



## The New Zealand Psychological Society

*Tē Rōpū Mātai Hinengaro o Aotearoa*

### **Immediate Release**

**27 August, 2008**

### **New Zealand Psychological Society Annual Conference**

The New Zealand Psychological Society the largest professional association for psychologists in New Zealand with over 900 members is holding its annual conference at the Hotel Grand Chancellor 161 Cashel Street, Christchurch.

The Conference begins at **9.am Friday 29 August** with a Mihi Whakatau and ends at **lunchtime on Sunday 31 August**. The theme of the conference is **Wellbeing: Individual, Organisational, Community** and over 250 delegates are expected to attend.

The conference is being sponsored by the Mental Health Commission.

Speakers will focus on wellbeing from a range of perspectives with Matthew Sanders giving a keynote presentation on the *Triple P Positive Parenting Programme*. This internationally recognized parenting programme has twice won the National Violence Prevention Award from the Commonwealth Heads of Government in Australia. Morgan Chambers, a well-known organizational psychologist, will speak on *Recovering the Humanity and Well being in our Organizations Through Conversations and Commitments*. Gargi Roysircar-Sodowsky will speak on *Empirically Supported Versus Culturally Sensitive Treatment: Practice, Research and Social Justice*, Angus Hikairo Macfarlane will speak on *Kia hiwa ra! Listen to Culture-A Counter-Narrative to Conventional Approaches to Psychology* and Michael Corballis will speak on *Back to the Future: Mental Time Travel and the Evolution of Language*

The Conference will also feature an open forum inviting representatives from political parties to speak on the ways in which their party's policies will help promote individual and community well-being. The political parties are represented by Sue Kedgley, (Green Party), Barbara Stewart (New Zealand First), Tim Barnett (Labour Party), National Party representative to be confirmed.

There is also a forum on drug prescribing rights for psychologists.

Other presentations include psychology and climate change, culture, psychotherapy and education, the science of happiness and wellbeing, bullying in organisations, silent conflict and children's wellbeing and rehabilitating high risk offenders.

The conference will provide a stimulating environment in which to explore the many issues which impact on wellbeing. Website for programme:

[www.psychology.org.nz/conference](http://www.psychology.org.nz/conference)

Ends

**Contact**

Associate Professor Neville Blampied

Chair

Conference Academic Programme