



## Greetings Fellow Justices

**What is Matariki:** Matariki, also known as the Pleiades (or Subaru in Japan) is the Māori name for a cluster of stars which is visible in our night sky at a specific time of the year. In 2019, from 25 to 28 June, Matariki will re-appear in the dawn sky – signalling the start of the Māori New Year.



So whilst the weather may be colder at this time, very warm greetings for the start of another “year” from the members of the Council.

**New JPs:** Once again it was a pleasure and an honour on behalf of the Association to welcome six new Justices of the Peace who were sworn/affirmed on 1 April and five more Justices of the Peace on 13 May by Judge Mathers before family and friends.



**Annual Luncheon:** The annual luncheon has just been held and those who attended were enthralled by our guest speaker, Captain Lisa Hunn RNZN, (first female officer to take Command of a Royal NZ Navy Frigate) who regaled us regarding “The Challenge of Command”. Lisa generously shared her experiences and answered questions. Do watch out for the annual dinner poster later in the year.



**Support Group Meetings:** It is a great pleasure to be able to visit and participate in the Support Group Meetings around our Association's region – twenty six in total.

As your President I have been warmly welcomed wherever I visit and afforded hospitality and the opportunity to update members.

It has also been a delight to present long service/retirement certificates at these occasions and recognise the valuable contributions made by our members.

Recently devised Guidelines for Support Groups, Coordinators and Service Desks were distributed in recent weeks and are available on the website.



**AJPA Council:** Council continues to meet on the second Wednesday of each month (except in January) and the subcommittees meet on a needs basis in between council meetings. The council briefs are noted on the website a few days after each meeting.

There is a wealth of information on the AJPA website under "Resources" so do take a look.

A new item there is the "Calendar of Events" which notes all activities and meetings within the AJPA for the year – do check this out.

Our Facebook page is a closed page so if you are not already a member please do consider joining as this is updated very regularly, thanks to our Registrar.

Council has continued to provide members, especially those who serve on one of our authorised AJPA Service Desks with stamp vouchers to purchase/replace old stamps as well as AJPA name badges for wearing at this time.

Recently we have had business cards printed for distribution to the public. These have a scannable logo which when scanned with a mobile phone/iPad or other device will take you directly to the website and "Find a JP".

Members who so wished have received the newly printed logbooks and over the coming weeks

more will be distributed. It is understood that many members may wish to continue with their own logbook. Remember our Code of Conduct requires ALL Justices of the Peace to keep a record of their activities – and this can be called upon by an agency as proof of that activity having taken place.

The Council is very grateful to the Lotteries Commission for the funds provided that have enabled us to support our members in these instances.



**HUB Education Sessions:** The nine Hub Education Sessions have been concluded for 2019 with an increase in attendance which is pleasing. However if you have missed one of these, it is being offered once again in Northland in conjunction with their association. AJPA trainers and councillors will be hosting this on Saturday 29 June, 10am – 12noon at the Mangawhai Heads

Hall, 8A Fagan Place, Mangawhai Heads (next to the Coast to Coast Medical Centre). There is no need to register.

The topics are as follows:

- Certifying documents received electronically, so very common now
- Customer Service – includes Group Discussion/ Role Play
- Certifying Identity Documents under the Anti Money Laundering Legislation (AML/CFT)
- As well as banks and financial institutions the AML rules now cover lawyers and conveyancers, accountants and providers of accounting services, and real estate agents. In the current HUB training sessions you will learn how to certify identity documents requested by these organisations.

The AJPA Trainers continue to be available to attend local Support Group Meetings in 2019 on a needs/request basis and these will qualify for recognition for Accreditation as well. Please contact our Lead Trainer Garry Nicholls if you have a request regarding a topic for one of your Support Group meetings and he will allocate a trainer nearby to come and address this.

**Accreditation:** It was pleasing to note an increase in those participating in the Accreditation Programme when reviewing the HUB feedback forms. Your council encourages you all to

renew your Accreditation if it has lapsed after the two year period, or to join the programme given this is an easy means of maintaining your knowledge, keeping current and updated. Not only will this demonstrate that you are competent and current but this is the proof to the public that you are.

Accreditation "clinics" will be offered by the trainers during 2019, where members can attend with their own device (eg laptop, iPad etc) to undertake the Accreditation Test as part of a group. These will be held in a number of central locations with advice of location posted on the website/FB.



**Service Desks:** Together with the public, we are most grateful to those members who regularly turn up and work on a Service Desk. Not only are you the key people within our organisation but you are delivering an extremely important service to the public. More members of the public use this facility and fewer are seeing Justices of the Peace in their homes.

If you have yet to do this, do contact your Rosterer. Whilst a few Support Groups only assign accredited members, our aim is to have all these members accredited who work on a Service Desk.

Our grateful thanks also to those of you who assist with the mentoring of our newest Justices of the Peace as they complete their mandatory eight hours.

We have learned that some of the Surface Pros that were issued in the Service Desk Kits have not been used. We request that if these are not being used consistently that they be returned to the AJPA office as they will be used for training

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**Post nominal use of the letters "JP":** On a regular basis the Council is advised of members using the letters "JP" in a manner that is contradictory to the Codes of Ethics and Conduct. There is explicit outline of when and when not these letters can be used in the Ministerial Manual, Section 2.10. If in any doubt please refer to these documents, contact our Registrar or me for clarification.

It is vital that there is no conflict of interest as well when advertising/promoting one's profession particularly where a fee may be charged for the service. It is vital to remember that Justices of the Peace when taking their oath of office swear/affirm "to do right to all manner of people after the laws and usages of New Zealand, without fear or favour, affection or ill-will ..."

**Judicial Seminar:** A very successful judicial seminar was held on 29 May with great attendance and participation. Our sincere appreciation to Susan Walker and her team for preparing and leading this most important training session.

**Are you interested in becoming a Judicial Justice of the Peace?** Expressions of interest are sought for the role of Judicial Justice of the Peace.

Candidates must have the time, the flexibility and the ability to:

1. Undertake a challenging 6 month, 200 hour, tertiary level course, probably commencing April 1st, 2020.
2. Attend and complete a two-day practicum in Wellington run by the Royal Federation after the completion of the course.
3. Be rostered for an average of 1 day a week sitting in the four District Courts in Auckland.
4. Attend ongoing training on a regular basis.

Candidates must have the following essential qualities:

1. Excellent, clear, written and spoken English language.
2. An ability to make reasoned and impartial judgments.
3. An ability to work constructively with others.
4. A thorough understanding, and demonstration, of the ethical behaviour required of a Judicial Justice.

Candidates must be computer-literate, own an up-to-date computer and software, and have consistent internet access.

Candidates should be aware that the retirement age of Judicial Justices of the Peace is 75 years. It takes a minimum of 3 years from selection to become fully competent.

Further information is available on [www.justiceofthepeace.org.nz](http://www.justiceofthepeace.org.nz). After logging in, select Judicial Studies Course and read the General Information.

Applications in writing by July 31 to:

The Registrar  
Auckland Justices of the Peace Association

PO Box 108229  
Symonds St  
Auckland 1150  
[registrar@jpauckland.org](mailto:registrar@jpauckland.org)

Enquiries to the Judicial Trainer, Susan Walker: [suewalk53@gmail.com](mailto:suewalk53@gmail.com)

Please enclose a short, relevant CV with your **hand-written** letter of application. The letter should outline your suitability and reasons for wishing to undertake this role. Applications may be posted, or emailed with the letter scanned.

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**Queen's Birthday Honours:** The Association was delighted to receive the news that six of our members had been honoured in the Queen's Birthday Honours and letters of acknowledgement have been sent to Rev John Marsden CNMZ, Laine Tipi MNMZ, Gary Aitken QSM, Danni Preston-Thomas QSM, Janferie Bryce-Chapman QSM, Mupopo Siaosi QSM.

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**JP Retired:** Changes in technology and the way we process documents for clients means that the Justice of the Peace role is no longer as straight forward as it once was. If you no longer wish to carry out the functions of a Justice of the Peace, our Association wants to recognise your achievements by celebrating your retirement. If you have served for ten years or more, you are entitled to apply for JP Retired status.

A pro forma letter is available on the AJPA website under "Resources" or contact the Registrar by phone (09) 916 9276 or email [registrar@jpauckland.govt.nz](mailto:registrar@jpauckland.govt.nz)

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**Patrick Samson JP:** The Association and Members paid their respects to Pat Samson who died on 11 April 2019. Pat had been a Justice of the Peace for 22 years and had served many of these in capacities at both AJPA Council and Royal Federation levels.

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**AGM/Regional Conference:** Please note the date Sunday 22 September 2019 in your diaries for the Annual General Meeting and Regional Conference to be held at Alexandra Park, Greenlane. Formal notification and documentation will be advised in due course.

Kind regards

Sherryl Wilson JP

**PRESIDENT**



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