

THE AUCKLAND MEDICAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Founded in 1964

“for the promotion of an interest in and knowledge of medical history through lectures, discussions, exhibitions and other means”



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PRESIDENT'S NEWSLETTER JULY 2020

After the enforced break in our 2020 programme due to the pandemic Covid-19, Members are welcomed back to our meeting on 6 August. We hope these meetings will continue without interruption for the remainder of this year. The Executive responded to the advice and directions from the Ministry of Health and the restrictions placed on the Ernest and Marian Davis Library. We are singularly fortunate that New Zealand has succeeded in keeping the spread of this virus to a minimum and has enabled us to return to a near normal life.

The Executive last met on 25 June. Amongst the items discussed were the Society's finances, catering and management of the dinners, membership, programmes for 2020 and 2021, the website and archives. The Treasurer's Report on the Society's finances highlighted the impact of the diminished returns from our investments and the increasing overall costs involved in running the Society. For the Society to remain viable, the annual subscription which has not changed during the past fifteen years, will need to be increased for 2021. Efforts also need to be made to recruit new members. This will be discussed at the Annual General Meeting of the Society on 1 October.

The AMHS programme for 2021 is near completion and Peter Stone has been successful in confirming speakers across a broad range of interesting topics. Those speakers who had previously agreed to present at the meetings between April and July, but which had to be cancelled, have been re-invited to speak in 2021. Judy Murphy and Peter Stone have been busy working on the Society's website and the Executive is very thankful to them for the enormous amount of time and effort they have given to this. The new AMHS website will be launched in a few weeks' time. This will be an enormous improvement on the previous version and will greatly streamline administrative procedures. It will also provide interesting information on medical history in New Zealand and other places, as well as other items of general interest.

Our meeting on 6 August will be most interesting. It will provide a unique insight into the complexities of modern Sports Medicine and include presentations from two excellent medical students, one of whom has been awarded the AMHS Essay Prize for 2020.

All good wishes
John Collins
President AMHS