

**THE J.R. McKENZIE  
TRUST BOARD**

(Incorporated)

**41st  
ANNUAL REPORT**



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**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING NOVEMBER 6th 1981**

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|--|------------------------|
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| <i>Personal Trustee</i>                                  | <i>W. Gee Taylor</i>   |
| <i>Secretary</i>   | <i>W.N.A. McKay</i>    |

For many years he was Secretary of the Otaki Children's Health Camp Association.

He was Secretary and later President of the Wellington Tuberculosis Association and Secretary and Executive of the Arthritis and Rheumatism Foundation.

His remarkable service to the Community was recognised in 1969 when he was awarded the M.B.E. The Board's appreciation and sympathy has been conveyed to his wife Ena and son Bruce.

MISS FLORENCE LOW, M.B.E.

For over 50 years the late Miss Low was Executive Secretary of the Wellington Rotary Club. She served as Secretary to many District Governors over these years as well as the 50 or more Presidents of the Club.

For a number of years she acted as Secretary for the Wellington Committees of both Trusts and her knowledge of these was invaluable to many District Governors and Presidents.

We pay tribute to her service and record here our appreciation.

Her service was given to many other organisations including the Wellington After Care, the T.B. Association and the Crippled Children Society.

To our late Secretary, our late Chairman Sir John Illott, and myself, she was a good friend.

### **Three major fields of interest needing assistance:**

From many of our applications and our involvement with various groups and organisations this year the need for greater assistance in three major fields of concern has been highlighted.

#### **1. The unemployment of school leavers and young people –**

The unemployment problems are largely due to the state of the economy and in the short term there is little prospect of change.

Our main assistance has gone to support co-operative work groups, groups providing craft teaching and those providing basic work skills.

Special schemes which encourage industries in which young people are employed look promising. New Education is required for new industries, new markets, new types of farming.

It is encouraging to note that there has been a much greater emphasis on transition from school to work amongst the schools and commercial interests. There are now a large variety of schemes being offered to enable pupils to gain first hand work experience.

# **J.R. McKENZIE TRUST BOARD**

## **ANNUAL REPORT**

1981 The Year of the Disabled, has been another year of worthwhile work largely involving our Secretary, Neil McKay and his assistant Mrs Carter.

The major work of the Trust is in the Community, where it should be and our task could not be completed without the magnificent contribution of Rotary throughout the country. The Rotary Metropolitan Committees and their Chairmen who are Trustees of the Trust process over 500 applications from which they make their recommendations. This means our administration costs making grants to some 90 National and 150 regional organisations are fairly nominal at \$12,000. Our thanks to the Chairmen, Auckland David Ellis, Hamilton George McElwee, Wellington Frank Drewitt, Christchurch Noel Bradford, Dunedin Sandy McAlister and their committees for this continuing work.

Also our thanks for their interest throughout the year to the District Governors of Rotary Districts 992, 993, 994, 997 and 998 who are trustees in their year of office namely Mel Cooper, Rex White, Michael Leggott, Owen McDowell and George Armstrong.

In addition I would like to thank the Wellington Trustees, David Hurley, Frank Drewitt, Bill Taylor and Neil McKay for dealing with applications occurring during the year and for assisting with the recommendations for National Organisations. There have been a few medically based applications and our Trustee Dr Dick Dawson has given us his views on these.

His work in the community was recognised in the New Year's Honours List by the award of the Queen's Service Medal.

## **Past Services Remembered**

**CLARRIE MEACHEN, M.B.E.**

The late Clarrie Meachen who passed away last month served as secretary of this Trust for 20 years until his retirement in 1974.

For many years he was Chairman of the Wellington J. R. McKenzie Youth Education Trust responsible for distributions in the lower half of the North Island. His long and valuable service to the Trusts and Rotary was appreciated by all. The highlight of his service to Rotary was his year as President of the Wellington Club in 1964-65.

Outside Rotary Clarrie served many other worthy organisations and causes. The main one of these was the Order of St John. He served them in many capacities and was there Chief Secretary for 20 years. In recognition of his services he was awarded their honour of Knight of Grace.

One of his outstanding achievements completed early in his life was the founding in the late 1920's of the Voluntary Blood Transfusion Services in this country. This was something unique in the world at the time and it saved hundred of lives. Following this he had a long involvement with the Wellington Hospital Board assisting in the welfare and recreation of patients.

## **2. Families needs after suffering violence – The Refuge movement –**

There has been a marked increase of violence in families, mostly affecting wives and children. Many are now facing up to these problems because of the better facilities available to assist and the greater community understanding. There needs to be an increasing awareness of the need to intervene earlier in family unhappiness. Help is neither adequate nor early enough.

The great preponderance of emotional disturbance in families (whether physical, emotional, intellectual, or social factors, or combinations of them) is seen not in psychiatric out patients departments, special units or family guidance clinics but at the points of primary referral, i.e. the GP's surgery or the health centre, the social service office, the probation office or the school. These places are the ones that should be augmented and strengthened with resources and skills.

Probably the most effective prevention of these and other associated problems is better "Preparation for Parenthood". Modern parenthood is too demanding and complex a task to be performed well merely because every adult has once been a child. Parent Centres, and Marriage Guidance services figure prominently in our list of grants but greater efforts need to be placed on the importance of parent training.

There are now twenty Refuge Centres throughout the country providing emergency accommodation and on going support facilities. Over the last two years I have seen something of the work and the people involved at two of these Centres. The representatives from these Centres, David Hurley representing the IYC Telethon Trust, (they have provided \$20,000) and myself representing the Trust and the Foundation formed a delegation to the Minister of Social Welfare, Mr Gair, in July to submit a case for a greater Government contribution in this field. After an understanding and sympathetic hearing we were given an outline of the type of information and figures they required on a National basis from which a grant would be considered.

On behalf of the Trust I offered to provide finance to secure a qualified person to undertake this. The Wellington Refuge Centre is proceeding with this after confirmation at their Association meeting, and we have recommended a grant for this purpose which will be considered at our Distribution Meeting.

An encouraging development since then has been the provision of houses through the Housing Corporation for the Upper Hutt and the Lower Hutt Family Refuge Centres. This will greatly facilitate their long term planning but it still leaves the salaries of the field workers and co-ordinators to be found. During the year a National Advisory Committee on the Prevention of Child Abuse was appointed and this should help to highlight the needs and better services required.

## **3. Special and Remedial tuition for children with learning difficulties**

It is in the last of these three fields, 'the special and remedial services available to pre-school and primary school children with learning difficulties' that I feel there is the greatest urgency.

From our involvement with many organisations and our links to the J. R. McKenzie Youth Education Trust which assists needy families of young children, we realise that the provision of special services and remedial instruction for children with learning difficulties is often less than many people, teachers and parents would wish it to be.

Greater services obviously in the early years will see more of these children able to rejoin normal classes and prevent far greater costs and losses later.

We have gained valuable experience in providing for children with learning difficulties over the past 50 years, but it seems as though the task has to be tackled afresh for each generation of parents and teachers. Certainly the strong emphasis of the past decade has been upon finding ways to improve the quality of help available to parents rather than to simply go on extending the professional responsibilities of teachers. This is especially the case for parents of economically and socially disadvantaged families who have difficulty gaining access to services or information. The recent commissioning by N.Z.C.E.R. of John Elkins of Queensland to undertake a comprehensive review of all services for Special Education may help to highlight the gaps that exist.

The budgetary restraints now being imposed on the services of the Department of Education are now being felt. The removal of part-time teaching allocations in particular has affected the remedial and special services severely. On the other hand we acknowledge that:

the Department of Education organised a successful National Conference covering this field last year

the teachers in reading clinics and itinerant teachers of reading have recently been incorporated into a group of resource teachers of reading with the general duty of working with parents and assisting teachers to help pupils with serious learning difficulties

the salaries of this group have been up-graded and approval has been given for an additional 15 resource teachers of reading over a three year period beginning September 1980.

We know that the Department is alert to the need and that it will welcome our contributions toward the development of new practices or services in fostering parent-teacher collaboration. Perhaps we should ensure that senior officials are better informed about our experience with the national and local groups we have been assisting.

### **Adult reading and lifelong learning assistance**

The extent of our literacy problems are already reflected in the adult world where there are 80-100,000 now known to be unable to read or write. Many of these may be those who failed to take advantage of a free education system but the majority have resulted from those with learning difficulties either not picked up by teachers or not able to be catered for by special tuition or special classes. It is only in the last few years when voluntary tutors' services have been advertised as available on a one to one basis that people have come forward to take advantage of these services.

As a Trust we take some pride in helping to bring into sharper focus in this country, the growing awareness of many adults of the advantages of improving their reading skills, and a recognition in educational circles that thousands of adults in our community can no longer read or write if they did manage meagre proficiency at school. The Correspondence School, in its individual studies section, and several secondary school evening classes now include remedial reading in their programmes.

The primary driving force in this field has come from the National Council of Adult Education. In the past five years they have established 91 reading assistance schemes throughout the country with 3,000 volunteer tutors helping about the same number of clients at any one time, mostly in their private homes. The McKenzie Education Foundation provided the national co-ordinator's salary for this scheme for three years in 1977.

The National Council has fulfilled its primary innovative function in identifying the need. Their annual Government grant of \$60,000 plus seven salary positions leaves no room to provide a further \$12,000 for the National co-ordinator's salary to make the most of this voluntary effort let alone extend the present successful scheme. Thus we are sad that the Department has not seen fit to provide an additional grant to intensify and develop these services utilising voluntary services rather than have other groups, institutions or departments endeavour to provide them.

So far, 10 regional technical institutes have accepted some responsibility for co-ordinating these efforts in larger districts, a conference and seminar for tutors was funded by the Department and some help has been given to publish a newsletter.

The Labour Party recognises the priority in this field and their education manifesto promises to reinstate part-time allocations and extend the literacy programme of the Council for Adult Education.

The Trust plans to continue its support this year for adult reading assistance and opportunities for lifelong learning. A grant of \$2,000 will assist to subsidise the holding of a National Gathering of those involved early in the New Year. There can be little doubt that help to enterprising individuals and organisations strengthens greatly the community's identification of specific areas where Government policies or programmes are inadequate or inefficient.

In this Year of the Disabled, it is of concern to hear of many cases where handicapped children do not seem to be able to get their full entitlement to a free and appropriate education.

We fully support those National Societies (I.H.C., Plunket and SPELD) and other organisations requesting Government to amend the 1964 Education Act to provide that

*"Any child who is unable at present to attend a state school because of physical or mental handicap should be entitled to free and appropriate education at an educational facility by approved organisations or the Department and the cost of establishing, and maintaining such facilities be met by the Government."*



There are a number of National and local parent groups endeavouring to provide specialist tuition needs and we will be providing increased assistance to them this year.

## FINANCE

Last year we had our special mortgage investment of \$100,000 for distribution as well as a special 5% dividend from Rangatira Limited relating to L.D. Nathans take over of McKenzies which provided a further \$100,000. This enabled us to distribute a record of over \$600,000 at last year's November meeting.

Our total income to the 1st November is estimated to be \$460,000 but the figure I advised Metropolitan Chairman to base this year's distribution recommendations on was \$507,500. The reason for this is that in the next few months Rangatira Limited will receive a substantial return of capital from the realisation of assets of J.C. Williams Limited. There is every prospect of Rangatira declaring a special dividend from this source early in the New Year which should provide the Trust with approximately \$100,000.

By anticipating this and exceeding this year's income by \$40,000, we will be maintaining a more even distribution pattern.

If necessary there will be one or two special grants that can be paid in two instalments to see us over the few months' shortfall period.

Rangatira's comparative net earnings after taxation figures, for the last two years, after deducting the fluctuating capital profits from the sale of shares is as follows:

| 1981           |                        | 1980             |
|----------------|------------------------|------------------|
| 1,467,393      |                        | 3,528,218        |
| <u>282,000</u> | Sales of Shares profit | <u>2,556,000</u> |
| 1,185,393      |                        | 972,218          |

This shows a reasonable increase of \$213,175 or 17% which is marginally ahead of inflation.

To date the increased income received by Rangatira from Nathans has been limited to the one interim dividend received in the financial year ending 31.3.81. The James Cook Hotel Ltd extensions involving \$3.5M have been financed from loans and revenue which has meant no increased dividend in the current year. These transactions have combined to prevent my last year's prediction "that we would be able to maintain a similar distribution next year". I am reasonably confident we will have \$500,000 to distribute next year and there should be a steady increase thereafter.

## SPECIFIC OBJECTS

### J.R. McKenzie Youth Education Fund —

Last year this fund again received our largest single grant of \$50,000 for distribution to the five Rotary Metropolitan Committees who disperse these funds in their districts.

Their own investments bring in a further \$15,000 for distribution.

Each district sponsored one student on an Outward Bound Course during the year.

Ian Cottrell Secretary, for over forty years reports:

Each year I am reminded of the valuable work carried out by Rotary in New Zealand. They assist in the administration of this Trust which helps deserving young people and it is one of their finest projects. During the year over 1,000 children received assistance.

We congratulate the Committee members and Chairmen of these Metropolitan committees, Jack Chalmers, Bill Parsonson, John Watson, Dave Hewitt and Perc Wellington for an excellent year's work and for making the time to talk to other Clubs and gatherings about the details of the Fund. After many years as Chairman of the Dunedin Committee Perc Wellington recently relinquished this position to Peter Haines (Head Otago Polytec) but he remains on the committee.

**Birthright N.Z. Ltd**, \$14,000, through counsellors gives advice, guidance and assistance to families where the support and guidance of a parent is not available. Currently 40% on average in our primary schools are children who have only a single parent.

**Heritage**, \$4,000, provides similar services to families suffering loss or sickness through service in the Armed Forces.

**The Royal Plunket Society**, \$12,000, completes the remainder of the specific objects organisations bringing this total to \$80,000. Their child car seat rental scheme and its associated publicity launched this year deserves special praise.

These organisations help to brighten and enlarge the vision of children. They assist children who suffer through no fault of their own from poverty, neglect, inability, ignorance, loneliness and in many cases the advantages of two parents.

Grants from those in this group may help ensure a child receives: *special tuition fees to continue swimming or gym classes, musical education, clothing, school books or attends a camp. Relief may be provided for the mother thus helping to sustain a child's faith in society at large*,

#### **Educational Research Fellowship —**

The N.Z. Council for Education Research Fellowship this year is being carried out by Roger Buckton a senior lecturer in music at the North Shore Teachers' College. He has undertaken the study of "singing ability of young children" with a view to preparing a set of aids to assist teachers identify pupils who need help in mastering concepts of pitch. In other words helping to improve the ability of the young to sing in tune. This work should have International significance.

#### **SPECIAL DISTRICT AND NATIONAL GRANTS**

##### **New Zealand Crippled Children's Society**

Last year our grant of \$20,000 to the Crippled Children's Society went to provide the salaries of two trained puppeteers to launch their schools programme "Kids

Up the Road”The six special disabled puppet characters are helping teach children what it is like to be blind, deaf and have cerebral palsy. By the end of the year 500,000 school children and most schools throughout the country will have been visited by the two sets of puppets and the four puppeteers. Those of us privileged to sit in on a school session during the year found it an exciting, entertaining experience when the puppets “came alive”.

A further \$10,000 is anticipated to be provided this year for an extension of this programme into Special Schools.

#### **Wellington City Mission —**

The Wellington City Mission (Church of England) Trust Board has for 75 years been dedicated to caring for people. The main thrust of their work is with the aged. A few years ago their Harry Squires Memorial Hostel, “Home” for 70 elderly residents many of whom need nursing care, became an earthquake risk and it now has to be demolished. It was designed 28 years ago as a hostel not as a home for the elderly. A new 50 bed Home is already under construction and due to be completed by the end of next year. Generous Community and Trust support has brought in \$600,000 to date. They anticipate reaching their fund-raising target of \$1 M by the end of the year and Government subsidies should provide the balance of the funds required.

Additional funds are required for furnishings. Over the years we have strongly supported their services and our recommendation of \$20,000 will bring our contribution to the Wellington City Mission over the years, to just over \$50,000.

#### **Te Ranga Marae Trust —**

During the year Wellington’s Mayor, Sir Michael Fowler appealed to the Trust to assist with improvements and extensions on the Marae land at Island Bay. In an urban marae situation there has been a continuing involvement and training of Maori youth reflecting considerable credit on their leader, Bruce Stewart. Two years ago we provided \$2,000 for special equipment for some extensions. Mr McKay and myself visited the site and after contacting Trustees we obtained approval to provide a grant of \$10,000 in March.

#### **Upper Hutt, Lower Hutt and Wellington Refuge Centres —**

A grant of \$4,000 to assist the Refuge Movement prepare national figures for a submission to Government is proposed. In addition \$13,000 is provided for early establishment costs at three of the Refuge Centres.

#### **Huntington Disease Assn Centre, Christchurch —**

Very few New Zealanders know about Huntington Disease which has a prevalence of about 4 per 100,000. HD is an inherited, fatal disease of the brain which generally manifests itself in early middle age. The chances of inheriting it are high and one in two. When most struggle with the transition from youth to middle age the HD victim prepares for the passage from youth to death. HD affects nerve centres which produces involuntary movements and a progressive loss of personality disorders resulting in loss of employment bringing financial and personal problems. There is no known cure. World wide research is being carried out (\$53M in the U.S.A.) and research projects are going on at Auckland and Wellington Hospitals.

The only place for sufferers at present is geriatric or psychiatric wards, neither of which cater for their needs. In Christchurch the HD Association has been offered at a nominal rental, part of the Nurses Home of the old Karitane Hospital in Cashmere Road. It comprises 8 single bedrooms opening onto a wide verandah. This will provide 'in between' accommodation. Some sufferers have no family to care for them, their marriage may have broken down, or the burden has become too great before admission to hospital. In Christchurch apart from private hospitals there is only Sunnyside they can go to.

Alteration plans to the Nurses Home involving \$15,000 have been completed and approvals are awaited. These alterations will enable the premises to be used as a centre and then be developed into a 'Day Care' unit with someone living in to look after 8 residents. This will be available to any HD sufferer in N.Z. not just Christchurch. Fund raising for this tragic cause has been taking place during the year but to date with disappointing results.

These premises with the help of the HD Association members will provide the environment for discussion, for listening and exploring and through sharing there will be a quality of life that has long been denied to the HD patients and their families.

Our recommendation is to provide \$20,000 for this deserving project.

"They that are whole need not a physican, but they that are sick."

#### **Nelson, Manuka Street, Community Playgroups (Inc.) —**

A local response to local needs.

This group with trained supervisors caters for the needs of the disadvantaged young, first time parent, in particular their knowledge regarding parenthood and child development. Parents and children mix socially in a friendly learning exchange atmosphere where children (generally those under 2% years) are catered for. This provides the setting for continuing adult education. To help allay parents' fears they are put in touch with other parents who have faced similar problems with their children.

Their initial grant of \$8,400 from the Department of Internal Affairs expires in March 1982. Our proposed grant of \$10,000 will give them another year in which to consolidate and raise funds for continuing these services. It is hoped they will be able to replicate these services in other areas in the Nelson region.

#### **Onslow College Community Social Centre —**

The College Board's policy in the 1970's was to maximise the community use of the College facilities. The success of this led to the need for a "passive recreation facility" mainly for those in the under 20 age group. The parents and the community have raised over \$100,000 for this centre which is now nearing completion.

At present there is a shortfall of \$25,000 which will be reduced by \$2,000 by our proposed grant.

### Westport Sports Complex –

A Westport Sporting Complex serving the adjoining county of Buller is nearing completion at a cost of \$320,000. They have raised \$195,000 and the Lottery Board and local body will finance the remainder. The Swimming Club has responsibility for one section of the complex, their contribution to date being \$20,000. Additional funds for furnishing and heating equipment are still required. It is proposed we assist with a grant of \$2,000 as this facility will enable many young people to participate in various sporting activities previously not available in the district.

### MAJOR NATIONAL GRANTS

Some of the more significant National Grant proposals for confirmation at our November meeting are:

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| The Combined N.Z. Societies for the Deaf  | 7,000  |
| Contact (Christchurch) and Auckland (for children with communication/and/or co-ordination disabilities) partly towards a pilot scheme in Christchurch | 7,000  |
| The Federation of N.Z. Parents Centres  | 5,000  |
| The NZ Society for the Intellectually Handicapped<br>\$2,000 for Tuition fees for "Total Communication"<br>instruction of staff at Wellington Centres | 5,000  |
| S.P.E.L.D. New Zealand (children with learning difficulties)  | 5,000  |
| The New Zealand Speech Therapists' Assn   | 4,000  |
| The Salvation Army  | 10,000 |

Summarised, this year's allocations based on our normal formula and compared with previous years, are as follows:

|                                      | 1979           | 1980           | 1981           |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Specific Objects                     | 70,000         | 100,000        | 80,000         |
| Nationals                            | 80,000         | 180,000        | 150,000        |
|                                      | <u>150,000</u> | <u>280,000</u> | <u>230,000</u> |
| Provision for –                      |                |                |                |
| Special District & National Projects | 20,000         | 100,000        | 80,000         |
| Auckland                             | 34,000         | 61,000         | 50,000         |
| Hamilton                             | 16,000         | 26,000         | 20,000         |
| Wellington                           | 36,000         | 66,000         | 55,000         |
| Christchurch                         | 22,000         | 37,000         | 31,000         |
| Dunedin                              | 19,000         | 34,000         | 28,000         |
|                                      | <u>147,000</u> | <u>324,000</u> | <u>264,000</u> |
| Secretarial Fee                      | 4,500          | 7,000          | 8,000          |
| Administration                       | 4,000          | 5,000          | 5,500          |
|                                      | <u>305,500</u> | <u>616,000</u> | <u>507,500</u> |

## 40TH YEAR POLICY DISCUSSION EVENING

To commemorate the Trust's forty years last year, the night before the Annual Distribution Meeting an evening's discussion was organised with three main speakers. We were indebted to all three and Tim Dyce who summed up the feelings of the meeting — which talks, and the discussion that followed, materially helped us review past policy and think about future needs and trends.

**Annette Whitmore**, House Director for the Richmond Fellowship, is a Senior Social Worker with a wide experience in the fields of day care centres, old people's homes, the handicapped and retarded and half-way houses for hospital patients.

The title of her talk was "Towards Community Care". She outlined how the Fellowship commenced in New Zealand, in Christchurch 1978. They now have three half-way houses caring for people under stress needing rehabilitation, the aim being to have them care for themselves in a supportive environment. Great emphasis is placed on staff team work and the co-ordination of volunteers with a high staff ratio.

She felt the Richmond Fellowship was providing an important first step in offering people an integrated mental health care service.

**Colonel John Callagher**, the National Social Secretary of the Salvation Army, very much involved in the Hodderville Home for boys at Putaruru. Spoke of the Army's work with the "emotionally damaged people that no one else wanted". The Hodderville Home endeavoured to change the attitudes and behaviour of disturbed youths, using the practical manual tasks of a farm and workshop. He stressed the need for further workshop equipment.

He also mentioned the need to create a 24 hour drop in centre for people who are prone to alcohol abuse, a place where they could socialize without liquor. He also spoke of the importance of a half-way house between institutional care and community living for those with emotional problems.

Their Wellington Hostel provides long term care and follow up with these people.

**Merv. Hancock**, Senior Lecturer of the Social Work Unit, Massey University. Mr Hancock emphasised the need for 'neighbourhood support in the small community' stressing their important social needs. He wanted to see more initiators supporting low-key groups working at the neighbourhood level more than the larger national scale projects, with the emphasis on innovation rather than reaction to social problems.

**Tim Dyce**, A Trustee of the McKenzie Education Foundation, is deeply involved in community work, founder Director of Community Volunteers (Inc.) and a consultant in community development. Tim summed up the feeling of the meeting and included a few personal observations.

Today more than ever I think this quotation is very true —

"The most meritorious charity is to anticipate charity by preventing poverty, either by gift, money, teaching a trade or business, so that an honest livelihood may be earned."

30 September 1981

 Chairman



**Bayley's Services Ltd**

**(Relayout for web in January 2024 by Imogen Haliday)**