

IMPORTANT EVENTS IN ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS IN NEW ZEALAND

- 1946 On 3rd January, Ian Mac E the founder of A. A. in New Zealand wrote to A. A. New York and took the first step in his own recovery and A. A. was born in New Zealand
- 1947 In September in Auckland the second member Alf J of Devonport.
The first recorded meeting of sober alcoholics occurred in Auckland when two Americans, Lillian Roth and her husband Bert met with Ian Mac E

October Arch F of Dunedin became the 3rd member to join the fellowship.
- 1948 In June the Devonport Group is the first group registered in New York (it had 3 members at that time and by 1950 it had grown to 12)
- 1951 By this time there were 6 groups throughout the New Zealand (Auckland, Hastings, Wellington, Nelson, Dunedin and Invercargill).
- 1961 On 29th July 1961 the first meeting of "Alcoholics Anonymous Service Council of New Zealand" was held in Wellington. At that meeting which created the first national structure were representatives from five areas, namely, Auckland Service Centre: Waikato and Bay of Plenty Intergroup Committee: Wellington Inter Group Committee: Canterbury Inter Group Committee, Christchurch: Otago Inter Group Committee, Dunedin.
- 1964 February, 15th and 16th the first New Zealand Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous was held at Massey University Campus, Palmerston North. At that Conference it was decided that the "New Zealand General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous" be established, with 3 Delegates from each of the four areas, viz, Northern, Waikato and Bay of Plenty, Central and Southern, and 1 representative for the loners and unaffiliated groups.
This structure replaced the earlier Service Council.

A New Zealand Conference has been held annually since 1964

Justice Department approval of A.A. Meetings in Prisons

- 1966 On the 17th February, at the Conference at Lincoln University it was decided that Non A.A. members be invited to join the Conference. That the number of members be limited to four.
- 1967 On the 5th of August the first non A. A. members were appointed to Conference, viz Mr Russell Laurenson, Sir John Walsh and Father Mc Ferrin.
- 1968 August Conference invited Northern Area Assembly and Waikato Bay of Plenty Area Assembly to merge and reduce the total number of Area Assemblies to three.
- 1969 By the February Conference, the Waikato Bay of Plenty Area had merged with and become part of the Northern Area. Conference then had three delegates from each of the three Areas, Northern, Central and Southern.

At February Conference at Lincoln College Ian Mac E (who then resided in Wellington) and Irvan T of Christchurch were elected as our Delegates to attend the first World Service Meeting to be held in New York in October 1969.

- 1972 February Conference agreed to the translation into the Maori language and printing of the the 12 Steps, 12 Traditions and the Serenity Prayer. Also later the printing of A A pamphlets in the Maori language as well as the language of the Cook Islands.

The second World Service Meeting was held in New York and we sent two Delegates. We have continued to support this meeting which has been held every two years and to which we have always sent two Delegates

- 1979 June Conference approved the printing of A A pamphlets in the language of the Islands of the Pacific viz, Samoa, Tonga, Niue and Fiji.
- 1994 In May three members of the fellowship visited Tokyo and met with Japanese members to try and establish a Service Meeting for the Pacific zone. It was unanimously agreed that a service meeting to be known as the Asia Oceania Service Meeting would hold its inaugural meeting in Tokyo on 23rd March 1995.
- 1995 Asia Oceania Service Meeting held in Tokyo on 23rd March. Conference agreed to send two delegates to this Meeting. It was strongly supported by countries in the Pacific zone. The next meeting is to be held in Auckland on 20 and 21 March 1997.