**The Association of Anglican Women**

**New Zealand President’s Report**

**SUMMARY:**

During the years of 2020 and 2021 some regular activities had to be cancelled due to Covid-19 restrictions, which we all accepted as the result of the worldwide pandemic. Despite the limitations, the New Zealand Association of Anglican Women (NZAAW) organized and held their 22nd Triennial Conference at St Margaret’s College from 9 -11 April, 2020, attended by 50 AAW members from different part of the country.

AAW groups throughout the country continue to function as best they can within the limits of Covid-19 restrictions.

**MEMBERSHIP:**

Our Association of Anglican Women (AAW) membership continues to be maintained throughout Aotearoa New Zealand and Polynesia. Around the country there have been discussions on how to better plan for future growth in membership. Parishes where most women are elderly cannot reasonably expect that younger AAW members will suddenly appear. We need to welcome and interest new members, especially those leaving full-time paid employment, who seem to be one of our main sources of new life. As some AAW groups with older members close, we need to look at establishing new groups to replace them. Some AAW members have difficulty paying their $8 donation as requested by NZAAW for overseas and outreach.

**THE NZAAW COMMITTEE:**

The NZAAW Executive Committee is includes eight AAW Diocesan Presidents, and we have managed to hold our scheduled meetings in Christchurch twice a year. In September, last year Auckland was in lockdown, so two members and one from New Plymouth, linked into our all-day Zoom meeting, for an hour in the afternoon. This worked very well and with a camera and sound, and our members who were unable to travel, were delighted to be included in the meeting.

**DONATIONS FROM THE EMERGENCY FUND**

In 2020 the NZAAW gave donations, from the emergency fund, to help the work of the Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch City Missions, who had extraordinary demands for food because of the effects of the Covid-19 virus. We gave food vouchers to Napier and South Canterbury families who experienced severe flooding and destruction to their farms.

**OVERSEAS and OUTREACH**

We have been working with the AAW in the Diocese of Polynesia to have two water tanks installed in Naviavia, an island which was flooded and had destruction following a cyclone at the end of 2020. One water tank has been installed and we encourage the AAW in Polynesia to install another water tank.

**CIRCLE**

The AAW Circle magazine is published quarterly and is compiled by a team if four AAW members located in Christchurch. Each issue we ask one of our Diocesan Bishops to honour us with their thoughtful articles enabling deeper insight and meaning to the aims and work of AAW. The Bishops contribution is greatly appreciated by all AAW members who receive the Circle magazine. Each quarter we publish 1300 copies of our Circle magazine, printed in Dunedin and distributed around Aotearoa New Zealand and Polynesia.

At the AAW Conference in 2020 it was decided to adopt the theme of ***refresh, renew, rejoice*** for the next three years to carry out the *aims of the Association of Anglican Women.*

*Judith Mackenzie*

Association of Anglican Women, New Zealand President,

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