



John, cutting his celebratory cake, assisted by his Grandchildren

John has been a member of ANZASW since 1989 and an active member of the local Branch since that time. John has taken both formal roles such as chairing meetings, representing Canterbury at National meetings and co-hosting Continuing Professional Development seminars, as well as informal roles such as promoting ANZASW to prospective members, supporting members in stressful situations and always providing sound ethical advice.

John has worked in social services for 35 years in Not for Profit organisations, Government agencies and in private practice. John's scopes of practice cover a wide age range from youth to elderly and his roles have included supervision, team building, facilitation, therapy, project and service management and service development.

In addition to his work in New Zealand, John worked for one year in the United Kingdom and completed two rotations as a social worker in community development on Pitcairn Island in 2005/2006.

John established the residential student unit in the late 1970's and remains a student supervisor for Massey University.

John has contributed to social work in New Zealand through his participation at local and National level. John worked as the Competency Assessor for the Southern region for 9 years - the largest geographically and numerically at that time.

John wrote the recertification process and chaired the Recertification Committee when it was based in Christchurch. John also co-authored the major review of ANZASW's Competency Assessment with Sonya Hunt in 2001 and on two occasions he has filled in for ANZASW between Executive Office appointments.

John was an inaugural Board member of the Social Work Registration Board at a time when the foundation for regulation of the profession was being developed. He brought to this role the strong principles, ethics and heritage of the many years ANZASW spent advocating for registration. John balanced the competing demands of remaining a member of a Crown Entity without compromising his integrity to promote the highest professional standards.

Throughout his broad work experience John has constantly demonstrated an ongoing commitment to the ethics and professional standards of social work of the highest order. John's paid voluntary work always focuses in and promotes excellent practice and always ensures that services are client-centred and responsive to their needs. His practice is professional, respectful and empowering.

John is always willing to step up at times of crisis and assist in any way he can to ensure systems are maintained in an appropriate way. John has been a mentor to many social workers, an advocate for social work and a very supportive colleague.

Canterbury Branch meeting for John Dunlop

On 9 March, 2010, members of the Canterbury Branch of ANZASW gathered to host a special evening in honour of John Dunlop who was formally awarded Life Membership at the 2009 Annual General Meeting.

We were especially delighted that John's wife, some family members and a number of other Life Members from the branch were able to join us in this celebration and recognition of John's service and commitment to the profession.

John recognised the role his family had played in both his choice of career and also in the understanding he has received from his family as professional responsibilities had taken him away from them on occasions.

In addition to the formal presentation, a number of members spoke in recognition of John's social work career, his professionalism and his willingness to support the professional body as well as individual members in whatever way he could.

John's demonstration of social work values, ethics and skills are an exemplar and role model for us all.