New Zealand Anaesthetic Technicians' Society

NZATS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2026 – MINUTES

Date: Saturday, 19 September 2026
Scheduled Time: 10:50 am
Venue: Rydges Hotel, Christchurch

Present

Hamzi Mahagna; Brett Besley; Vanessa Lawrence; Matthew Lawrence; Fiona Rutherford; Colin Berry; Kim Draper; Charlotte Mercer; Fintan Marshall; Shannon Paikea; Thomas Boyle; Laura McIntyre*; Nader Rafiti; Deborah Fox; Ellen Bronckhorst; Catharine Hepworth; Rachael Jones; Mary Miller; Benjamin Davis; Leo Ordana; Latif Graham; Helen Kenny; Brenda Lewis; Brenda Knowles; Teresa Jackson; Heather Godfrey; John Livingstone; Renee Ellis; Seyedani Mahdiyoun; Saba Roozbahani; Molly Hanning; Kristine Hocquard; Mark Tumai; Ross Imlay; Dave Greasley; Jessica Laloli; Aimee Atchison; Catherine Sinclair; Helen Robinson; Willow Harper; Andy Owen; Ashleigh Dittmer; Michelle Hommel; Ronak Hassanijegarlouei; April Eden; Evelyn Lorenzo; Lhea Mandecote; Caroline Heasman; Angus France; Georgia Taylor; Nicole Erikson; Andrew Smith; Alex Pownall.

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1. Welcome and Opening

The meeting was opened at 11:10 am by the President, **Rachael Jones**.

1.1 Confirmation of Quorum

A quorum was confirmed.

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2. Confirmation of the Minutes of the 2025 Annual General Meeting

Motion:

That the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 20 September 2025 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

Moved: Andy Owen
Seconded: Catherine Sinclair

Carried

There were no outstanding actions from the 2025 Annual General Meeting.

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3. Executive Committee Reports

3.1 President's Report

The President, **Rachael Jones**, presented the President's Report.

The report included an overview of NZATS Executive Committee activities and events undertaken during the year, together with membership statistics.

Education and community is a really important part of who NZATS. This last year we have held the following;

- Airway days x 2, Auckland and Christchurch
- Cultural day
- Leaders and Educator meetings as well as basecamp forum
- T& D meeting, leaders breakfast
- Conference

Lots coming up next year.

Communication

- Website & app development
- Basecamp
- Newsletter
- Social media presence increased
- School visits x 2 – increasing our profile

Advocacy

This has been a big part of the year and very busy.

Workforce planning has been a big part of the recent year particularly. Advocating for changes in the system to align with the evolution of our profession. Being able to Inform the HNZ workforce planning team of the role and influence their work and stats predicting future workforce models and need. More to come on that.

- Ministry of Health CAHPO
- Health New Zealand (HNZ) workforce planning team
- New Zealand Private Hospitals Surgical Association (NZPHSA) – positive communication with them via email and we attended a board meeting to discuss the clinical placement shortage.
- Medical Science Council
- AUT
- AHANZ Allied Health Aotearoa NZ – We affiliated with them and attend regular meetings and are included in their advocacy work. Dieticians, Physio, Audiologists, etc….Allied health are a big

workforce. This is a space all the professional bodies come together as a group and share, we all have very similar challenges and learn from each other. One big voice.
- International friends - AAAHP, CODP, AfPP
- Consultation responses - Accreditation, Sedation twice,

Reminder that we have standards, policies and guidelines on our website.

A few to note:

- Cell saver standards 2025
- RNAA 2023
- Machine check – Updated and added to, work in progress
- Flight AT – standards, put together a subcommittee and produced standards for working as a flight AT. Hawkes Bay contacted NZATS for support to help formalise their service. Nationally.
- Position descriptions – updated 2023
- Policies - updates 2023
- Strategic plan – updated 2025

Surveys

- Workforce survey

The meeting acknowledged the contributions of:

- Willow Harper, in relation to her membership role; and
- Nicky Fann, in recognition of 20 years of service on the NZATS Executive Committee.
- Jess Barbridge, for her contribution and thanks for her service as treasurer

Farewells and thanks were expressed for their contributions to NZATS.

3.2 Treasurer's Report and Annual Financial Statements

The Chair advised that the 2026 Annual Financial Statements were not available for presentation due to a delay in the completion of the audit.

As the Annual Financial Statements had not been distributed to members at least five working days prior to the Annual General Meeting, they were not available for consideration at this meeting.

The meeting acknowledged the contribution of Jess Barbridge as Treasurer and thanked her for her service to NZATS.

The meeting noted that Aimee Atchison had assumed the role of Treasurer.

The meeting noted that, following the change of Treasurer, the necessary banking administration would be undertaken to update authorised signatories in accordance with the organisation's banking requirements.

The Annual Financial Statements will be circulated to members once the audit has been completed and will be considered in accordance with the requirements of the Constitution.

Jess Barbridge resigned as treasurer, Aimee Atchison steps into the treasurer role.

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4. Questions from Members

No questions were raised by members.

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5. Further Agenda Items Submitted by Members

No additional agenda items were submitted by members.

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6. Election of Executive Committee Members

Nominations for the available Executive Committee positions were received, and voting was conducted in accordance with the NZATS Rules.

The votes were counted and the results formally announced.

The following members were elected to the NZATS Executive Committee:

- Alex Fatu
- Shirley Burmah
- Zoe Bunker

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7. Proposed Qualified Membership Fee Increase

The proposed increase in the annual qualified membership fee from $120 to $140 was presented to members.

Motion:

That the annual qualified membership fee be increased from $120 to $140 effective for the registration period 2027.

Carried

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8. General Business

No further general business was raised.

9. Acknowledgements and Thanks

The meeting acknowledged and thanked **Rachael Jones**, outgoing President, and the outgoing Executive Committee members for their contribution, commitment, and service to NZATS.

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10. Presidential Succession and Handover

A formal presidential handover took place from **Rachael Jones**, outgoing President, to Andy Owen, incoming President.

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11. NZATS Conference 2027

An update was provided regarding future NZATS conference planning.

The possibility of moving to a biennial national conference model, with North and South Island symposiums held during the intervening year, was discussed as an option for future consideration.

No formal decision was made.

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12. Adjournment

The Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 11:45 am pending distribution and consideration of the audited 2026 Annual Financial Statements.

Members were advised that the financial report would be circulated and that the meeting would be reconvened to consider and approve the report.

RECONVENED ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Date: Monday, 28 September 2026
Time: 6:00 pm
Venue: Microsoft Teams

Present

Catherine Sinclair; Rachael Jones; Andy Owen; Helen Robinson; Aimee Atchison; Vanessa Lawrence; Matthew Lawrence; Shirley Burmah; Julie Bromley; Zoe Bunker; Cathy Hepworth.

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13. Business of the Reconvened Meeting

The reconvened meeting was limited to consideration and approval of the 2026 Annual Financial Statements and formal closure of the 2026 Annual General Meeting.

13.1 Confirmation of Quorum

A quorum was confirmed.

13.2 Presentation and Consideration of the 2026 Financial Report

The 2026 Annual Financial Statements and Financial Report were presented by Aimee Atchison.

Members were given the opportunity to consider and discuss the report.

13.3 Approval of the 2026 Financial Report

Motion:

That the 2026 Annual Financial Statements and Financial Report for the year ended 30 June 2026 be approved.

Moved: Julie Bromley
Seconded: Matthew Lawrence

Carried

The 2026 Annual Financial Statements and Financial Report were approved.

13.4 Formal Closure of the 2026 Annual General Meeting

There being no further business relating to the reconvened meeting, the 2026 Annual General Meeting was formally closed at 6:07 pm.

All other business of the 2026 Annual General Meeting was completed on 19 September 2026 and was not reconsidered at the reconvened meeting.

Signed as a True and Correct Record

Name: _____

Position: President

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Position: Secretary