

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE
ASSOCIATION OF PSYCHOTHERAPISTS AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND (INC.)
HELD AT 7:00PM ON WEDNESDAY 24 JUNE 2026 ONLINE VIA ZOOM**

PRESENT

John O'Connor (President), Vijay Mahantesh (Honorary Secretary), Catriona Cairns, Claire Miranda, Jo McKenzie, Kate Dent Rennie, Kathryn MacKenzie, Phoebe Hunter, Susan Horne, Verity Armstrong, Anna Hinehou Fleming, Gavin Stansfield, Lesley Brokenshire, Gabriela Mercado, Jo Struthridge, John McAlpine, Louise de Lambert, Marianne Quinn, Patricia Ford, Robert Shaw, Agnès Desombiaux-Sigley, Ann, Carroll, Avrael Semple, Carlyne Jamieson, Catherine Gilberd, Clare Greensmith, Diane Clare, Dianne Hendey, Evelyn Shackley, Helen, Helen Florence, Ingrid Gunby, Isabella Van Hoyer, John, Judy, Julia P, Juliet Perano, Kerry Thomas-Anttila, Kiersten, Louise Player-Bishop, Lucy Gamlen, Lynn Holdem, Lynley McCristell, Mark Crozier, Minh Truong-George, Paige Tiedeman, Penny Kennett, Ren, Rick Williment, Ros Lewis, Roz Broadmore, Sandra Buchanan, Sarah Tritt, Seán Manning, Steffi, Tatjana Walters, and Carmel Lai.

PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

John O'Connor opened the meeting with a karakia – then welcomed everyone.

1. APOLOGIES AND PROXY VOTES

2. Apologies

Benda, Levien, Eileen Birch, Liadan Cotter, Victoria Smith, Delia Crozier, Barbara Bassett, John Savage, Sandra Winton, Eric Medcalf, Brenda Scarr, Katherine Savage (for lateness), Roz Broadmore (for leaving early).

Proxies	Appoints
Kyle MacDonald	Lynne Holdem
Crispin Balfour	Lynne Holdem
Delia Crozier	Carolyne Jamieson
Sandra Winton	Lynne Holdem
Annie Beentjes	John Farnsworth
Griffin Madill	John Farnsworth
Lucie Belton	John Farnsworth
Mary Ferguson	John Farnsworth

2. Notices

Verity Armstrong advised that Waka Oranga will provide their reports to APANZ after the Waka Oranga AGM on Sunday 28 June.

3. Acknowledgements

The passing of Jeremy Younger, a much-loved NZAP/APANZ member, was acknowledged. Memories of his creativity, sense of humour and unique voice were shared by several people and members are asked to write their reflections on Jeremy and submit these to the Newsletter. Blessings to Jeremy and to all who loved him.

4. Confirmation of the Minutes of the 2025 Annual General Meeting

Motion: *That the minutes of the 2025 AGM, which have been published on the APANZ website, be accepted as a true and accurate record of that meeting.*

Moved: John O'Connor

Seconded: Catriona Cairns

- Carried unanimously

5. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

6. Correspondence

John gave the meeting an update on correspondence regarding the recent resignations of all members of the PBANZ board. APANZ has issued a press release and been involved in media interviews. We have written to the Minister of Health and the Minister of Mental Health with no direct responses received to date. We are now working with AHANZ (Allied Health Aotearoa New Zealand) to participate in a meeting with Martin Chadwick, the Allied Health Professions Officer at the Ministry of Health

7. Remit for awarding of Life Membership to John O'Connor

Motion: *"Council nominates John O'Connor for life membership of the Association of Psychotherapists Aotearoa New Zealand (APANZ) in recognition of his significant contribution to the advancement of psychotherapy and sustained service to the Association"*

Moved: Vijay Mahesh

Seconded: Kate Dent Rennie

John O'Connor withdrew from the meeting while the motion was presented and discussed.

Motion: *That the motion be amended to read "John O'Connor be awarded Life Membership of the Association of Psychotherapists Aotearoa New Zealand (APANZ) in recognition of his significant contribution to the advancement of psychotherapy and sustained service to the Association."*

Moved: Kate Dent Rennie

Seconded: Lynne Holdem

- Carried

The amended motion was then voted on.

- Carried

8. Remit for constitutional amendment enabling a President, President-Elect, and Past President to concurrently be members of APANZ Council

***Motion:** “That the phrase ‘and/or’ replace the word ‘or’ which appears immediately before the words ‘the Immediate Past President’ in clause 59 of the APANZ Constitution.”*

***Moved:** Vijay Mahantesh*

***Seconded:** Kate Dent Rennie*

This remit was intended to provide for the possibility of sharing the president’s duties between more than one person, but with a single President-Elect now in place, there is no need for this remit to be passed at this time. The motion was withdrawn by the movers and no other members wished to move it.

9. Introduction of “Ordinary Member” candidates for membership of APANZ Council, to be elected by APANZ members at the AGM

Jo McKenzie and Kathryn MacKenzie both spoke to the meeting giving their reasons for seeking re-appointment to the APANZ Council as an Ordinary Members.

10. Voting for Council positions voted by APANZ members at the AGM:

The following positions were elected:

Ordinary Member – Jo McKenzie

Ordinary Member – Kathryn MacKenzie

11. Reports ([link](#))

Each report presenter spoke to their respective reports, then each was open to discussion, then a vote taken.

A. President’s Annual Report

Motion: John O’Connor, President, moved that his report be accepted.

Seconded: Jo McKenzie

-Carried unanimously

B. Honorary Secretary’s Annual Report

Motion: Vijay Mahantesh, Honorary Secretary, moved that his report be accepted.

Seconded: Gabriela Mercado

-Carried unanimously

C. Honorary Treasurer's Annual Report

Motion: John O'Connor moved that the Treasurer's report be accepted.

Seconded: Kate Dent Rennie

-Carried unanimously

D. Annual Report from the Chair of the ACP Committee

Motion: Catriona Cairns, ACP Chair, moved that her report be accepted.

Seconded: Jo McKenzie

-Carried unanimously

E. He Ara Maori

John advised that after much work, Waka Oranga has had their final accreditation meeting to have the He Ara training pathway accredited by PBANZ. The accreditation was recommended before the PBANZ Board resignations, and this item will be put before the new PBANZ board to approve.

F. Annual Report from the Chair of the Ethics and Professional Standards Committee

Motion: Kate Dent Rennie, Chair of Ethics Committee, moved that her report be accepted.

Seconded: Jo McKenzie

-Carried unanimously

G. Annual Report from the Chair of the Public Issues Committee

Motion: Rick Williment, Public Issues, moved that his report be accepted.

Seconded: Catriona Cairns

-Carried unanimously

H. Annual Report from the Chair of the Whakaoho Aroha-Te Tiriti and Bicultural Committee

Motion: Susan Horne, Chair Whakaoho Aroha-Te Tiriti Bicultural, moved that her report be accepted.

Seconded: Kathryn MacKenzie

-Carried unanimously

I. Annual Report from the Ata: Journal of Psychotherapy Editors

Excitement was expressed that the first issue of Ata since 2024 is due out at the end of the year.

Motion: Kerry Thomas-Anttila, Co-Editor, moved that her report be accepted.

Seconded: Claire Miranda

-Carried unanimously

J. Annual Report from Digital Communications Committee

Motion: Claire Miranda, Digital Communications, moved that her report be accepted.

Seconded: Jo McKenzie

-Carried unanimously

K. Regional Reports

a. Northern Branch

Motion: Louise Player-Bishop, Co-Convenor, moved that Paul Wilson's report be accepted.

Seconded: Claire Miranda

-Carried unanimously

b. Te Whanganui-a-Tara Wellington Branch

Motion: John O'Connor, moved that Annie Burgess', Convenor, report be accepted.

Seconded: Catriona Cairns

-Carried unanimously

c. Te Tau Ihu (the Top of the South Island) Branch

Motion: Robert Shaw, Branch Member, moved that Wayne Frecklington's, Convenor, report be accepted.

Seconded: John Farnsworth

-Carried unanimously

d. Otago Southland Branch

Motion: John O'Connor, moved that the Branch Co-Convenors' report be accepted.

Seconded: John Farnsworth

-Carried unanimously

12. **Conference 2027**

All branches are encouraged to discuss the possibility of hosting the next APANZ Conference.

13. **Motions of Gratitude**

John proposed a motion of gratitude to Carmel Lai, our generous, warm, astute and delightful administrator.

Moved: John O'Connor

Seconded: Jo McKenzie

-Carried – unanimously

14. **Any Other Business**

Gratitude was expressed to John O'Connor for his selfless leadership and service and his care for others in all his interactions. We wish John a good and well-earned rest as he steps away from the role of President.

15. Announcement of Election of Officers

The appointment of officers was confirmed, as below:

- a. Council positions voted by APANZ members at the AGM
 - (i) Ordinary Member – confirmed Kathryn MacKenzie
 - (ii) Ordinary Member – confirmed Jo McKenzie

- b. APANZ Council Positions Appointed by Council
 - (i) APANZ Chair Whakaoho Aroha-Te Tiriti Bicultural Committee – confirmed Susan Horne
 - (ii) APANZ President – confirmed Claire Miranda

John O'Connor then congratulated and handed the Chair over to Claire Miranda, as the new President, to close the meeting.

After some introductory comments and thanks to John, the meeting was closed by Claire with a karakia.

Close of the APANZ AGM 2026 - 9:30pm