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Welcome

Helen Dowthwaite
Must Editor & MThNZ Executive Officer

Welcome to the final edition of our Must newsletter for 2022! We have a very full edition for you to read over your summer break, so please take the time to sit back and enjoy!



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MThNZ have has been very busy this year with our charitable activities and progress across many professional domains. We can't do this without the support and dedication of our members, so thank you. As you will see, 2023 is looking to be even more exciting for the music therapy world in Aotearoa & internationally, with the [World Congress of Music Therapy](#) July 24-29 in Vancouver, Canada.

A huge thank you to all of you that filled out the NZ Registered Music Therapist Workforce survey, we had an outstanding response rate of 65%. This valuable data will be crucial in the next stages of music therapy development and growth in Aotearoa. A full report will be included in the 2023 edition of the New Zealand Journal of Music Therapy.

From The Chair

Stephen Guerin

Tēnā koutou katoa,

This is our last publication for the year, and I trust you enjoy reading it. The year has been one of change in Music Therapy New Zealand (MThNZ), a new Executive Officer in Helen Dowthwaite, myself coming in as Chair and new Council members elected at our AGM in September. We have continued to manage the affairs of MThNZ through our world of COVID utilising technology well for many online forums and meetings that were held. We are pleased to see the membership base growing all the while ensuring our delivery of events, and work streams aligns with our published three-year strategic plan. We have continued to support the Music Therapy community with our grants programmes.

Our AGM in September saw the awarding of a Certificate of Appreciation to Wendy Wright for her work with the Registration Board, the formalities of our AGM and a good discussion on the revision process for our rules as required due to a change in the legislation governing Incorporated Societies. The AGM was followed by our "Grounding Workshop" which touched a core with all those in attendance.



(Photo: Left to Right, Stephen Guerin, Barbara Lewis, Linda Webb, Sophie Sabri, Helen Dowthwaite, Rachel Austin and Pip Algie)

November saw a very successful Music Therapy week being delivered with the support of our Music Therapy Community and friends. The range of news' articles and social media interaction was very pleasing as to our messages.

My thanks to our Executive Officer Helen Dowthwaite for her dedication and passion for Music Therapy New Zealand and the support and guidance provided by Council.

Meri Kirihimete me te Hape Nū Ia!



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Council News

Helen Dowthwaite

The new council met in Ōtautahi, Christchurch at the Braintree Wellness Centre, kindly hosted by Kim Wade of Southern Music Therapy. They had recently had their open day and Kim, NZ RMTh and Southern Music Therapy owner, showed us around the wonderful facility.

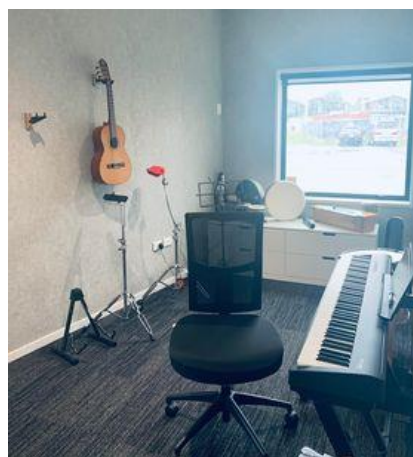


(Photo – a picture of the café with a curved wooden sculpture coming from the ceiling)

It was great to see the result of a recent successful MThNZ grant application, with the music therapy space set up with a range of instruments and soundproof panelling. Thanks Kim and team, we look forward to seeing you again.

Our agenda was full, but we achieved a great deal – including the structuring and allocation of all our working groups, representatives and special interest groups. You can find more details [here](#) on the members area of the website, where they are all listed.

If you see your name, we would really appreciate if you had any updates, reports and budget requests for next year – even if you anticipate your costings are the same.



(Photo – The music therapy room – keyboard, chair, guitar on wall and a range of percussion instruments on a table)

Our next Council meeting is 26 February 2023 in Wellington. We would like to encourage any working group convenors or chairpersons to attend in person or via zoom to meet our new council and give them a rundown of your working group. Please check the [council news](#) area of the website to view documentation, policies and updates about meetings and projects.

Please note that due to CPI increase, subscription costs for membership will increase for the 2023-2024 year. Visit [here](#) for more info. You will receive an invoice for the renewal of your membership in March – all memberships expire on 31 March.

Keep an eye out in your mailbox in the new year for your 2022 edition of the NZJMT – please let me know if you DO NOT wish to receive a copy.



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Music Therapy Week



(Image: Blue MTW logo)

This year was a huge success – the focus was ‘make the change’. We were very lucky to have some remaining funds from a Hugo Charitable Trust grant, which went towards the making of the video ‘Please Believe’. We had a wonderful response with over 3.2K views! In general, our social media reach and website visits have increased dramatically since music therapy week last month.

We had a range of media releases which really fulfilled our brief of telling Aotearoa why music therapy is a great profession to be involved in and that there is a huge NEED, a need for funding, a need for more professional recognition & regulation, a need for more NZ RMThs and the need for our communities. If

you want to see a list of all the media releases, visit the website [here](#).

Kia pai tōu mahi!

AGM & The Grounding Workshop

On Sunday 25 September, we welcomed Hone Hurihanganui from Engaging Well, to conduct a cultural competency workshop called ‘The Grounding Workshop’ – Hone covered colonisation of Aotearoa-New Zealand and its implications for now and beyond, with a focus on health inequalities for Māori, unconscious bias and institutional racism, and finally the importance of Te Reo as a starting point to tackle racism.

We received positive feedback about the quality of the speaker and several participants said that they would like more of these types of workshops, or for Hone to present his follow up workshop (see graph below)

“Just Brilliant, loved the honesty of Hone & how confronting & direct he was”

- Workshop Attendee

Many mentioned that the workshop was confronting, and there was some confusion around criticism towards people’s own learning Te Reo journeys.

Feedback for the AGM in general was positive with regards to information, conduct of the meeting and the ease of the voting process. With one comment stating that “challenging



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questions were professionally managed and respected”.

It was clear that there was not enough time scheduled for the meeting, which meant that unfortunately, we had to cut short the music making session scheduled for after the meeting. Chris O'Connor managed to deliver a short singing workshop, which many agreed was very good/excellent! But feedback suggested that this could have been better communicated in the advertising for the event.

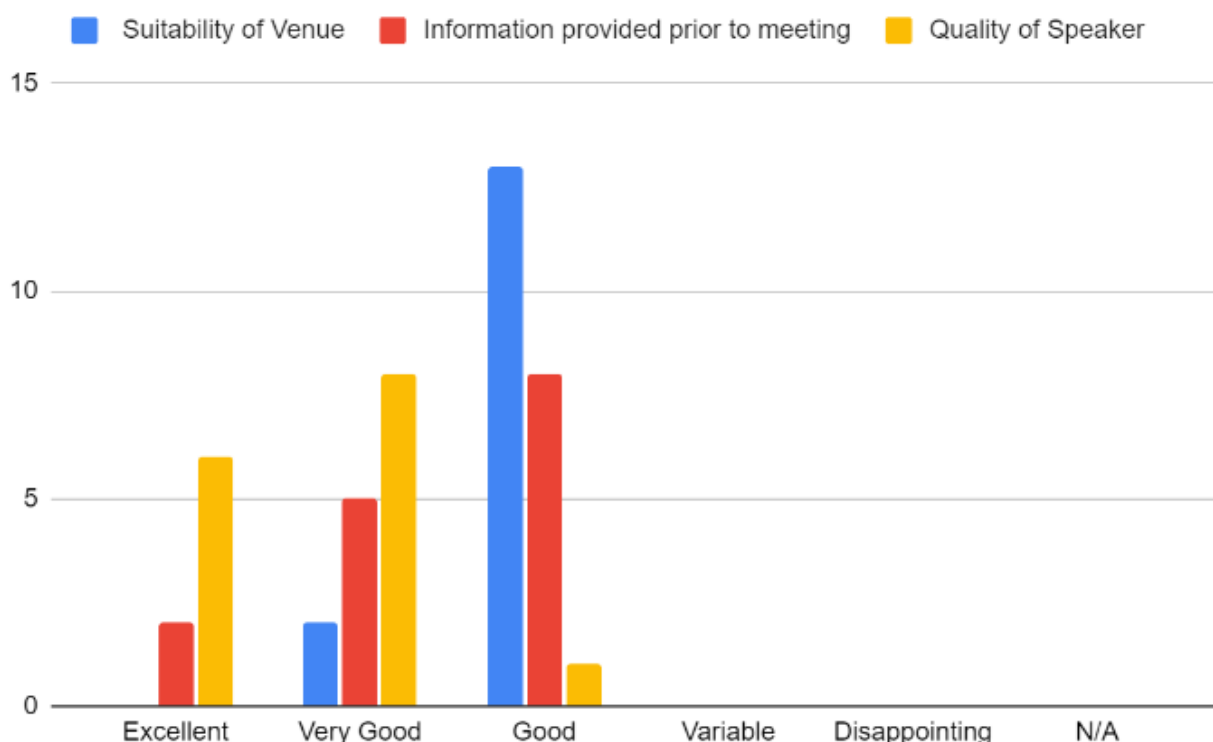
The venue was very disappointing, with very loud music occurring next door, and the acoustics of the room made it very difficult to hear speakers. Practical issues with the doors not working and only one key card provided by the venue presented many issues beyond

our control. In response to this feedback, we are seeking a full refund from the venue and have made a complaint about these issues which made the day more difficult.

Many people thought the catering was very good; all in all, many were grateful to be part of the workshop and look forward to more events like this.

Thank You for all the energy and effort that went into a very successful AGM & workshops. Thank you for taking the next step in MThNZ's journey of cultural competence & supporting all of our journeys in this way

Thank you to all who attended this event. The bi-cultural and multicultural Special Interest group is meeting before Christmas to discuss our next steps to MThNZ's own cultural



competence, and our commitment to te tiriti – because one of the key learnings from this workshop was where there is inequity, there is evidence of bias.

We will be following up with a full summary and review of this for the next Must, in an effort to be transparent with the development in this area, tackling these issues in our profession head on.

Child Development Services Advocacy Group

Heather Fletcher, NZ RMTh
President Emerita Music Therapy New Zealand

Advocating for Music Therapy to be funded through Child Development Services.

Background

As you may be aware, there have been some significant changes in the structure of our health system this year. One of these changes relates to funding and delivery of Child Development Services (CDS). CDS provide community-based support for children who have a developmental disability, working with children and their families to support the achievement of development goals.



(Photo: Young male in wheelchair and female smiling and sitting at a desk interacting, both interacting with a book)

CDS service specifications can be found [here](#):

What's happening to CDS Service Delivery? Historically CDS was funded by the Ministry of Health (MoH), with services predominantly provided by District Health Boards, although other service providers also held contracts.

In July 2022, Whaikaha Ministry of Disabled People (Whaikaha) was launched and funding for CDS moved from MoH to Whaikaha.

Alongside this, a review of CDS has been undertaken, led by the National CDS Improvement Programme. As a result, a new model of care is being developed, with the aim of providing more equitable access to CDS and better service coordination across the country. Emerging themes for this service coordination are cohesive, multi-disciplinary, whānau focused services.

At present, only the following therapy services are listed on the Whaikaha CDS website page: Physiotherapy; Speech Language Therapy; Occupational Therapy; and Psychology, although it does mention that services include 'working with other agencies to ensure your child gets the right support at the right time.'



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What we can do

Link families with the Lived Experience Group. This group is facilitated by CDS Project Facilitator, Turid Peters (Turid.Peters@siapo.health.nz) and the group is actively engaged with the national process, so this is a great conduit for families to be heard and a powerful way to influence service design, especially if families wish music therapy to be funded through CDS.

Encourage families to write to their local CDS provider or directly to Turid, outlining the benefit of music therapy for their tamariki and asking for music therapy services to be funded.

Advocate at a national level. Music Therapy New Zealand intends to draft a written submission advocating for music therapy services to be funded by CDS. In order to do this, we need the voices of NZ RMThs and the families they work with, along with evidence of the efficacy of music therapy with this population.

Become involved in the MThNZ CDS Advocacy Group. Please get in touch with Heather Fletcher at heather@musictherapy.org.nz if you:

- are a RMTh providing music therapy services for CDS.
- know of children who meet the criteria for CDS, and the families are requesting music therapy but cannot get funding for it.
- Are willing/able to do a literature search and collate research in relation to music therapy and CDS.

Ngā mihi nui
Heather Fletcher

Changes to the Incorporated Societies Act 2022 and Rules Progress

Stephen Guerin, Chair



Incorporated Societies Act 2022

(Image: Incorporated Societies Act crest)

Although a dry and technical subject the Constitution and rules of the organisation are important for the smooth running of an organisation according to best practice. Due to changes to the Act, MThNZ has an obligation to re-register by 2026. The process had been to generate a new set of draft rules using a tool from the Incorporated Societies webpage called a Constitution Builder. Then the current rules were included into the new draft rules format, as much as was possible. With the new wording it was not always possible to add the exact words we have used in the past, but the intention was included. Regulations are still being put in place that needs to be considered and added to our rules if appropriate or required.



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As members know a revised document was discussed at the 2022 AGM and it was agreed a further document would be sent out that showed where the old rules fitted with the new rules. Feedback was sought from members. A small number of four members responded and Council at its meeting on 27 November considered all the comments that had been sent.

The next stage will be for all the comments to be considered by a small working group who can work through the rules in detail and include suggestions made where they fit and discuss other suggestions that either do or do not meet the Act or where there is not clarity in the current wording. A further document will be generated from this meeting that will be considered by the next Council meeting in February 2023.

Council will then determine the next steps and invite wider comment on a revised document probably through the regional groups with feedback to be available for the June Council meeting. It is hoped that a revised set can then be sent to members for the AGM where further discussion and feedback can take place. It is not intended that the new final Constitution will be voted or considered at this time rather so that we can have a further conversation with members to ensure that all regulations in the Act have been considered and incorporated and that members' views have been captured, inputted and discussed.

We are not in a rush here; we have time for several more conversations. There is no hurry as organisations have from October 2023 until 2026 to re-register. It is important that the organisation has a good set of rules for the coming years. At some point the draft will be sent to the solicitor for his legal overview; this

will not be done at this stage when changes are still being considered and proposed.

Alongside the Act changes are also changes to the Charities Act 2005 and the Council will be considering these changes as well to ensure that anything that is required or may affect the organisation are included in the new rules.

If you have further questions or comments, please email the Executive Officer on info@musictherapy.org.nz, it is not too late to help in the development of our rules.

Music Therapy and Professional Regulation: Our HPCA and ACC Journey so far

Linda Webb & Barbara Lewis

Currently, Music therapy in New Zealand is a self-regulated profession, with (voluntary) registration offered by the NZ Music Therapy Registration Board. The profession is not currently regulated under the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance (HPCA) Act (2003), which “provides a framework for the regulation of health practitioners in order to protect the public where there is a risk of harm from professional practice” (Ministry of Health, 2015) – i.e., to ensure client safety. Prior to the HPCA Act coming into force, MThNZ undertook extensive research and



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consultation to ascertain the advantages and possible pitfalls of becoming regulated under the Act. MThNZ then submitted an application to the Minister of Health in 2006, but a government review of the Act put all applications on hold. The Ministry's draft review (Ministry of Health, 2009) prompted MThNZ to reconsider its application. Dr Marwick from MoH advised of significant challenges and suggested other avenues to help legitimise the music therapy profession, such as joining the Allied Health Professional Associations Forum (AHPAF). Following further consultation with the membership in 2010, MThNZ decided not to pursue registration under the Act, but joined and became active in AHPAF, later rebranded as Allied Health Aotearoa New Zealand (AHANZ).

At a AHANZ webinar with the Hon Andrew Little Minister of Health in October 2021, he acknowledged the valuable information included in the AHANZ Hidden in plain sight report which MThNZ had contributed to, found [here](#). The current MOH's priorities lay with reforming the health system for every New Zealander's benefit. This process began in July 2022 with the aim of having the best use of resources, inclusive vision, total health and wellbeing, removing the red tape, tackling fragmentation, identifying needs and matching these with capabilities through a collaborative approach.

Minister Little stated that his preference was for all health professionals to be included under the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003 (HPCA) rather than rely on a variable self-regulated system. He seemed unaware of the current difficulties with the process and said this would be looked into. As a follow up, MThNZ wrote to the Minister as a party who planned to reconsider applying to become regulated under the HPCA Act. and to request further

information about any updates to the process. No response was received.

To be further informed, in July the President and Registrar of the NZ Music Therapy Registration Board met with Steve Osborne, Kaitohutohu Mātāmua, the Principal Advisory person associated with the HPCA Act at the MOH in Wellington to discuss the process for registration. He noted that due to the current health reforms not as much progress would be made in the short term due to the reallocation of resources for purposes of reviewing the HPCA Act. However, he was committed to the current Regulatory Reform Project taking place (estimated to be an 18 – 24-month process) and advised that the outcome of this would probably offer more (and maybe better) opportunities for a smaller organisation with currently only 83 Registered Music Therapists. It was possible there would be various tiers in the new format and under each there would be protections. This may include protection for the use of the term “music therapy” as well as “music therapist”.

Steve outlined the current process and noted that the most significant aspect was to demonstrate that the practice posed a risk. Other requirements included having evidence that showed a unified desire by members to register under the HPCA framework, and that they were aware of the high cost. Data showing areas/regions/numbers that used music therapy, agreement on the qualification of a registered music therapist, and information about identified training pathways were needed too. He noted that a smaller entity such as ours might consider joining with a larger organisation with similar practice and ethics to make the current high costs (estimated to be up to \$750k per year), affordable.



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This meeting reiterated the importance of having recent data that built a comprehensive picture of music therapy in NZ was urgently needed, and the importance of keeping this information up to date. This was similar to the request from the Ministry of Education who were undertaking a pay equity review in special education and had also asked for data.

The current Accident Compensation Act (2001) does not include music therapists as Health Providers who are eligible to register as service providers for ACC. ACC has previously classed music therapists as rehabilitation coaches. Rehabilitation coaches report to service providers, who are responsible for creating treatment programmes and reporting to ACC.

In the past ACC have undertaken some literature reviews (at the request of NZSMT/MThNZ) and found limited evidence (within ACC's framework and criteria) for music therapy. However, there is the potential for this to be added to.

In order to be included as health providers under ACC, MThNZ would need to provide considerable quantitative evidence of efficacy of music therapy, and lobby ACC for support and the government for inclusion under the Act. Despite this, congratulations to the few NZ RMThs who have managed to become providers.

If you are an ACC provider and are willing to share your experience and knowledge about this process with other members, please get in touch. Likewise, if you are a NZ RMTh whom wishes to contribute to the next stage in this process or assist with data and literature reviews, please contact the Executive Officer at info@musictherapy.org.nz.

A note from The MThNZ President:

A huge thank you to the many who have preceded us with investigating and representing MThNZ in a range of ways to progress the understanding and status of RMTh as providers within the health, education, and other sectors. Whether it be for example the HPCA Act, accessing ACC or other government agency funded clients, pay equity for our therapists who work within the special education sector, we are committed to continue to advocate for all registered practising therapists across all sectors and communities in Aotearoa.

Please continue to give us feedback about your particular successes and challenges whatever they be. Working together is so beneficial as we progress causes on behalf of both individuals and collectively.

A special congratulations to all Council members, our new Chair Stephen and EO Helen, along with Barbara for her multiple roles and ongoing support and guidance to those who have taken up new positions, and all other portfolio coordinators and members within our organisation that contribute to such a wide range of ways.

The progress that continues to evolve is significant and stands MThNZ in good stead for 2023 and beyond. I wish you all a safe and restful festive and holiday season.

Kindest regards,

Linda Webb MNZM
President MThNZ



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Exploring The Potential of Neurological Music Therapy in Aotearoa, NZ

Abigail McDonald
Bachelor of Performing Arts specialising in Music Theatre
Ara Institute of Canterbury (2018-2021)

My Interest in Neurologic Music Therapy (NMT™)

As a New Zealand Bachelor of Performing Arts student with a passion for arts as a tool for health and wellbeing, I investigated NMT for an undergraduate research report. This article is a refined and shortened version of my research report, which looked at NMT studies from the United States and collected interview data from New Zealand Registered Music Therapists.

What is NMT?

NMT is an evidence-based treatment model for people with a neurological (brain) condition, developed by Professor Michael Thaut, a leading professor of music and neuroscience and author of over 200 publications. NMT uses 20 standardised, research-based, clinical techniques for sensorimotor training, speech and language rehabilitation, and cognitive development, using musical elements such as rhythm, melody, dynamics, and tempo. The first NMT certification programme was held in 1999 and

following international and online training approximately 3000 Neurologic Music Therapists (NMTs) now practise in 70 countries.



(Image: blue depiction of brain with musical notes and symbols through the middle)

NMT in Aotearoa New Zealand

Music therapy practice in Aotearoa New Zealand is a small but growing profession with an eclectic approach. NMT is uncommon here, with few qualified practitioners. Currently, eight NZ RMTHs are trained in NMT, but not all are practising. Those using NMT work mainly in private practice or a music therapy centre, and one is employed by public health services. Relative to population, we have a low number of NMTs compared with the UK (200) and USA (1,400). Internationally, NMTs work in hospitals, education centres, neurorehabilitation centres, mental health services, paediatrics, and private practice.

Obstacles to Providing NMT in NZ

Analysis of my interviews with NMT-trained NZ RMTHs showed three main obstacles to the growth of NMT in Aotearoa New Zealand: financial challenges, lack of awareness and recognition, and limited training opportunities.



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New Zealand's health services have insufficient funding for new initiatives, such as NMT. However, the current reorganisation of the DHB system might provide opportunities to consider new allied health services. Having said that, neurorehabilitation services are already underfunded. For example, currently stroke patients only receive a few weeks of in-patient services and no post-discharge continuing treatment. Grant applications are also an inconsistent source of funding for NMT as rehabilitative music therapy services may fall between health and arts funding criteria. ACC is another possible source of future funding: one NMT interviewee reported a recent increase in support for NMT.

Interviewees also discussed a continuing lack of understanding and awareness about music therapy – including NMT – among health professionals, service users, and musicians. Music therapy is not a protected term, and the profession is not regulated under the Health Professionals Competencies Assurance (HPCA) Act.

To become a NZ RMTh, you must obtain a Master of Music Therapy from Victoria University of Wellington (or equivalent overseas qualification). This makes it hard to train, especially for mature students, unless they already reside in Wellington. Specialising in NMT requires further training – an expensive, intense 4-day course, only available overseas or sometimes online. This makes it an inaccessible qualification for many music therapists.

Recommendations

With the current health system reforms, we have an opportunity to examine the viability of the growth of NMT, especially in terms of funding and availability of therapists. My interview data showed that current NZ RMThs qualified as NMTs have little capacity to take on more work.

Future interview research could investigate:

whether NZ RMThs face the barriers I have identified or whether they prefer to practise other models of music therapy.
the availability of NMT trained RMThs, to explore whether we could staff increased NMT provision as an allied healthcare service; and
the potential for offering NMT training and course funding to more NZ RMThs.

I hope that this research report will encourage more discussion about the potential for NMT training and service provision in Aotearoa New Zealand, and the huge benefits that NMT can bring to everyone.

Suggested Reading

Edwards, J. (2016). *The Oxford handbook of music therapy*. OUP.

Fletcher, H. (2016). A brief history of music therapy governance and administration in New Zealand (1974 to 2016). *New Zealand Journal of Music Therapy*, 14, 10-24.

<https://www.musictherapy.org.nz/journal/2016-2>

Thaut, M, & Hoemberg, V. (2014). *Handbook of neurologic music therapy*. OUP.

Weblinks

Music Therapy New Zealand -

<https://www.musictherapy.org.nz>

The Academy of Neurological Music Therapy -

<https://nmtacademy.co>



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Journal News



The 2022 online issue of the NZ Journal of Music Therapy has been published online in December at <https://www.musictherapy.org.nz/journal/2022-2>. The print edition will be circulated to MThNZ members in January.

This year we have published three articles and two book reviews:

Kimi Choir: Developing an Augmentative and Alternative Communication Choir, by Hazel Barrett & Catriona McKenzie

Playing their Song? Is it About Them or Me? A Personal Reflection on my Music Therapy Student Research Journey and Findings, by Jenny Gordon & Sarah Hoskyns

Aphasia Choirs Go Global: Individual and Collaborative Journeys Towards an

Interprofessional Online Community of Practice, by Alison Talmage, Ellen Bernstein-Ellis, & Bronwen Jones

Review of Sociocultural Identities in Music Therapy (2021), edited by Susan Hadley (Barcelona Publishers) – reviewed by May Bee Choo Clulee 吳美珠

Review of Music Therapy and Autism Across the Lifespan: A Spectrum of Approaches (2019), by Harry Dunn, Elizabeth Coombes, Emma Maclean, Helen Mottram, & Josie Nugent (Jessica Kingsley Publishers) – reviewed by Rachel Foxell

We have also compiled the annual publications and theses alert list. Special congratulations to Dr Ajay Castelino NZ RMTh for completing his PhD, and to two Master of Music Therapy students, Chris O'Connor and George Parker-Brien.

Submissions are warmly invited for the 2023 issue of the journal – information and submission guidelines are available from <https://www.musictherapy.org.nz/journal>. You are welcome to contact the editorial team for a preliminary discussion before submitting an article.

In 2023 we also hope to offer some presentations and workshops focusing on writing and publishing in the NZJMT.

Sincere thanks to our Assistant Editor, May Bee Choo Clulee 吳美珠, and to all contributors, peer reviewers, advisers, and proof-readers.

Alison Talmage
Editor, NZJMT
E: nzjmt1@musictherapy.org.nz



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CeleBRation Choir 2022 Roundup



(Photo: Taken from above, choir members seated around a small table)

The CeleBRation Choir began 2022 with another four months of Zoom sessions, due to covid. Returning to in-person sessions in May was a cause for great celebration. Currently, we meet at the University of Auckland's Epsom Campus. The Choir has recently resumed community performances, returning to sing with our friends at Selwyn Village and Elizabeth Knox Home.

A group of choir members attended the launch of a [new book about aphasia](#) by Cathy and Ian Marshall. Ian is a member of the University's Gavel Club (affiliated with Toastmasters) and a former CeleBRation Choir member. The book is based on a humorous speech by Ian – "It's a Thing!"

A highlight of the year was a wonderful Christmas-come-13th-birthday party, with special guests Distinguished Prof Sir Richard Faull, founder of the Centre for Brain Research; Prof Suzanne Purdy CNZM, principal investigator for the choir; and Linda Webb MNZM, President of Music Therapy New Zealand. Our unusual orange birthday cake was a throwback to our fake "fruit cakes" during choir online.



The CeleBRation Choir is 13! CeleBRation Choir and guests at our birthday-Christmas party
(Photo: Lit candles in an orange on a plate)

Our inaugural CeleBRation Choir Member of the Year award was made to Roger Hicks, a long-term participant with a talent for writing. For this year's Music Therapy Week, Roger penned a reflective piece for The Big Idea – ["How Music Can Change a Life"](#):

Joining the CeleBRation Choir has expanded my social and intellectual activities and supported my voice therapy and vocal exercises. The Choir has been instrumental in providing me with friends and new challenges.



(Photo: Alison Talmage RMTh and CeleBRation Choir Member of the Year, Roger Hicks)

I would like to thank Jenny Gordon RMTh for providing monthly locum services for the Choir while I focus on research tasks. Jenny completed her MMusTher Year 2 placement with us in 2018 – I am pleased to have supported her to publish an NZJMT article drawing on her thesis, co-authored with Sarah Hoskyns.

This semester the Choir has hosted a student placement for a Dance Movement Therapy Student. We look forward to her continuing with us in 2023, an exciting new inter-professional collaboration between the Choir and the University of Auckland School of Dance.

The current focus of my PhD action research is the evaluation of my draft neurological choir handbook. I have recently held four focus groups with NZ and international music therapists and speech-language therapists who facilitate neurological / aphasia choirs. In November I gave a poster presentation at the NZ Association of Gerontology

Auckland/Northland conference, related to song writing within the choir approach.

I am grateful for expert PhD supervision from Assoc Prof Te Oti Rakena (School of Music), Prof Suzanne Purdy (School of Psychology), and Adjunct Professor Daphne Rickson (NZSM).

Alison Talmage

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<http://www.cbr.auckland.ac.nz/choir>

Sing Up Rodney News



(Photo: Choir members seated with a frame of Pohutukawa, text reads 'Season's Greetings from Sing Up Rodney')

Sing Up Rodney is a community music therapy group in Orewa, based on the CeleBRation Choir model. The group is administered by the Kahikatea Music Therapy & Community Arts Trust. We are delighted to see our membership increasing again since resuming weekly sessions in Terms 3 and 4.



(Photo: Sing Up Rodney and Rodney Aphasia Group members, Leonie, Ruth and Tony, with Alison Talmage RMTh Photo credit: Lisa Fowlie)

Some of our singers are also members of Rodney Aphasia Group and invited me to lead community singing at their Christmas lunch. We ended the year with a Christmas party for members, partners and guests, including former Trust Chair, Lady Rhyl Jansen, and current Chair, David Talmage. A special Certificate of Appreciation was awarded to Elizabeth Donovan, acknowledging her long-term commitment to the group.

Alison Talmage
E: SingUpRodney@gmail.com

MThNZ Key dates for 2023

[Journal Club](#) Jan 26, 2023

Grant Applications:
Opening Date 1 April 2023
Closing Date 1 May 2023

Council Meeting:
Sunday 26 Feb 2023, Wellington

AGM Hui & Workshops:
Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 September 2023,
Hawkes Bay

'How To' webinars:

Applying for MThNZ Grants:
March 2023 Date TBC

Navigating the MThNZ Website:
April 2023 Date TBC

Office hours

The Executive Officer will be on leave from December 23rd, 2022, returning on January 9th, 2023.

If you have any urgent enquiries, please email the chair, Stephen Guerin at stephen@musictherapy.org.nz

Acknowledgments

MuST Editor: Helen Dowthwaite
Contributors: Stephen Guerin, Linda Webb, Rachel Austin, Barbara Lewis, Heather Fletcher, Abigail McDonald.