



Sir Harold Marshall

Sir Harold Marshall (KNZM, FRSNZ, FNZIA, FASA), a long-time member of the Mt Albert Methodist Parish, is recognised globally for his expertise in acoustics design and research. He is an architect, engineer, physicist, acoustician and Professor Emeritus of the University of Auckland School of Architecture. In 1981, Sir Harold co-founded Marshall Day Acoustics Ltd with Chris Day.



Harold Marshall.

a bass-baritone, in the parish where his grandfather was once a minister. Over the past 74 years, whenever he has been in Auckland, Harold has sung in the choir.

His work is widely cited in technical literature and his list of achievements is extensive and impressive. Having attained an international reputation in the field of acoustics, he has been awarded fellowships and distinguished inclusion in a list

of prestigious societies that represent international bodies in many fields of architectural, professional, acoustic and technological expertise and excellence. Sir Harold says, "I have never been a goal setter. Whatever I have done I have put my heart and soul into it and lived expectant of good."

Sir Harold lives in a cottage he has redesigned and renovated, on a site 100 metres from where he was born on land his great grandfather, Mark Woodward, purchased in 1873. A man of considerable fortitude and resilience, Woodward migrated to New Zealand in 1866, with his wife Sarah and four young sons. The

family was attracted by the 40-acre block of land given to migrants on arrival. The block given to Woodward in the Waitakere ranges proved to be 'totally useless'. Undeterred, the former tenant farmer from England worked diligently and scraped together enough money to purchase 80 acres in the suburb of Mount Albert. The farmland was subdivided in the 1920s. Subsequently Harold and his relations, including his three siblings acquired land packages within close range of Woodward Road, named after his great grandfather.

Sir Harold's father was also a man of special talents. Despite leaving school and home at the age of 12, he went on to become New Zealand's first graduate of

architecture and later taught at Auckland University College. Harold and his wife Shirley (she died in 2016) continued a strong family tradition of delivering boys and their four sons live with their families in Western Australia, Southland and Napier.



After 53 years and thousands of missiles not solving the problem, both sides were confident that these latest ones would be the ones that did.

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CARING FOR OUR PEOPLE

Riding a Dead Horse



Trudy Downes, MCNZ Caretaker

There is a story attributed to the Dakota First People, that when you discover you are riding a dead horse, the best strategy is to dismount.

It then follows that in these modern times - taking heavy investment factors into consideration - other strategies are often tried with dead horses. These include, but are not limited to:

- Changing riders.
- Appointing a committee to study the horse.
- Visiting other people to see how they ride dead horses.
- Lowering the standards so that dead horses can be included.
- Hiring contractors to ride the dead horse.
- Harnessing several dead horses together to increase speed.
- Providing additional funding and/or training to increase the dead horse's performance.

My favourite strategy is to sell 500 raffle tickets at \$5 per ticket to win a free horse, before anyone else finds out that the horse is dead. No one will complain about the horse being dead, except the person who wins. You then refund the winner their raffle ticket money and pocket \$2495 profit.

Although I think this dead horse story is hilarious (except for the poor horse), it did make me pause and consider are there 'dead horses' or even 'ailing horses' in our Caring for Our People practices?

Aside from our Covid-19 response, there are three key practices that are currently expected as a minimum of our parishes and rohe. These are detailed in our Caring for Our People website.

Asbestos management planning.

This is definitely not a dead horse! Parishes and rohe are taking an active role in managing asbestos in our buildings, and this is backed up by the expectation from the Methodist Connexional Property Committee that refurbishment applications include asbestos management.

Does our asbestos management match our documented process? We don't yet have every building categorised but we are close and our current practices ensure the potential for harm is minimised. Admittedly, our documented process could be more up to date.

Incident Reporting.

Also not a dead horse. Many of our parishes and rohe have an incident reporting system in place already and incidents are then followed up by committees.

There are pockets of excellence in this space and some fabulous work carried out on fixing the incidents that are reported to me. However, the flip side is that I don't know and can't comment on what isn't reported.

Emergency Response Plans.

Again and again, these are proving to be a necessity. If we practise our response to things we think are likely to happen in our buildings, then we will be able to react more quickly and more effectively to those things when they actually happen!

Is emergency planning easy? Yes, but the real challenge is getting the contents of an emergency plan fully known and practised among the people that need it most!

Are our Emergency Response templates up to date? Our templates are functional but need improvement. The Emergency Response Plan 'horse' isn't dead, but possibly it could be ill and needs improving.

Finally, are there any other

'horses' in our stable that we need to attend to? Probably. After all, we are imperfect creatures and there is always room for improvement! I strongly urge everyone to ensure that your parish, rohe, church entity has at least three healthy horses in asbestos management, incident reporting and emergency response.

- Send me your asbestos management plan if you haven't already.
- Send me your incident reports and the solutions to the problems, so I can share lessons learned

with the Connexion.

- Ensure your building has an Emergency Response Plan in place for all building users. Contact me if you need assistance or if you have improvement suggestions.

Whāia te mātauranga hei oranga mō koutou.

Seek knowledge for the sake of your wellbeing.

www.methodist.org.nz/caring_for_our_people

The horse story is an old online joke of unknown source; no horses were hurt in the writing of this article.



Property, Liability & Standards of Care Webinar

TUESDAY 8 JUNE 2021
6pm - 7pm

Explore with Wendy Anderson and Trudy Downes why we do what we do for MCPC, Liability Insurance and Caring for our People. Learn how alarm systems can save money!

For more information, visit:
Property and Insurance at
www.methodist.org.nz
or email
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