

## **REPORT FROM THE NATIONAL PUBLISHING COMMITTEE ( NPC )**

Esteemed Brethren,

The National Publishing Committee has continued through the inter-synodical period to function as mandated.

The Committee consists of:

Convener/Chairman	John Holtslag
Secretary	Nicola Wharekawa
Treasurer	Andrew Reinders
Distributor	Mark VanderZwaag
Editor Faith in Focus	Walter Walraven
Sub-Editor Faith in Focus	Sally Davey
Liaison	Rev. Leo de Vos
Editorial sub-committee:	Revs. L de Vos, A de Vries and J Rogers

The Committee is operating well, with its main responsibility being the production of the Acts of Synod 2011, the monthly denominational magazine Faith in Focus and the annual Yearbook for our churches.

This time additional activities were the production and distribution of the revised Office Bearers Handbook and the task of distributing the Sing to the Lord songbook. In accepting this task the NPC became aware of a gap in the operations within our churches for a place and people responsible for storage, maintenance and distribution of denominational materials, such as the Songbooks and the Forms and Confessions books to come, Statistics, Archives and perhaps other materials. Some of this was previously done by the Lampstand. The NPC approached the Hastings Session and received permission to use its facilities for the distribution and storage of the Songbooks but believe that this will need a more defined and permanent arrangement.

Import licensing, GST registration, ISBN applications and other legal requirements are not currently co-ordinated resulting in discordant and individual efforts as issues arise on bringing goods into the country.

Out of all this arose the issue of responsibility regarding the production of denominational publications. Synod 1989, Art 67 (OBH 2-22, art 1c) gave the NPC, as a Standing Committee, the mandate to be responsible for "all the RCNZ publications". Yet, other than with its distribution, the NPC was not involved with the production of the Songbook nor the Forms and Confessions books. Perhaps the time is coming for us to consider some kind of central administration office or entity with the appointment of one or more individuals to be responsible for production, storage and distribution of denominational materials, including the Archives and Statistics. This office could work closely in conjunction with the Stated Clerk, the SIC and the NPC and would need to be established in a place where permanent and secure storage is available.

**Yearbook:** Mr J. Holtslag continued as Editor for the inter-synodical period. The material contents were all gathered electronically in order to improve efficiency and have the Yearbook available to the churches at the earliest opportunity. 326 copies were printed last year and production costs are a

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synodical expense covered by the quota system. The booklet continues to find good use amongst the churches. Mr Holtslag has asked to be relieved as Editor following the production of the 2014 edition. Miss Kathryn Kleinjan of Silverstream has agreed to take over the responsibility for the Yearbook with the approval of the SIC.

**Office Bearers Handbook:** In August 2013 the updated Office Bearers Handbook was produced and distributed.

**Faith in Focus:** Mr Walter Walraven, ably assisted by Dr. Sally Davey, has produced the magazine since February 2009. General comments on the contents are very favourable and the current level of subscriptions is 1008. The Committee expresses its sincerest gratitude to br. Walraven and sr. Davey for their time and efforts. Production costs are covered by subscription fees and the magazine is self-supporting. Annual accounts are kept by the Treasurer, Mr A Reinders, and for information the 2011-2013 statements of accounts are attached together with an auditor's report.

#### **Editors report**

*To the Synod of the Reformed Churches of New Zealand*

*Dear Brethren,*

*Greetings in the Name of our God and Saviour, Jesus Christ.*

*This is the sixth year that I have been the editor of Faith in Focus. I continue to be ably assisted in this task by the services of Dr. Sally Davey as my sub-editor, and without whom the task of editor would be much more difficult. I am very thankful for her ideas and creative input.*

*Not a lot has changed during the inter-synodical period – it is business as usual. However, we endeavour to continue to produce a magazine with local content and articles from contributors from within the RCNZ. At times it might be a struggle to achieve that ideal and it may be necessary to use articles from other reformed magazines.*

*Some of our articles have appeared in magazines overseas such as Reformed Perspective and Christian Renewal in the last three year period.*

*Currently the number of magazines subscribed to is 1008. Electronic versions of the magazine are also available at a reduced cost. Electronic versions of the magazine are emailed to a number of subscribers overseas, one of which is Mid America Reformed Seminary.*

*We continue to receive positive feedback about the magazine from the readers within the denomination, which is very encouraging. Unlike other reformed magazines, we are not professional editors etc, however, I believe that we continue to achieve quite a high standard in respect to the type of articles that we print each month. We are very thankful to the many contributors from within the RCNZ who have made this possible and hope that they will continue to support us through their writing. From a technical and printing point of view, we continue to keep abreast of continuing developments in the printing technology area so that*

*we can use these for the benefit of the magazine.*

*For my part as editor and from a graphic design angle, it is sometimes desirable to re-design the magazine to look more upmarket, however, any future re-design will have to take readability into consideration for our ageing readership.*

*The plan for the future continues to be in providing our readers with an edifying magazine which upholds the Reformed Faith based upon the Scriptures and the Four Forms of Unity.*

*Thank you all for your support of the Faith in Focus team.*

*On a personal note. I would like to express my appreciation to all my co-workers for their unflinching devotion to the production of the magazine. To all who have put their confidence and trust in me as the editor, I hope to continue to provide the same high standard that Dr Sally Davey and I have striven for over the last six years.*

*Should it please the Synod to re-appoint me as the Editor for the next three years, I would be more than happy to continue in that role for as long as I am able.*

*I thank the Lord for the opportunity to serve Him and the RCNZ in this way.*

*Yours in Him by grace, Walter Walraven (Editor)*

**Acts of Synod 2011:** The Acts of the 2011 Synod were produced and distributed in February 2012. Preparations for the 2014 Acts of Synod have now begun.

**Recommendations:**

- 1. That Synod receive this Report.*
- 2. That Synod approve the audited 2011/2013 financial statements.*
- 3. That Synod endorse the appointment of Kathryn Kleinjan as the new Yearbook Editor.*
- 4. That Synod endorse the re-appointment of W Walraven and S Davey, as Editor and Sub-Editor for Faith in Focus.*

Humbly submitted  
John O. Holtslag (Convenor/Chairman)

## **Appendix 1**

### **National Publications Committee**

Financial Year 1 Jan 11 – 31 Dec 11

	31 Dec 10	31 Dec 11
<b>Opening balance</b>	<b>14,495.24</b>	<b>15,967.34</b>
<b>Income</b>		
Faith in Focus subscriptions: Bulk	31,395	31,016.36
Individual	320.00	40.00
Overseas	332.45	591.30
Interest	582.86	670.15
Donations	0.00	0.00
Other – Synod refund	1,578.38	0.00
Other – Trowel & Sword repayment	0.00	83.32
Advertising	0.00	0.00
	<b>34,208.69</b>	<b>32,401.13</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Printing: Faith in Focus	23,185.17	22,965.50
Acts of Synod	0.00	0.00
Shipping & postage	2,189.42	1,845.21
Layout	5,514.00	5,796.44
Phone expenses	0.00	0.00
Travel	0.00	0.00
Sundry - Office Professional 2007 publisher	348.00	0.00
Honorarium – W Walraven	1,500.00	1,500.00
	<b>32,736.59</b>	<b>32,107.15</b>
<b>Closing balance</b>	<b>15,967.34</b>	<b>16,261.32</b>
<b>Surplus/(Shortfall)</b>	<b>1,472.10</b>	<b>293.98</b>

## Appendix 2

### National Publications Committee

#### Financial Year 1 Jan 12 – 31 Dec 12

	31 Dec 11	31 Dec 12
<b>Opening balance</b>	<b>15,967.34</b>	<b>16,261.32</b>
 <b>Income</b>		
Faith in Focus subscriptions: Bulk	31,016.36	31,150.00
Individual	40.00	40.00
Overseas	591.30	713.01
Interest	670.15	693.00
Donations	0.00	0.00
Other – Synod refund	0.00	0.00
Other – Trowel & Sword repayment	83.32	0.00
Advertising	0.00	30.00
	<b>32,401.13</b>	<b>32,626.01</b>
 <b>Expenditure</b>		
Printing: Faith in Focus	22,965.50	23,568.17
Shipping & postage	1,845.21	2,262.47
Layout	5,796.44	6,072.00
Phone expenses	0.00	0.00
Travel	0.00	0.00
Honorarium – W Walraven	1,500.00	1,500.00
	<b>32,107.15</b>	<b>33,402.64</b>
 <b>Closing balance</b>	<b>16,261.32</b>	<b>15,484.69</b>
 <b>Surplus/(Shortfall)</b>	<b>293.98</b>	<b>(776.63)</b>

## Appendix 3

### National Publications Committee

#### Financial Year 1 Jan 13 – 31 Dec 13

	31 Dec 12	31 Dec 13
<b>Opening balance</b>	<b>16,261.32</b>	<b>15,484.69</b>
 <b>Income</b>		
Faith in Focus subscriptions: Bulk	31,150.00	33,221.36
Individual	40.00	40.00
Overseas	713.01	471.56
Interest	693.00	651.23
Donations	0.00	0.00
Other – Synod refund	0.00	0.00
Other – Trowel & Sword repayment	0.00	0.00
Advertising	30.00	255.00
	<b>32,626.01</b>	<b>34,639.15</b>
 <b>Expenditure</b>		
Printing: Faith in Focus	23,568.17	24,011.89
Shipping & postage	2,262.47	2,523.43
Layout	6,072.00	6,107.65
Images	0.00	80.58
Phone expenses	0.00	0.00
Travel	0.00	0.00
Honorarium – W Walraven	1,500.00	1,500.00
	<b>33,402.64</b>	<b>34,223.55</b>
 <b>Closing balance</b>	<b>15,484.69</b>	<b>15,900.29</b>
 <b>Surplus/(Shortfall)</b>	<b>(776.63)</b>	<b>415.60</b>

## Auditor's Report

341 Coast Road  
WAINUIOMATA 5373

18 February 2014

National Publishing Committee  
Faith In Focus  
C/- A Reinders  
LOWER HUTT

Dear Sirs

This letter serves to confirm that I, Brenda van Maastricht, of Wainuiomata, Lower Hutt have audited the accounts for the National Publishing Committee for the Financial Year commencing 1 January 2013 and ending 31 December 2013.

I have to state however, that I have no official accounting qualifications or experience, although I have audited the accounts for this and other Non-Profit Organisations in the recent past.

I can advise that I have concluded from the information provided to me, that the accounts are a true and accurate record of the Income and Expenditure for the 2013 Financial Year.

Once again, I would like to commend Andrew Reinders on his impeccable record keeping.

Yours sincerely



Brenda van Maastricht

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