

CIRCLE



***The Association of Anglican
Women***

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Theme for 2015-18:

Grow in Discipleship, Dreams, Dedication

The Aims of AAW:

- *to unite in prayer and participate in the mission of the Church*
- *to promote, safeguard and nurture Christian family life*

CONTRIBUTIONS

Diocesan AAW Group and Members'

Items: Please help the CIRCLE editorial team by **sending your contributions and reports, email or hand-written, to your Diocesan Circle Publicity Representative** so that she can collate, edit, proof and select what to send from each diocese to keep to the approximate Word Allowance of about 360 words per diocese. This allows for around two pictures.

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Editor:-

Marjorie Brown, 5 Islington Street, N.E.V., Dunedin 9010
Ph 03 473 7751

Email *chanter16@gmail.com*

Business Manager:-

Mrs Anne Stratford, 69g Richardson Street, St Kilda, Dunedin 9012.

Phone: 03 455 5434

Email *stratfordanne@yahoo.co.nz*

NZ President:-

Mrs Margaret McLanachan, 109 Forfar St, Mornington, Dunedin 9011.

Phone: 03 453 0131

Mobile 021 216 9640.

Email: *cramar@slingshot.co.nz*

Graphic layout: Marilyn Sim

Phone: 03 489 2095

Email: *marilynjsim@gmail.com*

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Copy deadline for next issue:

30 September

Please help us by adhering to this deadline!

OUR PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

At the time of writing this article – late June/early July – down here in Dunedin winter has not really struck yet. Temperatures may be cooler, frosts have been minimal, there has hardly been any rain and definitely NO snow. By the time this is printed and in your hands who knows what might have happened.

I thought I would have plenty to write this time but sorry I don't. The trip that 14 of us where to make to Tonga for the first week of July was cancelled. None of us are sure exactly why but maybe the number 14 was too many for the ladies to cope with.

My visit, in April, to the Nelson Diocese was very enjoyable meeting so many dedicated women. There was a meal on Friday night which was followed by different groups competing in the Rosebowl Cup. Age was no barrier as these were presented with the theme 'Grow in Discipleship'

Saturday was AGM day – another interesting day. When the call for a President came up Bishop Richard stopped the meeting for 5 minutes to let everyone encourage someone to come forward or AAW would go into recess. Diane Higgins has taken on

the roll again this time but for 1 year only and it is hoped that someone else will be willing to take over in 2017.

Thank you once again to all those with whom I stayed and for the wonderful AGM and Area Days. We can't forget the sightseeing either. Thank you all so much.

Whilst there have been some good things happening in AAW I am very sorry to have to say that after a 'special' meeting in June AAW in the Waikato/Taranaki Diocese has gone into recess for 18 months. Please keep them in your prayers praying that someone will come forward as President and that there will be enough willing ladies for the Executive roles.

September sees the NZ AAW meeting taking place at The Home of Compassion, Island Bay, Wellington. We begin on Saturday afternoon and finish on Monday morning. The AGM will be at the Loaves and Fishes, Wellington Cathedral at 2pm on Sunday 11th. This will be followed by the commissioning service in the



Cathedral at 5pm where the new Provincial President will be installed. (See her introduction in this issue).

To finish on a positive note I am delighted to say that a new AAW group has started in Dunedin. This

group are mainly younger people interested in Overseas & Outreach and Social Concerns with a great interest in Craft. Long may this group continue.

Until next time – Keep Warm.
Margaret

INTRODUCING PAT VINCENT

Introducing Pat Vincent:

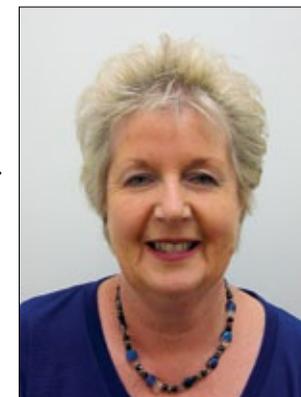
I was born in England and came to New Zealand as a 5 years old child with my family. Dad had joined the New Zealand Air force so we settled in Auckland where he was based at Hobsonville. When I was in my first year of college we shifted to Wellington and resided there until my fifth form year when Dad was posted to Wigram, Christchurch. I finished my schooling at Riccarton High School before going to Christchurch Teachers' College and completing my training as a teacher. During this time I met my husband Brian and we were married at St James Riccarton

When Matthew, my youngest child, was five years old I began relieving at Newlands Intermediate, later taking a part-time role and moving to a

full time classroom position with a Senior Teacher role. For the last few years at this school I have worked part time as the

Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO), a job I love in a school committed to providing for students with differing learning needs. Previously I have been on a Board of Trustees, College Parent Support Committees, Primary School and Kindergarten Committees.

My first memories of church life began when we arrived in NZ and lived in Swanson, I have a much treasured



pop up book of Bible Stories given to me as a Special Prize for attendance from the Swanson Interdenominational Sunday School when I was 6 years old. Then I attended church on the Hobsonville Air Force Base where a Padre was our minister. I also went to a local Sunday school and later Bible classes. Church life was quiet until after our daughter was born when I joined my local AAW Young Wives Group in Christchurch. We shifted to Wellington in 1978 and I became a member of the congregation of St John's Johnsonville where I still am. I joined the AAW Young Wives Group and when this folded I joined the AAW Group. Within this group I have been Vice President and I'm currently on the committee as well as Social Concerns Convenor. St John's established a church in Churton Park, where I live, and I attended their first service and subsequent services, completing Alpha with my husband. For a number of years I undertook outreach work with fellow Anglicans at Arohata Prison for women. At St John's my current duties include the roles of side-person, reader and Cathedral Link contact.

I have always been passionately interested in Social Concerns, probably from my teaching background where I have seen first hand the difference a stable, loving home makes to a child's development and progress. Through AAW I have been able to use this interest to inform our women what is happening on the wider scene. In 2002 I became Capital City Association of Anglican Women Social Concerns Convenor. In 2004 I was asked by Lois Harvey, the then Wellington Diocese Social Concerns Convenor, to take on this position which I did for 9 years. In July 2013 I was elected Wellington AAW Diocesan President and I have just completed my term. I represent the Wellington Diocese at Synod and I am now on the Nominations Panel of Synod.

I have represented AAW at the National Council of Women New Zealand (NCWNZ), Wellington Branch since 2002 and I have just had the pleasure of celebrating with other Wellington Branch members the centenary of our branch with a Mayoral Reception. Anglican Women are well represented at all levels of NCWNZ. In September I will be fortunate to repre-

sent AAW nationally at their Conference where NCWNZ will celebrate their 120th year.

I look forward to the challenge of taking on the role of Provincial President and I feel privileged that I am able to represent such a wonderful group of women who are so giving of their time and talents. The challenge we have been working on here in Wellington is how we can grow and move forward as an organisation.

The vision I had three years ago when I began my term as Diocesan President was for our Association to continue to be a vibrant and meaningful force within the Anglican Church, and to raise awareness in our parish and the wider communities of the essential mission work undertaken by us. I continue to believe that we will meet that challenge with our Lord's support.

Pat Vincent

EDITOR'S NOTES

I look out my kitchen window and see two trees; a crab apple, almost bare of leaves but still with fruit (which the birds love) and beside it a blossoming cherry. Autumn and spring exist side by side. There has been very little 'winter' this year. It made me think about the fact that without the autumn (and winter) seasons there can be no new spring growth. It is the same with our lives if there are no difficult times we do not appreciate the good times. Without the cross there is no resurrec-

tion. Fiji has experienced the 'death' of cyclone Winston and is beginning to rebuild. New Zealand Anglicans are helping by raising money for houses in the village of Maniava. It is great that we can help others to experience spring after their winter.

Continue to pray for our sisters in Fiji and help in practical ways if you can.

*Blessings
Marjorie*



Change

Often at this time of year we consider remits for the National Council of Women Conference. This year, NCW is considering changes to the structure of the organisation ; reflecting on 120 years of history and a way forward so we are giving the discussion of remits a rest.

For this and a number of other reasons, I have been considering the nature of change.

Some changes just happen to us, others are planned and welcomed. Being part of the change process is core to the Social Concerns aspect of AAW life: changing individual circumstances when we support social services of one kind or another, changing policy and community life when we feed into the decisions of government to support social justice.

A third sort of change we effect is change of attitude as we seek to listen and understand. Perhaps your group is undertaking a Charter of Compassion Adventure instead of looking at the remits. A chance to meet with people

we don't usually encounter, the opportunity to discover shared humanity and broaden our outlook – these can be rewarding things.

I am in England as I write and these are interesting times, as you can imagine, in the wake of the Brexit vote. In the swirl of events, various scenes come to mind: indications of the place of power-seeking as part of the mix; the rise of hate crimes against immigrants since the vote; the distress of those who so firmly wanted to remain in the EU; the realisation that there is no plan by which to move forward; the anger of many of the young, who see the result as curbing their futures; the interview with two older women, who declared themselves pleased with the result because 'we can remember what it was like before and it was better'.

The trouble is life does move on, as we in New Zealand know, and the rest of the world is no longer as it was 'before'. But sometimes we feel harried by too much change, especially, I suspect, in this century and the

last. This is acknowledged in the rise of a new role in some organisations: Change Manager.

Every era has its downside, however. When I've asked groups to think about things that have improved since they were twenty-five and things that have got worse, there are always entries on both sides of the ledger. The distractions of digital technology have the upside of ease of communication; less automatic respect is balanced by more openness and so on.

Change will, of course, continue: it always has at one speed or another. At this time, on top of ongoing issues, we have the out-workings of climate change to plan for.

The church here in the UK, right from the day of the vote, has framed its response around reconciliation and the need to listen to each other (and not just to those who agree with you!) – to treat others as we wish to be treated ourselves, in fact.

We are blessed that we have God and God's word to rely on as our rock in the midst of change. I like Paul's encouragement to the Philippians: "Rejoice in the Lord always! ... The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything but in everything, by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, make your requests to God. And the peace of God ... will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, ... whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable ... think about such things."

Philippians 4: 4-8.



OVERSEAS AND OUTREACH

Greetings to all members. What a joy it is to see the first signs of spring – the first new-born lambs, the first daffodils, and hopefully, sunnier days and better weather. Today we have two very different stories, one from Margaret Poynton in Papua New Guinea, and another from Caleb Holland from Alaska, who was part of a YWAM team visiting Anne McCormick at the World Mate Hospital in Cambodia.

The WHY? Question – Margaret Poynton, Papua New Guinea

Margaret Poynton writes: “A couple of weeks ago I had the privilege of helping to plan a funeral service for a young girl who was killed by an as yet unexplained bullet to the head. The funeral was held during the time of the ‘Haus Krai’. The ‘Haus Krai’ or open home is where all sides of the extended family, along with friends come together to mourn, it is a place of hospitality and sharing, confrontation and honesty. It is a time of asking the hard WHY question. Always in the background of thought and belief here in PNG there is witchcraft and sorcery; these dark sides of spirituality are the cause of all things unfortunate and unsolved for both victim and perpetrator.

In their search for answers some looked to their belief in witchcraft



This photo is of the steps leading from the church are lined with flowers, as the body of the young lady was carried to the waiting hearse – an act of love created by the youth of the parish to farewell their friend until they meet again.

and sorcery for explanation and even comfort. Others talked of the guilt and fear associated of their own encounters with the spiritual realm. Some of the young people who live at the mission house also began to have bad dreams and nightmares after the funeral, and began to wonder aloud about the presence of spirits of the dead. Nearly all found it hard to reconcile their Christian beliefs and their cultural beliefs and yet one of our church young people came to the point just this last weekend of posting on Facebook: “Find joy in every day, not because Life is good but because God is”.

Having lived as a Christian in a neighbourhood where the occult was evident for those who had eyes to see, this reality in everyday PNG culture and belief does not surprise me. Rather it saddens me. Like my New Zealand neighbours, the people of this beautiful country need to know that

OVERSEAS AND OUTREACH CONTINUED

the light, the life, and the love of God can and does transform our hearts and minds to turn away from these things, to stop communicating with the past. To stop exclaiming ‘the devil made me do it’. There will be more conversations where there is the opportunity to share the freedom we have in Christ.

Please join me in praying not only for the truth to be revealed in this situation, but also for the need all people have to experience the power of turning their lives to walk in the way of truth and light, so that both heart and mind are transformed. Please pray for those who have been traumatised by the things they have seen and heard.”

Rev Mike Hawke, Projects Officer for Anglican Missions writes

“I have been staying with Margaret since arriving in Port Moresby. I am delighted that Margaret has joined the Parish of St Francis, Koki, here in Port Moresby. She assists the Vicar, Father Oswald, in numerous ways: youth work, administration and pastoral care, and has become a wonderful asset. She arranged for me to speak and preach at their Ministry weekend. So not only is Margaret doing the work of Archbishop’s Assistant, which would be enough

in itself, she is also ministering in a local parish.”

We brought over a number of prayer books. Most were donated by the Southland Archdeaconry.

Mossburn, which is closing, donated and signed some. Bishops Kelvin Wright and Justin Duckworth also signed a book and wrote a message of encouragement.



We now leave Papua New Guinea to visit Cambodia. Here is part of an article from Caleb Holland from Alaska, who was part of a recent YWAM (Youth With a Mission) team from Honolulu who worked with Anne McCormick at the World Mate Hospital in Cambodia for five weeks.



Anne and Anthony McCormick



Love – Caleb Holland, YWAM

“The word love is often misused if you ask me. If I had a dollar for every time I’ve heard a friend of mine say “Goodness! I love iced tea,” I would be a very wealthy man. They don’t actually ‘love’ iced tea. I understand words can change meaning as time progresses and culture changes, but something about ‘love’ is to be revered. It’s a precious word; a word that should be preserved for when it has the most meaning and impact. It can restore the broken. It can bring joy. It saves and creates life.

I love this hospital. The team I travelled to Cambodia with loves this hospital. The volunteers love this hospital. And this hospital has loved us. They say if you live in a place long enough, the building or house will adopt some of your characteristics. Though I have only been here a short time, it has become very clear to me that this place has been filled with loving people. When you enter, you’re greeted with compassion, and when you depart, it sends you away with a longing to return.

Melodies

Most days, we sing. When I heard we were singing, I was giddy. Christmas carolling is one of my favourite things back home; spreading joy and

all of those niceties. Little did I know that we were singing in Khmer. Learning second languages has always been especially difficult for me (singing makes it a bit easier I admit), so long story short, this wasn’t going to be anything like Christmas carolling.

We walked down to the wards for the first time and I was nervous. I didn’t want to mispronounce some words and mistakenly belt out profanities. The team all readied their voices and waited patiently for the waving hands that meant “start singing”. Suddenly, the hands began to wave, and before I could think, Khmer songs flew from my mouth. I looked at the patients/visitors and they seemed pleased. Whether they were pleased because of our mispronunciations, or because we sounded angelic, didn’t matter to me anymore; if they were pleased, we were doing something right.

Being able to make people smile is probably one of the biggest things we take for granted. Every human being has the capability of brightening someone’s day. With a song, a joke, or an encouraging word, we can make painful circumstances more bearable. You don’t know what people are going through in their heads or their hearts. Who knows, perhaps you making

them smile was exactly what they needed to keep on pushing.”

Thanks

Caleb continues “The team cannot express how thankful we are for the compassion and kindness the staff and patients have shown us. Without them, none of this would be possible. They’ve taught us so much through the way they’ve acted around us. And a bit more of a specific, focussed beam of thankfulness goes out to Anne McCormick. She has consistently guided us through our afternoons and has been so willing to help and talk with us. I have met very few people in my life who are willing to commit so much of

their lives and time to helping others. She and her husband are astounding examples of how to be a blessing to the world. The amount of work they put into creating opportunities for patients to be entertained through their trials is inspiring, and they’ve inspired me and my team to be better people.”

Please continue to pray for all our Mission Partners as they continue with their wonderful work, sharing the love of Christ with others. I leave you with this thought from the apostle Paul (1 Corinthians 13: 7): “Love... bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends”.

God bless you all,

*Shelley Vette
Overseas and
Outreach
Convenor*



Anne and YWAM team.



MOTHERS' UNION

At a special service in May I presented a Membership Certificate to Mrs Gwen Dodd of Cambridge celebrating her 66 years of MU involvement.

Also St Mary's New Plymouth held a special service celebrating the 84 years to the day since the Branch was formed combined with 140 years of MU worldwide.

Reflecting that worldwide dimension Bev Julien, the Mothers' union CEO wrote enthusiastically about her work in a recent newsletter: "After over 8 months with Mothers' Union, my excitement and joy at working with members and colleagues continues to grow – and I am very optimistic that, together, we are on a journey, in the 140th Anniversary Year, to ensure that Mothers' Union will continue to be as valuable and valued in the next 140 years as it has been over the last." She went on to say she found it a real pleasure to meet nearly all of the Provincial Presidents by skype, (including our PP, the Revd Iritana Hankins), sharing and building her understanding of the great work happening in Mothers' Union across the world. Bev also mentioned how the Annual Report forms sent by each diocese are invaluable. The hope is that we will be able to show that members have impacted the lives of over 500,000 people in 2015.

The Archbishop of Canterbury recently said: "Mothers' Union work is

like an iceberg: nine-tenths is hidden from view, in the parishes and the dioceses, in the hills and the villages, doing the work of bringing hope, of strengthening families, of supporting churches and transforming communities."

Mary Sumner House staff have been travelling to various African countries in recent months and in April Hannah and Sheran travelled to Myanmar to launch the World-wide Parenting Programme, training 22 parenting group facilitators. The training was successful; attended by very high capacity volunteers who worked well together and will go on to run inspirational parenting groups in communities throughout Myanmar.

Hannah was able to visit Hpa-an Diocese; until this visit no member of staff from Mary Sumner House is known to have visited the Diocese and it was a good opportunity to show support and solidarity with a Diocese that often has to work under very challenging circumstances.

16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence

MU continues to support this initiative and this year is also planning a global 'moment' at the start of 16 Days, to unite members across the world against gender-based violence.

Rosemary Bent

DIOCESAN NEWS

- *Dunedin*

'APRONS WITH ATTITUDE' THEME USED BY HURSTPIERPOINT MOTHERS UNION GROUP

In March this year members of this Mothers Union Afternoon Group in West Sussex used the information from our February 2015 'Circle' magazine to organise their meeting around this theme. Niki Sandry wrote to me enclosing two photos of members of their group wearing their aprons. This is her letter –

Dear Anne

I am Mrs Niki Sandry, with a very good friend who lives in Woodville, NZ. For years she has very kindly sent each copy of your AAW magazine to me [which magazine is better and better, with wonderful photographs: thank you]. Having read your very clear description of 'Aprons with Attitude', I put forward the idea to our Mothers Union Branch. Last month our afternoon group enjoyed talking about the apron which they were wearing. We learnt a good deal from the readings and your acrostic and also about each other. I enclose the report from our Parish magazine with a couple of photographs.

With thoughts and many thanks

Niki Sandry

MOTHERS UNION REPORT IN PARISH MAGAZINE

A small but jolly group of members, kept together very ably by Sue Hill, met to hear and talk about 'Aprons with Attitude'. The apron idea came from New Zealand, where the ladies cited the apron acrostic as:
A Attitude Be agreeable, sympathetic, loving, compassionate and humble. [1Peter 3:8]

P Patience [Romans 8:24-25]

R Responsibility Each of you must take responsibility for doing the creative best you can with your own life. [Galatians 6:4-5]

O Opportunity [Ephesians 3:7]

N Needs Give me neither poverty nor riches. Give me just enough to satisfy my needs. [Proverbs 30:8]

With these thoughts in mind we donned our aprons and spoke about them. Stories ranged from –



‘my best one offered to those who express a wish to help in the kitchen’
‘the apron from friends in Australia and how those amusing friends were made’

‘the apron with a large front pocket for an aunt’s knitting – now a peg bag’
‘photos of a much loved grandmother’s apron’

Other happy tales finishing with a very romantic story.

Apron strings were also mentioned along with what is holding us back from doing God’s will and what to pass on to our grandchildren to hold onto. A lovely afternoon.

Niki Sandry



NEWS FROM AAW GROUPS IN DUNEDIN DIOCESE

Dunedin North The really exciting news from this AAW, is that a Young Persons AAW has begun, with Natalia Yates as their leader. They meet on a Monday night.

St John’s Evening, Roslyn, Dunedin group had Alan Edwards, the church organist, talking about the development of Church music.

St Luke’s on the Taieri, Mosgiel Lynne Hill spoke to the St Luke’s on the Taieri AAW group. Her talk was entitled *Icebergs and more*. It was about a recent trip

she and her husband had to the Antarctic. She started her talk dressed in the gear they had to wear when they went onto the ice. She isn’t wearing the boots as it was a hot day in Mosgiel and she very quickly removed the outer layers explaining them as she went.

More recently Avril Pearce from the Chat Bus spoke of her work with young people at primary school.



Holy Trinity, Gore At the April meeting members had been asked to bring along old recipe books and before they were shown President Anne shared references to food in the bible and read some kitchen prayers. The books brought back a lot of memories for everyone, especially Manual days with hand-sewn white aprons and caps and several good stories about the origins of the recipe books were shared.

All Saints, Gladstone, Invercargill In April Judith Peterson from South Centre Anglican Care talked about their work. Members brought food items, especially for children’s lunches to the meeting.

St Michael’s and All Angels, Fiordland At the May meeting they spent time looking at the Lord’s Prayer in Te Reo, in the hope that members might feel more comfortable joining in when it is used during services from time to time.

St Mary’s, North Oamaru In April the members visited Kakanui to see the diocesan crib and, after lunch at Maheno Café and Bar, the Rev’d Bernard Wilkinson showed them around St Andrew’s Maheno explaining the history of the church.

St Andrew’s, Maheno In May President Margaret led a study about

the women in Luke’s Gospel – Mary the mother of Jesus, Elisabeth the mother of John the Baptist, Mary and Martha. In June a special lunch raised \$100 for hospital chaplaincy and a practice nurse from Franz Josef now living at Herbert, spoke about her experiences in that huge medical practice.

Seniors’ Lunch:

On 18th June St Luke’s AAW Oamaru hosted a two-course dinner for almost 40 senior parishioners in the parish hall. This was preceded by a service of Holy Communion celebrated by the Vicar. An enjoyable time of fellowship concluded with truffles and tea or coffee.



Red Beanie Project:

Members of Oamaru St Luke's AAW and others in the parish knitted almost 190 red beanies for the children of Brockville School in Dunedin. The total received well exceeded the number required and were delivered in time for the winter term.



St John's, Roslyn AAW Evening Group Circle Report August 2016

This year we are trialling a 'shared' leadership role at St John's which is working very well. In May it was my turn to find a speaker, lead the service etc. A fellow parishioner – Jenny Maffey – spoke to us about her quilting hobby. It was amazing how many quilts she bought with her to show us and explain the patterns etc. Many hours of work had gone into the quilts and it was a real privilege to see them.

In June we had Andy Kilsby CEO of the Malcam Trust who spoke to us of the work the Trust does in helping with a wide range of learning and education experiences for young unemployed Otago people between 12 and 24 years old. These include Malcam @ the garden, (the Botanic Gardens) and Farmhand.

Margaret McLanachan



Jenny Maffey with one of her quilts



- Christchurch

Greetings from all our AAW members:

Many thanks to you all AAW members who attended the Annual General Meeting at Silas Church, Belfast/Redwood Parish. The venue seemed to suit most of us, with the opportunity to worship, have our meeting and then sit down and chat together over lunch. We were fortunate to have Bishop Victoria to Chair the meeting, and our AAW Chaplain Stephanie Robson present. After lunch we were treated to a talk by NZCMS Nick and Tessa Laing who returned to their missionary work in Uganda in March this year.

After the AAW Annual General Meeting Bishop Victoria commissioned Dr Judith Mackenzie as the new President of the AAW Diocese of Christchurch, and the AAW Diocesan Committee of 14 members, including our AAW Diocesan Chaplain, Revd Stephanie Robson.

We are delighted to welcome two new members to the Diocesan Committee - Jenny Glasson, Secretary and Jocelyn Golding, Treasurer.

Stephanie Robson's support and advice is always appreciated by the AAW Diocesan Committee. A special thank you to our retiring AAW Diocesan Committee member, Wendy Kington, who has given so much energy and prayer support to the AAW.

Tanks for Tonga – Water Project – This is an additional Overseas and Outreach project to help provide water tanks in Tonga. A Tongan pastor was asked about the importance of water in Tonga. “Very important” was his reply. “When a hurricane strikes, the first thing to go is the water”. Please send you contributions to our AAW Treasurer, Jocelyn Golding, 40/73 Roydvale Avenue, Burnside, Christchurch, 8053

The 2016 AAW Calendar: Please keep checking with your link person that this is up to date.

Wednesday April 20 at St Peter's Upper Riccarton Autumn Festival at 10.00 am, led by the Vicar, Revd Nick Mountfort was followed by a shared lunch.

Blessings

*Judith Mackenzie,
President,*

110 New Zealand Army Laundry Bags Project



Earlier this year, the New Zealand Association of Anglican Women received a request from the New Zealand Army to supply 110 laundry bags for the NZ soldiers based overseas. The Australian soldiers based overseas have green and yellow coloured laundry bags and the NZ Army would like some new laundry bags for the NZ soldiers.

The Diocese of Christchurch Association of Anglican Women (AAW) President said to the NZAAW that our AAW would take on this project. Suitable material which is a bright, colourful Kiwi-ana design was found.



Christchurch AAW members at work sewing the NZ Army Laundry bags.



As the material was expensive and we needed 110 metres for the laundry bags, I emailed the supplier to check that the quantity could be supplied and the cost of the material, including freight. The material was sold to us at a very reasonable price and sent freight free from Auckland. In addition, we needed 165 metres of cord, 110 Iron-on patched for ID, 110 toggles for the cord and woven name tapes.

The Papanui Returned and Services Association were approached about our project and kindly gave the AAW financial support for the material and extras needed to make laundry bags.

The material was cut into one metre pieces and packages of lots of 10 bags were prepared for the sewers. AAW members in Belfast/Redwood, Fendalton and Upper Riccarton formed working groups to make the bags. All the groups made it a fun activity and enjoyed working together for this project. The 110 laundry bags are now ready for delivery to the NZ Army Chaplain based at Burnham Military Camp.

*Judith Mackenzie
President
Association of Anglican Women
Diocese of Christchurch
29 June, 2016*



- Nelson

Nelson Diocese AAW held their AGM and Festival at Nativity in Blenheim. The theme for the weekend was Growing in Discipleship. About 80 women enjoyed a lovely dinner and then five groups entered plays for the Audrey Landel's Rosebowl. The winners with an hilarious play was Holy Trinity Greymouth-Cobden Ranunga combined entitled "Growing Disciples" The AGM was held next day and after prayer and discussion the positions of President, Secretary, Minute secretary and Social Concerns Convenor were filled. New Zealand President Margaret McLanachan was the guest speaker and talked about her life and how she became President. The preacher at the Commissioning service was Rev Richard Dyer whose challenge was "Jesus said 'Go out and make disciples to the end of the world. If you are not you are not following Jesus.'" Another happy and inspiring occasion.

It was a privilege having Margaret in the Diocese. Following the AGM in Blenheim she travelled to Nelson where an Area day was held and then on to the Greymouth where she met the West Coast members.



Greymouth, Cobden Ranunga- the winners.



*Change of Presidents
NZ President Margaret McLanachan; New Nelson President Diane Higgins; Retiring Nelson President Evelyn Nixon.*

The Nelson Executive held their winter meeting overnight at Teapot Valley Camp. Over 50 local members joined them on Thursday afternoon to hear Canon Barbara Harford give a fascinating power point presentation about her trip to Jerusalem.

St Christopher's Blenheim Afternoon Group held an all day celebration



for their 25th birthday. It started with members joining in the usual Wednesday communion service followed by morning tea. A roll call of all members followed and then a candle was lit and members stood in silence to remember those who had passed on.

The history of the group compiled by Florence Darlington was read followed by lunch and cake cutting. They then performed their play entered in the Audrey Landels Rosebowl competition.



Joy Jermyn and Florence Darlington with St Christopher's 25th birthday cake.

Women Together All Saints AAW

1. At a recent meeting we had Ann Taylor, a parishioner, speak to us about Living with a Guide Dog. Ann has had about four dogs over the years. We learnt about the training, responsibilities, and freedom of having a guide dog. We also learnt NOT to approach the dog while he is working. This was an informative evening, with the dog sitting patiently beside Ann.

2. Members have recently made twenty plus laundry bags for Army Personnel serving overseas. This followed a request from Zane Elliott, Army Chaplain.

3. Our most recent meeting was a Fashion Event with outfits from Fashion Central, models and musi-



Ann Taylor with her guide dog.

cal entertainment from our Church members. It was a great fun night and a good fundraiser for the Children and Families Outreach from our Parish. We raised \$900.

- Wellington



A Celebration of Faith

Heather Dawson Wellington MU Diocesan President writes.....

Our Diocesan Service for Lady Day, The Annunciation of Our Lord, was at 11 am on Monday April 4th celebrating 140 years of Mothers' Union, at St Mark's, Raumati Beach. It was a beautiful service. Rev Jenny Dawson

read a poem Ballad of the Bread Man by Charles Causley and told us not to hide our talents or what we do in MU/AAW. We all enjoyed the fellowship of our shared lunch. Five Diocesan Presidents cut a cake with the 140 logo on it. Blankets were collected and will be delivered in stages to the City Mission. There was an overwhelming response and still more blankets are coming in. The offertory of \$455 was for AFIA 'Away From It All' holidays. A lady from St Mark's congregation who attended is a reporter and would like to write an article for our local paper. Great! I was able to 'like' several posts on Facebook about Lady Day services in other parts of the world. Jenny Dawson posted the photo of her blessing the blankets and all

sorts of people commented. (see photo on back cover)



Five Diocesan Presidents cut a cake with the 140 logo on it.



Ballad of the Bread Man

(1968)

Charles Causley

Mary stood in the kitchen
Baking a loaf of bread.
An angel flew in through the window.
'We've a job for you,' he said.

'God in his big gold heaven
Sitting in his big blue chair,
Wanted a mother for his little son.
Suddenly saw you there.'

Mary shook and trembled,
'It isn't true what you say.'
'Don't say that,' said the angel.
'The baby's on its way.'

Joseph was in the workshop
Planing a piece of wood.
'The old man's past it,' the neighbours
said.
'That girl's been up to no good.'

'And who was that elegant fellow,'
They said. 'in the shiny gear?'
The things they said about Gabriel
Were hardly fit to hear.

Mary never answered,
Mary never replied.
She kept the information,
Like the baby, safe inside.

It was the election winter.
They went to vote in town.
When Mary found her time had come
The hotels let her down.

The baby was born in an annexe
Next to the local pub.
At midnight, a delegation
Turned up from the Farmers' Club.

They talked about an explosion
That made a hole in the sky,
Said they'd been sent to the Lamb and
Flag
To see God come down from on high.

A few days later a bishop
And a five-star general were seen
With the head of an African country
In a bullet-proof limousine.

'We've come,' they said 'with tokens
For the little boy to choose.'
Told the tale about war and peace
In the television news.

After them came the soldiers
With rifle and bombs and gun,
Looking for enemies of the state.
The family had packed up and gone.

When they got back to the village
The neighbours said, to a man,
'That boy will never be one of us,
Though he does what he blessed well can.'

He went round to all the people
A paper crown on his head.
Here is some bread from my father.
Take, eat, he said.

Nobody seemed very hungry.
Nobody seemed to care.
Nobody saw the God in himself
Quietly standing there.

He finished up in the papers,
He came to a very bad end.
He was charged with bringing the
living to life.
No man was that prisoner's friend.

There's only one kind of punishment
To fit that kind of crime.
They rigged a trial and shot him
dead.
They were only just in time.

They lifted the young man by the leg,
Thy lifted him by the arm,
They locked him in a cathedral
In case he came to harm.

They stored him safe as water
Under seven rocks.
One Sunday morning he burst out
Like a jack-in-the-box.

Through the town he went walking.
He showed them the holes in his
head.
Now do you want any loaves? he
cried.
'Not today' they said.



New AAW Dio President the Revd
Sandra Williams

AGM, HELD AT ST JOHN'S FEILDING, ON SATURDAY 28 MAY 2016.

About fifty members attended the
Diocesan AAW Annual General Meet-
ing for the 2015 year, held at St John's,
Feilding on a very wet Saturday, 28
May 2016.

We were welcomed with hot drinks
and tasty food and there were many
delighted reunions of members. The
Vicar, Archdeacon Wendy Scott also
welcomed us all.

Our Diocesan Chaplain, Rev. Dr.
Jenny Dawson, chaired the meet-
ing. Retiring Diocesan President,
Pat Vincent, reported on the year's
activities and congratulated the twenty
Branches for their generous support
of international, national and local



initiatives, including Wellington City Mission, Pregnancy Help, Alzheimer's, the new project of Water Tanks for Tonga and money for the people of Nepal after the devastating earthquake and Fiji after Cyclone Winston.

A "Get Creative Craft Day" was hosted by St Mary's Levin in July. Eleven members from our Diocese attended the Triennial Conference in Dunedin in October 2015, which proved to be inspirational, prayerful, had interesting workshops and provided good opportunities for fellowship and networking.

Reports were presented and the authors fielded questions.

Rev. Sandra Williams (Levin) was elected Diocesan President unopposed. The remainder of the officers were re-elected en bloc.

The guest speaker was our Patron, Jenny Duckworth on the topics "Discipleship, Dreams and Dedication". Discipleship is the result of long obedience in the same direction. We have to follow Christ and look after the needs of the Lost, the Last and the Least. It is our mission. Pioneers are required then consolidators. Nevertheless we are required to move out of

our comfort zone in mission. It should be the magnet and engine of our discipleship. The values and structures of the AAW are still valid but have to be presented to the next generation in new ways. We of AAW must be faithful servants of God, the church and community and bring and welcome others into our fellowship. Such work is always hard.

Presentations were made to Jenny Duckworth, Pat Vincent (who is Provincial President-elect), Pam Hartley and the organist.

After a shared lunch, Archdeacon Scott conducted a Holy Communion service, in which the President and members of the AAW Diocesan Committee were commissioned. We departed homeward with thanks to our hostesses and the Parish and Archdeaconry.

Call the Chaplain

At our MU meeting on Tuesday 7 June, Assistant Priest here in Epiphany, Masterton, Revd Lizzie Snowsill, who is also the local Hospital Chaplain, spoke and I felt I wanted to share a couple of very important points she made which could well be shared at national level.

Don't be afraid to ASK to see the Chaplain if you are in hospital; if you are a family member and feel your patient could benefit from such a visit, again don't be afraid to ASK for the Wairarapa Chaplain. If we as Christians, don't ASK or EXPECT to have contact with the Chaplain, then the ministry will not be seen as necessary or relevant. **DO YOUR BIT, and ASK.**

Beanie Fever!

Many AAW members around the diocese have knitted hundreds of beanies for The Mission to Seafarers, Wellington. These are warmly and thankfully received by those at sea, especially during the colder season. This is an ongoing project and Lynne Keatley has made a huge contribution to this. Keep knitting!



Lynne Keatley with her beanies



- Waiapu

Life in Waiapu

Life in Waiapu was fairly hectic during April and May.

It began with a trip to Napier to attend the Hawkes Bay AGM. A wonderful group of ladies welcomed me warmly. The day started with a talk. James Mist spoke about the recently refurbished organ in St John's Cathedral. He also gave us examples of the range of music that the organ was capable of.

Following lunch was the AGM and the commissioning service.



Executive being commissioned by Bishop Andrew Hedge

The end of April saw us all gather at St Peter's in Waipawa where the Diocesan AGM was held. The first speaker was Chris Wheeler who told us about

the success of Messy church in their parish. She was so enthusiastic about Messy church that she had everyone going home with many ideas for their churches.



Chris Wheeler talking about Messy Church

The Ministry Educator gave us an overview about some Women in the Bible. This was extremely interesting and it is hoped that we may be able to extend this to a day sometime.

Wow! What a feast we had supplied by some of the ladies from St Mary's Waipukarau. The highlight was desert which when it came out was a beautifully dressed small Pavlova but as you ate it you came across ice cream in the middle. Master Chef quality! Some



Rev'd Deborah Broome talking about Women in the Bible

members of the Hawkes Bay choir sang during the dinner.

The next day Bishop Andrew Hedge led the service and commissioning, after which it was time for us to return home. This was a great gathering of about 50 members.

Like most AGMs it was difficult to find members willing to take on some of the positions. Our members are aging and have had their turns at these tasks.



Rev'd Alistar Hendry and Rev'd Deborah Broome enjoying dinner.



A couple of weeks later I was at the Bay of Plenty AGM. I didn't have to travel far this time as it was at my church. The day started with the showing of an embroidery that was made by the Rotorua Embroiderers' Guild. This is being displayed in Dunedin with others from around New Zealand.

It was stand up or sit down for exercises from Sport Bay of Plenty and then Power Hooping. The AGM was again followed by a service and commissioning.

Members in Waiapu are very busy and the groups are great places of

fellowship and keeping in touch with what is happening throughout the Diocese, NZ and Pacifica.

I recently spent a wonderful day with 30 ladies in Taupo at their Winter Solstice lunch. It was a wet miserable day outside – warm room – red tablecloths – beautiful flowers - wonderful food, and great company.

One of the most important parts of AAW is fellowship and food and we must continue to make sure that this occurs.

*Elaine Wood
Waiapu Diocesan President*

Psalm 23, Japanese version:
by Toki Miyashina

The Lord is my pace setter, I shall not rush.

He makes me stop and rest for quiet intervals.

He provides me with images of stillness which restore my serenity.

He leads me in ways of efficiency through calmness of mind, and his guidance is peace.

Even though I have a great many things to accomplish each day, I will not fret, for his presence is here.

His timelessness, His all-importance will keep me in balance.

He prepares refreshment and renewal in the midst of my activity, by anointing my mind with his oils of tranquility.

My cup of joyous energy overflows; surely harmony and effectiveness shall be the fruits of my hours.

For I shall walk in the pace of my Lord, and dwell in His house forever.

*Sent by Isabel Weenink
Holy Trinity Tauranga*

- Auckland



Recently I accepted a kind invitation from Gwendolyn Needham from Christ Church in Whangarei to talk to the Fellowship Group about Overseas and Outreach projects. On an absolutely awful day with all the elements possible I drove from North Shore to Christ Church to have lunch with Gwendolyn and the ladies of the Group. The inclement weather was quickly forgotten thanks to a warm and cheerful welcome.

I spoke to the group about the aims and objectives of Overseas and Outreach projects, which focus on the care of women and children; the financial support required to meet the terms of each project, the prayer and support of members, the number

of projects AAW supports and where they are situated in the world. The links to New Zealand Church Missionary Society was explained. The allocation of projects changes from time to time as decided by the NZ Executive.

There was much free and frank discussion concerning the needs of the projects and how funds donated could be put to good use. Local outreach projects are another way of providing support for women and children locally.

AAW members annually contribute \$30,000.00 towards the global mission projects.

*Jennifer Willis
O&O Convener
Auckland Diocese*



UNTAPPED POTENTIAL

What is the Order of St Luke the Physician?

We are clergy, health professionals and lay people who feel called to make Jesus' Ministry of Healing a regular part of our vocation.

We believe Christian Healing and competent medical care are not averse, but complement each other.



As a retired vicar, and as the National Chaplain for the Order of St Luke the Physician in New Zealand (OSL), I see the AAW as a vital part of the Anglican Church. I know that this is a statement that some people would wonder about but one that I believe to be true. I also think that some AAW members are not really fulfilling their potential in what they are doing. I had better explain.

While many AAW members are elderly and restricted in getting round (this also applies to OSL), their ministry potential is vast. I believe that you need to flourish where God has planted you. In the community, in a retirement village or in a rest home your potential for ministry is surely there. As a prayer resource for the church you are invaluable because, as

you know, everything we do needs to be undergirded with prayer. This is something all of us can be involved in.

Do you ever see any persons in your particular family or community who need prayer? (I know that that is a rather rhetorical question as there are needs all around us.) So, when you see the need for prayer, what are you doing about it? Do you say a quiet prayer there and then or do you go into your prayer place and pray for them? If you do, that is really fantastic! Keep it up.

What about directly asking the person if they would like to be prayed for right there on the spot? Even, dare I say it, with the laying on of hands, or is that pushing your limits too far? Praying this way, especially for healing, is the ministry we in the Order of St Luke are involved in. Up until recently we

have mainly operated with this healing prayer in church contexts but this is changing as we take this ministry into our local contexts. If you would be interested in learning more about this or would like some hands on training, contact a local OSL member and simply ask or try me. billmarilyn@xtra.co.nz

Just think of what would happen if nearly every member of AAW became

actively involved in this amazing ministry of prayer both at home and in the community.

Blessings

Rev'd Bill Sim

*Order of St Luke NZ
National Chaplain*





*Rev Jenny Dawson blessing the
blankets
Wellington Diocese*