

URPA Nationwide Discussion Groups – Collation and Findings

Presented by AnnE Wiseman 2nd National Reiki Conference 2003

Introduction and Background

My presentation will run through the following:

Background about DGs and me

Methodology DG topics 1-3

 Collation

 Synthesis

 Purpose Vision Aims Values

DG Locations, participant numbers and feedback

Key findings

 Topic 1, 2, 3

Where to from here

Conclusions

Output from the DGs including Collation summary, DG stats, updated purpose, vision aims, values statement and DG participant comments are posted on the board at the back of conference room.

At the end of the presentation there will be time for questions which myself and the Board members will be available to answer.

The National Conference Planning Team had scheduled the 2nd National Reiki Conference for October 2002. As preparations began, the team's intuition was saying something else was needed. A strong understanding that came from the Focus Group Workshop held at Najara, Nambour in Qld in May of the same year, was the recognition for the value of ongoing community consultation. The importance and value of making personal contact in local areas became clear.

Listening to Reiki is a guiding principle for the team and in this case, the energy for the 2nd national conference had shifted direction, opening space for the conceptualisation of the nationwide Discussion Groups as a means of facilitating consultation within the Reiki community.

It took courage to make the change and re-schedule the conference to 2003 and put forward a series of nationwide discussion groups based on the questions that came from the participants at the Najara Workshop. The initial series just recently completed has been successful in encouraging community input into the future direction of the practice of Reiki in Australia.

My husband Peter and I had first heard about the National Reiki Project in early 2001. I was unable to attend the inaugural conference as I was going to India to complete my master training, after 10 years of practice of Reiki.

The timing of our return to Brisbane, Australia made it possible for Peter and I to attend the focus group workshop in Najara.

This workshop was very rewarding. We made new “Reiki” friends, heard reports back from the focus groups, formed after the Sydney conference and shared thoughts and feeling about what moving into the realm of professional practice might involve. I joined the project team and my first task was to co-ordinate and collate the feedback from the planned nationwide discussion groups. My experience at Najara, my induction into the project team and the ongoing support I have received from the team further *cements* my sense of purity of intension of the group and their commitment to Reiki and the Project.

The aim of facilitating local discussions groups, Nationwide was to start to consult with members of the Reiki community re: thoughts and feelings about the movement around Reiki as a folk art and the apparent sense of the need for development of professional standards of practice for Reiki. Did the community think it was possible? How would the Folk art inform the Professional? What was needed to make it happen? What might be some of the qualities and abilities required of a professional Reiki practitioner?

Methodology,

Discussion group preparation

The project team which included a professional facilitation trainer, developed sessions plans around the questions that arose from Najara workshop creating the first in the series DG’s.

A facilitator kit was prepared, thereby creating a consistent format for discussion, information and community feedback to the topics, combined with the organics of the individual attendees and Reiki self treatments during the day. The kit included a session plan to guide facilitators on the day with prepared wall charts for recording ideas generated and trigger questions to stimulate discussion, as well as facilitator feedback and participant feedback forms to be completed at the end of each session.

Facilitators included Board Directors (the project was formally incorporated as a national body just before the first discussion group in Perth) and project team members of whom most had been through a facilitator-training program or other Reiki folk who were also experienced facilitators.

As part of preparation for the discussion group series a facilitator kit was prepared. The kit included a session plan to guide facilitators on the day with prepared wall charts for recording ideas generated by the various groups and trigger questions to stimulate discussion, as well as facilitator feedback and participant feedback forms to complete at the end of each session. This kit allowed each group to follow a planned meeting format, allowed standardised recording of information and feedback combined with the organics of the individual attendees and Reiki self treatments during the day.

Facilitators included Board Directors (the project was formally incorporated as a national association just after the first discussion group in Perth) and project team members of whom most had been through a facilitator-training program or other Reiki folk who were also experienced facilitators.

Invitations and Advertising

A DG invite was prepared for distribution.

[Put up slide of DG invite](#)

[See - Come and participate! National body requiring input, the three main topics of discussion, locations and dates and facilitators](#)

Invites were sent out to known Reiki folk, including masters, via email and Aust. Post. Phone calls and word of mouth all combined to initiate a ripple effect in the Reiki community. Advertisements were placed in media with national circulation including Insight magazine. DG facilitators also placed adds in local newspapers and invitations were “posted” in natural therapy clinics and on community billboards.

All this work was done on a budget personally funded by Board and project team members accompanied by a voluntary commitment of resources and time.



COME AND BE PART OF THE 'REIKI COMMUNITY' CONSULTATION PROCESS

A series of **discussion group sessions** is being facilitated nationwide to cover a variety of questions relating to the formation of a national organisation that embodies the following aims.

- Promote and preserve the practice of Reiki as a spiritual discipline and healing art for the advancement of wellbeing and health in the community;
- Foster and nurture a culture of mutual understanding, respect and communication within the diversity of practice's of Reiki, nationally and globally;
- Embody standards of excellence in the professional practice of Reiki;
- Educate the public and promote an understanding of the practice of Reiki as a spiritual discipline and healing art.

DISCUSSION TOPICS INCLUDE

- *How to preserve the richness of Reiki as a spiritual discipline and art, while establishing standards for professional practice.*
- *How can the traditional/folk/personal practice of Reiki inform the*
- *What qualities and abilities could be required of a professional practitioner?*

***Note: Topics will be covered in various sessions over the dates scheduled below. Please check with your local contact for session details.**

We encourage Reiki community members to bring other topics for discussion.

JOIN IN

Join a discussion group in your area by phoning the local contact and registering your interest. The local contact will provide further information, session times and venue details.

State	City/town	Dates	Contact	Phone no.
Qld	Brisbane	23 Nov 2002 7 June 2003	Lynette Kirkman	(07) 3353 0205
	Nambour	30 Nov 2002 24 May 2003	Coralea Mackison	(07) 5476-0727
	Hervey Bay	5-6 April 2003 13 April 2003	Margaret Smith	(07) 4126 0214
	Bundaberg	16 Feb 2003	Margaret Smith	(07)4126-0214
	Kingaroy	22-23 Feb 2003	Margaret Smith	(07) 4126 0214
	Ayr	1 Mar 2003 12 April 2003	Valmai Vidler	(07) 4783 2879
	Mackay	17 Nov 2002 9 Feb 2003 2 Mar 2003	Lorraine Tibballs	(07) 4954-8689
	Dysart	1 Dec 2002	Lorraine Tibballs	(07) 4954-8689
	WA	Perth	25 Oct 2002 26 Oct 2002 27 Oct 2002	Isobella Marr
NSW	Sydney	9 Nov 2002 22 Feb 2003	Sharron Mackison	(02) 9413-3529
	Ballina	30 Nov 2002 22 Feb 2003 15 March	Jill Thornton	(02) 6687-4980
Vic	Melbourne	30 Nov 2002 15 Feb 2003	Jan Wiburd	(03) 9533 1040
SA	Adelaide	5 Dec 2002 1 March 2003	MingLee or Gemma	(08) 8266-3276
Tas	Sheffield	5 Nov 2002 Additional sessions Ph:	Dawn Parker	(03) 6491-1661

Additional sessions may be scheduled on request. For general enquires, Phone AnnE Wiseman (07) 3846 0281 or E-mail: peterandanne@optusnet.com.au Please pass this onto Reiki folk in your circle.

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Collation and summary.

The initial collation of the Discussion groups' outcomes, and feedback sheets was performed by myself. Ie. By a single person.

I received from each facilitator the DG notes from the prepared charts and topics covered on the day, the facilitator and participant feedback forms.

The intention of the collation process was to keep the originality of information received and to be able to trace the summary back to the source data thereby allowing transparency in the collation process. This was achieved by collating the data in a table format where one column conveyed the information collected and the other column had a code specifying from which DG the data had come. The philosophy was to be accountable for each step and to be able to go back to the source data

DG data was first combined where DGs had taken place on more than one date in the same location and covering the same topics. Eg three DGs took place in Adelaide between December 2002 and May 2003 and so common themes, ideas and words were first grouped for Adelaide and then combined with the National summary for all DGs. This was done topic by topic.

The summaries by topic were created by, at times, merging the same words, yet still leaving different phrases that conveyed similar meaning allowing the exact wording used by a particular group to be included.

As the collation proceeded common themes emerged and data was grouped by topics/ or sub headings. These groupings by sub-headings became anchor points to refer back to and act as a guide for the second stage of the process, which was the syntheses of data into key topics, and content and develop relationships between topics and themes. Also where a common idea was being put forward from a number of discussion groups the sentence that appeared to be the most encompassing of the idea was used and this sentence bolded to indicate that it had been mentioned in more than one group.

The aim of the process was to provide information and relationships that

- helped to answer the DG topic questions as conveyed by the community and
- gave direction and continued development of project goals in a way that represented and supported the Reiki community.

Synthesis

Upon completion of the collation, a team of 7 Reiki folk, including 4 URPA board members, a project team member and two DG attendees met for two sessions over one and a half days to review and synthesize the collated material.

The collated material was reviewed topic by topic. From the discussion data, core ideas and content were extracted, other related and new points were derived and three relationship diagrams were produced. This output represented the syntheses of data and provided key messages and pathways with which the project could move forward.

Purpose, Vision Aims and Values Statement

The same process of collation and synthesis was applied in regards to comments and suggestions received on the purpose, vision, aims, and values statement for the project. This synthesis process was completed at the Board meeting held in February 2003. The current version adapted from feedback from the DGS is currently displayed in the conference room for your perusal.

DG Locations, Numbers and Feedback

The discussion group format and level of commitment (most sessions ran for a minimum of a full day) tended to attract Reiki folk that were dedicated Reiki practitioners, and others who felt it important to have some input into the discussions and discover more about what was happening in the community in regards to current and future ideas and issues in the practice of Reiki in the wider community.

[Insert summary table used in Newsletter from excel here](#)

We ran 17 sessions in 6 states with a total of 149 participants.
15 sessions were devoted to discussing the three main DG topics (as per invite)

Two sessions, that took place more recently (in May & June this year), looked at an additional topic in regards to defining URPA membership and recognising and embracing the diversity of Reiki practices. The panel of 7 which undertook the synthesis of the data felt that at this stage not enough consultation and processing had been done on this topic to put forward any key findings and felt that this conference was a great opportunity for further consultation. Therefore I will not be reporting on Topic 4. Please note that the information given in these groups will not be lost but simply remains sleeping until a more appropriate time is at hand.

Most people returned a feedback form and 82% of those who attended said they would be happy to attend more DGs and 55% said they would be prepared to offer some form of help, time, resources or funding to the project.

Most sessions were held in the capital cities where facilitators were available but some were held in more regional centres eg Nambour and Kingaroy in Queensland. A Tasmanian group met in Sheffield and had an informal gathering.

DG sizes ranged from 2 to 21 participants.

Most sessions were a day long however a couple of groups decided to run the sessions over a number of days, for example Perth ran a three day session.

A more detailed breakdown of the statistics for the DG, and a collation summary is posted on a billboard at the back of the conference room. And as previously mentioned 82% of participants would like to attend more groups. [Some comments from participants are recorded and also posted on the board at the back of the conference room.](#)

USUI REIKI PRACTITIONER ALLIANCE

NATIONWIDE DISCUSSIONS GROUPS, OCT 2002 - JUNE 2003

Project Discussion Groups – Summary

Nationwide	No. of States	No. of Discussion Groups Held	No. attended	No. of Feedback forms returned	% of people wishing to attend more DGs	% of people willing to help with project
TOTALS	6*	17	149	86	82%	54%

* Discussion groups were held in all States with sessions yet to be held in the two Territories of the ACT and the Northern Territory

Synthesis TOPIC 1

1) The initial discussion question was evolved from:

How to preserve the richness of Reiki **WHILE** establishing standards of professional practice?

To

How to preserve the richness **OF THE PRACTICE** of Reiki **THROUGH** establishing standards for professional practice.

Note the 2 points were opposed at outset of discussions.

1/ How to preserve the richness of Reiki as a spiritual discipline and art?

2/ How to establish standards for professional practice?

The preposition “**through**” **joined** the two questions and we were able to see the two as **ONE**.

2) **Honouring the teachings of Reiki**

Honour the practice - Daily self-treatment

- feeling of connection to spiritual lineage and teacher
- when honoured then people walk their talk
- it comes from the heart
- trust the Teachings and the Practice....
- creating better communication through more conscious language
- abide by the principles
- INTUITIVE
- Cherishing the purity of the personal experience makes it easy

3) **Develop Community**

To give and share Reiki treatments.

CONTINUE & MAINTAIN CONSULTATION WITH THE /IN REIKI INDUSTRY, INCLUDING THE ELDERS.

Meetings of practitioners/peers to share their Reiki experiences (open forum) on regular basis.

***Widespread Consultation & Agreement of what a Professional Person Represents
Commitment and agreement to Minimum Standards & Focusing on Positive
Results***

- People searching for community, larger community for bigger support
- Recognizing community but wanting closer connection
- HOW DO WE ENLARGE THAT? Eliminate the fear
- **Elimination of fear through continued consultation and developing trust**

- Developing community and communication to:
 - support, nurture, encourage and to build on the foundation and
 - provide a sense of connectedness and inclusiveness of diversity.

4) Conscious Languageing

To describe the principles, philosophy and practice of Reiki in a language which is appropriate to the situation (audience) to **INFORM**, not to **CONVERT**. (debated language?)

- The art of Reiki is how we communicate
- What's difference between medical and Reiki community?
- "We don't make outrageous claims "

There is a need for CONSCIOUS LANGUAGEING

- Ie. To be mindful and use language that is positive, active, clear, and energetically appropriate.
- The language we use is the preservation of the process
- How a client responds to a Reiki treatment is unique. In working with other professional and the medical profession in general we need to gently build on this eg. Using testimonials
- Keep it simple , make it pure
- Heart space

5) Scientific Research - Proof that Reiki works.

There is a need to shift the mindset of the wider community from Reiki fixes to Reiki supports

- Scientific research working with Reiki is in its infancy
- Reiki works not according to medical model
- Reiki supports a person's well being it does not fix/cure. This is a different mentality
- In undertaking research into "How a person responds to Reiki", it is important to educate medical and wider community as to meaning **of healing and curing**. They are NOT the same.

TOPIC 2 How can the traditional/folk/personal practice of Reiki inform the professional practice?

Collation Summary

<p><i>Respect and understanding of the Folk/traditional practice forms the core and lays the foundation for professional practice, hence honouring traditional Reiki teachings.</i></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Letter of Intention 	Mc 03
<p>Art comes from within the person through into the professional.</p> <p>Personal integrity → ensuring professional integrity.</p> <p>Reiki is distinct from other therapies because of the use of self-treatment as part of the ART. This is the foundation of folk practice.</p> <p>Standards must flow from the Art</p> <p>PROFESSIONAL PRACTITIONER = ART+ EXTENSION OF SELF + PROFESSIONAL FRAMEWORK</p> <p>Ie. Self (values, self treatment and Reiki precepts) + Professional (standards of professional practice)</p> <p>Art is the foundation of professional practice</p>	B 02
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reverence/Respect for the Reiki Energy itself ▪ Through the teacher <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ The connection between ART and profession is teaching. It is the teaching of the ART which influences professional practice (initial teacher establishes a foundation on which to build). □ Reiki is an art and also a profession – putting forward standards can preserve it. The gift you are given in a class is what we have to honour (the art of healing). The level of awareness is what they receive. It is coming back to the teachings. It is necessary to upgrade all the time – it is the only way to preserve it. ▪ A Way of life. ▪ Professionals need to take time out for their own Healing ▪ Reiki can inform professional practice by broadening your own practice and staying in harmony ▪ Reiki is personal and experiential- no need to believe in it for Reiki to work 	A 03.3 & A 03.5 M 03 N 02 all
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Trusting the energy whilst establishing the standards. 	BD 03 K 03
<p><i>Ensuring and Maintaining connections between Folk Reiki community and Professional Reiki practitioners</i></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Work Together (in Workplace) - Practise together (Accreditation/Assessment –Hours for Standard) ▪ Keep support groups going on a regular basis. ▪ Have Conventions (Group Gatherings) - Discussions (interactions) - Formal Event 	A 03.5
<p><i>Clear definitions around Reiki for community and general public</i></p>	N 02

<i>Common Professional Purpose/Vision building from the Folk Practice</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mission statement (professional) anchors/unites everyone and there is alignment to the mission statement/vision. ▪ Honouring the individuality of each practitioner. ▪ The application of the disciplines/ the art will reflect the person’s level of professional experience and the transition from novice to professional incorporating all stages along the way. 	M 02

Synthesis TOPIC 2

By examining the collation the group became aware that there was a number of essential ingredients required for the successful development of professional standards and that Personal Practice and Professional practice are interconnected via these ingredients.

There is the teacher and or mentor.

They lay the foundation of the Art and help us as Reiki folk to honour our practice – The teaching provides recognition of the creative, Spiritual, Nurturing, **SACRED and Humble** traits that are the practice of Reiki.

The art is the personal practice

Also that it is distinct from other therapies because of the use of self-treatment as part of the art.

Art is the foundation of professional practice

Focusing as a starting point on an expression developed at one of the Brisbane DGs:

Professional practitioner = Art + Extension of self + professional framework

and combining this with the other key points in the collation the synthesis team came up with the following diagram:

Put up Diagram 1 –topic 2

[Give group a little time to have a look](#)

There are 5 elements in this picture that are all interconnected.

We have the teaching and self-treatment interacting as two key elements of the Art.

The connection between ART and profession is teaching

And also **the practice is the teacher – self-treatment - earning the wisdom.**

Practice and time (length of experience) need to go hand in hand

It is a Way of life

The art comes from within the person through into the professional.

The professional is an extension of our selves and the ART as we work with the public– the qualities and abilities that we have learn from our teacher and from the practice we take we us on a daily basis.

Finally there is the Professional Framework- which translates to:

- ❑ **Minimum standards for Art being professional**

This framework doesn't exist yet as a recognized pathway to establish professional practitioners to a recognized standard.

So we have it:

The Professional practitioner is informed by the Art + Extension of self + professional framework. The Art itself is maintained by the self honouring the teachings and the practice (self-treatment) which feeds back to the self and the public practice which is then combined with a professional framework.

Notice that these three elements are integrated as symbolized by the green banner that unites and signals the interconnectedness of the three. Also that the arrows connecting each element are two way! It is a fluid movement through and back – like a weave.

I will talk more about the professional framework in topic three but would just like to add another couple of key points from topic two which look more at the individual and the community and understanding who we are in order to work together.

Looking at the Folk Art and extension of the self to work with the public, there is a need to look at the self, that we are all individuals, all with varying experiences of Reiki and of working with the public.

We acknowledgement that there:

- ❑ **are different stages of practice and growth,**
- ❑ **is a natural order**
- ❑ **is room for everybody, room to include all and**
- ❑ **all the pieces (individuals) make a whole, a richness of diversity.**

The stages of growth that we as individuals go through and as a community reflect the natural order.

Perhaps we are recognizing now that Reiki is an art and also a profession...and that putting forward standards will preserve it

There is Room and a Need to honour the individuality of each practitioner.

It doesn't matter what practitioners do as long as they name it.

Again the need for conscious languaging and clarity in definitions comes through:

- ❑ **A DESIRE TO HAVE A DEFINITION OF REIKI**
- ❑ **What Reiki is and what Reiki is not**
- ❑ **Informed consent**
- ❑ **Oral tradition -What does it mean? -Addressing the confusion in the community**

Developing a language which works for us and the wider community

Using all the elements of clear communication: physical, tactile, visual, auditory, and kinesthetic.

From this we may start to look at what is Reiki, what are the connections between practices and Reiki practitioners.

Diagram 2 –topic 2

Additional

Additional

Foundation Usui
Reiki is traceable

Additional

Additional

For example we know that Karuna is traceable to a founder. The founder learnt Usui Reiki. The practice of Karuna includes a part of the practice of Usui Reiki. Therefore there is clear definition establishing Overlap and hence Inclusion.

TOPIC 3

What qualities and abilities could be required of a professional practitioner?

This topic generated quite a lot of material for the group to work with, much of it focused on the professional framework that we talked about in topic two but each group also focused on the individual qualities and abilities of the practitioner as developed by honouring their Reiki practice and teacher.

These next two slides summaries the most common qualities and abilities identified by the discussion groups – a full listing is on the back wall of the conference room.

In setting standards we need to ‘overstate our case’ – articulate what we take for granted.

PRACTITIONER PERSONAL QUALITIES

EMPATHY

INTEGRITY

The ability and capacity to be “with” rather than “doing to”.

ATTITUDE OF SERVICE

WARMTH & PRESENCE

HONESTY/TRUSTWORTHY (with client and self)

COMPASSIONATE/CARING

LISTENING

OWN SELFNESS/SELF EVALUATION

RESPONSIBILITY

FORGIVENESS

CONFIDENCE AND INSPIRE CONFIDENCE IN CLIENT

FAITH (IN OWN ABILITY)

NON-EGO, BALANCED EGO (integration of spiritual nature/personality)

PROFESSIONAL

UNDERSTANDING/OPENESS

WISDOM

SPIRITUALITY (orientation and connection)

RECOGNISING OF THE DIVINE (client and self)

WILLINGNESS TO GROW (psychological –look at life through love)

PRACTITIONER ABILITIES/DEVELOPMENT –GENERAL

Self-treatment (spiritual growth)- professional practitioner must not lose sight of this aspect of the art.

Integrity → values → clear boundaries

MAINTAINING ETHICAL STANDARDS

MAINTAINING CLINICAL STANDARDS

DISCRETION/CONFIDENTIALITY

PROFESSIONAL ATTITUDE AND KNOWLEDGE

KNOWLEDGE OF PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL LIMITATIONS AND BOUNDARIES

SELF AWARENESS (including limitations) AND TAKING CARE OF SELF

SELF ACCOUNTABILITY

WALKING YOUR TALK

RESPONSIBILITY/RELIABLE

TO BE A CLEAR REIKI CHANNEL

ONGOING PROFESSIONAL AND PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT/EDUCATION

CAPACITY/WILLINGNESS TO RECOGNISE WHERE YOU ARE AND TO GROW BEYOND THIS POINT.

Accountable for conduct.

Life-skills, experience and maturity

This demonstrates once again how the Art informs the professional.

The pattern in the discussion groups was generally, once, each group had moved through the more personal qualities and abilities they then began to focus on what were the important criteria from a Reiki perspective and then what were the other recognized requirements beyond Reiki in order to function as a professional practitioner in our society today.

These components i.e. Personal qualities, Reiki skills and experience and other recognized professional skills were then synthesized into 6 skills areas and put together diagrammatically as the outcome of the discussion groups to represent possible skills within a professional framework for Reiki.

I wish to stress here that this is the common output from the participants of the discussion groups. It gives us a solid starting point for us as a community to define the key areas of development required if we wish to move into professional practice. They are not set in stone but are a starting point for further investigation and consultation.

Diagram 1 –topic 3

Put up diagram-give time to look.

Six elements identified – all recognized as skills/ developments required for professional practice – forming the building blocks for a professional framework.

This professional framework is one of three core elements needed to support the development of a professional Reiki practitioner.

Along with:

- **maintaining the connection to the Art through the practice and the teachings,**

which leads to:

- **allowing the Art to flow through the self to the professional practice.**

Looking more closely at the 6 elements contributing to the professional framework, the following skills and abilities were identified.

Treatment Setting and environment:

Professional, private, dedicated treatment space.

Hygienic and safe

Sacred space

Observing Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S) regulations

Legal:

Observing laws:

Local council

Privacy

Discrimination

Harassment,

Taxation

OH&S

Business:

Business registration
Bookkeeping,
Giving receipts,
Insurance
Advertising guidelines

Personal Practice

Qualities and Abilities
Qualities are intrinsic to the Art/practice (recognized for membership)
Abilities are measurable
Treatment experience
Understanding of Reiki
Confidence in Reiki

Professional recognised development:

Certificates: first aid
Anatomy and physiology
Medical terms
Counselling
Membership of professional body
Keeping abreast with the science of Reiki

Treatment management

Informed consent
Confidentiality
Defining practice
No outrageous claims
Referral Skills
Record keeping – case taking skills
Knowledge of how to handle clients with specific needs/problems e.g. Mental or physical health problems
Consistency of client contact and treatment management (communication)
 Conscious languaging (definitions), boundaries,
Correct relationship with client:
 Code of ethics
 Code of practice

Where to from Here?

With an 82% positive response to attend more DGs it is planned to have more DGs in 2004. The discussion groups are an effective way to gain continued regional input from the Reiki community. More groups will be scheduled between October 2003 and May 2004. The idea being that there will be a biannual conference with DGs in between conferences. Topics for the next round of discussion groups will be generated from outcomes from this Perth conference.

The discussion groups also represent an opportunity for people to become more personally involved and contribute their time helping to get the information from the

discussion groups back out to the community for confirmation. The continuation of the project is only possible with the continued support of the community and we are now at the point where we need more resources and people to help. So I hope that this report of outcomes to date has inspired you to actively contribute as we gain momentum for the next step forward.

Conclusions -

- DGs achieved effective participation and consultation within the wider Reiki community.
- Working together to achieve URPA Purpose, aims vision and values.
- Continuing DGs as well as developing other avenues of communication for consultation and negotiation.
- Reporting results from the DGs back out into the Reiki community.
- Inviting more members of the Reiki community to participate in the project - more resources required.
- Creating a common thread in the community - need to provide standards for professional practice.
- Recognising a natural progression as the fear of the unknown dissipates.
- Gaining confidence in our abilities as Reiki folk working with the public to progress into professional practice through our connection to the folk art.
- Valuing Folk Art is the foundation for professional practice.
- **Professional practitioner = Art + Extension of self + professional framework**
- **Professional Framework** = Minimum standards for Art being professional
- Valuing the richness in diversity of practice.
- Defining practices in order to facilitate inclusiveness
- Achieving clarity what is Reiki within the community and wider community
- **Honouring our teachers and practice, Reiki will support us in this process.**