

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2019

NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF NOTARIES INC

Membership

At the date of this report the number of members of the NZ Society of Notaries is 193.

Northern Club Function

A delightful cocktail function was held at the Northern Club on 20 November 2018 to honour John Hackett and Richard Wilson both of Auckland and Murray Weakley of Christchurch as past Council members. The Society thank them for their many years of dedication and good work. Photos of the event are posted on the Society's website in the secure *For Notaries* area of the website under [News](#).

Notarial Applications

The Society is pleased to advise the completion of 5 new Notarial faculties during the past year with a further 3 new applicants having received their New Zealand consent certificates and awaiting their Faculty from the Master of Faculties in England.

Council

The Council held meetings in Wellington on 17 August 2018 and in Auckland on 15 February 2019. Minutes of both meetings have been distributed previously to all members of the Society. The Council will be holding a meeting in Christchurch on Friday 30 August 2019 immediately following the AGM.

Code of Notarial Practice

Members will be aware that the Code of Notarial Practice was adopted by the Society at the AGM on 17 August 2018. The published code was emailed to notaries under cover of letter from Bruce Stewart on 27 August 2018. A copy of the Code is also available on the Society's website in the *For Notaries* secure section under the [Governing Policies](#) tab.

Annual Accounts

The accounts cover the period from 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019. Owen Williams as our honorary auditor has audited the accounts of the Society for the year ended 31 March 2019. The receipts and payments for the period are shown, and the surplus carried forward is \$39,480.11. The function costs relate to the Northern Club function listed above.

Membership Fees

At its March meeting Council discussed membership fees which were outstanding and unpaid. Council is pleased to advise there are no outstanding fees for 2019.

Education

Mr Bob Eades continues to assist the Society with meeting all new applicants for appointment as a Notary Public, to administer his tutorial and to test all applicants accordingly. The Society is most grateful for all the work undertaken by Mr Eades on its behalf. Council have recently appointed Tony Herring of Christchurch and Richard Wilson of Auckland to assist Bob Eades with this work.

Website/Forum

The new website was launched during the year and Members are encouraged to check how their own details appear on the new Website. The forum facility is available to members within the members secure area of the website and members should all have been issued with usernames and passwords to access this area.

The NZ Notary booklet

As part of the secure *For Notaries* section of the website a digital version of a new edition of the Handbook and some precedents for various Notarial Acts will be made available shortly. A sub-committee of Bob Eades, Richard Wilson and Don Thomas has been delegated to this task. Any suggestions from members for what could be included in the Handbook and the precedents (and anything else for the website) should be forwarded through the Secretary.



Stewart Germann

President

August 2019