

Connect Newslitt Issue 22 06th June 2006
CMWB Regional Consumer Network

Welcome to the Connect Newslitt Email Version - Issue twenty-two. Newslitts are produced primarily for people who use or have used mental health services but can be received by other interested persons as well. The primary purpose of the Newslitt is to provide information and notification of opportunities for Networking.

New Book - library

Motherhood and Mental Health (2003) Author - Ian Brockington Publisher - Oxford Medical Publications.

Mental Health Advocacy Coalition Voting Papers

Every member of the Network who wanted to vote to select Northern representative should have already received your voting paper, candidate profiles and return envelope by now. If you have not received a voting paper in the post please contact the Network ASAP. The last day to get your voting paper back is **Friday 16th June**.

The candidates standing are:

Ana Socratov

Allan Perry

Vicki Burnett

Andrew Tsang

Dean Manly

Thank-you to all of the candidates for being willing to step up to this responsibility.

Confidential Forum

Notification of Final Registration Date
for Confidential Forum for Former In-Patients of
Psychiatric Hospitals

The Network has been informed that the Confidential Forum has been advised by the Secretary for Internal Affairs that the final date for people to let the Forum know that they wish to attend a meeting with the Forum is **31 July 2006**.

To register to attend a meeting in an area near you, telephone **0800 22 55 90** before 31 July.

If you would like information about the Forum please email:

confidentialforum@dia.govt.nz. or please telephone the 0800 number above.

Background

For those of you not sure what the Forum is about, here is some information.

The Forum was set up by the Government in late 1994 to provide an accessible, confidential, environment where people who were in-patients of psychiatric hospitals before November 1992 could talk in complete confidence about their experiences and treatment while an in-patient, to an informed, caring, receptive and non-critical panel appointed by the Government. The Forum is also open to family members of patients and staff of that era.

The Forum is a response to calls for a process to enable people to be heard. It is an opportunity to reflect on the past and look to the future. The Forum is not intended to reach a conclusion about what might or might not have happened, or to recommend payment of compensation.

The Forum members are Judge Patrick Mahony who chairs the Forum, former Mental Health Commission Chair Mrs Jan Dowland and consumer advisor, advocate and educator Ms Anne Helm.

To date, 415 people have advised they wish to meet with the Forum and since meetings began in July 1995, the Forum has met with nearly 250 people in venues throughout New Zealand. Hearings around the country are expected to continue until the end of the year.

Peer Support/Networking Coffee

Sometimes working in the Mental Health services can be tough and sometimes it can also be isolating especially as a consumer/tangata whaiora. Often we don't get the opportunity to discuss difficult issues at work and this can add to our stress levels. Once per month there will be an opportunity to share information, hear other people's perspectives and to enjoy the companionship over coffee.

Venue: **Kings Plant Barn (garden centre) Coffee shop on St Lukes Rd, near the Northwestern Motorway exit.**

Time: **Anytime between 1pm and 3pm.**

Date: **Fourth Thursday of every month. Next one being on Thursday, June 22nd.**

We will trial this for four months, please feedback regarding time, venue and day this would be greatly appreciated.

(This is in response to requests from Network members for this type of opportunity).

ADHB District Services Plan - for improvement to services.

For those of you who live or working in the Auckland District Health Board area a draft plan has been developed for the next 5 years - 2006 - 2011. Some of

you may remember the first round of consultation when Henry Harrison came to the Network.

This time they would like written feedback so the Network is holding a forum to look the document and write a response. The feedback needs to be in by Friday 16th June (next Friday) so we will have the forum on [Tuesday the 13th June \(Next Tuesday\) at 1pm-3pm here at the Network - 762 Mount Eden Rd.](#)

If you would like a copy of the plan please ph the Network and we will send one out to you. You can submit your feedback individually or come to the forum. Transport assistance will be available.

Network operational hours are:

9-3pm Monday - Friday

Premises: 762 Mt Eden Rd, Mt Eden. It is best to ph. before you come so that we can plan to be here.

PO Box 10 256 Dominion Rd.

Ph 623-9384 fax 623-1763 cell 021 654 896 clairemoore@rcnet.co.nz or Jim Campbell networker@rcnet.co.nz

Any comments or feedback regarding the Network are always eagerly received.

Regards, Claire Moore Coordinator – Regional Consumer Network

Please note: The material sometimes published in Newslitts does not necessarily reflect the CMWB Regional Consumer Network policy but represents each writers own understanding of life.