

CIRCLE



The Association of Anglican Women
Volume 48, No 3
August, 2015



Theme for 2014-15:

Living Life in Faith, Fun and Fellowship.

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 & 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.

Diocesan Coordinators : All Copy to - The Editor, Marjorie Brown- contact details, right. This includes emailed text - either as an attached single column WORD (not 'Publisher') file, or as text typed straight into your email.

PHOTOS: Email (*attached as a "FILE", not as a "picture"*) original digital photos (high resolution jpg files) to marilynjsim@gmail.com or post commercially produced glossy prints for scanning (not photo-copied - nor produced by desk-jets or home laser printers).

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Copy deadline for next issue:

30 September

Please help us by adhering to this deadline!

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FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Dear All,

Another month over. I don't quite know where the time is going but will be glad when winter is over. I cannot remember a winter being so very cold and wet. My thoughts and prayers are with those in both the North and South Islands who have suffered from natural disasters this winter.

Has your group discussed the questionnaire sent out in April? Please get your answers back to your Diocesan Presidents by the end of July. We will be discussing the results of this at Conference.

At the AGM, during Conference, we will be looking at the revised Guidelines and Constitution. Have you seen a copy yet and discussed it at your meeting? If not please ask your Diocesan Presidents for a copy. Diocesan Executives need to discuss these as they too will be discussed and voted on.

Has your group membership increased this year? A prize will be presented – at Conference – to the group who have enrolled the most new members this year.

A reminder that Registrations for Conference close on 21st August.

I am looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible at Conference in Dunedin from 2-5th October.

Blessings

Margaret



EDITOR'S NOTES

I begin this issue with an apology for the errors that were in the previous issue. I hope I have done better this time. We continue to have problems with fitting descriptions to photos. Please label photos clearly and say where they are from e.g. Children playing at St Andrews Dunedin so that we know which diocese to attribute them to.

The poem Patchwork Sacrament in the previous issue was written by Pip Harrison.

Dunedin and the south are slowly recovering from the floods of a few weeks ago and as I write this we are being promised snow later in the week. The Whanganui district has also been devastated by floods. This is a difficult time for all whose homes have been damaged and our prayers are centred on those who need help.

Blessings on you all as you serve God in your areas.

Marjorie Brown

PRAYER

As I adventure with you today
be the compass that guides me
the light that shines on my path
the only one I follow

As I adventure with you today
be the word that encourages
the hand that reaches out
each time I stumble

As I adventure with you today
let me glimpse your destination
and appreciate the places
through which you lead me

As I adventure with you today
be the strength I need to follow
and as the day draws to a close
let me rest in your embrace

Amen



COVER PHOTOS

Front Cover

St James Anglican Church Mangere Bridge

St James – the oldest stone church in constant use in New Zealand dating back to Bishop Selwyn who came in 1842.

Governor Grey settled 80 Maori families in Mangere in 1849 on 480 acres of land. The Ngati Mahuta tribe with Te Wherowhero, the first Maori King, from the Waikaro, occupied a block of land on the harbour, and made their homes and gardens there. Eventually religious services were held in a raupo hut led by chiefs: Tamati Ngapora who became a great worker and lay reader; Kati Takiwaru who is buried in the Urupa, and Warena Kahawai. Very soon a bigger church was required and they turned to Bishop Selwyn and the Vicar of St Peter's Onehunga, Dr Robert Purchas for help. Bishop Selwyn gave ten pounds to the fund set up for the building requirements and the balance was found by the Maori people.

Dr Purchas designed the building and the Rev Robert Burrows, Secretary of the Church Missionary Society, supervised the work choosing blocks of stone from the nearby Mangere Mountain. These stones were transported by the Maori in carts and in flax slings on their backs.

In the Urupa surrounding the building lie buried many prominent Maori people of all faiths. By the door are the graves of Rt Revd Wiremu Panapa, second Bishop Aotearoa and the Revd Mutu Paretene Kapa, a well loved Anglican priest. The grave of the Maori Missioner the Revd Mangatitoki Cameron, a man most respected by all can also be seen. The Urupa is well maintained by the Urupa Committee.

In 2009 the 150th Anniversary was celebrated .

In 1997 St James was placed on the Heritage listings as one of the most significant historic buildings in the Auckland region.

St James is part of Te Takiwa o Manukau in Te Pihopatanga o te Tai Tokerau.

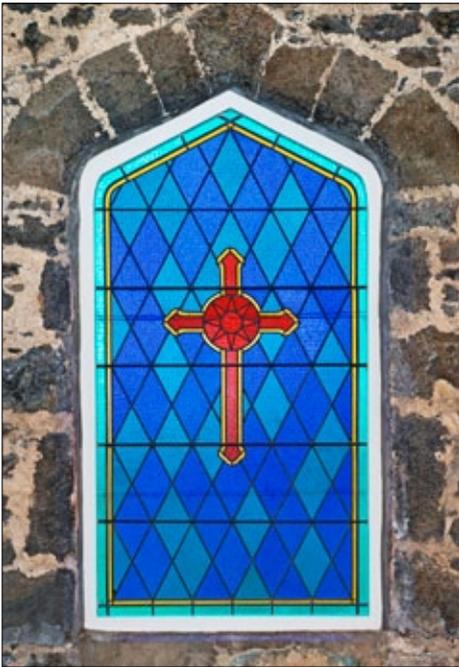
Today services are held every Sunday 9.00am and 7.00pm.

We have a Sunday School programme, home study groups, monthly men's breakfast meetings, women's groups including AAW, a small choir, and community outreach programmes.

The church, hall and surrounding garden is maintained in good order and condition by Church parishioners and others.

St James is also the home of the Radio Station SJAC 106.7fm. The station runs 24/7. All Sunday and special services are broadcast live.

It so happens that St James is the church that AAW Auckland Diocesan President, Mrs Barbara Dixon, attends.



The original window was in three tall narrow frames and in clear, diamond patterned glass as are the other windows; the central frame was taller than the other two. In 1928, as the frames were rotten, it was decided to replace the windows with a single

frame. We have no details about how the new pattern of the cross and surround originated but the blue glass was clear with the red cross and the gold surround. This was retained in the reconstruction.

In later years the window was broken several times by flying stones from lawn mowers and in 1974 it was decided to replace the clear glass with blue to reduce glare, and to fit a metal screen on the outside.

From the inside this screen produces a stipple effect on the window.

As this window faces east the morning sun casts a beautiful red and blue glow into the church, and the presiding priest behind the altar often has a blue silhouette during morning services.

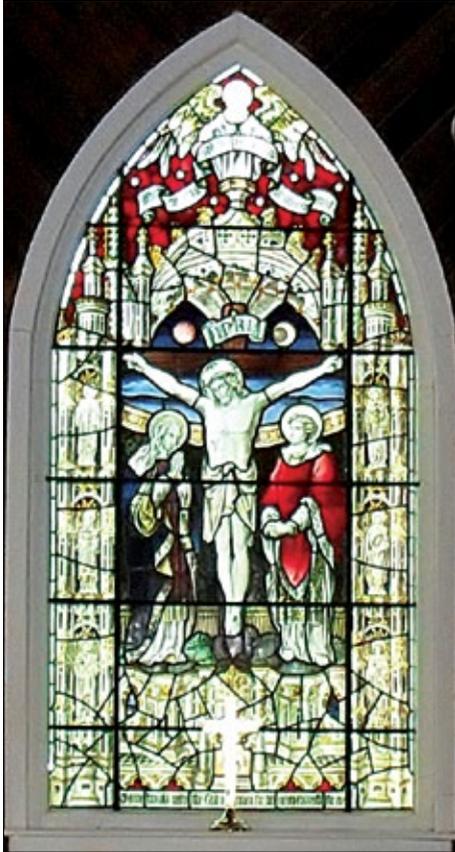
Photographers need to take care to filter their photographs to reduce the glare otherwise everything has this blue halo effect. At morning weddings the photographers often use this blue effect to dramatic purpose.

This particular shot was taken on an overcast day so the over exposure was not a problem.

Pictures taken by Martin Thomas, one of our parishioners.

Back Cover:

History of the Anglican Church in Warkworth, Christ Church, 1876-2015



From 1805 the Mahurangi area was visited regularly by Church of England Clergy. First came missionaries from the Bay of Islands - notably Henry Williams. From 1844 Bishop Selwyn visited inland areas, surprising settlers when he emerged on foot from the bush to hold services and baptise children.

When John Anderson Brown founded Warkworth in 1853 he set aside land for the “Episcopal Church”. A building committee was formed in 1865. Finally on 30th April 1867 the first service was held in Christ Church. Our first Vicar took office in 1876. The beautiful stained glass window was given by Mrs Henry, aunt and housekeeper of the Vicar, Rev. Ronald Macdonald.

In 1979 the building was extended sensitively retaining the original style, symbolising the breadth of God’s love and offering open arms to welcome all.

SOCIAL CONCERNS

21st century life: global, distracted and needing both large-scale and local action.

When I sit down to write about social concerns, my mind often darts here and there, wondering where to settle. In the last three months our attention has been pulled this way and that and brief spurts of attention have been given to: climate change (courtesy of floods, snow and the driest June on record in the East); euthanasia because of Lecretia Seales' case, asking if her doctor could legally end her life; reducing hardship, especially among children, courtesy of the Budget; respectful relationships and the dangers of pony-tail pulling; world crises both environmental (Nepal, Vanuatu, species extinction) and man-made (ISIS, racism and the plight of refugees) ... I could go on.

It's a picture of our 21st century life: global, distracted, needing both large-scale and local action.

We can't all do everything but we can all do something. Perhaps it will be keeping an eye on one topic that calls to us, so that we build up a long-term knowledge and view. We can then contribute our perceptions on that locally and nationally. We can speak with our families about our particular topics – maybe what makes

a society fair, how advertising works, what the assumptions about a group of people are in what's been said, whether a decision like euthanasia can really be just an individual choice.

The issues overlap, so that an interest in one will interact with others. For instance, I heard a scientist speaking about the rate at which animal species are dying out at present. His number one proposal for urgent action was equality for women world-wide, closely followed by the availability of contraception. Thus will we humans have less impact on the planet's other inhabitants, all of which we also need.

What the voices of reason are expressing in all areas is something that is at the core of our Christian faith: we are not just a bunch of individuals, each fighting for our own rights. Rather we are community and it is only as community that we will survive and live life to the full. So much of our Bible is written to 'you plural', something we often lose in the English translation.

I spend my working hours in early childhood centres. They are set up so that the children learn physical, language and thinking skills but what the teachers teach the most are social



and emotional skills: that the toys are there for everyone, so we need to take turns; we can use our words to ask for something - we don't just pull; sometimes we do something all together and it's fun; sometimes we need everyone to help and that makes the work manageable; people are different and some people need more help than others - we can adjust how we are to accommodate them; we can survive the disappointment of our tower being knocked down. You will have seen it all in action!

Robert Fulghum wrote an inspiring book called 'Everything I Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten.'

He suggests, "Think what a better world it would be if we all - the whole world - had cookies and milk about three o'clock every afternoon and then lay down with our blankies for a nap. Or if all governments had as a basic policy to always put things back where they found them and to clean up their own mess."

On a more local level Robert Fulghum writes, "Without realizing it, we fill important places in each other's lives. It's that way with the guy at the corner grocery, the mechanic at the local garage, the family doctor, teachers, neighbours, co-workers.

Good people who are always "there," who can be relied upon in small, important ways. People who teach us, bless us, encourage us, support us, uplift us in the dailiness of life. We never tell them. I don't know why, but we don't.

And, of course, we fill that role ourselves. There are those who depend on us, watch us, learn from us, take from us. And we never know.

You may never have proof of your importance, but you are more important than you think. There are always those who couldn't do without you. The rub is that you don't always know who."

With that in mind, let's continue to challenge ourselves and those around us to set aside some of the individualism that has grown up in our society and threatens to swamp us.

Enjoy your milk and cookies!

Pip Harrison

PS I look forward to hearing your views and votes on the remits for the NCW Conference.



OVERSEAS AND OUTREACH

30.06.15

Well what a weekend we have just experienced.

I am sure that we all will be thinking of our AAW members in Whanganui.

As many of you will know I have recently been to Fiji and had the pleasure of attending the Polynesian Synod and hearing about all the different ways each Archdeaconry support their people, and heard how the supply of a wheelchair or a solar liamp makes a difference to someone's life.

I saw the Chasubles that the AAW women had made and were selling at Synod. They put their sewing machines to good use.

I visited two of the water tanks projects and heard how the church that received the first tank are now looking at putting in a second one to support the community nearby.

The second village had our tank and one from a Waiapu youth trip.

From the Boulaq Centre.

The second April meeting had the theme "Hygiene." Madame Nadia and Trix explained the importance of personal cleanliness and oral hygiene, especially how to avoid infections and how to avoid lice, and also how to cure them. They also learned how to bathe a baby.

Eighty women attended, and were actively involved through visual aids, and everyone received some soap afterwards. These soaps we had received.

In the beginning of the year, EpiscoCare organized a three-day workshop in King Marriut. Two of our staff members attended this workshop. People gathered together from all the different community development centres to discuss the goals and dreams of EpiscoCare. It was a fruitful workshop.

We look forward to the future of the Boulaq Centre, its staff, and its beneficiaries. We thank all of you for the support that we received from you, through finances, prayer and visits. We would not be able to continue without your support.

*With regards,
Trix: and the team of Boulaq Center*



From Jolene:

I have started teaching English one day a week, to break up my week a bit. I started a month ago. I have three levels - absolute beginners, who are all refugee women; beginners, who are a mix of refugee women and some women from the church; and an intermediate level for men and women from the church only. It is fun teaching again, but my one issue is that the refugee women are very inconsistent in their attendance. So far the record is two lessons! From two women. Hopefully they start committing to coming.

From Kailakuri: the news from here is not good at the moment as Edric is not at all well:

Dear Drs Jason and Merindy, Jisunarasong,
I arrived at Kailakuri May 15th, three months' dispatch from JOCS this time. Because senior paramedics work very well, there are not many things I have to do.
I checked SpO2 of Dr Baker. That was

92~90%.(I brought "Pulse Oximeter" from Japan.)

He is getting worse but does some office work.

We have a good internee doctor (Dr Shojol) now. He is 6th internee doctor in Kailakuri. He is eager to see patients and eager to learn everything. He helps us a lot. But he will leave at the end of June.

I am very concerned about the future of KHCP.

The staff leaders say "If there is no MBBS doctor, it means this project is illegal. The local authorities must close this project."

I will leave Kailakuri Aug 7th. I hope this will be the last visit.

I am thinking how I can help them.

Best wishes,

Mariko

Please keep praying for our partners as we make decisions on how we are going to fund the next selection of Partners.

MOTHERS' UNION

Since our last Circle the Mothers' Union Worldwide President, Lynne Tembey, has spent two weeks visiting Tonga and New Zealand. It was a most worthwhile visit and Lynne's down to earth, friendly manner was remarked on where-ever she went. Members were pleased to welcome AAW members to gatherings during her tour. Lynne gave the bi-annual Mary Sumner lecture in Auckland which was very well received. She gave power point presentations and informal talks sharing information about MU work in Myanmar, UK, Africa and the West Indies. Such visits flesh out the information we receive from our Link dioceses and Mary Sumner House, and reaffirms our commitment to making a difference through our support for Family Life, Community Development and Parenting Programmes as part of the world wide Mothers' Union. We are also encouraged in our local efforts in carrying out our Aim and 5 Objects.

Commitment is not a word used very often in today's society but the number of 50 year badges blessed by Bishop Justin for presentation to Wellington MU members during Lynne's visit showed theirs is a long term relationship. Commitment was also shown by those hiring a bus to



*Bishop Helen-Ann, (Bishop of Waikato)
Lynne Tembey (MU Worldwide President)
and Rosemary Bent (MU Diocesan
President) Taken at St Peter's Cathedral,
Hamilton*

take them from the Wairarapa to the Cathedral.

Our Provincial President, the Revd Iritana Hankins accompanied Lynne and was able to share some of her insights with us. Lynne said the visit was an encouraging and uplifting time, and she enjoyed hearing about the outreach being carried out by members in the Province.

Lynne said "there are challenges but we can simply do what we are enabled to through God's grace. We can't be all things to all people but what we can do, we can do well".

Rosemary Bent



DUNEDIN PEOPLE AND BUSINESSES

Dunedin has produced a large number of notable people and businesses. Many are natives of the city, others travelled to Dunedin to be educated at the University of Otago. Here are a few -

The Arts:

Maori painter Ralph Hotere lived and worked in Port Chalmers.

Francis Hodgkins (1869-1947), New Zealand's most celebrated expatriate painter, was born in Dunedin, trained at the Dunedin School of Art and first matured here as an artist.

Colin McCahon, painter

Painter Grahame Sydney

Caricature artist Murray Webb

Shona McFarlane, artist and journalist.

Thomas Bracken, late-nineteenth century poet who wrote the N.Z. National Anthem and who was the first person to publish the phrase "God's Own Country."

Nobel Prize short-listee Janet Frame, born here and died here in Dunedin.

Writer James K Baxter was born in Dunedin in 1926 and wrote many of his plays there in the 1960's.

Playwright Roger Hall

Writer and publisher A.H.Reed

Philip Temple

Science:

Tramway and mining engineer George Smith Duncan

Two of the founders of modern plastic surgery, Harold Gillies and Archibald

McIndoe were born in Dunedin in 1882 and 1900 respectively.

Michael Woodruff, a pioneer in the science of organ transplantations

Businesses:

A large proportion of the country's leading companies in and beyond the twentieth century originated in Dunedin. A selection of relevant company or brand names include : Bell Tea, Cotton-softs, Donaghy, Fletchers, Cadburys, Greggs, Fisher and Paykel, Fulton Hogan, Methven, Hallensteins, Mosgiel Woollen Mill, NZI, Ravensdown, Roslyn Woollen Mill, Whitcoulls, and Wrightson

Sports:

N.Z. Netball international and Silver Fern coach Lois Muir.

Olympics champion long jumper Yvette Corlett (nee Williams)

Greg Henderson, former world champion and Olympian in track and road cycling.

Double Olympic champion swimmer Danyon Loader and coach Duncan Laing

World record-breaking middle-distance athlete Jack Lovelock.

World champion track cyclist Alison Shanks

Olympic Finn-class yachting gold medallist and three times America Cup-winning captain Russell Coutts.

Lots of All Blacks and test cricket internationals !!

DIOCESAN NEWS

Dunedin Diocese

St Johns' Roslyn Evening AAW group held their fundraising quiz night on Tuesday 09 June.

There were 11 teams entered not only from the Parish but friends and relations joined us to make it a fun and entertaining evening.

Rodney Bryant was our Quiz Master and he kept the hecklers in check, the pace was cracking and lots of mirth ensued with some 'off-the-wall' answers.

To set the tone for the evening, a representative from each team was asked to come forward, they were then instructed to sing Pokarekare Ana, then take the words back to their teams to translate the Maori to English. There were many interesting interpretations. Raffles were available throughout the evening, with some lovely and generous prizes donated by members, parishioners and local businesses. The evening raised approximately \$800, to go towards supporting relief efforts in some areas affected by recent natural disasters.

Holy Trinity, Gore AAW

Because Holy Trinity, Gore AAW meets on the first Monday of each month it was decided that for June [the first



From left Mary Phillips(Evening fellowship President) Marjorie Brown Circle(Editor), Lorraine Young, Margaret McLanachan,(NZ President), Sue Cathro and Margaret Tegg(a past NZ President.)



Holy Trinity AAW Gore Mid-winter Dinner

Monday being Queen's Birthday] we would combine our meeting with the Parish Dinner on the third Tuesday. Ten AAW members joined twelve other parishioners at Heartland Hotel for dinner taking advantage of the generous 25% discount off the A La Carte menu they give us each month. The winter menu had begun so we enjoyed trying new main courses and desserts amid much talk and laughter.



Christchurch Diocese

We send the warmest possible winter greetings to all our shivering sisters in Aotearoa New Zealand and the Pacific. I remember myself being quite cold sometimes while working for some years in Fiji – amazing how we can get acclimatised. Here in Christchurch and points south we do suffer the drought and the intense cold, but at least we haven't had floods as you

have up in the north. We send you our loving prayers and very best wishes for strength to cope.

We include with this issue of 'Circle' a lovely photo of the second stage in the Christchurch Women's Hospital Chaplains' Support Project for children and families in need. NZAAW has given us funds to help supply clothes and other urgent needs



Christchurch AAW Diocesan Committee showing the warm pyjamas for children.



*20th Triennial Conference
of the
New Zealand Association of Anglican Women*

**Grow in:
Discipleship
Dreams
Dedication**

**Registrations close on
21st August**

2-5 October 2015

Registration forms are out now. Please ask your Diocesan President for a copy or email cramar@slingshot.co.nz We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible down here in Dunedin to enjoy all the great speakers, workshops, food and companionship.

for this, and we are very grateful – here our Diocesan Committee smiles at you with many of the pairs of warm pyjamas we have donated to the Children’s Wards (after pre-washing them, to help parents in need).

We had a wonderful attendance from Diocese of Christchurch AAW members at St Mary’s Church in Addington for the visit of the gentle and charming Mrs Lynne Temby, the Worldwide President of Mothers’ Union, on May 28. It was a delight to meet the dynamic Rev Iritana Hankins. Bishop Victoria presided in her usual gracious manner – just a lovely time being all together and keeping in touch with our historical origins. Thank you again to all those who helped make the event so effective.

Currently we are engaged in discussing and planning for the national AAW feedback on NCWNZ remits presented to parliament – every year this is a model of democracy in action, and Pat Owen, our Social Concerns Convenor in Christchurch, organises us all brilliantly! Many prospective remits seem to take too much energy to explore and support,

so it is wonderful that so many survive the process.

Whether small AAW Groups or large, we all share in the excellent task of supporting one another and the mission of the church, and I congratulate all members on their dedication to the AAW aims, despite the weather!

*Blessings to you all
Raewyn Dawson*



Nelson Diocese

Nelson Diocese held their AGM and Festival at All Saints Church, Nelson.

Over 70 women attended, The Audrey Landels Rosebowl attracted six entries based on the theme Living Life in Fellowship. The winners were Holy Trinity Richmond Evening group. The guest speaker Dr Flora Gastrell, an obstetrician and gynaecologist, spoke of how God was present in many of her decisions and how her Christian beliefs were often challenged in her work. It was thought provoking. At the commissioning and communion service Rev Barbara Harford's theme was Unity in Service. Christians are stronger when they work together.

The winter Executive meeting was held at Teapot Valley camp where a good gathering heard the Ven Tim Mora speak about his pilgrimage through the North Island visiting early missionary graves on his way to the 200th celebrations. His message was that these early missionaries were men



President Evelyn and Dr Flora Gastrell.



The winners of the Audrey Landels Rosebowl, Holy Trinity Richmond with Adjudicators, Penny and Gordon Taylor.



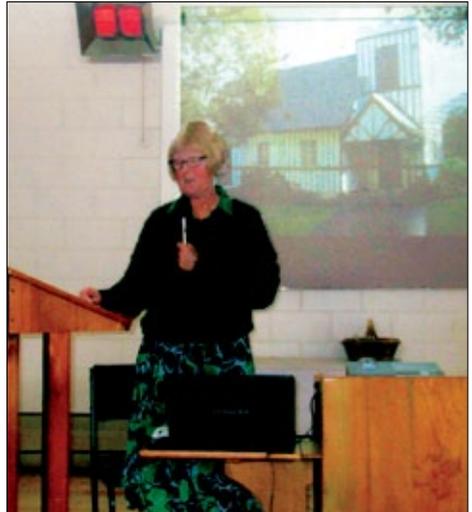
of God who left a great legacy for us. President Evelyn gave us the results of the survey on the future of AAW. It was an amazingly positive result with everyone wondering why more women didn't join.

Holy Trinity Greymouth welcomed Samara Martin, a teacher from Karora School, who with a power point presentation gave an interesting talk about her twelve months teaching in India.

St Christopher's Blenheim, held a Royal Affair afternoon to celebrate the Queen's Birthday. The Mayoress Thelma Sowman, dressed in the outfit she wore at the time, told the group about the preparations and secrecy behind the scenes for the visit of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge. Security was very tight but the young royals charmed everyone who saw them.

Marlborough held a Regional day at St Christopher's Blenheim with more than 30 attending. The guest

speaker for the day was Shelia Allcutt (previous leader) who spoke about her life. Using a power point presentation she spoke of her early life in Bournemouth England, meeting and marrying her husband Steve, the birth of two sons and then the brave move to New Zealand and the birth of another son. Eventually Steve was called into the ministry in South Westland. The photograph of Shelia shows the church at Franz Joseph Glacier which was part of their parish.



Sheila Allcutt with a picture of the Church at Franz Joseph Glacier

Wellington Diocese



I was appointed to the Prayer Book Revision Commission (when they needed another younger, lay, rural-based theologically-literate woman) which, although we did not necessarily expect to, ultimately produced

Jenny Dawson, new AAW Chaplain for Wellington Diocese

AAW has always been important to me. Aged 24, I naively offered to be Diocesan Secretary for Nelson AAW, with little idea of the size of the task or even knowing much about the organisation. However, I learned quickly, through the gracious wisdom of Diocesan President Mrs Dyer (I would never dreamed of calling her May!). Then I became New Zealand leader of Section One, Young Wives (we changed the name to Young Women's Groups), and enjoyed getting to know women across the country.

A New Zealand Prayer Book/He Karakia Mihinahe o Aotearoa. Most people will not know that AAW shaped one of the most-celebrated features of ANZPB: when we came to discuss the thorny problem of what became called "Inclusive Language" I gave all Commission members a copy of the latest Circle which contained an article on the subject by then Christchurch President.

By the time I was ordained, in the late 1980's, I was convinced that in AAW there were not only some very significant women making great contributions in church and community, but also that it is one of



DIOCESAN NEWS *CONTINUED*

the best ministry training grounds in the church. I was now in Christchurch Diocese, and after five years as Priest-in-Charge of a parish that took me on the learning curve of choosing to go into “Total Ministry”, I became Co-Director of DEFT for the Province and then Ministry Educator for the Diocese of Christchurch. I was very impressed when Diocesan President Ruth Harwood gathered together for lunch her Executive and the ordained women of the Diocese because to be supporting each other we needed to know each other.

As I moved north, to the Diocese of Wellington and then to Waiapu, I have enjoyed speaking to a range of AAW groups and supporting leaders and groups however I could.

Over the years I became inspired by the story of Mary Sumner gathering women to encourage them as wives and mothers, then by the more recent story of the New Zealand women who went to the Central Committee of Mothers Union to plead the case for a more inclusive women’s organisation (their rejection of course leading to the birth of AAW), and much more recently when I represented this province at the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women I was very impressed with the passion,

research capacity, and global spread of Mothers’ Union. So I was admitted as a member of MU.

Now I am living in Pukerua Bay, with my beloved Jim and near to two of my three children, doing work that I describe in general terms as being “a ministry developer”: as “Eccles Unlimited Consultancy” I offer spiritual direction, supervision, and resourcing to individuals and groups. Other interests movies fishing the mountains (we still have our bach at Lewis Pass), convening the group that is organising the 2016 Trans-Tasman Ecumenical Rural Ministry Consultation. I also love travel and by the time you read this I will have been to Israel and Jordan with some friends.

Who knows what this season with AAW will bring for me? I was delighted to accept the invitation to become the Chaplain for Wellington Diocese. I look forward to meeting more amazing women, getting to know new corners of this diocese, and probably being stretched by God in ways I cannot yet see – but isn’t that life?

St John’s Parish - Johnsonville Anzac Commemoration

“This beautiful wreath of knitted poppies was made by members of the St. John’s Parish, Johnsonville,



Wellington. The AAW Group spear-headed the project, but other parishioners contributed. There are 87 names on the Roll of Honour for the 1st World War in our Church and we began by making a poppy in memory of each of those men. We made a few more to make the wreath look fuller.

Our Parish had a special Anzac Service on Sunday 26 April at 10.00 a.m. with specially chosen music and after Intercessions our Vicar read the names on the Roll of Honour while two AAW members brought the wreath from the back of the church and put it at the foot of the altar.

Our Service was a very moving occasion and a tribute not only to our parishioners, but to all those who served in that War and especially to those who died.”

Wellington Diocese, Northern Region AAW – Annual General Meeting

Sharon Williams was the guest speaker, encouraged by the Rev'd David Van Overen, to share her passion for her work with “Run Kids in Shannon” an organisation dealing with child poverty.

Shannon is a small rural township in Horowhenua whose last large industry closed its doors last November, creating more unemployment in this area.

Sharon noted, that we like to believe New Zealand is a great place for children to grow up in. For the majority of our children, this is true; but not true for children living in poverty – as many as 25 percent – currently about 270,000 .

Child poverty, for individual children means, the short term impacts are, having insufficient nutritious food, going to school hungry, living in a cold and damp house, missing school outings and sports activities.

Sharon emphasised the importance of exploring the unique characteristics of your own community and researching how to meet these needs. During term time, young people in Shannon meet together on Friday evenings and recently a girls' youth

group has been formed. Members of the local community are very willing to support these activities. One example - "Fuel-A-Friend" a project, which will cover the cost to enable young people to be driven to the swimming pool complex in Levin, and to sports competitions.

The Primary School has developed its own community gardens where volunteers teach the children to grow, to prepare and to serve the food as part of this programme.

Sharon concluded, that when working with young people, the importance of the three "P"s and the three "E"s

PRAY.....EXPLORE.....PRAY.....
ENGAGE.....PRAY.....EXCITE

Mother's Union World Wide President Visits Wellington Diocese.

Visit of Worldwide Mothers' Union President: We had a wonderful cathedral service on a sunny Wellington day to formally welcome Lynne Tembey to our diocese on the 26th May. It was lovely to have Bishop Justin and the Very Reverend Digby Wilkinson presiding. Lynne gave a thoughtful sermon and then presented long service awards to MU

members before presenting a power point on the work of MU. She shared with us stories of our corporate heritage such as, making books for prisoners, arranging holidays for families and supporting and encouraging parents to grow. United together we make a difference. She continually encouraged us all, in humility to move forward for God. It was special to have a big contingent of MU Members from Epiphany Church in Masterton and ladies from Wanganui, Levin and the Kapiti Coast join our Wellington members to celebrate this occasion. Thanks to Heather Dawson our MU President for organising the day and Jan Peleton and her CCAW team for hospitality duties.

We tried something different

The Wellington Diocese AGM was held on Saturday 9 May, and the hosts, Belmont Archdeacons, decided to try something different. Instead of using a church and its facilities, we booked the Avalon Pavilion for the day.

Built on a small rise in Avalon Park Lower Hutt, the Pavilion overlooks the children's playground, with the bush-clad Western Hills forming a backdrop. It was as if the outside world had come into our meeting, and

we realised we were not a group acting in isolation, but a group that belonged to a greater whole.

A small cover charge of \$15 covered expenses, (mainly venue-hire and catered-for lunch). The attendance was excellent and everyone was freed up to participate fully.

For the Commissioning Eucharist, a table was dressed as a small altar; the music was supplied by a keyboard player; and we celebrated together with warmth and joy.

Consensus was that we'd had a wonderful day. Don't be afraid to try something different – you might be surprised by the outcome, as we were!

Virtual Groups

I was interested to read in the March NCW Bulletin of their suggestion of developing “Virtual” Branches. To my knowledge in AAW we have had virtual Branches for many years.

Since AAW began in 1968 in New Zealand, a member of the AAW Executive in the Wellington Diocese has been quietly keeping in touch with women throughout the Diocese and beyond. These folk have been isolated, either out in the country or because they cannot attend local groups regularly. They can still pray for the needs of others and for the work of the

AAW in overseas missions or outreach within New Zealand.

How many AAW groups throughout New Zealand now communicate with their members by e-mail? This has become a part of the activities of each group. Instead of posting out Newsletters we send them by e-mail. In our local group at Kapiti 85% of our active membership can now receive Diocesan Newsletters by this means as well as details of the next Fellowship ‘actual’ meeting.

Wellington Diocesan AAW has nearly 100 members in our IPC (Intercessory Prayer Circle) and though all members do not receive via E-mail 33% do so. We have now incorporated all Lone members into this special Prayer newsletter.

As Christians we have the privilege of more prayer power if we can share our concerns this way and therefore expand our membership to others who cannot attend meetings but wish to participate. Virtual Meetings are not new and untried. So AAW/ MU members, take courage from the prayers of the past, and reach out to others in the future, through E-mail/ Virtual membership. Through Circle let us share ways in which AAW are reaching out in this way.

*Val Malcolm
Wellington Diocese*



Diocese of Waikato and Taranaki

Instead of our usual evening meeting on May 19th, twenty AAW members from St Chad's Upper Westown, New Plymouth met for breakfast at the Cathedral Community Cafe. It was a time of great fellowship while we enjoyed a delicious breakfast.

For several months now, The Cathedral Church of St Mary has been serving breakfast for the community between 7.30-10.00am each Tuesday morning.

It began because financial assistance was needed in so many disaster areas. After raising several thousand dollars for Doctors Without Borders and for Vanuatu, the cafe funds are now being sent to The World Vision Appeal for Nepal.

The cafe menu focuses on pancakes with a variety of toppings. Items are 50c or \$1.00 each. Most ingredients and other supplies are donated and many volunteers are required. Two chefs donate their time and Dean Jamie Allen and his wife Suzy are members of the 'waiting' staff. About forty customers can be seated at one time. This event is so popular that more than a hundred folk are catered for each Tuesday morning.

This is a wonderful outreach into the community and in turn, the community give generously.

For further information go to www.facebook.com/cathedralcommunitycafe

Mary Needs



Cathedral Cafe



Preparing Birthing Kits

St John the Baptist, Waitara AAW

hosted a large gathering of women to their Patronal Festival on 25 June, including 4 students from St Mary's Diocesan School, Stratford. Arch-deacon Jacque Paterson preached an encouraging sermon using the parable of the wine skins, (Luke 5:37-39).

Jesus said "New wine must be poured into new wine skins. And no one after drinking old wine wants the new, for he says, "The old wine is better". She told us AAW need not be discouraged – the old wine is better. We have a lot to offer our church and community but using new wine skins into which to transfer our old wine (our experience, faith, wisdom and love) means we need to be prepared to change.

After lunch we had small group discussions: sharing about a person who influenced our faith journey; what are some differences about life for young women today and life as we experienced it; what are some things we have in common regardless of age or cultural context; why do we think faith is important; can aspects of faith

reach across generations or do we have nothing in common with different generations to ourselves and do we think wisdom necessarily comes with maturity? It was very interesting having an input from the St Mary's young ladies.



Waiapu Diocese

A Stole for the Waiapu Chaplain

A special stole has been designed and created for the Waiapu AAW Chaplain.

The idea of a stole was ignited after Elizabeth Fahey's family bequeathed donations, given at her funeral, to the Waiapu AAW. In a desire to honour Elizabeth and her work for AAW, at all levels, current Waiapu President, Elaine Wood, thought a stole would be a fitting and lasting tribute, given Elizabeth was a minister's wife.

Esther Mark of Tauranga happily agreed to take on the task and the result is a beautiful cream stole made of silk, sourced from Cambodia, on one of Esther's trips away. The stole is backed with AAW blue with an embroidered AAW symbol placed on the cream, high on one side with two gold crosses with blue edging adorning, both sides. Embroidered on the blue backing is a dedication

to Elizabeth and the years she was an AAW member. The classically beautiful stole is complete with a special hanger and bag to ensure its longevity. A gift made with love and talent. Thank you Esther.

Esther eschewed payment for her hours of effort as she credited Elizabeth for starting her on her "liturgical vestment making" path. Years ago Elizabeth had requested help to make clerical stoles for clergy in the Solomon Islands. Esther who was at that meeting thought "Well I can sew" and raised her hand. The rest is history. Esther has created many, many vestments for clergy in NZ and abroad, stoles, chasubles, copes and even a mitre. Great things from a small beginning.

The remainder of Elizabeth's legacy, after the stole expenses were deducted, was gifted to Catharine White of Te Hapara AAW in Gisborne to continue

her work with young Maori women making Wahakura. (flax baby baskets)

The Diocesan executive strongly felt God's guidance in making these decisions to honour Elizabeth's memory and her work. We think Elizabeth would approve.

The stole will be officially blessed by Bishop Andrew at the Diocesan AGM on April 30th, 2016 and given to the current chaplain, Rev Wendy Showan to begin its work.



Auckland Diocese

St Aidan banners

Our Tuesday 7th April 2015 meeting was a celebration of how women's God given talents are used to adorn our places of worship. Jeny Terrell led our worship service focussing on the use of such talents. Jane Mason's following talk carried on developing this idea using to start her interactive discussion the text, 'All I have is Yours and of Your own I give You'.

Jane's banners reflect the church calendar and help to focus our attention as we worship on the various stories of the changing church season and many of her banners are complimentary pairs.

Jane told us how her creative interest in banners was sparked many years ago when she lived in Wanganui after seeing banners by a fellow worshipper. However, this interest lay dormant for some decades till she arrived at St





Aidan's. One of her first was the beautiful AAW banner with its St Aidan's cross.

When asked about the source of her inspiration for each creation she showed us the variety by discussing some of the banners she had on display. Each banner can take months for the initial idea to develop and then redevelops throughout the actual creation process. While originally Jane used traditional patchwork techniques, these days she also incorpo-

rates modern glues. She also showed us examples where fabric, always of high quality, was glued on, and then mostly sewn, often using satin stitching to highlight features of fabric. Her modern banner techniques also use a wide variety of decoration including beading, sequins and even glitter.

A special one in which many of the congregation participated was the Centennial banner. Jane asked everyone in the congregation to provide a piece of fabric. These were then used to create the figures on the banners representing the congregation, including 'saints who have gone before'.

Jane praised how her family supports her creative muse. One daughter helps her to process her patterns electronically from Jane's original sketches. Bryce vacuums up the mess that inevitably is produced during the stages of production, as well as being a sounding board for ideas.

Afterwards Jane was surrounded by those wanting to take the opportunity to eye the banners more closely while she cheerfully answered their individual questions and encouraged her listeners in their own creative muse.

Whangaparaoa Group set Child Poverty as a focus this year for Social Concerns.

In April a KidsCan speaker opened our eyes to the reality of the situation around us. In May we had a Family Fun Film night as an "extra" which attracted 46 adults and children to see "Mrs Doubtfire", with free popcorn and ice creams. This became a fundraiser for Nepal and \$650 was the generous koha. A young woman in



Rob Aspden giving a cheque to Amanda McKay

our parish has been running a Children's Home in Nepal for 11 years, via frequent visits and daily email or skype (see Fireflychildrenshome.org). Having returned to NZ a week prior to the earthquakes she was an obvious choice for our June meeting! So we stepped outside the box and invited our church Singles' and Men's Groups to join us, ending with Coffee & Dessert. This raised \$680 in koha, plus a further \$700+ in church offerings for Firefly. Raising awareness and having goals outside of our group are attracting interest that we hope will translate into new members.

On a fine winter's day AAW members from all groups in the Auckland diocese met in the Gathering Area of St Aidan's Church, Remuera, for an informal meeting to get to know AAW executive and other representatives.

After morning tea Barbara Dixon, the Auckland President, welcomed all and then invited the Revd Hilary Leith, Auckland Diocesan Chaplain, to lead the meeting in prayer. Executive members were then introduced - Jennifer Willis (Vice-President and Convenor Overseas & Outreach), Julie Walker (Convenor Social Concerns) and the Revd Hilary Leith (NCW representative).



The introduction of the AAW Executive, Auckland Diocese, on Friday 26 June

Jennifer Willis then gave an update on O&O followed by Julie Walker on Social Concerns.

President Barbara explained a proposed 4-term concept in keeping with school holidays and there was general agreement expressed for this concept.

Members congratulated Marie Taylor who has been made a Life Member of NCW, having served as Auckland NCW representative for many years.

The Executive was encouraged by the presence of so many who voiced their approval of this new format to meet and socialize with each other, so with God's good grace they plan to continue in this way for the foreseeable future.

Jan Watson

Warkworth AAW Coffee Group Annual Hospitality Day, 16 April 2015

Theme- Pilgrimage

Revd Jan Olsen, our vicar, prepared a beautiful church service around the theme, and we were blessed with a full attendance of responsive worshippers. After the service the Rev. John Harris, assisted by a power-point presentation, spoke about his experiences in 2004, of the St James's Pilgrim Walk to Northern Spain from the French border.

Invited guests were from our Anglican congregation, Roman Catholics, Methodist, Presbyterian, CWI, Lions, sister AAW Groups from St Stephen's Whangaparaoa, St John's Campbell's Bay, including the Vice-President of Diocesan AAW, Jenny Wills, and the President of St Aidan's, Remuera.



Banner parade

A lovely banner parade entered our little church to the AAW hymn. Other hymns, O Happy Band of Pilgrims, Guide me O Thou Great Redeemer and Make me a channel of your peace were all sung with enthusiasm. The Pilgrim Prayer by Enya was read by the Roman Catholic ladies.

A Gold Coin collection raised over \$70 for Springboard Trust, Snell's Beach.

Guests enjoyed a lunch prepared and served by our AAW ladies in the Parish Lounge. It was a happy day in our Country Church.

Vivian Pollock



