

Annual Report
for the 169th year
of the

**ROYAL SOCIETY OF
NEW ZEALAND
WELLINGTON BRANCH
INCORPORATED**

Year ended 31st August
2020

**Report for the 169th year of
ROYAL SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND
WELLINGTON BRANCH INCORPORATED**

Founded July 1851 as the New Zealand Society.
Reconstituted November 1867 and renamed the
Wellington Philosophical Society

Incorporated in 1868 with the New Zealand
Institute Act 1867.

Renamed in 1938 as the Wellington Branch of the
Royal Society of New Zealand

Incorporated in 1939 under the Incorporated
Societies Act 1908 as the Wellington Branch of the
Royal Society of New Zealand Incorporated

The Society changed its name in 1995 to Science
Wellington Incorporated and then changed in 2001
to Royal Society of New Zealand Wellington
Branch Incorporated

The Branch was registered in 2009 as a Charitable
Entity with the Charities Commission (registration
number CC42176)

The Branch is a Regional Constituent Organisation
of the Royal Society Of New Zealand under the
Royal Society of New Zealand Act 1997, Section
14.

<https://wellington.rsnzbranch.org.nz>

**COUNCIL OFFICE BEARERS, AFFILIATES
AND MEMBERS FOR 2018-19**

PRESIDENT	Nicole Stanton
VICE-PRESIDENTS	David Lillis
SECRETARY	William Vandenberg Gracie
TREASURER	Brian Jones
FINANCIAL REVIEWER	Paul Jones
COUNCIL MEMBERS	Frank Andrews Lucy Forde Evan Brenton-Rule Phil Lester
BRANCHES REPRESENTATIVE FOR RSNZ	Nicole Stanton

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2020

This year we started off with a hiss and a roar, with grand plans to revitalise our lecture programme and encourage new membership. We were in the process of organising a new interactive forum on climate change in Wellington, and were about to host our first lecture for the year, “Human Microbiomes – Notes for Hosts” by Professor Julian Crane, when New Zealand was put into lockdown due to COVID-19. Since then, it has been difficult to get any of our plans off the ground. The council decided we were not willing to risk our members’ health for our activities, so lectures could only continue under COVID-19 Alert Level 1 or below.

We rescheduled the “Human Microbiomes – Notes for Hosts” lecture for Wednesday 19 August, which we then cancelled due to the increase in COVID-19 Alert Level with the second-wave outbreak in Auckland. All going well, we will host this lecture in November, which is highly unusual for us, much like this year.

The Hudson Lecture, planned to be given by Professor Rewi Newnham (originally planned for Wednesday 16 September), was postponed for the same reason. As a result it is likely we will have two Hudson Lectures in 2021, with Prof. Newnham giving his lecture in March,

and the not-yet-nominated 2021 Hudson Lecturer to present in August as usual.

There is some good news, in that the NIWA Wellington Science & Technology Fair was still able to be held, in a brand-new virtual format. The Branch sponsors the prize for the Runner Up Best Overall Exhibit, and the committee that runs the Science Fair is a sub-committee of the Branch Council. Students were asked to provide a slideshow and video presenting their project, in lieu of the usual poster board, and then had interviews with the judges about their work on judging day (Wednesday 16 September). A few technical issues came up on judging day, but overall the fair was a success, and the winning exhibits are now available to be viewed on the Science Fair website (www.sciencefair.org.nz). As a member of this committee I was witness to how much work it took to get this off the ground, and I would like to congratulate the committee on their success, particularly former council member Chrissy Boulton, who is now chair of the Science Fair committee.

We were still able to award our Postgraduate Student Scholarships this year, which went to three deserving recipients: Quenten Highgate (School of Psychology, VUW), Alistair Stronach (School of Geography, Environment, and Earth Sciences, VUW), and Sam Treweek (School of Geography, Environment, and Earth Sciences, VUW). We hope to organise a student

presentation night for our scholarship recipients to discuss their research in 2021.

We also hosted a number of blogs by council member David Lillis on our website, which covered the [Cretaceous](#), [Cenozoic](#), and [Jurassic](#) periods. Check them out!

Long-time council-member and former President Phil Lester has announced that he will be stepping down from the council. I would like to acknowledge all of the hard work Phil has put into the Branch over the past few years, and I personally have learned a lot from his leadership.

On a final note I will be stepping down as President of the Branch and from the council at our 2020 AGM. I am proud to have been the first female President of the Branch, and even though this year didn't go to plan, I have really enjoyed my time on the council and I would like to thank my fellow councillors for all of their help and support: David Lillis, Brian Jones, William Vandenburg-Gracie, Phil Lester, Lucy Forde, Evan Brenton-Rule, and Frank Andrews.

Dr. Nicole Stanton

TREASURER'S REPORT

For the year ended 31 August 2020

The style and format of the financial reporting conforms to the standards required by the Charities Commission. The tier that a charity reports under is determined by the annual expenses or operating payments of its previous two financial years. The RSNZ Wellington Branch falls under Tier 4.

Members have begun to use the website facility incorporating the ability to pay subscriptions by credit card online. The ANZ have announced that they will phase out cheques as a method to receive or make payments from 1 June 2021.

During the year we found and closed an old account held by the now defunct Archaeology Society that netted us \$6.17.

The September 2019 invoice sent to the Parent Body for the Membership Fees for the Fellows was not paid due to an oversight, and was not received until September 2020. Thus there was no income from the Fellows showing in the accounts for this financial year.

A major cause for concern is the loss of paying Ordinary Members. Under the Constitution, Members over 2 years in arrears cease to be Members of the Branch. It is likely that in the next two years there will be a significant fall in membership. As it is, the Fellows make up the bulk of the

Membership. Ironically, the Branch Newsletter is received by 153 people, but most pay nothing towards the Society. The lack of physical meeting activity by the Branch due to the Pandemic response has not helped the situation.

I would like to thank Paul Jones our Financial Reviewer, for his help this year.

Brian Jones
Treasurer

ENTITY INFORMATION: For the year ended 31 August 2020

Legal Name

The Royal Society of New Zealand Wellington Branch Inc.

Type of Entity

The Royal Society of New Zealand Wellington Branch Inc. is an incorporated society and charitable trust registered with the New Zealand Companies Office and the Charities Commission. The society operates under a Constitution and is governed by the requirements by the Incorporated Society Act 1908 and the Charitable Trusts Act 1957.

Date of Formation

New Zealand Companies Office: 18 December 1939
Charities Commission: 30 June 2008

Registration Number

New Zealand Companies Office Registration Number:
215762

Charities Commission registration number: CC42176

Purpose or Mission

The objects of the Royal Society of New Zealand Wellington Branch Inc. are the promotion and advancement of science, technology and the humanities in the Wellington region.

Structure

Non-affiliated

Main Sources of Cash and Resources

From membership subscriptions, donations and interest.

Main Methods to Raise Funds

Subscriptions, donations and bequests

Reliance on Volunteers and Donations The society relies entirely on volunteer time and expertise to complete its work.

Registered Office

11 Turnbull Street, Thorndon, Wellington 6011

Postal Address

PO Box 3085, WELLINGTON 6140

Website

<https://wellington.rsnzbranch.org.nz>

Emails

president.RSNZ.wellington@outlook.com

treasurer.RSNZ.wellington@outlook.com

secretary.RSNZ.wellington@outlook.com

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/RSNZWellington>

Twitter

<https://twitter.com/RSNZWellington>

Council

Nicole Stanton, President

David Lillis, Vice President

Brian Jones, Treasurer

William Vandenberg Gracie, Secretary

Frank Andrews

Lucy Forde

Evan Brenton-Rule

Phil Lester

Banker

ANZ Bank, 24 Willis Street Branch, Wellington

Financial Reviewer

Paul Jones, Email: jones00paul@gmail.com

Statement of Receipts and Payments

For the year ended 31 August 2020

INCOME	Note	Actual 2020	Actual 2019	Actual 2018
Donation		0	10	150
Interest Income		392	437	433
Membership Sub Received		769	2678	1415
Other income		6	0	0
Total Income		1167	3125	1998
EXPENSES				
Accounting		0	94	569
Advertising		0	34	0
Administration		210	200	190
AGM Catering		0	101	0
Bank Fees		120	69	52
Cafe Scientifique		0	200	203
Event expenses		124	0	186
General expenses		0	0	0
Glean Media		250	250	0
Scholarships		0	0	500
Science and Technology Fair		0	500	1000
Venue Hire		0	0	1024
Total Operating Expenses			1449	3723
Operating Surplus (deficit)		704	1676	(1725)

Opening Cash	
Balance in Bank	15490
Cash Flow In	463
Closing Cash	
Balance in Bank	15953

Represented by:

ANZ Cheque	
Account	2953
ANZ Term Deposit	13,000

Treasurer: Brian Jones

Date 13 September 2020

Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 31 August 2020

1. GENERAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The entity is an incorporated Society established under the Incorporated Societies Act 1908 and a charitable trust registered under the Charitable Trusts Act 1957. These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies stated below.

The measurement base adopted is cash basis record.

2. PARTICULAR ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Investments

Investments are valued at the lower of cost or net realisable value.

Incomes and expenses

Incomes are recognised upon receipt of monies.

Expenses are recognised upon transferred payment.

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

These financial statements have been prepared inclusive of GST. The Royal Society of New Zealand Wellington Branch Inc. is not registered for GST.

Differential Reporting

The entity is a qualifying entity of differential reporting by virtue of the fact that is not large and is not publicly accountable. All available exemptions have been applied with the exception of FRS-19, “Goods and Services Tax”.

Income Taxation

The entity is an incorporated Society and Charitable Trust that qualified for income tax deduction as a non-profit organisation. If net surplus is lower than \$1,000, an income tax return is not required by the IRD

Membership Subscriptions and Donations The RSNZ Wellington Branch is a membership charitable trust. The subscriptions and donations are non-taxable income.

Contingent Liabilities and Capital Commitments

There are no contingent liabilities and capital commitments during 2019.

3. CHANGES IN ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The entity now applies the accounting standards framework (ASFW) required by the External Reporting Board. This reporting is under Tier 4 of the ASFW requirements. Other than this, there is no change to the accounting policies.

4. RELATED PARTIES

There were no related party transactions during the year 2019-2020

5. MEMBERSHIP SUBS RECEIVED

	2020	2019	2018
Ordinary members 7 at rate \$40	230	560	520
*Ordinary member 3 at rate \$38.54	115	38	0
Retired members 8 at rate \$30	240	510	840
*Retired members 1 at rate \$28.83	28	0	0
Family members 4 at rate \$20 each	80	40	40
Student members 0 at rate 15	0	0	15
*Student members 4 at \$14.26	59	0	15
Emeritas members 18 exempt	0	0	0
Honorary members 4 exempt	0	0	0
Life members 3 exempt	0	0	0
Fellows 63 at bulk rate	0	1530	0
One member paid \$25	25		
Total	779	2678	1415

* Payment on the website is subject to a % card fee.

Reviewers Report

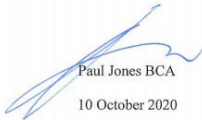
**To Members of The Royal Society of New Zealand Wellington Branch
Incorporated**

For the year ended 31 August 2020

I have reviewed the financial records of The Royal Society of New Zealand Wellington Branch for the year ended 31 August 2020.

The Branch reports in accordance with Tier 4 of the Public Benefit Entity Accounting Standard XRBA1.

In my opinion, based upon the financial documents that I have reviewed the branch records have been kept in an appropriate manner and the accompanying financial reports provide a true and fair view of the financial position of the Royal Society of New Zealand Wellington Branch Incorporated for the year ended 31 August 2020.



Paul Jones BCA
10 October 2020

MEMBERSHIP

As at 31st August 2020

Total: 131

Ordinary, Family and Retired Members: 40

Life: 3

Emeritus: 18

Honorary: 4

Student :4

Fellows: 63

* Indicates a family member

*** Indicates a family member**

Members

F P Andrews
R A Arnold
H Barr
J J Bartlett
B N Blackett
C Boulton
E Brenton-Rule
D C Calhoun
D S Capper
T Chester*
F W Cook
Y M Curtis*
R G Davies
T Drage
B H Easton
M Forbes
D.P.Fairfax
J Flux
L C Forde
I Goodwin
Gordon
M Head
LM Horwood
J B Jones
F Knox
P Lester
D Lillis
G L Lyon
D S McDonald
A D McEwen
W M McEwen
A H McIlraith
I J Miller
S Moore
E Munster
J I Raine*
C J R Robertson
C R Smart
N Stanton
E W Spedon
H M Tobin
N Yopp

Student members

J Dobelmann
Q Highgate
A Stronach
S Treweek

Emeritus members

K W Cory-Wright
P Cotton
J W Dawson
R R Dibble
G W Gibbs
G W Grindley
J R Hulston
C E Ingham
F B Knox
D Lovatt
W J P MacDonald
A Malahoff
R J Munster
J J Reed
E I Robertson
L J Rollo
T M Skerman
I G Speden
G R Stevens
L D Swindale
W A Watters

Honorary Members

G G C Claridge
R B Miller
G L Jones
V R Moore

Life Members

H R Hughes
B G McFadgen
D Spiller

Fellows

S Bandyopadhyay
P Barrett
J Bass
R Beasley
A Beu
H Bibby
R Bowden
I Brown
R Buckley
J Burrows
D Carnegie
L Carter
N Curtis
A Cleland
M Cresswell
F Davey
R Downey

I Evans
G Fletcher
R. Furneaux
P Gander
R Goldblatt
N Greenberg
J Grieve
B Halton
J Harper
G Hawke
J Holmes
P Howden-Chapman
J Johnston
A Kaiser
E Khmaladze
W Lerner
G Le Gros
K MacKenzie
B Manhire
K R Markham
D Martin
K McNatty
T. Naish
W Nelson
D Norton
J Pratt
M Reyners
M Savage
S. Schenk
R Smith
T Stern
G Stevens
R Sutherland
J Tallon
J Trodahl
P Tyler
S Upton
D Vere-Jones
M Visser
J Vowles
R Walcott
T Ward
C Ward
G Weir
G Whittle
C Wilson
M Zhang

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2019

The Annual General Meeting was held at 6pm on the 11th October 2019 at the Thistle Inn, Thorndon. The AGM was followed by a Speaker - Dr Paul Young MBChB, Bsc (Hons), FCICM, an intensive care specialist and Medical Director of the Wakefield Hospital ICU and the Head of the Intensive Care Research Unit at Wellington Hospital.