



Justice Pieces

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1. From the President

Kia ora koutou,

Recently, I had the honour of presenting 30 Year Long Service Certificates to three Wellington JPs. Their dedication to our community is highlighted in this edition of Justice Pieces. Their ongoing commitment as volunteers deserves recognition.

This issue also features an article on the forthcoming update to the accreditation test, scheduled for early July 2024. It's important for all JPs to participate in this test every two years, alongside professional development training. These initiatives are tailored to ensure JPs are kept up to date with the diverse aspects of our community work. Additionally, our Association provides updates on forms and documents, including an immigration form update in this edition of Justice Pieces.

The accreditation test is conveniently available online and is designed as an 'open book' assessment. You have the flexibility to answer questions at your own pace, with the option to save your progress and return later.

If you haven't yet pursued accreditation, I strongly urge you to consider taking the test.

I hope you enjoy reading this issue of Justice Pieces.



Noho ora mai

Carolyn Marshall

2. Providing JP Services

The JP Code of Conduct requires Justices to 'willingly and courteously manage the duties required at any reasonable time of the day and night'. However, this does not mean that you must be available all the time and the key point of the phrase is 'reasonable'.

You are able to indicate on the Royal Federation website (in your Profile page) what level and type of availability you have to provide JP services.

When you are not available

The availability field also allows you to mark yourself as "unavailable" until a specific date. Normally, you do not need to give a reason for being unavailable; however if you are unavailable for an extended period (more than 3 months), the Royal Federation will follow up and ask you for the reason.

If you are uncomfortable having clients visit your residence

This is not a valid reason to not see clients. If there are no alternatives available to you (such as a nearby public space, work, etc.), contact the Registrar to discuss how you might be able to still operate as a JP and observe the Code of Conduct.

3. Professional Development

The Ministerial Professional Development Trainings for rest of the year are detailed below:

CHALLENGING SITUATION WORKSHOPS

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

ZOOM TRAINING

A special Zoom training session has been scheduled for June 26, facilitated by Ann Clark and Audrey Fell-Smith. This session is aimed at providing a PD opportunity for JPs who are unable to attend our normal face-to-face sessions. The session has been limited to 20 participants in order that everyone gets a chance to listen or talk. Unfortunately, the session filled up pretty quickly, so it is very likely we will repeat this later in the year.

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 that our complete Annual Schedule can be found after you log in to our Association website.

4. Regional Conference

The Central Region JP Conference is to be held in Palmerston North on Saturday, 24 August 2024 at the Awapuni Racecourse. Email Carolyn Marshall (carolyn.marshall@jpwellington.org.nz) if you are interested.

5. Our Newest Justices of the Peace

We introduced our 4 new JPs, Karen Deidre Bishop, Graham James Sharpe, Hong Yuan & Ramesh Sapkota, to His Honour Judge Black at a swearing-in ceremony on 14th May 2024.



Karen Bishop has been working in the Public Service since 2010, holding several senior leadership positions across different agencies currently with the MBIE, in a role specifically focussed on driving a more customer centric approach to the work that they do. Providing the best service to the people in New Zealand is something she is passionate about.

She is also involved in Wellington Club Cricket. She is the President of the North City Cricket Club, and has been scoring for their Premier Men's Team for the past 7 seasons. She is a member of Cricket Wellington Umpires and Scorers Incorporated. While these positions are voluntary, her passion for the sport allows her to support her local and regional communities doing something she loves.

Whether professionally or in her personal time, supporting New Zealanders is something that she is very proud to do.

Dr Graham Sharpe recently retired after forty years as a specialist anaesthetist. The last few years were spent as a medical director and then acting Chief Medical Officer at Wellington Public Hospital. He first came to Wellington as a fourth-year medical student, remaining here since then.

He served as an officer in the RNZAMC, including a deployment in the Middle East. He is a Past President and Life Member of the New Zealand Society of Anaesthetists and sits on the Health Practitioners' Disciplinary Tribunal. As an examiner for the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists for twelve years, he also convened several major medical conferences, including an international meeting, in Wellington. He chairs the Wellington Regional Charity Hospital Trust as it works to open a free surgical facility for the people of Wellington.

He was made ONZM in the 2009 Queen's Birthday Honours for services to anaesthesia.

Hong Yuan a first-generation immigrant from China, arriving in Wellington in 2012 and has since called it home. She has a solid foundation in tertiary education. Her compassionate nature has led her to actively contribute to the community.

From 2012 to the present, Hong has dedicated her time to volunteering for various NGOs and community organisations, such as the Karori Community Centre, Wellington Senior Citizens Health and Happiness Association, St Johns, among others. In 2017, she co-founded the Wellington Young Chinese Association, aiming at supporting young Chinese professionals in integrating into New Zealand society and assisting the older community through intergenerational support.

Currently serving as the Public Health Lead at Asian Family Services, Hong approaches her role with unwavering passion and love for the community. Eager to extend her support to a broader community, she is looking forward to contributing further as a Justice of the Peace.

Ramesh Sapkota a native of Nepal, embarked on a new chapter in November 2014 when he settled in New Zealand. Beyond his entrepreneurial pursuits, Ramesh has become a prominent figure in the Nepalese community in Wellington, currently serving his second term as President of "The Nepalese Society of Wellington. His leadership has strengthened cultural ties and fostered a sense of community among fellow expatriates. Against the backdrop of the majestic Mount Everest, Ramesh's journey from Nepal to New Zealand encapsulates a story of resilience, community service, and successful business endeavours.

He looks forward to helping his community as a Justice of the Peace.

Barbara Ann Joyce (Barby), was introduced to His Honour Judge Russell at a swearing-in ceremony at Chatham Islands District Court on 21st May 2024.

Barby, a NZ Māori Ngāpuhi- Ngāti Hine, Scandinavian, English and Italian descent, was born on 12th July 1955, the same year as the 1955 Adoption Act came into force. Adopted by the Carruthers family she went through a normal family upbringing where honesty and love of the family helped keep her sometimes rebellious nature on track. After attending both primary and secondary schooling in Hawkes Bay, she went to work as an office railway cadet before attending Napier Hospital as a student general nurse and later a community nurse in 1977 - going overseas before moving to Chatham Islands on 8th July 1980. Community nursing helped her gain a position as the Runanga 1997 as a health worker/manager. Barby volunteered for St Johns for over 12 years and joined many small committees to help and finished in 2017 as General Manager for Ha O Te Ora O Wharekauri Trust. 20 years of looking after Wharekauri, Rekohu and Chatham Islands for all age groups, a growing sense of welfare inequalities and growing social consciousness of behind the scenes mixed with a sense of responsibility grew. She now works as Heartlands Co-ordinator once again helping whanau to assist with government departments and NGO's. Her life has always had travel to broaden her views and help her "people skills". Married to Steve for over 40 years with a blended whanau, their son, three daughters and six mokopuna are making their lives on the mainland.



Her life is not complicated - it's about helping others.

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

6. Accreditation Test

The Accreditation Test will be updated this July 2024. To facilitate the upload of the new questions, **the accreditation test will be unavailable from 1st to 5th July 2024**. A note advising members of this will be added to the accreditation exam page during this period.

We recommend any justices who have partially completed the accreditation test complete their test prior to 1st July 2024.

Updated training material will be available on the Ministerial Educator's resources page once the updated questions are loaded to the website.

7. Introducing A Council Member – Tim Price-Walker



Tim Price-Walker has been a dedicated Justice of the Peace for more than two years, having received his training in Hawke's Bay. In addition to his JP duties, Tim also serves as an Issuing Officer.

Tim's passion for customer focus and his commitment to supporting the community are evident in his role on the Wellington JP Association Council, where he leads marketing efforts. His work here is driven by a desire to enhance the visibility and accessibility of JP services, ensuring that people from all walks of life can benefit from the support we provide.

With a diverse background, Tim brings a wealth of experience to his JP duties. He has held senior leadership roles at AI and telecommunication companies in New Zealand and the UK, focusing on marketing, product marketing, sales, and customer engagement.

Based in Brooklyn, Wellington Tim is an organisational change practitioner - Tim's expertise in managing transitions and fostering positive change will significantly enhance his contributions to the Council, driving continuous improvement in our services.

8. Your Association Needs You

Ever thought about becoming a Judicial JP? Can you work under pressure and show sound judgement? Now might be your chance.

The next Judicial Studies Course is to be held in April 2025 so we have plenty of time to show you the ropes. Why not come and see what is involved and what exactly we do sitting in the District Courts around the Wellington Region. The course consists of a 6-month study programme online and 3 open book assignments. You have to pass each one to gain admission to the next one.

If you pass the assignments, you go forward to a Judicial Practicum and will be assessed by a Judge. You will have access to a mentor and support through buddy meetings by Zoom throughout the programme. There is an age bar in that no one can sit beyond their 75th birthday. It takes roughly two years to become proficient and we would really like 5 years of service.

So if you are interested please email Caroline Ludford an expression of interest: caroline_ludford@hotmail.com, and she will give you more information.

9. Change of Email or Other Contact Details

Some of our members will be changing their email addresses as a result of the newly introduced charges by Spark for the Xtra email service.

If you are changing your email, or if your address or phone number changes, please let the Registrar know: registrar@jpwellington.org.nz.

10. Visitor Visa Applications – Translation Required for Supporting Documents in a Foreign Language

From 17th June 2024, all supporting documents submitted with visitor visa applications to Immigration New Zealand (INZ) must be provided in English.

Applicants must provide a certified English translation of any documents in a foreign language. Applications without translated documents are likely to be declined.

There are a number of entities that INZ will accept as the translator and each translation must:

- be on the translation business' official letterhead, if possible
- certified as a correct translation by the translator
- stamped or signed by the translator or translation business.

When applying for the visa, the client must provide to INZ the original document in a foreign language and a certified English translation of the document.

If the application is paper-based (rather than online), the client may request a JP to make certified copies of these documents.

<https://www.immigration.govt.nz/about-us/media-centre/news-notifications/english-translations-required-for-visitor-visa-supporting-documents>

11. Long Services



Rowan Hatch, QSM receiving his certificate for 30 years of JP service from Carolyn Marshall (President)

From the early 1970s until recently, Rowan was the pharmacist in Seatoun, and totally immersed himself in community events, including the co-ordination of Market Mornings and Annual Christmas Parades.

He spearheaded the 20th and 25th Wahine Commemorations and was Chairman of the Wahine Memorial Committee, organising the construction of the Wahine Memorial on the Seatoun foreshore.

Rowan has lived in Seatoun with his wife, Suzanne, for over fifty years and has a loving family of two adult children and five grandchildren.

Dame Kerry Prendergast is overseas and was pleased to get her 30-year certificate through the post.

Keith Newell was pleased to receive his 30-year certificate and pot plant. Keith had Covid when they were delivered, so we just had to wave at each other.

Alan Fraser thanked the Association very much for his certificate of 50 years and was pleased to get the pot plant. He commented:

Over the past fifty years I have greatly enjoyed my involvement as a Justice of the Peace. I have found the work very satisfying. On many occasions it was simply verifying a document or taking a declaration. On two occasions I was officiating a citizenship ceremony. On all occasions my contribution as a Justice provided a positive outcome for the recipient and was appreciated.

Alan still sees clients and has no plans to retire yet.



Clynton Hardy receiving his certificate for 30 years of JP service from Maureen Pratchett (Registrar) at the Professional Development session in Waikanae

Clynton has been a JP since 1994, initially in Auckland and in Paremata since 2015. In his working life, Clynton was a Corporate Trustee and headed up the Corporate

Trust business of Trustees Executors in Auckland. This involved supervising a number of Trust bodies, KiwiSaver Funds and other Managed Funds and included chairing a Securities Commission task force that reviewed the law as it applied to Retirement Villages.

Riria Handscomb receiving her certificate for 30 years of JP service from Carolyn Marshall (President)



As a community worker, Riria was nominated by Hon. Annette King to become a Justice of the Peace, recognizing the need for more Maori women JPs. She is of Te Whanau a Apanui, Whakatohea, and Ngati Maniapoto descent.

As a JP, Riria has volunteered at the Eastern Suburbs' Citizens Advice Bureau and briefly assisted at the Wellington District Court through the Matua Whangai program. She continues to serve the community by offering JP services from home.

Robin Boldarin, QSM receiving her certificate for 30 years of JP service from Carolyn Marshall (President)

Throughout her tenure as a Justice of the Peace, marked by generally smooth service with occasional hiccups, Robin has earned various titles: 'Mrs JP', 'Mrs GP', 'Mrs Robin', and the straightforward query, "Are you the JP?" She is not entirely sure if it's because she does not fit the stereotype of a JP or if it's merely seeking confirmation.

Her clients range from charming and friendly, to keen and sometimes initially reserved, often in a hurry. Their tendencies include skimming without fully reading, disregarding instructions on which questions to answer, and occasionally pre-signing, particularly with declarations and affidavits.

All of this is par for the course, "keeping me on my toes and instilling a sense of quiet confidence as I navigate through forms at varying paces" as she says.

At the conclusion of some sessions, there's often a cautious inquiry: "How much do I owe you?" The palpable sense of relief upon hearing her response "Nothing at all. It's part of our community service," is truly priceless.



Thanks to our contributors to this issue of Justice Pieces, which included Carolyn Marshall, Caroline Ludford, Maureen Pratchett, Ann Clark and Tim Price-Walker.

If any of our members have suggestions for articles, do let us know.