and email this page to mail@talominbooks.com

A receipt will be emailed to you upon processing. Note: Attendee withdrawals and transfers attract a processing fee of $66.
No withdrawals are permitted in the seven days prior to the workshop; however positions are transferable to anyone you nominate.

Back to Top