

# BREAKING NEWS

Newsletter of the New Zealand Orthopaedic Nurses Association  
(N.Z.O.N.A)



## ORTHOPAEDIC NURSES' DAY 30 OCTOBER

This information was received from Anita Meehan in the US about International Orthopaedic Nurses' Day. "Regarding International Orthopaedic Nurses' Day, CONA (Canadian Orthopaedic Nurses Association) was the first group to recognize Oct 30 as Ortho Nurses day and NAON joined in 1990 as I recall. When I was President of NAON I suggested that we change the name to International Orthopaedic Nurses Day as both Canada and the US were celebrating and we urged the UK to join in as well. We encourage orthopaedic nurses to celebrate in their work places by putting up displays about the specialty of orthopaedic nursing; some will do patient information as well. There are many creative ways that members celebrate this day."



A winning entrant in a 2010 cake decorating competition  
Waikato winner of the wearable arts competition, made from dyed calico & the tops of IV antibiotic vials



### Where does the word 'Orthopaedics' come from?

In 1741 Nicholas Andry (1658 – 1759), at the age of 81, published a famous book called Orthopaedia: or the Art of Correcting and Preventing Deformities in Children. In this book, Andry presents the word Orthopaedic, which derives from the Greek words straight and child. Andry was the professor of Medicine at the University of Paris and Dean of the faculty of Physick



Figure 108 Nicholas Andry (1658-1759)

### Who was the first orthopaedic nurse?

Dame Agnes Gwendoline Hunt DBE, RRC (1866 - 1948) is generally recognised as the first orthopaedic nurse. She was born at Baschurch in England. At the age of nine she was disabled from osteomyelitis of the hip following septicaemia. In 1887, she began training as a nurse at the Royal Alexandra Hospital in Rhyl and opened a convalescent home for crippled children in Baschurch in 1900 which espoused the theory of open-air treatment. In 1901, she sought treatment for her own condition from Robert Jones (1855-1933). She invited him to visit the convalescent home and he eventually began travelling there on a regular basis to provide treatment to the children. By 1907, they had built an operating theatre and they introduced the diagnostic use of x-rays in 1913. In 1919, the facility was moved and renamed the Shropshire Orthopaedic Hospital. The hospital also provided training for nurses. It was later moved to Oswestry and developed into what is now called The Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital. The memorial to Agnes Hunt in Gobowen states: "Reared in suffering thou shalt know how to solace others' woe. The reward of pain doth lie in the gift of sympathy."



*Orthopaedic Nurses, the backbone of nursing*

# New Zealand Orthopaedic Nurses (Association)

NZONA is an organisation of nurses and other health care professionals who are committed to driving change and improvements in the field of orthopaedics.

## Philosophy

NZONA believes that nurses who provide care to individuals with neuromuscular and skeletal disorders require a specific body of knowledge and skills to deliver the highest standard of care, within the unique cultural context of New Zealand Society. We believe that this knowledge is acquired, maintained and advanced through basic knowledge, continuing education, standardisation of processes, sharing of information, practice and research.

## Objectives

1. To advance the professional profile of Orthopaedic Nursing.
2. To facilitate the sharing of knowledge and support for nurses in the care of orthopaedic patients.
3. To establish identification as a unique group with a specific body of knowledge.
4. To promote the highest standard of practice in orthopaedic nursing.
5. To foster professional growth of the membership in the practice of orthopaedic nursing.
6. To communicate openly and effectively within the Association and with other individuals and groups.
7. To promote nursing research related to orthopaedics.
8. To promote the active involvement of the membership in health promotion and disease prevention activities as appropriate to orthopaedic nursing.
9. To be recognised nationally and internationally.
10. To have a voice in the political arena.

## We offer

- ✓ Four education sessions per year to help maintain your nursing council education requirements
- ✓ A national newsletter informing you of current happenings in orthopaedic nursing.
- ✓ A yearly scholarship to help towards post-basic education or other projects that meet the criteria.
- ✓ A national forum for exchanging ideas, sharing procedures, protocols and guidelines.
- ✓ Alliances and friendships formed by networking with other individuals involved in orthopaedic nursing.
- ✓ The chance to be a part of a passionate and dynamic force for change within New Zealand.

To know more contact <http://www.nzona.org>

## ORTHOPAEDICS

**O**utcome driven (*what is the best outcome for this patient*)

**R**ewarding (*seeing patients come in broken and go out whole*)

**T**eam oriented (*you need to be a team player*)

**H**ardware (*metalware, traction*)

**O**verall (*it is a global specialty*)

**P**atient focussed (*it should always be about the patient*)

**A**cute (*fractures and their consequences*)

**E**xciting (*you never know what tomorrow will bring*)

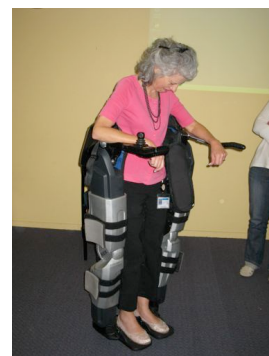
**D**iverse (*different ages, walks of life, cultures*)

**I**nnovative (*give us a problem and we will find a solution*)

**C**hallenging (*meeting the needs of the patient, whatever they may be*)

**S**ense (*common sense is the most valuable attribute a nurse can have*)

Created by Lynley Papadopoulos



NZONA members enjoying previous education sessions