



Newsletter

ISSUE 18

JULY 2015

KEY DATES

14th July

Community Safety Breakfast

20th July

'Communication and better team work' workshop

24th July

'Working with 'difficult' families' workshop

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

From the chairperson 1

Farewell Heather 1

MECOSS Events 2

Local events and training 3

Did you know? 4

Contact us 5

From the chairperson

Hi everyone, what a busy month June was.

We held our Botany and Flat Bush Community Network meeting with Adele White, Deputy Chair of Howick Local Board stepping in to replace our speaker at the last minute. Adele's topic 'Internet Safety', was topical and very interesting. These network meetings are getting bigger all the time with plenty of opportunities to network.

Our Community EXPO was held at Pakuranga Plaza on Saturday 20th with 21 stalls and lots of public traffic. Most agreed it was a worthwhile day. Pakuranga Plaza have confirmed they will give us more space next year which is fantastic.

Sadly we said 'goodbye' to Whaea Heather Frost, an Executive member with MECOSS for 4 years. Heather is going to join her Whānau in Australia. We are so going to miss you Heather.

Coming up on Tuesday 14th July we have a

Farewell Heather

We said goodbye to long-term MECOSS executive member, Whaea Heather Frost in June.

Heather has served on the MECOSS executive for four years and has worked tirelessly in governance; providing advice from a Maori perspective; helping out at Expos, meetings and also baking delicious food for MECOSS workshops.

She has been enticed away from us by the warm climes of Australia and the bonds of family.

Community Safety Breakfast, with our key speaker Sue Ramsay who is the Crime Prevention Team Leader at Christchurch City Council. Sue will speak about the SafeGrowth Initiative and CPTED and her experiences using these



Dyann Calverley

tools with the Christchurch rebuild. Mayor Len Brown and Chair of Howick Local Board, David Collings will also be speaking. Tickets are limited so please email [Karen](#) to register by Tuesday 7th July. If you are not registered we can't let you in for security reasons.

We are getting heaps of visits to our [Facebook](#) page. Please tell everyone in your groups to check us out and like us.

Do check out our [workshop programme](#) for some great workshops coming up.

Stay Safe, Dyann.



Heather, we wish you all the very best and hope you enjoy being with your family in Australia.

MECOSS Events - July

Communication and better team-work

Effective teams develop a unified sense of purpose, commitment to an agreed set of values, along with accountability and trust.

This introductory workshop is for team leaders and team members wanting to influence their team's communication and development.

Learn to:

Identify the predictable stages of a team's development; identify the leadership needs in each of these stages; recognise different styles and effective communication for them and assess your own effectiveness and develop interventions to improve team communication.

Our presenter

Rhyll has worked intensively with individuals, groups and organisations and their learning and development since 1996.

She has conducted organisational and community needs analysis over the past decade. This has informed her work with organisations including a customised approach to team and leadership development.

Date: Monday 20th July

Time: 12.30pm-3.30pm (Please bring your lunch. Tea and coffee will be provided).

Venue: Haseler Hall, under the All Saints Church, Selwyn Road, Howick

Fee: \$20 members and \$30 non-members

To register: Click [here](#)

Working with 'difficult' families

Do you have clients from 'difficult' families? They may be trapped in intergenerational cycles of conflict, ill-health or dependency. Multiple agencies might be involved seemingly to little avail. Crises pile on top of crises. It is often a complex process to work with the children, adults or extended members of these families.

In this full day workshop we will explore working with clients from 'difficult' families. You will learn how to make realistic systemic assessments of your work with such people. We will also look at possible pitfalls for practitioners and strategies for avoiding these. The workshop will be experiential, with great value given to participant involvement and the development of new perspectives and abilities.

Our presenter

Craig Whisker is a Family Therapist (AAFT) and Certified Psychodramatist (AANZPA) with a private practice in Kapiti.

He has an MA (Applied) in Social Work and is an accredited supervisor with the Australian Association of Family Therapy.

Craig has been conducting family therapy training since 2003 and is currently a doctoral candidate researching family therapy in New Zealand.

Date: Friday 24th July

Time: 10am - 4pm (one hour break for lunch, tea and coffee provided)

Venue: Haseler Hall, under the All Saints Church, Selwyn Road, Howick

Fee: \$65

To register: Click [here](#)

MECOSS Events - July

Community Safety Breakfast

Join us at our 'Community Safety Breakfast' where you will enjoy a delicious breakfast, networking with lots of other crime prevention organisations and learn more about the SafeGrowth initiative and Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED).

Our key speaker will be Sue Ramsay, Crime Prevention Team Leader from Christchurch City Council. Sue will speak about the SafeGrowth Initiative and CPTED and her experiences with using these tools with the Christchurch rebuild.

Date: Tuesday 14th July

Time: 8am-10am

Venue: The Howick Club, 107 Botany Road, Howick

Cost: FREE

To register: Please click [here](#). It is very important that you register as we can only admit those people on our registration list.

If you would like to attend please register by **Tuesday 7th July**. Places are limited, so please book early to avoid disappointment.

Local events and training

Trusts and Welfare Guardianship

Disability Connect is running a free seminar that explores the use of Welfare Guardianship or Power of Attorney for a person over 18 years old with a disability.

Date: 12th August

Time: 7pm-9pm

Venue: Integrated Neurological Rehabilitation Foundation, 2 Claude Brookes Drive, Henderson

To book: Click [here](#)

Altogether Autism Conference 2015

Altogether Autism's 2015 conference will focus on enabling people to upskill, become educated and aware of all aspects of current best practice and research around the autism spectrum.

Aimed at professionals, parents and people on the autism spectrum, it will provide information and strategies to generate successful outcomes for individuals and families living with autism.

Date: 22nd - 23rd July

Time: 22nd - 8am-5.30pm

23rd - 8.30am-4.30pm

Venue: Holiday Inn Auckland Airport

To book: Click [here](#)

Nfp Boards - boundaries, benefits and boo-boos

If you're a nfp Board member you want to get it right, so join in at this [online webinar](#) where you will learn:

- The extent of a board's decision making and its legal responsibilities.
- To achieve your own goals and visions.
- About activities that should be kept at arm's length to ensure there are no mistakes that cause dysfunction or legal breaches.

Date: 22 July **Time:** 1pm-2pm

Did you know?

Vulnerable children - safety checks

New regulations made under the Vulnerable Children Act 2014 have come into force that set out requirements for safety checks for children's workers.

The regulations require all paid employees and contractors who work with children for state-funded organisations to be safety checked. This also applies to unpaid people working with children as part of an educational or vocational training course. The new safety checking regulations will make it easier to identify the small number of people who are a risk to children.

The new regulations are being phased in from 1 July 2015 and the entire central State-funded workforce will need to have been safety checked by 1 July 2019.

For more information click [here](#).

Positive parenting programme

Sowers Trust are running monthly positive parenting programme discussion groups.

This month's topic: 'Dealing with disobedience'. The following will be covered: reasons why children don't do as they are told; how to set limits and teach children to do the right thing; goals for change for children and parents and some positive parenting strategies to prevent problems and handle disobedience.

Date: 23rd July

Time: 10am-12.30pm

Venue: The Picton Centre, 120 Picton St, Howick

To find out more: Click [here](#)

Govt.nz - consultations

[Govt.nz](#) was launched in July 2014 to make it easier for New Zealanders to find and use government information online.

Recently developed on the website is a list of current cross-government consultations and engagements, making it easier for the New Zealand public to get involved with government decision making.

The listings can be searched by topic or interest to make it easier to find out what is happening in each particular area.



Who are Community Networks

Aotearoa?

Community Networks Aotearoa is our 'motherhood' and their focus and energy is with providing local and regional social service networks with information, support and a national voice; encouraging the development of networks in new areas and more generally acting as a conduit for social change and community development.

With over fifty member organisations throughout the country, CNA brings together some of the smallest, least well represented groups with some of the largest networks. They see themselves as the voice of the regions and work hard to ensure that voice is clearly heard in as many places as possible especially Wellington where policy is often set and political will influences us all.

For further info about who they are and what they do please check out their [website](#).



Equal access to education?

A recent Education Review Office [report](#) reveals that some disabled children may not have equal access to education.

While 50 per cent of schools were fully inclusive, 20 per cent were not inclusive of disabled students, meaning that nearly a quarter of our schools are not welcoming all children in their community.

Budget 2015

Community Networks Aotearoa commissioned BERL (Business and Economic Research Ltd) to provide commentary on this year's Budget and its effect on community groups.

Watch Chief Economist, Dr Ganesh Nana provide an [overview](#) and visit Community Network's Aotearoa's website to read the [full report](#).

Contact us



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