

REPORT TO NZAP AGM, MARCH 2021

From the Honorary Secretary

This report reflects the general difficulty of recruiting members to the various offices of Council and Branches as I am writing in the role of Acting Honorary Secretary for much of the last year. It remains an issue for a number of positions needing filling on Council and elsewhere.

Council has continued to meet online throughout the last year but the first meeting for 2021 will be face to face, a welcome change after so many Zoom meetings. It is a measure of each person's commitment that we have had only one person leaving Council after the 2020 AGM although we continue to miss Sue Jones, our previous Honorary Secretary, who also left at that time.

It is with sadness and appreciation that we farewell Daniel Larsen from the position of Chair of the Ethics and Professional Standards Committee and membership of Council. He has been a vocal active member with invaluable input around specifically ethical matters but more generally in discussions. This position is, as yet, unfilled.

This year we also farewell Vicky Blake who is stepping down from Treasurer after three years. For most members, the work of the NZAP Treasurer is completely invisible if even thought about. The irony is that the role can be a lynch pin in any organisation and in fact Vicky has overseen a complete re-working of our book-keeping and accounting practices. This has involved a huge amount of time and effort with multiple people, organisations and relationships, quite apart from the normal work of addressing financial issues arising in all sorts of contexts. NZAP really does owe Vicky a huge amount and we can't thank her enough for her thoughtful, honest, intelligent and at times courageous steering of our financial ship.

Possibly due to the chaos and disruption of Covid we did not receive any nominations for Life Membership, Distinguished Service Award or the Tohu o Te Pihi Award.

Once again it is with pleasure that I can also appreciate Nikky, our Executive Officer, for her seemingly tireless diligence in maintaining many different strands to the running of NZAP. Her work goes far beyond simple administration, being involved in the publication of both our Newsletter and Journal, planning and running of conferences, sorting out a host of different questions and problems from ordinary members and not least being the 'go to' person for any of us with a question on what is going on inside and out of Council. All our thanks to you Nikky.

This will be one of my last official acts on Council. I will be stepping down from this and other duties in the upcoming AGM. I am grateful to have been involved in many different levels on Council and am relieved to leave with such a strong team of people in place. To my colleagues on Council I salute you for your tremendous goodness of heart and mind, your intelligence and caring, your humour and humanity. We are blessed to have you.

Gerald Maclaurin