**Report of the Archives and History Committee**

Members:

Tikanga Maori: Ven Dr Hirini Kaa, Rev’d Kerry Davis

Tikanga Pakeha: Rev’d John McCaul, Ms Jane Teal

Tikanga Polynesia: Rev’d Eseta Mateiviti-Tulava, Rev’d Sione Uluilakepa

Archivist and Librarian: Mrs Judith Bright

Committee Appointments: Ms Sarah Padey, Mr Charles Hemana

General Secretary: Rev’d Canon Michael Hughes

The Archives and History Committee have met four times since the 2018 General Synod/Te Hīnota Whānui. During that time Ms Sarah Padey resigned and Mr Charles Hemana resigned as chairperson.

Since 2018 the Committee has been involved in considerable discussion and a Video Conference concerning an appropriate way of enabling digital access to Parish Registers (Baptism, Marriage and Burial) in line with the 2016 General Synod/Te Hīnota Whānui Motion 15 Guidelines for the Use and Ownership of Parish Registers. <http://kinderlibrary.libguides.com/ld.php?content_id=34652932>

This involved an investigation of the policies and procedures of Ancestry.com and the possibility of the development of a digital platform that was suited to the Anglican Church in Aotearoa New Zealand and Polynesia. The decision to create a Three Tikanga appropriate platform has resulted in Mrs Judith Bright and Ms Anjali Kemp working extensively with New Zealand Micrographic Services to create Putake (Root) which will be launched during 2020.

Visits have been made by Mrs Judith Bright to the Dioceses of Polynesia, Waiapu, Dunedin, Nelson, Waikato, Auckland and Christchurch. These visits have highlighted the importance of continued and deliberate conversations with the Archives and History Committee. The visit to Dunedin also involved a visit to the Hocken Library where the Dunedin Diocesan records are held and a meeting with their Archives Committee. The records for the Southland portion of that Diocese have been transferred to the Invercargill Public Library. The agreement between the Alexander Turnbull Library and the Diocese of Wellington is also under review.

The Royal Commission of Inquiry into Abuse in Care also involved a Video Conference with lawyers from Wynn Williams to establish exactly the resources that were required for their work. The need for speedy access to Archives across all parts of the Anglican Church, including schools and institutions of care, was emphasised. A summary list of the locations of potentially relevant sources has been compiled.

Dioceses and Hui Amorangi reports are a regular part of the Archives and History Committee meetings. The detail contained in these reports is important as they give us an opportunity to acknowledge the additions of new material, events and connections outside the Committee at a local level. This contrasts from time to time with the frustrations of working with limited resources.

Consideration has also been given to the possibility of publishing smaller reports from Archival research, but this has not progressed to date.

The retiring Principal/Maukura of the College of St John the Evangelist/Hoani Tapu te Kaikauwhau i te Rongopai, the Rev’d Canon Tony Gerritsen, met with the Committee in August 2019 to seek their support for the possible appointment of a staff member with responsibility for Church History.

A key decision of the Community of the Sacred Name to house its Archives in the Anglican Archives in Auckland in late 2018 resulted in Mrs Judith Bright and Ms Jane Teal working at the Community for two days packing items which traced the history of the community and disposing of out of date financial records. The finding of additional material in Ashburton in early 2019 resulted in Ms Jane Teal spending further days packing prior to transport to Auckland.

Rev’d John McCaul and Ms Jane Teal (co-chairs)