

## NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF NOTARIES INC PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2023

### Membership

At the date of this report the number of members of the NZ Society of Notaries is 182. The Society has received nine resignations from membership due to notaries retiring from notarial practice. There have been four new notaries appointed by the Master since last year's AGM and a number of notarial applications in process so the Society can expect to have those notaries on board as new members in the coming months.

### Council meetings

The Council held a full meeting by Zoom after the AGM on 10 August 2022 and it also met in person in Wellington on 20 February 2023. The Council will meet after our AGM on 11 August. Minutes of Council meetings have been distributed by email to all members of the Society and are available to view in the *For Notaries* section of the website. The Council also has monthly meetings via Zoom to deal with an increasing number of matters, but primarily to discuss the notarial applications and keep those moving along.

### Annual Accounts

The annual accounts cover the period from 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023. Owen Williams as the Society's auditor has reviewed the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023 and we thank him accordingly.

The accounts confirm that the surplus as at 31 March 2023 is \$80,647.86. The cost of Council meetings has increased during the past year because of in person meetings rather than by Zoom. The Society is in a healthy financial position.

### Membership Fees

Subscriptions to October 2022 are paid up with the exception of two members. Subscription invoices for the coming year will be issued shortly after the AGM.

### Education

The Council has Education and Continuing Professional Development on their monthly agenda. All members are sent our fortnightly Practice Notes which the Council has been distributing and are published on the website for your assistance. Feedback on the Practice Notes has been very positive and our appreciation to the sub-committee Julie, Allen and Bruce for their great efforts here.

In addition to the fortnightly Practice Notes, the Council has published a selection of educational videos available on the website. Precedents have also been made available on the website and members are encouraged to send in any examples which they may have or anything else they deem suitable for the website.

### Common Law Association of Notaries

Stewart Germann is in the fourth year of his term as the C.L.A.N. President. Ken Lord is the Editor of *Notary World*. We are always on the lookout for relevant articles and each of you is invited to send an article to the Secretary of C.L.A.N. [info@commonlawnotary.org](mailto:info@commonlawnotary.org) to be considered for publication in a future issue of *Notary World*.

### PI Insurance

The Council has recently set up a group scheme with BMS Risk Solutions for notaries who are not covered by their firm's PI insurance because they have retired.. Please contact the Secretary if you require any further information.

### ANZCN

The Australian and New Zealand College of Notaries have organised a Conference to take place in Sydney on 26/27/28 October 2023. You should have received a notification recently and registrations are now open. The link to further information and registrations can be found on the Society's website under News in the For Notaries section.

**Secretary**

Tracey Merlini who has been our Secretary for over eight years has resigned from her position effective from 30 September 2023. The Council, and myself in particular, are very thankful for the hard work and efficiency that Tracey has given to the Society over many years and we wish her well in the future.

**Thank You**

As your President I would like to thank all of you for the honour in carrying out this function. I would particularly like to thank all members of the Council for their ongoing support, commitment and hard work in relation to our Society.

**Stewart Germann****President**

4 August 2023