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## From the Desk

**Michelle O’Loughlin, National Coordinator,  
Problem Gambling National Coordination Service**

**Tena Koutou Katoa, Welcome and Warmest Pacific Greetings!**

I would like to extend our prayers and best wishes to the people of Christchurch especially as you settle down to a very new environment for the next few months. The earthquake and after shocks are a huge disaster for the people and community and our hearts go out to everyone there, including our fellow associates and friends in the problem gambling services.

At the time of organising this newsletter the National Coordination Service (NCS) was focused on organising the **Problem Gambling National Pacific Fono**. The fono which was to be held in November was rescheduled to 20th September 2010 – in Auckland. The next event on this year’s calendar is the **Problem Gambling National Maori Hui**. Denis McLeod from Toiora Healthy Lifestyles is well underway with the organisation of the hui which is being held in New Plymouth at **Parihaka and Owae Marae from the 27th – 29th October 2010**.

Since the last newsletter in June the National Coordination Service has successfully hosted the Problem Gambling National Provider Forum, 21st to 23rd July in Wellington. This forum was very well supported by the problem gambling service providers and feedback has been excellent. Moving the national forum to Wellington was very successful with all providers enjoying the excellent venue and location. The National Coordination Service also met with infrastructure providers in September to discuss the ‘Calendar of Events’ for the next three year service period. This calendar is on the last page of the newsletter, and is updated every edition with any changes that occur before the next newsletter edition being disseminated to all providers via email to ensure that everyone is fully informed.

The first day of spring was a beautiful day and added to the success of all the Gamblefree Day events held around Aotearoa. Some of these events are included in this newsletter. All the activities were very successful, with many providers joining forces to ensure that a unified and positive message was delivered. Health Sponsorship Council supported the day through sharing information, with resources and media packs. It is evident from the success of Gamblefree Day that the huge amount of planning, hard work and dedication that it takes to bring together these events and our communities, will be strengthened because of the effort you have all put in.

I would like to thank all those people and organisations who have sent in articles for this newsletter edition. The response has again been excellent. A

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This newsletter is bought to you by the Problem Gambling National Coordination Service; a Ministry of Health Contract being delivered by The Salvation Army in partnership with The University of Auckland’s Centre for Gambling Studies.

The views and opinions expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily represent those of the above parties.  
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## From the Desk

Continued from page 1...

special thanks to everyone who has helped organise and support the events that this service has hosted and the ongoing work for the upcoming events.

Again, this quarterly newsletter is your newsletter. We welcome your contribution, suggestions and ideas.

Ma te Atua me te Wahi ngaro tatou e tiaki e manaaki

May God and the origins from which all things come from, bless and keep us.

## Interventions...



## Language Line – Telephone Interpreting In 40 Languages Because There Are So Many Ways To Say: ‘I Want Help With My Gambling’

Gambling Helpline know that those in New Zealand who speak little or no English face the same risks of gambling inappropriately as everyone else. Language Line, the government-run telephone interpreting service gives us a way to reach those people and to communicate effectively with them.

**Language Line offers non-English speakers a confidential, accurate and neutral way to seek help without involving a family member, friend or member of the local community. There are 40 languages (see below) available from more than 70 agencies including many health providers. The service is free to the caller and open from Monday to Friday 9am to 6pm.**

The Manager of Language Line Diana Clark has said ‘This is going to be very useful to those who reach out for help with their gambling problem. People can speak for themselves and know their stories stay private. Gambling Helpline have been both proactive in finding us and very helpful in explaining the pain and difficulties people face. We are delighted to think the clarity and confidentiality of Language Line telephone interpreting may help move them along the recovery path.’

Amharic, Arabic, Assyrian, Bengali, Bosnian, Cantonese, Cook Island Maori, Croatian, Dari, Farsi, French, Gujarati, Hindi, Japanese, Khmer, Korean, Kurdish, Lao, Mandarin, Māori, Myanmar, Nepali, Niuean, Pashto, Portuguese, Punjabi, Russian, Samoan, Serbian, Sinhalese, Somali, Spanish, Taiwanese, Tamil, Thai, Tokelauan, Tongan, Tuvaluan, Ukrainian, Urdu, Vietnamese.

**Language Line will be available from early October, and will be accessed by phoning the Helpline 24/7 number 0800 654 655.**

For further information, please contact Sue Hohaia at Gambling Helpline Email: [info@gamblinghelpline.co.nz](mailto:info@gamblinghelpline.co.nz)

## **Gambling Help Service / Wairarapa Addiction Services**

### **Naomi Wickens, Wairarapa Addiction Services**

The Wairarapa Gambling Support group has been meeting now for just over 12 months on a weekly basis. It has been very useful to have a core group of clients who have been willing to become involved with the service and who were willing to actively participate in the activities arranged for gamble free day.

Both the public health advisor and the gambling coordinator have been involved with the Community Link initiative at WINZ and are now present at the WINZ office on a regular basis. Some existing problem gambling clients have elected to be seen at Community Link and staff are hopeful that case managers will soon be completing brief screens with their clients when there is reason to suspect that there may be a gambling issue. The Manager of the local Community Link (WINZ) has committed to allowing several staff to complete the brief intervention training that will be offered in October as a joint Abacus / Wairarapa Addiction Service project.

Three sandwich board signs have been purchased which clearly display the contact details for the gambling service. There is one permanently in the reception area at WINZ, in a shop front window at the local budget service and in the waiting room at Wairarapa Addiction Service. The signs are large and colourful and hard to miss with large numbers of people exposed to the signs on a daily basis. A very worthwhile investment, and they were made by a local sign factory.

Naomi & Wendy



'Polkie Walk', supplied by Lynda Feringa – Wairarapa Times Age

### **Gamblefree Day**

Wairarapa is awash with Gamblefree messages. Gamblefree Day became Gamblefree Week as resources were distributed to Masterton and Featherston food banks, Budget Service clients and staff, Pacific churches, Masterton and Featherston supermarkets, Te Hauora Rununga o Wairarapa (addiction service), Wairarapa Addiction Service, a Carterton coffee shop, library staff, gaming venues and other opportunistic outlets. Displays were set up at Wairarapa Addiction Services, WINZ, the Budget Service and the library.

Assisted by members of the Gambling Support group, a roving pokie machine visited Masterton gaming venues on its way through town to spread the messages "Bet with your head not over it" and "Don't let this machine control you". Gamblefree balloons were distributed to children through town and tied to the parking meters, stickers were attached to all outgoing mail and parking meters.

An in-house gambling quiz was held at Wairarapa Addiction Service and there were advertisements and articles in two local papers. The new signboards were in place at Wairarapa Addiction Service, WINZ and the Budget Service. While no major events took place the messages reached a wide Wairarapa audience.

For further information, please contact Naomi or Wendy via Email: [wwoodhouse@wads.co.nz](mailto:wwoodhouse@wads.co.nz)



## The Language of Gambling

**“The truth is never absolute as it is constituted through discourse.”<sup>1</sup>**

**Phil Townshend (Problem Gambling Foundation of New Zealand) & Kate Roberts (Gambling Impact Society, NSW)**

If language can frame our perception of an issue then we must be aware of how and what language is used in order to clarify the motives of the protagonists. The post modernist philosopher Michel Foucault suggested that the use of language is the very basis of the “formation of discourse” and a manifestation of “the material traces left by history”<sup>2</sup>. The analysis of language and the formation of discourse can be used to illicit various concepts of “truth” along with positions of power surrounding an issue within a cultural context.

“Discourses as chains of language that bind us social beings together, play a key role in the social construction of reality” (Whisnant, p6)<sup>3</sup>. Also knowledge “is not simply communicated through language; all knowledge is organized through the structures, interconnections and associations that are built into language”. Because certain types of discourse enable certain types of people to “speak the truth” or at very least to be believed when speaking on specific subjects, discourses also give these individuals degrees of social, cultural and even possibly political power” (Whisnant, p7)<sup>3</sup>. Such individuals can wield considerable power, changing organisations and influencing how people interpret the world. This is no less the case in the so called ‘world of entertainment’ - gambling.

Gambling is an amorphous activity, a collection of rules manifest in a range of gambling modes. This makes gambling difficult enough to define without introducing any additional imprecision. In NZ, Australia and Canada when we talk about gambling we are thinking primarily about machine gambling, whereas in the UK it’s likely to be track gambling and in Asia and the US it’s likely to be gambling on casino games, track and cards. Gambling can be narrowly defined as risking money on an uncertain outcome, though this often implicitly excludes financial investment (even the extreme end of investment where markets are used fundamentally as a random number generator as in spread betting) or broadly defined as all risk taking, a definition that makes sense from a neurobiological conception of gambling but is too broad a definition to be useful.

The language used in the gambling debate may define which sets of rules have jurisdiction over a particular manifestation of gambling. We have seen this in the reframing of poker in the Dutch Court in July 2010. That Court decided that as a game of skill, rather than a game of chance, poker fell outside the ambit of gambling legislation and acquitted the organiser of a Texas Holdem tournament of offences of non compliance with the Netherlands Gambling Act<sup>4</sup>. In NZ the purveyors of track gambling have argued that their industry is about ‘wagering’ rather than gambling, the difference in their

view is that wagering is risk taking based on informed choice distinct from their view of gambling which they define as risking money on random outcomes. In doing this they may be seeking to disassociate themselves from the public support for harm minimisation interventions for machine gambling, an effort facilitated in NZ by track gambling being governed by a separate Act to other gambling.

Within the totally random gambling industry of machine gambling, the industry seeks to normalise their product by referring to it as gaming and the activity of using it as playing rather than gambling. This is a confusing redefinition of their product that does a disservice to a huge online computer based gaming industry that is distinct from gambling (though this activity also includes many compulsive participants). Whisnant suggests that “because ideas can produce historical transformation and not simply reflect them, discourse theory teaches us to be very attentive to small shifts in how ideas are expressed in language. Language, therefore, as well as other forms of symbolic exchange, is the primary object studied by discourse theory” (p4)<sup>2</sup>.

An example of this small shift - from ‘gambling’ to ‘gaming’ – forms a new language of entertainment and a historical shift away from the religious, moral, protestant judgments of gambling in 19th and early 20th century. So by framing gambling (the noun) as ‘gaming’ and gambling (the verb) as ‘playing’ the gambling industry muddies and complicates consideration of the harms of gambling that may be highly specific to particular gambling modes. In doing so, it throws a more favourable light on the activity, presumably to serve the vested interests of some stakeholders. This particular language has become so accepted it permeates the gambling legislation in numerous jurisdictions.

**The gambling industry has followed the purveyors of other addictive products in using language that attributes the harms associated with gambling to the users of the products rather than the industry that has commercialised it. So problem gambling has come to refer to the activities of individual gamblers rather than the activities of an industry promoting an addictive product. Similarly responsible gambling is considered to be something that a gambler does where it’s more correctly the harm minimisation strategies that the gambling industry should be doing.**

“It is through the process of problematisation the illusion of ‘normality’ is created. In this light normalisation becomes the great strategy of power” (Foucault, p33). Deviations from the norm can then be disciplined.

In conclusion we believe that in order to have an informed

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debate on gambling it is important that we be aware of our language and seek precision rather than spin, for this reason we need to think about what language we use in any discussion of gambling.

**References:**

<sup>1</sup> Foucault, M. The Nature of Discourse, www.virtuallearning.org.uk/elearning/5\_Foucault.pdf Accessed 12/7/10

<sup>2</sup> www.michel-foucault.com Key Concepts. Accessed

12/7/10

<sup>3</sup> Whisnant , C., Foucault & Discourse,

www.wevs.wofford.edu/whisnantcj/.../foucault\_discourse.pdf Accessed 12/7/10

<sup>4</sup> http://www.recentpoker.com/news/poker-skill-luck-8049.html Accessed 13 July 2010

For further information, please contact Phil Townshend via Email: pgf@pgfnz.org.nz

**Public Health...**

**Tena ra tatou katoa**

**Eru Loach, Nga Kete Matauranga Pounamu Trust**

Gamble Free Day in Invercargill consisted of the following:

- One of our pokie venues switched their machines off for the first hour of operation;
- Karaoke Competition at the Southern Institute of Technology (SIT); and,
- Waka Ama event on weekend of 4-5 September 2010 (postponed due to weather conditions).

Following requests from our community, 10 Gambling Societies and Clubs were asked if they would switch their machines off within their respective gaming machine venues in Invercargill and Bluff for the first hour of operation. Unfortunately only 'Club Southland' took on the wero. Ki a Club Southland, tenei te mihi nunui ki te kaha ka tu tonu hei tautoko nga whanau e takiritia te mate petipeti i enei wa. Kia ora!

The SIT, our free polytechnic allowed Nga Kete Matauranga Pounamu to coordinate a Karaoke Competition utilising some of the specialist skills and equipment from their Audio Production students, judges were from Te Wananga O Aotearoa, Nga Kete Matauranga Pounamu, and one from our awesome local band 'LipStick'. The students stepped up with a close fought battle that was won by an awesome rendition of Beyonce's - 'Naughty Girl' by one of our international student nurses. An outcome from this was a request for continued Karaoke. This will help reduce some of the stress that study brings in a way that anyone can participate. There is nothing quite like waiata sang at its best... from the heart.

Our Waka Ama event was coordinated to encourage people from throughout the rohe to come and see what it is all about, the tikanga, safety, and to try it out themselves. Support was sought from as afar as Christchurch. Unfortunately the weather forced us to postpone the event until October/November when our Kaitiaki Maori will be more favourable (hopefully!)

So to wind up the panui from the south, our Invercargill City Council have supported our organisation and the

Pacific Island Advisory Cultural Trust to assist in being consulted with and writing the next draft 'Electronic Gaming Machine Policy' for our community.

No reira ra whanau, it's back to business!

Eru Loach

Health Promotion - Problem Gambling  
For further information, please contact Eru Loach via Email: admin@kaitahu.maori.nz



## “Gambling: Social and Fun? Or Is There Another Story?”

Louis Smith, Taeaomanino Trust

In May 2010, Her Worship the Mayor Jenny Brash invited Taeaomanino Trust and Porirua Pacific Ministers Forum to meet with her, with a view to developing good research questions around the vulnerability and harm that gambling has had on Maori and Pacific in Porirua.

A community forum was set for Wednesday, 1 September 2010, which is Gamble Free Day. Although she was unavailable for the forum, Mayor Jenny Brash asked to convey her deepest concerns towards the scourge gambling addiction had on the younger members of a family. She asked us to consider the kind of community and professional support needed to address gambling issues with their parents and elders.

Deputy Mayor, Litea Ah Hoi who has been a story teller of her journey and a supporter of this work passed on her thoughts. She was unable to attend due to health. We are grateful for their time and interest.

Sixty people attended the forum, which was held at the Wesley Community Action Centre in Waitangirua. We were excited when ten students accompanied by staff strolled into the Centre. They attend one of the local colleges: Mana, Viard, Aotea and Porirua.

They were surrounded by a mix of ethnic people from Tuvalu, Fiji, Tokelau, Samoa, Kiribati, Tonga and Cook Island. Adding to the colour were three mayoralty hopefuls and some local councillors. We were pleased that Citizens Advice Bureau sent a representative to this forum.

### Setting the Scene

Pastor Teremoana Taura opened with a devotion welcoming the students and elders, and describing the pain and grip gambling had on one of his own members.

Gerardine Clifford, CEO from Taeaomanino Trust affirmed the presence of youth in the midst of elders and church leadership, and challenged participants from moving beyond their perspectives, to one of engaging the voices of people around and behind them. She also introduced new gambling counsellor, Silipa Take from Taeaomanino Trust to the group.

One of the students who goes by the name of ‘Hux’ expressed through hip-hop an image of ‘mum’ and ‘dad’ gambling at the pokie machines and wasting money. Although our elders clapped Hux’s performance and courage, his message spoke to frustration and anger. The room was quiet for a time.

The opening addresses by Pastor Taura, Gerardine and Hux pointed to a clear direction what this forum was all about. Gamble Free Day!



### From a “Buzz” to crashing “Thump!”

The young people came up with some questions that required a response from the group:

What is the rush or buzz a person feels when gambling? Who can describe this rush? What is the community doing to support changes?

Niuean person compared the “buzz” to “adrenalin pumping you to a high! “I gambled, and won! I also lost money. I went from this buzz up here to a crashing thump! It’s not a good feel”

A Tokelauan man with a young family talked about being suspended from school for betting on horses. “It started from the home. The good news is we can learn ways to be



**Taeaomanino Trust**  
Pacific Social & Mental Health Services



**RANGATAUA MAURIORA**  
Tu te Ihi – Problem Gambling

**KIA ORA, TALOHA NI, KIA ORANA,  
MALO E LELEI, KAM NA MAURI  
HALO OLEKETA, FAKAALOFA LAHI ATU, NI SA  
BULA, TALOFA LAVA AND GREETINGS**

**Wednesday, 1 September 2010  
(Gamble Free Day) Forum**

In 2009, three community forums were held allowing people to share their experiences with gambling.

The theme was around: *“Gambling: social and fun? Or is there another story?”*

What has emerged from these talking spaces has contributed to new perspectives toward understanding gambling amongst our families and communities in Porirua.

We invite you to attend a forum to further develop this work.

Refreshments and lunch provided.

**Day: Wednesday, 1 September 2010**  
**Time: 9:30am to 12:00pm**  
**Venue: Wesley Community Action Centre,  
Loongana Street (off Niagara St),  
Waitangirua**

**For further details, contact:  
Louis Smith (04) 238 0091 or 027 4711 490,  
or Hinemoa Metekingi  
(04) 238 4941 or 027 466 8251**

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in control of our finances.”

Several elders’ quoted Bible scriptures as their experiences began to unfold. A Cook Island elder in his 70s, recounted working “blood, sweat and tears, than looking for a quick dollar.”

In response to community action, Family Commissioner, Greg Fortuin, commented, “We have lost something in community. We need to go back to being neighbours. Our support systems are not strong.”

Lotteries Committee member, Pat Hanley, described himself as a palagi living in Pukerua Bay. “We do not have pokie machines or a TAB in our area.” He described leadership in this way, “The hallmark of a good leader is one who asks for help! Young people ask for help!”

The students brought their unique way of communicating

what is on their hearts. Staff played a pivotal role in allowing this to occur. Some young and old chose to listen to the conversations with a beautiful spirit.

Pastor Tauira concluded by challenging participants to ‘walking the talk’. He said, “Role models don’t raise awareness of gambling while continuing in the practice.”

We thank Maori problem gambling provider, Rangataua Mauriora and Health Sponsorship Council for their valuable support, and to Tumai Toimata for providing the delicious food. This was appreciated following the hard work done by all on Gamble Free Day.

The journey continues.

If you would like more feedback to this day, contact Louis on 237 6062, 027 4711 490, or email [lui.smith@taeaomanino.org.nz](mailto:lui.smith@taeaomanino.org.nz)

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## Public Health...

# Gamble Free Day 2010: Nelson-Tasman (Centre of NZ and the World!)

**Mathew McMillan, Te Kahui Hauora o Ngati Koata Trust (Nelson)**

Gamble Free day in the Nelson-Tasman area was a day which really came together. From my observations, this has been due to a general increase in public awareness concerning gambling-related harm, and the fact that the topic of Pokie-related harm has been of particular relevance at a local level leading up to 1st September. 2010 has seen both Nelson and Tasman councils review their gambling policies and, later this year we will have the local government elections for both regions. Leading up to Gamble Free Day, there had been a huge amount of community uproar concerning steps taken towards placing new Pokie machines in the Victory area. These Pokies are looking to be placed in one of the highest deprivation areas in the region, directly across from a playground and a couple doors down from a kindergarten. It seems odd that despite both Problem Gambling Providers in the region making submissions to the Nelson Council on the review of their gambling policy, that the policy ended up being changed at the last moment, allowing for new machines to be located in the Victory area near a school and a playground. The positive of all this is has been that the community got involved. Public meetings were held as well as a protest march being held on Gamble Free Day. This lunchtime march went from the Victory Community to the Nelson Council where a pile of submissions were presented to the Nelson Mayor, Kerry Marshall.

**The evening saw Te Kahui Hauora o Ngati Koata Trust and PGF run an event at a local Pokie-Free Venue. Both local body mayoral and council candidates were invited to speak about the councils’ gambling policies and their own thoughts. Invitations were also sent out to the main political parties represented in our local community. It was great to see Nelson and Tasman Mayors in attendance, as well as several individuals vying for local office. We were pleased to have Maryan Street (Labour) and Kevin Hague (Green Party MP and Green Party Spokesperson on Gambling) - two people who have continued to support community driven issues. It was also great to see that Ben form HSC was able to attend.**

Following on from the events of Gamble Free Day, concerned community members have formed an incorporated society and are taking legal action against the Nelson Council. We wait to see what the outcome of this will be. If you want to contact the Victory Group and support them in their endeavour, please contact Hester Phillips at [hester.phillips@gmail.com](mailto:hester.phillips@gmail.com).

For further information, please contact Mathew McMillan via Email: [reception@koata.iwi.nz](mailto:reception@koata.iwi.nz)

## **Problem Gambling Foundation of New Zealand Springs into Action on Gamblefree Day**

**Andree Froude, Problem Gambling Foundation of New Zealand**

It was the first day of spring and what a relief it was to have a bright and sunny day in most parts of the country on Gamblefree Day after all the inclement weather we have been having.

Many events took place around the country and there was extensive media coverage, including TVNZ's Breakfast reporter, Lucas De Jong, launching Gamblefree Day by taking to a pokie machine with an axe outside the studio.

Later in the day, a line of pokie machines could be seen marching around Auckland's CBD, and Manukau Square came alive at lunchtime with some entertaining street theatre. As part of the act, PGF client, Harry Paniona, (aka Super Manukau Man), smashed a pokie machine with a large axe highlighting the harm these machines cause and the impact they have had on his life. A photo of Harry wielding an axe appeared in the NZ Herald the next day.

The Asian Family Services team held their dining discount campaign again this year with over 220 participating restaurants. Discount vouchers could be downloaded from the PGF website offering ten percent discount off meals at selected restaurants in Auckland, Hamilton, Palmerston North, Wellington and Christchurch. To evaluate the success of this campaign, Asian Family Services is doing a survey. To complete this survey, please go to: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/JRYK66P>

In Wellington, the team set up a stall in Cuba Street. Three entertainers performed outside the gazebo and wooed crowds by singing and playing acoustic guitar, taonga puoro (traditional Maori instruments) and saxophone for two hours. The small but dynamic central team was helped out by Health Sponsorship Council and a group of volunteers that had assisted with the Asian team's dining discount campaign. Many people visited the stall and 99 brief screen interventions were obtained.

In Christchurch, Captain Stomper made his cameo appearance at a community event held in Victoria Square. The superhero, developed by The Salvation Army (TSA) - Christchurch Oasis Centre in collaboration with PGF, was there to help 'stomp out' problem gambling and draw attention to the harm gambling can cause to individuals and families. Captain Stomper was also the star character in a colouring competition for local primary school students.

Many organisations were involved in this community event including TSA - Oasis, The Salvation Army Hope Centre, the Mental Health Education and Resource Centre (MHERC) and more. Guest speakers included Mayor Bob Parker, Progressive Party Leader and mayoral candidate, Jim Anderton, and Paul Rout, CEO of the Alcohol Drug Association of New Zealand (ADANZ).

Stalls and displays were set up in other regions around the country to raise awareness about problem gambling and Gamblefree Day.

**Mapu Maia, PGF's Pasifika service, ran a poem competition on Radio Samoa themed 'Problem gambling – how can you protect your family?'**

**The poem competition not only raised awareness of problem gambling in the Samoan community, but it provided a unique opportunity for people to express their experiences of problem gambling through poetry. Listeners were given a chance to ring in and read their poems on air and with over 155 entries received, Radio Samoa staff commented that this was the largest response to a competition they had ever had. The winners were announced on the radio and the winning poems were published in the Samoa Times on Monday 6th September 2010. All the prizes were sponsored by community organisations and businesses. Mapu Maia hope to have a selection of the poems published as a resource for the Samoan community.**

Gamblefree Day wasn't quite over on Wednesday. A community event was held in Glen Innes on Saturday 4 September – a hugely successful day despite the biting cold and the blustery conditions. A front page article featured in the East and Bays Courier in the lead up to the event, profiling PGF counsellor, Cheryl Campbell, and a client who spoke out about his gambling problem. An excellent crowd turned up at the Glen Innes event to watch the non-stop entertainment and listen to guest speakers including Labour MP Carol Beaumont, MP for Maungakiekie, Peseta Sam Lotu-liga, PGF Chairman and Labour candidate for the Maungakiekie-Tamaki Ward, Richard Northey, and Citizens and Ratepayers candidate for Maungakiekie-Tamaki, Alfred Ngaro.

The Salvation Army – Oasis Auckland stall was busy sizzling sausages all day and there were plenty of giveaways and activities for the children, including a free family movie and popcorn at the Ruapotaka Marae in the evening.

Glen Innes primary school and the local library homework group supported Gamblefree Day with a poster competition.

For further information and a look at the Gamblefree Day photo gallery visit [www.pgfnz.org.nz/gamblefreeday](http://www.pgfnz.org.nz/gamblefreeday)

For further information, please contact Andree Froude via Email: [pgf@pgfnz.org.nz](mailto:pgf@pgfnz.org.nz)



## The Salvation Army

### Gamblefree Day in Tauranga

Jeanette Arnold

The Salvation Army – Oasis Centre Tauranga

Gamblefree Day 2010 went well for us in Tauranga. It was a combined effort by The Salvation Army Oasis Centre and the Problem Gambling Foundation; Margaret Sloane (PGF) greeting folk and talking with them in Red Square and Jeanette Arnold (Oasis Centre) manning the BBQ. People pass through the square so we had steady foot traffic being offered a free sizzled sausage (our Random Act of Kindness), a chat about problem gambling and how to get support, bags, balloons, stickers, and Oasis and Problem Gambling Foundation information and contact details.

We received close to fifty poems in the form of sonnets or haiku, most from adults, with a couple of primary school classes participating too. Jeanette shared seven or so of the poems with those in the Square, near midday. One enthusiastic person came to share his own sonnet, as well. The local daily newspaper (Bay of Plenty Times) attended to photograph the event and take a sausage or two away for lunch.

The morning after, I received a call from a local person saying the write up in the newspaper resounded with her so much she felt motivated to call and tell me so. She said the article “heard her voice” as she has felt alone with the discovery of her husband’s gambling and how her family life changed soon after that. Part of her pain was from shame and the fact that her husband remained in denial

about his gambling. She felt it was really hard in a small city to get support from her peers and felt the shame, and stress of exposure, would reflect badly on the children. This woman wondered how many others, as partners and family members, from the upper-middle class in New Zealand, are alone with their struggle to live with the adverse effects of loved ones’ gambling addictions.

Along with PGF, we agreed that the day was successful, though with more hands on deck we could have achieved more. We are now finalising the poetry competition and distribution of prizes and working on keeping the public conversation alive around gambling harm and minimisation.

CONTACT INFORMATION: For further information, please contact Jeanette Arnold via email: [jeanette\\_arnold@nzf.salvationarmy.org](mailto:jeanette_arnold@nzf.salvationarmy.org)



### Gamblefree Day in Christchurch

Leanne White

The Salvation Army Oasis Christchurch

The weather cooperated with celebrating an amazing event at Victoria Square. After a week of more rain than sunshine, the weather on Wednesday 1st September was a gift to those who participated in Gamblefree Day 2010, hosted by The Salvation Army Oasis Centre for Problem Gambling and the Problem Gambling Foundation of New Zealand.

Represented with information stalls were a range of services including; the Oasis Centre, Problem Gambling Foundation and PGF Asian services, Pacific Island Evaluation, Supporting Families (Familial Trust), MHERC, The Salvation Army Community and Family Services, Waipuna Trust (Youth), ACTIS, Alcohol Drug Helpline, and consumer group, FoG. These services offered help,

education and information, not only to those impacted by problem gambling, but also to anyone likely to feel the effects of any addiction. Peter Jamieson (Oasis Centre Coordinator) identified the day as a success all round, with 300-400 people attending the event and a large





**number of groups participating.**

The day commenced with Peter Mason, cultural adviser to The Salvation Army, welcoming everyone and offering Karakia. Jennie Apirana from ADANZ sang waiata supported by Oasis staff. Jennie sang a beautiful, poignant and powerful song written by a woman in recovery. Highlights of the day were a Kapa Haka Group from Woolston Primary School who danced and sang their way into the hearts of their audience. Also the Vision College Band played a variety of songs and entertained the general public. We launched "Captain Stomper", who engaged with the children and presented prizes to the winners of a local colouring competition. Captain Stomper promoted the theme of the day "a future without problem gambling, it can start today".

Local mayoral candidates and addiction specialists spoke of the effects of gambling on our community throughout the day. Speakers included Mayor Bob Parker, Jim



Anderton (mayoral candidate), Doug Sellman (National Addiction Centre), Graeme Watson (Familial Trust) spoke on the effects on family, Tony Foster (Salvation Army Oasis Centre), Tony Milne (PGF), and Simon Tam (PGF Asian Services) who spoke on the effects on Asian communities. There were also powerful experiences shared from a consumer's perspective.

Overall 2010 Gamblefree day was a major success and has the potential to grow - with spring sunshine, high calibre entertainment, the smell of cooking sausages and onions wafting across Victoria Square to draw people in and the welcoming, friendly, information stalls to promote public awareness of the effects of gambling and addiction on our communities.

CONTACT INFORMATION: For further information, please contact Leanne White via Email: [leanne\\_white@nzf.salvationarmy.org](mailto:leanne_white@nzf.salvationarmy.org)



## Gamblefree Day in Dunedin

**Chris Watkins**  
**The Salvation Army – Oasis Centre Dunedin**

Gamblefree Day was a success in Dunedin. Over 50 people attended Arai Te Uru Marae in Dunedin for presentations on problem gambling by the three Problem Gambling services and we shared some kai with a delicious hangi. The day demonstrated successful collaboration from the PG services in Dunedin and a growing alliance between the Salvation Army – Oasis Centre and Te Roopu Tautoko Ki Te Tonga in offering a community response to Problem Gambling.

CONTACT INFORMATION: For further information, please contact Chris Watkins via Email: [chris\\_watkins@nzf.salvationarmy.org](mailto:chris_watkins@nzf.salvationarmy.org)



## Workforce Development...

# A Great Fundraising Resource Available on the PGF Library Webpage

Glenda Northey, Problem Gambling Foundation of New Zealand

The Problem Gambling Foundation has just published a booklet to support our stance of encouraging organisations to stop using Pokie funding. The booklet is titled **'Let's put the 'fun' back into fundraising. Some ideas on how your organisation can survive without accepting pokie funding'** and outlines where to go, both physically and on the Internet, to find out about non-pokie funds, how to apply for grants, what to put in your application letter etc. But the main aim of the booklet is to list a multitude of ideas for fundraising to show how fundraising was done before the government encouraged the use of pokie revenue as a way to "support community groups". There are hundreds of ideas on events that can both enhance the organisation, through marketing and public awareness, and lists some helpful ideas on how to successfully run the events.

All of the publications listed in this article can be found on the library webpage under the Latest News page at <http://www.pgfnz.org.nz/Latest-News/0,2733,13332,00.html>

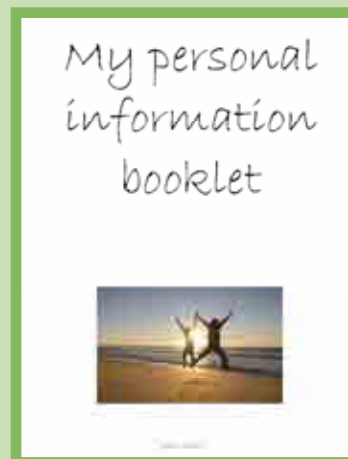
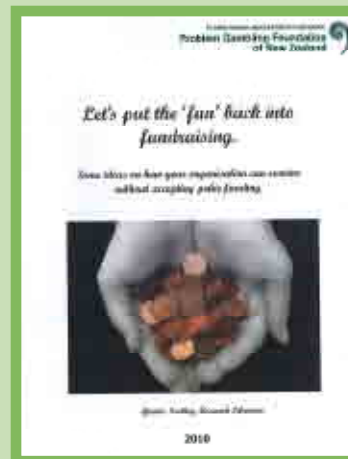
- The recently updated list of **Problem Gambling Resources in New Zealand 1851-2010** has over 250 articles/books and reports listed about New Zealand gambling. This is an essential guide for those putting together a history of gambling in New Zealand as it is chronological and supplies many of the URLs linked to where documents can be located on the Internet.
- Problem gambling resources online is a compendium of articles and reports in subject areas related to problem gambling, with links to where they are available to be downloaded for free.
- My personal information booklet was created by PGF staff assisted by their clients for use in the counselling process. The input from clients has ensured that the booklet has become a positive client focused tool.
- If you would like to receive regular up-to-date information on new publications available on problem gambling being published then subscribe to the Problem Gambling Library Newsletter by emailing me your details.



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## Nga Mahi a Reehia Healthy Alternatives to Gambling – A Future Without Problem Gambling Can Start Today.

Zoe Hawke, Hapai Te Hauora Tapui

Hapai Te Hauora Tapui, Maori Public Health led a healthy alternatives to gambling event for gamble free day 2010. The day was titled “Nga Mahi a Reehia Healthy Alternatives to Gambling – A future without problem gambling can start today”. The day provided the Orakei community with the opportunity to learn traditional Maori games such as mu torero, poi toa, hakariki, and to give waka ama a go.

As always, Gamble Free day coincided with the first day of spring and what a beautiful spring day it turned out to be – perfect for participating in healthy alternatives to gambling activities. Hapai Te Hauora Tapui, Maori Public Health co-ordinated the day with the support of Sport Waitakere, Orakei Water Sports and The Problem Gambling Foundation.

Karla Matua (No Ngati Whatua) from Sport Waitakere provided her expertise in facilitating the traditional Maori games, and Orakei Water Sports led the waka ama workshops through the leadership of Donna Tamaariki (Problem Gambling Foundation) and two current Waka Ama champs, Joshua Perese (No Nga Puhi) and Jackson



Tamaariki-Campbell (No Ngati Whatua, Waiohua). The event was based at Orakei Water Sports in support of the clubs “No Pokie Funding” stance. Both Joshua and Jackson are club members of Orakei Water Sports and intend to generate their own funds by utilising their waka ama knowledge and expertise in order to compete in up and coming Waka Ama competitions.

The day was kick started with a presentation on problem gambling, and a problem gambling quiz. The day continued successfully with tamariki, pakeke and kuia collectively giving our traditional pass times a go, whanaungatanga, and messages promoting “Gamble Free Whanau First” weaved throughout.

For further information on Gamble Free Day 2010 and traditional Maori games (Sport Waitakere) and waka ama opportunities (Orakei Water Sports) please ring:

Zoe Hawke or Anthony Hawke  
Hapai Te Hauora Tapui  
Maori Public Health  
09 520 4796 ext 219 & 218





## Farewell to Papa, Kia Ora to Ants

It is with sadness that Hapai Te Hauora Tapui Maori Public Health say farewell to Papa Nahi who is leaving to join Auckland UniServices in the Maori SIDS department as the Research and Communications Lead.

Papa has accomplished much in her time at Hapai, especially in regards to organising the International Problem Gambling Conference, and further developing a problem gambling Maori public health approach focused on iwi development. Additionally Papa's strong policy and research skills have assisted Hapai in responding quickly and efficiently to new emerging issues in the area of Maori wellbeing. Papa has been a well respected Hapai whanau member.

Papa believes Hapai builds leaders, an opportunity our new kaimahi - Anthony Hawke (Ngati Whatua, Ngati Toa) will now get to experience. Anthony Hawke joins the Hapai team and the problem gambling sector with experience in community and economic development. Ants brings fresh ideas and energy to the work Hapai undertakes to minimise gambling harm for Maori and all other communities.

Hapai looks forward to having Anthony on board, and envisages an on-going relationship with Papa in her new role at UniServices.



Papa Nahi



Anthony Hawke



## Report to the Sector on the Competencies Survey

Sean Sullivan, ABACUS

The survey for feedback on the draft Foundation and Specialist Problem Gambling Treatment (PG) Competencies has now been closed and the findings collated. To set the scene, this survey follows a considerable number of other opportunities to contribute to the development of these guiding statements over the past 18 or more months. A list of these earlier steps was provided in the survey and we wish to thank all who contributed towards these competencies, through discussions and surveys, including those PG representatives on the Reference Group.

At a recent JAM meeting called prior to the closing of the survey, it was apparent that a reminder of the reasons for the competency development would be helpful for the sector. In very brief form they are:

- PG practitioners, as part of the addiction treatment sector (along with alcohol and other drug treatment (AOD) practitioners and Smoking Cessation (SC) practitioners) are aligning their competencies as signaled in Te Kokiri 2006
- There were no competencies accepted across the whole PG sector
- It was important that PG was included in this initiative for the professionalism of the sector, a trend well advanced for this sector outside of NZ
- Recognition of the sector as a specialist division would be enhanced and acknowledged, particularly in the light of discussions around potential devolution of services
- A professional body for the PG sector requires a statement of professional competencies

- This will enhance recognition of PG as a profession, a specialty, and motivate career pathways through tertiary qualifications which hitherto have been few, not assisted by the absence of specialist PG competencies

Considering the above points, it was encouraging to see that the survey provided support for the content of the draft competencies. It was estimated that the 41 responses comprised about 50% of the PG practitioners, and that taking into account the numerous prompts encouraging participation, it can be assumed that these comprised the strong majority of those who wished to participate in the competency development. This was therefore a very positive response rate and provided an important source of information for the process.

### The Survey

As a summarisation of the five items (with subsections) in the survey, the findings were:

#### 1. Field of work?

90% were fully or partly providing treatment in PG, while just fewer than 10% were in PG management. In line with the introduction to the survey, the assumption for this 10% was that they were formerly providing treatment prior to their move into management.

#### 2a. Were the eight draft Foundation areas of the competency appropriate for PG?

Foundation competencies are underlying competencies required from all of those working in the addiction sector, not just specific to PG treatment. A substantial 85% of PG practitioners supported this, with none stating 'not

at all'. Additional suggestions for further Foundation competencies appeared to be either already covered by the Foundation competencies, or included in the Specialist PG competencies.

## **2b. Should health promotion competencies be included in PG treatment competencies?**

During the development of the competencies, there had been considerable variance in viewpoint on the inclusion/amount of health promotion competencies required for PG treatment practitioners. Two-thirds of the PG practitioners supported the inclusion of health promotion competencies, although a further one in four considered that PG practitioners should have some ability in health promotion, but that these should not be a competency requirement for them.

## **2c. Are the 3 Foundation public health competencies (supporting communities, public education and public health/health promotion) appropriate?**

Two thirds considered these draft health promotion competencies to be appropriate, while a further one in five considered that some were appropriate.

## **3. Do the three specialist competencies for PG practitioners plus the Foundation competencies sufficiently cover the range of PG competencies needed?**

61% replied 'yes', while one in five responded no, and a similar number were unsure. In addressing the comments from those answering 'no', most concerns were already addressed by the existing Foundation and Specialist competencies, suggesting that the 19.5% who responded 'no' may have expressed their concerns without realising that many were already addressed. Efforts will be made to ensure any outstanding concerns are addressed in the final version of the Addiction Intervention Competency Framework.

## **4. How important is it for PG practitioners to address coexisting AOD issues and SC in their clients?**

Over 85% considered addressing these issues in PG clients to be important, confirming the findings of the 2009 survey.

## **5. How confident are you in being able to meet the competencies with appropriate training?**

Almost two-thirds expressed full confidence and another 34% expressed some confidence in meeting these competencies, provided training was available. No one expressed no or little confidence, with less than 5% indicating that they were unsure.

## **Conclusion**

With the strong majority (85%) believing the draft cross addiction Foundation competencies to be appropriate, and almost two-thirds acknowledging that the combined Foundation and Specialist PG competencies covered the range of required competencies, the draft competencies appear to have good support from those working in this sector. There was also strong support for PG practitioners to be competent to address coexisting AOD and SC issues in PG clients. Finally, there was strong belief (95%) that participants would be able to meet the competencies with the availability of training.

These findings were welcomed and provide confidence that the competencies have the support of the sector, and that some two years of intensive development has resulted in relevant, acceptable and achievable competencies that have the support of the PG sector.

For further information, please contact Sean Sullivan via Email: [abacus@acts.co.nz](mailto:abacus@acts.co.nz)

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## **Te Kakano Update**

### **Zoe Hawke, Te Kakano**

Te Kakano Public Health Problem Gambling Workforce Development training project will continue in 2010 - 2011. A timetable of future face-to-face training dates will be posted to everyone shortly. Positive feedback was gathered during the Wellington providers hui on the public health training workshops, and on the new website which has been developed to assist the problem gambling public health workforce with ongoing training and support. The website provides kaimahi with the chance to share their public health projects, to learn from each other, discuss ideas with colleagues, understand key public health ideas and theories, and to gain advice or support if needed.

If you have a public health role in the problem gambling sector and haven't checked out the e-learning hub please contact Ruth for an access code. Public workers nationally are also welcome to provide ideas for the e-learning hub -



the website is for your use so tell us what information you would find helpful. We look forward to more public health workers tapping into the online learning resource - so if you haven't already checked it out - time to give it a go! <https://tekakano.ac.nz>

Email Ruth at [r.herd@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:r.herd@auckland.ac.nz) for an access code and to make suggestions on what information should be included in the E-learning hub.

## Social Marketing...

# What Will Health Sponsorship Council Be Doing For The Next Few Years?

Hannah Crump, Health Sponsorship Council

As some of you will recall, the focus of our first Programme Plan (2006-09) was developed with the support of this sector. It's that time again to determine what our next Programme Plan will look like for the next few years.

## The Content

As with any good social marketing programme, the focus to date has been on raising the issue of problem gambling - so that people are aware it's not just a concern for individuals - but one for families and communities as well. And surveys are showing that these messages are getting through.

While we are sure that we need to retain some elements of this general level of awareness, we now need to communicate a bit more directly about just what it is people can do to tackle harmful gambling. In doing so we will need to consider just how we get the messages out to specific target populations.

## The Process

The challenge for us is to develop a new Programme Plan that will not only be guided by you but will also help guide what you do in the community. Our plan also needs to fit with the Ministry's Preventing and Minimising Gambling Harm Strategy, HSC's Strategic direction, and is informed by an evidence base.

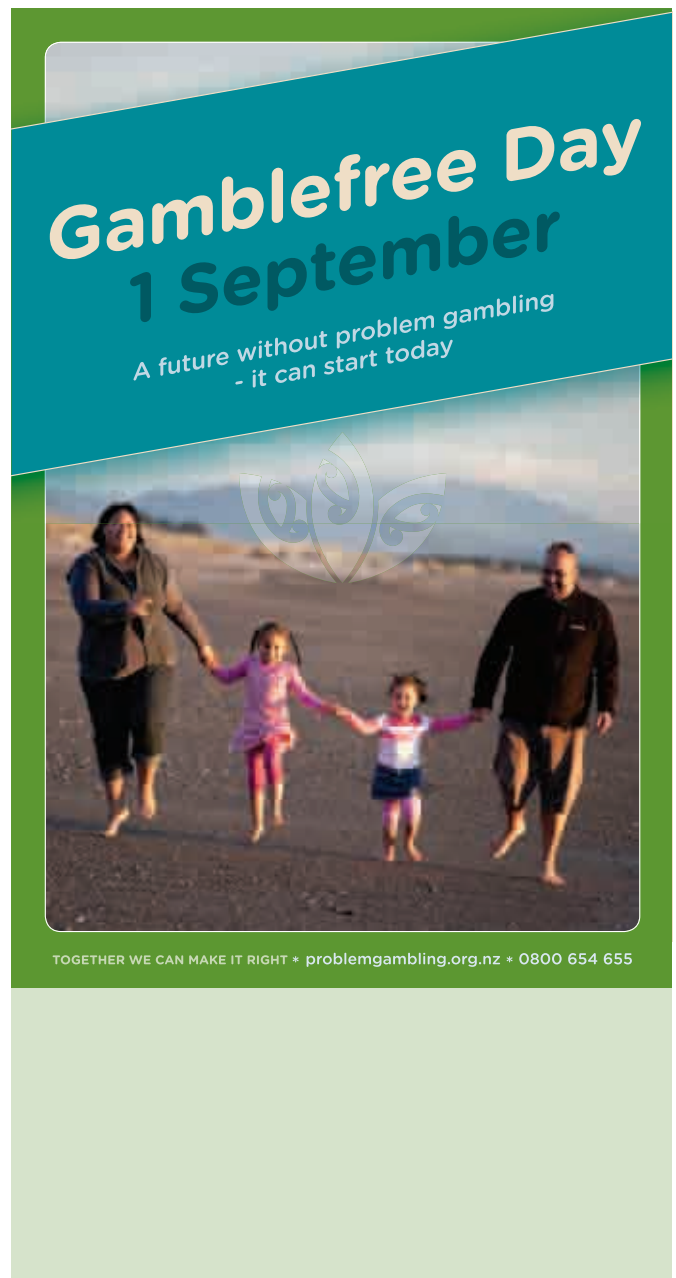
Our Programme Planning process began a few months back with an updated literature review from AUT. At the same time, we were able to use the National Forum as an opportunity to find out just what you would like us to concentrate on for the next few years. This has all been extremely useful in drafting the Plan. The next step in our Programme Planning will be to bring it out to you all for further opportunity to provide input. This will take place over the coming months.

## What about the 'Problem Gambling' Logo?

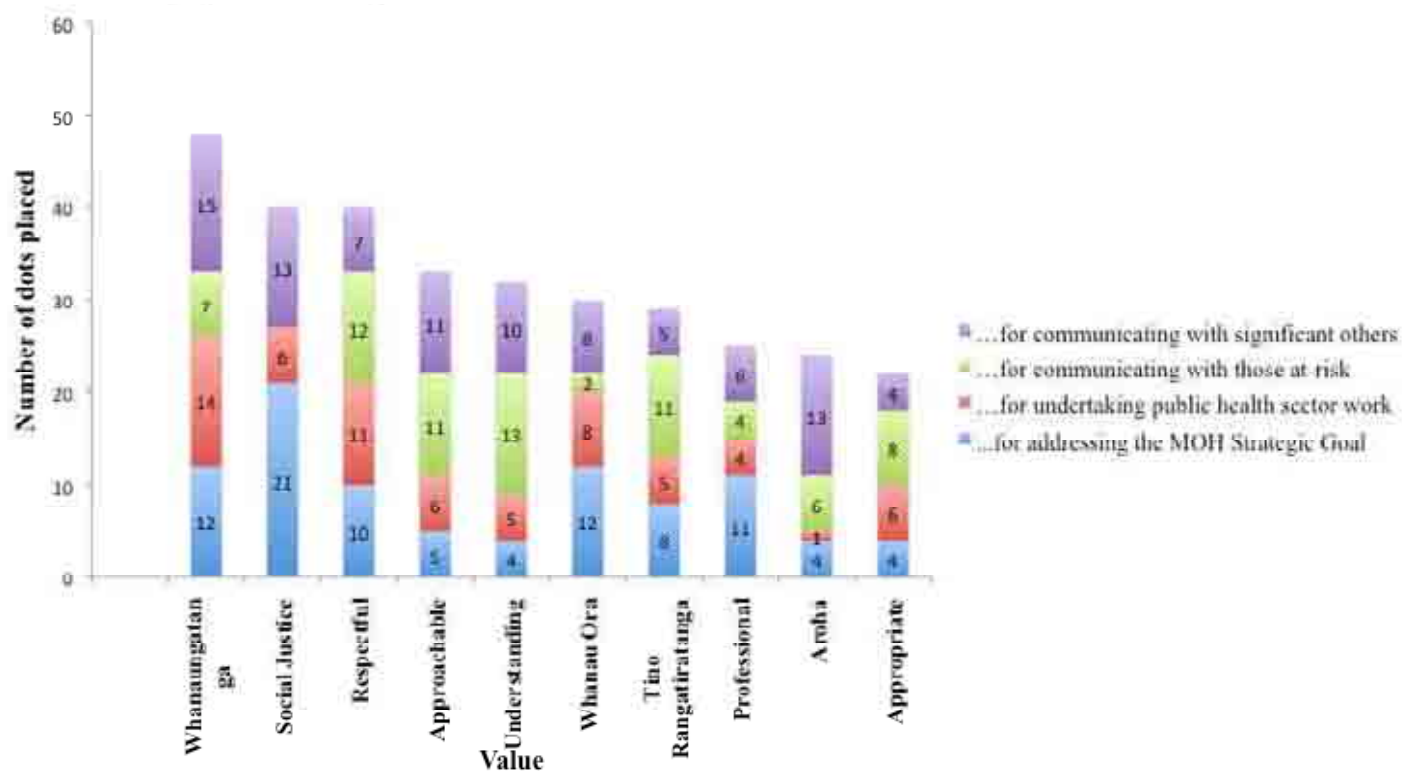
As you will be aware, we are currently working through some issues regarding the logo. The 'problem gambling' logo was introduced approximately five years ago when the national problem gambling campaign was first launched. At that time a number of options were considered and tested, and a decision was made to go with the logo that we have now. Unfortunately the timeframes that we were working with at the time only allowed limited sector consultation.

While the logo has worked ok for the last few years, there have been ongoing concerns raised from the sector about the logo focusing on the problem, not offering a solution and the stylised 'taiaha' that is depicted in the logo. We have found that, unlike other HSC community-based logos (like Smokefree); there is not a desire from the sector to use it to support your work.

We have therefore embarked on a short but important process to ensure the sector is involved in the broader conversations that are pertinent to branding - like your values as a sector. This has included a session at the Public Health Working Group, and two sessions at the National Forum. While we didn't have as much time as we would have hoped, it did provide some valuable insight into the values that drive the sector. See page 19 for the results of that session.



## Top Ten Values that the PG Sector Voted as Most Important:



Two things are quite clear – one is that our current logo does not align well with the values that guide this sector, and the second is that there are certainly some common values that lend themselves well to strong sector collaboration. While it is clear we need to consider other logo designs it is great that we now have some clarity on the values that should guide that process.

We are working through a process to scope some alternative logo options and will share these with you all to consider. Any recommended changes to the logo and related literature will need the approval of the Ministry. Watch this space...

### HSC's involvement with Gamblefree Day

Like all of you, a lot of our recent work has been on Gamblefree Day. Our focus has been two-fold.

#### 1. Resources

We had an overwhelming response to orders for Gamblefree Day resources. We took orders from nearly all offices throughout the country and even had many of you asking for more!

#### 2. Media Activity

This year we also decided to support you with media activity. This included a media workshop session at the National Forum and a media pack (with templates for media releases). It was fantastic to see the amazing media coverage right throughout the country. And particularly great to see 'A future without problem gambling – it can start today' appearing throughout that media coverage!

#### Time to Reflect!

This year, the Public Health Working Group decided that it would be really valuable to develop a Nationally coordinated approach to the Gamblefree day. While it takes many years to build a Nationally recognised 'day' each year, we are really starting to gather some momentum. The PHWG will now need to reflect on what went well in 2010 and start to consider plans for 2011.

## **Department of Internal Affairs – Te Tari Taiwhenua**

### **\$55m package for problem gambling**

Internal Affairs Minister Nathan Guy and Associate Health Minister Peter Dunne announced a new funding package and plans to tackle problem gambling.

“The Problem Gambling Levy, which is imposed on gambling operators, has been set at 0.9 per cent of the forecast \$5.9 billion gross profits from gambling over the next three years,” Mr Guy said.

**“This \$55m in funding goes to the Ministry of Health to fund problem gambling services and minimise the harm caused in communities. It will be used on frontline counselling, including dedicated services for Maori, Pacific and Asian communities.**

**“It will also be used on prevention activities that encourage safe gambling practices and on scientific research and evaluation.**

“Cabinet has decided that the weighting formula will remain the same as for the previous three years. Pokie machine operators will continue to pay the highest share



of the levy, as this is where most problem gambling is associated.”

Mr Dunne welcomed the release of the Ministry of Health’s Preventing and Minimising Gambling Harm Strategic Plan 2010/11-2015/16, and the Preventing and Minimising Gambling Harm Service Plan 2010/11-2012/13.

“Gambling harm continues to have a significant impact on New Zealand communities, but the funding package and measures announced today build on the Government’s commitment to address this issue,” Mr Dunne said.

“These strategies, along with the levy, will help us combat the harm caused in communities by problem gambling.”

The plans are available online at <http://www.moh.govt.nz/problemgambling>

The new Problem Gambling Levy regulations take effect on 1 July and are available on the Problem Gambling page at: [www.dia.govt.nz](http://www.dia.govt.nz)

### **One-stop exclusion shop for Rotorua**

A multi-venue exclusion order (MVEO) programme for problem gamblers will start in Rotorua and Ngongotaha on 1 July.

The Gambling Act 2003 provides for persons, who recognise that they have a gambling problem, to self-exclude from any venue for a maximum of two years. It can be daunting for someone to have to repeat the self-exclusion process at several venues and this is where the benefits of the programme come in.

The MVEO is essentially a ‘one-stop shop’ where a problem gambler registers for exclusion at one venue

and selects the other venues to be notified of his/her decision. In Rotorua the Problem Gambling Foundation (PGF), in liaison with the Department, will coordinate the exclusion orders and send them to the individual venues. There are 28 Class 4 venues in Rotorua and Ngongotaha – including six clubs with gaming machines.

Auckland gambling inspectors organised a meeting about the MVEO in Rotorua last month, after the PGF and several other gambling service providers approached the Department. The meeting was attended by about 30 representatives of venue managers, societies, Maori health providers and councils.

### **HPM lapse brings suspension**

The Horse and Hound of Petone has served a two-day suspension of its venue licence for failing to issue an exclusion order and failing to have a person trained in Harm Prevention and Minimisation (HPM) at the venue.

While the venue and its society, Pelorus, were able to

show that an exclusion order had been written out they were unable to show that it was ever sent to the excluded person.

Also, although the society could show that they had very good training material and policies relating to Harm Prevention and Minimisation, there was little in place to check that venue staff actually got the training.

Continued from page 20...

## Pokie thief jailed

19 August 2010

A former North Shore bar owner was jailed for 21 months when he appeared for sentence in the Oamaru District Court over the loss of almost \$120,000 of pokie money.

Shane Norton, 47, now lives at Shingle Creek in Otago but last November pleaded guilty in the North Shore District Court to six charges of theft by a person in a special relationship by failing to account for \$118,935.48 of gaming machine profit owed to the Pelorus Trust.

Norton was the venue operator of two North Shore bars, Pat's Garage, Takapuna and Brownsy Sports Bar, Browns Bay. He should have banked the gaming machine money to the Pelorus Trust account but used it to prop up his businesses when they got into financial difficulty.

The Department says the community missed out on at least \$44,000 in grants, as a result. Judge Mary O'Dwyer ordered Norton to pay that amount in reparation and said he could seek home detention if suitable accommodation can be found.

Internal Affairs Director of Gambling Compliance, Mike Hill said gaming machine money does not belong to a venue but must be banked into the account of a gaming trust which is then responsible for distributing funds to the community.

**"The community must be the ultimate beneficiary of gaming machine proceeds as the Gambling Act makes clear," he said. "This case underlines to venues that gaming machine proceeds do not belong to them but are held in trust. Not dealing with the funds as the law requires deprives the community of money and constitutes theft."**

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## Department appeals poker decision

19 August 2010

The Department is appealing to the High Court an Auckland District Court decision by Judge David J Harvey that tournament poker is not gambling as defined in the Gambling Act 2003.

This relates to four charges of TV Works Ltd breaching section 16 over their promotion of the Asia Pacific Poker Tour (APPT) in advertisements for pokerstars.net.

The Department brought multiple charges against the company for advertising overseas gambling on TV3 and C4, associated with the Celebrity Joker Poker series.

Judge Harvey said he did not consider the way in which the APPT was structured amounted to gambling.

"It does not involve the payment of consideration based upon the outcome of the game. It involves the splitting of a sum of money derived from the payment of entry fees between the winning players. Although poker is usually

associated with some form of gambling, because players in the tournament do not make side bets on the outcome of each hand that element of wagering upon the outcome, or paying consideration or a stake, is present."

Judge Harvey dismissed all charges saying he was not satisfied beyond reasonable doubt that the prosecution had made out its case.

"I am not satisfied that the advertisements for pokerstars.net constitute an overseas gambling advertisement and, for that reason, the element of an overseas gambling advertisement, promoting a gambling operator or inducing persons to gamble outside New Zealand, must fail," he said.

The Department's appeal is limited to a question of law – whether Judge Harvey was correct in interpreting the definition of gambling in s 4 of the Gambling Act 2003 so as to exclude tournaments like the Asia Pacific Poker Tour.

The appeal is scheduled to be heard in the High Court in Auckland next month (October).

## Workforce Development...

# New Tumuaki/Manager for Te Rangihaeata Oranga Trust

## Te Rangihaeata Oranga trust

As many of you will probably be aware, Monica Stockdale, the founder of Te Rangihaeata Oranga, has recently moved on to other challenges and I have been newly appointed in the role of Tumuaki/ Manager for Te Rangihaeata Oranga Trust, Hawke's Bays Regional Gambling Service based in Napier.

My education has been based in two very different schools, counseling and management, with my work history predominately in the not for profit sector for varying roles. I have just come from working at Capital & Coast DHB mental health and addictions planning and funding, so am no stranger to addictions.

I grew up in the Hawke's Bay and have been away for a great number of years however it does feel like I have come home.

Last week Te Rangihaeata Oranga Trust took the opportunity to speak to the Hastings City Council on their proposed 'sinking lid policy' for class 4 gaming machines. While the submissions against the adoption of this policy far outweighed our voice we are pleased to announce that the Hastings City Council prevailed and subsequently voted to adopt no additional gaming machines to be established in the District.

Our team will be at the Maori Providers Gambling Hui at Parihaka in October and I look forward to meeting with you all and getting to know this new sector.

Shirley Lammas  
Tumuaki/Manager

The team at Te Rangihaeata Oranga Trust are privileged to support Shirley Lammis, our newly appointed Tumuaki / Manager in her role. We support her around Tikanga and cultural practices on her journey with our Hauora, with full support and guidance from our Kaumatua team.

For further information, please contact Shirley Lammas via Email: [trhorange@trhor.org.nz](mailto:trhorange@trhor.org.nz)



## **Ministry of Health Update**

**Barbara Phillips**  
**Group Manager – Mental Health, Alcohol & Drug Policy Group**

As many of you will be aware, the recent months have been a time of considerable change for the Ministry, with ongoing restructuring of the work groups in the Ministry resulting in a number of staffing and organisational changes. I'm pleased to announce that Derek Thompson has accepted the role of Team Leader in the National Problem Gambling Team (NPGT), taking over from Kere Pomare who had done an excellent job as acting team leader. Many of you will already know Derek, who has significant experience in the health sector and has been senior contract manager in the NPGT for three years. I'm also pleased to welcome Sean-Paul Kearns to the team, taking over the data analyst role from Hasmita Dhanji. Sean-Paul comes to the NPGT from the Mental Health Rights and Protection Team at the Ministry.

As public sector employees we find our work under considerable scrutiny as the government continues its emphasis on achieving improved efficiency and effectiveness from the public sector. The Ministry is currently tendering for a value for money review of problem gambling services. Details of the scope of the review have been published as part of the RFP documents on the GETS website.

I am pleased to confirm that the service contracts for the 2010/13 period are now in place and I thank all the intervention and public health providers for your efforts to make this happen in a timely fashion. The contracting process followed on from a smooth levy setting process and has made for consistency and certainty across the sector. As an extension to this process, the Ministry's RFP for dedicated Pacific public health and intervention services in the Auckland region recently closed in mid-September and the Ministry is now in the process of reviewing proposals received. This process is expected to be completed by late October.

The Ministry has recently accepted two final research project reports from Auckland University of Technology – the Evaluation of Problem Gambling Intervention Services and the Investigation of Processes to Assist the Early Identification of Casino Potential Problem Gamblers. These will be added to the research pages on the Ministry website shortly.

Also on the research front is the provider initiated research for the 2010/11 year, for which the tender period closed late September. Provider initiated research is an opportunity to undertake smaller research projects that would otherwise not feature in the current research programme. It also provides an opportunity for collaborative work between providers, researchers and



industry and I hope to see some innovative proposals in this year's process.

It was great to see the positive activity and energy of Gamble Free day on 1 September. The media coverage was positive, the weather super (in Wellington at least) and there was a real feeling of unity across the sector. Congratulations to all who were involved, from the development and background work to the 'frontline services' working in the communities around the country.

July's Problem Gambling National Provider Forum, held in Wellington, was also a productive and well organised event, with a packed programme covering all areas of the problem gambling area. Thanks to all who worked on the organisation of this and to those who got up and presented. Minister Dunne was pleased to be invited to open the Forum and was impressed with the good turnout. I was also pleased to have an opportunity to speak and enjoyed the opportunity to catch up with some familiar faces afterwards. The whole event had a real energy and positivity to it.

Feedback from the recently held Pacific Provider Forum has been positive, and I'm pleased to hear that the team at Niu was given a heartfelt farewell. Niu Developments has always been committed to the field and I'm sure their passion and skills won't be lost to the sector.

I thank those providers who have contributed to our consultation regarding the proposed improvements to the CLIC database system. Your feedback has helped inform the Ministry's CLIC improvement project. As the Ministry moves towards a refined and refreshed version of the CLIC database, it seems timely to remind those in the intervention field of the need to be consistent in their processes and record keeping. All clients should be screened periodically through their course of treatment and clinicians should be aware of this requirement. Screening early in a client's course of treatment and at later stages provides tangible evidence of the progress the client is making, which is of benefit to all involved.

Finally, it was announced earlier this month that a new Director-General/Chief Executive has been chosen for the Ministry. Dr Kevin Woods has a background in public health and is currently Director-General and Chief Executive of the Scottish National Health Service. He takes up his new role in New Zealand in the new year.

This year feels like it has raced through, with Christmas just a few months away as we head towards the last quarter of 2010. As I write this I've been struck by what a productive year it has been. Keep up the good work.

Contact:

## What's Happening...

### 2010 Proposed Calendar of Events

<b>27th December – 16th January</b>	<i>HSC: Social Marketing TV and Radio Advertisement</i>
<b>26th January 2010</b>	<i>Abacus: Maori Problem Gambling Clinical Training - Rotorua (Re-scheduled November 2009 training)</i>
<b>15th – 17th February 2010</b>	<i>Te Herenga Waka o Te Ora Whanau: International Indigenous Problem Gambling Symposium - Rotorua</i>
<b>22nd – 23rd February 2010</b>	<i>AUT and Gambling Helpline: Think Tank - Auckland</i>
<b>23rd – 26th February 2010</b>	<i>Problem Gambling Foundation of New Zealand, AUT and Hapai Te Hauora Tapui: International Gambling Conference 2010 – Auckland</i> <b>Please note: Pre Conference Workshops to be held on the 23rd February</b>
<b>14th– 27th March 2010</b>	<i>HSC: Social Marketing TV and Radio Advertisement</i>
<b>25th – 26th March 2010</b>	<i>Te Kakano: National Provider Problem Gambling Public Health Training (was rescheduled to 21 -23 July)</i>
<b>22nd – 23rd April 2010</b>	<i>National Coordination Service: National Pacific Fono (22nd April) - Auckland</i> <i>Te Kakano: Pacific Problem Gambling Public Health Training (23rd April) - Auckland</i>
<b>6th – 7th May 2010</b>	<i>National Coordination Service: National Asian Forum (6th May) - Auckland</i> <i>Abacus: Asian Problem Gambling Clinical Training – (7th May) - Auckland</i>
<b>13th – 26th June 2010</b>	<i>HSC: Social Marketing TV and Radio Advertisement</i>
<b>21st – 23rd July 2010</b>	<i>National Coordination Service: Annual National Provider Forum – Wellington</i> <i>Abacus: Problem Gambling Clinical Training – Wellington</i> <i>Te Kakano: Problem Gambling Public Health Training – Wellington</i>
<b>20th September 2010</b>	<b>National Pacific Fono (rescheduled from November to 20th September)</b> <i>National Coordination Service: National Pacific Fono (20th September ) - Auckland</i> <i>Te Kakano: Pacific Problem Gambling Public Health Training &amp; ABACUS: Clinical training included</i>
<b>22nd – 25th September 2010</b>	<i>Cutting Edge Conference</i>
<b>27th – 29th October 2010</b>	<i>National Coordination Service: National Maori Hui – (Hosted by Toiora - Healthy Lifestyles) New Plymouth</i>
<b>October 2010</b>	<i>Te Rau Matatini Problem Gambling Workforce and Research Scholarship - Fund opens for applications</i>

Notes:

- Abacus is also able to provide ad-hoc support to problem gambling service providers around the country.
- The dates provided in this calendar are indicative only and subject to change.

For more information or to contribute to future newsletters,

please contact:

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