Report on SOFiA Groups to 2021 AGM

There are currently eleven individuals I am in contact with. I say 'individuals' because not all have functioning groups, though they may have informal links to others in their region. I encourage individuals to stay in touch. The regions I contact are listed: Dunedin, Central Otago, Timaru, Christchurch (Rethinking Religion), Blenheim, Wellington, Palmerston North, Hawkes Bay, Gisborne, Tauranga, Hamilton, Auckland.

We welcomed Mary Ellen Warren to our Management Group this year. She is a member of the Hawkes Bay group. Her example is an illustration that active local groups can lead folk to join our Management Group. This is welcomed! It was good to have an article from Jocelyn Kirkwood in the latest Newsletter.

The promotional material from the Australian SOFers comes to me via our Secretary, and I forward it. Clearly Melbourne is the key centre for SOF work in Australia. These cross-Tasman links are important, though fragile in our Covid-19 world.

A few individuals respond to my sendouts, which I welcome. Thank you for keeping in touch.

The future of groups, along with the other 'future' challenges for SOFiA, will no doubt be on the agenda for 6 November.

John Thornley, Palmerston North