

POST CONFERENCE 2014 NEWSLETTER

NZFCNA held its Annual General Meeting and Conference in Wellington from 11 to 13 September. This was held at the Wellington Anglican Cathedral of St Paul, right across the road from the New Zealand Parliament and its peaceful gardens that were used by some for times of reflection.

Wellington put on lovely weather for our stay and the short walk to and from the hotel a number of delegates stayed at, was through old Wellington with its unique architecture on mild evenings.

Our charity of choice this year was Freeset, a fair trade business bringing freedom through employment to woman trapped in India's sex trade. Freeset does business as a mission. A lively and frank talk about her experiences with Freeset in India was given by Pamela McCarthy at dinner on Friday evening. Pamela also had a sale table of items made by the women of Freeset in India.

A total of 28 registered nurses attended the conference with all providing positive feedback on the session content and venue.

[Go to the website for the Conference presentations.](#)

ADDRESSING EDUCATIONAL NEEDS OF FCNs

Our annual conference is a time of fellowship, reflection and holding an AGM but the Board has also been conscious that it needs to address the educational needs of FCNs so that they can update competency in all aspects of this nursing speciality. This year we considered **documentation** as pertinent to working in faith communities and how we include **cultural safety** and an understanding of the **Treaty of Waitangi** in



our nursing ministry. Both these sessions were interactive workshops with an opportunity to share experiences and collectively review challenges unique to this form of nursing. These workshops were also provided to supplement the basic training modules which are still available to members.

Conference attendees may contact me on etyrrell@xtra.co.nz should they wish any additional support with resources on these topics. I urge those who have not completed basic FCN training to consider purchasing the modules from NZFCNA and completing them as they integrate these and other topics into your nursing practice. In addition, you can use your reflection and follow-up research on these topics to fulfil Nursing Council requirements should you be audited or need them for your nursing portfolio. We also agreed at the AGM to utilise the skills of our current members at future conferences in sharing their specific skills. Should you have a topic which you feel you could develop into a teaching session on one or more of

the competencies, please let the Board or I know.

Watch out on the website at www.faihnursing.co.nz as we continue to develop resources which you can use to support your nursing ministry.

Elaine Tyrrell

From Diane Webster

National Outreach Coordinator

THE SUSTANABILTY OF THE FAITH COMMUNITY NURSE ROLE.

This session opened with the mapping of faith community nurses located around New Zealand. It was noted the wide spread from Auckland to Invercargill of interested and practicing FCN numbered 22-25. This number reflects stability in numbers but not a growth. A reflection on the prerequisites to long tenure of FCN practice and growth was highlighted.

God's calling and the passion and vision for the potential of this nursing ministry seems to be the underlining thread to why some FCNs are still in this role. Strong supportive ties between the FCN and the Association; the church; between peers; with a professional supervision and the wider community healthcare services was evident. The role of church support through shared ownership of the ministry was a big factor as this ensured a level of understanding by the church for the role and the potential to reach the community with a



practical arm of the gospel. Church ownership therefore was reflected in the FCN contractual agreement covering costs and hours; paid or non-paid; and the requirement to hold a practicing certificate.

The need for a clear understanding of the role by the FCN was evident also. It was highlighted that the modules provided by the Association are a great preparation tool where the FCN works through and reflects on the implications and potentials for

the role. "Is this a nice ministry or a necessary ministry" could be the 'buy in' factor for the church. A visible ministry was also key to having an impact, as church and community could see the effectiveness of a FCN ministry.

In summary, the sustainability of the role is vital if the impact of this nursing ministry is to be evident into the future thus we need to always continue to seek the Holy Spirit's guidance.



Anointing
From left Rachael Westenra, Elaine Tyrrell, Isabel Mordecai and Charles Tyrrell

During a conference interactive session



From Dorothy Findlay

Prayer Coordinator

PRAYER- THE GLUE THAT SUPPORTS SUSTAINABLE PRACTICE



In a profession that often ignores spiritual values, the Faith Community Nurse has the privilege to serve their clients, not just with good quality nursing skills but also provide spiritual care; holistic nursing within the context of church and community.

My role was to bring a Biblical dimension, a unity, which complemented the excellent teaching of the key speakers developing a prayer partnership to bring strength and encouragement.

King Solomon in Ecclesiastes 4:12 highlights the fact that "though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves, a cord of three strands is not easily/quickly broken." (NLT). Each nurse was challenged to form 'triplets' - two trusted friends who become that strong bond for prayer. This principle we practised briefly in triplets demonstrating the power of three to encourage each other

Networking - creating an active group for mutual benefit. As Christian nurses, a strong network, born out of prayer for each other creates a channel for the Holy Spirit to flow within NZFCNA. With permission a prayer calendar will be developed, so each nurse will be prayed for once a month, a strategic tool to build each other up. Ephesians 4:3 reminds us to "endeavour to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bonds of peace".

The conference was undergirded with prayer and before leaving each nurse on receiving their certificate of attendance was anointed with oil and prayer.

A REFLECTION FROM THE CONFERENCE

BY JANET HOGAN

It was my pleasure to attend the recent Faith Community Nurses Conference in Wellington.

I met some truly amazing Godly people at the conference. The networking was brilliant and it brought home to me that there are a significant number of boundary issues which need to be acknowledged when starting up a nursing service working with a faith congregation in ones community. Some of the concerns I heard of are those that other community based nurses e.g. District Nurses also struggle with. At the end of the day it is all about providing a professional holistic nursing service. It was great to be able to present a workshop on the value of Professional Supervision. This is one way of demonstrating reflection on ones

practice. This in turn aids in sustaining the professional nurse – patient relationship.

At the conference I learnt some new spiritual enlightening techniques. These can bring you closer to God in ones rest period. I have shared the hula hoop and the Margin with several people already. The Margin is particularly good to give to anyone who is involved in a leadership.

I feel honoured to be able to present the NZ Faith Community Nurses Association to my colleagues. It is interesting when you attend a conference that is little a different than the usual type nurses would attend; you get so many witnessing opportunities. Peers just want to know what it is all about. I would recommend future conferences to any Christian nurse.

blessings Janet

THE FIVE POINTED STAR

THE HAND

That my hand shall ever extend to help, comfort and relieve the sick and suffering.



THE FOOT

That my feet shall not falter, loiter nor linger, when journeying to alleviate the suffering of the sick.

THE KNEE

That my knee shall bow to the Almighty Creator in asking for guidance and aid

in my endeavour to relieve the suffering of the sick.

THE BREAST

That my breast shall be a safe and sacred repository for any secret entrusted to me or divulged through sickness or delirium or otherwise obtained.

THE HEAD

That I will constantly pursue and study the secret arts: that I will exercise my knowledge to the benefit of those suffering bodily or mental distress, and will disseminate such knowledge amongst others as my preceptors authorise and direct.

MORE PHOTOS FROM CONFERENCE

Betty Jenkins
Auckland



Heather Terrill
Invercargill



Jo Little, Helen Vaughan, Joan Macmanus, Jill Bull



NZFCNA BOARD FOR 2014/2015

Board members for the next year to provide governance and guidance to the Association are



Isabel Mordecai (chairperson). Isabel is an Associate Priest at St John's Anglican Church in Campbell's Bay, Auckland where she was the Parish Nurse until early 2014. She now works at the Auckland Radiology Group in Auckland, as a Registered Nurse. Isabel has been Auckland Regional Coordinator for N.Z. Faith Community Nursing for three years and on the NZFCNA Board for the last two years. Isabel has found working at the Board level interesting, and finds it wonderful to be able to combine her passion for nursing with her Christian faith to serve others.



Helen Vaughan (Webmaster) Helen was re-elected to the board in 2013/14 having served from 2009 to 2010. Helen practised as a FCN in Hamilton from 2008 – 2010 before moving to Australia from 2010 until 2013. While in Australia she served on the Board of the AFCNA for two years and was the National Mentor for her second year. Helen has her APC and is seeking a paid nursing role that will fit with her NZFCNA work.



Annie Masima Annie graduated in Tonga in 1974 and moved to New Zealand in 1999 joining Parish Nursing in 2004 initially working with one ethnicity church -base project funded through Tongan Health Society. Annie has worked as a FCN within her own church as a volunteer since 2006. She now works at a Police project, called Community approach, as a Health Nurse, working with offenders 9yrs –17yrs old in a holistic approach with her client and his/her family.

Annie was a Board member from 2007 -2009 and re-elected in 2011.

Annie enjoys her current position where she can use her faith and health knowledge to help families with problems. She knows that God put her in this service to deliver His message to his people. Parish Nursing is a part of Annie's life and she is strengthened by these words:-

Prov 16:3 *“Commit thy works unto the Lord and thy shall be established”.*

Diane Webster (National Outreach Coordinator)

Diane has served 10 years on the board in various roles. Diane graduated in 2000 and worked part time as a district nurse with Nurse Maude before being called to help develop Faith Nursing in NZ. Diane is very interested in supporting faith community nurses at the coal face especially those developing the ministry and those working isolated from other FCN's. She is keenly interested in promoting the role amongst our churches and working on publicity. In 2012 Diane moved to Wanaka from Christchurch and fellowships at the New Life Church.



Janet Hogan Janet began her nursing career 38 years ago. Jane is an active member of The Salvation Army and has a commitment to professional development with four



papers to go to complete her Masters in Clinical Nursing. She has also completed a Dip of Biblical Studies and a Foundation of Chaplaincy Certificate.

Janet sees FCN as a Health Chaplaincy role and when God gives her an opportunity to use her faith either in her work or community she sees it as a real privilege. Janet is from Greymouth and this will be her first year on the board.

Shirley Allan Shirley was elected to the board in 2013/14 to undertake the position of National Administrator. This position encompasses the roles of board secretary and treasurer.



Shirley trained as an Enrolled Nurse in Invercargill in 1979 and has worked here and overseas as a nurse and care worker off and on over the years.

Shirley also has an accounts and office administration back round and is currently self-employed as a gardener in Wanaka. Since arriving back in New Zealand nine years ago Shirley has joined the Catholic Church and enjoys the faith and support of the parish family.

Over the past year with NZFCNA Shirley has taken over as Editor of newsletter in addition to other roles and spearheaded grant applications.

CONFERENCE SCHOLARSHIP

This year NZFCNA awarded two nurses a scholarship to attend the conference and learn about Faith Community Nursing. This scholarship covered registration, travel and accommodation costs and was for nurses who had an interest in FCN but no experience. The recipients of the scholarship were Megan Hunt from Palmerston North and Ros Vercoe from Richmond.

Megan graduated in 2010 and then completed a Nursing Entry to Practice in Primary Health Care before going on



to work at the Aorangi Health Centre in Feilding as a Practice Nurse. Megan is a member of the Rongotea Uniting Parish Church and said she is “wanting to combine faith and

nursing practice in the future and wanting to see what options are available”.



Ros graduated in 1988 and after some time nursing left to have a family. While undertaking a Return to Nursing Course in 2013 Ros met Elaine Tyrrell during her placement at the Assessment, Treatment and Rehabilitation unit at Nelson Hospital. Needless to say Elaine was able to provide Ros with a wealth of knowledge regarding Faith Community Nursing and the support available in

her region.

Ros is a member of the Salvation Army Church in Nelson and has said she is “wanting to set up a community health program including health assessment, health education, resources and referrals”. Ros has the support from Nelson PHO and the Salvation Army for this project.

Group photo from conference in Wellington



During an interactive session at conference
From left Megan Hunt, Jo Little, Rachael Westenra, Ros Vercoe

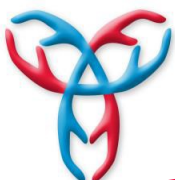
freeset IN BUSINESS FOR FREEDOM

A fairtrade business bringing freedom through employment to women trapped in India's sex trade.

To purchase a Freeset bag or arrange speaking engagements please contact Pamela McCarthy at (07) 871 9965 or bagsforfreedom@gmail.com, or Lisa Crow at (07) 829 7803 or 021 168 5710

'Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.'

Mother Teresa



Mission Statement
“Faith Community Nurses aim to encourage, promote and provide effective health ministries within their churches and wider community”