



**THE EARLY HISTORY OF ANZSOM – NEW ZEALAND
AND EARLY DEVELOPMENTS IN OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE
IN NEW ZEALAND 1965-1984**

Bill Glass

ANZSOM, Wellington

September 2011

FOREWORD

This brief history was first published in the journal, *The Occupational Health Nurse*, in the summer edition of 1987. The photos and appendices have been added for interest to those attending the ANZSOM conference in Wellington in 2011.

The success of this 40th anniversary conference meeting in Wellington is a tribute to the enthusiasm and commitment of successive branch executives, presidents, secretaries and members over the past four decades.

ANZSOM, as an organisation, has always had its feet close to the grass roots of the practice of occupational medicine on a day-to-day basis in the workplace. At a time when occupational medicine is looking closely and critically at its future, the role and the continuing existence of ANZSOM is vital.

Darryl O'Donnell's Presidential Report from 1973 (attached as Appendix 1) is as relevant today as it was then, and one hopes will be in the years ahead.

A close examination of the origin and roots of ANZSOM, why it was established and what was its purpose, can assist us as occupational physicians to reclaim and rectify our practice in the years ahead, and hopefully respond to the current pattern as commented on by Des Gorman in the *Journal of Internal Medicine* in 2004. In his editorial he was concerned at, and I quote "There are few positive health outcomes related to occupational medical practice. This is variously because: occupational medicine has become generally responsive to the needs of insurers and regulators and hence assessment and not treatment based".

The future is in our own hands. We either practice occupational medicine in the workplace or sit in the office carrying our medical assessments for the insurance industry.

Bill Glass, 2011

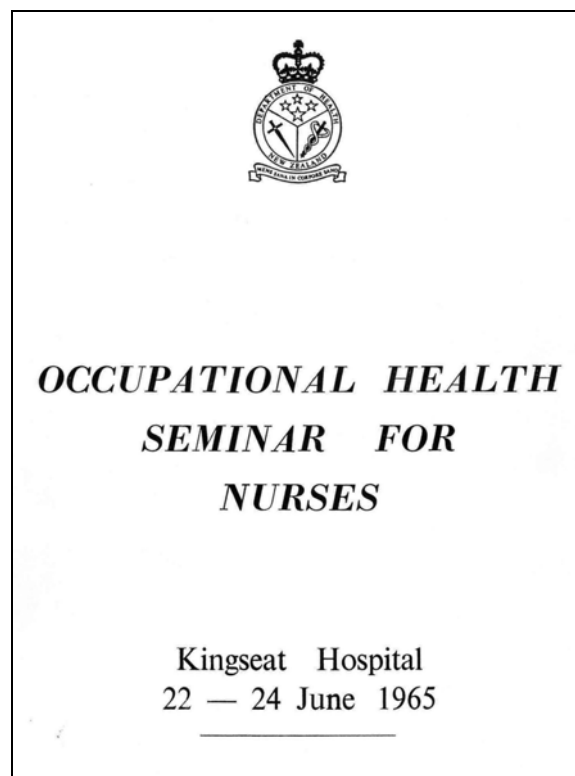
THE EARLY HISTORY OF ANZSOM – NEW ZEALAND AND EARLY DEVELOPMENTS IN OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE IN NEW ZEALAND 1965-1984

Bill Glass*
ANZSOM, Wellington
September 2011

Although ANZSOM is an organisation for doctors in industry its development in New Zealand has been inextricably bound up with that of nurses in industry. Thus the early history of ANZSOM cannot be reviewed without the early history of the NZOHNA – the NZ Occupational Health Nurses' Association.

The Kingseat Seminar, 1965

It is never easy to decide at what moment in history a seed is sown. However, I propose to take a seminar at Kingseat Hospital, June 22 – 24 1965 as the starting point. This seminar was organised by the Department of Health in Auckland for occupational health nurses in private industry and government; 14 nurses attended.



* Bill Glass' career in work medicine began in 1958. Currently he is a Professor in Occupational Medicine at the Centre for Public Health research, Massey University, and a Departmental Medical Practitioner with the Department of Labour.

<u>LIST OF LECTURERS</u>	
Mr. D. Rowlands	Factory Manager, Fisher & Paykel, Ltd., Auckland.
Dr. C. Gresson	Dermatologist, Auckland.
Mr. R. Chambers	Surgical Registrar, Auckland Hospital, Auckland.
Mr. Roderick Ferguson	Consultant Ophthalmologist to the Department of Health, Auckland.
<u>Course Director</u>	
Dr. W.I. Glass	Deputy Medical Officer of Health, District Health Office, Auckland.
<u>Course Tutor</u>	
Miss D. Larson	Nurse Inspector, Auckland.
<u>Observer:</u>	
Miss A.M. Wilson	Nurse Inspector, Papatoetoe.

<u>LIST OF NURSES</u>	
Miss K. Mitchell	Kodak (N.Z.) Ltd., Wellington.
Miss M. Murdon	N.Z. Window Glass Co. Ltd., Whangarei.
Miss P. Sewell	Ultimate Ecko (N.Z.) Ltd., Auckland.
Mrs. D.E. Barrow	Westfield Freezing Co., Auckland.
Miss L.E. Fox	Dominion Motors Ltd., Newmarket.
Miss C. Mallis	Dominion Motors Ltd., Panmure.
Miss S. Meikle	N.Z. Glass Manufacturers Co. Pty. Ltd., Auckland.
Miss M. Turrell	Holeproof Mills Ltd., Auckland.
Mrs. E.M. Parmee	N.Z. Refining Company, Marsden Point, Whangarei.
Mrs. A.B. Meissel	Penrose Industrial Health Centre, Auckland.
Miss K.M. Caughley	Queens Wharf Clinic, Auckland.
Mrs. E.J. Jones	Mount Wellington Clinic, Auckland.
Miss E. Walter	Public Health Nurse, Otara.
Miss E.D. Marryatt	Public Health Nurse, Henderson South.

Programme for the Kingseat Seminar, 1965

As a consequence of this meeting a burst of occupational health activity began in Auckland, culminating later in the year by the formation of the Auckland Occupational Health Nurses' Group and its first President, Lesleigh Fox. Monthly meetings began in 1966, as did an end of year social at which the occupational health nurses played host to their doctors and managers. These socials were underwritten by generous donations and gifts from a number of companies.




Here the Occupational Health Nurses played host to their Managers at the Annual Christmas Party

A Seminar for Doctors in Industry, 1966

What of the doctors? In 1966 a seminar was organised by the Department of Health in Auckland with a programme sponsored by Protector Safety and a luncheon sponsored by the Workers' Compensation Board.

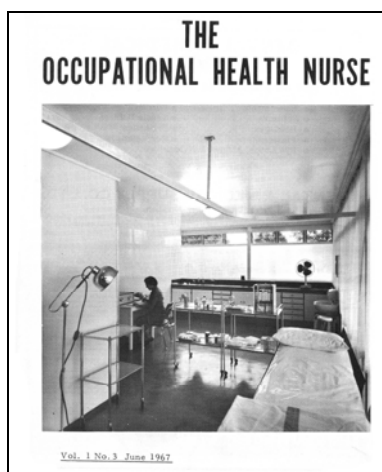
Four topics were presented:

- The Role and Function of the Medical Officer in a Factory
- Medical Examinations in Industry
- The Workers' Compensation Act
- Some Principles in the Control of Occupational Health Problems.

<p>A SEMINAR FOR DOCTORS IN INDUSTRY</p>  <p>"POENAMO" MOTOR INN Northcote Road, Northcote Sat. 10th, Sun 11th September, 1966</p>	<table><tr><th>SATURDAY, 10th SEPTEMBER, 1966</th><th>SUNDAY, 11th SEPTEMBER, 1966</th></tr><tr><td>9.45 Morning Coffee</td><td>10.00 Morning Coffee</td></tr><tr><td>10.00 The Role and Function of the Medical Officer in a factory. Dr. C. D. Hall CHAIRMAN: Dr. D. C. Campbell</td><td>10.15 The Workers' Compensation Act. Mr. I. Campbell CHAIRMAN: Dr. D. B. Gash</td></tr><tr><td>11.30 Medical Examinations in Industry. Dr. J. C. Copplestone CHAIRMAN: Dr. A. G. Armitage</td><td>11.45 Some Principles in the Control of Occupational Health Problems. Dr. W. I. Gloss CHAIRMAN: Dr. F. H. King.</td></tr><tr><td>1.00 Lunch available at Poenamo</td><td>1.15 Luncheon by courtesy of the Workers' Compensation Board.</td></tr></table>	SATURDAY, 10th SEPTEMBER, 1966	SUNDAY, 11th SEPTEMBER, 1966	9.45 Morning Coffee	10.00 Morning Coffee	10.00 The Role and Function of the Medical Officer in a factory. Dr. C. D. Hall CHAIRMAN: Dr. D. C. Campbell	10.15 The Workers' Compensation Act. Mr. I. Campbell CHAIRMAN: Dr. D. B. Gash	11.30 Medical Examinations in Industry. Dr. J. C. Copplestone CHAIRMAN: Dr. A. G. Armitage	11.45 Some Principles in the Control of Occupational Health Problems. Dr. W. I. Gloss CHAIRMAN: Dr. F. H. King.	1.00 Lunch available at Poenamo	1.15 Luncheon by courtesy of the Workers' Compensation Board.
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The Journal "The Occupational Health Nurse", 1967

A journal was developed, "The Occupational Health Nurse", and published during the years 1967 to 1974. It was circulated free to nurses and doctors in industry and produced by Lesleigh Fox and Bill Glass. The printers' costs were covered by goodwill advertising from drug and safety companies. This journal served as a focus for the developing activity in those early years.



Lesleigh Fox

National Safety Congress, Wellington, 1967

In 1967 a well known Wellington physician, Dr W J Hutchinson, who had many years' experience in industrial medicine, addressed the Second National Safety Association's Accident Prevention Congress, at Victoria University (May 17,18), the introduction to this address included the following:

"Although this is primarily an Industrial Accident Congress, it will be clear to all of you that accident prevention covers a much wider field than the mere protection of a worker from physical injury."

"It will be agreed by all that the health of a worker is of immense importance and that there is, indeed, a close alliance between occupational health and occupational injury, for impairment of health may be the primary cause of injury, and injury, in its turn, may result in damage to constitutional health."

The Canberra Meeting, 1968/ASOM, 1969

In Australia doctors active in occupational health in Melbourne and Sydney began to talk about a Society. In October 1968 a meeting was held in Canberra and a decision made to form the Australian Society of Occupational Medicine (ASOM). The first Annual General Meeting was held in Canberra in 1969. The Australian Society of Occupational Medicine had become a reality.

An Invitation to Join ASOM, 1970

A letter of invitation was sent to doctors in industry and by 1970 a number of New Zealanders had joined the Australian Society; two (Des Hall and Bill Glass) attended the Canberra Meeting, 2-4 October 1970.

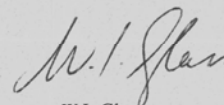
AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY OF OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE

Recently Doctors in Industry in Australia have banded themselves together in the above society. Their annual conference will be held in Canberra in October this year. Several New Zealand Doctors attached to industry have also now joined the society, two will be attending the conference.

At a recent one day seminar for doctors in industry which was held at Logan Park in Auckland, I outlined the above situation to those present. As a result of marked interest it was felt that I should enclose this letter with the journal, together with an application form to enable those of you who may be interested to join the Society.

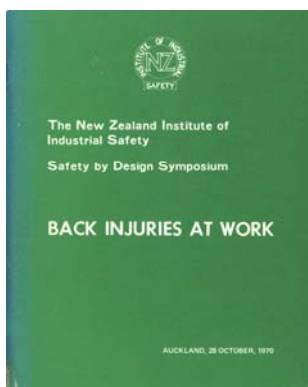
It was felt that the long term implication of individual membership could well be the establishment of a New Zealand branch and possibly agreement by the Australian Society to change its name to Australasian.

You will be receiving shortly the programme for a Back Symposium which is to be held in Auckland at the end of October. The Secretary of the Australian Society, Dr. D.A. Ferguson will be the guest speaker and it is hoped that he may have an hour to two to meet New Zealand Doctors in industry who have joined the Australian Society or may wish to.


W.I. Glass

Back Injuries at Work – Symposium, 1970

Following this annual meeting and conference, David Ferguson, Secretary of the new Society, visited Auckland as guest speaker at a Back Injuries at Work Symposium sponsored by the New Zealand Institute of Industrial Safety, 28 October 1970. At this Symposium a meeting was arranged for David Ferguson to meet New Zealand members and intending members of the Australian Society.



Prof. David Ferguson

C O N T E N T S

EDITORIAL

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

Mr. C.J. Piper, Chief Safety Officer, N.Z. Forest Products Limited.

THE PATTERN AND COST OF BACK INJURIES

Mr. G.M. Braithwaite, M.A. Research Officer, Department of Labour,
Wellington.

THE FUNCTION OF THE BACK AND TYPES OF BACK INJURIES

Dr. John Hawkes, M.B., Ch.B, M.R.C.P. (Edin)
Specialist in Rheumatic Disorders, Auckland

THE WORK CAUSES OF BACK INJURIES

Dr. David Ferguson, M.D., M.R.A.C.P.
Lecturer in Occupational Health, University of Sydney.

CHANGING THE WORK PROCESS TO OVERCOME THE HAZARD

Dr. David Ferguson, M.D., M.R.A.C.P.
Lecturer in Occupational Health, University of Sydney

THE ROLE OF MANAGEMENT IN ACCIDENT PREVENTION

Mr. K.A. Fulljames, A.F.N.Z.I.M. General Manager, Brick Division,
Amalgamated Brick & Pipe Co. Ltd.

HOW A MEDICAL SERVICE AT WORK CAN HELP WITH BACK INJURIES

Dr. W.I. Glass, M.B. Ch.B., D.P.H., D.I.H.
Consultant in Occupational Health, Auckland

SPEAKERS PROFILES

Tokoroa, 1971

The next important event took place at Tokoroa in 1971, June 12 and 13, when the first Postgraduate Course in Industrial Medicine was sponsored by the Tokoroa Clinical Society and NZ Forest Products Limited. This was a successful meeting of doctors and nurses from industry. The cost was \$4 per day excluding accommodation and the dine and dance. Other meals were provided courtesy of NZ Forest Products Limited. It is interesting to note that the Hon. Justice Woodhouse was a speaker, his topic, "The Legal Aspect of Work Injuries". At this meeting the occupational health nurses started discussions on the need to form a National Organisation, the New Zealand Occupational Health Nurses' Association (NZOHNA).

PROGRAMME	
Saturday, 12th June — Richmond Court, Tokoroa	Sunday, 13th June — Richmond Court, Tokoroa
9.00– 9.30 Registration	Chairman, Dr F. P. Rawley
9.30– 9.50 Opening of Seminar Mr J. F. Higgins, Mayor of Tokoroa. Mr R. H. Smythe, Managing Director, N.Z. Forest Products Limited.	9.30–10.00 Management of Hand Injuries Dr J. S. Chapple
9.50–10.05 Morning Tea Chairman, Dr R. E. Wright St. Clair	10.00–10.30 The Damaged Eye Mr Hylton LeGrice
10.05–10.25 The Role and Function of an Occupational Health Clinic Dr E. Simpson	10.30–10.45 Morning Tea Chairman, Dr R. E. Wright St. Clair
10.25–10.45 Results and value of a Medical Service at Work in a Sawmill Dr J. A. K. Commons	10.45–11.15 Occupational Lung Diseases Dr R. P. G. Rothwell
10.45–11.00 Discussion	11.15–11.30 Question Time
11.00– 1.00 Conducted tours of N.Z. Forest Products Limited Logging, Pulp and Paper Making	11.30–12.00 The Future of Industrial Medicine Dr W. I. Glass
1.00– 2.00 Lunch at Kinleith Chairman, Dr E. Foster	12.00–12.30 Panel Discussion—All Speakers
2.00– 2.30 Industrial Accidents, an Orthopaedic View Mr D. E. Allen	12.30 Seminar Concludes
2.30– 3.00 Noise as a Hazard in Industry Dr W. I. Glass	
3.00– 3.30 Occupational Dermatitis, Identification and Prevention Dr M. J. Purdy	
3.30– 3.45 Panel Discussion	
3.45– 4.00 Afternoon Tea Chairman, Mr G. S. Tucker	
4.00– 4.45 The Legal Aspects of Work Injuries The Hon. Justice Woodhouse	
4.45– 5.00 Question Time	



POST GRADUATE COURSE

SEMINAR ON

INDUSTRIAL MEDICINE

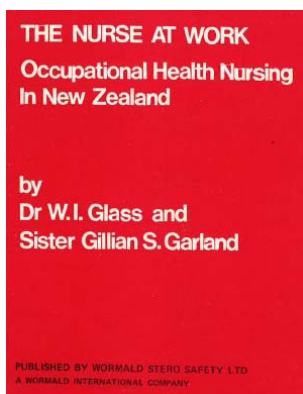
JUNE
SATURDAY 12th
and
SUNDAY 13th
at
TOKOROA

Tokoroa Clinical Society
in association with
N.Z. Forest Products Limited

PROGRAMME AND
ENROLMENT FORM

The Nurse at Work – Occupational Health Nursing in New Zealand, 1971

New Zealand Forest Products Limited established its Auckland Occupational Health Centre in Penrose in 1970, and Gillian Garland was appointed as the Occupational Health Nurse. Sadly, within weeks of taking up her appointment she was diagnosed with a serious health problem but never faltered in her commitment, her dedication, and her sunny nature. Just prior to her death in 1971 “The Nurse at Work” was published by Wormald Stero Safety Ltd with a Foreword by the Managing Director of New Zealand Forest Products Limited, Sir Reginald Smythe K.B.E. This publication recognised the increasingly important role of the nurse in industry and was a tribute to a young Occupational Health Nurse.



The authors discuss equipment needs for the new Medical Centre at Penrose.

FOREWORD

The health and welfare of people at work are of prime concern to management in industry. They are just as important as the provision of efficient plant and equipment and the proper maintenance of the same to enable them to continue to operate efficiently. Without people, or with people who are not fully healthy, machines lie idle, or function imperfectly with loss to employer and employee alike.

It is therefore essential for management to examine the means by which they can assist their work force to maintain good health and to implement the best means possible to achieve this objective.

The establishment of a Medical Service in Industry, staffed by nurses and assisted by guidance from medical practitioners, is an important and proven way in which this can be done.

The nurse in her properly equipped medical centre can play a major role in minimizing the effects of accidents at work by prompt treatment, reducing absence through sickness by her ability to treat minor illnesses and easing tensions at home or at work by lending a sympathetic ear and providing skilled counselling.

By combining the role of nurse and counsellor, the occupational health nurse makes a major contribution to the health of people at work with a consequent benefit to their morale. I commend those employers with sizeable staffs, who do not provide such a service, to at least examine the benefits which will accrue to them and to employees alike from the institution of a medical service. I have no doubt that they will decide that such a service is essential.

Sir Reginald H. Smythe K.B.E.
MANAGING DIRECTOR
N.Z. FOREST PRODUCTS LIMITED

Sydney, 1971

ASOM had its 3rd Annual Meeting at the Sebel Town House Elizabeth Bay October 8-10. The Inaugural President, Dr Bill Nelson, handed over to Dr Darryl O'Donnell and the Inaugural Secretary, Dr David Ferguson, to Dr Keith Brown. The Society membership reached 200 shortly before the meeting.



Dr Darryl O'Donnell

Melbourne, 1972

David Ferguson's visit in 1970 had stimulated New Zealand interest and an increasing number of New Zealand doctors had joined the Australian Society. I will quote an extract from a brief report on the formation of ANZSOM by Dr Hugh Denehy of Melbourne.

"As a result of the interest shown, ie from New Zealand, at the Scientific Meeting held at the Park Royal Motor Inn in Melbourne in late 1972, the name of the Society was changed and became the Australian and New Zealand Society of Occupational Medicine. There were two New Zealand Members present at that particular meeting to hear the name change, those being C D Hall and W I Glass."

"With the tremendous interest in the Society emanating from New Zealand the decision was made to hold the 1973 Scientific Meeting in New Zealand and Rotorua was selected as the venue. This meeting was most successful, with a number of Australians travelling to Rotorua and a large attendance from physicians in New Zealand interested in Occupational Medicine."

Rotorua, 1973

At the Rotorua meeting in September the President of what was now ANZSOM, Dr Darryl O'Donnell, indicated his willingness to assist New Zealand members to establish a New Zealand Branch. His presidential report is attached as Appendix 1. It should be read with care and considered in relationship to 2011.

It was also at this Rotorua meeting that the nurses had the first annual meeting of the New Zealand Occupational Health Nurses' Association.



Dr Keith Brown and Dr Des Hall enjoying the pool

Waipuna, Auckland, 1974

On Friday, 20 April 1974, a meeting was held at the Waipuna Lodge in Auckland. Fourteen New Zealand members of ANZSOM were present together with Dr O'Donnell, immediate past president, representing the Council of the Society. Twelve apologies were received. The meeting resolved to form a New Zealand Branch of ANZSOM and to hold the first meeting at Nelson, 7-9 June 1974, when officers of the Branch would be elected.

New Zealand Branch Conference, Nelson, 1974

Twenty-three members attended and at the Conference the New Zealand Branch of New Zealand ANZSOM was formally established. The minutes of the meeting and the President's Report are attached as Appendices 2 and 3.

Meeting of Council of ANZSOM, October 1974 (Appendix 4)

This was important for two reasons: the first, a decision on subscriptions between New Zealand members and the Federal Executive, and the second a wish by New Zealand to host a Federal ANZSOM meeting.

Letter, Dr David Ferguson to Dr Bill Glass, 1974

This letter confirmed that the New Zealand Branch should host the Annual General Meeting of the Society in 1977 – what is now called the Federal ANZSOM Meeting.



THE AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY
of
OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE

Occupational Health Section,
School of Public Health and
Tropical Medicine,
UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY. 2006.

4 December, 1974.

Dr W. I. Glass,
Box 5896, Post Office,
AUCKLAND. New Zealand.

Dear Bill,

Both Bob Scott and Mannie Rathus have agreed that the Kiwis should hold the Annual Meeting of the Society in 1977 and the Queenslanders in 1978. As you know next year will be in Hobart and 1976 in Sydney.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'David', is written above the printed name.

David Ferguson.

Obituaries – Two Early Pioneers in Occupational Medicine, New Zealand

It is noted with sadness the deaths of two early pioneers in industrial medicine (as it was then called) in New Zealand, Dr Francis King and Dr 'Jock' Hutchison, as well as the tragic death of Dr P Allingham, Assistant Director of Occupational Health in the Department of Health.

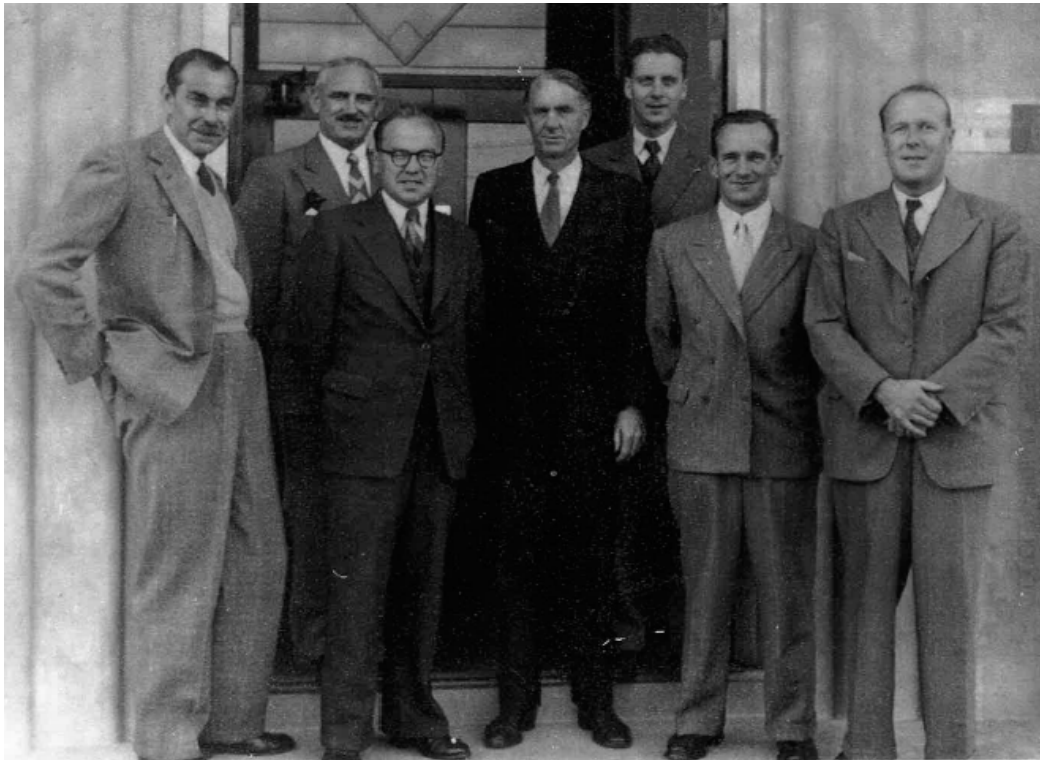
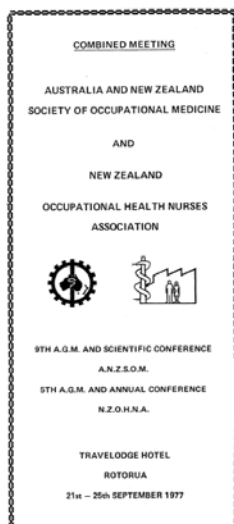


Photo of New Zealand's Regional Industrial Medical Officers during the Tom Garland era, 1945-1954. Francis King is on the left, Tom Garland in the middle, Alan Bell on Tom's left, and Stan Hickling on his right.

9th Annual General Meeting and Scientific Conference, ANZSOM and 5th Annual General Meeting and Annual Conference, NZONNZ, Rotorua, 1977

This combined conference gave the New Zealand Branch the opportunity to host its first Federal ANZSOM Meeting and on this occasion combining with the occupational health nurses.



The meeting was most successful, the Maori Concert Party in particular was a great hit with the Australians, particularly as it was followed by the lifting of a hangi.

The combining with the nurses ensured the success of the conference socially, particularly for visiting wives, as the nurses on the organising committee were able to arrange a number of stalls with cosmetic samples. L D Nathans on this occasion, as with New Zealand Forest Products at the Tokoroa meeting, again "came to the party" with discounted accommodation and complimentary pre-dinner drinks. Bruce Cole, the General Manager (seen with his wife, Noel in the group photo of a later

Adelaide meeting), was one of a number of Chief Executives who were committed to onsite occupational health services.



From left: Yvette Crouch, Darryl O'Donnell, Maureen and husband, John Glass, Bill Glass, Des and Marge Hall, Bruce and Noel Cole

The content of the programme was wide and exciting.

Social, Educative, Political Role of ANZSOM

These three functions have been an integral part of the NZ Branch from the beginning.

The social side has not been questioned and continued combined conferences with the nurses will ensure that this aspect of ANZSOM is maintained.

The political role began in the 1975 Conference in Auckland when the branch faced the impact of the new Accident Compensation Act of 1974, on the practice of occupational medicine. This medico-political role has continued with the branch commenting on such issues as fees for doctors in industry, proposed government regulations in the field of occupational health and safety, reports such as the FOL/CSU Report of 1985, a code of ethics for doctors working in industry, and the re-development of the DIH as Otago University.

The educative role has been inherent in the composition of the programmes. Looking back over the last thirteen conference agendas the list of topics dealt with covers the whole range of activities in occupational medicine, as Table 1 shows. However, it is noticeable that epidemiology has not fared well, nor has rehabilitation, education and training and safety.

Table 1

Range and Frequency of Topics During Conferences, 1971-1984

Occupational Health Services	21
Occupational Hazards	38
Occupational Epidemiology	3
Occupational Safety	9
The Work Environment –	
(A) Physical	17
(B) Social	35
Rehabilitation	3
Occupational Illnesses	36
Education for Occupational Health	10
Occupational Health Monitoring	13
Treatments in Occupational Health	6
Management and Occupational Health	12

Special meetings have always played a part in the activities of the New Zealand Branch which has hosted a number of overseas guest lecturers, among them Richard Schilling, Robert Murray, Peter Taylor, David Ferguson and others.

<u>DINNER TO WELCOME</u>
<u>PROFESSOR RICHARD SCHILLING</u>
<u>ALBION HOTEL, AUCKLAND, 29/9/75</u>
SEAFOOD COCKTAIL
CONSUMME
ROAST BEEF - HORSE RADISH SAUCE
OR ROAST CHICKEN
ROAST AND BOILED POTATOES
BUTTERED CARROTS AND MINTED PEAS
FRUIT SALAD AND CREAM
CHEESE BOARD
COFFEE
DUBONNET
PENFOLDS RIESLING SYLVANER 1975
MONTANA PINOT CHARDONNAY 1974
GILBEY NOBLO PINOTAGE 1973
SYC TOTARA GOLD

<u>PROFESSOR SCHILLING'S VISIT - DINNER AT THE ALBION 7.00 p.m.</u>	
Blackmore Yvette	Schilling, Richard
Frische Gail	Hall, C. Des
Henderson Lorna	Chunn, Gerry
Jones, Lesleigh	Fogg, Dennis
Hardley, Maureen	Glass, Bill
Hicks Colleen	Bierre, Trevor
Gorman, Mary	Campbell, David
Simpson, Grace-Ann	Veale, Arthur
	Reid, Graeme
	Dryson, E.N.
	Hanley, John
	Kjellstrom, Tord
	Armitage, Alec
	Golden, Bruce
	Coomes, Arthur
	Carlaw G.R.
	Rhodes, L.I. (Bunty)



Dr Bob Murray, the first external examiner for the 1983 DIH, Professor Richard Schilling, Bob's wife, and Richard's wife, Heather.

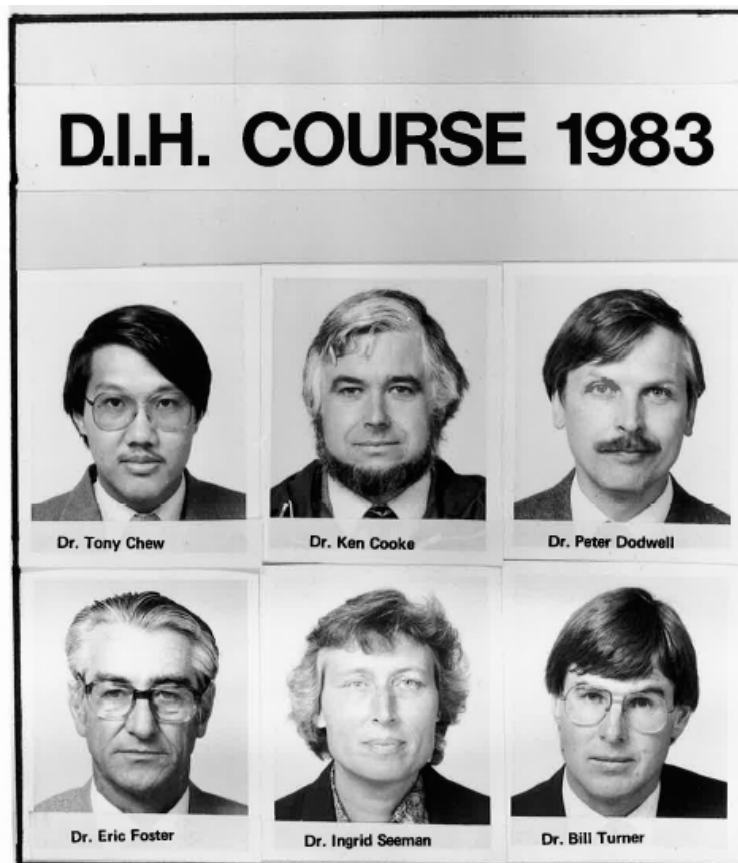
In addition, Auckland particularly has succeeded in establishing a pattern of regular meetings for members between conferences.

We had now reached the stage in our development where more formal qualifications were being seen as necessary for a career in occupational medicine.

A New Diploma Course at Otago University, 1983

In 1982 a meeting between, ANZSOM, the Department of Health and the Otago Medical School revised the curriculum for the Diploma in Industrial Health. This review resulted in the Diploma being developed with a recognition that occupational health in New Zealand was practiced primarily by the general practitioner on a part-time basis. The course training was amended so that only one term of 10 weeks need be taken in Dunedin, while the second and third terms could be completed back in the candidate's own home town. In 1983 Dr Bill Glass joined with Dr Francis de Hamel in teaching the first course. With the retirement of Francis, Bill continued through to 1994 as Associate Professor and Course Supervisor, with Drs David Black, Michael Donoghue and John Heydon all assisting over that period.

Three Diploma courses have been held since the 1982 decision, in the years 1983, 1985 and 1986. Nineteen candidates have enrolled, 15 from New Zealand and four from overseas. Among the 15 New Zealanders, seven came from general practice, six from the Department of Health, one from the Ministry of Transport and one from the University. The photo below shows the 1983 class, three of whom are still in full-time specialist practice, Tony Chew, Peter Dodwell and Bill Turner.



Australian College of Occupational Medicine (ACOM)

This College is rapidly becoming the established specialist body for occupational physicians in the Asia-Pacific region. Table 2 shows the distribution of members as at 1986.

Table 2

College Membership by Region and Category

Region	Fellow And Hon	Member	Associate	Trainee 1 & 2	All Categories
NSW	86	3	39	9	137
VIC	57	4	25	7	93
QLD	22	4	5		31
SA	20	2	8	2	32
WA	14	4	9	2	29
TAS	4	1	2		8
NT	2		1		3
ACT	19		5		24
NZ	10	2	2		14
UK	11			1	12
Singapore	10		8		18
Hong Kong	12	1	3		16
Malaysia	7		1		8
Other Overseas	11		2		13
All Regions	286	21	110	21	438

The DIH New Zealand is accepted as a primary university qualification for entry into the three year college training programme and a number of graduates are currently enrolled or applying for enrolment in the training programme.

The Australian College is currently seeking specialist recognition for its fellowship qualification.

New Zealand College of Community Medicine

This College was established in 1980 with a view that it embrace specialists in "community health". It has provided an appropriate niche for hospital and Health Department doctors but has offered very little to the occupational health physician in New Zealand. As a consequence, apart from those occupational health physicians who joined under the initial "grandfather" clause, only one or two occupational health physicians have taken the College training programme.

However, communication has been maintained by ANZSOM with the New Zealand College on the question of specialist training and specialist recognition.

Specialist Recognition

At present the Medical Council is guided by the New Zealand College of Community Medicine in accepting doctors for the Register.

What then is the New Zealand College's policy? Currently each applicant to the specialist register is considered individually. However at the Board of Censors' meeting August 21, the Board of Censors agreed:

"That once the Australian College of Occupational Medicine had achieved specialist recognition, New Zealanders holding the Fellowship of the Australian College would automatically be approved by the NZ College of Community Medicine for registration as a specialist by the Medical Council of New Zealand."

This does not imply membership of the New Zealand College which is quite a separate issue.

Conclusion

In this brief review I have looked at the New Zealand Branch of ANZSOM from the early beginnings in the 1960s and 1970s. I have outlined the three main functions of ANZSOM and indicated a direction in the field of education and training in occupational medicine for the future, a future which I believe will be positive and satisfying.