Conference season around the country
Moving forward together

Tēnā koutou.

Welcome to the Spring issue of the Justices’ Quarterly.

For me, Spring brings a mood of hopefulness. That sense of optimism reminds me of what contemporary poet Anis Mojgani once said: “Shake the dust” (although I am not suggesting we all whip into Spring-cleaning action!). What Mojgani is actually telling us is to not let the dust collect, but to cast off limitations, let go of what might be hindering us, and live life to the fullest.

These words are good reminders to us all, especially when we can easily settle into routine of doing the same things, the same way we have done for years, or taking the attitude “If it ain’t broke, don’t fix it”, mostly for fear of change. Life’s like that. Routines become habits that keep the wheels turning, and familiarity removes the need to think too far beyond the everyday “stuff” of life. Then just when you think that going in that same direction is okay, the sideswipe comes, bringing you to a screeching halt and suddenly you’re forced to think differently. There is nothing like a “Duh!” moment where dusting yourself off and picking yourself up are equally as important as adopting and adapting to change.

In today’s world, characterised by faster innovation, increased reliance on digital systems, wider use of social media platforms and changing demographics, society is changing, and so too are organisations. The Federation is no exception. We must continue to recognise change and adapt accordingly. Fundamentally there will be things that will not change, as these things are the pillars of history that Justices of the Peace rest upon. However, staying true to the objects of our organisation in the 21st century requires a strong commitment to continuous improvement to ensure sustainability for the long term.

For individual Justices that means making sure that you are up to date with how you carry out your duties. For association councils, that may mean taking a good hard look at the succession planning for council positions, or perhaps working on developing new and innovative strategies to engage a greater proportion of members in association activities. As well as making the right decisions, at the right time, for the right reasons, the Federation Board also needs to be responsive and willing to adapt to change.

Challenging old ideas and developing new ways of thinking were central to discussions at the five recent regional conferences. These conferences provided the perfect backdrop for networking and being part of a great sharing environment. Delegates came with their own skills, vision, knowledge and experience, which made engagement between delegates and Board members key to ensuring we are all in it together, planning for the future.

Fellowship, teamwork, energy and hospitality have been key to the success of each conference. Host associations are to be commended for hosting delegates and guests at such a high level. Your efforts certainly showcased community spirit, local sights and facilities, and there is detailed conference coverage elsewhere in this issue.

At a time when regional conferences and AGMs are taking place we are reminded that the Federation is an organisation that runs on the good will of extraordinary people. We can only achieve what we do because of the generosity of the people who volunteer for additional roles beyond fulfilling Justice of the Peace duties. With association AGMs running from August through to early November I take this opportunity to extend a special thank-you to those Justices who step forward to take up association council and education roles, for the additional time you invest in your colleagues and providing access to support, good communications and quality continuing education and guidance.

However, a fundamental challenge associations face is enlarging the group of members who are willing to step up to committee level. Associations can achieve so much when more members are engaged and involved. So if you have thought about contributing to the governance of your association, consider putting your name forward. After all, He rau ringa e oti ai: Many hands make light work.

Thank-you to all associations for the welcome afforded to Board members at AGMs. It is a privilege for us to report progress on the Board’s annual work plan, to meet with exceptional individuals and to acknowledge the good work being done by Justices and associations.

After considerable effort by associations, including the implementation of innovative ideas for education sessions, it is pleasing to report that finally Accreditation statistics have pushed through the 40% barrier, and nationally we have 43% of Justices of the Peace accredited. The associations who are setting bold goals are demonstrating that having the majority of their members accredited is achievable, with one association at 72%.

Finally, I would like to place on record the Federation’s thanks to Justice Jan-Marie Doogue, who was Chief District Court Judge from 2011 till recently, when she became a High Court judge. Justice Doogue has seen and been involved in much change and transformation in the Justice system, in addition to managing a demanding schedule. The Federation highly values the leadership that she has given to us as judicial officers. We wish her well in her new role, and look forward to working with her successor.

Finally, Waiho i te toipoto, kaua i te toiroa: Let us keep connected, maintain relationships and dialogue so that we can keep moving forward together.

Rachael O’Grady
Two hours at a busy service desk

By JIM NIVEN

I work at the New Lynn CAB JP service desk each Wednesday. New Lynn is the busiest CAB in the area and one of the busiest in New Zealand.

I have been working at the service desk for over three years and find the 1pm to 3pm sessions (with one Justice) and the 10.30 to 12.30 morning sessions (with two) work well although they are quite demanding.

A high level of concentration and attention is required, along with being friendly and approachable to each client. Two hours is enough - there are no breaks and the reception area is always full. Each client gets a number and anyone with more than 10 certified copies is managed. Clients with excessive copies may be asked to take another slot later in the session.

Over a 12-month period I have recorded that I saw more than 1500 clients. This translates to more than 3500 certified copies, 600 statutory declarations, 30 affidavits and 75 witness documents. I have used my “seal” stamp over 4000 times, my certified copy stamp 3500 times, my address stamp over 600 times, and my exhibit stamp more than 100 times. I have a date stamp to streamline the process and this has been used more than 7500 times.

With the advent of the anti-money laundering legislation I also have a photo-identification stamp used when certifying passports or driver licences, and a new witness stamp to record the document used to identify the witness.

Stamp inking pads wear out and re-inking only lasts a limited time, so new pads are needed at least every two years. These are out of pocket expenses and it is good that they are now covered by our association, along with a grant for replacement stamps for those on service desks.

Not all visits are successful for the client. I have recorded 44 visits as “Not Completed”. Sometimes the client forgets to bring originals, does not have all the required documents, or is not the declarant. Sometimes a JP is not required, for example for passports and for many Immigration New Zealand forms that are self-declarations rather than statutory declarations.

The reaction from clients after receiving our services is rewarding. They are grateful for our help and careful processing, with good explanations (which is especially welcome by those for whom English is a second language, and young people) – and pleased that there is no charge!
**Conference 2020**
Conference 2020 will be held in Hawera over the weekend of February 28-March 1. The Conference will be hosted by the South Taranaki association, and the programme includes the Federation AGM. Registration forms will be available on in the members only section of the website, or via your local association.

**Judicial Studies Course**
The 2020 Judicial Studies Course enrolment process is now open. Associations who have identified a need for more Judicial Justices of the Peace may nominate suitable students to the Federation. The course is a mix of theory and practical exposure to the requirements to sit as a Judicial Justice.

**Website use**
The Federation website was accessed 367,602 times over the twelve months to the end of August. This is an increase of over 24% on the previous year’s visits. Visitors then proceeded to “Find a JP” or “Service Desks" 257,352 times, or approximately 43 times for each Justice listed on the website. It is therefore crucial that the contact information on the website is always kept up to date. Members can update their own physical and email addresses, phone numbers and availability online via “My Account >Account Maintenance".

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**Attention social media users**
For some Justices, accessing and using social media is now an everyday event. For others, it is something that is avoided. Whatever an individual’s views on social media, it is deeply embedded in the society of 2019.

This year there has been a marked increase in the number of complaints about Justices of the Peace using social media in ways which the complainant believes are inappropriate for someone in the role of a Justice. Closer examination often finds that the actions taken, or comments made, would generally be considered inappropriate by any individual, in any setting.

The nature of the comments has prompted the Ministry of Justice to ask the Federation to provide stronger guidance on the way that complaints about social media will be considered.

Social media presents opportunities for communication which can unwittingly become public without the original writer being aware of the exposure. A reader may not have been the intended audience, and the writer may not have stated that they are a Justice of the Peace, but the connection may still be made. Complaints received that arise from social media commentary will be taken seriously. Refreshing ourselves with the expectations of the Code of Conduct and Code of Ethics is strongly recommended.
changes made to these areas are automatically notified to the Federation office and the Ministry of Justice.

However, if a member is going to be absent for an extended period (for example as the result of illness or being on holiday), they should contact the Federation administrator and provide the period of absence.

Accreditation
Accreditation status has now been achieved by over 42% of members. Of those who have sat the test in the past twelve months, 75% passed on the first attempt. Most associations are now offering extensive assistance for those who are yet to become accredited, and further information is included in this magazine in the Education pages.

Nominations for the Board
The Federation Board consists of the Immediate Past President, the President, Vice-President and four regional representatives. Elections are held annually for the latter six positions and nominations are made via local associations. The nomination period closes on November 1, and elections are held for regional representatives immediately after that date. The elections for President and Vice-President are held at the AGM.

KiwiBuild thanks you
Since the introduction of KiwiBuild Justices have been involved in what may have seemed like endless iterations of the forms required to be completed by applicants. Last month I was asked by the KiwiBuild team to attend a ballot for KiwiBuild home ownership to witness the draw. The team asked me to convey their appreciation of the commitment shown by Justices to the KiwiBuild documentation. They understand the issues that had arisen because of changing requirements and were most appreciative of the role Justices of the Peace have played.

Please continue to check that the forms you are presented with are the current versions.

New Justices sworn in at a special sitting of the Wellington District Court recently are from left [with presiding Judge Bill Hastings, centre] Jillian Wilkinson, Wynn Ingram, Brad Olsen and Tahir Nawaz. Picture: DUANE WILLIAMS
Gmail tips and tricks

Compiled by SARAH GILLARD

Let Smart Compose help you respond more quickly

Gmail’s Smart Compose feature finishes your sentences for you. When you begin typing out an email, Gmail’s artificial intelligence algorithm will guess what you’re trying to say. By pressing the Tab key, the suggestion will automatically populate the email. It’s like we’re finishing each other’s —

To turn on Smart Compose, go to Settings → General, then turn on the Smart Compose button. By simultaneously enabling Personalisation, Google’s AI will tailor its composition suggestions to your preferences and habits. You can even provide feedback for Smart Compose so that this feature can learn your preferences and style. To do this, go to the More Options button at the bottom of your email toolbar next to the trash icon and select Smart Compose Feedback.

Cut corners with keyboard shortcuts

Gmail has many keyboard shortcuts that can make it far easier to manage your inbox. Watch your email compose screen suddenly appear when you press the letter C, or automatically visit your drafts by clicking B+D. Gmail has dozens of customisable shortcuts that can make your life easier.

Go to Settings → Advanced and enable Keyboard Shortcuts. Now there should be a tab for keyboard shortcuts in the settings window where you can view and customise your options. You’ll need to make sure that keyboard shortcuts are also turned on in Settings → General → Keyboard Shortcuts.

Un-send an email

The momentary panic that sets in when you write “Dear Kylie” instead of “Dear Kendall” on that email is now and forever officially handled. Gmail now has the option to recall a sent message for up to 30 seconds after you’ve sent it.

To set this up, go to the Settings icon in the top right-hand corner of your Gmail homepage, choose Settings → General, then toggle on Undo Send. You can decide how long you have before the option to call your email back from the inter-net chasm disappears. Nervous Nellies can opt for the 30-second option, while the Masochistic Marges can select five seconds.

Source: www.time.com
A few facts about Accreditation

Your Accreditation record

Can you tell me if I’m Accredited?
This is something you can check yourself. Log into the website and select this link:

Go to Accreditation

This will take you to the Accreditation page. At the bottom of the page you will see a box that will indicate whether you are currently Accredited and when your Accreditation will expire.

If you are Accredited, the box will look like this:

Your accreditation is valid to: Day Month Year

If you are not Accredited, the box will say:

Your accreditation has expired

Can you tell me when my Accreditation expires?
Following the instructions above, you can find out the date that your Accreditation will expire.

Can you enter my training dates for me?
This is something you need to do yourself. Follow the instructions above to find the Accreditation page. There you can record your latest attendance at a training session.

My previous training dates aren’t listed.
Don’t worry, this is normal. When you enter your most recent training date, it overwrites your previous record. Make sure you enter your most recent training date.

(Don’t enter an older date when you realise you forgot to record it earlier!)
Sitting the test

I think that the answer is wrong – what should I do about it?

Read your manual to find the information on which the question is based. If you cannot find the relevant chapter/paragraph, ask your local trainer for help. If you still do not agree with the answer or understand the question, discuss it with your local trainer.

Can I sit the test on paper and mail it in?

No, the only way for your answers and results to be entered into the system is for you to log into the website and sit the test online. We do not have a paper version of the test available.

Re-sitting the test

I only have to sit the test once, correct?

Accreditation lasts for two years, then it expires. You will need to sit the test at least every two years.

Can I attend training in lieu of sitting the test?

Accreditation is a two-step process – attendance at training and passing the test. You must complete each step.

How much time do I have to sit the test?

There is no time limit for sitting the Accreditation test. However, there is no mechanism for you to save your progress.

If you close the tab or window in which you have the test open, the system will record your partial attempt as a fail. This may also happen if you leave the page open and unattended for too long and your computer refreshes the page.

In other words, take your time, but you will need to sit the test in one sitting.

Since the current questions were introduced in 2018, 74% of Justices have passed the test on their first attempt.

I’m re-sitting the test – why am I being asked 50 questions instead of only the questions I answered incorrectly the first time?

Are you re-sitting the Accreditation test within three months of your first attempt?

If you do not pass the test on your first attempt, you will only be asked the questions you answered incorrectly when you sit the test again. The questions, however, will be renumbered from 1. For example, if you answered seven questions incorrectly on your first attempt, you will be asked seven questions on your next attempt and these questions will be numbered 1 through to 7.

Are you re-sitting the Accreditation test more than three months after your first attempt?

If you have unsuccessfully attempted Accreditation, you have three months to re-sit and pass the test. If you do not re-sit the test within three months, your progress will be re-set and you will be asked 50 questions on your next attempt.

Do the questions change when I re-sit the test?

No, you will be asked the same questions that you answered incorrectly on your previous attempt.
From time to time the Accreditation test questions may be updated, but this does not happen more than once a year.

**Why didn’t I receive an email when I failed the test?**

Emails are sent automatically from the website after you submit your answers to the test. If you cannot find the email in your inbox:

- Check that your contact details on the website are up to date and that your email address is entered correctly.
- Check your junk/spam folder. Emails sent from the Justice of the Peace website are sometimes labelled as spam by email providers.

**Does the email I receive when I fail the test give the answers to the questions I answered incorrectly?**

No, it doesn’t. The email will list the questions you answered incorrectly but it will not provide the answer. Use this list to find the correct answer (i.e., to determine whether the statement is true or false) in the manual.

**The email I received doesn’t include the list of questions I answered incorrectly.**

If this is your second or subsequent attempt, the email will not list the questions you answered incorrectly. Look at the email you received after your first unsuccessful attempt for the list.

**Where can I find the answers to the test?**

Every question is based on information found in the Justice of the Peace manual. Questions may not use the exact same words as the manual, so you should approach the questions pragmatically.

**I failed the test again and now I must wait seven days. Can I sit it earlier?**

Sometimes the Federation receives requests to enable a Justice of the Peace to re-sit their Accreditation test earlier than the stand-down period allows. The only way that we can grant a Justice earlier access to the test is to re-set the Justice’s progress. This means the Justice will need to sit the full test, with 50 questions, all over again.

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**After the test . . .**

**I sat the test. Why am I not Accredited?**

Accreditation is a two-step process. You achieved step one - passing the test – well done! You also need to achieve step two – attend an education session and record your attendance on the Accreditation page.

**What if I forget about my Accreditation expiry date?**

You will receive an email three months before the date your Accreditation expires.

**I didn’t receive my reminder email.**

These emails are sent automatically from the website three months before your Accreditation expires. To ensure you receive this email, make sure your email address is up to date on the website. You can do this by selecting the image below once logging onto the website.

Sometimes emails sent from the Justice of the Peace website are labelled as spam. Look in your junk/spam folder in your email to see if any previous emails sent to you by the Federation have been sent to this folder. If they have, you can mark the email “not spam.” How you do this will depend on your email provider. This will indicate to your email provider that you are interested in reading any future emails from the Federation.
Have you updated your education session record?

Sometimes we focus so much on the Accreditation test that we forget the second half of Accreditation – attending an education programme and recording the details of your attendance on the website.

You can record the details of the most recent training session you attended by logging into the Justice of the Peace website and going to the Accreditation page.

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**Step 1** Click on the calendar symbol and scroll through the calendar to find the date you attended training. Click on that date to load it into the “Date Attended” box.

**Step 2** Type in the name and place of the session you attended. If the session did not have a name, you can write KU2D (which stands for ‘Keeping Up To Date’).

**Step 3** Click the small square above the “Submit” button. A tick will appear.

**Step 4** Select the “Submit” button. You will not be able to do this if you have not completed step three.

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Justice of the Peace numbers

*Your JP number is not an official number, it is administrative.*

Your number is not an acceptable substitute for your signature. Documents prescribed by law, such as affidavits, specifically require your signature and name.

Because your number is an administrative tool, it is never legally required. Some organisations, however, have come to expect Justices of the Peace to include an identifying number with their signature. Your number is also useful for the Federation to identify you when we receive inquiries from agencies who are investigating a document you have signed.

*Your JP number will never be legislatively required, but it is a useful and expected addition to your signature and name.*
The phone debate

Landlines are facing a steady decline in New Zealand. Mobile phones are becoming the primary means of communication for individuals and households. Businesses are also adopting more mobile operating processes and are ditching landlines for cellphones.

Accompanying this change in communication, attitudes regarding “appropriate” ways to communicate are also changing.

A few decades ago, calling a Justice of the Peace’s landline was the only option available to the public. Many still believe that calling a stranger to make an appointment is the politest form of communication. They may consider texting too informal and as a means of contacting friends and family only.

Others are more comfortable texting a Justice of the Peace to make an appointment. Texts enable the recipient to respond within their own time. This can be less intrusive than a phone call which requires immediate attention and may interrupt the Justice when they are busy.

Whichever school of thought you belong to, you need to be prepared to be contacted by people who have different opinions about what is polite and appropriate. One benefit of being a Justice of the Peace is that you meet people with perspectives, backgrounds and practices different from your own. Enjoy the opportunity.
JP (Retired) option after 10 years’ service

You are eligible for JP (Retired) status if you have completed 10 or more years’ service. You may also be eligible for JP (Retired) status even though you have not served for 10 years if the Secretary for Justice thinks it appropriate in the circumstances. This exception recognises that extenuating circumstances such as poor health can prevent Justices from continuing to serve the community.

Why should I retire?

Are you finding it difficult to remain Accredited? Are you having trouble understanding what clients need you to do? Retirement enables you to step back from demands of the Justice of the Peace role having contributed a decade or longer to serving your community.

‘Justice of the Peace’ is a lifelong appointment

Does retirement mean I give up my lifelong appointment as a Justice of the Peace?

No! JP (Retired) status recognises your lifelong appointment as a Justice of the Peace and your 10 or more years’ service. It allows you to retain your Justice of the Peace status without any pressure to keep up to date, sit Accreditation tests or make yourself available to the public.

How do I retire?

If you would like to retire, contact your association registrar. The registrar will notify the Federation of your application to retire. The Federation will coordinate with the Ministry of Justice to submit your request to the Secretary for Justice.

Once your retirement has been published in the New Zealand Gazette, your association will be advised, and a JP (Retired) certificate and badge will be sent to your association for presentation to you.

This process will take approximately eight weeks.

Can I still do Justice of the Peace work once I have retired?

No, you will no longer be legally authorised to undertake Justice of the Peace work. You can remain a member of your local association, attend meetings and continue to receive the magazine.

Can I still call myself a Justice of the Peace?

Yes. You can use “JP (Retired)” after your name.
Can I certify this?

A client has asked me to make a certified copy which is a little unusual because:

- The original is in an unusual form.
- The copy is in an unusual form.
- The way they want me to certify the copy is unusual.

Can I certify this copy?

- Do the receiving agency’s instructions indicate that the original/copy/certifying method is acceptable?
- If there are no instructions or the instructions are not clear, has the client contacted the receiving agency to check whether the original/copy/certifying method would be acceptable to them? And has the agency confirmed this would be acceptable?

If yes to one of the above, consider certifying the copy:

- Be truthful and clear when certifying.
- Where possible, specify the unusual nature of the original/copy/certifying method in your certification statement.

In every case try to:

- Do your best for the agency and your client.
- Make any reservations clear to your client.
- To be truthful and accurate in what and how you are certifying.
- To find a pragmatic solution.

QUIZ

Would you refuse to certify a copy?

Yes/No/Maybe

1. The copy isn’t in colour like the original.
2. The instructions provided by the receiving agency do not say a New Zealand Justice of the Peace is authorised as a certifier.
3. The client refuses to show you the original.
4. The client doesn’t have the original, but family overseas can show it to you via video chat.
5. The client doesn’t have a paper version of the original document. They say the document’s original form is electronic and they can show you the original online.
6. The copy will be sent to an agency overseas.
7. The copy is missing the first two pages of the original document.
8. The document is written entirely in French.
9. The client wants a copy of their credit card.
10. The client wants a copy of somebody else’s credit card.
Answers to quiz • From P11

1. Certify except in rare cases.
   In most instances, receiving agencies do not require copies to be in colour. If the agency has specified this as a requirement, then recommend the client make colour copies.

2. Maybe.
   Have the client check with the receiving agency to ensure they will accept a document certified by you. If unable to check with the agency, the client may still want you to certify the document. Only certify once you have made it clear that you are unsure whether the document will be accepted and once the client has indicated they are happy to proceed despite the possibility the document will not be accepted.

3. Refuse.
   The point of certifying a copy is to certify that the document is an accurate copy of the original. This is what receiving agencies trust Justices of the Peace to do when they accept documents certified by them.

   In most cases, you will likely refuse to do this. However, if the receiving agency is satisfied that this method of observing the original document for certification purposes is sufficient, and you are comfortable that you can adequately compare the original and copy in this way, you may consider certifying.
   Certification is a method by which agencies can have confidence that the copied documents they receive are accurate. If an agency is willing to accept a copy that has been subject to a lesser level of scrutiny, that is their prerogative. It is also the prerogative of an agency to insist that the original document be examined in person.

5. Certify.
   Just like online bank statements or text messages, documents can originate in electronic form. We are becoming more familiar with certain documents, such as statements and bills, being in electronic form. As the world becomes more electronic, expect to see more documents issued online only.
   Sometimes difficulties arise when you are asked to certify a copy of an online document that you suspect is a copy itself. One solution is to be explicit in your certification statement about how and what you are certifying.

6. Certify unless you are not authorised.
   The client will need to check with the receiving agency that a New Zealand Justice of the Peace is authorised to certify the copy. Make sure you refer to yourself as a Justice of the Peace for New Zealand.

7. Maybe.
   If the client is asking you to certify that the copy is a copy of the entire original document, this would require you to be dishonest and you could not certify the document.
   However, you may consider certifying the document and making it clear that you are certifying part of a document. For instance, you may include in your certification statement how many pages the document has and what pages you are certifying.

8. Certify.
   You don’t need to be able to read French to compare whether the two documents look the same.

   Clients may need a copy of their credit card for any number of reasons, for example AML identification purposes (in which case you should ask for instructions).
   Hotels have asked for certified copies when guests have had to unexpectedly prolong their stay and are unable to leave their only credit card with the hotel, for assurance payment will be made.
   You may want to encourage the client to be careful with any copies they make of their credit card.

10. Maybe.
    It would certainly be an unusual situation for a client to require a certified copy of somebody else’s credit card. But there may be a perfectly good reason. The reason may be similar to why clients sometimes ask you to certify a copy of a passport that isn’t their own.
    If the certified copy is being sought for the credit card’s owner to meet AML requirements with an agency, then the owner will need to present in person as with any other AML-related certification.
    To put your mind at ease and to ascertain that the client has good reason for their request, ask about the purpose of the certified copy before proceeding. It would be helpful if the client had supporting documents, such as instructions from the organisation they intend to send the copy to.
Gore hosts Southern region

By Southern Regional Representative LINDSAY DOW  Pictures: GRAEME BARBER

The Gore association hosted a very friendly and successful Southern Regional Conference at the Croydon Lodge Hotel over the weekend of August 24-25. Federation President Rachael O’Grady, Vice-President Terry Byrne and National Manager Tony Pugh joined us for the event.

While there were some teething issues with the duration of the conference in the planning stages, these were overcome and the programme ran to schedule. Gore were unable to get local kaumatua to offer a powhiri as there was a local “unveiling” that day.

Welcoming speeches by Gore president Jo Gardyne and the Gore District Mayor, Tracy Hicks JP, opened the conference. Mayor Hicks challenged the members to consider what the “collective noun” is for a gathering of Justices of the Peace.

An address by Rachael O’Grady was well received and generated excellent feedback. I then presented a discussion paper on hosting rights/travel equalisation with a spreadsheet to indicate mileages for attendance at the various host associations by our member associations. Some excellent discussion took place and the consensus was that the present rotational system be maintained, but that a travel subsidy be considered.

Tony Pugh was next up, discussing Federation matters. This was also well received and some feedback was given.

A break for afternoon tea was followed by a guest speaker, Horace McAuley JP, the chairman of the Mataura Licensing Trust (the owners of our conference venue), who extolled the virtues of a licensing trust which puts money back into the community. One aspect he highlighted was that all school-age children receive free swimming lessons as part of that community involvement.

Rachael then addressed the conference on Complaints – Policy and Procedures. This was very informative and gave direction on the aspects of dealing with non-member JP complaints.

The conference then broke up to prepare for a short mini-bus trip to the Eastern Southland Gallery, where our knowledgeable host Jim Geddes gave an enlightened address on the works of Auguste Rodin and Ralph Houtere, who have exhibits in the gallery. We also viewed the Dr John Money Collection – that of an American philanthropist who favours the gallery with numerous exhibits.

From the gallery we went across the road to the Hokonui Moonshine Museum, where genuine moonshine is distilled, and where Rachael found a piece of her own heritage, as a Fleming of the famous Fleming’s Creamoata. The museum reflects a very interesting part of rural Southland history during the times of temperance. Several members took advantage of the “shots” being offered and also purchased a bottle or two to take home.

We were back at the Croydon for the well-presented conference dinner, at which we were entertained by local high school students Abby Gutschlag and Gemma Bullied, who are enjoying success in the country music scene, individually...
A regional conference provides an opportunity for Justices of the Peace to confer, socialise and network. It is a time for delegates to get the latest updates from the Federation President and National Manager. It is also a time for delegates to contribute ideas, extend knowledge, update skills and experience learning during the various workshops, discussions and plenary sessions and, because of the education and learning component of the programme, it is a time which counts towards Accreditation as an education session.

Those who attended the two Central Regional Conferences made the most of the time available. Everyone participated with focus and energy in each of the various sessions and activities, demonstrating positive teamwork and partnership.

The conference theme was “People and Partnerships”. Having a diverse range of backgrounds and experience within our membership, the strong thread that binds each of us together is the service we provide in the role of Justices of the Peace. We are each one piece of a jigsaw that fits neatly within the entire institution of Justice.

The dates of the Central Regional Conferences happened to coincide with Cook Islands Language Week, which was being celebrated as part of the United Nations International Year of Indigenous Languages. In the words of Minister for Pacific Peoples (and Associate Minister of Justice) Aupito William Sio: “Our languages are a key part of our individual and community wellbeing.” To acknowledge Cook Islands Language Week, Cook Islands greetings and farewells were included at both venues.

Communication is an essential aspect of being a Justice of the Peace. Effective partnerships are de-
developed through good communication. The common themes that emerged in the discussion Partnerships with a Purpose were to respect all equally, to establish trust and to be committed to maintaining ongoing competence. The principles of partnership constitute a doctrine of knowledge derived from learning, practice and experience.

During the workshop sessions there was some very lively discussion, each resulting in interesting recommendations. The first workshop was in relation to the annual Federation Conference, arising from responses to the survey after this year’s Conference in Marlborough. It explored two questions: the first looked at ways in which general Conference delegates could be engaged during the time presidents and registrars meet, and the other explored the place of the church service in the programme. There was also some very focused and thoughtful consideration in workshopping various options for the JP Education Trust.

As Justices of the Peace we will come across clients from a heterogeneity of backgrounds, culture, gender, abilities, dress code and perspectives. Maintaining partnerships through positive communication to colleagues and clients via digital technology and social media platforms is just as vital as face-to-face communication.

Our roles as Justices of the Peace is all about human values and this was demonstrated in the address from Virginia Goldblatt. Her extensive background in dispute resolution demonstrated her appreciation of the importance of the role of Justices of the Peace. She emphasised the importance of tolerance, including reference to Aristotle’s Artistic Theory. While we can’t change particular personal characteristics such as our age and genes, we can take heed of Aristotle’s three tenets: ethos, pathos and logos. Ethos is the credibility, trust and respect accorded the Justice who brings skills, knowledge and experience to the table when serving a client. Pathos is the empathy required by a Justice when listening to the views and request of the client. The ability to understand the purpose of the service, know the details and deliver the process is the logos. As Justices of the Peace we must have the qualities of ethos and pathos to execute the required task for the client with efficiency and competence.

The tone of an email, text or other form of written communication is as important as the tone used by a Justice of the Peace in any face-to-face communication. Communication is key in influencing a client’s perception of the service received from a Justice of the Peace. Credible communication achieves positive partnerships between colleagues, clients and community.

In the words of the late John F Kennedy: “Partnership is not a posture but a process - a continuous process that grows stronger each year as we devote ourselves to common tasks.” Although the common tasks of Justices of the Peace remain the same, we continue to strive to maintain an evolving process of ongoing competence with a professional attitude.

Thank you to all who attended, participated and engaged in this year’s Central Regional Conferences.

Meitaki ma’ata: Thank you. Kia manuia: Best wishes.

Exchanging ideas old and new

By Northern Regional Representative NIGEL TATE

This year’s Northern Regional Conference was ably hosted by the Bay of Plenty association in Tauranga over the weekend of August 31-September 1. The venue was the Armitage Hotel and Conference Centre which although in the midst of a refurbishment, proved to be quite a good venue.

Fifty JPs registered for the conference, along with 12 partners. All nine associations were in attendance and arrived in a positive frame of mind, intent on sharing ideas and learning new ones. We
mixed the attendees up in such a way as to get a range of individual views on the various topics, and this seemed to work well.

Federation President Rachael O’Grady spoke on the “Why” we do what we do and how this is perceived by our clients. She also covered ongoing competency and the complaints process. Federation Vice-President Terry Byrne led the consultation around the Education Trust and its future, which elicited some really valuable discussion and recommendations.

The first day concluded with a workshop around educational processes and tools for Justices in which each association shared what is working for them and what isn’t.

Saturday evening was enjoyed at the Tauranga Club, where after a good meal and some very pleasant wine, we heard from the Bay of Plenty association patron, District Court Judge Tom Ingram, who had us both laughing and in deep contemplation over some of his experiences on the bench over the years. There was subtle but enjoyable musical entertainment from one of Tauranga’s young performers throughout the evening.

Unfortunately the scheduled guest speaker for Sunday morning was ill so was unable to attend, but National Manager Tony Pugh used this time as well as his own with a presentation on how we are looking demographically and how things have changed in this area over the past five decades. The average age of appointment in 2019 seems to be in the 55-68 range while in 1969 it was in the 39-49 range. Tony then covered the appointments process and timeframes. It seems that there is a misconception that either the Federation or the Ministry of Justice are delaying the processing of new appointments, but we saw that most of the delays are through individuals not being available for interviews or initial training. This confirmed that there is a range of between four months and in an extreme case, 20 months from nomination to appointment. The average for the Northern region was 301 days.

Auckland Regional Representative Gary Nicholls led a discussion around the Federation Conference programme and again this led to some very good debates on attendees’ preferences.

The conference finished up with an open forum, which could have gone for quite a bit longer, and discussion of remits for Federation Conference 2020. The final presentation was from the 2020 conference hosts, Northland, inviting us all to Whangarei in September 2020.

After the conference each association was sent a survey to elicit feedback around the content and organisation of the two days, with all but one association responding in time for this report. It was felt by most that the content was about right but there was a desire for a little more time to expand on some of the items covered, and to share more between associations around policies and procedures. It was also made clear that the sound equipment and acoustic properties of any venue used can significantly affect the event.

CROSSWORD

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6 Sanctimony
8 Lulls
11 Edward Wakefield, masterminded the large-scale British settlement of NZ
12 Fittings
13 Wretched
14 Squad
16 Relax
18 Tapering stone pillars
20 Seizure

DOWN:
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2 Fable writer
3 Repealed
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PURSUANT to section 3 (1) of the Justices of the Peace Act 1957, Her Excellency the Governor-General has been pleased to appoint the following persons to be Justices of the Peace for New Zealand.

Benstead, Peter David, Porirua
Boyd-Manson, Richard David, Otatara
Chittock, Elizabeth Anne, Gore
Fallon, Bridget Amanda, Mangawhai
Fisher, Michael Raymond Francis, Lower Hutt
Gore, Araceli, Levin
Grant, Douglas Ian, Gore
Handy, Gordon Stuart, Timaru
Hardy, Jill Elizabeth, Marton
Harmon, Tania Karen, Cheviot
Hills, Vicki Marie, Lawrence
Hutchinson, Karen Margaret, Thames
Ingram, Wynn Best, Waikanae
Mehta, Ervin, Kerikeri
Mir, Azher Mohammad Khalil, Blenheim
Mist, James Mason, Hastings
Nawaz, Tahir, Wellington
Nugegoda, Nihal Senevirathne, Hamilton
Olsen, Bradley Mark, Wellington
Pareanga Samuel, Taime Cindarella Toku Oriaere, Hastings
Pascoe, Patricia Anne, Hamilton
Randhawa, Jujhar Singh, Hamilton
Retallick, Jo-Ann Mary, Amberley
Sandifer, Natalie Cheri, Whakatane
Schollum, Heather Margaret, Lower Hutt
Sebastian, Danny, Hamilton
Shearer, Kirsty, Ashburton
Sridharan, Ushaa, Hamilton
Steer, Claire Elizabeth, Pauanui Beach
Thompson, Wendy Kathleen, Lower Hutt

Wilkinson, Jillian Ann, Wellington
Yates, Mercia-Dawn Maraea, Rotorua

Dated at Wellington this 29th day of July 2019
Hon Aupito William Sio
Associate Minister of Justice

List updated

To the appointments published in the July Quarterly, dated June 2 2019, please add:
Favel, Donna Maree, Ashburton
Quinn, Jane, Auckland

and replace:
Meiklejohn, Faye Maree, Auckland
with:
Meiklejohn, Fay Maree, Auckland

and replace:
Tan, Valerie Tse Yeen, Dunedin
with:
Tan, Valerie Tze Yeen, Dunedin

Dated at Wellington this 24th day of June 2019
Andrew Kibblewhite
Chief Executive and Secretary for Justice

THE NZ JUSTICES’ QUARTERLY
Published in January, April, July and October

Opinions expressed in this journal, whether editorially or by contributors, do not necessarily represent the views of the Royal Federation of New Zealand Justices’ Association (Inc). Contributions on matters affecting Justices and their associations are particularly welcome, but all contributions are subject to the discretion of the Editor.

Contributors are requested to forward matter to the Editor, Geoff Davies 81 Warwick St, Wilton, Wellington, 6012, Phone 04-472-5566, email merlin81@xtra.co.nz, to reach him not later than the last day of November, February, May and August to be available for publication in the upcoming issue.

Readers are requested to promptly inform the registrar of their local Justices of the Peace association of any change in their address. Numerous Quarterlies are returned marked “gone no address”, “Redirection order expired” “Deceased” or “Not a box holder on rural delivery”, etc.

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