



Justice Pieces

Issue 75 February 2023

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1. From the President

Kia ora koutou

Happy New Year to you and all your whanau and friends. I hope you had a restful break and have been enjoying the weather we have had.

I have very much enjoyed being back into the Service Desk at Central with Day One providing JP service to 28 customers. It seems to be full on there. I was delighted to make a small contribution to remediating our bus driver shortage by certifying multiple copies required for 8 new bus drivers (42 copies) to get their P Licenses. Fortunately, NZ Bus came early to the Service Desk with all the paperwork in good order and so I was able to get this work done before the regular start time. I have recommended to NZ Bus that they make a time to meet a JP to get the next tranche certified and advise the JP the number to be done or the JP could decide to go to the office in Kilbirnie.

I have been doing some preliminary thinking on the implementation of the new incorporated societies legislation and the impact on the Association. One of the things coming into more focus is performance reporting. Services provided at a Service Desk are counted and reported, but other than anecdotally we have little idea of the number of services provided outside a Service Desk. To better understand the volume of work undertaken at home or other venues, we have devised a survey which will be issued to all members. The more data we have, the more compelling the case for our ongoing work. Issuing Officers will shortly commence data collection on their work too.

The JP Council has determined that we, as a group, need to have a better understanding of Te Ao Māori. We are seeking suppliers to run a Professional Development session for us as a group and would welcome any suggestions for suppliers to me or Helen Climo. We subsequently intend to roll this programme out across the Association through our Professional Development.

Ngā manaakitanga

Ann Clark JP



2. New Year's Honours



The Wellington JP Association congratulates **Mr Euon Graham Murrell QSM**, JP of Porirua on being honoured with the Queen's Service Medal for services to the community.

Euon has been an active volunteer, community worker, advocate and fundraiser in the Wellington Region for almost 50 years.

His community service began in the 1960s with the Lower Hutt Samaritans, serving as a committee member for five years. Since 1992 he has been a Justice of the Peace and established a nominated witness programme in Porirua in 2002. As a youth justice advocate, he has been called on to assist young people at all hours if they find themselves without family support when arrested. A Porirua businessman since the 1980s, he has actively sponsored local primary schools and community groups, spearheaded significant fundraising events and mentored local business owners. He joined the Rotary Clubs of Hutt Valley in 1994 and Plimmerton in 2014. He spearheaded Rotary fundraising events, raising more than \$50,000 for the Himalayan Trust. He was

President of the Wellington District Committee of the Real Estate Institute and was made a Life Member in 2020. A strong advocate for his community, he served as a councillor on the Porirua City Council from 2004 to 2022, including a term as Deputy Mayor. Mr Murrell has served as Chair of the Pātaka Foundation since 2016, helping promote Māori and Pacific artists in the Porirua area.

3. Marketing & Communications Sub-Committee

Volunteers Needed

to join the Wellington Justices of the Peace
Marketing & Communications sub-committee!

Do you want to help support the Wellington JP Association to communicate with our members as well as attract new JP candidates to join us? The Marketing & Communications sub-committee is developing a strategic plan to encourage more new JPs in the region.

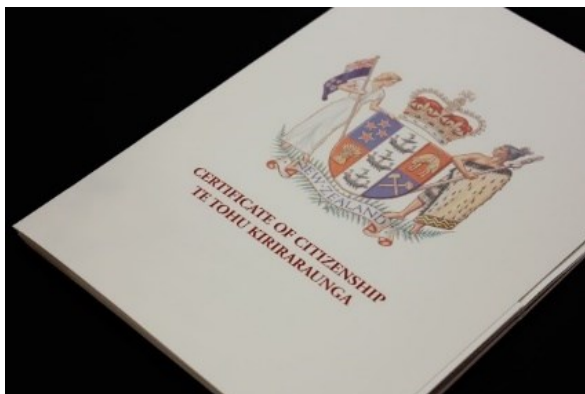
Get in touch with Tyler Dunkel if you would like to discuss more how you can contribute to shaping the future of Justices of the Peace in our area.

Contact Email: Ty.Dunkel@jpWellington.org.nz

4. How to Carry Out Private Citizenship Ceremonies

Sometimes our members are requested to conduct private citizenship ceremonies. Yes, we can do this, but the client must get approval from the Minister of Internal Affairs before they approach a JP. The Minister of Internal Affairs can allow an applicant to attend a private ceremony or can waive the requirement that a person attends any ceremony.

The ceremony is a very important and exciting time for our new citizens. At a ceremony held at the Wellington CAB a few years ago, the team put up a NZ flag and sang a few verses of the NZ National Anthem with the help of some CAB volunteers. The family were absolutely delighted with the ceremony and brought cakes to say thank you. They were a refugee family and were granted leave for a private ceremony as the elderly parents had a waiver of the English language requirement. On another occasion, our President did a private citizenship ceremony for a member of one of our national sports teams between their playing commitments. The client's family came in via Zoom from their country of origin and, being a member of a national sports team, there was excellent national anthem singing in Te Reo Māori and English. And on another occasion, the ceremony was conducted in a hospital ward which was immensely moving.



There are a few pre-approved reasons why a person can request a private ceremony. If you get a request for one of these, direct your client to the [Citizenship Guidance Document](#) (Page 27) on the New Zealand Government's website to see if they fit the criteria. One of the more interesting reasons quoted is "the applicant is a rural General Practitioner who owns his or her own surgery and is on-call".

Evidence to support a request for a private ceremony

The nature of the evidence that the applicant can be expected to provide will depend on the pre-approved reason relied on for requesting a private ceremony, and the circumstances surrounding the request.

If, based on the evidence provided, the Minister of Internal Affairs is satisfied that the applicant's circumstances fall within one or more of the pre-approved reasons, they may be approved to attend a private ceremony. When an applicant has been **approved for a private citizenship ceremony**, they will be sent a Private Ceremony Arrangement Form.

There are two sections on the form that need to be completed: the Ceremony Details and the Administrator's Details sections (the JP being the Administrator). When filling out the form, the applicant needs to use pen, and print clearly using block capitals.

The ceremony details

This section has only one part to complete: the date that the ceremony will be held. The date must be negotiated between the Administrator and the applicant and must be fixed to one date.

The Administrator's details

This section provides the details of the person who will administer the Oath or Affirmation. The address provided must not be a PO Box or Private Bag. The certificate package (along with the certificate there is a welcome letter and a hard backed book) will require a signature on delivery and cannot be delivered to a PO Box or Private Bag.

The package will be delivered during normal business hours (usually mornings for business addresses, and afternoons for residential addresses). The applicant needs to provide an address where there will be someone to sign for the package. If they live in Central Wellington, the Department is not averse to them making a time to pick up the package.

Two restrictions on what day can be selected for the ceremony

The ceremony must be at least 3 weeks after the applicant returns the arrangement form to the Citizenship Ceremonies Office and it must be held before the applicant's grant of citizenship lapses. This date is different for each applicant and is specified on the form.

Apart from these two restrictions, you are free to agree on a mutually suitable date, time and location with the applicant.

When to get the certificate

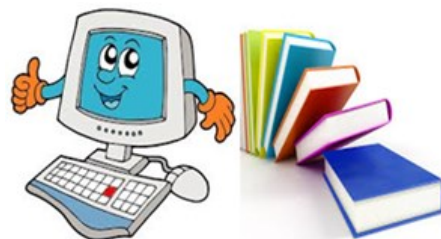
The certificate is included in the package and delivery will be timed to arrive at the Administrator's address on the working day immediately before the day of the ceremony. If you require the package to be delivered earlier than this, please contact the [Wellington Citizenship Ceremonies Office](#).

On the day of the Private Ceremony

The Administrator will follow the order of service as written in the instructions (in the package) – take the Oath or Affirmation (words provided) and then check that the deponent's full name, date and place of swearing (or affirming) are correctly written on the form. The deponent and the Administrator then sign the form in the spaces provided. The form should be returned by the Administrator to the address provided as soon as possible. Scanning and emailing is acceptable.

5. Ministerial Professional Development

Welcome to 2023. The Training Calendar for the year is set out below and we look forward to seeing as many of you as possible. Please note that we will be using the Wellington Bridge Club for the Tuesday evening session which will start at 5:15pm and we need to vacate the premises by 7:00pm or earlier for the Bridge Club to be able to set up for their evening's games.



Training Topic: *Back to Basics – Statutory Declarations and Affidavits*

Saturday 4 March 2023	9:30am to 11:30am	Wellington Bridge Club, 17 Tinakori Road, Wellington
Tuesday 11 April 2023	5:15pm to 7:00pm	Wellington Bridge Club, 17 Tinakori Road, Wellington
Saturday 13 May 2023	9:30am to 11:30am	Waikanae Community Centre, 28-32 Utauta Street, Waikanae

Training Topic: *A Review of AML-CFT*

Saturday 10 June 2023	9:30am to 11:30am	Wellington Bridge Club, 17 Tinakori Road, Wellington
Tuesday 11 July 2023	5:15pm to 7:00pm	Wellington Bridge Club, 17 Tinakori Road, Wellington
Saturday 12 August 2023	9:30am to 11:30am	Waikanae Community Centre, 28-32 Utauta Street, Waikanae

Training Topic: *Marriage Dissolution*

Saturday 9 September 2023	9:30am to 11:30am	Wellington Bridge Club, 17 Tinakori Road, Wellington
Tuesday 10 October 2023	5:15pm to 7:00pm	Wellington Bridge Club, 17 Tinakori Road, Wellington
Saturday 25 November 2023	9:30am to 11:30am	Waikanae Community Centre, 28-32 Utauta Street, Waikanae

Any suggestions for Training Topics are always welcome – please don't hesitate to contact Carolyn by email: carolyn.marshall@outlook.co.nz.

6. JP Accreditation

The JP Council has been discussing the thorny issue of Accreditation. Accreditation requires that the JP has attended a Professional Development event within the previous 12 months and that they pass an online true/false test. Within our Association, just 40% of members – a disappointingly low proportion – are accredited. While we know that most members have the intention of providing the best possible service, this can only be achieved if members regularly undertake professional development to update themselves on things that may have changed and test their knowledge on the online test.

To help drive our accreditation rates up, our 2023 schedule of Professional Development opportunities will target JP basics, with the first round focussing on Statutory Declarations and Affidavits. In addition to these, special hands-on accreditation workshops are being organised by our Past President to be held at various locations across our region. Details of these will be notified shortly. We last ran these workshops about 2 years ago, and many members found them extremely helpful in getting them over that line.

We would welcome any suggestions from members about other ways to get more members accredited and especially feedback from members who are not accredited to let us know what is hindering them. Comments can be sent to Maureen at registrar@jpwellington.org.nz please.

7. Census 2023

Tatau tātou – all of us count


Census 23 night is 7 March. Everyone in New Zealand, visitor or permanent resident, citizen or not, adult or child, is required to fill in a census form for 7 March.

As always, individuals' census data will be protected and private. It's used as the basis for evidence-based policy and practice, for example to ensure resources are distributed more fairly where they are most required.

There is also much more emphasis this year on designing the census and the process around the needs of Māori, and providing information that will be helpful to Iwi.

The information campaign will start on 13 February, and you will be able to fill in the form online or on paper as soon as you receive the materials (assuming you know where you will be on 7 March).

How to fill in the census: Most people will receive a digital access code through the mail which they can use to access and fill in the form online at home or request a personal paper copy. However, digital isn't for everyone, and Statistics NZ are using a segmented distribution model. This means many people will also be offered paper forms door to door or through the mail, or even face to face assistance, depending on how much support is predicted to be required in different areas.



2023 Census is about all of us.
Census Day, 7 March 2023

The census is a nationwide survey of everyone in Aotearoa New Zealand. When we all take part in the census, all of us count.

Visit www.census.govt.nz for more information.

Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Government

Census | Stats
Tatau tātou - All of us count

Extra Assistance: For those who might struggle with paperwork generally, or who want more information or reassurance, there will be trained volunteers to help in libraries, Citizens Advice Bureaux, and other organisations such as Whanau Manaaki kindergartens. These are “**Assisted Completion Locations**” for the duration of the census period – through till 7 April. There will also be pop-up “**Assisted Completion Events**” in malls, some churches, markets, universities etc where you can do it on the spot.

More information here: [Home | 2023 Census | Aotearoa New Zealand](#)

If you come across people wanting to know what is required of them, you could refer them to their local CAB or call 0800 CENSUS (800 236787).

8. EOI Sought for a Nominated Adult Panel in Kapiti

When a young person (a person of or over the age of 14 years but under 18 years) is interviewed by the Police, there must be a parent or guardian, or another adult nominated by the young person present during the interview. If such an adult is not available, or if the young person declines to accept one of these options, the Police can nominate an adult if that person is not an enforcement officer.

The Police will do this by referring to a list known as a Nominated Adult Panel. In many cases the Panel consists of local JPs.

We currently have Nominated Adult Panels operating in Wellington and Porirua. Each panel has a coordinator (Mary Munro for Wellington and Graeme Hanson for Porirua) who acts as a liaison person with the Police and prepares a roster of on-call JPs.

While we do have Nominated Adults in the Kapiti region, these are not coordinated into a Panel. Their details may not be up to date and there is no specific police liaison.

We would therefore like to set up a Nominated Adult Panel in Kapiti and are seeking expressions of interest from JPs to be the Panel Coordinator and for JPs to join the Panel. If you are an Issuing Officer, you are not eligible as this would be a conflict of interest.

If you are interested in being the coordinator for such a panel, this is what you need to know:

- The time commitment to do this is not onerous.
- Mary Munro has prepared an excellent document outlining how such a panel might be set up and operate.

If you are interested in joining the panel, this is what you need to know:

- When you are rostered on, it is not uncommon to be called upon in the early hours of the morning.
- If called upon, you must be able to get to the Paraparaumu Police Station within 30 minutes.
- The Kapiti call-out frequency is not high and even if rostered, you may not have a call for several weeks.
- The Nominated Adult is there to support the young person and ensure they are fully aware of and understand their rights under the CYPF Act.
- The Nominated Adult does not take an active role in the course of the interview by the Police but is expected to be more than just a passive witness to an interview.

This is a very valuable JP service for young people particularly those who have not had dealings with the police before. If you are able to help us set this service up in Kapiti, please email Maureen at registrar@jpwellington.org.nz. If you are already a Nominated Adult in Kapiti and want to stay on the Panel, also let Maureen know.

9. Retirements & Long Services



Kataraina (Raina) Millin

Out thanks to Kararaina who has recently retired as a JP and who has provided services in Wanganui, Karori and Porirua. Kataraina was approached to be a JP by the Māori Women's Welfare League to provide JP services within the Māori community especially to those who were elderly, infirm and who were much more comfortable communicating with the JP in Reo. She always took her JP bag with her to tangi, hui and other cultural gatherings and it was not uncommon for her to be certifying documents and such on top of the car bonnet.



Melda Townsley, QSM

Congratulations to Melda Townsley who recently celebrated her 90th birthday. Melda was a recipient of Queen's Service Medal for Public Service in 2004 and has been a JP for over 40 years. Melda took a short break from her regular duties at the Wellington CBD JP Service Desk to spend time with her family from UK to mark this special occasion, and has always kept herself accredited and been a very active member of the Wellington JP Association.



A message from Melda:

Dear Fellow JPs

Many thanks for the beautiful bouquet I received on my birthday. It was a wonderful day made perfect by the good wishes of family and friends. I loved your present and good wishes. Some of the beautiful blue flowers are still lasting and reminding me of your kindness.

Wishing you all happy days!

10. 2023 JP Calendar

Date	Day	Subject	Start	Finish	Location
Ministerial Training					
04/03/23	Saturday	Ministerial Training	9:30	11:30	Wellington Bridge Club
11/04/23	Tuesday	Ministerial Training	17:15	19:00	Wellington Bridge Club
13/05/23	Saturday	Ministerial Training	9:30	11:30	Waikanae Community Centre
10/06/23	Saturday	Ministerial Training	9:30	11:30	Wellington Bridge Club
11/07/23	Tuesday	Ministerial Training	17:15	19:00	Wellington Bridge Club
12/08/23	Saturday	Ministerial Training	9:30	11:30	Waikanae Community Centre
09/09/23	Saturday	Ministerial Training	9:30	11:30	Wellington Bridge Club
10/10/23	Tuesday	Ministerial Training	17:15	19:00	Wellington Bridge Club
25/11/23	Saturday	Ministerial Training	9:30	11:30	Waikanae Community Centre
New JP Group					
14/03/23	Tuesday	New JP Group	17:15	19:15	WDC or Zoom- TBC
16/05/23	Tuesday	New JP Group	17:15	19:15	WDC or Zoom - TBC
18/07/23	Tuesday	New JP Group	17:15	19:15	WDC or Zoom - TBC
17/10/23	Tuesday	New JP Group	17:15	19:15	WDC or Zoom - TBC
Judicial / IO Training					
15/02/23	Wednesday	Judicial Training	17:15	19:15	Wellington District Court
12/04/23	Wednesday	Judicial Training	17:15	19:15	Wellington District Court
06/05/23	Saturday	IO Training	9:30	11:30	Porirua District Court
21/06/23	Wednesday	Judicial Training	17:15	19:15	Wellington District Court
12/07/23	Wednesday	Judicial Training	17:15	19:15	Wellington District Court
13/09/23	Wednesday	Judicial Training	17:15	19:15	Wellington District Court
22/11/23	Wednesday	Judicial Training	17:15	19:15	Wellington District Court
11/11/23	Saturday	IO Training	9:30	11:30	Porirua District Court
Council Meetings					
18/01/23	Wednesday	Council Meeting	19:00	21:00	Zoom
15/03/23	Wednesday	Council Meeting	19:00	21:00	Zoom
17/05/23	Wednesday	Council Meeting	17:15	19:15	WDC- TBC
19/07/23	Wednesday	Council Meeting	17:15	21:00	Zoom or Kapiti - TBC
20/09/23	Wednesday	Council Meeting	17:15	21:00	Zoom
15/11/23	Wednesday	Council Meeting	17:15	19:15	WDC- TBC
Regional / National Conference					
28/10/23	Saturday	AGM - Date TBC	9:30	12:00	Wellington Bridge Club - TBC
10/03/23	Friday	National Conference			Invercargill