

## Introduction

Kia ora tatou, Te Roopu Kaiwhiriwhiri o Aotearoa. Nga mihi nui ki a koutou CPANZ! Welcome to this, the first “careers”-focused issue of the *New Zealand Journal of Counselling*.

In 1985 when I joined what is now NZAC, there was also a professional association for careers counsellors – the New Zealand Vocational Guidance Association (NZVGA). The two associations had and continued to have a history of interaction and support and, in many cases, a shared membership. A quick browse through Gary Hermansson’s history of the Association, *Pieces of Silver* (1999), shows that career counsellor members have been demonstrably active at local, regional and national levels of NZAC.

Political and economic restructurings led inevitably to the disbanding of NZVGA. In 1992 the Association formally entrusted NZAC with the remainder of its funds and the kaupapa of fostering the career portfolio, and the interests of career counsellors. Since then, with active assistance from NZAC, local career focus groups have been encouraged and two career conferences held: “Careering ’95” in Hamilton and “Wellsprings – Careering ’97” in Auckland. It was at the latter conference that the Career Practitioners Association of New Zealand (CPANZ) was conceived!

NZAC continues to assist its members who are career counsellors and to foster the place of careers in New Zealand. This Special Topic issue of the *New Zealand Journal of Counselling* is another example of inter-association support. Lee Brodie, the current National President of CPANZ, has kindly agreed to provide the guest editorial.

**Pauline Templeman**

**NZAC Executive with career portfolio responsibilities**

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