

# AIDS Quilt Tours New Zealand

## AIDS and Drug Use

The National HIV/AIDS and Injecting Drug Users Workshop on March 9 to 11 was fully booked following a very positive response, says national IDU/AIDS advisor Robert Kemp.

It brought together consumers, alcohol and drug workers and HIV/AIDS workers to learn from each other and build more co-operation in preventing HIV amongst injecting drug users. Both associate health ministers were present.

"Injecting drug users don't constitute an amorphous group, but a series of very different sub-groups, each with different needs and aspirations," says Mr Kemp. "Good prevention recognises this and bases programmes on it. We can't have one campaign that will solve all the problems - we need a series of smaller, specific targeted campaigns."

The workshop came five years after the last specific gathering on injecting drug use and HIV and was a chance to assess changes.

## Women, HIV and Drugs

A keynote speaker on women, HIV and drug use from the National IDU and HIV/AIDS Workshop in Wellington will also speak in Auckland.

Marion Watson, service director of the group Assisting Drug Dependents from Canberra, is running an afternoon session in Auckland on women and HIV, and women and drug treatment on Friday, March 13.

The session is in the seminar room of the STD Centre, building 16, Auckland Hospital, from 1 to 5pm. It is open to anyone with an interest in the issues, and costs \$10. It was organised by Robert Kemp and jointly sponsored by the STD Centre and Auckland Drug Information Outreach.

**Information: Phone the STD Centre 09-307-2894 or ADIO 09-309-8519.**

**F**ive thousand leaflets about the New Zealand Quilt Project will be handed out to viewers as the six quilt blocks tour the country in the next few months.

The Quilts are sewn by friends, families and partners of people who have died of AIDS. They commemorate their names, provide a human face to the epidemic and a superb educational tool.

Ginette McDonald, television comic and producer, is the new patron of the project. Co-ordinators for most regions have been organised to arrange displays of the blocks. The quilt was in Hawkes Bay in February, Manawatu in March, and will be unveiled in Christchurch for the first time on Tuesday, March 24. Hamilton will host the Quilt for its Candlelight Memorial ceremony on May 17. It will be in Dunedin in June for a Gay and Lesbian Arts Festival, and Northland in August where it will be unveiled on marae. Auckland's Fisher Gallery will use the panels as part of an AIDS education display in September.

Some New Zealand blocks will be sent to Washington for an unveiling and display of quilts from around the world on October 9. Up to 40 countries will be sending quilts, and their ambassadors will be invited to the ceremony.

Darren Horn is the New Zealand convener of the project. Warren Butler is chair, with Jean Stewart secretary

and Nikki Eddy treasurer. Nikki also answers queries from people wanting to design and produce quilts.

**Information - Contact your regional co-ordinator or write to the Quilt Project, PO Box 7024, Wellesley St, Auckland 1.**

## Quilt regional co-ordinators

**Northland** Chris Farrelly, AIDS co-ordinator of the Northland Area Health Board, phone 09-438-7019, PO Box 742, Whangarei

**Waikato** Imelda Quilty of NZAF, phone 07-838-3557, PO Box 41, Hamilton

**Rotorua** Ron Irvine, PO Box 1854, Rotorua

**Hawkes Bay** Joan Donovan, phone 06-874-8831, c/- PO Box 679, Napier

**Manawatu** Jean K Fink of the AIDS Information Directory and Support Network, phone 06-358-1055, PO Box 1942, Palmerston North

**Wellington** Richard Bengé of NZAF, phone 04-389-3169, PO Box 7287, Wellington South

**Nelson** Kevin Jensen, PO Box 4022, Nelson South

**Christchurch** Marie Glenys of NZAF, phone 03-791-953, PO Box 21-285, Edgeware, Christchurch

**Dunedin** Kären Elliot-Best, phone 03-477-7740, fax 474-7631

**Invercargill** Michael J Goodwin, phone 03-202-5726, Festive Fields, 6RD, Gore, Southland.

## Fundraising Badge



A non-profit group in Boston has produced a 2-inch square badge with

the message "Someone I love has AIDS" as a way of broadening public understanding on the scope of the AIDS epidemic.

The "Living With..." group is seeking people in high profile positions to wear the three-colour badge, building a demand which can then be met by local organisations. One organisation in the US is using the badge as a way to say thank you to supporters. Another is using it in appeals for donations.

The badge is available from the group at 304 Newbury St, Suite 251, MA 02115-2832, USA, but they didn't say how much it cost.