

Registrars Report

Annual General Meeting 26 August 2020

What an interesting year we have had with many shifts in different directions due to changes in our Board members and in the state of our world. We have continued to grow and change so we can provide the spiritual community in New Zealand with information and resources, within the confines of time and financial constraints that we work within. Our community has continued to grow with 103 financial members and 842 subscribers to our newsletter and many people attending the various events we have held.

Our yearly weekend retreat in August 2019, was again at the Silverstream Retreat Centre. This was attended by 37 people who had the opportunity to enjoy a wide variety of workshops over the weekend. A lot of learning and laughter was experienced by all. We followed this up with 'Weekends of Workshops' at Christchurch in November and Palmerston North in February 2020 and were all set to travel to Nelson in June but unfortunately had to postpone that weekend due to Covid-19. Our Nelson trip has now been rescheduled for September this year followed by a Weekend of Workshops in Auckland in November. These weekends allow people in the area to attend a clairvoyant evening and then a selection of 5 workshops over the weekend. They give both us and them an opportunity to get to know each other and for us to share information with the local Churches.

During the year we also ran some series of online Webinars. Each series contained 6 webinars from different people who talked about a variety of subjects. We are grateful to these people for sharing their time and knowledge. The webinars have proved to be very popular and we are continuing the theme with a Spring series over the months of September and October.

Lockdown brought many challenges to our community and we are grateful to Anne Roughton and the Upper Hutt Church committee for the online Church services that they ran throughout that time. Spiritualism New Zealand ran a series of morning teas, via Zoom, three times a week where people could get together for a chat over the cuppa. This was a great source of relief for those who were not coping so well with the isolation of lockdown.

Our other big project for the year has been the re-working of our website and we are grateful to Kay Howard for all her help in showing a new direction and creating a format that we could work with. We are hopeful that the new site will be available before the end of the year. As you can imagine, there is much time and thought put into what appears on our website as a great number of people access it for the information on spiritual matters, the directory of practitioners, the blogs and ours and our members events that we advertise there.

Lastly I would like to thank my fellow Board members for all the help and support they give me, with a special thanks to the members of the Promotions sub-committee – Joanne Duncan, Anne Roughton, Sue Boyle, Gail Payne and Kay Howard. These people do an incredible amount of work behind the scenes to keep our organisation moving forward despite all having busy lives and lots of other commitments. Thank you all for all that you do.

Barbara Hand

Registrar