

# KETE KUPU

## WORD BASKET

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New Zealand Council Of  
Christian Social Services

### Support Grows for a Living Wage

For once when we are talking about wages, it is not a race to the bottom but a race to be the first living wage city. The city councils in Auckland, Wellington and Hamilton have all agreed to take various steps towards implementing a living wage in their councils. This race is one to raise wages and the 100 people who crowded the Wellington City Council meeting room to support the community delegation asking the council to implement encouraged the city council to see this as a very positive step for everyone involved.

Council cleaner, Mailiki Rahman, told the council about how much he enjoys living and working in NZ but his hourly rate as a cleaner in the WCC offices is only \$13.85, a whisker above the minimum wage. Pacific Island Minister, Rev Ola Tofilau, told the council how much the low wages the members of his community receive hold them back. They work hard, often in more than one job, but struggle to make ends meet.

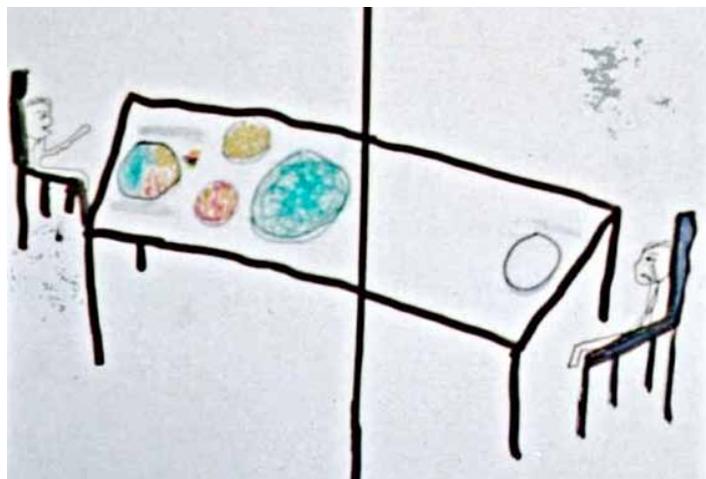
The NZCCSS Council has added its voice to the more than one hundred organisations that have signed up to support the Living Wage campaign. The Council is encouraging all social services organisations to work towards becoming living wage employers, but recognises progress towards this goal will be dependent on appropriate funding for services. Therefore the Council urges government and other agencies to fund in a way that allows social support organisations to be Living Wage employers.

As NZCCSS Executive Officer, Trevor McGlinchey, puts it, "Our members see the real value of the Living Wage - it will give all working New Zealanders the opportunity to lead rich and fulfilling lives. They see this as a good move towards the development of the kind of equal society that will make New Zealand a much fairer and more just nation. On this basis many of our members are taking positive steps in this direction". Social service organisations within the NZCCSS network that have already endorsed the Living Wage campaign include Wesley Community Action, Caritas, Downtown Community Ministries, Friendship House Manukau, LifeWise, and Family Centre Lower Hutt.

NZCCSS members work with vulnerable people in most of New Zealand's communities. They see the reality of insufficient income and how this impacts on people and families being able to live full and meaningful lives and to contribute to their communities.

"Our members urge central and local government to ensure they set an example by paying living wages to their employees. They must also ensure those organisations they contract to deliver services on their behalf are resourced to pay their employees a living wage", said McGlinchey. "NZCCSS fully supports the Living Wage Campaign. In the end this support is based on a belief in the need for greater income equality and a commitment to social justice and compassion for all New Zealanders".

The full list of supporters is at [www.livingwage.org.nz](http://www.livingwage.org.nz)



[Photo source: Office of Children's Commissioner]

### Food in Schools - Public Pressure forces Politicians to Act

Since the food in schools bill was drawn out of the ballot in Parliament, the pressure has been building on the Government to take action about hungry kids in schools. Around the country the public has been responding to the point where 70% say they support state-funded food in schools (One News Colmar Brunton poll May 2013).

On Tuesday 27th May Prime Minister John Key despite months of reluctance finally responded to this pressure and made an announcement about food in schools. The Government was given clear information about what "best practice" for food in schools looks like from the Community Campaign for Food in Schools. The groups involved in this campaign include a wide range of community and church organisations, many of whom are directly involved with offering food in schools programmes.

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They know the realities and challenges of trying to help kids who are missing out on meals because of poverty. They say any programme needs to:

- Provide nutritious food in a non-stigmatising way, five days a week to all of the children in decile 1-4 schools (as a starting point)
- Provided in an environment that supports wider wellbeing for children
- Schools may need to have a range of options available to them so that food programmes fit with their own culture and community
- For some children, breakfast alone would be inadequate, many also require lunch.

#### What we got was a bigger 'kick' for KickStart

The government's vision for community involvement involves providing the community "bowls and spoons" while Fonterra and Sanitarium look after milk and Weetbix. What

has been announced is to extend the KickStart Breakfast programme <https://kickstartbreakfast.co.nz/> by putting in \$2million a year for the next five years. This will be matched by the two corporate sponsors Fonterra and Sanitarium, so that the programme can be offered in all Decile 1-4 schools five days a week.

The response for the community groups is that this is a good first step but more must be done to reduce child poverty. As the Salvation Army's Major Campbell Roberts said: "While food in school's programmes are critical in alleviating some of the symptoms of child poverty, as well as giving these children a fairer chance of achieving at school, it is also crucial to address the underlying reasons their families are impoverished."

#### Address the causes – growing inequality

Food in schools programmes belong to the "poverty alleviation" class of government action. In addition there must be other rapid and effective government policy responses to help the families that are living in poverty.

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## We Think We Are Doing Enough About Child Poverty: The Government's Response to Experts Group

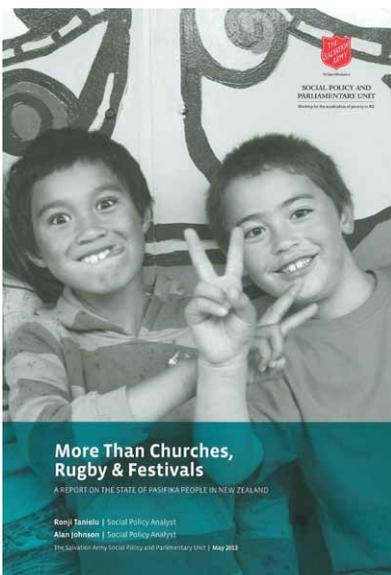
The Children's Commissioner's Experts Group on Child Poverty has given the government a very good set of recommendations for steps that can be taken to reduce child poverty, including an income support payment for families with dependent children.

However, the Government's formal response to the Children's Commissioner's Expert Advisory Group Report on Solutions to Child Poverty was slipped in as a postscript to the food in schools announcement (see [www.beehive.govt.nz/portfolio/Social-Development](http://www.beehive.govt.nz/portfolio/Social-Development)). It can be summarised as saying that the Government believes it is doing enough and does not intend to any more than those things that have already been announced in the Budget and food in

schools announcement. The only new announcement was \$1.5million grant over three years to KidsCan to provide raincoats and shoes to needy kids.

This announcement makes it even clearer that social services and other community organisations can expect no relief from the growing need for their services. The lesson from the food in schools debate is that it is only after immense pressure that politicians respond.

Churches, communities and the wider public need to increase the pressure on all politicians and policy makers to do more – it is simply not acceptable to continue to leave 270,000 children behind to struggle with the health and social consequences of poverty.



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## More than Churches, Rugby & Festivals: A Report on the State of Pasifika People in New Zealand

Pacific people have suffered more in the recession than other New Zealanders. Their average incomes have barely risen while other average incomes have, and their unemployment rate is consistently two three time higher than the general population. This Salvation Army report tells their story and as co-author Ronji Tanielu points out the prospects for Pacific People in NZ are both exciting and daunting at the same time.

Despite all the challenges of poverty and inequality in access to health and education, rates of Pacific participation in tertiary education are at similar levels with non-Pacific students. The report sets out some of the facts to inform the debate around how Pacific people in New Zealand ensure a safe and prosperous future for themselves and other all Kiwis.

The report is online at [www.salvationarmy.org.nz](http://www.salvationarmy.org.nz)



## Most Vulnerable Largely Ignored in Budget 2013

Budget 2013 will do little to improve the lives of the most vulnerable in this country. Social service agencies throughout the country are facing record demand for their support services. They deal every day with people who have been left behind and are struggling to cope as economic and social inequality that continues to divide and weaken our social fabric. In the lead-up to Budget 2013 the Government dropped hints that it would be taking action to respond to poverty. What was actually announced will not be enough to reduce demand for frontline services that NZCCSS members and other social services provide

The actual announcements are a collection of comparatively small bits and pieces, which even when counted together, will have little impact in overcoming the huge hardship people are facing now. The fundamental dynamics of high inequality and unacceptable poverty will not change

### Child Poverty Unlikely To Change

The Government's White Paper for Vulnerable Children and the Children's Action Plan have as a policy principle – "children at the centre of what we do". The continued investment in a Children's Action Plan is a good initiative focused however on a very narrow number of vulnerable children. The Budget lacks any direct focus on a large scale approach to addressing the problem of child poverty, even after the huge amount of effort that has gone into raising the profile and the political and public understanding of this issue. The lack of action on child poverty suggests that Government is not following its own advice. Until we ensure all of our children grow up in an environment which is not blighted by poverty we are very unlikely to have a future where our economic, social and cultural wellbeings are enhanced.

Two significant elements in the response to child poverty, food in schools and the Government's response to the Children's Commissioner's Expert Advisory Group report on Solutions to Child Poverty were not released on Budget night and only announced as Kete Kupu is going to press (see articles on page2). These announcements have only confirmed our initial analysis of too little to make any substantive difference to the underlying poverty and inequality dynamics.

Getting into paid employment remains the only path out of poverty that this government is interested in, yet the prospects for growth in employment over the next three years are modest to say the least. Unemployment is not expected to drop significantly until at least 2015. Two years is a long time to spend living in poverty hoping for the promised jobs to appear.

The continuation of the home insulation scheme Warm Up NZ, the rheumatic fever prevention programme, before school health checks, increasing access to early childhood education in low income communities and extra funding for budgeting services are all existing schemes that are receiving some small investment. The new scheme to offer people on benefits a "repayable grant" (i.e. a loan!) to buy

new whiteware, while a nice idea, it is also a very small response to the multiple needs of people in poverty.

Genuine good news was the commitment to investigate and pilot in partnership with NGOs and financial institutions **low and no interest loan schemes** for people on low incomes. In the March Kete Kupu we reported on the Nga Tangata Microfinance scheme that NZCCSS has been involved with piloting over the past couple of years in South Auckland. Further support to expand such schemes will be a very constructive and effective way to help people on low incomes avoid the debt trap of expensive credit and loan sharks.

The calls by NZCCSS and many others involved in housing to introduce a **Housing Warrant of Fitness** have also finally received some attention with the Government planning to trial a Warrant of Fitness programme for rental housing. Once again, the good news tempered by the fact that it will only be trialled in Housing NZ houses. While there are many sub-standard HNZ houses, most people who are renting are doing this in private sector tenancies and boarding houses, where the housing is often very sub-standard and the law offers little protection or support. This announcement does not offer people forced to accept such conditions any immediate hope of improvement.

### Social Services and Welfare Upheaval

Social welfare reform and social services restructuring continues at pace and while the Budget contained few new announcements, the reality for social service agencies is there is huge change happening in how social services are funded and contracted and the entire welfare benefit system is being changed at the same time. This amounts to a triple burden - on top of the high and increasing levels of need of their clients and communities, the social services funding and accountability frameworks are being drastically changed through the **Investing in Services for Outcomes (ISO)** process and the **Welfare Reform** process is changing benefit categories and how they are administered. The "investment approach" that is driving this change does offer some potential for benefit, with the intention that more Work & Income staff are available to provide intensive support and additional funding to external providers to provide management and wrap-around support for beneficiaries. The large and significant restructuring process contains itself significant risks and NZCCSS is actively seeking to ensure the government minimises those risks in the hope that there will be genuine improvements for beneficiaries and social services clients.

Some element of the investment approach is also to be seen in the moves to **reduce re-offending** with additional funding for 2,400 more restorative justice conferences and \$10 million in funding for support for people leaving prison with the aim of reducing re-offending.

The announcement of **Support for Family Carers** to allow payment to family members caring for adult disabled relatives was greeted with some disappointment from those involved, as it applies to around only 1,600 people and the



payments will be based on the minimum wage. Carers NZ commented that rather than a thoughtful first step towards recognising the work of family carers, it is an attempt to shut down any further claims or entitlements.

### Housing Changes – Big Changes but Little New Investment

The housing announcements are significant action from the Government, most likely a belated response to the major policy announcements around housing by the Green Party and Labour Party. Yet on analysis they do not offer the prospect of any significant increase in affordable rental housing for people on low incomes.

Minister Nick Smith's **housing accords** project is being rammed through Parliament with a severely truncated Select Committee process (submissions closed on 30th May). The intention is to use the housing accord process that it has announced for Auckland in other regions. The provision for the Government to simply override local councils that oppose moves to speed up or eliminate council regulatory processes around housing development are a cause for concern. There seems little justification in prioritising this specific policy which would seem unlikely on its own to reduce the housing affordability problem significantly.

In terms of additional investment in actually building more houses, the Budget announcements brings very little. **The Social Housing Unit** fund remains very small in comparison to the extent of need and willingness of the community housing sector to invest. **Housing NZ** is busy trying to "reconfigure" its housing to better match tenant needs to houses it owns and battles with the problem of empty houses in some regions and desperate need in others. The moves to **transfer state housing to "non-government" housing providers** continue to be investigated. Community housing providers will be looking for any such transfers to be done fairly – offering good quality houses and not an attempt by HNZ to off-load poor quality excess houses in the wrong locations. There must also be close controls over how houses would be transferred, to ensure they do not end up resulting in a net loss of social and community housing with stock ending up sold off into the private market as happened in the 1990s.

Extending **Income-Related Rents to community housing providers** is a very welcome announcement, as this is something that community housing providers asked for, to put them on the same footing at Housing NZ and be able to offer lower rents to their tenants. It turns out, that the small allocation of an extra \$26.6 million to fund this change is explained by the fact that the policy will only

apply to new tenancies that community housing groups would take on. The details of how a registration for this will operate are part of the **Social Housing Reform Bill** and NZCCSS along with others in the sector will be scrutinising the process of how community housing can become eligible to offer IRR to ensure that they are not unduly restrictive. The Minister has also signalled linking the approval of new social housing providers to the housing warrant of fitness work and exactly how this will be done is still to be worked on by the Government.

The move to have **MSD to take over social housing entitlement assessment** has the potential to be beneficial in that it will put other housing providers on the same footing as HNZ when it comes to assessing need for housing support. Given that MSD already administers the Accommodation Supplement, the move is logical, bringing responsibility for all housing support under the one department. This is yet another structural change with MSD that is being costed at \$30 million and is to be implemented within a year by April 2014. People are entitled to be wary about the actual implementation of this by Work and Income, as their track record of ensuring full and correct entitlement to other income support is not great. We hope that this will improve access to full entitlement to housing support for people on low incomes.

Extending **Housing NZ reviewable tenancies** to all HNZ tenants is a decision that social service agencies will view with concern. The aim appears to be to "move on" the 3,000 HNZ tenants who are paying market rent and in theory at least, could be able to rent in the private rental market. The plan is to implement this policy over the next three years but in the context of a highly unfair and poorly regulated private sector rental market where people do not have secure tenancies, this policy could end up adding to the housing insecurity and stress for many low income families.

While there may be some Housing Corporation tenants who have achieved sustainable long-term improvement in their income, it is always at the margins where these types of policies become heartless. At what point has a family become better-off in a way that they will be able to maintain a different type of home tenancy in the long-term, rather than finding themselves hovering around the border of 'deserving support' and of being deemed as capable of 'independence'? This needs close monitoring and is liable to produce some real injustices if a compassionate approach is not taken to this type of assessment. These changes are among those included in the **Social Housing Reform Bill**, which is open for submissions **until 27th June**.

## Health of Older People Support Services – Budget 2013

Most of the funding for support services for older people comes out of Vote Health, so the continuing commitment of this Government to increase health funding is welcome. But the increases still fall behind the real costs of providing health services to an ageing population, according to CTU analysis. Aged care funding continues to live on a slow squeeze as increases in funding are not sufficient to cover

rising costs and needs in the sector or to significantly lift wages and training for the aged care sector workforce.

**Aged care funding increases** were announced well ahead of Budget night and the sector generally welcomed the additional \$70million of funding. Nearly half of that money (\$32million) is however nothing more than the standard cost pressure adjustment that all DHBs receive through



Vote Health. DHBs have already committed to pass on this amount of 0.89% or \$8 million a year into prices paid for **aged residential care**.

Genuine new investment is the \$12 million **increase in dementia bed subsidies**. This is \$3million per year over four years and translates into a total increase in the government subsidy for dementia residential care of 2.47% (this includes the 0.89% cost pressure adjustments). This is intended to recognise and encourage investment in more residential dementia capacity to meet demand. So from 1 July 2013 the aged residential care subsidy rates (and therefore the resident maximum contribution) will be increased by 2.47% for dementia and 0.89% for rest home, hospital level care.

An additional \$1.5 million contribution to costs for **training aged care staff in the use of the InterRAI assessment tool** being rolled out to aged care facilities. This is an injection of funds to meet the “speed up” of implementation of InterRAI announced by Minister Goodhew earlier this year. This recognises the additional costs providers are facing in training up clinical staff in the use of InterRAI and will be used by DHBs to assist providers with these costs. The details of how this will be done have not yet been announced but it remains to be seen if this is sufficient to cover the considerable staff training costs involved.

As the NZ Aged Care Association has pointed out, these funding increases do not go far enough to keep up with rising costs in the sector or to close the funding gap between the costs of providing services and the subsidy price paid. For example, the sector specific “aged care price index” rose by 4.1% in 2012 compared to the Consumer Price Index at 1.0%.

Further funding to respond to **dementia** includes \$1.2million over three years for **dementia-related training for health care workers**. This funding is aimed across the health sector, so is not specific to home support or aged residential care. Possible ways the funding will be applied

may be to increasing uptake of NZQA training units on dementia by sector workers, programmes such as Walking in Another’s Shoes and parts of the Dementia Pathways work.

**Dementia awareness programmes** are also being funded with \$2million over three years to support dementia awareness programmes and assistance for clinical teams in early detection of dementia. The announcement is quite broadly framed so there are a number of ways this funding could end up being allocated. Current dementia awareness work by Alzheimers NZ would most likely be covered but clinical teams in other DHB areas outside of aged care could be funded through this allocation.

**Home support Services** cannot rely on any commitment from DHBs to pass on funding increases (unlike aged residential care). The additional funding of \$20million over 4 years is an increase of about 2% (assuming around \$250million a year is spent on home support for people aged over 65). It is intended to recognise the extra investment in sector standards and implementing InterRAI by the sector. The process by which this will be allocated is still being decided and how this funding is understood by DHBs and applied to meeting increases in volume of services provided, increased prices for services and pass-on of the other funding increase DHBs receive separately for cost pressures is still to be worked out. The wide variation in approach taken by different DHBs to paying for home support services means that it is hard to assess how it will actually translate into existing service contracts that home support providers may be involved in. As the NZ Home Health Association pointed out:

*“The experience of many of our members has been that increases in funding, even to meet general cost of living increases, is held back by some DHBs to service their debt or to meet increased service demand. In some areas older citizens have faced cuts in home support hours. These responses are, of course, short-sighted. It is critical that this funding injection goes where it is most needed, to support and train this valuable workforce.”*

## Social Services Sector Qualifications Review – NZCCSS Report

NZCCSS has been closely involved with the qualifications review process for the social services sector that is currently underway. Sector Industry Training Organisation (ITO) Careerforce is responsible for health, disabilities and social services qualifications from level 1 to 6 on the NZQA Framework. These range from very low level induction qualifications through to diplomas for highly skilled workers– but are below degree level. The review is intended to result in a streamlined package of qualifications in areas such as: Aged Care (residential and home and community), Disabilities, Health Care, Mental Health and Addictions, and Social Services. As a result of the review there will be less qualifications in these areas and what people will be able to “do, be and know” as a result of gaining a qualification will be clearer to potential students and to employers.

NZCCSS recently conducted a consultation process

focused on the review and the report is online at the NZCCSS website ([www.nzccss.org.nz](http://www.nzccss.org.nz) under Publications).

The report showed that our members are looking for qualifications that link in with degree level social work training and that are attuned to the complexity of working with families and individuals in often very vulnerable situations. Whether qualifications below Level 4 are useful is one area where the views of those involved in the consultations were divided.

The qualifications emerging from this review will be very important in the ongoing development of people working in most social services settings. NZCCSS encourages you to get involved with the process.

**Find out more at the Careerforce website: [www.careerforce.org.nz/](http://www.careerforce.org.nz/).**



## Even retirees not safe from inequality

By Max Rashbrooke [www.maxrashbrooke.org.nz](http://www.maxrashbrooke.org.nz)

A couple of recent reports have shown that even New Zealand's pensioners – who do relatively well financially, compared to other age groups – are increasingly threatened by the spectre of inequality.

The first, "Housing Assets" by Kay Saville-Smith of the Centre for Research, Evaluation and Social Assessment, argues that many young people will not be able to afford to buy a house in their working lifetimes.

As a result, they will face "privation" in retirement as they have to pay market rentals on a state pension, which while adequate – it works out at around \$18,000 for a single person – is hardly generous.

Of course, this doesn't affect those better off workers – the top 10% – who will keep on being able to buy houses.

Another report, for the Commission for Financial Literacy, argues that inequality among pensioners is set to rise. One of its authors, David Preston, told a recent conference: "What you have is a peculiar situation where the two extremes of

the retired population are both growing rapidly."

While people who had been in well paid employment would enter retirement with Kiwisaver nest eggs and their own homes, those who had not – especially beneficiaries – would be moving into retirement "in a poor financial state".

What all this points to is that even New Zealand's better achievements, such as the way we keep most pensioners out of poverty through a universal benefit, have relied on invisible support: notably, home ownership.

The fact that most people own their own homes is what has allowed them to have a decent standard of living in retirement. Now that easy access to home ownership has been taken away, that reliance has been exposed.

Once again, inequality in housing is shaping up as a critical factor in how we live in New Zealand – and the case for concerted house building is becoming ever stronger.

See both reports online at [www.cflri.org.nz/](http://www.cflri.org.nz/) under 2013 Review of Retirement Income Policy

## Moving Forward Together – what follows from sponsoring at NZCCSS Conference



*Exhibitors and participants mingle at the 2012 NZCCSS conference.*

There were several first time exhibitors and sponsors at the NZCCSS 2012 Services for Older People Conference ([www.nzccss.org.nz/site/page.php?page\\_id=304](http://www.nzccss.org.nz/site/page.php?page_id=304)). Among them was Craig Johnson from CSC Buying Group. He came along to this conference he tells us, because he is looking to work with organisations that share similar values to his business that runs as a charitable trust and want to do best for their people and clients.

As conference organisers, NZCCSS aims to provide a place where those who are offering services to our sector can meet with a group of people who are involved in making decisions about the kinds of products, services and technology they need to get their job done well.

The pre-dinner drinks and time with exhibitors was a real highlight for a number of our exhibitors, including Craig. He says that he really valued the chance to introduce himself and his organisation to conference attendees and participate fully in a fun-filled evening that included prize-draws for participants.

Planning is underway for the next NZCCSS conference, most likely to be held in early April 2014 and Craig is keen to be part of the mix again. He believes the bulk-buying schemes CSC offers are something that those involved in aged care, social services and other community services can benefit from.

**If you want to know more about NZCCSS Services for Older People Conference 2014, please contact Paul Barber [paul.barber@nzccss.org.nz](mailto:paul.barber@nzccss.org.nz) (04) 4732627.**

## Selwyn House at Hansen Close - affordable housing in the community

The Selwyn Foundation's newest initiative, Selwyn House at Hansen Close, marks an exciting addition to Selwyn's range of housing, care and support services for older adults and further highlights their focus on helping people to age well, by providing affordable housing for those of limited means.

As a charitable provider, the Foundation aims to provide practical help to the ageing person through the funding of community and locally-based facilities, as well as through its retirement village operations. The availability of land at our Hansen Close site in Birkenhead – originally gifted to the Foundation to be used as 'sheltered housing for the elderly' by the late Miss Jean Hansen, philanthropist and former resident of Selwyn Village – afforded the opportunity to



*Selwyn House, Hansen Close, Auckland*



develop an innovative community living facility as a practical application of our charitable outreach.

Opened on 8 March 2013, Selwyn House provides high quality rental accommodation in an enjoyable modern setting for eleven single people (both male and female) over the age of 70. The philosophy behind the concept – which is an adaptation of the popular Abbeyfield model – is to offer a comfortable home to retirees who are able to live independently, but whose current retirement living standard may not be sustainable from a financial, emotional or practical point-of-view. At Selwyn House, they will now be able to enjoy a wonderful new community of like-minded people living together in a supportive and congenial environment.

Comprising eleven individual ensuite rooms which are served by central lounge, kitchen, dining and laundry areas, the House is managed by a village support person who is available several hours each day to undertake general housekeeping duties and prepare a daily hot meal for residents. Maintenance services and other operational support are provided by the Village Manager and Independent Living team based at Selwyn Village. A weekly living rental, subsidised by the Foundation, covers a

wide range of meals, services, utilities and other living costs, therefore offering residents financial certainty and helping them to better plan for their future.

A contribution towards the cost of construction of Selwyn House was provided by the Housing Innovation Fund (the Government funding scheme that has now been replaced by the Social Housing Fund) to assist the Foundation progress the development. Housing New Zealand supported the project, because of Auckland's strong need for appropriate housing for older members of its population and the Foundation's recognised expertise in this area. Charitable funding for elements of the internal fit-out was also received from the Estate of M Parkes and the C R Stead Trust.

The 85-plus age group in New Zealand is set to rise by over 30% in the next ten years, and the country is also facing an increasingly difficult housing situation. It is hoped that the new Selwyn House community housing model will prove cost-effective for the growing, ageing population and, particularly, for those of modest income. If successful, they aim to extend the scheme to other localities, thereby delivering high quality, affordable housing to help ever greater numbers of people in need in the future.

## Legislation and Submissions

### **Social Housing Reform (Housing Restructuring and Tenancy Matters Amendment) Bill.**

This Bill is to implement the reforms to tenancies and social housing announced in the Budget (see article p.3) Closing date for submissions is Thursday, 27 June 2013.

### **Enduring Powers of Attorney – Public Consultation**

The Office for Senior Citizens wants to hear your views on how effective amendments made in 2008 to the legislation covering Enduring Powers of Attorney (EPA) have been. The amendments provide greater protections for persons setting up an enduring power of attorney and came into force in September 2008. Online and written consultation begins on 1 March and finishes at the end of June 2013. You can provide feedback on the effectiveness of the 2007 amendments through the online questionnaire or the written questionnaire. There are two questionnaires, a long version and a short version. The shorter questionnaire

is for anyone who wants to express their views on the amendments. The longer version is designed more for those who work with and are familiar with the enduring powers of attorney legislation. Find out more at the website or ph 0800 273 674

<http://www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/whats-happening/2013/enduring-powers-of-attorney-review.html>

**Comment is due by 30th June 2013**

### **Constitutional Issues - Peace Movement Aotearoa**



Everything you ever wanted to know about our constitution and the review processes that are happening is on the PMA website

<http://www.converge.org.nz/pma/cons10.htm>

## 2013 Events, Training and Conferences

### **The Third Sector: NZ's NFP Summit**

18-19 June, Amora Hotel, Wellington  
[www.conferenz.co.nz/nfp](http://www.conferenz.co.nz/nfp)

**Increasing Inequality: Causes, Consequences and Responses** 18 July, Victoria University, Wellington (see article p.8)

### **Public Health Association Conference 2013**

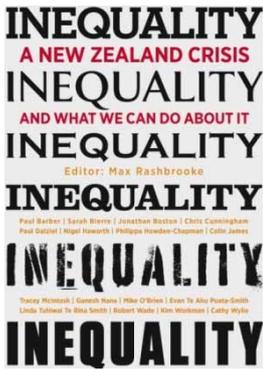
"Partnership or Collaboration: is there a difference?"  
17-19 September, Devon Hotel, New Plymouth  
<http://www.pha.org.nz/phaconference.html>

### **Just Action 2013, 'Rebuilding Justice Together'**

18-19 September 2013, Vodafone Events Centre, Manukau  
[www.salvationarmy.org.nz/](http://www.salvationarmy.org.nz/)



# The NZ Story About Inequality



Back in 2011 NZCCSS launched the Closer Together Whakatata Mai – reducing inequalities programme with the aim of raising awareness of the impact of income inequality in Aotearoa New Zealand and promoting debate about ways to reduce inequality, close the gap between rich and poor and bring us all “closer together”.

NZCCSS has been very proud to be one of the supporters of the work of editor Max Rashbrooke and publisher Bridget Williams Books over the past year. A fantastic group of contributors have offered their expertise, analysis and ideas to help tell the story of the growing gap between rich and poor in this country and to offer ideas to reduce inequality. The book “Inequality: A New Zealand crisis” will be published at the end of June.

Order copies of the book at the Bridget Williams Books website <http://www.bwb.co.nz/books/inequality>.

## The International Context of Inequality – a critique of the current world order

Professor Robert Wade, a New Zealander now based at the London School of Economics, is one of the contributors to the book. He will be in New Zealand during July, speaking at forums in Auckland and Wellington as well as giving series of lectures around the country.

Professor Robert Wade made his name with the book *Governing the Market* (published in 1990, republished 2003), which explained the role of governments in helping shape East Asia's extraordinarily rapid industrialisation and economic growth in the late 20th century.

His current research interests include: globalisation; world poverty and inequality; international capital markets; the functioning of multilateral economic organisations such as the World Bank and the IMF; Iceland's banking collapse; and industrial and technology policies, especially in developing countries.

Wade's background spans a first-hand acquaintance with world finance, extensive fieldwork in developing countries, and a deep knowledge of political economy – the way that politics and economics influence each other. This gives him an understanding of both developed and developing nations, and an exceptional ability to distil insights across different fields and articulate a broad, exciting and powerful critique of the current world order. He is also an entertaining and persuasive lecturer and writer.

### ROBERT WADE LECTURE DATES:

**AUCKLAND** Monday 8th July 6pm,  
Old Government House Lecture Theatre

**DUNEDIN** Thursday 11th July, 5.30pm,  
Otago University

**CHRISTCHURCH** Friday 12th July,  
(venue to be confirmed)

**WELLINGTON** 6pm Tuesday 16th July, Te Papa  
(more details and updates at [www.bwb.co.nz](http://www.bwb.co.nz))

Several of the contributors to the book, including Professor Wade will be speaking at this forum hosted by the Institute for Government and Policy Studies.

## INCREASING INEQUALITY: CAUSES, CONSEQUENCES AND RESPONSES

WELLINGTON 18 July, Victoria University

Income inequality has increased significantly in New Zealand and many other OECD countries in recent decades. This all-day forum will explore the following issues:

- What are the causes and consequences of growing inequality?
- How might some of the negative social impacts of inequality be reduced?
- What are the options for reducing income inequality and which, if any of these, have merit?

Register online at: <http://igps.victoria.ac.nz/events/Upcoming%20events/index.html#Inequality>

## KETE KUPU WORD BASKET

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