



## **President's Message - World Occupational Therapy Day 2016**

'World Occupational Therapy Day' on October 27th provides a golden opportunity for all occupational therapists, students and occupational therapy assistants to celebrate and promote our wonderful profession.

I personally look forward each year to see the creative ways you all come up with to make a concerted global effort to show the world the magnificent work we do. World Occupational Therapy Day is one of the professions global activities that gives all of us an enormous sense of satisfaction and achievement when we see the huge variety of activities that happen around the world.

Furthermore it provides an added opportunity to celebrate each other and our successes. I hope you have 27th October in your calendar.

Many countries celebrate Occupational Therapy month or week in October, and since 2010, the WFOT has designated 27th October as 'World Occupational Therapy Day', which can be integrated with other national celebrations and promotions of the mission and goals of occupational therapy. This helps to increase the awareness of occupational therapists and society in general of the truly global impact of occupational therapy.

There are some key activities and resources which have become associated with World Occupational Therapy Day which are available for your participation and promotion:

OT24VX - this year has the theme of 'Making it Together'. Join this 24 hour online conference, which will feature 42 presentations – a truly global event to celebrate our profession, colleagues and communities.

OT Global Day of Service – congratulations to all who have volunteered over the past several years as part of World Occupational Therapy Day celebrations. Take this opportunity to volunteer community service for an individual or organisation on 27th October.

### **Free Information and Resources**

The WFOT is pleased to continue to provide a range of resources that you can utilise to help promote the event. Many of these items have been designed exclusively for World Occupational Therapy Day 2016 and they can be downloaded from [Resource Centre](#) > World OT Day:

Guide to World Occupational Therapy Day 2016 – to help you plan and organise the event together with links to exclusive promotional offers.

World Occupational Therapy Day 2016 official logo free for you to download - available in five languages.

Desktop calendars for use as your computer wallpaper – make every day World Occupational Therapy Day.

Social Media Pack with artwork for Facebook and Twitter.

Occupational Therapy International Online Network (OTION) - network with people around the world to share news and ideas about World Occupational Therapy Day at <http://otion.wfot.org/>

**Fundraising**

Use World Occupational Therapy Day as an opportunity to fundraise to help the WFOT support the ongoing development and implementation of the profession internationally.

For details of World Occupational Therapy Day 27 October 2016, and examples of international activities undertaken in 2015 go to:

<http://www.wfot.org/AboutUs/WorldOTDay.aspx>

The WFOT is proud of the many promotional and celebratory activities that happen in communities of occupational therapists, both large and small, in so many countries around the world. Please join the celebration with your local and global community of colleagues.

A new World Occupational Therapy Day video greeting from WFOT President, Marilyn Pattison has been published and can be viewed via this link:

<http://tinyurl.com/WOTD16President>

With best wishes for a successful World Occupational Therapy Day

Marilyn Pattison  
President

October 2016