

MILESTONES IN NEW ZEALAND SEXUAL HEALTH

by
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**For The Australasian Sexual Health Conference
Christchurch, New Zealand, June 2003**



To celebrate

**The 25th Annual General Meeting of the
New Zealand Venereological Society**

And

**The 25 years since the inaugural meeting of the Society in
Wellington on 4 December 1978**

And

**The 15th anniversary of the incorporation of the
Australasian College of Sexual Health Physicians
on 23 February 1988**



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Most of the photographs were taken by me at various conferences. I am responsible for any errors and omissions and in the interests of setting the record straight feedback would be appreciated.

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FOREWORD



NZVS President Kitty Flannery

History is relevant to the study of sexually transmitted diseases - honouring those who have contributed in the past, enhancing our understanding of the present and providing us with insights so that we can more clearly formulate a vision for the future.

The causative organisms may change but the context remains familiar. Those who work in the field of sexual health have compassion for the vicissitudes of human behaviour and would, given this understanding, probably be surprised if the need for their expertise ever dried up. The intertwining of the human story with tenacious sexually acquired organisms may not occupy the most illuminated stage in history, but as Dr John Keane often said, “What better place to grow but the warm, dark place where the sun doesn’t shine?”

The New Zealand Venereological Society is grateful for Margaret Sparrow’s tireless commitment to improving the sexual health of New Zealanders. By compiling the *Milestones in New Zealand Sexual Health*, she has documented our history and provided a new generation of health professionals with a resource for meeting the challenges of the future.

Kitty Flannery
NZVS President
Waikato Sexual Health Service

GLOSSARY OF ABBREVIATIONS

ACSHP	Australasian College of Sexual Health Physicians
ACVen	Australasian College of Venereologists
AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
ASHM	Australasian Society for HIV Medicine.
AZT	Azidothymidine, Zidovudine
BV	Bacterial vaginosis
CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CIN	Cervical intraepithelial neoplasia
CS&A	Contraception, Sterilisation and Abortion
DHSS	Department of Health and Social Services (UK)
DoH	Department of Health
DSAC	Doctors for Sexual Abuse Care
ESR	Institute of Environmental Science and Research Ltd
FPA	Family Planning Association
FDA	Food and Drug Administration
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HPV	Human Papilloma Virus
HSV	Herpes Simplex Virus
HTLVIII	Human T-cell Lymphotropic Virus type III
IUD	Intrauterine device
IUVD	International Union Against Venereal Diseases
IUVDT	International Union Against Venereal Diseases and Treponematoses
IUSTI	International Union Against Sexually Transmitted Infections
IV	Intravenous
IVDU	Intravenous drug user
LAV	Lymphadenopathy Associated Virus
MCNZ	Medical Council of New Zealand


MMWR	Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (USA)
MoH	Ministry of Health
MSSVD	Medical Society for the Study of Venereal Diseases
NHI	National Health Institute
NPLWA	National People Living with AIDS (Union)
NSU	Non Specific Urethritis
NZEF	New Zealand Expeditionary Force
NZFPA	New Zealand Family Planning Association
NZMA	New Zealand Medical Association
NZMWA	New Zealand Medical Women's Association
NZPC	New Zealand Prostitutes Collective
NZVS	New Zealand Venereological Society
NVCA	National Venereology Council of Australia
O&G	Obstetrics and Gynaecology
PCP	Pneumocystis carinii pneumonia
PHC	Public Health Commission
PID	Pelvic inflammatory disease
PLWA	People Living With AIDS (Union)
PPNG	Penicillinase producing <i>Neisseria gonorrhoeae</i>
RANZCOG	Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists
RNZAMC	Royal New Zealand Army Medical Corps
STD	Sexually Transmitted (or Transmissible) Diseases
STI	Sexually Transmitted (or Transmissible) Infections
TVNZ	Television New Zealand
VD	Venereal Disease
WHO	World Health Organisation
WIPA	Wellington Independent Practitioners Association

CHAPTER 1. CHRONOLOGICAL SYNOPSIS OF WORLD EVENTS

- 1564** Italian anatomist Gabriello Fallopius conducts a trial to show that wearing a linen sheath over the glans penis, protects from syphilis.
- 1823** Francis Place (UK) distributes what becomes known as the “*Diabolical Handbill*” recommending the use of a vaginal sponge for contraception.
- 1832** Dr Charles Knowlton in the USA publishes “*Fruits of Philosophy*” in which he advocates spermicidal douching for contraception. He is prosecuted for obscenity and is the first person to go to prison for advocating birth control.
- 1836** Donné identifies Trichomonas.
- 1843** Goodyear and Hancock in the USA discover the vulcanisation of rubber which leads to cheaper and better condoms.
- 1873** A law is passed in the USA, named after Anthony Comstock, which forbids the use of the US Post Office to distribute information on contraception or abortion.
- 1877** Obscenity trial of birth controllers Annie Besant and Charles Bradlaugh for republishing Knowlton’s “*Fruits of Philosophy*” in England. They won on appeal.
- 1879** The causal agent for gonorrhoea is discovered by Neisser in Germany (*Neisseria gonorrhoeae*).
- 1882** Dr Aletta Jacobs, the first woman physician in the Netherlands, opens the world’s first birth control clinic in Amsterdam. Mensinga in Germany devises the rubber diaphragm.
- 1884** Gram’s stain is introduced in Germany.
- 1885** Walter Rendell, London pharmacist, markets the first commercial spermicidal pessary made of cocoa butter and quinine sulphate.
- 1888** Ducrey demonstrates the causal organism for chancroid (*Haemophilus ducreyi*).
- 1905** The causal agent for syphilis (*Treponema pallidum*) is discovered by Schaudinn & Hoffmann in Germany.
- 1906** Wasserman in Berlin discovers a blood test for the diagnosis of syphilis.
- 1907** *Chlamydia trachomatis* is identified microscopically by Halberstaedter and Prowazek, German scientists working in Java.⁸⁸
- 1910** Ehrlich in Frankfurt uses salvarsan (arsphenamine) the “magic bullet” for syphilis.
- 1914.18** World War I.
- 1915** Margaret Sanger (1879-1966) is jailed for opening a birth control clinic in Brooklyn, New York.
- 1917** The UK adopts the Venereal Diseases Act.
- 1918** Marie Stopes (1880-1958) in the UK publishes two best sellers, “*Married Love*” on marital sex and “*Wise Parenthood*” on birth control.



- 1921** Marie Stopes opens the first UK birth control clinic in London and writes a textbook for professionals “*Contraception (Birth Control): Its Theory, History and Practice*”(1923).
- 1922** The MSSVD is formed in the UK for doctors interested in STIs. [From 1925 The Society publishes the *Journal of Venereal Diseases*. In 1985 the name of the journal is changed to *Genitourinary Medicine* and later still, to *Sexually Transmitted Infections*. Moving with the times it is now available on-line.]
- 1924** The Brussels Agreement provides free treatment for merchant seamen at ports throughout the world.
- 1925** Herpes simplex virus is grown in vitro.
- 1927** George Papanicolaou (1883-1962) observes cancer cells in vaginal smears. [Further studies lead on to the development of diagnostic testing. In 1943 Papanicolaou & Traut publish a paper “*The diagnosis of uterine cancer by the vaginal smear*”.]
- 1928** Fleming discovers Penicillin in moulds but it is not used clinically until later.³⁵
- 1930** Pope Pius XI encourages procreation and condemns contraception in his papal encyclical “*Casti Connubii*” However, the Church allows the ‘rhythm’ method elucidated in 1929 by Ogino (Japan) and Knaus (Austria).
- 1930-35** Liquid latex replaces crepe rubber for the manufacture of condoms.
- 1932** 400 black men from Tuskegee, Alabama are enrolled in a study of untreated syphilis. [This was only stopped in 1972 after exposure by the press. The men were told that they had “bad blood”. By modern standards the research was unethical. The Government settled out of court by payment of \$10 Million to be divided among the survivors and the relatives of those who had died.]
- 1935** German chemist Domagk uses the first sulfa drug Prontosil, discovered in 1932, on his daughter. Hailed as a “wonder drug”. The active component is sulphanilamide.
- 1937** The second sulfa drug, sulphapyridine (M&B693) is developed and others follow.
- 1939-45** World War II.
- 1943** Howard Florey (b. Adelaide) and Ernst Chain (b. Berlin) working in England introduce penicillin, the first effective treatment for both gonorrhoea and syphilis. Not freely available until the USA helps manufacture it in quantity.
- 1944** Aureomycin, the first tetracycline, is discovered as a result of checking soil samples for antibacterial action. Within a few years tetracyclines are being used clinically.
- 1948** Alfred Kinsey (USA) publishes “*Sexual Behaviour in the Human Male*”.
- 1951** The International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) is established at a meeting in Bombay with Margaret Sanger at the helm.
- 1952** World’s first sex-change operation is performed in the USA on George Jorgenson who becomes Christine.
- 1953** In the Pacific the WHO conducts the eradication programme for yaws. In the USA Alfred Kinsey publishes “*Sexual Behaviour in the Human Female*”.

- 1954** The Wolfenden Committee examines English law on homosexuality and prostitution. [The report published in September 1957 recommends that homosexual behaviour between consenting adults in private should no longer be punishable. The law is changed in 1967.] The infectious nature of genital warts is confirmed for the first time among the wives of soldiers returning from the Korean war.⁸⁸
- 1955** Gardner and Dukes recognise the association between *Haemophilus vaginalis* and non-specific vaginitis. [The aetiology of BV evolves over the next 30 years.]
- 1956** First large-scale trial of oral contraceptive pill by John Rock and Gregory Pincus in Puerto Rico. [Other methods of hormonal contraception for females follow – injectables, medicated IUDs, vaginal rings, implants and patches. Research continues for an acceptable hormonal contraceptive for males.]
- 1959** Isolation of *Chlamydia trachomatis* from the cervix of the mother of a baby with ophthalmia neonatorum. Oldest evidence of HIV infection is found in stored African blood samples.
- 1961** Dr Jack Lippes (USA) introduces the Lippes loop, an inert plastic contraceptive IUD.
- 1964** Blumberg discovers the Australia antigen. [Later renamed Hepatitis B surface antigen.]
- 1966** In USA William Masters and Virginia Johnson publish “*Human Sexual Response*”. The orgasm is taken into the laboratory.
- 1967** In the UK the law on abortion is liberalised. 
- 1968** First known case of AIDS in the USA identified later from stored blood samples. Pope Paul VI issues his encyclical, “*Humanae Vitae*” which advises Catholics not to use artificial contraception.
- 1969** Abortion case in Victoria, R v. Davidson leads to the Menhennitt ruling which opens the way for NZ women to travel to Melbourne for a legal abortion.
- 1971** Heatherbrae abortion case in NSW leads to the Levine ruling that opens the way for NZ women to travel to Sydney for a legal abortion. In USA the FDA warns that prescribing diethylstilboestrol (DES) to expectant mothers predisposes daughters to cancers of the reproductive tract.
- 1972** After a year-long inquiry in the UK the Longford Report on pornography is published. It recommends stricter legal control.
- 1973** In the USA the law on abortion is liberalised by Roe v. Wade. The Supreme Court rules (7-2) that State laws prohibiting abortion are unconstitutional, interfering with a woman’s right to privately control her own body.
- 1974** The United Nations holds the 1st International Conference on World Population in Bucharest. In China the innovative Dr Li devises the no-scalpel technique for vasectomy, doing the operation through a small puncture wound instead of an incision. [The technique is adopted by the West in 1985.¹⁴⁴]
- 1975** The United Nations holds the 1st International Conference on Women in Mexico.
- 1976** A Norwegian sailor, his wife and daughter have AIDS and a Danish woman surgeon who had worked in Zaire contracts PCP and dies. These are the first European cases.

- 1976** The first cases of penicillin resistant gonorrhoea are reported in various parts of the world but especially from Thailand and the Phillipines.
- 1977** Yuzpe in Canada introduces a new method of postcoital contraception using combined oral contraceptive pills. This replaces the high oestrogen method. The association between HPV of the cervix and CIN is first reported.
- 1978** The first “test tube” baby, Louise Brown, is born in the UK.
- 1980** In December 1980 in the UK the DHSS issues guidelines for doctors prescribing contraception for under 16s. In 1981 Mrs Victoria Gillick begins her campaign against this. [She loses the case against the DHSS but appeals. In December 1984 the Court of Appeal finds in favour of Mrs Gillick. Restrictions are enforced for a period of 10 months causing immense problems for those providing youth services. In October 1985 the House of Lords upholds an appeal by the DHSS against the Gillick decision. Good sense prevails.]
- 1981** In the USA the CDC reports the first recognised cases of AIDS.^{16,17} The FDA approves the first vaccine for Hepatitis B. In the UK the first selective antiviral, acyclovir is launched for the treatment of herpes.
- 1982** The term GRID (Gay Related Immune Deficiency) is dropped in favour of the more general term AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome).
- 1983** A new type of retrovirus which causes AIDS is identified in France by Luc Montagnier. The French call the virus LAV.
- 1984** Gallo makes the same claim in USA. The Americans call the virus HTLVIII.
- 1986** To avoid confusion, the retrovirus causing AIDS is officially named HIV. The Ottawa Charter is presented at the 1st International Conference on Health Promotion.
- 1987** In the USA the FDA approves the first antiretroviral drug AZT.
- 1988** In the USA the FDA approves the antiviral, interferon. In France mifepristone (RU486) is approved for medical abortions.
- 1989** The virus causing Hepatitis C, previously known as NonA-NonB Hepatitis, is identified.
- 1991** Mifepristone is approved for use in UK. The male polyurethane condom is developed.
- 1992** The female polyurethane condom is developed.
- 1996** Combination treatment for HIV with protease inhibitor plus other drugs is found to be more effective.
- 1998** WHO trial confirms progestogen-only postcoital contraception is better than the Yuzpe method.¹⁵¹ NZFPA participated in this multicentre trial.
- 2002** NZ research finds vasectomy does not cause prostate cancer.²⁴ Trials of a vaccine against HPV are promising.
- 2003** In the USA the FDA approves the first test for cervical cancer screening. The test combines a traditional Pap smear with a DNA test for 13 strains of HPV.

CHAPTER 2. NEW ZEALAND: MILESTONES FORM 1914 TO THE PRESENT

There are historical accounts of sexually transmitted diseases from ancient times,^{88,164} a comprehensive history of events in Australia⁶⁶ and another on STDs in Asia and the Pacific.¹⁰ There are a numerous histories of contraception worldwide^{49, 60,80} and a recent book on the history of family planning in NZ.¹³⁰ This chapter focuses on STIs in our recent NZ history.

1914-17 World War 1. All troops had high rates of infection and in the pre-antibiotic era treatments were long and not always effective. Prophylaxis was only partially successful. Men were advised to wash the genitals with soap and water, irrigate the urethra with potassium permanganate, referred to as “pinkie panky” and then apply calomel ointment to the whole area. The mercury in the ointment was for prophylaxis against syphilis. Regular medical examinations were carried out for signs of infection, the “dangle parades”. Early treatment clinics were identified by a blue light; hence the term “blue light room”.⁶⁷

In 1909 Ehrlich, in Germany, discovered compound 606 (salvarsan, arsphenamine) and in 1912 compound 914 (neosalvarsan, neoarsphenamine). These “magic bullets” were superior to previous prolonged treatments for syphilis with compounds of iodine, bismuth and mercury. A recommended regime was neoarsphenamine given intravenously combined with bismuth given by intramuscular injection, weekly for a minimum of 40 weeks.

The standard treatment for gonorrhoea was irrigation. Males were hooked up to an enema can containing a quart of 1:10,000 potassium permanganate solution via a nozzle inserted into the urethral meatus, irrigating until the can was empty. Not surprisingly this treatment sometimes caused strictures. Females might be treated with bed rest for two weeks, vaginal irrigations four times daily, intracervical antiseptics and weekly applications of medicated tampons until symptoms (hopefully) abated.⁹⁹

Ettie Annie Rout (1877-1936)

Ettie was a woman well ahead of her time.^{152,153} She was a public shorthand typist by profession but she had wide, if unconventional, interests and was a rationalist, socialist and freethinker. Alone and with no support from the authorities or from the general public she promoted ‘safer sex’ with the troops of World War I, before the term was ever used. Ettie argued strongly that venereal diseases were a medical, not a moral, problem. She campaigned for the issue of prophylactics for troops going on leave. After researching what would be the most effective means for prophylaxis, which would not have been an easy task for a non-medical person, she included the following items in her prophylactic kit: calomel ointment (containing mercury), Condy’s crystals (potassium permanganate) for irrigation and condoms.



She wore an NZVS badge!

The kit was finally adopted by both the NZ and the Australian armies, although Ettie received no recognition for her input. She then moved to England and France to carry on her work inspecting brothels and advising soldiers about safer sex. In Paris she recommended Madam Yvonne’s in Rue St Lazare. She would meet the trains bringing the troops and hand them kits and cards. She also provided social amenities for the soldiers who referred to her as a guardian angel. However, in the House of Lords a Bishop called her “the most wicked woman in Britain” and in NZ, under war measures, the Government forbade newspapers to publish her name or risk a fine of £100. Women’s groups campaigned against her and a delegation visited Prime Minister WF Massey. He thundered that were it within his power to order it the public hangman would burn her writings. Her name is not mentioned in the official war history of NZ but she is included in the Australian war history. The French on the other hand gave her a decoration.

In 1920 Ettie married her long time partner, physical culturist, Fred Hornibrook. They were both 43 years old. They settled in London where she wrote books on diet, exercise, birth control, venereal diseases and Maori culture. Under the Indecent Publications Act 1910, NZ banned her book "*Safe Marriage*" which discussed contraception. She was a contemporary of the two birth control pioneers, Margaret Sanger (1879-1966) in the USA and Marie Stopes (1880-1958) in the UK. They were three formidable, strong, independent women who argued with one another over birth control issues.

Ettie and Fred parted and at the age of 59 she returned to NZ where she was lonely and unrecognised. On a trip to the Islands she took an overdose of quinine. She is buried in Rarotonga. In 1983 she was featured in a TVNZ documentary on pioneer women produced by Pamela Jones. Belated recognition came in 1988 when the AIDS clinic in her hometown of Christchurch was named after her.

1917 The UK adopted the Venereal Diseases Act and NZ followed suit by passing the Social Hygiene Act making it a responsibility for Hospital Boards to set up clinics if asked to do so by the Minister. The Act outlined offences relating to VD such as infected persons not looking after children or handling food, infected persons knowingly infecting others, and unqualified people treating VD. It also invested lay "health patrols" with the power of police to prowl the streets and protect the health and morality of young people.

1923 In his keynote address at the opening of the 1986 NZVS Conference in Christchurch Dr Bryan Christmas traced the early history of venereology in NZ. Infectious disease control was a major concern as a consequence of the disastrous world-wide epidemic of influenza of 1918-19 and the much less well known, but equally serious, global pandemic of syphilis and gonorrhoea when the troops returned to their homelands. Such was the concern that the NZ Division of the British Medical Association prevailed upon the Minister of Health to establish an enquiry. A report was published in 1923. Considering the mores of the times Dr Christmas regarded this report as an enlightened document. Ignoring such advice as cold baths and the concerns about the Charleston, most of the major recommendations are as relevant today as they were in 1923. At that time the hospital VD clinics in the four main centres were grossly overcrowded. Treatments were prolonged and often harmful. Prostitutes were regarded as a common source of infection and treated punitively. The report welcomed measures to dispel the "unwholesome fog of prudery" and advocated more widespread sex education and education about the hazards of promiscuity. It recommended more clinics integrated within the general hospitals and open for more hours, more training of health professionals, female doctors available for females, more contact tracers and community support groups. The report led to the Social Hygiene Regulations of 1925. These regulations attempted to control the transmission of gonorrhoea and syphilis and reflected the authoritarian approach to infectious disease control at that time.

21 August 1925 NZ signed the 1924 Brussels Agreement under which signatory nations pledged to provide facilities and free treatment for merchant seamen at international ports. Seamen would travel with their "blue booklet" which coded their disease and gave details of treatment thus providing continuity of care.

1936 The Sex Hygiene & Birth Regulation Society was formed in Wellington. [The Society changed its name to the New Zealand Family Planning Association in 1939.¹³⁰]

1937 The McMillan inquiry into abortion published its report. It estimated that at least one pregnancy in five ended in abortion. The majority of women dying from septic abortions were married with four or more children. The report recommended strict control of contraceptives but on the other hand suggested birth control clinics be established in public hospitals. It recommended education in school biology. Somewhat conflicting advice but none of the recommendations were acted upon.

1939 May & Baker's M&B693, sulphapyridine, became available in NZ, one of the first antibiotics and the first successful treatment for many infections including gonorrhoea. The antibiotic era had arrived and significantly changed the nature of medical practice.

1942 The Progressive Publishing Society, Wellington, published a booklet "*The Shadow over New Zealand: Venereal Disease*" with a foreword by Minister of Health AH Nordmeyer. Uncle Scrim (CG Scrimgeour) advocated sex education but was banned from including this in his radio programme. Dr ADG Blanc presented the medical facts. The wisdom of the day prescribed personal disinfection after intercourse in a threefold preventive regime. First, wash with soap and water for five minutes. Second, instil a solution of a silver salt into the urethra and hold on to it for five minutes. Third, spend another five minutes rubbing in about a teaspoonful of mercurial ointment directed against syphilis. There was no advice for women. Dr Blanc was realistic enough to doubt that this 15 minute regimen would be adhered to and strongly recommended that the diseases be notifiable. Others did not share his views on notification. It is a debate we are still having 60 years later. A Martyn dealt with the law and gave lots of old fashioned advice such as: "Mark well the old saying – a half-hour with Venus may mean a lifetime with Mercury." Dr WB Sutch (economist) contributed "*What We Can Do*" and emphasised public discussion and health education.



1939-45 The Second World War exposed Medical Officers of the armed forces to the reality of STIs among the troops. About 1943 penicillin manufactured in the USA became available and limited supplies were made available to the NZ Medical Units. In his autobiography¹ Wellington physician Dr John L Adams (father of John D) wrote of his experiences with the 3rd Division 2NZEF in New Caledonia. In 1943 Dr Edward Sayers (1902-1985) was head of the medical division at the 4th NZ General Hospital and he was given enough penicillin from the Americans to treat four cases. Dr Adams in a base camp reception hospital was given enough for two cases. He describes personally giving the first injections of penicillin for a severe case of sulphathiazole resistant gonorrhoea. After penicillin became available, because of a lack of confidence in its efficacy, it was combined with the well-tried arsenical treatment for a further 10 years.⁹⁹

Some practitioners returning from the war maintained their interest in the specialty as they returned to civilian practice, none with as much conviction as Dr Bill Platts. Others were:

From the Army:

Dr Douglas P Kennedy ED OSTJ (d.1972) Medical Officer of Health, Christchurch and later Director-General of Health. Dr Bill Platts recalls that Dr Kennedy had been the Divisional Hygiene Officer of the NZ Division during the 8th Army North African Campaign. He remembered inspecting the brothels in Tripoli with Dr Kennedy on the day after the city fell to the New Zealanders. With this long forged friendship and their war experiences it was fortuitous that STDs were given special priority by both men at a time when the specialty needed nurturing. They were an impressive team.

Dr James Carter Scott (1915-1988) was born and trained in England and served on a British troop ship carrying troops to the Far East. After the war he trained in venereology and dermatology in Edinburgh. In 1950 he resigned from the British Army and emigrated to New Zealand where he took up a position as dermatologist at Southland Hospital. He practised in Dunedin, Gore and Invercargill and in 1985 moved to Queenstown.^{47,48}

Brigadier Brian McMahon CBE (1929-) venereologist in Dunedin who became Director-General of Defence Medical Services.

From the Navy:

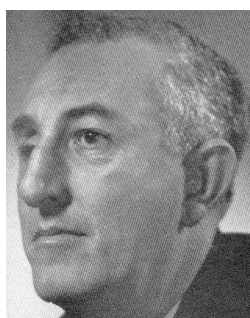
Lieutenant Richard Campbell Begg (1924-) He joined the DoH in 1962 and was promoted to Head Office in 1976 when he became Deputy Director Division of Public Health. He was responsible for the annual venereology meetings arranged by the DoH and took a leading role in the transition period after the NZVS was formed. He became the first Director of Health Promotion when that position was established in 1980. He retired in 1984.¹³

Mr Peter Eccles Smith (retired 1986) former surgeon, health educator and STD consultant to the Hawke's Bay Hospital Board.⁴⁶

From the Airforce:

Mr Humphrey Gowland FRCS (1918-1981) became a specialist urologist in Wellington with venereology as one of his many interests. He died at work in the operating theatre.³⁴

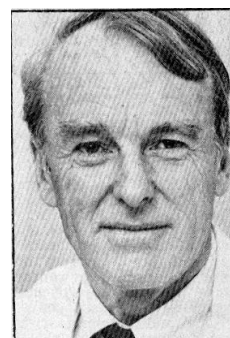
Air Commodore Kelvin Bremner (1926-) MBE (1965) OStJ (1975) CStJ (1977) venereologist, who retired in 1986 after 15 years as Director of the Wellington clinic. He also gave many years of service to the FPA in Lower Hutt and to the St John Ambulance Brigade. Dr Bremner was very much involved in teaching especially with medical students and laboratory technicians and I learned a great deal from working with him. He did much to raise the profile of STDs both locally and nationally by using the media with savvy. He was well qualified in medicine with the following degrees: BSc 1947, MBChB 1952, DTM&H (London) 1958, DPH 1959, DIH 1959, DipVen (Liverpool) 1972, MFCM (UK) 1973, AOM (RCP London) 1978, MCCM (NZ) 1979, FACOM 1987, FAFOM (RACP) 1994. He specialised in occupational health and worked with a number of organisations including the Land Transport Safety Authority and the ACC. He also had a distinguished military career and rose from Director Medical Services in the RNZAF to be the Director-General Defence Medical Services. In the 60s he was appointed Honorary Physician to the Governor General and to the Queen when she visited 1976-77. He was awarded the Vietnam Medal (1968) and the Queen Elizabeth II Silver Jubilee Medal (1977).



Dr DP Kennedy



Dr Campbell Begg



Dr Kelvin Bremner

1946 The pro-natalist report of the Dominion Population Committee considered that if contraceptives were widely used they could destroy the moral stamina of the nation. The universal family benefit was introduced.

1953 Dr Frank Jepson (d.1986) a UK trained public health specialist in the DoH, had only worked in NZ for a couple of years when he was seconded for three years to become the first Medical Officer of Health in Samoa. He directed the WHO eradication of yaws programme in Samoa. From 1961-1979 he was Medical Officer of Health in Christchurch.⁷⁵

28 November 1953 The first FPA clinic opened in Auckland without the blessing of the medical establishment.¹³⁰ [The NZ Division of the British Medical Association did not reverse their opinion until 1961.]

1954 The report “*Moral Delinquency in Children and Adolescents*” was released and became popularly known as the Mazengarb Report after the chairman of the committee, Wellington lawyer OC (Ossie) Mazengarb. The special committee was set up because of a public outcry over teenage behaviour in Lower Hutt. The report blamed lack of parental supervision mainly and advocated a return to traditional Christian values. A copy of the report was sent to all homes receiving the universal family benefit. Mazengarb’s conservative views dominated the committee and he then helped to draft three pieces of legislation relating to: (1) indecent publications (2) child welfare and (3) the one that has had most impact on sexual health, an amendment to the Police Offences Act. This prohibited contraceptive education or services for under 16s. [The law was modified in 1977 and transferred to the CS&A Act. The legislation had a negative effect on sexuality education generally but its impact was most keenly felt by those engaged in HIV prevention programmes. As contraceptives, condoms could not be publicised where under 16s might be exposed to the information. It was a paradox that in 1977 under 16s were given the right (under Section 25A of the Guardianship Act) to decide whether or not to have an abortion and yet they were unable to be instructed in the use of contraceptives. Section 3 of the CS&A Act was finally repealed in 1990 through the initiative of Minister of Health Helen Clark.¹³⁹]

1955 Cases of gonorrhoea reached an all time low thanks to effective treatments with sulphonamides and penicillin. Complacency set in and numbers rose in succeeding years. The same pattern occurred worldwide.

1961 The oral contraceptive pill became available in NZ but only for married women.

1963 From 1910 the Indecent Publications Act allowed books on sexuality or contraception to be banned. The Government revamped the 1910 legislation and established the Indecent Publications Tribunal.

June 1964 The Director-General of Health in New Zealand, Dr Harold B Turbott, chaired the 34th session of the WHO and the executive board made a strong plea for Member States to increase their efforts to stem the rising tide of syphilis and gonorrhoea.⁶⁴

Dr Harold Turbott (1899-1988)

Early in his medical career, after qualifying at Otago Medical School, Dr Turbott worked in China and India and became interested in Public Health. When working as the Medical Officer of Health in Gisborne he recognised the challenge of infectious diseases to Maori health especially tuberculosis. He worked in several health districts and in Samoa. In 1940 he became Director of School Hygiene in the DoH and in 1947 Deputy Director-General of Health responsible for Public Health. He became Director-General in 1959 but not without a furore and an appeal from his rival Dr AWS Thompson who took him to court. In 1959 he was awarded the ISO (Imperial Service Order) awarded to civil servants for long and meritorious service. He had an amazing record in public broadcasting and was well known as the radio doctor from 1943 to 1984. In the latter years he gave an interesting seven-minute talk on health each week. Venereal diseases were the topic of several of his broadcasts.¹⁵⁸ He was a long-standing executive member of WHO and in 1960-1961 was President of the World Health Assembly. He retired from the DoH in 1964 and continued to support public health through a number of voluntary activities.¹⁶⁰

26 June 1964 The Director-General of Health Dr DP Kennedy convened the 1st Conference on VD in Wellington ostensibly to revise the very outdated social hygiene regulations of 1925.

This led to the VD Regulations 1964. It was also an attempt to stem the increase in gonorrhoea, NSU and to a lesser extent syphilis. Four venereologists attended this historic meeting: Dr Hugh Stringer from Dunedin, Dr Bill Platts from Christchurch, Mr Humphrey Gowland, specialist urologist from Wellington and Dr Reginald Harper from Auckland plus the Medical Officers of Health from the main centres. Clinics at this time were often held in the basements of hospitals in the evenings and run by war trained doctors and technicians. Females were usually managed by a dedicated clinic sister. Yearly statistics for gonorrhoea and syphilis were sent to the DoH but the clinic officers had never met one another.

From 1964 the DoH played an important role by organising annual meetings with venereologists, publishing statistics in the annual report of the Department, producing health education materials and assisting with visits of overseas experts to advise the Department, even if their advice was not heeded. We had Dr RE (Bobbie) Lees from London in 1971, Dr RS (Robbie) Morton (1917-2002) from Sheffield in 1974^{58,85} and, later on, Dr RD (Duncan) Catterall from London in 1981 and Dr A (Sandy) McMillan from Edinburgh in 1985.



Dr Robbie Morton



Dr Duncan Catterall



Dr Sandy McMillan

1966 A small number of gay men and straight supporters established the New Zealand Homosexual Law Reform Society. IUDs were introduced for contraception, mainly the Lippes loop.

1969 Depo Provera contraceptive injection became available in NZ.

April 1969 An editorial in the NZ Medical Journal condemned the lack of training in venereology and the poor standards of services for the treatment of venereal diseases.¹⁵⁹

1970 Morals crusader Patricia Bartlett founded the Society for the Protection of Community Standards⁸⁶. The Society for the Protection of the Unborn Child (SPUC) was formed with Sir William Liley as National President. Abortion became a public issue.

February 1971 The Abortion Law Reform Association of NZ (ALRANZ) was formed with Mrs Isabel Stanton as President. [In 1972 a breakaway feminist group formed the Women's National Abortion Action Campaign (WONAAC) with Di Cleary as spokesperson.]

December 1971 The NZ Government announced the first grant to NZFPA.

1971 The Director-General of Health, Dr DP Kennedy, introduced the Awards Scheme for training in venereology. This enabled Hospital Board staff to be trained for clinic expansion. Dr Mavis MacDougall was the first recipient.

Dr Mavis MacDougall (née McClymont) (d.1999)



Dr MacDougall practised in Auckland and was the first from Australasia to study for the Diploma in Venereology. She was also the first NZ female graduate to specialise in venereology.¹¹⁶ She graduated MBChB from Otago University in 1941. She commenced work at the Auckland Hospital Women's VD clinic in 1970 and promoted cervical smear tests for all her patients. Her clientele came from a wide spectrum and included prostitutes. After completing her Diploma in Liverpool in 1971 she then, at her own expense, visited other clinics in the UK, Europe and North America. She was registered with the MCNZ as a specialist venereologist in 1971 joining an elite group of five. She enjoyed travel and in 1975 visited China to observe their (at that time) low rate of infection.

Dr MacDougall was a stalwart of the Auckland Branch of the NZMWA.⁷⁶ From 1951-55 she was Treasurer, from 1975-78 President and from 1980-81 she served on the committee. At the national level, from 1983-85 she was the National Corresponding Secretary. Internationally, her involvement with NZMWA combined well with her interest in travel and she attended conferences in Brazil (1975), Tokyo (1976), Berlin (1978), Birmingham (1980) and Vancouver (1984).

May 1974 The Auckland Medical Aid Centre opened as the first private abortion clinic in NZ. In September 1974 the police raided the clinic and 500 files were seized. Dr Woolnough was accused of procuring 12 abortions. This led to two Supreme Court trials; the first resulting in a hung jury and the second an acquittal. The Appeal Court upheld the "not guilty" verdict.

1975 Amendments were made to the VD Regulations 1964 in consultation with those attending national venereology conferences arranged by the DoH. The Regulations were a recurring item at conferences. Some things haven't changed!

1976 Penicillin resistant gonorrhoea was first isolated by the NHI in late 1976.

1970s During the 1970s there were 12 STD clinics in NZ attached to outpatient departments of major hospitals. [This increased to 13 in 1983 with the addition of a second clinic in Auckland. This number remained constant throughout the 1980s with one closure and one opening.] Abortion became an issue especially for feminists. To contain the public debate Prime Minister Wallace Rowling set up a Royal Commission on CS&A in 1975. The Commission deliberated for 18 months and reported to Parliament in March 1977. It was a very conservative report which engendered much public controversy.

December 1977 The CS&A Act was passed, based partly on the report of the Royal Commission. It established an Abortion Supervisory Committee and a system of "certifying consultants" to approve requests for abortion. The Crimes Act was amended to change the grounds for abortion. The resulting legislation, passed in an all-night sitting, proved unworkable until it was returned to Parliament for amendments in July 1978. [Most abortions (98%) are now done on the grounds of serious danger to mental health.] Any lingering doubts about the legality of sterilisation operations were removed and condoms were now required to conform to a recognised standard. Initially this was the British Standard (BS 3704) carrying the British kitemark. Disappointingly there were still restrictions on contraception for under 16s although one improvement was that doctors could now legally prescribe contraceptives for this age group.

1978 Some condoms became available free on prescription. The NHI was able to culture chlamydia. The inaugural meeting of the NZVS was held in Wellington on 4 December 1978.

7-8 September 1979 I chaired a national seminar at the University Extension Otago University on “Contraception and the Young”. The workshops produced a number of recommendations including repeal of Section 3 of the CS&A Act (contraception and under 16s).

1980 For many years Dr Bill McIndoe was the only colposcopist in NZ. In 1980 he joined with Trevor Svenson (Christchurch) and Graeme Duncan (Wellington) to initiate a NZ Colposcopy Society. [At the first scientific meeting in 1986 Professor René Cartier of Paris was the guest speaker. Colposcopy was under the microscope in the Cartwright inquiry of 1987-8. Professor Cartier came again to NZ in 1993.¹⁵⁴ The role of colposcopy in Sexual Health Services and Sexual Assault Services is still evolving.]

January 1982 In *Wall v. Livingstone*, New Plymouth paediatrician and anti-abortionist Dr Melvyn Wall challenged the decision of the two certifying consultants, Drs Livingstone and Roborgh, who approved an abortion for a 15 year old girl. The High Court ruled that Wall had no standing to bring the proceedings. The Court of Appeal upheld this decision.

1982 The VD Regulations were revised. The section on food handlers was required for the USA meat trade. The section mandating parental involvement for under 16s was removed. Under the new provision a doctor could decide not to inform the parent or guardian if the doctor considered that to do so would be undesirable in the interests of the child. Routine clinical tests for chlamydia were not yet available so chlamydia was not included in the list of venereal diseases requiring follow-up and contact tracing. Despite many attempts this has never been rectified.

May 1983 HIV reached NZ, although we weren't aware of it at the time. A New Zealander who had been on holiday in San Francisco presented with an illness that was later recognised as an acute HIV seroconversion illness.¹⁰⁶ Gay activists were the first to recognise the seriousness of this new illness.

August 1983 AIDS was made a notifiable disease in NZ. Articles began to appear in the NZ Medical Journal for the first time.

1984 The first notified case of AIDS received considerable publicity. A NZ gay man who had contracted AIDS while on holiday in San Francisco and who had been living in Sydney, returned home to his family in New Plymouth in February and died soon after, on 1 April from meningitis. New chlamydia tests became available in NZ for routine testing, as distinct from research.

8 March 1985 Wellington Central Labour MP Fran Wilde introduced the Homosexual Law Reform Bill in Parliament. There were two objectives; to decriminalise consenting sexual activity over the age of 16 and to include sexual orientation as grounds for complaint under the Human Rights Commission Act 1977. After much debate the first aim was achieved but not the second. [That had to wait for the Human Rights Act 1993.]

23 May 1985 An article appeared in *The Dominion* stating that the DoH would next month consider whether chlamydial infections should be officially classified as venereal diseases.

July 1985 A public campaign was conducted to reach women with a Dalkon Shield inserted advising removal of the IUD. [This led to the establishment of an IUD Advisory Committee advising the Minister of Health. I served on this and became chairperson.]

11 September 1985 An article by the DoH in the NZ Medical Journal³³ stated “It was recommended by the annual conference of the Venereology Society, and endorsed by the communicable disease control advisory committee, that chlamydia be included in an amendment to the Venereal Diseases Regulations. If the recommendation is adopted, as seems likely, the same provisions under the VD regulations will apply for chlamydia as presently apply for chancroid, gonorrhoeal infection, syphilis and venereal granuloma. The amendment should be finalised in the next few months.” Almost 20 years later we are still waiting.

1985 The AIDS Support Network became the AIDS Foundation which has played a major role in the control of HIV/AIDS. From October 1985 all blood was screened for HIV.

9 July 1986 After being debated for 16 months the Homosexual Law Reform Bill was passed (49-44). Homosexual acts became lawful for consenting partners from the age of 16 yrs thus achieving equality with heterosexuals. An attempt to raise the age of consent to 18 years was defeated (68-18).

December 1986 The DoH organised the first contact tracers course, Wellington.

1987 The Awhina clinic opened in Wellington. The Ettie Rout clinic opened in Christchurch. Te Roopu Tautoko, the Maori Support Network was set up. The DoH published a professional booklet on HIV/AIDS [Revised 1988, 1993, 1999.]

1987 In 1987 a group of Wellington sex workers including Catherine Healy, discussed setting up a collective. They were approached by the DoH with a proposal to promote safer sex and AIDS prevention. With funding the collective established offices in Auckland and Christchurch and later on branches in other regions and clinical services. NZPC has close links with male prostitutes, transgender groups and needle exchange programmes. NZPC publishes a quarterly magazine *Siren* for sex workers and has produced a video for sex industry workers “*Sold on Safe Sex*”. NZPC also has an important advocacy role and has worked closely with members of Parliament to improve the legal situation for sex workers by promoting the decriminalisation of prostitution. Successive parliamentarians who have taken on this issue have been Maurice Williamson, Katherine O’Regan and Tim Barnett.



Catherine Healy

June 1987 *Metro* magazine published “*An Unfortunate Experiment at National Women’s*” by Sandra Coney and Phillida Bunkle. This criticised the conservative treatment of cervical cancer by Dr Herbert Green (1916-2001) at National Women’s Hospital and led to the Cartwright inquiry. In 1988 the Cartwright Report was published.²³ The report found serious failures in the management of carcinoma in situ (CIS) at National Women’s Hospital and made a number of recommendations for improved patient care. [In April 2001 Dame Silvia Cartwright was appointed Governor-General. Phillida Bunkle became an Alliance List MP (1996-2002). Sandra Coney remains active in the Women’s Health Action Trust.]

12-13 November 1987 The 1st National Conference on AIDS, held in Wellington, was organised by the Wellington Postgraduate Medical Society and the DoH. Australian experts included Professor Ron Penny from St Vincent’s Hospital Sydney, Phil Carswell, an AIDS education officer from Victoria and Dr Michael Ross, expat kiwi psychologist.

10 December 1987 The Misuse of Drugs Amendment Bill, introduced by Minister of Health David Caygill, was passed in Parliament making it legal for IVDU to buy or exchange needles from chemist shops.

February 1988 After a number of clinical trials here and overseas an immunisation programme for Hepatitis B was introduced for newborn infants. The needle exchange scheme was introduced.

1988 DSAC was formed by a group of doctors.³⁸ The origins dated back to initiatives taken in 1982 when the Police and the newly established HELP Foundation provided a roster of women doctors to provide 24 hour cover for the examination of sexual abuse victims in Auckland. Similar rosters were established in South Auckland, Wellington and Tauranga. [DSAC has since brought a number of world authorities on the medical management of sexual abuse to NZ. The first of these, in 1989, was Professor Astrid Heger, Director of the Child Sexual Abuse Clinic at the University of Southern California School of Medicine.³⁹ DSAC has provided training for health professionals and produced written material such as a comprehensive manual, a book for GPs¹¹⁹ and pamphlets. Dr Carol Shand and Dr Juliet Broadmore were invited to join the ACSHP to provide expertise and work closely with Australian colleagues. Sexual assault is now a core subject for trainees in sexual health medicine.]



Dr Juliet Broadmore and Dr Carol Shand

1989 The Auckland Herpes Support Network, the forerunner of the NZ Herpes Foundation, was formed by people with herpes, for people with herpes, to provide support and education.²⁵ The group worked independently but in association with the Auckland Sexual Health Service and produced brochures for patients. The group also networked with overseas support groups in the UK, USA and Australia.

15 February 1989 The specialty was given a boost when Minister of Health Helen Clark announced a proposal to combat the spread of venereal diseases, a \$1.5M Service Development Grant for the expansion of STD clinic facilities. Two thirds of the money was allocated for additional staff and the rest for education, equipment and staff training. [Details of the amounts to each of the Area Health Boards were announced in February 1990. Barry Dallas, West Coast mayor and Area Health Board member, said their grant of \$42,000 was not wanted and should be sent back. "People would be too embarrassed to attend. Anyway the diseases are not a problem on the coast". There was also a row in Tauranga due largely to the release of incorrect and inflated STI figures used by the Board when applying for funding. Clinics were upgraded and by the end of 1991 there were 23 clinics operating and a new co-ordinating position established within the DoH to which Dr Heather Lyttle was appointed.]

4-16 May 1989 At a national meeting in Wellington, The National Council on AIDS launched a policy discussion paper "*The HIV/AIDS Epidemic: Towards a New Zealand Strategy*".

26 May 1989 Minister of Health Helen Clark officially opened the Auckland Hospital Department of Genitourinary Medicine. The Department was resited from the general Outpatients Department of Auckland Hospital, to Building 16 near the Auckland Domain.

June 1989 At a meeting in Wanganui the NZ Association for Adolescent Health and Development (NZAAHD) was established. The inaugural President was Dr Alastair Wilson, Wanganui. The current international President is Dr Sue Bagshaw.

August 1989 DoH published "*Service Planning Guidelines for STDs*". The Chairperson for the working party was Professor Colin Mantell and NZVS members of the working party were Dr Janet Say, Dr Heather Lyttle and Dr Gordon Scrimgeour.

14 December 1989 Minister of Health Helen Clark launched a number of initiatives under the title “*A New Relationship: Introducing the new interface between the Government and Public Health sector*”. She outlined 10 explicit goals to be met by the year 2000 but, other than to reduce the incidence of invasive cervical cancer, sexual health was not included.

1990 The DoH published “*The New Zealand Strategy on HIV/AIDS 1990*” a 120 page comprehensive action plan from the National Council on AIDS. The chairperson was Peggy Koopman-Boyden and Dr Richard Meech was a member. Associate Minister of Health Katherine O’Regan wrote the introduction. There were 12 key recommendations covering discrimination, harm reduction programmes, counselling, services, free antibody testing and health promotion.

1990 Australia introduced HCV screening for blood donations. Medical experts here recommended screening but no action was taken. National’s Simon Upton became Minister of Health in November 1990 and became embroiled in what became known as the “bad blood” scandal. [The Minister recommended screening in July 1991 but Treasury wrangled over the cost and screening was not implemented for a further year. In July 1992 the Minister was warned by medical experts that haemophiliacs using Factor 9 were still at risk of Hepatitis C through the pooled plasma source. An inquiry was initiated in December 1992. Later the MoH instituted a Hepatitis C Traceback programme to identify all patients at risk between August 1990 and July 1992, estimated to be about 600 persons. In 1998 only five patients accepted the Government offer of compensation. In 1999 patients were offered \$20,000 but only 18 accepted this offer. In 2000 a class action for 240 victims was lodged with Labour’s Minister of Health Annette King and patients were eventually offered \$40,000 + \$4,000 for legal expenses. Previous recipients of lesser amounts were awarded a top up. Some accepted the new offer. Others fight on for greater compensation.]

9-10 March 1990 The Glaxo Foundation for Medical Education, Palmerston North, sponsored a meeting to discuss the future development of STD services and training. Dr Heather Lyttle reported on her part-time position as National Co-ordinator employed by the DoH, overseeing the appropriate use of the Service Development Grant provided by the Minister of Health for the expansion of clinic facilities.¹¹⁴

March 1990 The DoH published “*Adolescent Sexuality: The Report of the Taskforce on Adolescent Sexuality*”. The taskforce, established in 1988, was chaired by Dr Gillian Durham. Section 8.4 of the Report considered STDs/AIDS.

September 1990 Repeal of Section 3 of the CS&A Act relating to contraception and under 16s was steered through by Minister of Health Helen Clark.¹³⁹ The vote was a resounding 54-14. Other amendments to the abortion laws were rejected.

December 1990 Mr Justice Hillyer in a High Court ruling provided guidelines for the sterilisation of intellectually handicapped minors. Court approval is not required if there is parental and professional consensus that the operation is in the best interests of the child.

1991 The Government published a Green and White Paper “*Your Health and the Public Health*” and Minister of Health Simon Upton announced major changes in the structure and functions of the health service to take place over the next two years with a purchaser/provider split and competitive contracting managed by four Regional Health Authorities. Plans were for an independent Public Health Commission (PHC) within the DoH and below that, the Public Health Agency, a Government owned business with three regional offices. Hospitals were to become managed Crown Health Enterprises and elected Hospital Boards were made redundant. There were to be more “user pays” policies. The DoH was to become a Ministry as from 1 July

1993. [This happened but only some of the other changes survived a change in government. Minister of Health Annette King reinstated District Health Boards.]

March 16-22 1992 The 1st International HIV/AIDS Conference of indigenous peoples of the land coming together was held in Auckland.

June 1992 The Associate Minister of Health, Katherine O'Regan, published "*Adolescent Health: Potential for Action*". STDs including HIV/AIDS were priority areas. She also moved a Supplementary Order Paper to the Human Rights Bill 1992, to add sexual orientation and presence of infectious organisms to the grounds protecting people from discrimination.

August 1992 A new Christchurch Sexual Health Centre was officially opened by the Mayor of Christchurch, Vicki Buck. Dr Bill Platts spoke at the opening. In Auckland, Body Positive was started as a peer support group for HIV +ve people. [It is still providing support.]

1993 The PHC was established to improve and protect public health. The Chair of the Board was Professor David Skegg and the CEO was Dr Gillian Durham. In February 1993 NZVS prepared a major submission on sexual health services including HIV. In June 1993 the PHC published "*HIV/AIDS. The Public Health Commission's Advice to the Minister of Health 1993-1994.*" [The PHC had a short life and was disbanded in June 1995. Half the staff were deployed to the Public Health Group within the MoH.]

January 1993 A new rural clinic opened in the Wairarapa in Masterton thanks to the efforts of Public Health Nurse Maria Travers and Dr Linda Dayan, supported by the Wellington Sexual Health Service.²⁸



Dr Linda Dayan and Maria Travers

30 September 1993 The PHC recommended that pregnant women should take 5mg folic acid daily to prevent neural tube defects.

November 1993 Standards New Zealand approved a NZ standard for condoms based on international standards.

June 1994 The NZ Herpes Foundation was formed. Guidelines were published and a toll-free hotline was opened. The coordinator Claire Hurst is highly regarded for her nursing and organisational skills.²² The 1st edition of "*Guidelines for the Management of Genital Herpes in NZ*" was published and was well received by clinicians. [Later editions followed in 1996, 1998, 1999, 2000 and 2002.]

27 July 1995 NZ passed an Amendment to the Crimes Act outlawing female genital mutilation, organised sex tours and the publishing of material to promote sexual conduct with children. Christine Fletcher, National MP for Eden, was going to introduce a private member's Bill but it was taken up as a Government measure. The section banning female genital mutilation was opposed by the Human Rights Commission. The Bill was passed and became effective from January 1996. In December 1995 the PHC issued a booklet to health professionals on female genital mutilation.

January 1996 Dr Gillian Durham, Director of Public Health, MoH, called for submissions on the discussion document "*Prevention of Sexually Transmitted Disease*". NZVS made a submission.⁷¹

1 May 1996 Minister of Health Jenny Shipley announced a package to improve sexual and reproductive health services and to reduce the number of unplanned pregnancies, abortions and

STIs. Some contraceptive pills were to be made free of charge. Young people and Pacific Island women were targeted as groups with special needs.

February 1997 The MoH distributed a circular “*HIV in Pregnancy: Risk Screening Guidelines and Information for Health Professionals*”. The debate about screening for HIV in pregnancy continues to the present day.

April 1997 The MoH published “*Surveillance of Sexually Transmitted Diseases: A Discussion Document*”. NZVS made a submission.

7 May 1997 Minister of Health Annette King launched the Intersex Society of New Zealand (Aotearoa) later renamed the Intersex Trust Aotearoa New Zealand, founded by Mani Mitchell. On this occasion at Victoria University we saw the NZ premiere of the video “*Hermaphrodites Speak*” filmed at the world’s first ever retreat/conference for intersexuals held in California in 1996 which Mani attended. [Mani has had a close association with the Wellington Sexual Health Service and has made us all aware of the difficulties encountered by those born with ambiguous genitalia, through her incredibly honest presentations at our conferences in Taupo (1997), Christchurch (1999) and Palmerston North (2000). She has also visited and spoken to health professionals in Australia including a very successful visit to Tasmania arranged by Sexual Health Nurse Pamela Neeson. A documentary “*Mani’s Story*” was shown on TVNZ in April 2003.]



Mani Mitchell

August 1997 Health & Disability Analysis Unit, Midland Health, published “*Sexual & Reproductive Health in the Midland Health Region*”, a valuable document which covered a range of sexual health issues. This was followed a year later with “*Pregnancy & Childbirth in the Midland Health Region*”.

December 1998 Standards New Zealand approved a NZ standard for polyurethane condoms. NZ is the only country in the world to adopt a standard because it is required under Section 6 of the CS&A Act. This states that all condoms must conform to a gazetted standard.

1999 HPV Project co-ordinator Claire Hurst does a similar job for HPV as she has already done for HSV. 1st edition of “*Guidelines for the Management of Genital Warts and/or Genital HPV in NZ*”. [Later editions followed in 2001 and 2002.]

1 July 1999 The Wellington Sexual Health Service was banished from Wellington Public Hospital by American CEO Dr Leo Mercer. The Health Funding Authority put the service contract up for tender and it was awarded to WIPA. Frustrated Clinical Director Dr Hilary Andrews did not seek reappointment and returned to the UK. Most staff were reappointed to the new service located nearby. This was the first time a Public Hospital had opted out of providing sexual health services. The circumstances in Wellington were rather different to those in Christchurch in 1996 when the contract had been put up for tender by the Regional Health Authority. In Christchurch the Sexual Health Service had retained the contract against competition. The health reforms of the 1990s brought an adversarial contracting environment with the emphasis on financial accountability and this seriously impacted on services.

October 1999 Parliament passed the Medicines Amendment Act extending prescribing rights to nurses and other health professionals. [In March 2000 Minister of Health Annette King asked the MoH to start working on sector proposals to implement nurse prescribing in four new scopes of practice including sexual and reproductive health.]

June 2000 Minister of Health Annette King released a discussion document “*The New Zealand Health Strategy*”. Sexual Health was not one of the chosen 12 priority areas for immediate action.

11 October 2000 Labour MP Tim Barnett introduced the Prostitution Reform Bill, into which the NZPC had considerable input. The vote was 87-21 to have the Bill referred to the Justice and Electoral Select Committee. Both NZVS and ACSHP made written and oral submissions.

29 March 2001 Parliament passed legislation making sex with a prostitute under 18 years of age, illegal. The Crimes Amendment Bill brought NZ in line with the International Labour Organisation (ILO) convention on child protection. The legislation also removed the gender distinction, the 1961 Act having only referred to females.

June 2001 Durex launched ‘Avanti’ the male polyurethane condom, an alternative for those with a latex allergy. It had been available overseas for a decade.

August 2001 The MoH and the Minister of Health Annette King approved the use of mifepristone (Mifegyne) for medical abortions in NZ.¹⁴⁶

October 2001 Minister of Health Annette King released Phase One of the “*Sexual and Reproductive Health Strategy*” which is the overarching direction and framework but with no specific action plans. Dr Rick Franklin and Kitty Flannery were appointed to the Sector Reference Group and Dr Jane MacDonald and Dr Christine Roke also attended meetings. It is hoped that the next phase will include more specific goals.



Dr Rick Franklin



Dr Jane MacDonald



Dr Christine Roke

October 2001 NZFPA began importing the polyurethane female condom from Australia. None of the major pharmaceutical firms were interested in this niche product.

1999-2002 After a lengthy gestation the Diploma in Sexual & Reproductive Health received funding from the Clinical Training Agency of the MoH, thanks largely to the efforts of Dr Sue Bagshaw. This is a joint training programme for primary care doctors wishing to gain further expertise in sexual health with support from RANZCOG, NZFPA and the ACSHP.

May 2002 Trained pharmacists and nurses began to dispense emergency contraceptive pills. Schering launched a new over-the-counter brand ‘Levonelle’, which is the same as the prescription brand ‘Postinor-2’ (progestogen only).

June 2002 NZ research concluded there is no link between vasectomy and prostate cancer.²⁴

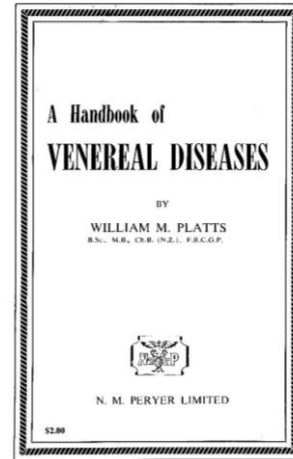
February 2003 When the Prostitution Bill was returned to Parliament for the second reading the vote (a conscience vote) was 62-56. At the time of writing the Bill is due to be tabled again in Parliament with various amendments.

April 2003 The High Court ruled that women having an early medical abortion are not legally required to stay in a licensed institution until the embryo is expelled.

CHAPTER 3. DR BILL PLATTS MBE (1909-2001)

Dr William Mummery Platts MBE 1985

BSc 1930, MB ChB 1936, MRCGP 1966, FRCGP 1971, FRACP 1977



In the history of venereology in NZ Dr Bill Platts is the one who deserves the highest accolade for establishing the specialty as a respected and professional entity. His career straddled more than four decades from World War II in 1940 to the beginning of the AIDS epidemic in the early 1980s.

He was born in Port Chalmers on 6 November 1909. He attended Nelson College. His first degree was a BSc from Auckland University in 1930. In 1936 he qualified in medicine from Otago University where he won University Blues for swimming in 1932-33 and for rowing in 1934. He was a house surgeon at Christchurch Hospital 1936-37 and then travelled to the UK and worked at the London Chest Hospital in 1938 and in the Royal Masonic Hospital, London 1939-40.

His venereology career began when he joined the NZ Medical Corps, London in 1940. He did 3 months of training at the 600 bed Connaught Venereal Diseases Hospital, near Aldershot, under the direction of the eminent Scottish venereologist Colonel Robert (Bobbie) Lees. He was then posted as a lieutenant to Maadi Camp Hospital in Egypt in September 1940 where his orders were to run a 50 bed tented hospital for VD and this he did from 1940-42.

Thousands of patients in the 2nd NZEF were treated by Dr Platts. He rose through the ranks to become Captain, then Major, in command of advanced dressing stations and 4th and 6th Field Ambulances during the 8th Army campaign 1942-44. He instituted a special register of patients with syphilis, which enabled men under treatment to be returned to their units and receive follow-up treatment as outpatients at NZ Field Ambulances. This conserved manpower through an earlier return to duty. In 1942 he set up a mobile contact tracing unit on a 14cwt truck and literally followed his patients across North Africa to Syria, Tunisia and Italy until the end of the war. In a paper on his wartime experiences he recalled that the main complications with the treatment of syphilis with IV arsenicals were perivenous necrosis and exfoliative dermatitis.⁹⁹

On his return to NZ Dr Platts worked as a casualty officer in Christchurch Hospital in 1946 and from 1947-84 combined general practice with his interest in venereology. He was a consulting venereologist at Christchurch Hospital and became the clinic Director. He married Patricia

Deans in 1949 and they had four sons and two daughters. In 1966 he qualified MRCGP, in 1971 FRCGP and in 1977 FRACP.

In co-operation with Dr DP Kennedy he kept alive the interest of colleagues in what seemed to be a diminishing problem with the advent of penicillin. He was an indefatigable campaigner and wrote widely for the profession, for the general public and for schools. He has 13 articles listed in PubMed appearing in peer reviewed journals from 1969-1985 and he published numerous other articles, letters and book reviews. He wrote a number of pamphlets which were distributed by the DoH. In 1972 he published a popular and useful handbook for GPs.⁹⁷ He contributed the section on VD in Avery's *Drug Treatment* in 1976. A shorter resource booklet for health professionals was published by the DoH in 1982.⁹⁸ He was a consultant venereologist to the DoH for over 20 years from 1964-87.

Dr Platts achieved recognition internationally. He maintained close links with venereologists in Australia and in the IUVDT and its South East Asian and Western Pacific Branch formed in 1975. Although he was unable to attend, he was elected to the committee at their first meeting in Singapore. He was a member of the WHO Expert Advisory Panel on Venereal Diseases and in 1967 was Exchange Consultant to the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi.

He was particularly involved in professional training especially postgraduate courses for general practitioners. I first met Dr Platts when he was the guest speaker at the quarterly meeting of the Taranaki Division of the Medical Association of NZ in the New Plymouth Public Hospital on 23 May 1968. At that time I was doing VD education in secondary schools. Dr Platts was well known to the medical profession because of his regular "*Practical Venereology*" articles from 1966 –1981 sent by the DoH to all medical practitioners in a series of Therapeutic Notes. Together with Dr Fred Willmott, he established what became known as the "Travelling Circus" taking VD education to the provinces, not just for doctors but for nurses, microbiologists, laboratory technicians, health educators and contact tracers.

He was inaugural President of the NZVS, elected at the annual meeting of the DoH for venereologists at Wellington Hospital on 4 December 1978. For 31 years he was Head of Department at the Christchurch Clinic from 1953 until he retired in July 1984. In 1985 he was awarded an MBE for services to medicine.¹⁰⁰ Fortunately he was persuaded to record some of his experiences which were published in 1991 in *Venereology*.¹⁰¹ In 1992 he was accorded Honorary Life Membership of the NZVS. He acted as archivist for the NZVS until 1994 when his files were handed on to the Christchurch Sexual Health Centre and Dr Heather Lyttle took over this role. He died in May 2001 at the age of 91 yrs.

Towards the end of his career Dr Platts wrote in frustration at how venereology had suffered with the modernisation of the health system. To him, it was as if the specialty was at first beheaded and then dismembered into five parts, all of equal status: specialist services, communicable diseases, primary health care, health protection and women's health. Gone were the established links that he had worked so hard to maintain within the DoH. Negotiations became completely frustrating and unrewarding. AIDS overshadowed STIs. Despite this despondency he firmly believed that the way ahead lay in our maintaining excellence in our professional standards.¹⁰⁰

Dr Heather Lyttle pays a special personal tribute:

Dr Platts was the nicest boss one could ever wish for. When I started work at the STD Clinic I used to brag that I had the best and kindest consultant at Christchurch Hospital. He *was* venereology to Christchurch and to New Zealand - hugely respected and loved. He had such a nice attitude with patients and staff alike – no one ever had a bad word to say about him. He had a passion and enthusiasm for the specialty that was infectious.

The most remarkable thing was that through his close ties with the DoH and the Director-General, he had achieved so much for sexual health in New Zealand.

When I started at the STD Clinic in 1979, he thought I was a patient for quite a few weeks – he was delightfully vague at times. We had a clinic in the Outpatients Department after 6 pm when other clinics had gone and we used to have the cleaners vacuuming around us. We had one cupboard for the notes (on cards) and a microscope - and that was it. Any letters that needed to be typed - we would beg the dermatology secretary to help us out. There was no office for administration other than Dr Platt's car where a few letters seemed to lie. However the patients were seen and got the best diagnosis and treatment there was at the time.

When I started ghost writing his letters to lobby for an improved service in Christchurch in the early 80s, he used to laugh and say “They will know this isn't from me” – being stropky was just not in his nature.

He retired from the service in 1984 at the age of 74 years. He was still very active and that included skiing and working as the doctor at the retired war veterans home where he would look after the ‘oldies’. He was also a devoted family man – I remember the way he would ring his wife from the clinic and the lovely way he would speak about her and about his family.



Dr & Mrs Platts at Christchurch Conference 1981

Even after retirement he was still involved and interested and kept records - still reading journals and communicating with fellow venereologists around the world. He was very supportive of the changes in Christchurch and very proudly came to the opening of the new clinic in 1992 (when he was 82) and gave a speech on the past and his vision for the future.

He began to shy away from meetings and conferences after 1990 saying that his memory wasn't good but he was still interested to hear how the services were developing throughout New Zealand and was concerned about the problems they were experiencing.

It was a privilege to know him and to have worked with him and I will always remember him with a smile.

CHAPTER 4. THE NEW ZEALAND VENEREOLOGICAL SOCIETY

At the 11th National Venereologists Conference convened by the DoH and held in Wellington in 1975, it was resolved that NZ would form a Branch of the UK MSSVD. However, owing to the increased subscription cost for the British Journal of Venereal Diseases, this plan was abandoned. At the 12th National Venereologists Conference which took place in Wellington on 29 October 1976 it was decided to circulate interested persons with the idea of forming an independent NZ Society. While the DoH took an active role in the public health aspects of STDs, Dr Platts and others saw the need for a society to promote clinical standards, training, education and research. Some spoke strongly against the proposal, questioning the need.

In preparation for the establishment of a “Society of Venereology” four key people met in Rotorua in July 1978 to draft a Constitution. These were Dr Campbell Begg, Dr Gabrielle Collison, Dr David Taylor and Dr Bill Platts. This was presented at the 14th National Venereologists Conference in the Staff Training Unit at Wellington Hospital on Monday 4 December 1978 and the motion to form the NZ Venereological Society was passed.¹⁴²

Dr DEM Taylor acted as chairman and the inaugural executive was elected:

President Dr Bill Platts, venereologist, Christchurch

Secretary Mr Lloyd Berry, DoH, Wellington

Treasurer Dr John Miller, GP, Wellington

Executive members: Dr R Campbell Begg (DoH, Deputy Director, Division of Public Health, Wellington), Dr John McLeod (DoH, Auckland), Miss Isobel Nicol (DoH, Christchurch), Dr David Taylor (Microbiologist, Rotorua) and Mr Richard Claridge (Obstetrician & Gynaecologist, Christchurch).

Others at the inaugural meeting were:

Adams Dr JD, dermatologist, Wellington

Bettelheim Dr KA, NHI

Bremner Dr DA, pathologist, Auckland

Bremner Dr K, venereologist, Wellington Hospital

Finlayson Dr DH, Student Health, Auckland University

Frew Dr J, DoH, Auckland

Hamilton Dr W, NHI, Wellington

Johnstone Dr T, Deputy Medical Officer of Health, Auckland

Keane Dr JAN, Student Health, Waikato University

McCallum Mrs Ruth, DoH, Public Health Nurse, Auckland

MacDonald Dr J, visiting venereologist, Auckland Hospital

Malpress Dr WA, DoH, Dunedin

Meech Dr RJ, physician, Palmerston North Hospital

Metcalf Mr RV, scientist, NHI, Wellington

Moore Dr JD, GP, Wanganui

Scrimgeour Dr G, microbiologist, Palmerston North Hospital

Singh Dr J, venereologist, New Plymouth Hospital

Smith Mr PH Eccles, health educator, Napier

Sparrow Dr Margaret, Student Health, Victoria University, Wellington

Stringer Dr H, venereologist and dermatologist, Dunedin

Dr Mavis MacDougall, venereologist, Auckland Hospital sent apologies.

The first meeting of the new executive was held in the DoH's Macarthy Trust Building in Wellington on Friday 8 June 1979 and I was co-opted to the executive, principally to become a co-signatory for the Society's bank account. Little did I realise that I would serve on the executive for 15 years. The bank account was in a healthy balance thanks to the donation of \$1,500 from Beecham Laboratories Research.

When the combined meetings of the NZVS and the DoH were held in Wellington the Wellington committee members were ably supported by Dr Gordon Scrimgeour, Palmerston North, who became our secretary. The DoH continued to be responsible for the administrative session. Clinic reports, with statistics of cases seen and trends in presenting diseases, always occupied a prominent place on the agenda.²⁹⁻³² The NZVS was responsible for the clinical programme and also assumed an advocacy role.

Support from the DoH was strong, both from the Directors-General of Health, Dr HJH Hiddlestone, Dr G Salmond and Dr Karen Poutasi but, more particularly, from the staff in the Division of Public Health and local Medical Officers of Health. Those particularly associated with the NZVS were Dr Campbell Begg,¹³ Dr Derek Taylor, Dr Bryan Christmas, Dr Bill Malpress, Dr Gabrielle Collison, Dr John Clements, Dr John McLeod,⁸³ Dr John Holden, Dr John Stephenson, Dr Mel Brieseman, Dr Arvind Patel and Dr Harry Nicholls. [With the health reforms and the creation of a Ministry there is now less contact with public health professionals to the detriment of our specialty.]

March 1979 The 1st edition of *NZVS Bulletin* was published, edited by Mr Dick Claridge, Christchurch. The fledgling newsletter almost folded, and in one year, 1982, there was no publication. Subsequent editors were: Dr Janet Say (1982-1992), Kitty Flannery (1993-1995), Edith Sharp (1996-1997), Forrest Chambers (1998-1999), Rory McDonald (2000-2001) and Kitty Flannery (2002-). The *NZVS Bulletin* has been an important link for members and through the regular contributions of dedicated clinic staff such as Dr Penny Berks (Whangarei), Nurse Jill Stanton (Tauranga), Dr Pat Boulton (New Plymouth) and Nurse Shona Fordyce (Invercargill), we have gained an appreciation of sexual health activities outside the main centres. Shona Fordyce, Dr Marcia Sonneveld and I have provided a steady stream of photographs for the *NZVS Bulletin* and the archives.

NZVS BULLETIN EDITORS



Mr Dick Claridge



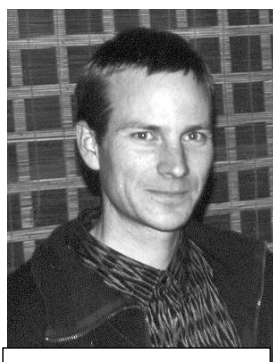
Dr Janet Say



Kitty Flannery



Edith Sharp



Forrest Chambers



Rory McDonald

In **1979** Dr Fred Willmott from England became the first full-time specialist venereologist in NZ with his appointment to Auckland Hospital. Dr Campbell Begg of the DoH recalled that this appointment was made possible through the use of the community health fund (beer and baccy tax).¹³ On his arrival he lost no time in becoming totally immersed in the affairs of the NZVS always contributing papers for our conferences. [Sadly, suffering from bureaucratic exhaustion he left in 1984. He attended the VenSouth conference in Melbourne in June 1997 and we were delighted to hear that he has recently received an Honorary Fellowship of the Royal College of Physicians in the UK.]

24-25 October 1979 1st annual NZVS Conference, Wellington. We were honoured to have as guest speaker Dr JRL (Joc) Forsyth, Director Microbiological Diagnostic Unit, University of Melbourne. Dr Forsyth took a special interest in our Society as he had been involved in starting a Venereology Society in Victoria, the first in Australia. He gave a keynote address on diagnostic tests for STDs and another paper on PPNG "*Is the β -lactamase-producing gonococcus a real threat?*"

10 October 1980 2nd annual NZVS Conference, Wellington Clinical School. I was invited by Dr Campbell Begg to give the opening address and under the title "*Focus on Youth*" used the opportunity to speak about the difficulties created by the contraceptive legal restrictions for under 16s. Dr Fred Willmott opened the clinical session and spoke on genital candidiasis. The clinical presentations were published in the NZ Medical Journal.⁸⁷

23-26 October 1981 NZ hosted one of the most exciting conferences of all time in Christchurch. Convenor Dr Mel Brieseman. The Conference was officially opened by the Minister of Health George Gair. Not only was this the 3rd annual meeting of the NZVS but the NVCA chose this venue for their 1st AGM; in addition we hosted the 2nd regional meeting of the South East Asian and Western Pacific Branch of the IUVDT.

This was a truly international conference. From Australia there was huge support with a contingent of 23, plus six from Indonesia, four from USA, three from Thailand, three from Singapore, two from India, and one from the UK, the distinguished Dr RD (Duncan) Catterall, London, President of the IUVDT. As well as participating in the Christchurch Conference, he toured NZ speaking and inspecting VD clinics.

There were so many exceptional speakers it is hard to single out the highlights but Dr Paul Wiesner from the CDC, Atlanta, Georgia, USA was most impressive and spoke with authority on PPNG, a very topical subject, and also on PID. Not on the programme, but uppermost in his mind, was the new information on PCP and Kaposi's sarcoma associated with unexplained immune deficiency. Four months earlier, on 5 June 1981, the CDC had published in the *MMWR* what would later be recognised as the first report of the AIDS epidemic based on the Los Angeles cases of PCP in gay men.¹⁶ In July 1981 *MMWR* published a second article on Kaposi's sarcoma.¹⁷ We may not all have appreciated the full impact of this news but this was an important milestone certainly not lost on Dr Morris Gollow.^{42,74}

Professor Sowmini from the Venereal Diseases Institute, Madras, India spoke on STDs in gynaecology. Her slides on syphilis were heartbreaking and made us aware of the huge gulf between countries. Australian speakers included Dr Joc Forsyth (chlamydia), Dr Morris Gollow (adenoviruses and chlamydia), Dr Ross Philpot (absorption of erythromycin) and Dr JW Tapsall (gonococcal sensitivities). Our own Dr John Keane gave a beautifully illustrated lecture on perihepatitis, the Fitz-Hugh-Curtis syndrome.⁵⁵

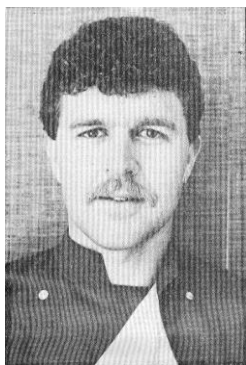
14-15 October 1982 4th annual NZVS Conference Wellington Clinical School. Theme: "Venereological Problems in O&G". Although I helped with the organisation this is the only NZVS Conference did not attend; I was attending another conference in Hawaii. However, colleague Dr Arthur Lewis taped all of the sessions so I was able to listen to them.

The guest speakers were two O&G specialists from Wellington, Mr Graeme Sharp and Mr Graeme Duncan. Areas covered included vaginal discharges, cervical cytology, PID, chlamydia, vulval dermatology and congenital syphilis. Dr Keane repeated his talk on perihepatitis. At the AGM Dr Keane reported on the IUVDT Conference he had attended earlier that year in Dublin. The workshops were on homosexuality, candidiasis and herpes.

6-7 October 1983 5th annual NZVS Conference, Wellington Clinical School. Theme: “Venereological Problems Relating to Pregnancy, Neonates and Children”. The guest speakers were O&G Professor John Hutton, Wellington, Dr TV Stanley, paediatrician, Wellington and Miriam Saphira, Auckland with her ground breaking work on child sexual abuse.¹⁰⁷

25-26 October 1984 6th annual NZVS Conference, No 1 The Terrace, Wellington. Theme: “AIDS”. The keynote speaker was Dr David Cooper from St Vincent’s Hospital, Sydney, Australia. The first case of AIDS in Australia occurred towards the end of 1982 and by October 1984, 22 cases had been confirmed: 20 in homosexual men and two through blood transfusions. Dr Richard Meech, infectious diseases specialist, spoke on HIV/AIDS in NZ. At this stage AIDS had become a notifiable disease and three cases had been notified: in Taranaki, Napier and Wellington. But it was Bruce Burnett who made a lasting impression on us all.

Bruce Burnett (1955-1985)



Bruce was diagnosed with ARC (AIDS related complex) while he was in the USA. He lived in San Francisco for 2 years and worked as a counsellor with the Shanti project, a support network for people with AIDS, using trained volunteers. He returned to NZ in November 1983. In 1984 he founded the AIDS Support Network first in Auckland then in other centres and started the AIDS hotline. Bruce worked on all fronts - with the gay community, the medical profession, the public, the politicians and the policy makers.^{11,12} At one stage he was employed by the DoH under a Project Employment Programme (PEP) but most of his work was voluntary. The organisation he founded became the NZ AIDS Foundation. Sadly, he died on 1 June 1985. On 11 July 1986 the

Auckland AIDS Foundation Clinic was named in his memory and officially opened by Minister of Health Dr Michael Bassett. Coincidentally The Homosexual Law Reform Bill had been passed two days earlier and received the royal assent on the day of the opening. He was honoured in the USA in Washington D.C. by the Names Project when a commemorative panel sewn by a friend in San Francisco was included in the quilt unfolded spectacularly on the capital lawn on 11 October 1987.

At the AGM Dr John Keane filled the vacancy left by the departure earlier in the year of Dr Willmott. When Dr Keane paid tributes to two others, to Dr Platts on his retirement from Christchurch Hospital and to Dr Begg on his retirement from the DoH, we felt as though an era had passed. Helping us look very much to the future was the dynamic Vice-President of the NVCA, Dr Basil Donovan, from Sydney. Interchange between our two organisations was seen as highly desirable. Basil outlined a proposal for a two-year training programme at Sydney University which would lead to a Masters degree in Venereology.

22 November 1984 The Chlamydia Working Party met at the University of Waikato and recommended unanimously to the DoH that chlamydia infection be included in the list of official “venereal diseases”. A submission to this effect was forwarded to Wellington.

1985 NZVS National STD Surveillance Unit took over the collation of statistics previously provided by all clinics and collated by DoH. This continued for 10 years until in 1995 Auckland and Christchurch STD clinics decided not to provide them any longer. Henceforth ESR is responsible for STD surveillance.

3-5 October 1985 7th annual NZVS Conference, Auckland. Convenor Dr Janet Say and team. There were two themes: “Genital Oncology and AIDS”. Dr Sandy McMillan from the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary gave the opening keynote address, “*Genitourinary Medicine*”, now the preferred term replacing “venereology”. We traded on his genial good nature by asking him to present three other papers on proctitis, HPV and syphilis. As one of the participants remarked “He had the ability to talk on anything at the drop of a hat and seemed to have slides on any subject.”¹¹⁸ From NZ the principal speaker on genital oncology was Mr Ron Jones, Auckland.

AIDS was highly topical and we had much to learn from Dr Sandy McMillan, Dr Rod Ellis-Pegler, Dr Paul Goldwater,⁴¹ and Dr Martin Tobias. From Adelaide, Dr Stella Heley brought us up to date with what was happening in Australia. It was resolved that we write letters to Prime Minister David Lange, and Minister of Health Dr Michael Bassett, calling for improved services to control HIV/AIDS. This was the first time that we had met for a third day; the idea being that on Saturday morning we would provide a session of interest to GPs. Dr McMillan also did a speaking tour as the Auckland Savings Bank Visiting Professor and provided the DoH with a report on STD services in NZ.

Dr John Miller chaired the session on AIDS. John’s long interest in STIs as a Wellington GP led to an appointment at Wellington Hospital STD clinic. He was a founder member of the NZVS and for 10 years was the treasurer. At the end of 1985 he travelled to San Francisco and Los Angeles. His first patient with HIV appeared that year and he gained a reputation as a GP who took a special interest in HIV/AIDS.³⁶ He organised the first peer support for HIV patients in his own home. He was sponsored by the RNZCGP to visit and train GPs in outlying centres on the diagnosis and primary care of HIV patients. In November 1985 he was a speaker at one of the early medical seminars on AIDS in Wellington. He served on the medical and scientific subcommittee of the National Council on AIDS advising the Minister of Health. He also took an interest in medical administration and served on the Wellington Hospital Board for a number of years. He retired from the Wellington STD clinic in 1994 and was made an Honorary Life Member of the NZVS in 1999.



11-13 August 1986 8th annual NZVS Conference, Christchurch.¹³⁸ Convenor Dr Heather Lyttle. This time we had a multiplicity of themes: “Chlamydia, Gonococcal Typing, Viral STDs, AIDS, NZ Services and Research”. Thanks to the NVCA and the Venereology Society of NSW we were able to call upon three overseas speakers who had attended a major scientific congress at Westmead Hospital, Sydney. Professor Luc Montagnier, who in May 1983 had identified a new retrovirus as the cause of AIDS, was unable to come but we were more than delighted with the three who did cross the Tasman - Dr David Oriel, London, who spoke on chlamydia and HPV, Dr David Miller, Department of Clinical Psychology, St Mary’s Hospital, London, who spoke on AIDS counselling and Dr Solgun Bygdeman from the Karolinska Institute, Stockholm Sweden, who spoke on *Neisseria* typing.

Dr Bryan Christmas (1926-99), Deputy Director-General of Health, gave a keynote address at the opening ceremony putting venereology and the NZVS into historical perspective. Continuing the historical theme Dr Bill Platts gave his paper “*The Venereal Then and Now*”.⁹⁹ Dr Ross Philpot presented an Australian perspective. Thanks to the calibre of our speakers the conference received good media coverage. Sandwiched in between the Australian Congress and the NZVS Conference Dr Oriel spoke at medical meetings in Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch and received a considerable amount of press coverage especially on the seriousness of chlamydial infections. On the Sunday evening before the conference we had a NZVS executive meeting at the home of Dr Platts, with Dr Oriel and Dr Philpot in attendance.

21-22 May 1987 Australian/NZ Microbiology Society Combined Meeting, Auckland University.⁷⁰ Overseas speakers included a number from Australia, including Dr Ross Philpot, Sydney. Others were Dr P Wolner-Hansen from Seattle (ex Sweden) on the microbiology of PID, Professor Robin Weiss, London on HIV/AIDS and Dr Rosenberg from Pennsylvania on the molecular biology of Hepatitis B.

15-17 October 1987 9th annual NZVS Conference, Michael's Place, Napier. The themes were: "Genital Ulceration, AIDS, Paediatric STDs, Chlamydia and HPV". We also held a Saturday all day seminar for GPs. The keynote speaker was Dr Adrian Mindel, Middlesex Hospital, London who spoke on genital ulceration, herpes and HPV. Another guest speaker was Dr Charles Farthing, AIDS research registrar and expat kiwi from St Stephen's Hospital, London. From Sydney, Dr Basil Donovan spoke on HIV transmission. Before the conference Dr Mindel and Dr Farthing spoke at medical meetings in Christchurch, Rotorua, Wellington and Auckland. This was the first time we had left the security of the main centres and we didn't know how this would work out. It was fine thanks to the dedicated staff in the area.

Those who have played a major role in developing services in the Hawke's Bay area include: **Dr Brian Hill** (retired 1987) one of the first specialist venereologists who was also a dermatologist. He was a member of the WHO Expert Advisory Committee on Venereal Diseases and Treponematoses. He kept a great selection of clinical photographs.

Mr Peter Eccles Smith (retired 1986)⁴⁶ former surgeon and health educator who said that he was inspired to take a more active role because of the initiatives of Dr Wendy Savage, an O&G specialist at Cook Hospital, Gisborne, who worked in New Zealand from 1973-76 before returning to London.¹⁰⁸

The three hard working members of the conference organising committee were:

Dr Richard Meech, infectious diseases specialist physician, chairman of the Infectious Diseases Advisory Committee (IDAC) advising the Ministry of Health and chairman of the National AIDS Scientific Advisory Committee (1985-1988). When the AIDS Advisory Committee was disbanded in February 1988 it was replaced by two bodies, the National Council on AIDS and the Scientific and Technical Committee on AIDS. Dr Meech was appointed Chairman of the latter. Not only did he have to cope with the media attention through his advisory positions but also as the consultant looking after little Eve van Grafhorst (1982-1993), one of the most appealing campaigners in the history of AIDS in NZ.

Dr Ian McQuillan, specialist dermatologist, Napier

Dr Marcia Sonneveld Napier GP, long serving member of the NZVS, Secretary 1994-98, and one of the best at sharing with others. When Marcia attended a conference it would be written up for the *NZVS Bulletin*.¹³¹⁻¹³⁷ (May this continue and may it be an inspiration for others.) Marcia has also contributed literature reviews to the *NZVS Bulletin* and taken a special interest in the treatment of HPV. Her photographs feature prominently in our archives.



Dr Brian Hill



Dr Richard Meech



Dr Marcia Sonneveld

23 August 1988 10th annual NZVS Conference Auckland. Prior to the Melbourne VenSouth Conference a one day meeting was held in Auckland with an executive meeting the following morning. We were able to entice two overseas speakers heading towards Melbourne: Andrea Game from Derby, UK, who spoke from her extensive experience of contact tracing and Dr Michael Campion from Atlanta, Georgia, who defied the audiovisual gremlins that haunt our conferences and gave a brilliant double projection slide show on HPV infections and cervicography. At the AGM it was resolved that we write to the Ministers of Justice, Health and Education urging repeal of Section 3 of the CS&A Act (contraception and under 16s).

December 1988 NZVS donated \$500 to the ACVen towards setting up costs.

16-18 May 1989 11th annual NZVS Conference, University of Waikato, Hamilton in conjunction with the NZ Microbiological Society. Convened by Dr John Keane and Dr Gordon Scrimgeour in liaison with Dr Liz Poole. We had two excellent speakers from overseas. Dr Morris Gollow⁷⁴ from Perth WA, Inaugural President of the ACVen, gave a keynote address on his many years of experience: “*STD Control in WA – Past, Present and Future*” and another “*Genital Warts: from Mythology to Molecular Biology*”. Professor JT Grayston, Washington State University, spoke on a new respiratory pathogen, *Chlamydia pneumoniae*. There were excellent sessions on chlamydia and Liz Poole amazed us with her inventiveness in developing a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test using a pressure cooker. Unfortunately, this conference clashed with the National Conference on AIDS in Wellington on 15-16 May 1989.

18 July 1989 Dr John Miller and I presented an oral NZVS submission at Parliament to the Justice and Law Reform Select Committee on the Crimes Bill dealing with knowingly infecting another and endangering health.



16 November 1989 It had been too early to hold the AGM in Hamilton so we held it in November at my home in Wellington. During 1989 Dr Gordon Scrimgeour advised the executive that our Constitution was seriously outdated, in fact it had never been ratified since 1978! Furthermore Inland Revenue required an updated Constitution in order to grant us charitable status. Gordon was given the task of revising our rules and this he did with legal advice. The new Constitution was unanimously approved at the AGM in Queenstown on 1 August 1990.

30 July-3 August 1990 12th annual NZVS Conference, Queenstown, in conjunction with the ACVen meeting, 6th Regional IUVDT South East Asia and Western Pacific meeting and a meeting of the NVCA.¹⁰² Convenor Dr Bruce Turnbull. Theme: “*STD Towards 2000*”. Dr Michael Waugh, Secretary-General of the IUVDT and President of the MSSVD from Leeds gave the keynote address “*STDs in the Modern World*”. There was a fantastic lineup of overseas guest speakers including Dr Ian Weller, London, who spoke on Hepatitis B and the treatment of HIV, Professor Ernst Stolz, dermatovenereologist from Rotterdam, Netherlands, who had an astonishing collection of tattoos (on other people) and the genial Dr Ben Verma from India who put some of our difficulties into perspective with his account of trying to communicate safer sex messages in a country with innumerable dialects.

From Australia came Dr Peter Meese (d.2000) President of the NVCA, Dr Ellis Pixley, Dr Lynne Kennedy, Dr Neil Bodsworth, Dr Basil Donovan, Dr Nick Crofts, Dr Brian Mulhall, Dr Gordon White, Dr John Chuah, Dr Jill Rowbottom, Dr Kevin Sesnan and Dr Gavin Hart who all kept up the high standard of presentations. From NZ we had our current Governor-General, Dame Silvia Cartwright, who at that time was the District Court Judge who had completed the Cervical Cancer Inquiry in Auckland²³ and author Jane Tolerton who was writing a biography of Ettie Rout which has since been published and is a fascinating story.^{152,153} It was one of the most interesting conferences and the sessions on HIV were first rate. The setting was fabulous. I had never been to Queenstown in the winter and was just as awestruck as our visitors. We had a memorable “Gold Diggers Evening” dressed up in period costume.

27 November-1 December 1990 The NZVS held a combined Doctors/Nurses STD Training Workshop, Christchurch, convened by Dr Heather Lyttle and Auckland nurses Claire Hurst and Philippa Waara.⁵¹ Funding came from the Health Workforce Development Fund. It was well attended with 18 doctors and 24 nurses from 18 clinics. We met at the Post-Graduate School of Medicine for an intensive four-day course. The overseas guest speaker was Jo Sexton, nurse consultant, Sydney.

26-29 June 1991 13th annual NZVS Conference, Okawa Bay Lodge, Rotorua, organised by Hugh Townend and team.⁸⁹ Theme: “Holming in on STD and AIDS”. This was a very special conference, made so by the generous participation of our overseas guest speaker, Professor King Holmes from University of Washington, Seattle and co-author of *the* textbook.¹¹⁵ King Holmes and his fiancée, Virginia Gonzales, entered into the spirit of things and opened a hangi and performed a haka at the conference welcome. From Australia came the ACVen President, Dr Ross Philpot and Dr Debbie Marriott, Infectious Diseases specialist, Sydney. Two other Australians attended, Dr Derek Evans (WA) and Dr Jill Rowbottom (ACT). This was the first NZVS Conference at which health educators and clinical nurses had their own programme. The social evenings were memorable. At one of these Dr John Keane sang Irish ballads with the band “A Touch of Irish”.

October 1991 Dr Gordon McKenna from Edinburgh took up his appointment as consultant venereologist in the Christchurch Sexual Health Clinic. [The health reforms adversely affected the delivery of services and a frustrated Dr McKenna returned to Scotland in July 1997. The position remained vacant for two years until filled by Dr Edward Coughlan in 1999.]

19-22 August 1992 14th annual NZVS Conference, Nelson, was opened by the Associate Minister of Health Katherine O’Regan.¹²⁵ The convenor was Motueka GP Dr Michael Brewer, recently rescued from being trapped in an underground limestone cave. Overseas speakers were Dr Sandy McMillan, Edinburgh Royal Infirmary, Dr Ingrid Van Beek, Sydney, who shared her experiences with adolescents at risk of HIV infection and Dr Carmella Law, Sydney, who spoke on HPV. Dr Heather Lyttle gave an update on one of her special interests, NZ STD statistics. Catherine Healy of the NZPC spoke on the role of sex workers in promoting safer sex. The ACVen President, Dr Ross Philpot, Adelaide, gave a perceptive summing up at the end of the conference.

To promote safer sex there were street shows with entertainer Neil Gudsell (Mika) handing out condoms in the street during lunch hour. This activity angered Mrs Colleen Robertson, a Catholic mother from Hope, who later stormed into a conference session, interrupting the speaker, to loudly chide delegates for interfering with parental responsibilities and promoting loose morals. It was an electrifying moment and the astonished session chairman handled her tactfully. Having made her point, she soon departed. The protest resulted in a brief flurry of media attention both locally and nationally. The campaign was strongly defended by local nurse, Flavia Goulding. Dr Brewer reported that the publicity had been good for the clinic with increased attendances.

A National Committee of Nurses was formed with a resolution to meet annually at the NZVS Conference. Kitty Flannery, Waikato, was elected President and Rory McDonald, also Waikato, was elected secretary.

NZVS Honorary Life Membership was recommended for Dr Bill Platts, Dr John Keane and Dr Ross Philpot in view of their exceptional contributions to venereology in general and the NZVS in particular. Dr Philpot has published several historical articles for our benefit.⁹¹⁻⁹⁶

Saturday 31 October 1992 A special general meeting was held at the Centra Hotel, Auckland. The meeting was called to discuss a change of name to “The New Zealand Sexual Health Association”. The attendance was 15 and there were 35 proxy votes. The motion was lost 38-12.

As well as a possible new name we were also looking for a new NZVS logo. The *NZVS Bulletin* for November 1992 displayed the new logo designed by Kathy Jenkins and Guy Roberts of the Visual Communications Department, Health Waikato. Their innovative design was received with general acclaim.



4-7 August 1993 15th annual NZVS Conference, Quality Hotel, New Plymouth, convened by Dr Graeme Judson.⁸⁴ Theme: “Chronic Problems in Venereology”. The overseas speakers from Sydney were Professor Adrian Mindel and Bronwyn Anderson, clinical nurse consultant. Dr Gillian Durham, CEO of the newly formed PHC, Wellington, also spoke. We were not to know that the Commission would have a very short life of two years before being disbanded. We formed a new Education Subcommittee and I was elected chairperson. A Working Party for Sexual Health Nurses was also formed. Rory McDonald won the fancy dress prize in his Salvation Army uniform, well half of it!

20 October 1993 Dr John Keane passed away.^{26,68}

Dr John Anthony Nesson Keane (1925-1993)

ED MBChB MAO DRCOG DipVen (London and Liverpool)
MRNZCGP

Dr Keane was born in Ireland and educated in Cork, graduating in medicine in 1949. He then studied obstetrics (MAO). In 1953 he was in Germany with the Royal Army Medical Corps and learned to speak German fluently. In 1958, feeling the need for a change, he answered an advertisement for a position in a general practice in Taumaranui and emigrated to New Zealand with his wife Alison and their four sons. Sadly one of his sons was to drown in 1987.



London 1976

In 1959 he moved to Hamilton and combined general practice with a position at the Waikato University Student Health Service. I first met John through our common involvement in student health. A mild heart attack in 1969 induced him to give up general practice in favour of student health. He became MRNZCGP in 1974. He maintained his connection with the Army and joined the RNZAMC in 1971. He rose to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel and was Deputy Assistant Director of Army Health. In 1982 he was awarded the Efficiency Decoration (ED) for long service in the RNZAMC (Territorial Force).

In 1976 John and I studied together in London for the Dip.Ven. While I shared a meagre flat with my two teenage children, John stayed in the comparatively luxurious accommodation of the British Army. In 1977 he had a part time appointment at the Sexual Health clinic at Waikato Hospital and became the recognised expert on STIs in the Waikato region. He was one of the first to establish chlamydial cell culture tests for his patients. John returned to the UK in 1980 for a refresher course in STIs and did the Diploma course in Leeds. In 1986, for something completely different, he took a 6 month sabbatical from the University to work in the Kimberleys, in the outbacks of WA. Although he had not delivered a baby for almost 10 years he soon regained the skills when he had to deliver a baby in a Royal Flying Doctor Service aircraft at 3½ thousand feet aided by the Flight Sister.⁵⁶ In 1990 he returned to the UK for a period of study leave.⁵⁷ After a period of ill health he retired in 1992.

John attended the inaugural meeting of the NZVS and played an important role on the executive for a number of years. He was President from the time Fred Willmott left for the UK in 1984 until 1986. He was made an Honorary Life Member in 1992. He contributed greatly to our conferences and wrote articles for the *NZVS Bulletin*. His “book” on STDs however, was never published. He will be remembered as a great teacher and raconteur with a wonderful sense of humour and a warm personality. He imparted to those who worked in his team his genuine enthusiasm for venereology.

1993 We became affiliated to the NZMA. I was appointed NZVS representative to the NZMA, a position I held from 1994-1999 when Dr Jane MacDonald took over this position.

23-24 April 1994 NZVS participated in the Australasian College Gold Coast conference.¹³²

14-16 July 1994 16th annual NZVS Conference, Wellington.^{131,141} Theme: “Current Issues in Sexual Health”. Immediately prior to the conference a meeting was held at Porirua ESR/CDC on STD surveillance. All Wellington Sexual Health Service staff were involved in the conference: Dr Linda Dayan (medical content), Bennett Toaetolu (secretary) and Pamela Neeson (social events). Our overseas speakers were the very experienced Dr Pat Munday, St Mary’s Hospital, London and the always erudite Professor Basil Donovan, Sydney (oral sex). Wellington staff also featured with Dr John Adams getting out of his sick bed to tell us about antifungals and vulval disease and I gave my long overdue lecture on masturbation.¹⁴⁰ There were very good papers on herpes, Dr Heather Lyttle presented four cases of schistosomiasis and Rory McDonald gave his highly rated presentation on working with a motorcycle gang in Hamilton.⁷⁷ We had an expert panel on HIV, including Associate Minister of Health Katherine O’Regan, kept in order by journalist David Beatson. The panel discussed the hypothetical case of the student/sex worker who has unsafe sex with a bisexual obstetrician. Less hypothetical were the contributions from two HIV positive persons, Michael Hay, who gave a summing up at the end of the panel and Kathy Mead. We enjoyed a fabulously fun fitness break beside the pool on Thursday morning, thanks to the substantial Janeen Nowicki in her pink polka dotted bikini.

Michael Hay (1952-1995)

On 2 February 1995 NZVS Secretary Michael Hay, Rotorua, died of AIDS aged 42 years.¹⁵⁵ Michael made a very special contribution to NZVS, raising our consciousness about HIV/AIDS and contributing his expertise both on the committee and at our conferences where he was a memorable speaker. Who could forget the impact that diarrhoea has on the quality of life after hearing Michael speak? Michael was one of those involved with the formation of the NPLWAU in October 1989. He attended the Madrid Conference on AIDS. In 1989/90 NPLWA lobbied Minister of Health Helen Clark for improved access to AZT drug treatment for HIV patients. He worked with Associate Minister of Health Katherine O’Regan to get the Human Rights Act amended to prevent the discrimination that was such a concern in the early years of the epidemic.⁴⁴



31 August –2 September 1995 17th annual NZVS Conference, Dunedin Hospital, Dunedin.⁵ Convenor Nurse Chris Griffiths. There was no theme, just a pot pourri of topics, but that was OK. Dr Hilary Andrews arrived in January 1995 to take up the position of Clinical Director, Sexual Health Service, Wellington and she almost qualified as an overseas speaker as she presented the results of two studies that she had been involved in, in the UK, on whiff tests and male problems, the latter illustrated with an excellent collection of slides. Her case history of a primary syphilitic chancre treated surgically was classic misdiagnosis. Those of us doing slide presentations will never forget audiovisual supremo Michael Cresswell whose behind the scenes instructions were strict and meticulous. An obsessive personality in exactly the right job!

1996 We farewelled three long standing members:

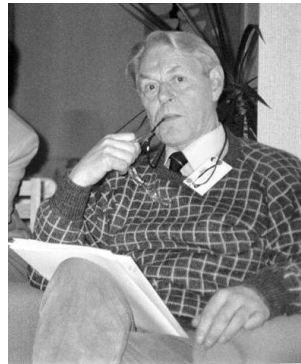
Andrew Scott retired in February 1996 from the Wellington Sexual Health Service after having seen many changes in the 27 years he worked there, first as a lab technician and then as clinic co-ordinator for the male clinic. Together Andrew and I entered into a manufacturing enterprise with Parisian Ties for the production of NZVS ties. With his dry sense of humour and his Scottish accent he was a familiar and reassuring figure to many anxious clients. Years later we still get patients who ask after him.¹⁶⁵

Dr Bruce Turnbull retired as Director of the Dunedin Clinic. Bruce was a dermatologist and venereologist. Many members will remember him from the very successful conference we held in Queenstown in 1990 during his term as NZVS President. He may also be remembered for his terrible jokes!

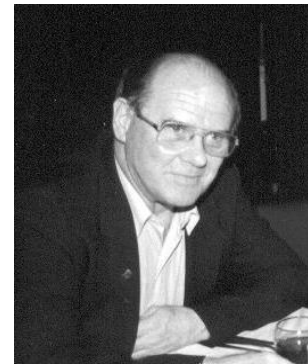
Dr Lindsay Moffatt retired after many years as Medical Officer, Auckland Sexual Health Service. He was a regular attendee at our conferences and if there was ever a pause in the proceedings he could always be relied upon to ask a question.



Andrew Scott



Dr Bruce Turnbull



Dr Lindsay Moffatt

12-14 June 1996 Joint Conference of NZVS, ACVen, NVCA, Auckland Sheraton Hotel. 18th annual Conference NZVS.³⁷ Theme: “Sexual Health for Women in the 90s”. This was a brilliant conference and the Auckland Sexual Health team deserve a special mention for the calibre of the scientific programme and especially for the choice of overseas speakers. From the USA came Professor Sharon Hillier¹³⁴ who spoke of Lactobacilli as if they were her personal friends and Professor Marilynne McKay¹³⁵ who was strong on semantics and helped us make sense of the various types of vulval pain. From the UK came Jane Wadsworth, co-author of that major study, the British National Survey “*Sexual Attitudes and Lifestyles*”.⁵⁴ From Australia came Professor Basil Donovan, always excellent value and that superb communicator, Dr Ian Frazer. The NZ contributions that were most memorable were those dealing with ethnic differences. Peter Davis presented information on a soon to be published book “*Intimate Details & Vital Statistics*”.²⁷

At this conference our banner was prominently displayed thanks to the collaborative effort of Dr Lindsay Moffat who suggested it, Claire Hurst who obtained sponsorship from Wellcome and Dr Marcia Sonneveld who looked after it. The banner was destroyed in a fire in 2001 (no fault of Marcia) and is to be replaced.

15-16 March 1997 The NZVS held a special meeting at the Wellington School of Medicine.³ Theme: “HIV/AIDS in NZ: Medical Perspectives”. Convenor Dr Hilary Andrews. NZVS members played a major role as presenters: Dr Janet Say, Dr John Adams, Dr Kate Godfrey, Dr Richard Meech and Dr Hugh Townend. Other speakers included Dr Nigel Dickson, Dr Graham Mills, Dr Ken Romeril, Dr Brian King, Sandor Milne, Heather Worth and Douglas Jenkins. The meeting also meant that we could hold our AGM at a constitutionally correct time.

7-19 October 1997 19th annual NZVS Conference, Huka Village, Taupo. Convenor Dr Hugh Townend and team. This conference has been well documented.^{9,40,52,65,161} Theme: “**STD - Sexual Health, Therapeutics and Diversity**”. Overseas speakers were Professor Lawrence Corey, Seattle on HIV and herpes and from Australia Dr Ian Denham, President ACSHP on HPV. Transgender issues featured prominently with contributions from Mani Mitchell (intersex person), Mr Andrew Alston (lawyer), Mr Peter Walker (Christchurch surgeon) and the inimitable Georgina Beyer (Mayor of Carterton and the first transsexual mayor in the world) who was our highly entertaining after dinner speaker.⁶ It was recommended that she be made an Honorary Member of the NZVS.



Georgina Beyer

We held another discussion on change of name for NZVS and members were circulated. As in 1992, the name stayed the same.

10-13 June 1998 20th annual NZVS Conference in conjunction with the ACSHP and NVCA, Reef Hotel, Cairns, Queensland.¹³⁶ Theme: “Sexual Healing”. There was a great lineup of overseas speakers including Professor King Holmes, Seattle, Professor Ron Ballard, Johannesburg, Dr Fiona Mulcahy, Dublin, Dr Janet Wilson, Leeds, Dr Simon Barton and Dr Philip Kell, both from London, Dr Sandy McMillan, Edinburgh and Dr Michael Waugh, President IUVDT. However, for many the most memorable sessions will be those on indigenous peoples. We were humbled and inspired by the opening address by Evelyn Scott, Chair of the Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation and by Kerry Arabena who delivered the Gollow Lecture “*Sexual Healing in Indigenous Communities.*” This is the first time that the NZVS AGM had been held off shore and numbers were well down on our usual attendance. I was taking part in the College exams at that time and had to send apologies but the meeting was attended by 14 New Zealanders plus Dr Heather Lyttle (now WA) and Dr Ross Philpot (Adelaide).

31 October –1 November 1998 NZVS Mini-Conference, Wellington. Convenor Dr Hilary Andrews.¹³⁷ Theme: “Taming the Viruses”. A smaller than usual conference was held to encourage members to attend the Cairns Conference in June, but to provide an update for those unable to go to Cairns. Guest speakers from Australia were Dr Ian Denham, ACSHP President and from Queensland, Dr Ian Frazer and Dr Diane Summer, psychosexual therapist. Dr Nigel Dickson presented an update of HIV/AIDS statistics and there were good sessions on HPV, HSV and Hepatitis B. Dr Hugh Townend left the Bay of Plenty STD service.¹⁵⁷

20-22 October 1999 21st annual NZVS Conference held in the historic Arts Centre, Christchurch.²⁰ Theme: “Opening Windows”. The three principal organisers were Kate Tapley, Ann Vanschevensteen and Dr Sue Bagshaw. Madam Lash whipped us into order. Overseas speakers were Dr Diane Summer on sexual therapy, Jan Hannah-Munster on sexuality and aging and DSAC speaker Dr Laura Slaughter on sexual assault. Irihapeti Ramsden (1946-2003), well known for introducing ‘cultural safety’ into the nursing curriculum, gave the opening keynote address on Maori health. There was less clinical content for the doctors at this conference and their registrations were down. This was a pity as there were lots of interesting sessions, in fact there were so many workshops it was hard to choose between them. The Wellington team led by WIPA CEO Cathy O’Malley presented an account of our transfer from Public Hospital to GP Organisation.

Coinciding with the conference and in the presence of the President of the ACSHP, Dr Ian Denham, was the novel launch of the HPV Project with cocktails on the tram. Claire Hurst was the co-ordinator of this project. NZVS conference dinners are always memorable occasions and this one was no exception with Durex providing some of the entertainment in the tranquil surroundings at Mona Vale. We made a well deserved presentation to our retiring secretary, Dr Marcia Sonneveld.

October 2000 22nd annual NZVS Conference, Palmerston North.^{21,72,150} Theme: “Walk the Talk”. Convenor Joanne Leamy. Overseas speakers were Kerry Arabena (indigenous health) and Dr David Plummer (homophobia). For those who had been unable to attend the Cairns Conference this was the next best thing; for those of us who had been to Cairns this was an added bonus. ACSHP President Dr David Bradford was also in attendance and spoke at the hospital grand round and at an evening session for GPs. The conference was opened by Minister of Health Annette King. Hine Martin brought us up to speed on Treaty based practice guidelines. Day 2 was devoted to pleasure and pain. I was mindful that my after lunch presentation on sexual pleasure was to be followed by belly dancing. At the conference dinner Georgina Beyer,⁶ now the first transsexual Member of Parliament in the world, regaled us with stories from her colourful life, from George to Georgina (or Georgie Girl), or as she put it, from stallion, to gelding, to mayor, to member. We were also entertained by the Brazen Hussies.

4-6 October 2001 23rd annual NZVS Conference, Duxton Hotel, Wellington. Theme: “Getting it Together”. Conference co-ordinators were Craig Tamblyn (Manager WIPA Sexual Health) and Dr Jane MacDonald (NZVS Vice President). President Kitty Flannery had some wise words at the opening and then showed us the highly entertaining TV film when Havoc and Newsboy visited the Chlamydia Capital of NZ.⁷⁸ Overseas speakers were Professor Sharon Hillier (BV, streptococci) and Professor Basil Donovan - “*Strategies to Avoid STDs, Past, Present and Future*”. The conference was opened by Minister of Health Annette King at a cocktail party hosted in the WIPA conference room. We were lucky to have Professor Hillier so soon after September 11 as one of the planes shot down by terrorists had crashed near her home base at Philadelphia. For those of us who had heard her speak in Auckland this was a wonderful update on her current research. Lactobacilli are still her best friends. There was commendable input from local speakers and keynote addresses by Dr Papaarangi Reid⁷⁹ (Maori health) and Professor Keith Grimwood (HIV testing in pregnancy). Satellite meetings on the day before the main conference for ACSHP, nurses, health promoters and Maori sexual health workers were all very successful.

8-9 November 2002 24th annual NZVS Conference, Hamilton. Theme: “Wassup”. Conference organisers: Dr Jane Morgan, Kitty Flannery and Lara Nelson. Overseas speakers from Australia were ACSHP President Dr David Bradford (sexual health for men) and Dr Ian Frazer (HPV and immunotherapy for CIN). The latest research on vaccines for HPV was exciting news and it was picked up by the media. The panels on STI screening in pregnancy and refugee health were thought provoking. I missed the concurrent sessions on youth and sexual dysfunction but they were favourably reported on. This was a smaller conference sandwiched between the Perth ACSHP Conference and the Christchurch ACSHP Conference but Hamilton did us proud. We dispensed with a conference dinner but were entertained by Buffy and Bimbo at the cocktail party. The AGM was held unconstitutionally late but nobody seemed too fussed. Kitty Flannery was re-elected President.

5-7 June 2003 25th NZVS AGM in conjunction with the ACSHP Conference, Christchurch. Theme: “Tango Down South”. Convenor Dr Edward Coughlan, Director Christchurch Sexual Health Service.

Honorary Life Members of NZVS

1992 Dr Bill Platts, Dr John Keane, Dr Ross Philpot

1995 Dr Margaret Sparrow

1998 Dr Gordon Scrimgeour

1999 Dr John Miller, Dr Hugh Townend

Table: Office Bearers NZVS 1978-2003

Year	Conference Venue	President	Secretary	Treasurer
1978	Wellington	Dr Bill Platts	Mr Lloyd Berry	Dr John Miller
1979	Wellington	Dr Bill Platts	Mr Lloyd Berry	Dr John Miller
1980	Wellington	Dr Bill Platts	Dr Gordon Scrimgeour	Dr John Miller
1981	Christchurch	Dr Bill Platts	Dr Gordon Scrimgeour	Dr John Miller
1982	Wellington	Dr Fred Willmott	Dr Gordon Scrimgeour	Dr John Miller
1983	Wellington	Dr Fred Willmott	Dr Gordon Scrimgeour	Dr John Miller
1984	Wellington	Dr John Keane	Dr Heather Lyttle	Dr John Miller
1985	Auckland	Dr John Keane	Dr Heather Lyttle	Dr John Miller
1986	Christchurch	Dr John Keane	Dr Heather Lyttle	Dr John Miller
1987	Napier	Dr Margaret Sparrow	Dr Heather Lyttle	Dr John Miller
1988	Auckland/Melbourne	Dr Margaret Sparrow	Dr Heather Lyttle	Dr Gordon Scrimgeour
1989	Wellington	Dr Bruce Turnbull	Dr Heather Lyttle	Dr Gordon Scrimgeour
1990	Queenstown	Dr Janet Say	Dr Hugh Townend	Dr Nick Wilson
1991	Rotorua	Dr Janet Say	Dr Hugh Townend	Dr Nick Wilson
1992	Nelson	Dr Janet Say	Dr Hugh Townend	Dr Liz Poole
1993	New Plymouth	Dr Heather Lyttle	Dr Jill McIlraith Mr Michael Hay/ Dr Marcia Sonneveld	Dr Hugh Townend
1994	Wellington	Dr Heather Lyttle	Dr Marcia Sonneveld	Dr Hugh Townend
1995	Dunedin	Dr Heather Lyttle	Dr Marcia Sonneveld	Dr Hugh Townend
1996	Auckland	Dr Heather Lyttle	Dr Marcia Sonneveld	Dr Hugh Townend
1997	Taupo	Dr Hilary Andrews	Dr Marcia Sonneveld	Dr Arun Menon
1998	Cairns/Wellington	Dr Hilary Andrews	Dr Marcia Sonneveld	Dr Arun Menon/Ms Joanne Leamy
1999	Christchurch	Ms Kitty Flannery	Ms Annette Mortensen	Ms Joanne Leamy
2000	Palmerston North	Ms Kitty Flannery	Ms Annette Mortensen	Ms Joanne Leamy
2001	Wellington	Ms Kitty Flannery	Ms Jennifer Bruce	Ms Joanne Leamy
2002	Hamilton	Ms Kitty Flannery	Ms Jennifer Bruce	Dr Jane Morgan
2003	Christchurch			

NZVS Tie



NZVS PRESIDENTS

1978 - 2003



Dr Bill Platts



Dr Fred Willmott



Dr John Keane



Dr Margaret Sparrow



Dr Bruce Turnbull



Dr Janet Say



Dr Heather Lyttle



Dr Hilary Andrews



Kitty Flannery

NZVS SECRETARIES

1980 - 2003



Dr Gordon Scrimgeour



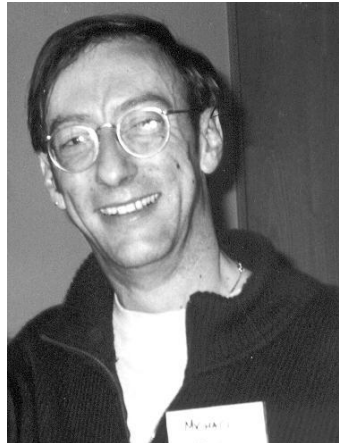
Dr Heather Lyttle



Dr Hugh Townend



Dr Jill McIlraith



Michael Hay



Dr Marcia Sonneveld



Annette Mortensen



Jenny Bruce

NZVS TREASURERS

1978-2003



Dr John Miller



Dr Gordon Scrimgeour



Dr Nick Wilson



Dr Liz Poole



Dr Hugh Townend



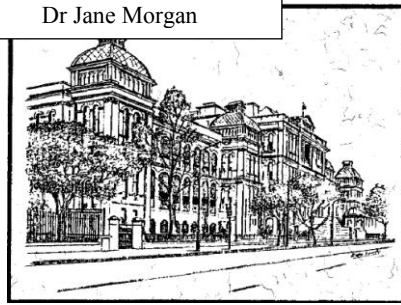
Dr Arun Menon



CHAPTER THE AUSTRALASIAN COLLEGE

5.

The formation of the Australasian College of Venereologists was a natural development of the professional and academic role of the NVCA formed in February 1981. Seven years later, on 23 February 1988 the new College was incorporated in the ACT. It was to focus on the recognition of venereology as a medical specialty and the training of specialist venereologists. The Public Officer was Dr Gordon White of Canberra.⁹² The Secretariat was located at Sydney Hospital.¹⁶⁶



The New Zealand Chapter has the distinction of being the first one to be formed. We are a small Chapter but we have always been an active one making submissions on a number of sexual health issues within NZ, acting as the referral body for the MCNZ on professional issues and liaising with our Australian colleagues and the NZVS on issues of mutual concern. Our meetings have usually occurred in conjunction with other College or NZVS meetings. We have always had tremendous support from the College and in particular all five Presidents^{7,8,45,74,82} have crossed the Tasman to support Chapter activities. In 2003 the membership is:

Fellows (17):

Sunita Azariah
Sue Bagshaw
Juliet Broadmore
Edward Coughlan
Diana Edwards
Rick Franklin
Jane Macdonald
Richard Meech
Jane Morgan
Nicky Perkins
Murray Reid
Helen Roberts
Anne Robertson
Christine Roke
Janet Say
Carol Shand
Margaret Sparrow

Associates (11):

John Adams
Pat Boulton
Jagannath Chatterjee
Christine Foley
Robert deBoyer
John Moore
Helen Moriarty
Gordon Scrimgeour
Jenny Simpson
Marcia Sonneveld
Hugh Townend

Trainee Associates (4):

Susan Bray
Jane Kennedy
Min Lo
Heather Young



Dr Janet Say was the first NZ Fellow and was presented with her certificate of Fellowship at the inaugural awards ceremony presided over by Dr Morris Gollow in Sydney Hospital on 27 April 1990. This was due recognition for Janet who came to sexual health through microbiology and has played a prominent role in NZ sexual health for many years.² Janet was born and educated in the UK. In 1973 she was appointed clinical microbiologist at Auckland Hospital.

She worked with Dr Fred Willmott during his time in Auckland from 1979-1984 and gradually became more involved in sexual health. She studied for her DipVen in London in 1981 and was then registered as a specialist venereologist. When Dr Willmott left in 1984 she was appointed Medical Director of the Auckland Sexual Health Service. In 1985 she gave up her Microbiology appointment to devote herself full time to sexual health. A new clinic in Building 16 was opened by Minister of Health Helen Clark in 1990. Janet remained in charge until Dr Rick Franklin



was appointed in 1994. In April 1995 she opened her private practice in Auckland.

Janet's interests have been wide including sexual assault work for DSAC, the NZ HPV Professional Advisory Board, colposcopy and vulvo-vaginal conditions. She has been a member of the AIDS Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee. She has conducted research, published numerous articles in medical and scientific journals and presented papers at conferences both here and overseas.

Through her attendance at international conferences she has built up professional relationships with many overseas colleagues. Her esteem is reflected in the fact that she was elected for a term as President of the South East Asian and Pacific Branch of the IUSTI. As a consultant for WHO in 1998 she conducted the first investigation into the STI/HIV situation in Mongolia and trained the local doctors in the syndromic approach to STI management. She has been a lecturer on the International Refresher Course on Sexual Health and an examiner for the International STDs and AIDS Diploma Course 2001-2002, Thailand.

She attended the inaugural meeting of the College as the NZ representative and has played a prominent role in the College. She was inaugural Chairperson of the NZ Chapter from 1990-1994 and again from 1997-1999. She has been College Censor since 2000. Janet has also played a prominent role in the NZVS and was editor of the *NZVS Bulletin* from 1982-92. As well as editing the publication she contributed many articles. She has served on the committee and was President from 1990-1993.

1988 The University of Sydney Faculty of Medicine offered the degree of Master of Medicine (Venereology), a two year course commencing February 1988. The course co-ordinator was Dr Basil Donovan. Dr Debra Allen was the first NZ graduate to attend the course with a grant from the Work Force Development Fund. The establishment of this course provided a sound basis towards College training but is not an essential career pathway.

25-27 August 1988 VenSouth Melbourne was the first combined Australian & NZ Conference.¹¹³ Overseas speakers included Dr Michael Campion (Atlanta, Georgia USA) on HPV, Dr Rosemary Versteegen on tests for HPV, Dr Andre Meheus, Programme Manager STDs, WHO, Geneva on global trends, Dr David Taylor-Robinson, Director of STD research, Northwick Park on chlamydia testing, Professor Frank Judson from Denver, Colorado on gonorrhoea resistance in the USA, hepatitis and HIV infections, Professor RM Anderson, London on the mathematical predictions of HIV infection and Mrs Andrea Game, contact tracer, Derby, UK. There were 12 registrants from NZ. On 26 August the College working party met and Dr Janet Say and I attended this historic meeting.

25 August –October 21 1988 To coincide with the Australian bicentennial celebrations a historical exhibition “*100 Years of Venereology in Australia*” was displayed by the Medical History Unit, Brownless Medical Library, University of Melbourne.

August 1988 The first issue of the journal *Venereology* was published. Two Melbourne venereologists, Dr Ian Denham and Dr David Plummer, were commissioned to upgrade *The Bulletin of the NVCA* to a full scientific medical journal. *Venereology* became the official publication of both the ACVen and the NVCA. After 13 years escalating costs sadly forced its closure with the last issue at the end of 2001.^{95,104}

1989 Monash University, Melbourne offered a Diploma in Venereology for the first time. It was officially launched on 25 July 1989 by the Victorian Minister of Health Caroline Hogg. This has provided another training opportunity for NZ graduates.

22 April 1990 The Inaugural President Dr Morris Gollow⁷⁴ presided over the 1st AGM of the Australasian College of Venereologists followed by the 1st Scientific Meeting of the College at

Sydney Hospital when the inaugural Gollow Lecture was delivered. Dr Janet Say represented NZ at these meetings.

30 July-3 August 1990 We held the Australasian Conference in Queenstown in conjunction with the 6th Regional IUVDT meeting. At this meeting the NZ Chapter held its first meeting at the Lakeland Hotel (in period costume!) presided over by the Honorary Secretary of the College, Dr Ross Philpot.⁷ With a total membership of three Fellows we were all elected. The chairperson was Dr Janet Say, the Secretary/Treasurer was Dr Heather Lyttle and I was the sole committee member.



Drs Heather Lyttle, Margaret Sparrow, Janet Say

26 April 1991 At the Sydney meeting Dr Heather Lyttle and I received our stoles and Fellowship certificates from Vice-President Dr David Bradford. President, Dr Morris Gollow was unable to attend this meeting due to ill health. Heather was made a Senior Fellow in recognition of her significant contributions within NZ. [The distinction between Senior Fellows and Fellows is no longer considered necessary.]

April 1991 The 1st edition of *The Australasian Venereologist* the official newsletter of the ACVen was published.⁹⁵ [With the change in name in November 1996 it became *The Australasian Sexual Health Physician*.]

April 29-30 1991 The Part 1 examination of the College was held for the first time. Six candidates attempted the examination and only one, Dr Debra Allen from Auckland was successful.

26-29 June 1991 At this NZVS Conference the 2nd meeting of the NZ Chapter of the College was held at Okawa Bay Lodge, Rotorua, presided over by College President Dr Ross Philpot. Dr Janet Say was presented with her stole as Senior Fellow and in return we presented Ross with a taiaha and a tiki in recognition of his sustained interest in our fledgling Chapter. Dr Richard Meech became the fourth member of our Chapter.



Dr Ross Philpot

30 April 1992 The 3rd meeting of the NZ Chapter was held in Wellington. Dr Janet Say, Dr Heather Lyttle and Dr Richard Meech met at my home in the evening to discuss training programmes for NZ trainees.

8 May 1992 ACSHP Venfest meeting, Adelaide. Dr Janet Say attended this meeting as the Chapter representative.

19-22 August 1992 At the 14th annual NZVS Conference in Nelson the NZ Chapter held the 4th meeting of the Chapter with College President Dr Ross Philpot in attendance.

May 7-9 1993 The College meeting was held in Melbourne. At the AGM the College adopted the motto "Sexual Health for All" which is now incorporated into the logo of the College.

4-7 August 1993 At the 15th annual NZVS Conference, Quality Hotel, New Plymouth, the NZ Chapter held a meeting.

23-24 April 1994 The College meeting was held at Surfer's Paradise, The Gold Coast Queensland. Theme: "Sun, Surf and Safe Sex". Dr Ross Philpot ended his triennium as President. Dr Marcia Sonneveld provided a report for those of us who were unable to attend.¹³²

14-16 July 1994 At the 16th annual NZVS Conference in Wellington the NZ Chapter held a meeting.

1994 Dr Rick Franklin took over from Dr Janet Say as Medical Director in Auckland. He had returned from London in 1989 to take up a full time position in the Auckland Hospital Department of Genitourinary Medicine. He graduated as a Fellow of the ACSHP in 1994, the first New Zealander practising in NZ to achieve this qualification by examination. [He has served on a number of committees and advisory bodies and is well known through his contributions to *New Zealand Doctor*. He is an approved prescriber of antivirals and because of his interest in HIV medicine he has been a member of the ASHM Board. Currently he is serving a term as Secretary of the ASHM Board. In 2003 Dr Franklin moved on to another position but he still retains a part-time appointment at the Auckland Sexual Health Service while Dr Murray Reid has been appointed Medical Director.]

May 1995 A joint policy statement was issued by the NVCA, ACVen and NZVS on confidentiality and medical records.

31 August –2 September 1995 At the 17th annual NZVS Conference in Dunedin the NZ Chapter held a meeting in Bentley's Hotel.

11-14 June 1996 At the joint Conference of ACVen, NVCA and NZVS in Auckland Dr Jan Edwards retired as the Executive Secretary of the NVCA but fortunately for the College remained as the ACVen Executive Secretary, a position she has held since its formation. She has been the anchor person upon whom the College has relied since its inception. The NZ Chapter held a meeting on 13 June with College Past President Dr Ross Philpot in attendance.



Dr Jan Edwards

16 November 1996 After a postal ballot President Dr Basil Donovan⁸ announced the change in name from ACVen to ACSHP - from venereologists to sexual health physicians. The change was agreed to by 84% of those who voted and with it came (a) a greater involvement of family planning and reproductive health, sexuality and sexual assault and (b) a focus on population health rather than just STIs.

26-28 June 1997 VenSouth '97 was held at The Regent, Melbourne. This was a joint meeting of ACVen, NVCA, the 10th IUVDT Asia/Pacific Regional meeting and also the 37th World Assembly of the IUVDT.

7-19 October 1997 At the 19th annual NZVS Conference, Huka Village, Taupo, the NZ Chapter held a meeting with President Dr Ian Denham⁸² in attendance. In 1997 new Fellowships by invitation were bestowed upon Dr Sue Bagshaw, Dr Diana Edwards, Dr Christine Roke and Dr Helen Roberts because of their leadership and contributions to family planning and reproductive health, and upon Dr Juliet Broadmore and Dr Carol Shand because of their leadership and contributions to DSAC and sexual assault.

June 1998 The NZ Chapter held a meeting at the Reef Hotel, Cairns in conjunction with the ACSHP Conference.

31 October –1 November 1998 At the NZVS Mini-Conference in Wellington the NZ Chapter held a meeting.

27 March 1999 The NZ Chapter held the 1st scientific meeting in Auckland.¹⁰³ Theme: “Topical Issues in Men’s Health”. Convenor Dr Murray Reid. Infectious Diseases Specialist, Dr Suzanne Garland came from Melbourne. Until this time all meetings had been business meetings with no scientific programme and they had usually been held in conjunction with another College or NZVS meeting.

13-16 May 1999 Combined ACSHP and FPA Conference, Adelaide Hilton, Adelaide.¹⁴³ Theme: “Getting it Together”. This conference had a larger than usual component of family planning to strengthen the relationship between venereologists and family planning doctors as envisaged by the widening of our membership and change of name. The NZ Chapter had a meeting with President Ian Denham to discuss the issues surrounding the exit of the Wellington Sexual Health Service from the Public Hospital.

August 1999 The College newsletter became available on the website www.acshp.org.au.

20-22 October 1999 At the 21st annual NZVS Conference, Arts Centre, Christchurch the NZ Chapter did not have a formal meeting. College president Dr Ian Denham was present to launch the HPV guidelines with cocktails on the tram.

11 November 1999 After a decade of negotiations the MCNZ recognised Sexual Health Medicine as a specialty for purposes of vocational registration. The specialist register was closed in December 1989 because the criteria for recognition of specialists was under review. Sexual Health Medicine replaced the old category of Venereology. In the past specialist status had been granted following a Diploma course in Venereology and five years practice in the specialty. This was no longer acceptable. Fellowship of the ACSHP plus five years practice in the specialty became an accepted specialist qualification.¹⁴⁷

21-24 June 2000 ACSHP Conference, Carlton Hotel, Darwin. Theme: “Ven Troppo”. Before the main conference there was a meeting for those working in sexual assault. Overseas guest speakers were Professor David Eschenbach (Seattle) on vaginitis, Dr Heiner Grosskurth (Germany via London) on STIs in Africa and Associate Professor Verapol Chandeying (Thailand) Regional Director of IUSTI. I was interested in the vedascope, an alternative to the speculum for vaginal examinations. The Chapter held a breakfast meeting.

October 2000 The day before the 22nd annual NZVS Conference in Palmerston North, the Chapter held a facilitated meeting to discuss our future direction, with President Dr David Bradford in attendance. In preparation for this meeting Dr Janet Say and I compiled a brief history of sexual health in New Zealand.¹¹⁷ The meeting was arranged by Education Officers, Dr Sue Bagshaw and Dr Edward Coughlan.



Dr Edward Coughlan



Dr Sue Bagshaw

2-5 May 2001 Conference ACSHP, Sydney.^{63,73,128,145} Theme: “2001 A Sex Odyssey”. Overseas speakers were Dr Laura Koutsky (Washington) on HPV, Dr Graham Neilsen (South Africa) on AIDS and Professor Michael Ross (ex Palmerston North, now Texas via Australia) on behavioural topics. We had a breakfast meeting to discuss a range of topics. [Professor Brian Gazzard was on the programme but was unable to attend. However, we look forward to seeing him in Christchurch in 2003.]

4 October 2001 We held a Chapter meeting and then our own scientific programme in Wellington, prior to the annual NZVS Conference with overseas speakers Professor Sharon Hillier who spoke on spermicides and Professor Basil Donovan who spoke on prostitution and also facilitated the very successful peer review session.

2002 In the New Year Honours Dr Sue Bagshaw¹⁰⁵ was made a Companion of the NZ Order of Merit (CNZM) and in the Queen’s Birthday Honours I was made a Distinguished Companion of the NZ Order of Merit (DCNZM).^{120,121}

28 May –1 June 2002 ACSHP Conference in Perth WA.¹⁴⁸ Theme: “Come West”. Before the main conference there was a satellite symposium on sexual assault with Professor John Briere from the USA as keynote speaker. He also spoke at the main conference. Other overseas speakers were Professor Jack Sobel (Michigan) on vaginitis, Professor Lawrence Stanberry (Galveston, Texas) on HSV and Professor King Holmes (Washington) who gave the Gollow lecture on “*Interventions for Prevention of Sexual Transmission of HIV and Other STIs*”. The NZ Chapter had a breakfast meeting to discuss specialist recognition with the RACP and the AMC. At the College AGM there was overwhelming support for affiliation with the RACP.

8-9 November 2002 At the 24th annual NZVS Conference, Hamilton, the NZ Chapter held a meeting attended by College President Dr David Bradford. A number of submissions were discussed and we had another peer review session. Dr Jane Morgan organised our programme.

Table: Office bearers ACVen and ACSHP

Year	Venues for meetings	Chairperson	Secretary/Bursar	Censor	Education Officer
1990	Sydney/Queenstown	Janet Say	Heather Lyttle		
1991	Sydney/Rotorua	Janet Say	Heather Lyttle	Heather Lyttle	
1992	Adelaide/Nelson	Janet Say	Heather Lyttle	Heather Lyttle	
1993	Melbourne/New Plymouth	Janet Say	Murray Reid	Heather Lyttle	Gordon McKenna
1994	Cairns/Wellington	Gordon McKenna	Murray Reid	Margaret Sparrow	Margaret Sparrow
1995	Singapore/Dunedin	Gordon McKenna	Murray Reid	Margaret Sparrow	Margaret Sparrow
1996	Auckland	Gordon McKenna	Hilary Andrews	Margaret Sparrow	Margaret Sparrow
1997	Melbourne/Taupo	Janet Say	Hilary Andrews	Margaret Sparrow	Murray Reid
1998	Cairns/Wellington	Janet Say	Hilary Andrews	Margaret Sparrow	Murray Reid
1999	Adelaide/Auckland	Janet Say	Hilary Andrews	Margaret Sparrow	Murray Reid
2000	Darwin/Palmerston North	Margaret Sparrow	Anne Robertson	Janet Say	Sue Bagshaw/Edward Coughlan
2001	Sydney/Wellington	Margaret Sparrow	Anne Robertson	Janet Say	Sue Bagshaw/Edward Coughlan
2002	Perth/Hamilton	Margaret Sparrow	Anne Robertson	Janet Say	Sue Bagshaw/Edward Coughlan
2003	Christchurch				

College Presidents

1988-1991 Dr Morris Gollow
 1991.1994Dr Ross Philpot
 1994.1997Dr Basil Donovan
 1997.2000Dr Ian Denham

2000-2003

Dr David Bradford

NEW ZEALAND CHAPTER CHAIRPERSONS



Dr Janet Say



Dr Gordon McKenna



Dr Margaret Sparrow

NEW ZEALAND CHAPTER SECRETARY/BURSARS



Dr Heather Lyttle



Dr Murray Reid

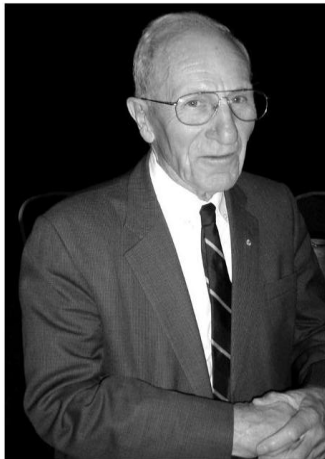


Dr Hilary Andrews



Dr Anne Robertson

AUSTRALASIAN COLLEGE PRESIDENTS



Dr Morris Gollow



Dr Ross Philpot



Dr Basil Donovan



Dr Ian Denham



Dr David Bradford



Presidents at Darwin Conference June 2000

CHAPTER 6. INTERNATIONAL LINKS

STIs are global and it is a professional responsibility to keep up to date with what is happening elsewhere in the world and to make this knowledge relevant to NZ. One of my regrets is that I have participated in only a few of these events. This chapter is therefore written from the viewpoint of an armchair traveller. We are always grateful for reports from those attending. Recent examples are International President, Dr Sue Bagshaw who reported on the 7th World Congress of Adolescent Health in Brazil in May 2001⁴ and Tauranga Nurse Jill Stanton who reported on the 5th Annual Sexual Health Nurses Association Conference held in Canberra in November 2001.¹⁴⁹



Claire Hurst



The annual ASHM conferences (established in 1989) are highly regarded as an effective method of keeping up to date with the ever-changing field of HIV/AIDS and ASHM also produces a variety of resource material. Dr Rick Franklin is currently the secretary of the ASHM Board.

Special interest groups create new forums. In May 2003 Mr Ron Jones and Dr Nicky Perkins are involved in establishing The Australia and NZ Society for the Study of Vulval Disease.

Some of the organisations that hold international conferences are: The International Congress on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific, The International Conference on AIDS/STDs in Africa, The International Congress on Drug Therapy in HIV Infection, The International Conference for People Living with HIV/AIDS, The International Society of STD Research, The MSSVD meetings (UK), The European Academy of Dermato-Venereology, The International Society for the Study of Vulvovaginal Diseases, The World Congress of Cervical Pathology & Colposcopy, The International Federation of Gynaecology and Obstetrics (FIGO) and The World Congress on Sexology.

The International Union Against Venereal Diseases: ^{14, 93, 163}

The IUVD was formed in 1923¹⁶² on the initiative of the League of Red Cross Societies and the Belgian Association Against VD. At the 1st General Assembly in Paris 19 nations took part. In the inter-wars years regular meetings were held in the major cities of Europe. Of particular importance was the International Agreement of Brussels (1924) providing free treatment for seamen at international ports. NZ was a signatory to this in 1925. In 1948 the WHO invited the IUVD to become one of its official advisory bodies. In 1953 the Treponematoses and the letter "T" were added to the title to reflect the importance of yaws and syphilis (IUVDT). In 1975 our region was formed as the South East Asian and Western Pacific Branch of the IUVDT now known as the Asian Pacific Branch, one of five worldwide. Since 1997 the parent body has been called The International Union against Sexually Transmitted Infections (IUSTI).

9 January 1977 The 1st IUVDT Asia/Pacific Regional Conference was held in Singapore. The only NZ member to attend was Auckland venereologist, Dr Reginald Harper. Although not present Dr Bill Platts was elected to the committee.

23-26 October 1981 The 2nd IUVDT Asia/Pacific Regional Conference was held in Christchurch in association with the annual meetings of the NZVS and the NVCA.

The Branch chairman Dr P. Vejjabul from Thailand, Vice-Chairman Dr CN Sowmini from India and Secretary Dr VS Rajan from Singapore attended.

24-26 June 1983 The 3rd IUVDT Asian/Pacific Regional Conference was held in Bangkok, Thailand. NZ attendees presented papers; Dr Janet Say from Auckland on NSU and Dr Heather Lyttle from Christchurch on cervical cytology.¹⁰⁹



18-20 October 1985 The 4th IUVDT Asian/Pacific Regional Conference was held in Bombay, India. Dr Janet Say was horrified by the living conditions of street prostitutes in cages.¹¹²

18-21 October 1987 The 5th IUVDT Asian/Pacific Regional Conference was held in Bali, Indonesia. Dr Janet Say presented a paper on unsuspected female chlamydia in Auckland.

13-15 September 1989 The 6th IUVDT Asian/Pacific Regional Conference was to have been held in Darwin but had to be cancelled due to an airline pilots strike. The meeting was transferred to Queenstown in 1990.

30 July-3 August 1990 The 6th IUVDT Asian/Pacific Regional Conference was held in Queenstown in conjunction with the annual NZVS and ACVen Conference. The keynote speaker was Dr Michael Waugh, Secretary-General of the IUVDT and President of the MSSVD from Leeds.¹⁶²

5-7 September 1991 The 7th IUVDT Asia/Pacific Regional Conference was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Dr Heather Lyttle presented papers on STDs in NZ and HPV DNA testing.

27-30 October 1993 The 8th IUVDT Asia/Pacific Regional Conference was held in Chiang Mai, Thailand. It was attended by Claire Hurst and Dr Janet Say, who presented a paper on dyspareunia in an STD clinic.

19-23 March 1995 The 9th IUVDT Asia/Pacific Regional Conference was held in Singapore and was attended by Dr Gordon McKenna and Dr Marcia Sonneveld among others.¹³³ The NZ contingent performed “Pokarekare Ana” at the banquet! For the first time the World General Assembly, the 36th, was held in our region. It was the most well attended IUVDT meeting ever with over 800 delegates.

June 1997 The 10th IUVDT Asia/Pacific Regional Conference was held in Melbourne. The 37th World General Assembly of the IUVDT was also held and the General Assembly changed the name to IUSTI. Dr Janet Say was elected Branch Committee Chairperson.

October 2000 The 11th IUSTI Asia/Pacific Regional Conference was held in Chandigarh, India. Dr Janet Say spoke on the role of sexual assault and sexual abuse in the spread of HIV and STIs.

October 2002 The 12th IUSTI Asia/Pacific Regional Conference was held in Beijing, China. Dr Janet Say presented a paper on vulval pain syndromes and was awarded the Senior Fellowship Award for her contributions to the Asian Pacific Branch of the IUSTI. She was also invited to talk at the Chinese National STI Reference Laboratory in Nanjing.

The National Venereology Council of Australia:

A group involved in the management of STDs met in Melbourne to discuss a wide range of aims and objectives. The NVCA was formed on 26 February 1981 with Dr

Ross Philpot as Inaugural President.⁹⁴ The NVCA encouraged membership from a wider range of professionals than doctors. Informal links with the NZVS were actively encouraged with reciprocal sharing of information. The 1st NVCA AGM was held in Christchurch in 1981 at the combined NZVS/IUDVT/NVCA meeting and the 2nd, in Melbourne in 1982. Dr Janet Say attended the meeting in Adelaide in 1983, Dr Heather Lyttle represented the NZVS in Brisbane in 1984.⁶⁹ Dr John Miller represented the NZVS at the meeting in 1986 in Parramatta. Dr Basil Donovan attended the NZVS meeting in Wellington in 1987 and that same year Dr Janet Say attended the NVCA meeting in Bali. In 1988 the NVCA held a meeting in conjunction with the VenSouth meeting in Melbourne. The NZVS/IUDVT/NVCA met jointly in Queenstown in 1990 when Dr Peter Meese was NVCA President.



We were delighted when in November 1993 Auckland nurse Claire Hurst, Project Co-ordinator for DSAC, won the inaugural NVCA prize for the best oral presentation at the Australian Scientific Congress on STDs in Sydney. Her presentation asked “*Should the Question “Have you been sexually abused or assaulted?” be a routine part of a sexual health assessment?*”¹²⁶

In **1996** Dr Debbie Allen made history when she was elected President of the NVCA at the meeting in Auckland. Debbie had moved from NZ to Australia and was not only the first woman to lead the NVCA but also the first New Zealander and the youngest. And the last! With strengthening of the ACSHP, IUSTI, ASHM, and State societies, the role of NVCA was significantly reduced and after 18 years the organisation disbanded in 1999.

Some International AIDS Conferences:

April 1985 1st International AIDS Conference Atlanta, Georgia attended by Dr Janet Say,¹¹¹ Dr Paul Goldwater⁴¹ and Tony Hughes,⁵⁰ biomedical researcher, Zoology Department, all from Auckland. [Tony has a long commitment to the NZ AIDS Foundation and is the Research Director of the Research, Policy and Information Unit.] There was an air of optimism at this conference. The virus had been identified and a blood test could detect antibodies. Would a vaccine be possible? The Haitian connection was put to rest. The African monkey was considered a more likely source of the modern epidemic.

June 1986 2nd International Conference on AIDS, Paris. This conference was more subdued with researchers acknowledging that neither a preventive vaccine nor an effective treatment were in sight. Furthermore the spread was relentless, especially in Africa. Safer sex programmes were having some effect in San Francisco.

June 1987 3rd International Conference on AIDS, held in Washington. The number of heterosexual cases in the USA was rising but there were promising results from the use of the first AIDS drug, AZT and a second, dideoxycytidine (DDC) was in the pipeline.

21-23 July 1987 Australian Federal Health Minister Neal Blewett invited his counterparts from 31 regional countries in South East Asia and Western Pacific to a conference at Westmead Hospital in Sydney, held in collaboration with WHO. Dr Jonathan Mann from WHO dispelled some of the myths about the transmission of AIDS. Representatives from 25 countries attended.

June 1988 4th International Conference on AIDS, Stockholm, Sweden. Jonas Salk described his preliminary work with an AIDS vaccine.

June 1989 5th International Conference on AIDS, Montreal, Canada. New data on latency was presented. Estimates were that 75% with HIV will develop an AIDS related condition in 10 years. A new HIV virus in monkeys gave hopes for vaccine trials. PLWAs took the stage.

March 22-23 1990 At the 3rd meeting of the Global Commission on AIDS (GCA) the founding Director, Dr Jonathan Mann resigned. [Later Dr Mann and his wife were killed when a Swissair jet plunged into the Atlantic on 2 September 1998 off the coast of Canada. He was aged 51 years.⁵⁹]

20-24 June 1990 6th International Conference on AIDS, San Francisco. Numerous overseas organisations boycotted the conference in protest against USA travel restrictions discriminating against people with HIV/AIDS. This was the conference where PLWA really made an impact both inside and outside the conference with protest activity.

June 1991 7th International Conference on AIDS, Florence, Italy attended by Dr Richard Meech. Theme: "Science Against AIDS".

19-24 July 1992 8th International Conference on AIDS combined with the 3rd STD World Congress held in Amsterdam, Netherlands. Attended by Dr Janet Say who reported on this at the Nelson Conference and Dr Richard Meech who wrote a report for the *NZVS Bulletin*.⁸¹ About 30 cases were presented with unexplained immune deficiency associated with opportunistic infections but negative for HIV.

November 1992 The 2nd International Conference on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific, New Delhi. Dr Linda Dayan, Wellington and Catherine Healy from the NZPC presented a paper.

7-11 June 1993 9th International Conference on AIDS, Berlin, Germany attended by Dr Richard Meech. Researchers talked about long term survivors and the fact that AIDS patients were living longer and healthier lives.

June 1994 10th International Conference on AIDS, Yokohama, Japan attended by Dr Richard Meech. This was the first international conference held in Asia. Experts feared the spread of the epidemic in Asia. There were no reports of any breakthroughs and conference organisers decided to stop meeting annually and instead to meet every two years.

July 1996 11th International Conference on AIDS, Vancouver. This highlighted significant advances in treatments including protease inhibitors and viral load testing. There was some optimism in the news that newly infected patients given multidrug therapy had viral loads so low they were undetectable.

June 28-July 3 1998 12th International Conference on AIDS, Geneva, Switzerland. The conference was divided into four streams: (1) basic science (2) clinical science and care (3) epidemiology and public health and (4) social science. Computer technology was used to provide pre-conference material to assist participants in making the best use of their time. David Skelton provided a full report on the clinical trials presented.¹²⁹

9-14 July 2000 13th International Conference on AIDS, Durban, South Africa. More than 10,000 delegates registered for the conference. The International AIDS Vaccine Initiative announced a five point plan to improve availability of vaccines. AIDS activists reacted angrily to South African President Thabo Mbeki for appointing people who deny HIV exists or that it causes AIDS, to a presidential advisory panel. Researcher Dr David Ho stated firmly "HIV is the cause of AIDS." Former South African President Nelson Mandela urged all to concentrate on fighting the disease and especially to prevent mother to child transmission. Of practical importance was the consensus that nonoxynol-9 is damaging to genital tissues and should not be used for HIV prevention.

7-12 July 2002 14th International Conference on AIDS, Barcelona, Spain. The bad news was that the global epidemic is still a disaster and infections in young gay men are on the increase.

The good news was that there has been progress in treatment regimes.⁵³ GlaxoSmithKline sponsored an update in Auckland on 15 August 2002 when Dr Richard Meech reported on the findings of the conference for clinicians. He stressed the prevention message:

A – Avoid sex as long as possible

B – Be with one partner for life

C – Condoms

D – Drugs – oral is better than IV

CHAPTER 7. HEALTH EDUCATION AND HEALTH PROMOTION

Venereal disease education was always on the agenda of the early meetings of the DoH and the Department produced pamphlets and posters and had a film library.

October 1965 In the minutes of the meeting in Wellington convened by the DoH, Dr Platts inquired as to whether or not the use of a condom or sheath could be mentioned in a press statement. The Director Division of Public Health, Dr CN Derek Taylor replied that the Department could not become involved in anything connected with the question of contraception. No overseas pamphlet was known which advised the use of a condom!

From **1965-1969** I was employed as a Child Health Medical Officer in the DoH in New Plymouth and one of my roles was VD education in secondary schools. I showed two films “*Quarter of a Million Teenagers*” and “*Innocent Party*” to Parent Teacher evenings and then to the school pupils. I saw them so many times they are firmly imprinted in my memory!



1970 Both Dr Platts and I helped the NZ University Students’ Association with their booklet for students “*Living with Sex*” which included information on VD and contraception. This was distributed free to students and went through several editions.

1972 There was a consciousness raising visit to NZ by feminist Germaine Greer. Alister Taylor’s “*The Little Red Schoolbook*” went before the Indecent Publications Tribunal and was ruled “not indecent”. FPA (UK) launched its first sexuality education booklet for teens “*Learning to Live with Sex*” which included information on VD. NZFPA promoted it.

1973 The Ross Committee’s discussion paper “*Human Development and Relationships in the School Curriculum*” recommended that secondary schools should include topics of VD, homosexuality and abortion in their curriculum. The report created public debate and in Christchurch the opposition was so strong that a lobby group was formed, the Concerned Parents Association (1974). As a result of all the controversy the report was shelved and another committee was set up, the Johnson Committee.

1975-78 The DoH conducted summer campaigns on VD aimed at young people.

March 1977 The Indecent Publications Tribunal ruled “*Down Under the Plum Trees*” by Felicity Tuohy and Michael Murphy and published by Alister Taylor, indecent in the hands of persons under 18 yrs unless being instructed by a parent or professional adviser.

November 1977 The Johnson Report of the Committee on Health and Social Education “*Growing, Sharing, Learning*” was released to the public. It endorsed the recommendations of the Ross Report and recommended repeal of the Police Offences Amendment Act 1954 relating to contraception and under 16s. The release of the report was a case of bad timing. It was overtaken by the Royal Commission on CS&A which was much more conservative in outlook.

December 1977 The CS&A Act was passed and restrictions on contraceptive education for under 16s were retained. This impacted on a wide range of service providers but especially teachers, librarians and booksellers.

May 1978 London Bookshops, Wellington was fined \$1,100 for “exhibiting” the restricted books “*The Joy of Sex*” by Dr Alex Comfort and “*Down Under the Plum Trees*”. The books were merely on display.

July-August 1978 The DoH ran a VD campaign using television, radio and magazines. Answerphone information was available in 10 Health Districts.

August 1979 The Indecent Publications Tribunal ruled “*Make it Happy*” by Jane Cousins indecent in the hands of under 16s.

1980 For the first time the position of Director of Health Promotion was established within the DoH. Dr Campbell Begg was the first Director¹³ and when he retired in 1984 the Deputy Director Dr John Holden succeeded him.

1980 Burnham House Publishing produced “*Know How*” a manual for teens with sections on relationships, being gay, pregnancy, contraception and VD. Editors Julie Dalzell, Tom Frewen, Helen Vause.

August 1982 Herpes hit the headlines with a *Time* cover story.

1985 Since its inception the NZ AIDS Foundation has provided a wide range of educational materials for HIV positive people, for men who have sex with men, for health professionals and for the general public.



1985 The Ministry of Education revised the health syllabus for primary and secondary schools. In August 1985 the Education Amendment Act gave parents the right to withdraw pupils from classes on sexuality education. School boards must consult with parents about programmes.

1985 NZFPA published “*Growing Concerns: About genital infections including sexually transmitted diseases*”. [A revised edition in 1991 was published in association with the Department of Community Services and Health, Canberra.]

1986 The Ottawa Charter was presented at 1st International Conference on Health Promotion. There are five key strategies: (1) Build healthy public policy (2) Create supportive environments (3) Strengthen community action (4) Develop personal skills (5) Reorient health services.

August 18-September 6 1986 First television screening of condom advertisement. Non-use of condoms was equated with non-use of a parachute! But at least it was a start. [TVNZ later announced the rules for condom advertisements: viewing times after 9.30 pm and in the adult viewing hours 12-3 pm. They had to carry the message that condoms were only available to persons over the age of 16 and only the packaging could be shown. AIDS prevention advertisements which mentioned condoms only in passing could be broadcast after 6 pm if the condom reference was only a minor part of the message. Advertising had to comply with Section 3 of the Police Offences Amendment Act relating to contraceptives and under 16s.]

26 November 1986 Minister of Women’s Affairs Ann Hercus presented Auckland FPA health educators with an IPPF award for their resource for young people “*Deciding and Choosing*”.

1987 NZPC established and funded by the DoH with a brief to promote safer sex practices among sex workers.

29 June 1987 The DoH released “*Check It Out: Facts on Sexually Transmitted Diseases*” a video and resource kit for health education teachers. Several NZVS members were consulted on the production. It was the first time that the DoH had produced a video.

July 1987 The DoH produced the booklet “*HIV and AIDS: Information for Health Professionals*”. [Updated 1988, 1993, 1999.]

September 1987 The Interdepartmental Committee on AIDS set up a working party, to which I was appointed, to review Section 3 of the CS&A Act (contraception and under 16s). The working party recommended repeal.

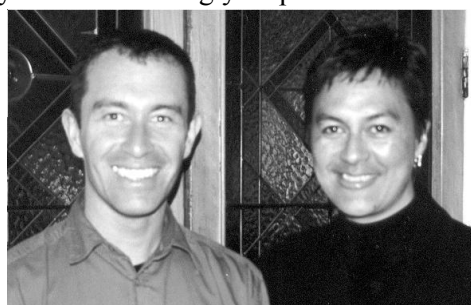
May 1988 The DoH hosted the 1st National Conference/Workshop on IDU/HIV/AIDS. The impetus for the conference was the introduction of the needle exchange scheme.

January 1989 All schools are required to teach the health syllabus. The Education Act 1989 retained the right for parents to withdraw their children from classes on sexuality education and prescribed the process of consultation which schools must undertake with parents.

1989 The DoH ran a national media campaign on AIDS.

1989 The WHO published “*The Reproductive Health of Adolescents: A Strategy for Action*”. In this document “adolescence” was defined as between 10-19, “youth” between 15-24 and “young people” between 10-24. Their eight point strategy for action strongly emphasised the involvement of young people.

1990 Te Puawai Tapu (the sacred blossoming), a Maori Family Planning group was formed to better meet the needs of Maoris and Pacific Islanders.¹³⁰ Irihapeti Ramsden (1946-2003) was the convenor of the initial group and Dr Papaarangi Reid, a public health physician was the medical advisor. [In 1994 Pania Ellison was employed to develop health promotion and education services, initially under the umbrella of the FPA but now as an independent organisation. Members of Te Puawai Tapu have been major contributors at NZVS conferences.]



Vernon Waretini and Pania Ellison

April 1990 *NZ Woman's Weekly* commenced a series of articles on “*STDs: The Facts*” Dr Janet Say and Dr Heather Lyttle featured prominently.

June 1990 The DoH launched “*Together as Friends: Teenage Relationships*” a programme for adolescents with a video, pamphlets and a facilitators’ guide with learning activities.

16 August 1990 Parliament repealed Section 3 of the CS&A Act relating to under 16s and contraception, thanks to Minister of Health Helen Clark.

20 November 1990 The FPA sponsored a visit from Professor Emile-Etienne Baulieu who developed the abortion pill (RU486, mifepristone).¹⁴⁶ A seminar was held in Auckland and anti-abortionists picketed the venue.

1990 The AIDS Foundation published “*Living with HIV: A Personal Handbook*” by Trish Gribben. Distributed by the AIDS Foundation and STD clinics.

1990 The Department of Justice produced a STD/Hepatitis module for the Lifestyle Changes programme for introduction into the NZ prison system.

1991 The DoH produced a new STD resource for young people to replace the 1987 “*Check It Out*”. This one, “*Protect Yourself*” comprised a video, poster, pamphlets and a resource guide for educators. A number of NZVS members were consulted on this project. The Health Research Services of the DoH published “*Discussion Paper 12: Adolescent Sexual Practices: A study of sexual experiences and service needs among a group of New Zealand adolescents*” by

Penny Brander. The Health Research Services of the DoH also published “*Discussion Paper 14: A Health Profile of New Zealand Adolescents*” edited by Caroline Maskill. Chapter 4 considered adolescent sexuality and health.

February 1992 The NZVS established a part-time position of health educator. Diane Shannon was appointed to work 4 hrs a week.

10-11 March 1992 The DoH hosted the 2nd National Conference on IDU, HIV/AIDS in Wellington.⁴³

June 1992 The DoH published “*Adolescent Health: Potential for Action*” with a foreword by the Associate Minister of Health Katherine O’Regan. Eleven priority areas were identified including unintended pregnancy and STIs/HIV/AIDS. The DoH produced a video for doctors “*Taking a Sexual History*”. Dr Hugh Townend and I spent one weekend in June, indoors, filming this with Dr Mike Pohl (presenter), Dr Keri Manus and Dr Richard Pears.

5-7 March 1993 1st National STD Educators Workshop, convened by Diane Shannon was held at Central Institute of Technology, Upper Hutt.¹²² Keynote speaker was Kevin Hague, Research Officer, NZ AIDS Foundation. He called his talk “*Promoting Sexual Health in NZ – The Case of Humpty Dumpty*”. I gave an update on STIs and we heard from Rex Perenara, Te Roopu Tautoko Trust and from Louisa Crawley, Pacific Island AIDS Trust, on how Maoris and Polynesians are responding to AIDS in their communities. The attendance was 85 and it was the first opportunity for educators to meet and focus on health promotion issues.



Diane Shannon

28-29 May 1993 A National Workshop for community organisations on “Prevention of STD and HIV/AIDS in adolescents” was organised by the NZFPA and funded by the DoH and the PHC. I represented the NZVS on the planning committee. The workshop was opened by Stephen Lungley, Senior Advisor, DoH and in the course two days the workshop came up with seven recommendations.

1993 The Department of Education released health education material for those who administer programmes from early childhood to secondary education comprising: (1) AIDS in NZ – a review for educators (2) HIV/AIDS information for schools and early childhood centres (3) Policy and programme development on HIV/AIDS (4) Video “*Taking Care*”

1993 In association with the DoH the NZVS produced a new set of health information pamphlets for patients attending clinics and GPs. Many hours of voluntary work went into these pamphlets under the direction of Dr Heather Lyttle.

21-23 April 1994 The 2nd Sexual Health Educators Workshop, convened by Diane Shannon was held at Capital House, Wellington.¹²³ The keynote speaker was Barry Taylor ex Ministry of Youth Affairs, now Centre for Social Health, University of Melbourne, with a special interest in grief counselling for families and peers bereaved by suicide or HIV/AIDS. There was considerable interest in the sessions on AIDS with contributions from Rex Perenara, Michael Hay, Brenda Little, Chris Barron and Gillian Tasker. Shona Fordyce and Forrest Chambers spoke on STDs and safer sex. I was given the after lunch session so I kept people awake with a quiz.



Shona Fordyce

June 1994 The 1st edition of “*Guidelines for the Management of Genital Herpes in NZ*” was published. [Later editions followed in 1996, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2002.]

October 1994 The Indecent Publications Tribunal sat for the last time. The 31 year old tribunal was replaced by the Office of Film and Literature Classification responsible for all censorship of books, magazines, films and video.

1994 The Ministry of Youth Affairs published “*15 to 25: A Youth Statistical Profile*” which included a section on sexuality, fertility and relationships. NZFPA published “*Affirming Diversity*” an educational resource on gay, lesbian and bisexual orientations.

March 1995 Te Puni Kokiri sponsored the first major four day hui on Maori HIV/AIDS at Papakura Marae, South Auckland. Speakers included Pauline Kingi, Director of Te Puni Kokiri in Auckland, Professor Timoti Karetu of the Maori Language Commission, Rex Perenara of Te Roopu Tautoko Trust, Dame Mira Szasz and Warren Lindberg of the AIDS Foundation.

20-22 April 1995 The 3rd Health Educators Workshop, convened by Diane Shannon was held at Lincoln University Conference Centre.¹²⁴ Pacific Island and Maori perspectives featured prominently with speakers Fuimaono Karl Pulotu-Endemann, Karewa March, Terehia To Roto Kipa, Connie Hasan and Busby Memea. I had the task of two keynote addresses, one on our history “*Where Have We Come From? Sexual Health in NZ*” and “*Masturbation and Health Promotion*”.¹⁴⁰

October 1995 Minister of Health Jenny Shipley launched “*Sisters*” a sexuality education booklet for 12-18 yr olds, produced by the YWCA with assistance from the PHC. Some groups got their knickers in a twist because it mentioned such things as lesbianism and masturbation.

July 1996 The NZFPA won an IPPF award for the teenage booklet “*The Word: On sex, life, relationships*”.

5-7 September 1996 The 4th National Sexual Health Educators Workshop was held at the Education Centre, Palmerston North Hospital, Palmerston North.^{61,62} It was convened by Joanne Leamy. Theme: “Sharing Responsibility – Focus on Youth”. The workshop was opened by Associate Minister of Health Katherine O’Regan.¹⁵⁶ I was one of the keynote speakers (update on STIs) and the others were Dave Green (youth culture), Felix Donnelly (sexuality), Chris Watson (how the cinema represents adolescents) and Margot Mains (health administrator).

1997 The FPA launched www.theword.org.nz an information service for young people.

1998 Development by the Wellington Sexual Health Service of postcards and posters for seafarers advertising free services.¹⁸

September 1998 Minister of Health Bill English launched “*Considering an Abortion: What Are Your Options?*”. NZFPA disapproved of the anti-abortion bias and decided not to distribute it in FPA clinics.

December 1998 Minister of Education Wyatt Creech revoked the syllabus of Health Education in Primary and Secondary Schools (1985). To be replaced by a new national curriculum.

February 1999 Minister of Education Nick Smith launched the new curriculum which will be compulsory for all students from the beginning of 2001. He acknowledged that the most controversial part of the curriculum would be that on sexuality education which will be integrated into the Health and Physical Education curriculum.

4-6 March 1999 The 5th Sexual Health Educators Conference was held in Dunedin in conjunction with the NZFPA and Healthcare Otago. Theme: “Looking Forward to the Choices and Challenges Beyond the Next Millennium”. The conference co-ordinator was Shaye Chalmers.¹⁹ Opening addresses were by Dr Karen Poutasi, Director-General of Health and NZVS President Dr Hilary Andrews. Keynote speakers were Jan Hannah-Munster (aging and female genital mutilation), Gillian Tasker (the new curriculum), Kevin Hague (NZ AIDS Foundation) and Pania Ellison (Te Puawai Tapu). Cultural issues were very much to the fore and several groups showed how effectively messages could be portrayed through drama.

October 1999 1st edition of “*Guidelines for the Management of Genital Warts and/or Genital HPV in NZ*” published. [Later editions followed in 2001, 2002.]

November 1999 The AIDS Foundation published “*Male Call/Waea Mai Tane Ma: A Study of NZ Men Who Have Sex With Men*”. Principal researcher Heather Worth.

December 1999 Minister of Health Annette King launched the summer safer sex campaign a combined effort of NZFPA and Durex. The slogan read “The only difference between a Stud and an STD is U” and the posters carried controversial images of a crab claw, a cactus and an explosive.

1999 Durex Global Survey revealed interesting facts from around the world on condom use. The survey was repeated in subsequent years and in 2000 for the first time, NZ was included as one of the 27 countries surveyed.

October 2000 Prior to the Palmerston North NZVS Conference there was a Maori Sexual Health Hui and Te Puawai Tapu conducted a workshop at the main conference. There were also sessions on peer support and youth programmes. The Auckland Sexual Health Service commenced an on-line internet information service www.sexfiles.co.nz hosted by MediMedia (NZLtd). The Auckland Sexual Health Service also had input into a sexuality education booklet for young people “*Your Choice*” co-produced by NZFPA and Durex.

2001 The Education Standards Act 2001 requires that all schools must include sexuality in the NZ Health and Physical Education Curriculum.

24 July 2001 Waikato Sexual Health staff featured on TV2 in a hilarious health education session with Havoc and Newsboy. Lasting memory for Rory McDonald was Dr Jane Morgan on her knees gently demonstrating swabbing a plastic dildo perched on Havoc’s lap.⁷⁸

August 2001 The FPA STI Teaching Kit for secondary teachers and health promoters is revised. Its contents include STI photographs and a text book.



October 2001 Prior to the NZVS Conference in Wellington, Pania Ellison of Te Puawai Tapu organised a satellite day programme for Maori Sexual and Reproductive Health Providers. Health educators attended a workshop with the theme: “Holistic Health & Safety of Young People”. Presenters were Anne Anglim of FPA, Vaopua Taafaki, Pacific People educator with FPA, Sally Latham of skylight and Geoff Littler from the Wellington City Mission 4 Youth.

2002 New FPA tutu pak “Whatuora” (plastic wallet) aimed at encouraging Maori rangatahi to look at the world with a positive perspective. The pak contains a list of frequently asked questions around relationships and safer sex, a glossary of words related to sexual health and hotlines.

2002 At the Hamilton NZVS Conference there were two keynote speakers, Kim Elliott “*Professional & Private: Working with Sexuality and Young People*” and Terryann Clark “*Working with Young People’s Sexual Health Just Isn’t Enough*”. Health promoters had a

satellite day while the clinicians had a concurrent programme. This is great for professional development but joint sessions are also important.

February 2003 Successful FPA and Durex Valentine Day promotion of a flower whose petals are made from condom foils. The script on the poster reads: **he loves me, he loves me not...he loves me.** Public interest has seen the poster replaced with free postcards disseminated to cafes.

2003 The MoH is producing new pamphlets on sexually transmitted diseases to replace the NZVS pamphlets.

CHAPTER 8. AIDS: MILESTONES REFLECTED IN THE MEDIA

The impact of HIV/AIDS has been devastating and the media has played an important role in making people aware of the issues. However, there is also a negative effect with stories tending to be sensational rather than informative. The stigma against gays persists despite the law change. Mainstream news media were late to appreciate the emergence of a new disease and early articles used such terms as “gay plague” or the issue was written off as a “gay men’s health crisis”. Early stories centred on Haitians, homosexuals and drug addicts. There is a strong tendency for those who have acquired the virus non-sexually or innocently to be treated more sympathetically than those who have acquired the virus sexually. In a number of countries children have become icons. The number of high profile artistic and creative persons affected by AIDS has provided a steady stream of news stories and there are numerous books, films, plays and television programmes where artists have helped portray the human side of the disease. While we are usually preoccupied with the professional aspects of the disease we cannot ignore what is being played out in the public arena. These are just some of the stories that have created headlines in NZ:

1982

- * In NZ the first serious piece of journalism is a leading article in the Summer (December) edition of *Pink Triangle* by Hugh Gaw, General Secretary of the National Gay Rights Coalition of New Zealand.⁹⁰ Credit must be given to gay activists for responding to this major health issue well before it was embraced by the medical profession and at a time when they were already embattled in the fight for homosexual law reform.
- * In July 1982 USA health officials become aware that this disease is not just a “gay disease” and coin the more general term – AIDS.

1983

- * *Newsweek* is the first mainstream news magazine to write a cover story on AIDS on 18 April. By this time the virus is known in 35 states in the USA and in 16 foreign countries.
- * In March 1983 at the Pasteur Institute in Paris, Dr Luc Montagnier reports that his team has found a virus linked to AIDS.

1984

- * Dr Luc Montagnier in France identifies the virus. Dr Robert Gallo in the USA also claims to have identified the virus. [A two-year bitter feud takes place and the matter is eventually settled out of court in March 1987 with the USA and France agreeing to share patent royalties.]
- * New Zealand has its first publicised and notified case of AIDS when an expat kiwi returns home to Taranaki and dies two months later.

1985

- * By the years end there are 6 deaths in NZ.
- * Minister of Health Dr Michael Bassett announces a \$3M fund to fight the disease.
- * Test kits for HIV antibodies are introduced.

- * Condoms are allowed to be displayed on supermarket shelves for the first time and distributed through dairies, tobacconists and garages, although not the favoured means of distribution according to Minister of Health Dr Michael Bassett. However, the DoH is supportive.
- * Bruce Burnett dies aged 30 yrs but not before he has set up the AIDS Support Network. This charitable trust is supported by Governor-General Sir Paul Reeves. It becomes the NZ AIDS Foundation.
- * In the DoH Dr John Clements, Assistant Director, Infectious Diseases produces guidelines, prompted by the case of a haemophiliac child with HIV wishing to attend school.
- * In Australia Eve van Grafhorst is banned from her playcentre. Eve received 11 blood transfusions when she was born 3 months prematurely in July 1982, in Sydney.
- * In the USA film star Rock Hudson dies. Elizabeth Taylor supports a fund to fight the epidemic.
- * In the USA New York premieres one of the first plays to deal with AIDS, Larry Kramer's "*The Normal Heart*".

1986

- * The debate over the nomenclature of the retrovirus causing AIDS is resolved by the executive committee of the International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses. The new name is Human Immunodeficiency Virus or HIV replacing HTLV-III and LAV.
- * Case numbers in NZ are mounting. In 1984 three new cases, in 1985 11 new cases and in 1986 11 new cases.
- * We hear overseas reports of the first promising treatment for the virus. AZT is the first of a series of new antiviral drugs. [It is not available in NZ until April 1987.]
- * Minister of Health Dr Michael Bassett accepts a recommendation from the AIDS Advisory Committee for a needle exchange service.
- * The first NZ AIDS clinic is opened in Auckland by Minister of Health Dr Michael Bassett and named the Burnett Clinic in honour of Bruce Burnett.
- * The Rudolf Steiner School in Hastings accepts 4 year old Eve van Grafhorst. A public appeal is launched for \$40,000 to help the family with relocation costs.
- * In October 1986 the USA Surgeon-General, C. Everett Koop, issues a landmark report on the AIDS epidemic that calls for public health measures and sex education.
- * TVNZ screens the first advertisement for condoms, the parachute one. Also screened is a two-hour programme on AIDS with a documentary made in NZ and Australia followed by a studio panel discussion. Another documentary is "*Love Life: AIDS The New Zealand Story*".
- * The Mercury Theatre in Auckland performs "*The Normal Heart*" by Larry Kramer.

1987

- * Governor-General Sir Paul Reeves opens Awhina Clinic, Wellington.
- * Princess Diana opens the first purpose designed AIDS ward at the Middlesex Hospital, London and shakes hands with patients.
- * CDC in USA advises pregnant women with HIV to consider abortion because of an estimated 30-50% chance of transmission.
- * In Australia TV screens "Grim Reaper" advertisements.
- * Minister of Health David Caygill introduces an amendment to the Misuse of Drugs Act, a move not supported by NZ Medical Association. Needle exchange legislation is passed.
- * Minister of Justice Geoffrey Palmer bars condoms for prison inmates.
- * AZT, the first AIDS drug becomes available for five patients.
- * Te Roopu Tautoko Maori Support Network is set up.
- * NZPC is established.
- * Ita Buttrose high profile Australian chairwoman of Australia's National Advisory Committee on AIDS visits NZ to support AIDS Awareness week.

- * TVNZ screens several feature length programmes: NZ film “*A Death in the Family*” by Peter Wells, UK drama “*Intimate Contact*” and a documentary “*The AIDS Epidemic: AIDS the New Lepers*” which is followed by a panel discussion of local experts.
- * Liberace dies aged 67 yrs. TV2 controller John Barningham dies aged 44 yrs.

1988

- * WHO under Jonathan Mann holds a conference in London for world leaders in health.
- * Olympic champion diver Greg Louganis hits his head against the diving board at Seoul Olympics, but still goes on to win two gold medals. He retires from the sport after Seoul. [Louganis later revealed in 1995 in a TV interview with Barbara Walters that he was aware of his positive HIV status at the time.]
- * AIDS numbers in NZ pass 100. Minister of Health David Caygill wants AIDS message to reach every household.
- * DoH funds major publicity campaign. Condom use is emphasised for all, not just men who have sex with men. There is criticism of the campaign targeting heterosexuals and the largely irrelevant scenario of the TV advertisement “This is the woman who married the man who slept with his secretary, who’d been with a man who went on a business trip to Australia in 1985 and slept with a prostitute who shared a needle with a friend down the road who had AIDS”.
- * Minister of Health David Caygill opens the third AIDS clinic, The Ettie Rout clinic in Christchurch.
- * NZ AIDS Foundation organises events for December 1 World AIDS day.
- * TVNZ screens documentary “*Crossover: The Global Impact of AIDS*”.
- * Under-Secretary for Health Peter Dunne opens exhibition at Dowse Gallery, Lower Hutt called “*AIDS Now*”.

1989

- * The DoH book for professionals attracts attention at the WHO conference in Manila and WHO orders 500 copies.
- * In the USA the FDA approves aerosol pentamidine for the prevention of PCP.
- * Princess Diana visits Harlem and cradles a little boy dying of AIDS.
- * Fiji reports its first AIDS case.
- * DoH formulates National AIDS Strategy. Governor-General Sir Paul Reeves opens the first National Conference in Wellington organised by the National Council on AIDS. Mr Justice Kirby from Australia is one of the keynote speakers.
- * National group, The PLWA Union replaces the Wellington based People With AIDS Collective. Tom O’Donoghue is spokesperson. PLWA continues to publish the magazine *Collective Thinking*.
- * Gay men are refused insurance by AMP.
- * TVNZ refuses to screen AIDS Foundation safe sex advertisement for Valentines Day. Ruled indecent. Managing editor of *NZ Listener* David Beatson declines ad of two shirtless men embracing over the message “Love carefully”.

1990

- * In the USA, teenager Ryan White dies at the age of 18 years. He is a haemophiliac who was banned from his school in Indiana in 1985. He became a symbol for AIDS intolerance and he won a court case against school officials. He touched the hearts of many celebrities.
- * In the USA, Kimberley Bergalis aged 22 yrs is diagnosed with HIV - the source of infection, her dentist, the event, a dental extraction, the time, 1987. The dentist dies in 1990 and she sues his estate. [Over the next few years another five patients are confirmed infected. This is the first known case of a health professional passing on the virus to patients.]
- * In the USA, Dr Veronica Prego sues her health employers following an incident in 1983 when she accidentally suffered a needle stick injury from a pile of hospital laundry. She is

one of 19 health professionals in the USA thought to have contracted HIV through work related accidents.

- * NZ records the first case of perinatally acquired HIV.
- * Joanne McCoy aged 17 yrs, from Timaru is jailed for 18 months for kidnapping and torturing, for over four hours, a man who exposed her to HIV. Two male friends (brothers) are also sentenced to two and a half years in prison.
- * TVNZ screens a USA documentary "*AIDS Babies: Somebody's Child*" a problem highlighted by Dr Elizabeth Kubler Ross.
- * Harrowing publicity about orphans in Romania.
- * In the USA graffiti artist Keith Haring dies of AIDS at 31 yrs.
- * Lew Pryme dies aged 46 yrs after a two-year battle with AIDS. He is a former pop singer and Executive Director of the Auckland Rugby Union. TVNZ screens a documentary "*Welcome to My World*" four months after his death.
- * Also screened is the 1985 award winning TV film "*An Early Frost*".
- * Frank Gilchrist, Edinburgh playwright comes to NZ for the production of his play "*Being Frank*".

1991

- * French scandal about the blood transfusion service knowingly distributing HIV contaminated blood products to haemophiliacs in 1985. There is an official Government investigation and the director of the transfusion service resigns.
- * AIDS is spreading in India.
- * In NZ major restructuring of DoH. AIDS taskforce within DoH disbanded. Role to be taken over by Public Health. National Council on AIDS expanded.
- * First national survey of 2000 people (18-54 yrs) and their partner relations. Part of a WHO initiative, co-ordinator Peter Davis.
- * Christchurch detective pricked by hypodermic needle. Not the first incident and request by police for access to criminal medical records supported by Minister of Police John Banks but not by NZMA, AIDS Foundation or civil libertarians.
- * Freddie Mercury, lead singer rock group Queen dies, aged 45.
- * Ace basketballer in USA, Magic Johnson discloses HIV status.
- * AIDS Foundation introduces Media Awards.

1992

- * At the 8th International Conference on AIDS in Amsterdam a mystery illness without detectable HIV virus arouses fears.
- * The first report of combination therapy is published. A third drug didanosine (DDI) is approved by the USA FDA.
- * Associate Minister of Health Katherine O'Regan introduces anti-discrimination legislation.
- * Associate Minister of Health Maurice Williamson supports legislation decriminalising soliciting by prostitutes.
- * TVNZ screens "*Mr & Mr*" a documentary about dancer Michael Parmenter diagnosed with HIV in 1989 and his partner Scott Johnston.

1993

- * After a two and a half year wait, the amendment to the Human Rights Bill is voted on in Parliament. Supplementary Order paper from Katherine O'Regan removes discrimination on the grounds of health status and sexual orientation.
- * Linwood Intermediate School, Christchurch is the subject of a 20 minute video "*Taking Care*" which documents the successful integration of an HIV positive pupil.
- * Christchurch AIDS campaigner Alistair Hall dies. He received a special award from the AIDS Foundation presented by mayor Vicki Buck one month before he died. He helped set up the Body Positive Peer Support Group and the NPLWA Union.

- * In the UK, O&G specialist Terence Shuttleworth is diagnosed with HIV and thousands of worried women contact the two hospitals where he used to work.
- * In Australia, Troy Lovegrove aged 7 dies. He contracted the virus from his mother Suzie at birth. His mother died in 1987. Award winning documentary “*Suzie’s Story*” is shown in over 50 countries. She contracted HIV through unprotected sex before marrying Troy’s father. Troy and Eve van Grafhorst were friends.
- * Australian author Bryce Courtenay visits NZ promoting his book “*April Fool’s Day*” about his haemophiliac son Damon aged 25, one of about 500 Australians medically infected.
- * At least ten NZ women are exposed to Peter Mwai, Kenyan musician aged 28 yrs. He came to NZ on a false passport in October 1990. Diagnosed positive in March 1993. Two women become pregnant and have abortions. Two women become HIV positive. [Further developments all well publicised: Five women bring charges. Trial in 1994. Lawyers withdraw charges of wilfully infecting (too hard to prove he did it deliberately) but he is found guilty on other charges, causing grievous bodily harm and endangering lives. He refused to wear a condom. Sent to prison for 7 years. Court of Appeal in 1995 upholds the sentence. Released to hospital for treatment during prison term in Auckland. Finally deported in 1998 and dies three months later in Uganda.]
- * Eve van Grafhorst dies 20/11/93 aged 11 yrs. In her short life she has done much to increase public awareness of AIDS including selling hugs on the main street in Napier. [Her story dominated the media for a decade.]
- * Rudolf Nureyev, Russian ballet star who defected to the West in 1961 dies, aged 54.
- * Tennis star Arthur Ashe who won titles in USA Open, Australian Open and Wimbledon dies, aged 49.
- * Derek Jarman, British film maker, painter and gay activist dies aged 52 years.
- * TVNZ screens “*Fatal Love*” a documentary about Alison Gertz aged 22 yrs, who contracted the virus on a one night stand and became a leading voice in the USA for education of young people about safe sex. She died in 1992. Also screened is “*Your Place or Mine?*” a NZ sex special featuring Dr Linda Dayan. Sexual Health Services operate phone lines after the screening.



The Dominion cartoon 22 November 1993

1994

- * In the USA President Clinton fires his Surgeon-General, Dr Jocelyn Elders for comments advocating teaching about masturbation in schools during a World AIDS Day speech at the United Nations in New York.
- * In the USA paediatric activist Elizabeth Glaser who was infected with HIV in 1981 by a tainted blood transfusion dies. Her two children are both HIV positive.
- * In Australia an obstetrician in a Sydney hospital is found to be HIV positive and 149 patients are contacted and offered testing.
- * TVNZ screens documentary “*All about Eve*”. This was followed a week later by “*A Kid Called Troy*”.
- * Tom O’Donoghue dies in Wellington aged 40 yrs. Tom was diagnosed with HIV in 1988. He was an experienced political lobbyist who worked tirelessly for those living with the virus. He was a co-founder of NPLWA Union, a member of the Government Advisory Council on AIDS and a trustee of the NZ AIDS Foundation.
- * William Yang, a gay Australian of Chinese descent shows his photographs and performs a monologue which he calls “*Sadness*”. One sequence is of a friend dying of AIDS.
- * Tom Hanks stars as a gay lawyer with HIV in the mainstream movie “*Philadelphia*”.

- * John Curry, world champion figure skater who won an Olympic gold medal in 1976 dies aged 44 years.

1995

- * In the USA the FDA approves saquinavir, the first protease inhibitor.
- * Robert Mapplethorpe's retrospective photographic exhibition (R18) in Wellington causes controversy and there is debate about the dividing line between pornography and art. The opening of the exhibition raises funds for Awhina. Mapplethorpe died of AIDS in 1989.
- * Eve's friend Jeremy Miller aged 15 yrs dies. He was a haemophiliac who, for a time, became the public face of AIDS in Christchurch.
- * Comedian Kenny Everett, aged 50 yrs, dies.
- * Warren Douglas, Maori dancer and arts manager of State Opera House in Wellington dies.
- * Dancer, Michael Parmenter performs his biographical piece "*A Long Undressing*".

1996

- * Herpes virus type 8 implicated in Kaposi's sarcoma.
- * AIDS patients flying to Australia to obtain protease inhibitors.

1997

- * Protease inhibitors become available in New Zealand.
- * Following two arson attempts at the AIDS Foundation Awhina premises in Wellington, the organisation shifts first to Tory Street and then to Courtenay Place. New premises opened by the Governor-General, Sir Michael Hardie Boys.
- * Katherine O'Regan promotes private members Bill decriminalising prostitution, taking off where Maurice Williamson left off. Neither is successful. [Later taken up by Tim Barnett.]
- * Expat kiwi Dr Charles Farthing announces his plan to infect himself with an attenuated strain of HIV as part of his research into vaccines. [He later abandons the idea.]

1998

- * Rotorua woman Cheryle Bridger aged 29 yrs wins High Court case against ACC. Court rules that ACC must cover her and her son Carey for contracting HIV after her partner was infected by a contaminated blood transfusion, received after a motorcycle accident in 1984. Not diagnosed until June 1993. [Further developments: In 1999 Carey bites a child at school raising concerns for schools. The Department of Education provides schools with new guidelines. In essence when there is a pupil who is HIV positive, schools are only required to tell those who need to know. Harassment of Carey continues and eventually in 2000 the Bridgers leave NZ for Sydney.]
- * In the USA the FDA approves human trial on AIDS vaccine.
- * From 1 March – 26 April Te Papa exhibits "*Pictura Britannica*" art from Great Britain. Over 100 works by 48 artists but it is the exhibit 'Virgin in a condom' by Tania Kovats that creates controversy +++.

1999

- * Minister of Immigration Tuariki Delamere raises a storm when he announces that HIV testing will be mandatory from July 1 2000.
- * In NZ two male prostitutes, Christopher Truscott aged 30 yrs and Richard Burley aged 31 are charged with offences. Truscott was diagnosed HIV positive in 1992. [He is confined under the Health Act but from time to time escapes.]
- * A Thai prostitute in Auckland is sent home when a male client claims he was infected in 1997.
- * In France former Health Minister and other officials are brought to trial for contaminated blood products 1983-1986. Two are acquitted and one is convicted but without punishment.

2000

- * The 13th International AIDS Conference provides us with plenty of headlines with President Mbeki and ex President Mandela both taking the stage. Nonoxynol-9 is given the thumbs down.
- * After many years of speculation and headlines, the first AIDS vaccine for Africa is cleared for human testing.

2001

- * Although there have been previous calls for routine screening for HIV in pregnancy, there is an increased interest from health professionals.
- * Nkosi Johnson aged 12 yrs dies in Africa. He became an icon. He was abandoned by his biological mother at the age of two. He spoke at the AIDS Conference in Durban.

12 February 2001 *Time* publishes its 8th cover story on AIDS. Over the years the headlines have read:

July 4 1983 *“Disease detectives. Tracking the killers. The AIDS hysteria.”*

August 12 1985 *“AIDS: A growing threat. What’s being done.”*

November 3 1986 *“Viruses: Keys to life and death. AIDS: New research, new danger.”*

February 16 1987 *“The big chill: How heterosexuals are coping with AIDS.”*

August 3 1992 *“Losing the battle. Mysterious non-HIV cases emerge. The search for a cure stalls. Infection among women grows.”*

February 12 1996 *“Living with the AIDS virus: Basketball star Magic Johnson is back – and science is offering new hope for others.”*

December 30 1997 *“Man of the year: Dr David Ho, AIDS researcher.”*

February 12 2001 *“This is a story about AIDS in Africa. Look at the pictures. Read the words. And then try not to care.”*

2002

- * Increasing concerns about the increase of AIDS in Asia and especially China.
- * In NZ prisoners are given condoms and bleach in a harm reduction programme.

2003

- * In the USA results of human AIDS vaccine trial (VaxGen) are disappointing.
- * Christopher Truscott escapes for the 6th time.

POSTSCRIPT

What can we learn from our history? I shall end with an opinion from two expert historians: “Narrow focused efforts against STDs have little effectiveness on their own – STDs reveal limitations of both the biomedical model of disease as well as traditional public health interventions. No doubt, education and condom distribution can decrease the rates of transmission. But infectious diseases constitute complex bioecological problems in which host, parasite, and a range of social and environmental forces interact. No single medical or social intervention thus can adequately address the problem. Efforts against STDs must reflect the diversity of their causes and their

associations. They must address microbiology, ecology, culture, and politics. The varied knowledge we now have of STDs must produce varied actions.”¹⁵

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