



NZ Methodist Women's Fellowship  
PRESIDENT'S LETTER

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May 2023 edition

Warm Greetings to you all in the name of Lord Jesus Christ our Saviour. Wow this year is flying by quickly we already heading into May and I'm like where has the time gone.

We are moving into the cold, wet and windy season of winter and all you feel like doing is snuggling up into a warm blanket as soon as the sun goes down – so keep warm members tis the season for hot soup.

Belated Happy Mother's Day to all our mothers, grandmothers, great-grandmothers out there hope you had a blessed day with your loved ones and also to those that have lost your mother may the memories remain with you always of what a wonderful mum you had and her legacy continues within you and your children always.

### Acknowledgements

Thank you to all our members for your tireless work you do at a local, district and synod level your outreach work is truly appreciated, may our Lord continue to watch over you all as you continue with the good work.

Smethurst committee will be doing a changeover of guards in the next lot of allocation of funds for June applications and would like to acknowledge the services of Pat Reu (North Island rep) and Lyn Frater (South Island) and we welcome our two new members who will be joining the Smethurst committee Lynne Scott (South Island) and Judith Herbert (North Island) and then after Convention we welcome our President elect and her treasurer, very busy period for the Smethurst committee. I would like to thank those Districts that put through nominations for our committee to review and select our new members.

We are in the period of graduation where either for yourselves, children, grandchildren, or other family members walk across the stage to receive their paper in recognition of hard work over the years wishing them all the best for their future.

### District Visits

On 27 March 2023 I had the pleasure of going down with Rita Tuimaseve (National Treasurer) and Juanita Salevao (Liaison Link) to attend North Canterbury district meeting at Christchurch West at Church Corner Church what a wonderful group and it was even more special as we had men join the group which I think is a great way of opening our doors to new members to keep the great work going and if it means having our men folk join and get involved in group discussions even better – hope to see some you at Convention this year.

We started our visit with a trip to the Connexional Office and what a beautiful way to start the morning and meeting the team, they were so inviting and accommodating. It is a must see for any of our members that visit Christchurch to arrange a time to visit Connexional office.

On 14 April 2023 we were invited to Vahefonua Tonga District's fiefia night – what a momentous occasion to see our Tongan women dressed in beautiful colourful ball gowns and dancing the night away, we were told by our MC for the evening Siniva Vaitohi this was meant to take place in 2019 but due to COVID they have only been able to do it this year, so they made use of the dance floor. They used this to fundraise for their Special Project and other expenses. We also got to meet President Elect Lesieli Tulipe Pope and her incoming National Executive what a delight to see such a beautiful young team we wish them well.

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We are preparing to travel to Rotovegas in July to join Waikato/Thames valley district, so we are looking forward to this and spending the day with them.

We hope to get a few more districts before our term ends but know we are all busy but open to attend when it suits your district, just contact Liaison link Juanita Salevao.

### Convention 2023

Yes, we will be having National Convention this year and our dates are for Thursday 12 October 2023 to Sunday 15 October 2023 it will be here in Auckland we are just finalising costing with venue and then will come out with details in the next few weeks and when registration will come out. Looking forward to meeting up with everyone.

In preparation for Convention can districts ensure they prepare for any Tributes and photos of members who have passed since National Council 2022 ensure they are members that served on the NZMWF National Executive.

NZMWF long black sleeves and white t-shirts available and are taking orders, have also attached our promotional poster for you to distribute to your local fellowships and if you would like to put in an order by 31 July 2023, we will ensure gets to you before Convention 2023.

These would be great to wear to Convention when we gather on 12 October 2023 on Black Thursday, please contact our executive with orders.

### PWANZ

PWANZ Bush Fire newsletter was sent to districts this week with an update with Presbyterian Women Aotearoa New Zealand (PWANZ) where they will wound up come 30 June 2023. They met via Zoom on Saturday 23 April 2023 and a group was established to undertake the duties of Officers of PWANZ to look at disbursement of funds currently held for allocation to mission projects and management of administrative and financial costs following the winding of PWANZ. What does this mean for future Special Projects between MWF & PWANZ we are still to make contact as to what will happen in this area.

Janice Walters (Missions) and I are still looking at our Special Project for 2023-2024 and will have great causes to contribute to the coming year and will see if PWANZ will still be a part of our Special Projects or whether it is just us, so watch this space.

### Reminder up in coming Events

#### **Annual Statistic Forms 2023**

Our Annual Statistic forms have been sent to local and District fellowships we only require 1 form per District for noting of membership and also update of officers within each district.

#### **Smethurst Applications – closes 20 June 2023**

Smethurst Applications closes on 20 June 2023 please ensure all documents are received via email to the Convenor Siniva Vaitohi before the due date.

Some awesome women doing awesome work and studying to better themselves for their future.



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**Friendship Scholarship 2023**

A reminder this is a yearly application and this year it will close 20 November 2023 so please ensure you prepare the paperwork is completed by your members for their daughters or granddaughters who are attending high school.

**South Pacific Area Seminar 2024**

I mentioned in my last newsletter that we have new hosts for our next South Pacific Area Seminar, and we are going to Samoa in 2024 from 4 September to 8 September 2024.

We are only allowed 30 representatives from each Unit. The venue will be at Tanoa Hotel in Apia. We will get more details about the registration fee.

The weaving programme for Unit Presidents will start 3 September to 4 September 2024.

I will be sending updates on Convention with venue, costs and registration very soon.

This brings an end to my newsletter please take care and be safe out there and whatever plans you have may our Lord be your protector.

God Bless and signing out until my next newsletter.

Tui Salevao

NZMWF President 2021-2023