



# WESLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY (N.Z.)

Te Roopu Hitori o Te Haahi Weteriana o Aotearoa

**President** : Dr Helen Laurenson, 6B Atherton Rd, Epsom, Auckland 1023

**Secretary** : Rev Ian Faulkner, 257 St Johns Rd, Meadowbank, Auckland 1072

**Treasurer** : Mr Peter Lane, 56 Senator Drive, Manurewa, Auckland 2105

## NEWSLETTER February 2018

Greetings to all members and friends of the Wesley Historical Society (NZ).  
Tena kotoa nga mema me nga hoa o te Roopu Hitori o Te Haahi Weteriana o Aotearoa.  
Nga mihi mahana ki a koutou katoa.

### Publications

This newsletter accompanies two publications.

The first is the annual Journal, proceedings of the Wesley Historical Society (NZ) No. 103, published in December 2017. The Editorial has reference to the bicentenary of the arrival to Aotearoa / New Zealand of the Rev Samuel Leigh to found the Wesleyan Mission at Kaeo in 1819. A committee comprising representatives of the Methodist Church of New Zealand, the Wesleyan Church of New Zealand and the Church of the Nazarene is planning a symposium entitled "Methodism in Aotearoa: Its Origins and Impact". This symposium will be held in the Wesley Hall at St Johns College, Meadowbank, Auckland on Friday 24 (Wesley Day) and Saturday 25 May 2019. Registration and programme details will be circulated once they are confirmed.

The second is former 1994 President of the Methodist Church of New Zealand, Dr Garth Cant's The Methodist response to the formation of the Ratana Church in 1924 - 1925, which has been published as the proceedings of the Wesley Historical Society (NZ) No. 104, January 2019. This work described as 'a scholarly and humane history of the Methodist response to the formation of the Ratana Church that provides critical insights into Maori and Pakeha religious leaders and movements in the early twentieth-century.' The publication is of significance as we note the recent celebration held at the annual gathering at Ratana Pa in January 2018 to mark the 100 years since Tapupotiki Wiremu Ratana's first recorded spiritual experience in March 1918.

### 2017 Annual General Meeting

As is required by the Constitution of the Society, an Annual General Meeting was held at the Tamahere Retirement Village on 6 October 2017.

The minutes of the meeting are included with this newsletter, as are the Society's Annual Financial Report (Profit and Loss Statement and Balance Sheet).

### In Memorium

The Society notes the death of member Mr Lloyd Riesterer on 11 January and expresses condolences to Mrs Geraldine Riesterer and their family.

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Wesley Historical Society  
held at the Tamahere Retirement Village on 6 October 2017  
commencing at 1.30pm.**

**Present:**

Dr Helen Laurenson (in the chair), Rev Drs Susan Thompson, Lynne Frith, Lynne Wall and Terry Wall, Rev Norman and Mrs Margaret Brookes, Rev Barry Neal, Messrs Alec Utting, David McGeorge, Peter Lane, Eric Laurenson and Rev Ian Faulkner, members of the Society; and Mr Robin Astridge, Guest Speaker.

**Apologies:**

Mrs Shone Michie, Mrs Moira Neal and Mr Robin Ziegler.

**Welcome and Opening Prayer:**

Rev Dr Susan Thompson, as Waikato-Waiarki Synod Superintendent, welcomed those present to the Rohe; and led the meeting in prayer.

**Minutes:**

The Minutes of the 2016 Annual Meeting held at Wesley College, as circulated to members and ratified by the Executive Meeting held on 25 January 2017, were received and adopted.  
H. Laurenson / P. Lane

**President's Report:**

President Helen read her report. Mention was made of the requirement of the current Constitution to hold an Annual Meeting; and that audited Financial Statements were not required. The meeting remembered members who had died during the last year: Mr Harvey Hoskin and Rev Mary Astley Ford.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Treasurer Peter presented a verbal report, which included a recommendation that the Annual Subscription be unchanged. This was **agreed**.  
It was also **agreed** that the Financial Statements be circulated later in the year, with a Newsletter.

**Election of Officers**

It was **agreed** that the existing Officers be re-elected en block. Frith / McGeorge

**The Officers elected for the 2017 – 2018 year are:**

**Patrons:** President Prince Devanandan and Vice-President Viv Whimster

**President:** Dr Helen Laurenson

**Secretary:** Rev Ian Faulkner

**Treasurer:** Mr Peter Lane

**Honoured Members:** Mrs Marcia Baker, Dr Elaine Bolitho, Rev Dr Allan Davidson, Rev Barry Neal, Mr Arthur Olsson, Rev Donald Phillipps, Rev Rua Rakena, Rev Phillip Taylor and Mrs Joan Weeks.

**Executive Committee:** Rev Dr Susan Thompson (Publications Convenor), Rev Dr Terry Wall (Journal Editor), Mrs Shona Michie (Minutes Secretary), Rev Norman Brookes, Rev Dr Allan Davidson, Mr Eric Laurenson and Rev Dr Lynne Wall.

**General Business:**

Mr Alec Utting updated members on the digitalization of the now 248 publications, the smallest of which is 4 pages and the largest 250 pages, placed in the Church website under the History tab. Alec is always looking for new material to add. He is currently working to digitalize the history of Kingsland.

The meeting thanked Alec for his dedication to this task.

**Annual Lecture.**

In place of the Annual Lecture the meeting received two informative presentations: The first from Mr David McGeorge, General Manager of the Tamahere Retirement Village, who advised the meeting of the development stages of the Village and the Trust's hopes for the future of the complex; and from Mr Robin Astridge on his work detailing the early Wesleyan Mission sites in the Waikato district.

Both David and Robin were thanked for their preparation and the valuable information presented.

**Closure:**

Rev Norman Brookes thanked Dr Helen for her leadership of the Society during the past year.

The meeting closed at 2.10 pm



# Annual Report

Wesley Historical Society (NZ)

2 October 2017

Prepared by Peter Lane

