

## **Hawke's Bay Founders' Annual General Meeting March 2018**

On Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> March, the Jireh Hall, St John's Presbyterian Church in Hastings proved a very spacious and comfortable venue for 57 members attending our Annual General Meeting.

In her Annual report, President Paddy Bayley thanked all members most sincerely for their continued support at functions and outings. "We were amazed at your support when we hosted The New Zealand Founders Society's Annual General Meeting in Ahuriri in June," she said. "Our Branch continues to go from strength to strength, as a result of a wonderful commitment from each one of you. We are all so proud of the dedication of our ancestors".

Officers for 2018 are:

President	Mrs Paddy Bayley	Vice President	Mrs Kath La Rooy
Secretary/Treasurer	Mr Richard Bayley		
Committee	Mr Andy Duncan, Mrs Stephanie Drew, Miss Cheryl Fox, Mr Merv Gibbs, Mr Philip Mardon, Mr Peter Watt.		

Guest Speaker Mr Philip Irwin, gave a most informative talk on the Hawkes Bay Heritage Trails. How his committee spend many hours investigating the historic sights around the Bay, checking and double checking on information they have gathered before publication of their Brochures. Their proudest achievements include tremendous work developing trails throughout New Zealand which has been accomplished almost exclusively through volunteer efforts, fund raising.

Hawke's Bay is considered New Zealand's showcase for Heritage Trail development, with 17 trails created since 1991, a higher number than any other region. and sheer determination. The Heritage Trail Foundation is a member of Green Globe the world wide environmental program for the travel and tourism industry and won the American Society of Travel Agents and Smithsonian Magazine Environmental Award. This Award recognises and honours those individuals, countries or organisations that have made a significant impact in preserving and protecting the environment.