



The Association of Anglican Women

CIRCLE

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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'

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Copy deadline for next issue:

15 December

Please help us by adhering to this deadline!

FROM OUR PRESIDENT

All the hard work done by the committee and myself certainly paid off at our tri-ennial Conference at Tolcarne, 2-5 October 2015. It was wonderful to catch up with ladies I had met on several occasions over the years as well as to meet new ones.

Our theme for the next 3 years is Grow in Discipleship, Dreams and Dedication. Speakers were well received as were the workshops.

It was a great privilege to present Past Provincial President Badges to those past presidents who were with us. For those not with us I gave the badges to their Diocesan Presidents and have heard some wonderful stories of presentations made. I am still looking for the whereabouts of Neena Williams who was Provincial President from 1977 – 1980, and Judy Woodall (now Entwisle) 1986 – 1989, who was last known to be living in Papamoa, Waikato. If anyone can help us find these ladies I would love to hear from you. Thank you.



It seems early but I take this opportunity to wish you all a blessed Christmas. May you all have a relaxing holiday time with friends and family. I look forward to working with you in 2016 keeping up the good work done in AAW throughout New Zealand.

God's Blessing

Margaret

EDITOR'S NOTES

Behind the Scenes.

One of the goodies found in the bags given to AAW Conference attendees was a handmade bookmark. For months before the event President Margaret stitched away her 'free' moments making these gifts.

Preparing for conference involved a number of people, many unseen, like the men transporting and shifting furniture. This prompted me to think about the many kindnesses that pass

unnoticed each day. Let us stop for a minute or two and thank God for the generosity and love shown to us by the people behind the scenes.

May God bless you as you prepare for the Christmas season.

Marjorie



SOCIAL CONCERNS

I report back from two days at the National Council of Women Conference. As well as receiving reports from the Standing Committees and Board members, we had some excellent speakers. NCW is focusing on the issue of women's equality at present, as this is part of the public discussion not covered in depth by other groups. Using this lens we considered a number of issues.

A panel of women aged from teens upwards shared their perspectives on gender equality. The panel included a woman from the multicultural council and one who founded a support and information network for members of the LGBT community.

Dame Lesley Max, NCW's patron and the founder of an organisation that works with parents of young children, compared the inequities women face with inequities faced by those who live in poverty. It was clear that while there are inequalities for all women, for those with a second factor that tends to bring discrimination (low-socio-economic grouping, disability, ethnicity or gender identification/sexuality), the effect is magnified. She spoke of the powerful effect of positive relationships in changing attitudes.

A second speaker proclaiming the importance of positive relationships, especially early in life, was Suzanne Snively of Transparency International. Much of her work centres round encouraging New Zealanders to be proud of our corruption-free country (second best in the OECD) and pointing out to businesses around the world that this makes us an excellent place to do business! She tied this idea to the creation of trust and trustworthiness in early life. Ethical behaviour is founded in these earliest teachable moments.

A draft NCW Strategy Map for Women was presented. When finalised, this will be released publicly. It has been written because the Ministry for Women's Action Plan lapsed several years ago and another has not been put in place.

Remits were an important part of our business. We dealt with the six that we worked on before the conference and an urgent one proposing that we urge the Government to double the refugee quota and increase provision for settlement processes in proportion. We voted in favour of all seven

remits. The first, on changing systems to encourage an increase in women's representation in Parliament, was the one AAW supported least at 61% of our vote. It was also the least popular among delegates but still passed with 87% of delegates supporting it. The five remits on having a long-term strategy for eliminating violence against women, on insecure work, on the provision of mental health facilities, on the possible inclusion of pets in protection orders and on banning legal highs passed with the percentage vote in favour ranging from 84% (banning legal highs) through to 100% (strategy on the elimination of violence). The AAW vote was 89% and 84% in favour on these two respectively and in the 90s for the other three remits. The arguments for and against the remits ran very much along the lines they had in AAW discussions.

The urgent remit on the refugee quota was passed with 72% in favour. Speakers noted the seriousness of the current crisis in the Middle East and Europe and that women and children were among those who suffered the most. One speaker, however, noted that it was not possible to focus on women in the selection of refugees, so wondered if the remit fell in line with

NCW's remit criteria.

On the Sunday, a presentation was made in favour of euthanasia with the intention of having a workshop to discuss this issue and work towards an NCW submission. The conference was uncomfortable with this process and, instead of the workshop, an opportunity was given for others to introduce different views on the subject. It was decided that NCW should gather the membership's opinions on this topic with an Action Item. NCW submissions express the breadth of views within the organisation, so, when this Action Item is circulated please make careful record of all opinions that are given in each group discussion and return them. We can also make individual submissions. Submissions will be due on 12 February, so realistically group discussions will need to be held this year. I do hope that AAW will be part of this important enquiry. The results could be life-changing for New Zealand.

May the summer ahead be life-affirming for us all.

Pip Harrison



OVERSEAS AND OUTREACH

I have just returned from the AAW triennial conference. How wonderful to catch up with everyone once again.

During the weekend we set the Partners for the next three years.

We are continuing to support these Partners:

Cambodia. Anne & Anthony McCormick. **\$1000.00**

Pakistan. Judith Looser, Kunri Krafts Self Help Centre. **\$1000.00**

Melanesia. Community of the Sisters of the Church (CSC). **\$2000.00**

Community of Melanesian Sister's, Guadalcanal. **\$2000.00**

Papua New Guinea.

Community of the Visitation of Our Lady, Hetune, Popondetta. **\$2000.00**

Newton Theological College, Student's Wives Course. **\$2000.00**

Polynesia Kindergarten Work. **\$1500.00**

Purchase of sewing machines for Polynesia. **\$1500.00**

5 Archdeaconries of AAW - co ordination of meetings. **\$2000.00**

Held in NZ for Polynesian levies, Circles, and O&O. **\$3000.00**

Work within NZ

Churches Education Commission . **\$3000.00**

And we have added in two new partners.

Nick and Tessa Laing
\$1000

Medical and social justice support, Uganda

Nick and Tessa are amongst the mud huts, mangoes and mosquitoes of post war Northern Uganda. They love being part of the local scene, and finding ways to connect the church with the community. Tessa's made that her job, helping the church launch groups to campaign, and organize the community to tackle local issues like water access and farming productivity. Nick feels he is right where God wants him to be, doctoring at a local Christian hospital.

Phil and Becky Sussex \$1000

Dentistry and teaching, Cambodia
Most kiwis hate visiting the dentist – dental chairs bring up childhood memories they'd rather forget. But for many in Cambodia, dental care is inaccessible. Phil has the opportunity to use his skills to train a new generation of dentists at a local university and through various Christian community outreach clinics. Becky's training also comes in handy at Hope International School – allowing other mission workers to sweat it out here longer term!

We have removed the \$4000 we have been using as seeding funding as over the years it has been under utilized and few felt that Groups and Dioceses are doing a fair amount of outreach and community support already.

At the conference a new Overseas and Outreach convenor was elected. Shelly Vette from Dannevirke in

the Waiapu Diocese is now your new convenor.

She will be in contact with your Diocesan convenors very soon.

Thank you all for your support of me over the last three years.

Mary Estcourt
NZAAW Convenor.

As a new Mission Partner with NZCMS, it has been a delight to speak at AAW meetings throughout the Waiapu Diocese during August, as I prepare to go to Papua New Guinea. Particular thanks go to the ladies of Holy Trinity - Tauranga, St Andrew's Taupo and St Luke's Havelock North for their generosity, hospitality and prayer.

Papua New Guinea is one of the world's most culturally and linguistically diverse nations. It is also statistically among the bottom 4% of the world for health and education. In PNG the Mothers' Union has 21,000 members who are actively facing these opportunities and challenges as the Church seeks to be simultaneously united and diverse.

With sorcery prevalent in the Papuan psyche, the MU has a significant role to play in transforming this Island Nation as it works closely with other organizations on issues such as literacy, health awareness, violence against women, as well as maternal and child health problems. Key to this is training women in each region to train others to achieve the transformation needed within this least-developed Nation, which has been challenged to move from the Stone Age into the modern world since its 1975 Independence.

My personal journey reflects that in God's plan it seems that it is just a matter of being in the right place at the right time. I didn't know I would be available to go to PNG when the Anglican Board of Missions was praying



for administrative help for the Archbishop in Papua New Guinea. Prior to becoming a Mission Partner, I served the Interchurch Council for Hospital Chaplaincy as the National Administrator and as their National Training Adviser.

I look forward to working alongside Archbishop Clyde in the role of his Executive Assistant. In this role I will be responsible for administrative, mission and ministry development

nationally. During my first year I will also be orientating myself to the needs and structure of the Church in PNG as well as familiarising myself with the diverse culture and language.

Thank you to AAW Overseas and Outreach for this wonderful opportunity to share in what God is doing both here in our Anglican Parishes as well as in Papua New Guinea.

Margaret Poynton

MOTHERS' UNION

Mothers' Union members in Te Tai Tokerau are involved in the community in a variety of ways, and while most MU members know Diane Chapman as the Provincial Treasurer this busy mother is also a Counsellor based at Te Whare Ruruhau o Meri, a charitable trust set up by Te Pihopatanga o Tai Tokerau. Another MU member, the Revd Lloyd Popata is chair of the Trust. Diane has a passion for working with tamariki and together with a colleague, A'au James Leuluai is involved in a South Auckland School. Earlier this year a One Day Programme consisting of 4 workshops was developed for children aged between 7 and 14 years providing opportu-

nities to form and maintain healthy relationships, and delivering messages promoting a safe, violence and abuse free lifestyle. Diane and James will continue to develop and maintain this programme. They are also involved in a pilot scheme working with CYFS in Manuera.

Aunty Aggie Smith, People's Warden for the Parengarenga, Ahipara, Peria Pastorate, meets with others to knit and crochet for the Switzer Home and the Kaitaia Maternity Ward. She recently invited fellow MU member Fran Hokianga to join them. In no time wool and a pair of knitting needles were given to her; she was shown how to cast on, and



before long produced her first ever pair of baby booties.

The new CEO of Mothers' Union is Beverley Jullien. She has had a wide range of experience in senior commercial roles as well voluntary positions in the not for profit sector.

Lynne Tembey was re-elected Worldwide President, and voting has taken place in the triennial elections for the various committees and Units of Mothers' Union. A good number of candidates were nominated which shows a healthy interest in the ongoing work of MU.

Rosemary Bent

Pictures taken by Stehen Brooker at the new Maori Pastorate centre just outside Kaitaia on the occasion of the MU's world president's visit.

Historic in two senses, since this was the first event in their brand new church.



Aunty Aggie Smith



ENTERTAINING GRANDCHILDREN

All children enjoy helping in the kitchen – that does not always include doing the dishes! However they will do the dishes after they have cooked.

There are many recipes for uncooked delicacies that children can make. Make sure you have the correct ingredients at hand and the children can make their gifts for other family members. Plastic containers (for the younger children) or glass jars in which to put their goodies, a piece of ribbon to decorate and a home-made card are all that are needed to make an attractive present.

I find that my teenaged grandchildren love coming round to bake or make lemon curd. All I have to do is have the ingredients they need.

Lemon Curd

4 lemons (grated rind and juice), 125 gm butter, 500 gm sugar, 4 eggs (beaten a little)

Method 1: Cook slowly in a double boiler, stirring regularly, till thick.

Method 2: Microwave to melt butter with sugar and lemon. Add beaten eggs and return to microwave 1 minute at a time, stir regularly until thick. Pour into hot jars. Cool and keep in refrigerator.

Fruit Balls

Cream 125gm butter with 4 tablespoons icing sugar. Add 2 tablespoons coconut, 2 tablespoons cocoa, 3/4 cup cherries, walnuts, sultanas, preserved ginger (finely chopped) and a few drops vanilla or rum essence.

Mix together, roll into shapes (balls or sausages) and roll in extra coconut.

Gluten-Free Lemon Biscuits

100 gm butter, 1/2 cup sugar, 1 egg, 2 cups rice flour, 2 teaspoons finely grated lemon rind, icing sugar for dusting.

Cream butter and sugar, add the egg and beat well.

Mix together rice flour and lemon rind then add to creamed mixture. Mix well then roll into balls and place on a lined baking tray. Press with a fork dusted with rice flour. Bake 15 minutes until golden and firm. Cool on a wire rack. Dust with icing sugar mixed with extra lemon rind.

Possums

1 tin caramel condensed milk, 1 packet crushed wine biscuits, 1/2 cup coconut, 1/2 cup dried fruit.

Mix together well. Roll into fingers then roll in extra coconut or chocolate hail.

Marshmallow Balls

1pkt marshmallows
1pkt wine biscuits
1/2 tin condensed milk
1/2 cup brown sugar
100gm butter
vanilla or sherry

Melt condensed milk, brown sugar, butter and vanilla, add crushed biscuits. Roll mixture around a marshmallow then roll in coconut and refrigerate.

Mini Jam Tarts

200gm Butter
1 cup plain flour
1 cup cornflour
1/2 tsp baking powder
1/2 cup good quality raspberry jam

Lightly grease a mini muffin tin and heat oven to 170C. Beat butter and sugar until creamy; add sifted dry ingredients. Roll into walnut-sized balls. Place each ball into a muffin tin and indent the top with your thumb. Chill for 20-30 minutes. Bake for 20 minutes until pale gold (press holes in centre again after 10 minutes). Cool pastry tarts and fill with raspberry jam. (Add sifted icing sugar before serving). Store in an airtight container.

Joy Boys

Melt 1 tin condensed milk and 1 tablespoon golden syrup in a saucepan or in the microwave. Stir well then leave to cool.

Add 3 cups cornflakes, 1 cup dried fruit (mixed or just sultanas), and 3/4 cup coconut. Mix well, form balls and roll in extra coconut.

Citrus Logs

Warm 125gms butter with 1/2 tin condensed milk. Add 3/4 cup coconut, 1 packet crushed wine biscuits and the grated rind of an orange.

Mix well, press into a tin lined with baking paper. Cool then ice with orange or lemon icing. Cut into logs.

Chocolate Dainties

1 king size block dark or energy chocolate
3/4 tin Condensed milk

Melt together – microwave 20 seconds, 20 seconds, then 30 seconds, then add nuts, fruit, (500gm mixed fruit), etc as desired microwave for 30 seconds. Place in lots on cold greased tray or small paper cases. Allow to set.

These recipes make great Christmas presents for your neighbours and friends.



DIOCESAN NEWS

Dunedin Diocese

Holy Trinity North Invercargill AAW Circle Report

On Tuesday 15 September, Holy Trinity, North Invercargill AAW members celebrated 83 years of worship in North Invercargill. During their annual Festival Week they invited women from other local churches to a Fashion Parade. This raised \$745 for the Southland Hospice. Six members, including Priest-in-Charge Rev'd Liz Cheyne, donned the fashion



Group photo of models:
From left – Cheryl Casey, Pauline Gibson, Susan Flintoff, Margaret McIntosh, Bev Barton, Liz Cheyne

garments supplied by Caroline Eve showing the new summer lines.

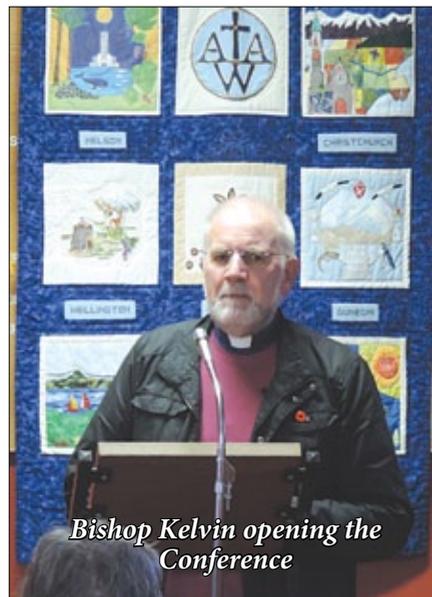
Conference photos



Faith and Fun workshop



Faith and Fun workshop



Bishop Kelvin opening the Conference



Ainsley, Anne and Anne – Faith and Fun



Exercising with Sport Otago



The food was great!



Craig McLanachan – Oamaru Stone Workshop



Faith and Fun workshop



Commissioning Service



Faith and Fun Workshop



Faith and Fun Workshop



Craft Workshop



Craft Workshop



Leanne Stewart - Servants Health Centre



Faith and Fun Workshop



Sport Otago



At the meal slide



Tool box Resources workshop



Queuing for food

Christchurch Diocese



Rev Mike Hawke at St Philip & All Saints, Timaru

Seasonal Greetings to all our sisters in Aotearoa New Zealand and the Pacific. As ever at this time of year we are simultaneously looking back and forward; reflecting on our joys and struggles of the past year, and planning in prayer for more effective service in the future.

We include with this issue of 'Circle' some photos of our October 2014 Transitional Cathedral AAW Diocesan Eucharist – a lovely occasion, with many hundreds of people supporting its special quality. The procession of Group and Diocesan AAW banners was a colourful declaration of our creative energies, and we all appreciated the help of some senior St Margaret's College students in lifting

the heavy banners high. The music was in some parts more rhythmical and unorthodox, following the pattern used at our Diocesan Synod, and contrasting with traditional hymns and the Community of the Sacred Name's singing group's devotional style.

In response to many requests, in 2015 the AAW Diocesan Eucharist at the Cathedral was held at 11.00am on Saturday September 19th. As this was NZ Suffrage Day, it was apt that we celebrate the witness of women. Bishop Victoria planned to attend.

Another special occasion will be in May, when the International President of the Mothers' Union is to visit our country, spending a short time in Christchurch. Our members have been invited to join together with the local MU group in sharing a Communion Service at St Mary's, Addington. We look forward to praising God together and honouring our shared history.

Blessings to all fellow members of the Association of Anglican Women – we wish you a year of safe driving, effective technology, great relationships, good health and increasingly productive service in the mission given us by our Lord Jesus Christ.



Remember When....

“Remember when” was the theme at the August meeting of St John's AAW, members were invited to bring their wedding dresses for display. Eight dresses were arranged on borrowed shop mannequins or stands with three accompanied by a flower girl's outfit and three others with bridesmaids. The oldest gown was worn in 1948 and the most recent 1975. In the preceding service, prayers and readings from the Marriage Service were included.

Mavis Drake



“The AAW candle, Diocese of Christchurch” - Designed and made by Wendy Kingston of the AAW Diocesan Committee



Nelson Diocese



*Some of the AAW at Nelson Synod
Back: Pip Fairbrass, Margaret Borcovsky, Marilyn Wearing.
Front: Evelyn Nixon, Diane Higgins, Revd Rona Halsall, Bev Payne.*

The Nelson Diocesan Synod was held at St John's Westport in September. AAW members were involved in the planning committee, with the catering (whitebait patties), the day to day running, as synod members and as observers. Diocesan President Evelyn Nixon gave a farewell address as this was her last synod as leader.

Holy Trinity Grey-mouth held a delicious midwinter Christmas dinner. Special guest, Mrs Claus, arrived with gifts and Christmas crackers. Memories of past Christmases were shared and there was much laughter during the evening.



Santa, Mrs Rose Goodall with a present for Archdeacon Robin Kingston, with Mrs Margret Ballie looking on.



Jill van de Schaaf illustrating her talk.

Waimea Women's Fellowship met at St John's Wakefield. Jill van der Schaaf talked about the years she spent with her late husband Arien working with Operation Mobilisation. They were based near Vienna in a catholic country with very strict laws. While Arien worked as an accountant Jill was in the publishing department doing layout and graphic design. The main thrust of OM was through literature and media training to help with the problems of human trafficking, health-HIV Aids and school bags given to Bosnian children.

Holy Trinity Richmond afternoon AAW invited the Evening group to high tea. Food was beautifully displayed on tiered cake plates; the best bone china and fine table linen was used. Guests were entertained with two items and members were able to purchase early Christmas presents from a Save the Children sales table. St Thomas' Motueka was the venue for the annual Celebration of Spring organised by local churchwomen. The morning of worship and fellowship included a talk from Revd Yvonne Maclean, hospital chaplain. This was a great occasion with a large attendance from as far away as Blenheim.

All Saints Nelson heard Ron Curtis speak about his father's service at Gallipoli. Through coincidental meetings Rod learned about his father's WW1 service. A radio NZ recording of an interview with his father was played. Rod displayed his father's medals and memorabilia.

St Christopher's Blenheim held their annual "Cuppa for a Cause" to raise money for Alzheimer's Society. Two volunteers from the society spoke and a good donation was given.

Diane Higgins



Wellington Diocese



Looking to Advent...

.... Rev Jenny Dawson, AAW Chaplain

Advent: the tale of Rottweiler, the parrot, and prayerful people.

I have a favourite Advent joke that most years I can't resist telling:

One night a burglar broke into a house and was hastily stashing into a bag all the treasures he could find. Suddenly he heard a voice crackling through the darkness: "Jesus is watching you!" He spun round – nothing – had he imagined it? He went on cramming silver cups and jewellery

and stuff into his bag. But that voice came again, "Jesus is watching you!" Desperate now, he scanned the room but there seemed to be no-one there. More things, more haste – then more panic as the voice came again: "Jesus is watching you!" He realised the sound came from the corner so he edged his way over. Then great relief, as his eyes fixed on a large parrot. "So you're Jesus?" he almost laughed. "Oh no," said the parrot, "I'm John the Baptist. Jesus is the rottweiler behind the sofa."

It doesn't fit so well with this year's Advent readings, when we are using Luke instead of Matthew, but even these readings express fear, a kind of anarchy, confusion. It seems that chaos will destroy normality. "But watch at all times" writes Luke the Evangelist.

Somehow we are called to try to understand and to think through what is happening. We are called to play our part in confronting what Thomas Merton called the 'chaotic forces', pressures of our time that have been the cause of crises of faith for many people. They begin to find themselves squeezed in subtle ways that are underestimated because we don't take

seriously the power of those forces. So watch at all times! If we can do that, it changes every environment where we find ourselves, including the church. Not just in our one-on-one relationships but also how we are as Christian community. One of my heroes, William Stringfellow, in *An Ethic for Christians and Other Aliens in a Strange Land*, described the community that we call church in this way: "Dynamic and erratic, spontaneous and radical, audacious and immature, committed if not altogether coherent. Ecumenically open and often experimental, visible here and there, now and then but unsettled institutionally. Almost monastic in nature but most of all enacting a fearful hope for society." Despite the looming chaos, the ongoing news about refugees and rejections, you and I together are called to offer a fearful hope for society.

As Advent begins, we get caught in the flashing lights of relentless Christmas advertising reminding us of the falseness and uncertainty and chaos of our world. If that kind of experience begins to dictate who you are and what you do it is impossible to live in hope. By sharing our humanity, God gives us a role in creating and bringing about the

fullness of time. That is the way for us to transform the fear and the craziness that we encounter around and even within us. Amidst the squawking of parrots and the lurking of rottweilers, in the attractions of shopping and feasting, in all that surrounds us and scares us, you and I can keep watch and pray in hope.

"Let's Get Creative".

Our Winter Diocesan Day was held on July 25th at Levin. What a joyful day this was. It was so lovely to share fellowship with members diocesan wide while admiring some very capable craftspeople. Those who attended learnt many new ways of creating from displays and trying many activities like knitting, texting, patchwork, string art and crocheting



for themselves. St Mary's Levin hosted the day with both morning tea and lunch provided. From the Koha we gave \$100 to St Mary's Church and \$184 for the local hospital shuttle service. Many thanks to the organisers and the ladies of St Mary's Levin for their wonderful hospitality.



Bless this bunch as we munch our lunch.....For health and strength and daily food we praise your name , O Lord.....For every cup and plateful, God make us truly grateful.....For food and drink and happy days, accept our gratitude and praise.....

Each time we eat may we remember God's love.....Come, dear Lord Jesus, be our guest and bless what you have given us.

Let's pray that we may have the opportunity to share GRACE with our families and friends.



Members brainstorm mealtime prayers

Over Christmas and the summer school holidays, many of us will probably be in touch with our children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces and nephews. Some AAW members got together to recall some simple prayers to say at mealtimes. Here they are:

PRAYER IN OLD AGE

And now a prayer that may become yours this Advent.....

Guide Me into an Unclenched Moment

by Ted Loder from Guerillas of Grace

Gentle me,
Holy One,
into an unclenched moment,
a deep breath, a letting go
of heavy experiences
of shrivelling anxieties
of dead certainties
that, softened by the silence,
surrounded by the light,
and open to the mystery,
I may be found by wholeness,
upheld by the unfathomable,
entranced by the simple,
and filled with the joy
that is You.

Lord, you know better than I know myself that I am getting older and will someday be old. Keep me from the fatal habit of thinking I must say something on every subject and on every occasion. Release me from craving to straighten out everybody's affairs. Make me thoughtful but not moody, helpful but not bossy. With my vast store of wisdom it seems a pity not to use it all, but you know, Lord, that I want a few friends at the end. Keep my mind from the recital of endless details – give me the wings to come to the point. Seal my lips on my aches and pains. They are increasing, and my love of rehearsing them is becoming sweeter. I dare not ask for grace enough to enjoy the tales of others' pains, but help me to endure them with patience. I dare not ask for improved memory, but for a growing humility and a lessening cocksureness when my memory seems to clash with the memories of others. Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally I may be mistaken. Keep me reasonably sweet. I do not want to be a saint – some of them are so hard to live with – but a sour old woman is one of the crowning works of the devil. Give me the ability to see good things in unexpected places, and the talents in unexpected people, and give me the grace to tell them so.

Attributed to a 17th century nun.



Diocese of Waikato and Taranaki

Safe Birthing Kits For South Sudanese Women

The April AAW meeting of St. Andrew's Evening Group, Cambridge, took a decidedly practical turn when we took up the challenge of assembling some very special kits. Jono and Destinee McLeod, two missionary doctors working in Southern Sudan, contacted one of our members with a special request. The couple work with a charity called "In Deed And Truth Ministries" (IDAT) and help women who do not have the option of giving birth in a safe environment. The kits we prepared contained the bare minimum of equipment needed and will be shipped across when the medical charity sends its next container load. Our members, very generously, sourced plastic sheeting, blades, string, plastic bags, soaps and muslin wraps, and spent a very enjoyable hour or so assembling the kits.

It proved to be a very uplifting experience knowing we were helping other women in a very practical way.

Carol Chetwynd



This is Rebecca, one of our IDAT clinic workers, giving out the first safe birth kit, lovingly made in NZ, to one of our antenatal patients. A big thank you to all who joined in this project. You may have saved a life today.



Preparing Birthing Kits

NB: this photo was also in the last issue, but the article was inadvertently omitted. Our apologies.



Waikato Taranaki President Ruth Riddell presents the first NZ President, Jeanne Parr, with her Past President's Badge and flowers recently



AAW Fundraiser

In order to raise funds for Overseas and Outreach, St. Chad's AAW is launching a series of Coffee Mornings to be run over several weeks, the first of which was held at Mary Needs' home, and attended by members of the AAW committee. It is hoped that each guest will then host their own Coffee Morning keeping in mind that the guests do not have to be AAW members. Invite your neighbours, friends, and relatives, anyone who would enjoy a relaxed coffee morning.

It is best kept simple, not to be a daunting prospect, and the enjoyment is in the company of others in another setting.

The committee of AAW look forward to your participation in this

initiative so that the Missions arm of the Association will benefit from the results of everyone's involvement.

*Mary Needs.
New Plymouth.*



**ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH,
ANNUAL FLOWER FESTIVAL**
18th – 21st November 2015
10.00am – 6.00pm daily
"Christmas"
We would love to see you there!
Supporting Cambridge Community House
and
External Painting of St. Andrew's Church
(The white church on the corner!)
Contact: Carol Chetwynd 829 5319



Waiapu Diocese

A Gift of Love

Arriving at my motel ready for the Waiapu Diocesan Synod, I opened the door and on the table was this beautiful arrangement, a fruit bowl – full of fruit, tissue pack and a beautiful camellia. Wow, I thought everyone must have these beautiful gifts but on reading the card I found that this was for me, as a welcome, from Gisborne AAW.

Catharine White teaches weaving and works with young girls and their partners weaving their whakauru for their babies. Catharine had asked the group to help make this for me. One of the girls wanted to help and said she could get fruit from the tree down the road and was quite horrified when Bruce (Catharine's husband) went out to buy some fruit. However she got the lemons and assured the group that she was allowed to pick those, she picked the camellia (she thought it was a rose) and helped Catharine to set it up in my motel.



Being a member of AAW is like being part of one big beautiful family. A member of my parish said to me one day, you must know someone from every part of NZ. Isn't that a wonderful reason to belong to such an organisation.

*Elaine Wood
Waiapu Diocesan President.*

Life Is Like A Journey

Life is like a journey on a train... with its stations... with changes of routes... and with accidents! At birth we boarded the train and met our parents, and we believe they will always travel on our side. However, at some station our parents will step down from the train, leaving us on this journey alone.

As time goes by, other people will board the train; and they will be significant i.e. our siblings, friends, children, and even the love of our life. Many will step down and leave a permanent vacuum. Others will go so unnoticed that we don't realize that they vacated their seats!

This train ride will be full of joy, sorrow, fantasy, expectations, hellos, goodbyes, and farewells. Success consists of having a good relationship

with all the passengers... requiring that we give the best of ourselves.

The mystery to everyone is:

We do not know at which station we ourselves will step down. So, we must live in the best way - love, forgive, and offer the best of who we are. It is important to do this because when the time comes for us to step down and leave our seat empty -- we should leave behind beautiful memories for those who will continue to travel on the train of life.

I wish you a joyful journey for the coming year on the train of life.

Reap success and give lots of love. More importantly, thank God for the journey!

Lastly, I thank you for being one of the passengers on my train!

*Brenda Bradbourne
Holy Trinity AAW Tauranga*

REMEMBER THIS?

*Christmas is coming, the goose is getting fat
Please do put a penny in the old man's hat
If you haven't got a penny, a ha'penny will do
If you haven't got a ha'penny, then God bless you!*

An old nursery rhyme, also used as an American Christmas Carol. (from Wikipedia)



Auckland Diocese

A review from Auckland Diocese on the 20th Triennial Conference of the New Zealand Association of Anglican Women

After an early-morning Air New Zealand flight to Dunedin, eleven members of AAW Auckland Diocese arrived at 3.00pm at Tolcarne, the boarding residence of St Hilda's Collegiate School, where we 'lived in' for the next three days. After dinner the conference was opened by Bishop Kelvin Wright who spoke about his recent Camino Primitivo pilgrim walk (843 km) in northern Spain and the effect that has had on his life; placing one foot in front of the other and moving slowly ahead trusting God. This was followed by Evening Prayer.

The format for the next three days began with Morning Prayer after breakfast. The Reverend Jo Fielding was chaplain and we appreciated the care with which she had prepared for Morning and Evening Prayer and the Eucharist. There was a variety of workshops with excellent speakers. Leanne Stewart spoke about the "Servants" Health Centre; two speakers from Sport Otago spoke and had us

actively participating in The Green Prescription; Judy Bellingham, a Singer/Associate Professor of Voice at University of Otago; Debbie Manning speaking on Food Share and Wyn Barbezat encouraging us to support Trade Aid.

Sunday morning began with the Eucharist. The AGM was held in the afternoon. Some of us went on a sightseeing bus tour of the city with emphasis placed on the important role the University of Otago plays in the everyday life of the city.

After dinner, we were transported to the Church of St John the Evangelist Roslyn where, before a large congregation, Bishop Kelvin commissioned Margaret McLanachan as President of the AAW in New Zealand, Aotearoa, Polynesia, together with members of the Executive. There was a wonderful array of banners carried into the historic church accompanied by joyous hymn-singing. In his address, Bishop Kelvin spoke of his joy in his two



Listening to a speaker

young, grandchildren – the baby, Ada, only 5 months old – and how their visit enriched the lives of himself and his wife Clemency. He pondered the mystery of our marvellous creation. A bountiful supper provided by St John's AAW members, served in the parish hall brought to a close a quite momentous day during which, at various times, brilliant sunshine, thunder, lightning, hail and gale-force winds were experienced – none of which daunted the spirits of the visitors!

The Conference, which included socialising at Happy Hour and making good use of free-time concluded on Monday with lunch and the official farewell from our hosts. Our Polynesian sisters sang Isa Lei, there were a few tears and hugs with many hoping to meet again at the next conference in 2018.



Toolbox workshop





Banner Parade



Bishop Kelvin blessing the new Dunedin travelling Banner



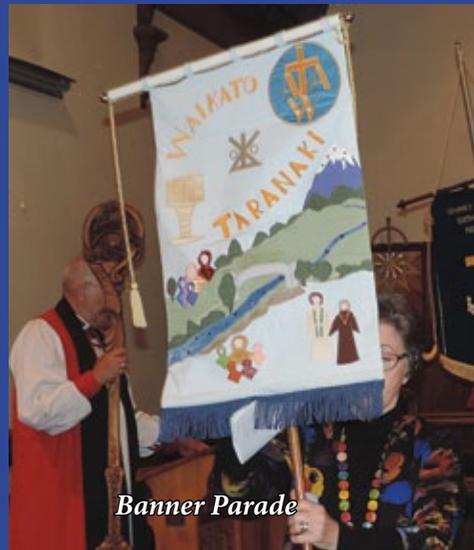
NZ Banner in Banner Parade



Judy Bellingham, guest speaker



April Pierce talking about Chat Bus



Banner Parade