



Justice Pieces

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1. From the President

Kia ora koutou,

Welcome to 2024 and another busy year for Justices of the Peace.

Since taking over the reins from Ann Clark, I have had a few busy months settling into the President's role, and the learning curve continues to 'trend upwards'.

Firstly, I would like to make special mention of two of our JPs who were named in the 2024 New Year's Honours. Pania Tyson-Nathan who was made a DNZM (for services to Maori and Business) and Athula Cuda Bandara Wanasinghe who received the QSM for services to the Sri Lankan community and cricket. Congratulations to both of you!

Recently, I was at the swearing in of a new Justice of the Peace, Matthew Frost. You can read about Matthew elsewhere in this issue of Justice Pieces.

While I was in Wellington, I took the opportunity to visit Te Awe Library, the temporary library space on Brandon Street, where we have a Service Desk. Because of its location in the CBD, this Service Desk is extremely busy and some of our JPs are dealing with up to 40 clients during the two hours that the Desk is open.

All our Service Desks, be it Te Awe, Newtown, Paraparaumu, or anywhere else in the Wellington, Porirua and Kapiti areas, are providing a valuable service to our communities. You are strongly recommended to become part of a Service Desk roster in your local area, not only for the community service, but also for the practical experience you will gain as a JP.

I hope you enjoy reading this issue of Justice Pieces.

Noho ora mai
Carolyn Marshall, JP



2. New Year's Honours

The Wellington JP Association congratulates **Ms Pania Tyson-Nathan, MNZM**, JP of Titahi Bay, Porirua, on being honoured with the *New Zealand Order of Merit* for services to Māori and business and **Mr Athula Cuda Bandara Wanasinghe**, JP of Grenada Village, on being honoured with the *Queen's Service Medal* for services to the Sri Lankan community and cricket.



Ms Pania Tyson-Nathan (Rongomaiwahine) was appointed a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit in 2018 for her services to Māori and business.

For three decades, Ms Tyson-Nathan has been dedicated to advancing Māori economic development across various domains including community, business, and government sectors. She was a member of the Māori Economic Development Board, Ministerial Advisory Group on Trade, and is currently on the World Economic Forum's Sustainable Tourism Council, the Advisory Panel Defence Policy Review, and the Rongomaiwahine Iwi Trust. She has made significant contributions to promoting the growth and development of individuals into prominent leadership positions. She has been Chief Executive of New Zealand Māori Tourism since 2008 and has focused on highlighting the unique opportunity that a Māori experience offers visitors domestically and internationally. In recognition of her contributions to repositioning Māori tourism as deeper and more meaningful, she was named in the top 50 Global Tourism Innovators in 2021. She was awarded the Māori Woman Business Leader award by the University of Auckland in 2018. Ms Tyson-Nathan was recipient of the Te Tupu-ā-Nuku award for Business and Innovation at the 2020 Matariki Awards and was inducted into the New Zealand Business Hall of Fame in 2022.

Mr Athula Wanasinghe is currently Vice President of the Sri Lankan Association of New Zealand, having been President from 2014 to 2020, and as Treasurer improved the financial management of the Association's funds.

Mr Wanasinghe was involved in coordinating support following the 2004 Boxing Day Tsunami, the Easter Sunday 2018 terrorist attack in Sri Lanka and during the COVID-19 pandemic. He was President of the Wellington Sri Lankan Buddhist Association from 2008 to 2013, helping purchase the property to establish the Sri Lankan Buddhist Centre in Wainuiomata. He has been on the Board of Community Languages Association of New Zealand since 2012 and has provided interpreting services for various agencies. He has provided his banking and real estate experience to help the community with financial and property advice, including workshops in Sinhalese. He has been a junior club cricket coach and is a senior umpire in the Wellington region. He is on the Board of the Cricket Wellington Umpires Association and is liaison officer between College Sport Wellington and the Association. He served on the Onslow College Cricket Board from 2013 to 2019. He initiated the founding of Sri Lankan Masters Cricket in 2010 and is Team Manager and administrator. Mr Wanasinghe established the popular Sri Lankan Annual Quiz Night, which has run since 2009.



3. Professional Development

The Ministerial Professional Development Trainings for 2024 are detailed below:

BACK TO BASICS WORKSHOPS

Saturday 23 March	9:30am - 11:30am	Wellington Bridge Club, 17 Tinakori Road, Wellington
Tuesday 9 April	5:15pm - 6:45pm	Wellington Bridge Club, 17 Tinakori Road, Wellington
Saturday 25 May	9:30am - 11:30am	Waikanae Community Centre, 28-32 Utauta Street, Waikanae

CHALLENGING SITUATION WORKSHOPS

Saturday 8 June	9:30am - 11:30am	Wellington Bridge Club, 17 Tinakori Road, Wellington
Tuesday 9 July	5:15pm - 6:45pm	Wellington Bridge Club, 17 Tinakori Road, Wellington
Saturday 10 August	9:30am - 11:30am	Waikanae Community Centre, 28-32 Utauta Street, Waikanae

MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION WORKSHOPS

Saturday 14 September	9:30am - 11:30am	Wellington Bridge Club, 17 Tinakori Road, Wellington
Tuesday 8 October	5:15pm - 6:45pm	Wellington Bridge Club, 17 Tinakori Road, Wellington
Saturday 16 November	9:30am - 11:30am	Waikanae Community Centre, 28-32 Utauta Street, Waikanae

We encourage suggestions for training topics and welcome your input. Please contact Carolyn via email at carolyn.marshall@jpwellington.org.nz with any suggestions or enquiries.

And don't forget our full Annual Schedule can be found after you log in to our Association website.

4. Upcoming Professional Development Survey for JPs

As we navigate through these times of continuous change, we understand the importance of keeping up to date with the evolving landscape of justice and community service. Professional development is the key to staying informed, relevant, and effective in our roles as Justices of the Peace.

To ensure that we can best cater to your professional development needs in 2024, we are excited to announce the forthcoming Professional Development Survey. This survey is a crucial step in helping us understand your requirements, aspirations, and areas where you may need specific support.

Why is Professional Development Important?

Professional Development is not just a formality, it is an essential part of our responsibilities. It empowers us to better serve our communities, uphold the principles of our JP profession, and adapt to the changing needs of society. As we embark on this new year, we must strive to enhance and renew our knowledge and skills continually.

Your Feedback Matters!

We believe that your individual feedback is invaluable. This survey will be sent out in a few weeks on behalf of our president to your email. Your responses will not be anonymous, and there's a reason for this - it enables us to offer personalised support to those who may need it.



Your candid and open responses will help us identify areas where we can improve our professional development offerings.

What to Expect

When you receive the survey, please take a few moments to provide your contact email, as it will be crucial for managing your survey submission. Rest assured that your information will be kept confidential, and only used for survey purposes. We respect your privacy.

Once we gather and analyse the survey results, we will share them with all Association members at a later date. This transparency ensures that you can see how your input contributes to shaping our professional development initiatives.

Your participation in this survey is greatly appreciated. Your individual feedback holds significant importance to us, as it guides us in tailoring our approach to meet your needs effectively. Together, we can continue to grow and serve our communities with excellence.

Thank you for your dedication and commitment to the role of Justice of the Peace. We look forward to your active participation in the upcoming Professional Development Survey.

5. Citizenship Ceremonies

New Zealand Citizenship Ceremonies are held several times a year at local authorities. The Mayor or Deputy Mayor administers these ceremonies which are organised by the Mayor's office in conjunction with the Department of Internal Affairs (DIA). Our Association encompasses the areas of Wellington, Porirua and Kāpiti, and the Mayor's offices of these cities ask the Association to provide a Justice of the Peace to attend.

The Justice of the Peace attends these Ceremonies as a back-up in the event that the Mayor and Deputy Mayor are unavailable. If this happens (and it is very rare), the JP takes the Oath of Allegiance from the new citizens. If they are not needed to do this, the JP has no other duties to perform and can just enjoy the pride and joy of the participants. The Mayor's Office takes responsibility for ensuring that the required forms are filled out, signed and returned to the DIA.

Under some circumstances, a private ceremony can be requested by the soon-to-be-citizen. This ceremony is performed by a JP. We wrote about this in our February 2023 issue of Justice Pieces.

If the Oath of Allegiance is administered in a private ceremony, the DIA sends the appropriate paperwork to the Justice of the Peace who is required to complete it and return to the DIA after the ceremony.

Please read [Section 8.6 Citizenship](#) on page 87 of the JP Manual for further information.

6. A New Immigration Sponsorship Form

There is a new sponsorship form which is for adult children to sponsor their parents to be residents in New Zealand ([INZ 1024](#)). What is different is that it has the space for two sponsors and if both have been entered, that means you are taking two statutory declarations on the one form. It is not compulsory to have two sponsors sign but it is allowed for on the form. You will be aware from your manual that you need to identify both sponsors/signatories to a statutory declaration if there are two and that you need to address each person in taking the declaration with best practice being that you read the declaration to each person and get the oral confirmation.

7. JP Services in Schools

In 2024 we are resuming the initiative to offer Justice of the Peace services to intermediate and secondary schools in Wellington and Kāpiti Coast areas.

We have contacted over thirty different schools and have received very positive feedback and appreciation of thanks for providing JP services.

The most common services required are certifying identity documents for students' admission to tertiary institutions, administering statutory declarations to apply for study, certifying evidence of students' visa status or swearing/affirming affidavits for scholarship applications.

Thanks to the JPs who have offered their services and to those who have a long-standing relationship with their local schools.

Schools are sent a list of local JPs and their contact numbers for them to arrange a suitable time for the JP to go into the school or for students or staff to go to the JP to carry out these services.

If you are interested in offering this service to schools in your local area, and have not already done so, please contact Deanne Daysh at deannedaysh@gmail.com.

8. Authorisation and Instruction (A&I)

When a land document is to be registered electronically, an Authority and Instruction (A&I) form must be completed. This form authorises and instructs the client's lawyer to create and register electronic instruments against the land titles specified in the form. The form also confirms that the lawyer has taken reasonable steps to confirm the identity of the persons who gave the authority to lodge the instruments. The critical role the JP plays is identifying the client. You must check the client's ID and watch them sign and date the form. The ID needs to be attached as a certified copy and the date on this form must be the same date as the client signature date. The wording you use for the certification must be wording that is consistent with the Anti-Money-Laundering legislation e.g. *"I certify that this is a true and correct copy of the original which I have sighted and it represents a true likeness of the individual"*. Clients cannot use certified copies prepared earlier by another JP. Lastly, you fill in the form giving all your details. If you would like to use the Royal Federation's address rather than your street address, please do so: Royal Federation 49 Ballance Street, Thorndon, Wellington 6011.

Infrequently, you may be presented with A&I by someone who is acting for the person named in the A&I due to their incapacity. In this case, the acting person will have an Enduring Power of Attorney (EPA) which has been granted to them by the person named in the A&I. In this situation, it is the EPA holder who signs the A&I, and you must certify the EPA holder's copy of ID even though the A&I is in the name of the incapacitated person.

9. Irish Passport and Citizenship Application Forms

Many of the supporting documents for this must be original and the JP does not need to certify these. The JP does need to certify a copy of the passport and must stamp (or write) on two passport sized photos that they are a true likeness of the passport holder. If you have the little round stamp, this is ideal. When you do stamp the photos, warn the client to let the ink dry, or better still, blot them with tissue so the ink does not smudge. There is a part of the form for the JP to fill in with their name, authority stamp, address, contact phone number and email address. You can use the Royal Federation address (49 Ballance Street Wellington) if you wish and the Royal Federation suggests using their email address: jpfed@jpfed.org.nz – not your own personal email. Royal Federation monitors the email address and will forward any subsequent enquiries to you.

10. Documents from Other Jurisdictions

Processing these may require a bit of thought. First, ask the client if they are certain that a NZ JP can process them. The easiest to do is a standard certified copy of the original. It does not matter if the document is in another language which you don't understand as you only need to make sure the copy is a true copy of the original.

Many proof-of-life documents are in the language of the country and have an English translation. There is no problem signing these. If you are asked to sign or witness a signature on a document in a language you don't understand and there is no authorized translation of the document, you should not do so.

Some documents from overseas are in English and may be headed Statutory Declaration or Affidavit. These will not have the wording required by the NZ Oaths and Declarations Act 1957. So for these, you are only witnessing the client's signature.

11. Use of Letters "JP"

In accordance with Section 11.9 of the JP Manual, Justices of the Peace are reminded that:

The use of the letters 'JP' after your name on private notepaper, in personal correspondence (such as email and social media) and in connection with social functions is acceptable provided they are not being used, or appearing to be used, for advancing trade, professional or business interests. The letters should never be used in such a way as to appear to enhance the status of the Justice of the Peace relative to other people, or to imply superiority in any way.

Letters or articles published in the news media, which quote your name, are acceptable, but they should **not** include the letters JP. This should be made clear to the publisher before the article is printed.

12. Our Newest Justice of the Peace



We introduced our newest JP, Matthew Frost QSM, to His Honour Judge Black at a lovely swearing-in ceremony on 1st February 2024.

Matt is a 43-year-old public servant from Wellington. He is Principal Advisor in the Partnerships and Stewardship Group at Whaikaha: The Ministry of Disabled People. He has worked in the disability sector for 15 years and identifies as autistic. Recently, he has led international work at Whaikaha and particularly New Zealand's response to the observations of an International Committee on the Rights of Disabled People. He was awarded a Queen's Service Medal in 2023's New Years Honours List for services to people with autism. Matt has a Postgraduate Diploma in Public Management and an Honours degree in History. He is currently working towards a master's from the University of London in human rights. He has a long-standing interest in justice for all and sees his appointment as a Justice of the Peace for New Zealand as an extension of this commitment.

Congratulations from the Wellington Justices of the Peace Association on your appointment and welcome to our Association!

13. 2024 JP Calendar

Date	Day	Subject	Start	Finish	Location
Ministerial Training					
Saturday 23 March		Back to Basics Workshop	9:30	11:30	Wellington Bridge Club
Tuesday 9 April		Back to Basics Workshop	17:15	18:45	Wellington Bridge Club
Saturday 25 May		Back to Basics Workshop	9:30	11:30	Waikanae Community Centre
Saturday 8 June		Challenging Situation Workshop	9:30	11:30	Wellington Bridge Club
Tuesday 9 July		Challenging Situation Workshop	17:15	18:45	Wellington Bridge Club
Sunday 10 August		Challenging Situation Workshop	9:30	11:30	Waikanae Community Centre
Saturday 14 September		Marriage Dissolution Workshop	9:30	11:30	Wellington Bridge Club
Tuesday 8 October		Marriage Dissolution Workshop	17:15	18:45	Wellington Bridge Club
Saturday 16 November		Marriage Dissolution Workshop	9:30	11:30	Waikanae Community Centre
New JP Support Group – to attend these sessions, please contact Ann Clark					
Tuesday 5 March		New JP Group	17:15	19:15	Wellington District Court
Tuesday 21 May		New JP Group	17:15	19:15	Wellington District Court
Tuesday 16 July		New JP Group	17:15	19:15	Wellington District Court
Tuesday, 15 October		New JP Group	17:15	19:15	Wellington District Court
Judicial / Issuing Officer Training					
Wednesday 14 February		Judicial Training	17:15	19:15	Wellington District Court
Wednesday 10 April		Judicial Training	17:15	19:15	Wellington District Court
Wednesday 19 June		Judicial Training	17:15	19:15	Wellington District Court
Wednesday 17 July		Judicial Training	17:15	19:15	Wellington District Court
Wednesday 11 September		Judicial Training	17:15	19:15	Wellington District Court
Wednesday 6 November		Judicial Training	17:15	19:15	Wellington District Court
Saturday 11 May		Issuing Officer Training	9:30	11:30	Porirua District Court
Saturday 9 November		Issuing Officer Training	9:30	11:30	Porirua District Court
Council Meetings					
Monday 15 January		Council Meeting	19:00	21:00	Zoom
Monday 18 March		Council Meeting	19:00	21:00	Zoom
Monday 20 May		Council Meeting	17:15	19:15	Zoom
Monday 15 July		Council Meeting	17:15	21:00	Zoom
Monday 16 September		Council Meeting	17:15	21:00	Zoom
Monday 18 November		Council Meeting	17:15	19:15	Wellington District Court
Regional / National Conference					
Saturday 26 October		AGM & Ministerial Training	9:30	12:00	Wellington Bridge Club
Friday 1 March		National Conference	11:00	19:30	James Cook Hotel Wellington
Saturday 2 March		National Conference	9:00	19:00	James Cook Hotel Wellington
Sunday 3 March		National Conference	8:30	12:00	James Cook Hotel Wellington
Justice Pieces					
Friday 9 February		Friday 9 August			
Friday 12 April		Friday 11 October			
Friday 14 June		Friday 13 December			



Thanks to our contributors to this issue of Justice Pieces, which included Carolyn Marshall, Deanne Daysh, Ann Clark and Tim Price-Walker.