# Freemasons • Fresh Thinking



The latest news and views from New Zealand and around the world

## Welcome aboard!

We hope you enjoy this new newsletter that we have created during the lockdown to keep everyone up to speed with the latest developments within Freemasonry NZ, and with key issues that affect us during this pandemic.

It's a quick and easy read, but it's designed to ensure we can stay connected with Brethren on a frequent and regular basis.

If you've got feedback about stories ideas or matters you'd like us to cover, just email Duane Williams.

**Email Us** 

### From the Grand Master



Masonic spirit to the fore

Welcome to this newsletter, Brethren. I hope you are all coping with this enforced isolation as well as possible, looking after yourselves and others, and staying safe in your bubble.

I can't stress enough how important it is that we all do as instructed by Government, especially our elderly and more vulnerable Brethren and their families.

I'm pleased to report that Freemasons NZ appears to be weathering this Covid-19 storm reasonably well.

Read more from the Grand Master



#### Living in interesting times!

Our head office might be closed, but we've been working hard from home to keep Freemasonry alive and the momentum in our communities.

See what our Executive Director Mark has to say about our organisation's priorities and position at this time.

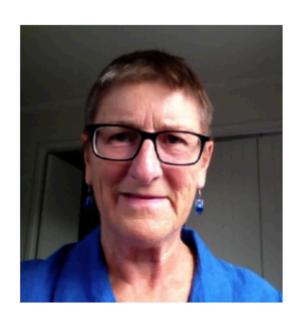
#### Read more from Mark

#### Keep calm and carry on

You're tougher than you think.

We've all experienced tough times, and though tough times are never easy, most of us will get through them.

Have a read to see some of Robyn McGill's (registered counsellor and former president of NZ Association of Councillors) tips to keep calm and carry on through this pandemic.



#### Read more from Robyn



Covid-19: A really frightening wake-up call

It's called Coronavirus because the proteins on the virus' outer 'coat' are shaped like a crown – hence the term 'corona'.

We sat down with well-known microbiologist and author, Associate Professor Siouxsie Wiles MNZM to discuss the realities of Covid-19 from a scientific standpoint.

Read more from Associate Professor Siouxsie