

**End child prostitution pornography and trafficking**  
September 2002



**ECPAT NZ Inc.**

PO Box 41 264 St Lukes Auckland 1003 NZ Ph (09) 846 2624 / 2629  
Fax (09) 846 2627 email [ecpatnz@iconz.co.nz](mailto:ecpatnz@iconz.co.nz)

---

# **Annual General Meeting**

Yes it's that time again  
Our annual celebration of the work of ECPAT NZ  
and our plans for the future

**Friday October 18 at 5p.m.**  
**Grey Lynn Community Centre**  
**510 Richmond Road**  
**Auckland 1002**  
**Keynote Speaker**  
**Roger McClay**  
**Commissioner for Children**

All welcome

R.S.V. P. by Monday October 14 2002 ECPAT office Ph: (09) 846  
2629

## **CHILD SAFETY ON THE INTERNET**

Governor-General Dame Silvia Cartwright launched our Cyberkidz website in Grey Lynn on Friday 14th June. Our thanks to all those who came along to make the event such a happy one. Special appreciation to the schools who brought items and the Kapa Haka group which welcomed our distinguished guests.

Cyberkidz is now up and running and getting several hundred hits each week. Some children are regular visitors "We like your website" write three regular readers. Young children especially enjoy the challenging puzzles which are up-dated regularly.

Cyberkidz is the first tangible result of a survey on the needs and resources of primary school-age children done by Valerie Ussher for ECPAT NZ earlier this year. The survey highlighted the gap in materials for younger children. The findings of the survey are available on the ECPAT website (see below). Stage two in the project will involve sending the internet safety pamphlet to over half a million parents of primary school children. A draft of the pamphlet was sent to all readers in our last Newsletter. It has since been modified slightly

Ask  
**your**  
**parents**  
before meeting  
**INTERNET**  
**FRIENDS**

[www.cyberkidz.co.nz](http://www.cyberkidz.co.nz)

and will be published and distributed thanks to generous financial support from a number of supporting agencies.

***The Internet project does not end there.***

An Internet Resource Kit will soon be available for educators, youth leaders and parents. It will include posters, stickers and helpful background material. The Kit will be launched at a ceremony at Parliament Buildings on Friday October 11, hosted by the Minister for Justice Hon Phil Goff.

## **AND NOW A NEW WEBSITE!**

By the time you receive this Newsletter our new website should be on-line. Hosted by Watchdog the material will provide a new source of information for those concerned about commercial child sex abuse in New Zealand.

Pages on the website will provide statistics and information not available from other sources. These include an analysis of the number of child victims among the convicted sex offenders in New Zealand courts and a comparison of sentences for child pornographers.

A feature of the site will be a regularly up-dated news column that will provide information and background material on breaking news.

Persons entering the web will be able to offer support to ECPAT NZ via an interactive questionnaire.

Helpful links will provide quick access to other ECPAT sites around the world. Our thanks to all those who have worked hard for many weeks to get the website operating on-line.

[www.ecpat.org.nz](http://www.ecpat.org.nz)

### **ECPAT NZ in the High Court**

In July of last year TV3 ran a programme about child prostitution in Fiji. While ECPAT NZ was pleased that the issue had been raised there was some disquiet about the way in which the subject was treated. In particular the programme revealed the identity of children who were said to be prostitutes and thus invaded their privacy and dignity.

ECPAT NZ laid a complaint with the Broadcasting Standards Authority and after consideration the complaint was upheld. However TV3 objected to this decision and an appeal was brought before the Auckland High Court on August 22, 23, 2002. ECPAT NZ was represented by K.Toogood Q.C. At the time of printing this Newsletter the judgment of the court was still pending.

### **ECPAT International**

Congratulations to Sue Martin, Project Manager for ECPAT New Zealand on being elected to the Board of ECPAT International. The Second Assembly of the organisation took place in Thailand September 4-7 with a large agenda of business and appointments. Many new member bodies were approved including several from Eastern Europe. There are now more than 70 countries represented in the official membership of ECPAT.

### **Child Pornography**

There is no evidence that child pornography is more rampant in New Zealand than other countries. But what is apparent is that New Zealand has developed a much more sophisticated approach to monitoring the work of child pornographers than most other countries. The work of the Department of Internal Affairs Officers is remarkable in its scope and success rate.

Last month (August) there was another landmark case in the on-going battle to end child pornography when the country's largest cache of child pornography was uncovered on the computer of a 43-year old carpenter from

West Auckland. It is estimated that an incredible 190,000 images of child pornography were on his site which was being sourced by people from around the world.

Another unique aspect of the case is that the images were hosted on an international website located in the United States. A keen interest in the case has been taken by American authorities for whom child pornography is now seen as a very serious crime.

The sentence for a person charged with distributing child pornography in New Zealand is one year in prison or a \$20,000 fine. For the same crime in the United States there is a maximum sentence of 15 years.

Please help us continue the fight to end commercial child abuse  
Enclosed is my donation of: (Please make cheques payable to ECPAT NZ Inc)

q\$5 q\$10 q\$20 q\$50 qOther \$\_\_\_\_\_

**For an automated donation of \$20 telephone 0900 32728**

**Name and address (if different from address on back)**

**Do you require a receipt? Yes No**

Send to ECPAT NZ Inc P.O. Box 41 264, St Lukes  
Auckland

### **Kiwi Abuser in Goa**

Eoghan McBride from Upper Hutt was extradited to Goa, India in 1999. Mc Bride faced charges that he was part of a paedophile ring which had been sexually abusing young children in an orphanage for several years. In July of this year he was sentenced to seven years imprisonment for the sex offences and three years for criminal conspiracy. The organiser of the ring, Freddy Peats of Britain is already serving a life sentence for his part in the abuse. Two other members of the ring from Sweden and Australia have been charged and warrants are out for their arrest.

ECPAT NZ receives regular information about New Zealand sex abusers, travelling to Asia. For the past six years ECPAT NZ has been in regular contact with a Goan childrens rights group. National Coordinator of ECPAT NZ, Denise Ritchie called it "an excellent result. It puts all New Zealanders on notice that when it comes to the abuse of foreign children, no place is too far for the arm of the law to reach".

## **Child Prostitution In Wellington**

Child prostitution is again in the news with a report in The Dominion Post of children as young as 13 years old being used as prostitutes in Wellington. At least two girls were said to have been brought down from Palmerston North by an older man who was pimping them. It is understood that they attend school during the week and then are coerced into the sex trade at the weekend.

It is known throughout New Zealand that children as young as 12 and 13 years old are in the sex trade in Auckland and from about 14 years old in Christchurch but there are scattered reports from rural areas as well. ECPAT is following up in these reports and continuing to investigate who coerced the children into the sex trade.

The relationship with drugs and the sex trade is well known and sadly a 17 year old girl coerced into prostitution died from poisoned methamphetamines in Auckland and warnings about contaminated drugs are being posted.

---

ECPAT NZ would like to thank Lotteries Welfare for the sponsoring of the  
September newsletter

---