



NZAOT CLINICAL WORKSHOPS, TAURANGA, OCT 7-10, 2009

“Harvesting our Catch, Resetting our Net”

The opening ceremony:



Above left: Kaumatua Uncle Kihi leads the powhiri.

Above: Waiata during the powhiri

Left: The ceremony also opened with the haunting evocative music of the bagpipes.

‘Very motivated by Norah Hobcroft’s speech and the whole coming together of her Honorary Life Member award at the 60th AGM for the anniversary year - for me was just the cream on the top!’



Noeline Creighton, right; and Rowena Scaletti, rear; from the Legacy of Occupation Research Group sit with Norah Hobcroft at the Legacy display stand in the Trade Exhibition Hall.

‘The range of workshops was brilliant as it covered both physical, mental health and new innovations in OT. I also enjoyed the opportunities to network.’



Congratulations and many thanks to the organising committee. Kirsty Connell (convenor); Jenny Gillespie; Paula Harrison, Beth Knight; Cilla Kuzmanov; Kara Seebeck; Pauline Tawa and Jane Wilson.

‘Harvesting our Catch and Resetting our Net’ - it said it all.

A report on the 2009 Occupational Therapy Clinical Workshops in Tauranga



By Tania Marino, Tangata Whaiora Advisor for Te Rau Matatini Māori Occupational Therapy Reference Group.

Kia Ora Koutou e hoa mā, tēnā koutou katoa. Hello to all of you who attended the 2009 Occupational Therapy Clinical Workshops in Tauranga. Many of you would remember me as Tania Marino, Tangata Whaiora Advisor for Te Rau Matatini Māori Occupational Therapy Reference Group. I helped to present the Te Umanga Whakaora work development book, along with Kaumatua William Tangohau, Jane Hopkirk, Georgina Davis, Te Ara (Isla Emery) Whittington, Riwai Wilson and the new Māori Occupational Therapy Perspective for the NZAOT council Kevin Brown. Missing from our group, were Kristi Carpenter, Jo-Anne Gilsenan and Jake Tahitahi. I hope those of you who attended our workshop got a lot out of it, and the book I am told by many of you, is very beneficial to occupational practice.

How appropriate that the theme of the conference was ‘Harvesting Our Catch, and Resetting Our Net’. It seemed to have opened a lot of doors and no matter what area of occupational therapy you worked in, it encompassed what you do, the challenges you are faced with, and the opportunities available to be more effective in your fields and those you take care of.

While I was at the clinical workshops I got the opportunity to meet many of you - some I even had the opportunity to talk with - and I can honestly say how warm and friendly everyone was. I have never enjoyed meeting people so much, and would definitely want to meet you all again, because people like you are rare.

I so enjoyed the Legacy of Occupation presentation with the most regal mothers in occupation - ladies who have in my view set the way for occupational therapy and taken it that step further. I would have liked to have read their book, only there were none left! A really good result for the ladies of occupational therapy.

A highlight for me was hearing Aubrey Quinn talk. The man was outstanding, and I could relate to him in many ways. He is a great advocate for mental health, but also for occupational therapy and how it aided his recovery. I have figured out for myself, that occupational therapy has a lot to offer people seeking wellness and independency. And they do this through art, writing, music, cultural art, books, cooking, and education. They provide the methods and tools for coping with illness or disability, that allow people to be themselves, and grow in their recovery towards leading as normal a life as possible.

I want to thank Te Rau Matatini, Jane Hopkirk and the NZAOT for the opportunity to speak at the workshops. I was made to feel welcome by everyone. And many of you would be pleased to know we made it home to Wellington safely and without road closures.

Ka kite ano, Tania

The 'Ship Wreck':



The dinner theme of 'Shipwrecked at Mills Reef' challenged everyone to dress up to the max - and they sure did. Hoots and chortling started from the very first footfall onto the bus to Mills Reef, and the frivolity didn't let up for the whole evening. More dancing groovers are shown throughout the magazine!

Right: The judges on the night - although merciless and rather scathing in most other areas - made the right decision here, awarding Hilary Blamires the prize for best costume.

It is good to see 'the increasingly bi-cultural nature of the workshops.'



Making pūrerehua during the workshop, 'Koru's shed'



The very busy Exhibition hall brought everyone together between sessions.

'Loved Koru's shed because of the practical side to it and the benefits to clients that were obvious. FANTASTIC - rather than talking at us or giving LOTS of theory, they demonstrated it!'

Thanks to the Community Living Trust for sharing their rooms for the organizing teams planning meetings

'Affirming occupational therapy as a profession that can make a real difference in people's lives was a highlight for me'

'The exhibitors need to be congratulated on their support and enthusiasm. Well done organisers.'

NZAOOT wishes to thank all our sponsors – your contributions make it all happen.

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Yes, you can.

Thanks also to all the Trade Exhibitionists – we enjoyed having you with us – see you in Nelson 2010.