

## NZLPA Website Development Report

**Overview:** The NZ Lay Preachers' Association is in the process of redeveloping its website to provide a more effective and streamlined online presence. The new site, hosted under **nzlpa.org.nz**, is being developed to enhance membership management, communication, and event promotion and management, alongside other essential functionalities.

### Current Status:

- The **home page framework** has been built, and we are continuing to refine its operation.
- Basic **events functionality** is operational, though additional features (such as ticketing and recurring events) will be implemented in the coming phases.
- The **mailing list functionality** has been successfully used for the AGM, and further configuration is in progress to optimise its use for future communications.
- The **old and new websites are currently running in parallel**, allowing members to follow the progress and provide feedback.
- Members are encouraged to explore the new site as it evolves and share any comments or suggestions.

### Next Steps:

- Completion of the **website framework** by the end of the year.
- **Migration of existing content** from the old site will be done progressively after the framework is complete and may extend into 2025.
- Continued development and refinement of **additional event promotion and management features** and **mailing list configuration**.

### Long-Term Objectives:

- **Re-imagining the *Word & Worship* publication** as a digital resource, allowing greater accessibility and flexibility for members.
- **Opportunities for member contributions:** The new site will provide a platform for members to contribute **book reviews and resource reviews**, enriching the community by sharing valuable insights and recommendations.

### Goals:

- Streamline **membership management** with automated subscription renewals and easier communication.
- Implement a more modern and responsive **design**, ensuring ease of use across devices.
- Enable better **event promotion and management**, allowing members to RSVP, access event information, and stay informed.

- Maintain an **interactive and evolving website**, where members can actively participate in shaping the final product.
- Create opportunities for **collaborative content** through book/resource reviews and an enhanced **digital *Word & Worship* publication**.

**Timeline:**

- **End of 2024:** Completion of core framework.
- **2025:** Progressive migration of existing content and further development of long-term objectives.

**Challenges and Opportunities:**

- Ensuring smooth **content migration** while maintaining functionality on both sites.
- Optimising new features and ensuring ease of use for members, such as improved **event promotion and management** and **membership features**.
- Providing members with a platform to contribute and engage more meaningfully with **digital content**, such as reviews and publications.

**Call to Action:** Members are encouraged to **visit the website** in its current state, offer feedback, and stay engaged as we continue to develop and refine this important resource. Input from members is invaluable to ensure the site meets the needs of our community.