

Circle

Volume 51, No. 1 February 2019



The Association of Anglican Women



Golden Jubilee Year

Theme for 2019-2022:

Growth through Gratitude, Grace and Guidance

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 for *Circle*

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.

Diocesan Coordinators: All copy should be emailed to the *Circle* Co-ordinator, Pat Vincent, patvincent999@gmail.com.

Text: It can be in the body of an email or attached as a Word document.

Photos: High Resolution original jpg files or raw digital photo files. These will be ***large separate files, not pictures included in a Word document.***



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AAW Website: nzaaw.org.nz

Back Cover Photo: Sunrise over the eastern hills of Wellington, taken from summit of Mt Victoria, Rod Stainer

Copy deadline for the next issue:

31 March 2019

Please help us by adhering to this deadline

From the Editorial Team



This year promises to be golden for the NZAAW, for during these twelve months each diocese will be celebrating at some time in their own way the Association's Golden Jubilee. Fifty years of sharing, friendship and fellowship will be reflected on; past leaders remembered; future outreach planned. We welcome your photos, anecdotes and dreams of what has been, and of what might lie ahead – just e-mail them to Pat Vincent and we'll include as many as we can.

We also propose to maintain a diary of events being organised, so that any of you visiting another region – or perhaps you are unsure as to what is happening in your own diocese – you will be able to join in the celebrations there. Leaders, please send this information to us as soon as you have decided the details of time, date, venue and function/s.

Now is an awkward time of year to write 'copy' for the February issue, so we especially appreciate the work of those who have contributed to this magazine.

New Year also marks the time of self-examination, new resolutions and forward planning. Good luck with this, and may you succeed in your planning for 2019. Some groups are on the verge of closure, we know, but you can still be a powerful influence in the sustaining of your parish community. We pray that you can plan with optimism and courage, and that your efforts will be well rewarded.

God Bless.

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Letters to the President

See below, two letters received by Pat who wants to share them with Members:

Dear Pat,

Warm greetings from ACPNG with prayer.

It was great and exciting to have joined in your executive meeting at Scot's College.

Thank you for nice welcome and hospitality given and be able to meet the participants and talk to them. They are all lovely ladies with a big heart; in their own ways they contribute their energy and effort to help the needy globally and especially in the Oceania region which includes ACPNG.

In fact I was surprised when my community development officer by the name of Mathew Kuraiwae who was working as National Coordinator village Health & Community Development officer for Anglican Health Services -ACPNG 2006/7 that the salary was funded by NZAAW.

Thank you for that support given to ACPNG. by NZ - AAW.

With peace and blessings.

Dennis

(Dennis Kabekabe of Anglican Church Papua New Guinea)

And from his wife, Tagolyn

Dear Pat,

Greetings from the Solomon Islands.

My husband Dennis copied me the photos you sent him of us whilst attending your Executive Council at Scot's College. Indeed thank you very much for having us with you even for a very short time as it did give us a fair idea of the wonderful work that AAW is doing.

On my return from Wellington I did a quick summary of my travel in NZ and mentioned our short visit to AAW to the Anglican Church of Melanesia and was reliably told that AAW has supported our Religious Orders through AMB. We truly appreciate your continuous support and pray for these wonderful partnerships to continue for years to come.

With much prayers and warmest regards

Tagolyn Kabekabe

Pacific Facilitator, Anglican Alliance

Honiara

Solomon Islands

Dear Editorial Team

Last year the Wellington Diocese celebrated 40 years of the ordination of women. However, the celebrations in other dioceses were held in 2017. Why this time difference?

Perplexed

Dear Perplexed,

When it was decided in the mid 1970's that women would be accepted for priesting in the Province of Aotearoa-New Zealand, not all the Bishops implemented this in 1977. Bishop Norman of Wellington waited until he had been to Lambeth in order to ascertain the attitude of the Lambeth Conference. On his return he agreed to priest women, and in 1978 priested Pamela Mildenhall and Sidney Koreneff, the first women priests in the Wellington Diocese. Because of this time difference, there was a one-year delay in the 40th celebrations in Wellington.



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President's Notes



Dear Members

Happy New Year! Best wishes for a prosperous and blessed year.

I have just got in from a day at our son and his partner's home at a seaside residence here in Wellington. Brian and Jeremy went kayaking with their fishing lines, while Lynda went biking and I went for a walk before our lovely salad lunch. As I walked down the beach and saw people of all ages, walking, swimming and playing it reminded me of taking these moments to get out and enjoy a sunny day and take time to appreciate what's around us, to spend time with our families. Too often we get tied down by our commitments but we must take time to 'smell the roses'.

What a wonderful year this is for us as we celebrate our Golden Jubilee. We start this special year with our golden Circle edition. In it we celebrate and honour the life of Jeanne Parr, our first President. Jeanne was a remarkable woman who had to weld our members into a cohesive organisation at a troubled time. Unfortunately Jeanne did not live to see this year and died in Cambridge prior to Christmas. On your behalf I

wrote a letter of condolence that was read at her funeral by Ruth Riddell, Past President of Waikato/Taranaki. Some of the content of this letter is shared in the article on her.

As I prepared the letter I delved into our archives to read again about the time our organisation started, from a meeting on 11 August 1969. We were certainly pioneering women who stood up against unfairness and injustice when we saw that our divorced sisters were unable to become members of Mothers' Union (MU). Despite taking the case for these women to MU headquarters in England we were unsuccessful, hence our decision to sever ties with MU and start our own organisation which opened membership to all women.

It is these women and all the women in our organisation, who have strived to keep our organisation going that we honour this year. It's a year for us to share our stories of the past and celebrate this important milestone but it is also a moment to look ahead at the mountains still to climb. The journey is not always smooth and we must expect road blocks in the way. The journey for

us AAW members is hopefully one of new roads to take and places to arrive at. We must share our present stories with our wider parish community to enable us to be here in another 50 years to mark our centenary. These stories, such as Ryan with MAF (in this edition), Tongan water tanks and other mission stories. I leave you with this quote, which I thought reflected our jubilee symbolic candle:

“There are two ways of spreading light: to be the candle or the mirror that reflects it.” - Edith Wharton

Blessings

Pat

Note: To get an overview of the history of our organisation please visit NZ History, who have prepared an online version of *Women Together: A History of Women’s Organisations in New Zealand / Ngā Rōpū Wāhine o te Motu*. AAW is one of the organisations represented. This was done to mark the 125th anniversary of women’s suffrage in 2018. Pip Harrison, our former Social Concerns Convenor has kindly updated the original Centennial version.

March						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Forthcoming Golden Jubilee Celebrations - March

Saturday 2nd:

Dunedin Diocesan AGM with Guest Speaker: Provincial President Pat Vincent and Golden Jubilee Dinner

Saturday 9th:

Nelson Diocesan AGM - Guest Speaker: Provincial President Pat Vincent. Followed by lunch and entertainment, including as many Past Presidents who are able to attend. Following this the Commissioning Service at Christ Church Cathedral, presided over by The Very Reverend Mike Hawke, Dean of the Cathedral.

May

Sunday 19th:

Wellington Diocesan AGM and Golden Jubilee Lunch



Inspirational Women - Jeanne Parr

Jeanne Marguerite Parr
6-10-1928 to 20-12-2018

By the 1960's Anglican women in the Mothers' Union, Young Wives and Family Fellowship groups were beginning to ask for an inclusive organisation. At that time there was no association for single women, and anyone whose marriage ended in divorce was asked to leave Mothers' Union and Young Wives, which upset the women involved, their friends and supporters. This stance on membership originated in Mothers' Union, England, and led to New Zealand's loosening of ties with that organisation.

It is noted in the Association of Anglican Women Archives that it was Jeanne Parr who stepped up in those troubled times and led the welding together of the new organisation of about 18,000 members into a new inclusive organisation that was open to all women, whatever their status: the AAW. Jeanne, the first President of the AAW Dominion (later Provincial) Council, and her Conference, established a new identity for this organisation, fostering and promoting

relationships among the various groups who wanted greater independence from England.

They devised the AAW Prayer, the adoption of the official colours of blue and gold and the official magazine *Home Circle*, (later *Circle*). These inspirational pioneers therefore laid the important groundwork for our organisation that has enabled us to continue the vital work in families and in outreach, that they had started.

Jeanne grew up in Christchurch. Her father was a lawyer and later a District Court Judge, while her mother was a teacher. She had a sister who died at 13, and a much younger brother. She was an excellent student at Christchurch Girls' High School, a keen tennis player and a great socialiser.

When she went to the University of Canterbury to do a degree in Maths, she was one of three girls among a hundred male students. They sat in alphabetical order in those days...her name was Lee, so she sat next to Owen



McDowell who sat beside Peter Parr. Soon Peter Parr swapped places with Owen, the beginning of a long love story that took them to Timaru, Browns Bay, Waimate, Christchurch, Auckland, and finally to Cambridge. This love story produced four children, eight grandchildren and quite a lot of great-grandchildren.

Jeanne was a popular accompanist, being sensitive to the music and intuitively able to follow the singer's emotions and inflexions. In Waimate she even accompanied the special afternoon screening of silent movies! She passed on to her children and many of her grandchildren, her love of and ability in, music. In the 1960's, she began a women's choir within Young Wives in Christchurch and took up leadership roles in Young Wives. Jeanne was also a brilliant partner for her husband Peter, with all his responsibilities in work, the church and the community. She was the perfect hostess, and taught her children 'to smile, whatever you are thinking' and always to make people very welcome.

Dearly loved Nana Parr was always ready with birthday gifts, treats and a

listening ear. She had a great sense of humour and endless patience. She loved dressing up for Rotary parties, theatre productions and fancy-dress parties; and showed great skill on the sewing and knitting machines. In retirement she used her highly mathematical mind to play bridge and do intensive genealogical research.

For the last 12 years Jeanne lived with dementia. This saw her in hospital care for over 7 years. Although she could not walk, she retained her love of music and singing, and her love of people.

This year, 2019, as we celebrate our Golden Jubilee, we also celebrate Jeanne and those women who had faith in our inclusive organisation, inspiring us to continue to fulfil the aims they established 50 years ago.

Sources: Ceridyn Parr, Pat Vincent, AAW Archives.



Have you made a New Year Resolution?

I have; I actually made two but have forgotten one already! However, the other resolution I'm determined to stick to.

There's been so much written recently in print media about New Year Resolutions, with all the usual catch-phrases: 'New Year, a time of evaluation', 'New Year Resolutions – made to be broken,' 'Does a New Year mean a New You?'. The articles have been so interesting and persuasive I felt obliged to comply with their directives.

2018 was such a bad year for me – there were highlights of course, there always are – that by December I was so drained that I found it too easy to sit and ponder on my misfortunes...and mope. And there was so much to mope about!

Firstly, my husband of 54 years had been in secure care with dementia for nine months. During that time, I had been watching him slip further from me into realms where I couldn't reach him. No more could we plan, debate and laugh; no more could we go away on holiday together or enjoy adventurous outings; no more could I share recent events and family anecdotes with him. He slept a lot, got grumpy when I couldn't understand his slurred speech, and sometimes was pleased to see me leave.

Living alone was wonderful – for the first three months. The thrill of freedom to do what I wanted, when and how I wanted, gave way to loneliness and inertia: it was so much easier to sit at home with my cat on my knee and...mope.

It was a year of watching some of my friends age and slow down: a couple had gone into care, another was house-bound. There was an increase in lung infections and heart malfunctions, new lines etched faces, grey hair faded to white, arthritis curtailed mobility, and as I watched I felt myself shrinking too. Then two long-time friends died.

If that wasn't enough, it was decided in Advent that our church should be closed at the end of February.

The process had been poorly handled, so we were shocked out of our complacency when the announcement was made. We knew things 'weren't good', but surely, they weren't 'that bad'. We turned to one another for support.

As I made the self-examination as directed in the New Year Resolutions articles, I suddenly realised just how lucky I really am. My husband as he once was, is gone, but he is still alive. I



can go and visit him, and sometimes we experience a kind of peace if we sit holding hands. Very occasionally he'll smile his cheeky grin and his eyes will light up and I know he is happy I'm there beside him even though he doesn't recognise who I am.

I have our children, grandchildren and great grandchildren to love and respect. They offered me three Christmases in 2018, three opportunities to share with loved ones. I'm so pleased I 'got out there' and enjoyed them all. I have a laptop and cell phone, I can maintain contact; I just must make the effort to use them.

The freedom of living alone can be so positive. I have my independence, can drive my car, can afford to live comfortably, so have no reason not to energise myself, to be me. The time is mine to use productively, to have fun. I have been given a diary to fill day by day with visits, shopping, group activities, writing for Circle....Already my bucket list for 2019 includes a week with a friend in Paihia in May, an Australasian conference in Christchurch in September, and ultimately, before the end of the year, moving into a townhouse set in a village with lovely gardens where many of my friends now live.

Even church closure is taking on a new dimension. No priest, no Sunday Services – this doesn't mean all's lost. We can car pool and visit other churches. We can still use our church facilities to meet at; even celebrate christenings, weddings and funerals there. We can visit the sacred place where the ashes of friends and past parishioners lie interred. Best of all I can help ensure the essence of the parish is kept safe while the church 'lies fallow', by being part of the inventory and management team, keeping the church ready for the time when a new ministry can be planted there. I'm glad it was in Advent that all reached a crisis point. Advent, the time of preparation, of new awakenings, of hope.

And thus, I made my New Year Resolution: no more moping for what has been; instead the cultivating of an enthusiasm and enjoyment for what can be. Maintaining this new attitude will not be easy, but it's up to me to do it, with God's help and the support of family and friends.

Yes, I'm determined that the New Year will produce a new me! Will this New Year mean a new you too?

Mary Houston

Social Concerns

Closing the Gender Pay Gap in a Digital World

It is a known fact that there is a Gender Pay Gap which needs to be bridged in this digital world. Some global studies show that for every \$100 a woman earns, men are paid \$258. This global statistic is the result of several factors: companies tend to offer females less than their male counterparts when applying for a role; women might do less pay negotiation than men; the perceived dominance of women as unpaid volunteer workers; and women taking time out from the workforce to have and nurture children.

Digital technology pervades every day of our lives and most of us interact with technology we wouldn't have thought possible, even 10 years ago, so it is important to realise that becoming digitally fluent is a powerful technology equaliser. It is also the first strategy in up-skilling and closing that Gender Pay Gap. Being able to connect, learn and work with technology, such as social media and collaboration tools, allows us to pursue the best opportunities through connecting and networking and sharing knowledge. It also provides more opportunities for women to lead

the way.

The second strategy is immersion in technology and continual learning - our learning never stops. We use the technology in our homes, so we should take the time to learn a new skill every year and increase that technology knowledge by participating fully in professional development and other opportunities.

The third strategy is to focus on our career plans: aim high, negotiate the salary, push ourselves forward and proactively manage our careers.

By using these three strategies, the study suggests, it may be possible to reduce the pay gap by at least 35% and increase women's global income by \$3.9 trillion by the year 2030.

This article focuses on the IT industry per se, but a combination of these three steps can equally be applied to all careers. Combined with company policies generally of practising 'Diversity and Inclusion', as well as removing recruiting biases, we women can assist in closing this gap which leads to the high disparity in pay between men and women. It thereby allows us the opportunity to be leaders in this increasingly digital world.

Source: Lynda Bushe (IT Consultant)

CWS Action against poverty

On meeting Pat Vincent at Pauatahanui AAW, I expressed my interest and passion for Christian World Serve/Act Alliance. I was invited to contribute an article for *Circle* regarding this.

When considering the way CWS has developed, the parable of *The Mustard Seed* came into my mind. From an article on December 15, 1945, in the Christchurch Press headed 'Help for Greece,' a seed was planted. The article asked for financial assistance so that four relief teams could be sent to Greece to provide humanitarian aid and assist with reconstruction. This was the first Christmas Appeal by what is now Christian World Service.

The mustard seed has sprouted and CWS is where my energy and compassion are expressed. The scope of the outreach and ability to work with partners in many areas of need, encourage me to join in bringing hope. Since 1945 the desperate needs of people struggling to do their best to build lives for themselves and their families, in what are almost impossible circumstances, has not changed. Crises

triggered by politics, conflict, poverty and climate change make even marginal life more difficult for so many of our world's people.

What is my part in this? I have been convinced of the vital role CWS plays and over many years I have sought to highlight that within the parishes of which I have been a member.

I have a love of drama and have written Christmas plays, with a final focus on the Christmas appeal. A café week at home where people come for a lunch or dinner and contribute what they would pay at a commercial café has been an effective fund raiser. An open family day on the Friday was a good way of enjoying the children from my present church. Preparing educational materials for a workshop with young people and contributing to our parish magazine; giving a goat or a chicken or other items from CWS (but with actual gifts as well) for grandchildren is an extra when supporting the Christmas Appeal.

CWS has gained a deep understanding of global justice issues. New Zealanders are continuing to give them vital support to end poverty and injustice.

Overseas and Outreach

Ambae

Some background information (courtesy of Wikipedia): ‘Ambae Island, also known as Aoba or Leper’s Island, is an island in the South Pacific island nation of Vanuatu (Penama Province), approx. 266 km NNW of Vanuatu’s capital city, Port Vila. The misty sight of Ambae from neighbouring Espiritu Santo, which served as a major World War 2 airbase, inspired the mythical *Bali Ha’i* in James Michener’s *Tales of the South Pacific*.

On 28 September, 2017, after a week of increasing volcanic activity from Vanuatu’s largest volcano, Manaro Voui, to Level 4 (Level 5 being a major eruption), the government of Vanuatu ordered a complete evacuation of the island, home to about 11,000 residents. Ash from the eruption has covered the island, killing crops and polluting the air and water. In April 2018 the remaining residents were ordered to evacuate permanently.’

Currently Michael Hartfield, Project Support Officer for Anglican Missions, is working on a proposal appropriate for our AAW Overseas and Outreach Golden Jubilee project which

would help the people who were evacuated from Ambae, following these happenings.

This project is to support the rebuilding of St Patrick’s Anglican College which has been abandoned. The plan is to rebuild it in Luganville once a site has been secured etc. This will be a long-term project.

This project will specifically target women and children and could be ‘owned’ by AAW (as with what happened with the water component of the Tropical Cyclone Gita response).

Michael will be coming to our AAW Executive Meeting on 9th March 2019 and we look forward to meeting with him and discussing our Golden Jubilee Special Project. By that stage more information will be available.

Water Tanks for Tonga

Michael Hartfield, also recently sent an email with news of Tonga. Tropical Cyclone Mona was headed for Tonga and looked like being the first big storm of the season. This kept the church wardens busy so news about the water tanks has been slightly delayed. Fortunately however Cyclone Mona petered out, and Michael will

update about the water tanks as soon as he hears, with photos.

He was able however to share some good news about the contents of the two containers full of water reticulation supplies that were sent over to Tonga in July of last year. All of the gutters and pipes have been used up and the aquatabs and the 10 to 20 litre collapsible water containers have been divided among the four churches in Nuku'alofa and are stored as part of the pre-positioned supplies. This is something the churches have never had before. They will certainly be put to good use when there is a cyclone (or an event like a drought for that matter – as droughts are increasingly common in the South West Pacific).

Anthony and Anne McCormick

Christmas Update 2018

Warm greetings from our part of the South East Asian front! There has been a lot happening this year so we thought we'd update you by talking about the various "fronts" on which there has been action!

On the home front: In August we renewed the lease on our house for another two years, indicating to our



landlord that we like his house and have no plans to move any time soon. Our house is a haven, which is necessary in this very noisy culture and we enjoy spending time there. Our little garden gives us much pleasure: at most times of year, there is a splash of colour to greet us when we come in the front gate....Our feline companion, Sparky, also shares our home and he is a source of pleasure and amusement to us.

On the work front: 2018 has been an epic year in many ways for us both, with the usual mixture of joys and challenges.

For Anne, the most significant change and challenge came with the departure of Sokhim, her assistant, with whom she has worked since 2016. Two months later Sokrachel or Rachel as she prefers to be known, started and

continued over page

Overseas and Outreach continued

has made up for her lack of work experience by being very willing to learn and quick to pick up on the various aspects of the job.

A reduction in patient numbers has led to changes in routine at the hospital. Volunteers have continued to come in a steady stream, mostly teams who give a great boost to the paper and card-making. Anne enjoys interacting with them and often finds herself in a mentoring role with these young people. Anne's programme moved to a new, much larger room in April.

Anthony's diary has been very full with training for social workers and others needing social work skills in their work role. Sothea, Anthony's translator resigned from his role recently so Anthony has to find a new translator. Meanwhile he will be picking up on his Khmer lessons again.

On the Cambodian front: The ruling party, Cambodian People's Party has been in power for 33 years and was recently voted in again. Thankfully, there was none of the expected unrest at election time. Our city, Battambang, continues to grow at

quite a fast pace and in every direction new buildings are springing up. We have a real rush hour now, unlike when we first moved here in 2013 and there is more traffic on the roads at other times too.

On the spiritual front: We continue to be regular attendees at Cambodian Christian Church, a small Khmer fellowship.

Solomon Islands



Rev. Sister Veronica CSM, Solomon Islands, writes:

“It is a great joy for me to share with you some of the significant events that have happened this year.

On 28 July 2018, the land where St Scholastica House is located in the Diocese of Ysabel is now owned by the Community. For the past 12 years

however, we have lived illegally on unregistered land and the landowners were wondering whether or not, the Community would ever do the traditional ceremony (which takes place before the land can be owned). The Associates in the Diocese of Ysabel advised us on what items to prepare, then led us in the ceremony. I am thankful to the Associates for their commitment and dedication to the Community.

In September 2018 we had the blessing of the late Sr Kathleen Kapei's headstone, as well as celebrating Michelmas. Tetete Ni Kolivuti (known as TNK) was bursting with people but everybody worked together so everything went smoothly. That day many groups from different Parishes, schools and the people living in the plantation came with their entertainment and we all enjoyed the celebration so much that we forgot to stop! I suggested that we had Evensong under the trees, before everybody went home.

On 20 October we had the Acceptance of Jacklyn, Noelyn, Naomi and Yvon as Junior Sisters. Then on 21 October we had the Life

Profession of Sr Mary Gladys. One of the most moving moments at the Service was when her family escorted her into the chapel to pronounce her vows. They danced a traditional Tikopian dance and chant as they led her up to the altar, and then handed her over to me to be presented to the Bishop Visitor. That day was so lovely and a great blessing as we learned more about Tikopian culture. Again, the Evensong took place under the trees before the crowd dispersed to their homes.

We have now completed the first part of the Retreat House at TNK. We will be doing more fundraising to complete the rest. Our Sisters were on mission to the Lord Howe Islands during the Christmas season, teaching, doing dramas and singing, taking part in worship and the celebration of the birth of Christ.”

Shelley Vette, Overseas and Outreach Co-ordinator



Flying for Life

Millions of people in remote places around the world are cut off from the help they need. Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF) is a vital “link in the chain” in the global effort to overcome the barriers caused by isolation. With a fleet of 135 aircraft in 30 countries, MAF flies in some of the most challenging places on the planet to bring Christian hope to people in places of deepest human need so they can build better lives for themselves and their families.

MAF partners with over 1500 churches, aid and mission agencies to bring medical care, food and emergency supplies, teachers, church groups, missionaries and aid workers to where they are most needed. Instead of spending time and money on costly, inefficient and often dangerous overland transportation, MAF enables others to quickly and effectively put their resources to use where they will make the most difference. By flying over mountains, deserts and jungles, MAF can reduce an all-day trek on foot by a doctor or medical team to a mere 20-minute flight.

Go to maf.org.nz to find out more.

Bringing Joy - with Soccer Balls!

Story and photo by Ryan Cameron, reprinted with permission from *Flying for Life* magazine of MAF New Zealand.

Recently I was gifted some money by the AAW, one of the local church groups in New Zealand who sponsor me. I used the money - and previous donations from the AAW - for two things; to buy soccer balls for the local children and food for people in need.



The children here love to play soccer and will play it all day. Unfortunately, often they don't have a ball and have to make one out of rags or just kick around a plastic bottle. It brought them so much joy to have a proper soccer ball! These children have probably never been given anything to play with before and were a little uncertain how to react, but then played with the new soccer ball the whole time I was there. Their mother was very thankful.

With the money I was also able to buy books of coupons, which I have handed out to people on the street so they could go to a local restaurant and exchange them for a meal. A meal in

18 South Sudan costs about 50 cents.

Historic Church - St Mary's, Tikitiki

Over the New Year Brian and I visited Gisborne, a place I hadn't visited for about 10 years. During our holiday and while reading a local information brochure I found out about St Mary's Church in Tikitiki. Heading north from Gisborne one day to drive along parts of the East Cape we stopped to visit this church situated about 2 hours away. This beautiful church with its wonderful interior carvings and tukutuku panels is often referred to as the Ngāti Porou's cathedral. All parts of the interior are carved, including the pulpit, font and pews. It is a place of peace and serenity.

St Mary's serves as a memorial to the Māori men from the East Coast who fought and died in WW1 and commemorates the establishment of Christianity on the East Coast. It was built at the suggestion of Ngāti Porou leader Sir Āpirana Ngata, and it is an early example of his efforts to revive traditional Maori arts and crafts. The church was consecrated on the 16 February 1926 by the Bishop of Waiapu, with about 5000 people in attendance, including Prime Minister Gordon Coates, Ngata, Governor-General Sir Charles Fergusson,



Honourable Sir Maui Pomare and Peter Buck.

After Sir Āpirana Ngata's death in 1950 the local people erected a memorial to him beside the church, which was later unveiled by Prime Minister Sidney Holland.

In 2002 major conservation work was undertaken on the church and it is registered as a Category 1 Historic Place.

Pat Vincent



Photos: Brian Vincent

Ref: NZ History: <https://nzhistory.govt.nz>

Nothing Gold Can Stay?

Early last September I drove up the Hutt Valley on State Highway 2, a route I hadn't taken for some time. To my delight I saw the willows along the edge of the Hutt River were bursting into leaf, a fresh gold-green that seemed so full of energy, so full of Spring. 'What a pity,' I thought, 'that that freshness will not last. Too soon that golden-green will harden to leaf-green, wither, and fall.'

Then came into my mind Robert Frost's poem, *Nothing Gold Can Stay*.

*Nature's green is gold,
Her hardest hue to hold.
Her early leaf's a flower;
But only so an hour.
Then leaf subsides to leaf.
So Eden came to grief,
So dawn goes down to day.
Nothing gold can stay.*

This poem causes us to reflect on the cycle of seasons, the essence of the cycle of life: the first fresh flush of leaf, bud, or new life changes as it matures, as do we, as we mature. And just as there is joy in watching a tree or plant reach fruition, so there is joy in

watching our families grow. But part of that process of gaining a full life is having to experience change, a sense of grief, a sense of loss.

As are many other organisations, our AAW is in the throes of experiencing such grief. AAW began in the late 1960's with a burst of enthusiasm and energy. Here was a women's group that was fully inclusive. There was felt a sense of power, of joy, of togetherness. The organisation quickly grew and matured into an efficient working group that enjoyed fun, fellowship and outreach, both in New Zealand and overseas. A constitution was written, protocols developed, a financial structure established.

But that was then. Now the leaders have aged and stepped down – as they should, as 50 years have passed since those new beginnings. However, where are those new leaders to take their place? Hence the grief, the sense of loss that we all feel when we realise that the special moments of life are transient; they don't last forever.

To rejuvenate AAW we now need to 'look beyond the square,' to allow change and the modification of

Nothing Gold Can Stay?.. continued

structures and practice. If, for example, that means that neighbouring groups must share the hosting of meetings to survive, then let them share – for by working together new fresh strength and growth can occur. And if it means stepping out of our comfort zones by de-formalising our meetings and focussing on fellowship with young mothers on their grounds, then step out bravely. When enjoying one another's company true friendship grows.

The realisation that 'nothing gold can stay' is a bit of a shock, but once we understand that downturns are part of the cycle of life, we can cope with that, for we know that after every autumn and winter, there is always a new spring, a new flush of 'gold' for us to enjoy.

Mary Houston



Poem - We belong

*We belong just where we are
Where we are at right now.
When that other time comes on gentle wings
We will be freed from all mortal things.
Our souls intact to go from here
Loved and missed – feeling no fear.*

*It's true - life today is not as it was
Nor will be in years to come.
Now is the only time we can live
Serene, minimal, reflective, appreciative
Open to each new day as it be given.
A daily gift - one by one.*

*In our sunset years we have much to share
With those who pause to listen and care.
Our memories, our wisdom, our inner self.
Differences we have made along the way.
Love we have shared amidst our pains.
Lessons learned – losses and gains.*

*For each our final day will surely come.
We will come to the end of our road.
When with our faces towards the setting sun
We will journey on beyond this place.
Matters it not when our breath will cease
Let us go on to another belonging -*

Let us rest in peace.

Chris Robertson-Parkes (Lone Member Waiapu)

Nan Clare Smith

6 January 1930 - 20 December 2018

It is with a sense of great sadness, but also thankfulness and joy, that we remember Nan Smith of Dannevirke.

Nan and Pete came to the Dannevirke district over 60 years ago. They immediately became associated with church life, culminating in active involvement with the parish church of St John the Baptist.

AAW will remember Nan as a faithful and loving member, and she was leader for many years. Her posies of flowers, home baking, hospitality to all people, love of life, joy and laughter, will always be part of her legacy. She, with Ann Hardie, travelled to many Diocesan meetings, exchanging ideas and interacting with others.

She loved children, so with friend Ruth Caswill, supported *Mainly Music* up until 2014 supplying home baking and lemon drink.

Nan became a Christian at the age of 7 years and had an unshakeable faith for the rest of her life. Her God

was all encompassing and inclusive and this love spilled into her everyday life.

She cared passionately about the environment and was an ‘evangelical’ recycler, encouraging everyone to do their bit. She abhorred the “consumer society”, which has taken over our world and the “café culture” was not for her.

Thankfully she had a great sense of humour and would frequently laugh at herself. “I know I’m eccentric,” she would say, and we would both laugh, especially after she had told me yet again to wash her woolies by hand, in warm water, with Lux Flakes.

Thank you Nan, for a life of loving faithfulness, service and kindness.



Wellington Diocese Advent Services

I was fortunate enough to be able to attend three of the four Advent Services held in our diocese. I really love these services, with the churches all decked out in the Advent shades of purple; places of peace and quiet to reflect on the true meaning of Christmas.

Northern Region: This was celebrated on Friday 30 November at the lovely, St John the Baptist Church in Ohau, all decked out in purple. Thirty-five ladies were welcomed by the Levin AAW Fellowship Leader, Lyn Drader. Following a delicious shared lunch, the beautiful, reflective Advent Service and communion was presided over by the Rev. Barbara Bonifant, who together with Lyn had



prepared the service. The offertory was given to local initiatives.

Belmont

Region: The service was held on Monday 3 December at 7:00pm at Holy Trinity Church in Avalon. The focus was on the meaning of Christmas rather than just on Advent, a timely reminder in these days of commercialised Christmas. The offertory was given to the Overseas and Outreach Emergency Fund.

This service was particularly poignant as the Church is to close on 24 February, ie: there will be no parish priest or Sunday Services from that date. The church will 'lie fallow' till such time as there is a new ministry to plant there. Anyone with connections to Holy Trinity is welcome to attend the final service at 10am on the 24 February; Bishop Ellie will preside.

Capital City: The service was held on Thursday 6 December at 10am at my church St John's Johnsonville. The officiating minister was Rev. Ben Johnson-Frow, and the sermon was preached by Shanuki Dharmawardane,



Wellington Diocese Advent Services continued



a young member of our congregation who is a university student. Shanuki spoke on the theme of *Peace*. It was very apt for the time of the year with all the bustle and preparations for Christmas going on. The offertory went to the Overseas and Outreach Emergency Fund. The service was followed by a festive morning tea.

Pat Vincent

Tawa-Linden AAW Advent Service was held on Monday 3 December at 7:30pm in St. Peter's Church Linden, with a nativity scene backdrop which was setup for Pop IN.

The guest speaker, Margaret Poynton, NZCMS Mission Partner in Papua New Guinea (supported by AAW), has been working as an Executive Assistant to Archbishop Clyde. She has faced lots of opportunities, difficulties and challenges over the last two years due to the diverse cultures and languages of PNG.

Our members and four visitors from Waikanae enjoyed her presentation and took the opportunity to ask questions. We concluded with prayer and wished her God's blessings in her ministry.

Margaret Herbert



Top: Rev. Ben Johnson-Frow lighting the Advent candles at Capital City service Below: Pat Vincent with Shanuki Dharmawardane

Diocesan News - Wellington

Kapiti Women's Fellowship

On 10 January Kapiti Fellowship held an Epiphany Afternoon Tea Party at Sevenoaks Retirement Village and invited folk from the Village to join them.

Members brought afternoon tea. Two members shared the King Cakes they had brought, made from recipes for Epiphany celebrations in other countries. Villagers and

members all enjoyed hearing about the specialties eaten at this time in other lands and appreciated the time of fellowship together.

Val Malcolm



**The two
King Cakes
members of
Kapiti
Fellowship
made for our
Epiphany
Afternoon Tea
Party at
Sevenoaks**



Certificate of Appreciation – Margaret Benson

Twelve months ago, St Margaret's AAW Taihape went into recess. Bi-monthly, the members continue to meet at a little rustic coffee shop. It was in just this spot that Janice Viles, Mary McKenna and Penny Merrall found them in December. It was here that the Northern Region Leader presented Margaret with her Certificate of Appreciation and Citation, so richly deserved.

Margaret, who has been an AAW member for more years than she can remember, has held many leadership positions at all AAW levels. Margaret has always been a very welcome member of any gathering, with her ready smile and quiet manner,



Obituary: Kath Pullar 16.2.1927 - 20.11.2018

Kath Pullar died peacefully at Mt Herbert House, Waipukurau on 20 November 2018.

Kath was Leader of the Belmont AAW Archdeaconry from 1974-1977, while her husband was Vicar of Silverstream; then she was elected AAW President for the Wellington Diocese from 1976 to 1980 and became Past President in 1981. While in this position she was Vice President of the NZAAW.

Kath and Doug moved to Hawera and then to Eketahuna/ Pongaroa. They subsequently retired to Waipawa, Hawkes Bay.

Kath was able to attend the Diocesan 21st AAW celebrations in 1989 and 25th celebrations in 1993 and has kept in touch with Diocesan activities through our IPC Newsletters, keeping me updated with her activities each year. She had been active in the



continued over page

Diocesan News - Wellington continued

parish and community of Waipawa until there were complications with a hip operation and her health declined rapidly.

Val Malcolm

PS: A letter has been received from her son, Neil:

‘Since Dad died in 2001, Mum had written a quite candid and interesting account of her life from childhood through to her latter years. Her insights into the life of a ‘vicar’s wife’ of that era are fascinating. They also include

reference to her association with the AAW. This was a real highlight to her in part because it was an opportunity to operate and be recognised as a person in her own right.’

Footnote:

Val Malcolm’s IPC (Intercessory Prayer Co-ordination) Newsletters keep lone members in touch with one another and with the Wellington Diocese AAW activities. This newsletter has been an important part of Val’s ministry to AAW.



Diocesan News - Polynesia

I have a few photos to share. One is of the Anglican Women's Studies Centre Hui which was held here in Nadi on 19-21 October 2018 at the Tanoa Hotel and the theme was: *Valuing Tradition, Religion and Arts*. Our Nadi Parish St Christopher's Church hosted lunch on Sunday after the 10am service.



The Suva Ovalau Archdeaconry Women's breakup was held at Deuba Beach. Our newly-elected Archbishop of Polynesia Rev. Fereimi Cama in blue bula shirt is with myself and Mrs Agnes Abonio beside him also in blue chamba (see below).

Litia Smith



Diocesan News - Nelson

Cathedral Group: In September, local artist Barbara Franklet showed the group the medium she uses for her art and let our ladies practise. Some lovely works of art resulted. In October we welcomed Angela Shaw as our new leader and November saw us enjoying our annual Christmas party with presents, a lovely afternoon tea and a sing-a-long of carols with Dean Mike Hawke on guitar.

All Saints Nelson: We had our AGM in October when Barbara Harford chaired our meeting and gave us a lovely reflection on the topic of 'Coping with Change' when we are facing a crossroads in our lives. Our committee remains unchanged for the new year. The guest speaker Kathy Cuthbert spoke on her trip to the Grand Prix in Singapore. The trip was

a gift for Kathy in recognition of her many services at the hospital. She had a great time and enjoyed experiencing some of Singapore's tourist attractions.

In November we joined with our Kids 'n' Coffee team for an evening of food and craft ideas for Christmas: Christmas ideas with a Kiwi twist. We concluded our year in December with an Advent reflective service and a short play on the theme 'Kindness at Christmas'. Our offertory went to Mission Partners.

Marlborough Archdeaconry Day on 4 October welcomed Marion Rowe - Plunket Nurse, Celebrant, mentor and a survivor of depression.

Nelson Waimea Archdeaconry had an interesting talk on Pastoral Care by Fr. Steve Jordan from the Cathedral and then took part in Communion in



Left: Nelson-Waimea Regional Day with the AAW Christmas tree at the Cathedral.

Right (Next Page): Richmond Holy Trinity Afternoon Group Christmas lunch

Celebration of 125 years since New Zealand Women got the Vote

The National Council of Women Christchurch Branch held a fund raising event in November, 2018 with the theme of “Prominent Christchurch Women”, to celebrate 125 years since New Zealand women got the vote.

Representatives of different groups portrayed prominent women from the past. AAW Christchurch Diocesan President, Jude Mackenzie made an appropriate costume and dressed as Nurse Sibylla Emily Maude, who was the pioneer of home care nursing and founded the District Nursing Scheme in Christchurch.

Jude gave a brief outline of the life

and work of Nurse Maude, who was an amazing woman, dedicated to relieving the sick and suffering as she rode around the city on her bicycle. Later a car was given to her to use for transport.

The ideas of Nurse Maude’s District Nursing Scheme in Christchurch were adopted by many other cities in New Zealand.



Jude Mackenzie dressed as Nurse Maude

Diocesan News - Nelson continued

the Chapel and enjoyed seeing all the Christmas trees all around the Cathedral.

Cobden-Rununga group on the



West Coast is working with shared leadership and has had some interesting meetings including a speaker from the Corrections Department, Archdeacon Tim Mora on his trip to Jerusalem, and Shirley Dane on the history of the old Taramakau Bridge.

Richmond Afternoon Group celebrated their Christmas lunch at the Railway Restaurant and bar .

Diocesan News - Dunedin

A few ladies on the invitation of our Area Representative went to afternoon tea at the Botanic Gardens on Saturday 1st December. It was a very nice afternoon catching up with other AAW ladies from Dunedin.

As we left we were given a small gift. Thank you to Margaret Tegg.



St Luke's Mosgiel AAW has had a most interesting year. We have had three travel speakers, Celia Davies on Easter Island, Esme Moore, one of our own members who spoke about working at the Dental School in Papua-New Guinea some decades ago, and our secretary Lynne Hill about a cruise in the Middle East.

We were privileged to host the new Bishop of Otago-Southland, his wife, and the family dog. The Bishop spoke about his faith journey and members found this most inspiring.

We have had our annual lunch out, contributed to the Government discussion on the aging strategy, and joined other Mosgiel congregations for World Day of Prayer.

One meeting was a sing-along focussing on well known hymns with pianist Beverley Kay Donner.



Lynne Hill in an outfit she bought in Dubai

*Today I step into the pool
Faced with the challenges of shared lanes
Shouting swim instructors
And distracting surges.*

*Three days ago
I had my own lanes
No swimming lessons
Neither noise nor surge
Enjoyed the swim more
But swam no faster.
Out of our depth in water
We flounder if we panic
Calm trust keeps us afloat.*

*On the ocean of life
We meet surges noise and pain.
Prayer keeps us calm
Enables us when we feel out of our depth.
Trust in God halts panic.*

*Our faith holds us when times are good
Yet grows stronger when challenged
By events we cannot face alone.*

Lynne Hill

Diocesan News - Auckland

As 2018 was quickly coming to a close, our Christian year was beginning. The Advent season is a most joyful time, so it was during this Advent that the **St John's Campbells Bay AAW** invited their neighbouring groups to join them for a Christmas luncheon and visitors from the local Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian and Roman Catholic churches. A festive lunch prepared by AAW members ensured a most happy and convivial occasion with all present appreciating the opportunity to enjoy the company of the many friends present.

After lunch the Albany Women's Choir entertained in the church. What

a lovely way to end a glorious day! With the hype of the run up to the commercial Christmas, it was good to be reminded to put Christ back into Christmas.

The **Auckland AAW combined Annual Luncheon** was held at Selwyn Village, Point Chevalier. A service was held in the Chapel led by Rev Nicky Frater. It is lovely to catch up with members of other groups on occasions like this.

Barbara Dixon, our Auckland President, gave a talk on some of the highlights of her recent pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Many of the sites, familiar through the scriptures, were able to be visited such as on the Pilgrimage 'Footsteps of Jesus – Secrets of Jerusalem'.



Above: St John's Fellowship members from left, Adrienne Thomas, Bea Haslett, Jennifer Willis. Also shown are Kaye Hastings and Barbara Dixon (St James Mangere Bridge).
Right: Barbara Dixon speaking at Selwyn Village



Christmas Gathering

At the end of November, Holy Trinity AAW, Fitzroy, hosted around fifty members and friends for the regional AAW Christmas gathering. Members attended from Waitara, Stratford, Inglewood, and of course, New Plymouth. The day commenced with a Christmas service in church and was followed by a getting to know our neighbours, renewing friendships over a shared tea. After this there were presentations from each group attending including: plays, poems, quiz, etc. What a wonderful day of fun, laughter and great fellowship.

Holy Trinity, Fitzroy, Group

Our Annual General Meeting was held in November, after a shared lunch. Over the year we have been very busy participating in the World Day of Prayer, two regional gatherings, attending other church's Women's Days (all denominations), fund raising for our Overseas & Outreach, and sharing in Social Concerns, and hearing some very interesting speakers. We held a very successful Women's Day at Holy Trinity, Fitzroy, when Joe Gray, local Hospital Chaplain, explained his role to us. One highlight recently, was a visit to the Recycling Centre – well worth a visit.

Recipe - Granny's Golden Flummery

Put 2 dessertspoons of gelatine in a half cup of cold water; fill the cup with boiling water and stir till gelatine is dissolved.

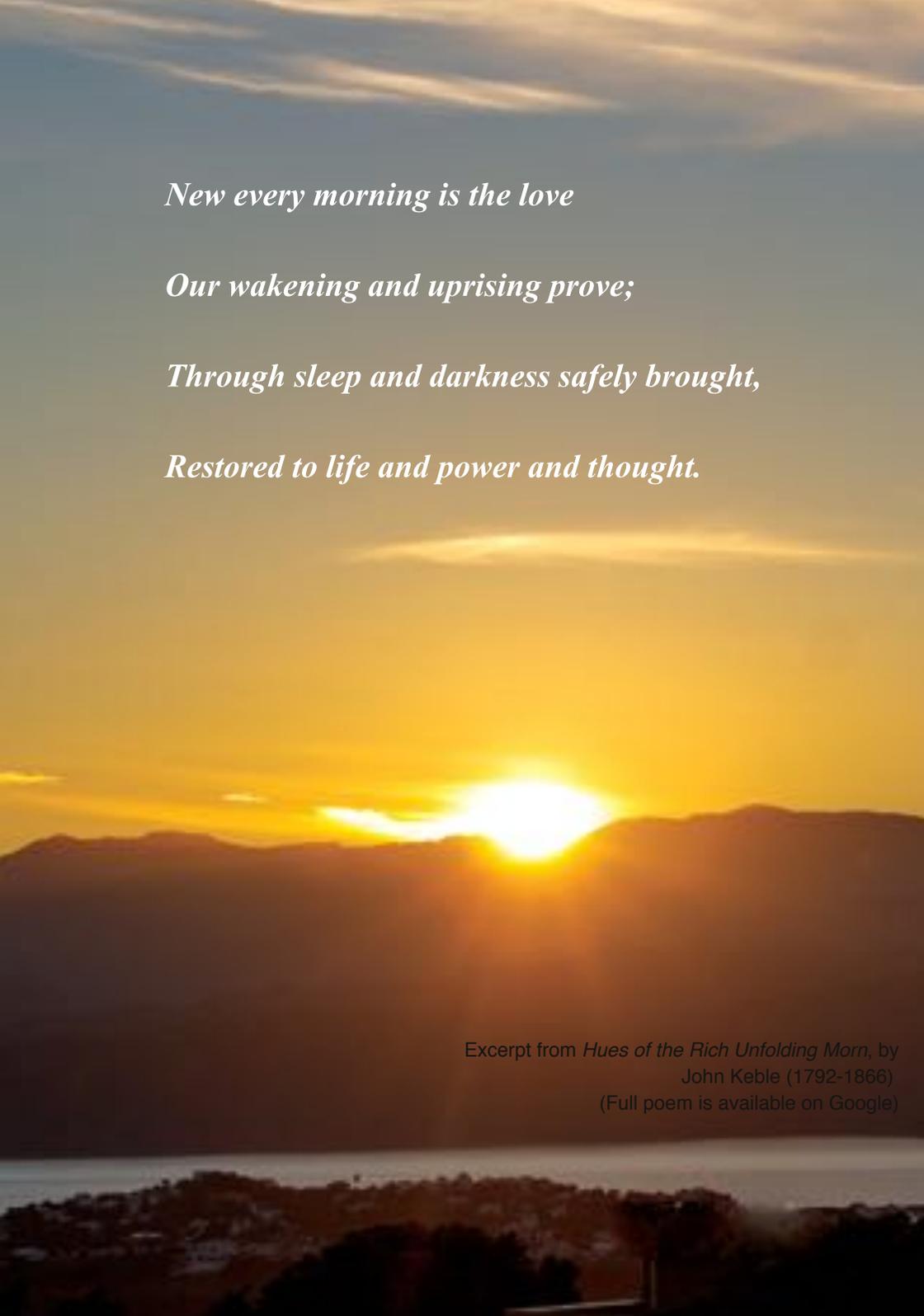
Beat the whites of 2 eggs a little in a large bowl, add the gelatine and beat for 5 minutes by hand (or shorter time with electric beater). Slowly add 1 cup of white sugar while beating. Beat the yolks a little in a small bowl with the juice of a lemon. Add to the large bowl and beat all together well.

Put in a serving bowl to set. Before serving, top with whipped cream and sprinkle with the grated zest of lemon.

[My grandmother usually served it with yellow-fleshed fruit such as apricots or golden peaches.

- Mary Houston]



A sunset scene with a bright sun low on the horizon, casting a golden glow over a landscape of mountains and a body of water. The sky is filled with soft, wispy clouds, and the overall atmosphere is peaceful and serene.

New every morning is the love

Our wakening and uprising prove;

Through sleep and darkness safely brought,

Restored to life and power and thought.

Excerpt from *Hues of the Rich Unfolding Morn*, by
John Keble (1792-1866)
(Full poem is available on Google)