

# Circle



A magazine for New Zealand women



...journey into the heartland

# Refresh Renew Rejoice

**The new three-year theme for NZAAW  
was announced at Conference!**

**Refresh:** 'I will refresh the weary and satisfy the faint.'  
Jeremiah 31:25

**Renew:** 'Those who trust in the LORD will find new  
strength.'  
Isaiah 40:3

**Rejoice:** 'Rejoice in the LORD always, and again I say,  
rejoice.'  
Philippians 4:4

These theme words were prayerfully chosen by the  
AAW Triennial Conference organising team, to help  
provide a focus for the next three years.

**Please use them in any way you find helpful.**  
**Judith Mackenzie**

*(The NZ president has the privilege of choosing the three-year  
theme for her term. - Ed)*

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Cover: **Bishop Kelvin writes: “One of the earliest names for the Christian life was ‘The Way’ signalling we are constantly journeying ...”** Page 6



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# Editorial note

The uncertainty and various issues surrounding the COVID 19 Delta variant has impacted many. The Rev'd Dr Pauline Stewart's **'Mental Health in the Widest Sense'** thought-provoking article on page 8 is certainly timely. Pauline is an Assistant Priest at St Barnabas Church, Fendalton, Christchurch and Counselling Psychologist

Julie Walker's Social Concerns picks up this theme.

- **Did you know?** – We tackle the myth that appears to have surfaced in the 1990s surrounding the alleged hidden meaning to the words of *The Twelve Days of Christmas*. (Page 14)
- **Catalyst Corner** – Let's celebrate knitting, a community gift that keeps on giving. Thanks to Diocesan groups for submissions demonstrating people putting their time and skills into knitting for those in need. See page 20 for some ideas that may be of use.

Check out Raewyn's fun mental challenge for Overseas and Outreach. (See page 18.)

# From the President

## **Our guest episcopal contributors:**

Our Diocesan bishops continue to honour us with their thoughtful articles enabling deeper insight and meaning to the aims and work of AAW. (*Contact us if you want back copies*).

This issue features an article by the Rt Rev'd Dr Kelvin Wright, previously Bishop of Dunedin. After seven years as the Anglican bishop of the diocese of Dunedin, Bishop Kelvin retired in April 2017. With wonderful imagery, he writes, "this journey into the heartland of Aotearoa helps people to make the journey into their own heart."

The Auckland Diocesan Quiet Day article by the Rev'd Hillary Leith is an excellent complement.

An all-day NZAAW Executive meeting was held on 25 September 2021 in the Tui Room at St Barnabas Church, Fendalton, Christchurch which has been recently strengthened and upgrades included the computer technology.

With Auckland and Northland in Level 4 lockdown and the rest of the country at Level 2, we ensured Norma Benton, Margaret Rocard, and Julie Walker could join the meeting from 1 -3pm via Zoom when reports were presented.

Zoom worked very well as we could see and talk to the linked members and they were able to contribute to their reports. Our meeting finished early for the two Southlanders to catch their return flight.

I wish to encourage everyone from 12 years upwards to have the two Covid-19 vaccinations as soon as possible so we can return to before as normal a life as possible.

**Kindness is a fruit of the Spirit. May it abound in us. Amen.**

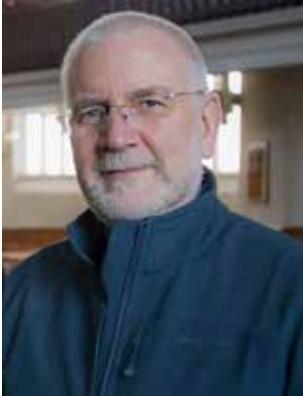
**Judith Mackenzie**

*AAW Executive  
members in lockdown  
joining via Zoom.*



# Bishop Kelvin reflects

## Journey to the heartland



In the dry, brown hills of Central Otago is an old sanatorium. It was built in the 1920s to cure people of tuberculosis by subjecting them to fresh air, good food and sunshine. It was made redundant with the invention of penicillin, and for a while was used as a borstal, and for a while after that was derelict, but now the sprawling complex is home to En Hakkore (A place of revival) - a Christian community who

offer it as a place of refuge and restoration.

Several times a year I am part of a team leading retreats there. Every February we run a six-day silent retreat and, in the Spring, a taught Centering Prayer retreat is held.

Getting there is a real journey. The drive from Dunedin to En Hakkore takes about an hour and forty minutes. On several occasions new retreat participants ended up lost as they travelled there on the gravel roads across the Maniototo.

The buildings are handsome and the rooms are basic and comfortable. The food is plentiful, wholesome and delicious, but these aren't the reasons people go there.

**It's because this journey into the heartland of**

**Aotearoa helps people to make the journey into their own heart.**

**Once people arrive the spaciousness of the place does its work: the buildings sprawl everywhere, the surrounding mountains are vast and the skies are endless.**

We try and make sure that people have a lot of time to reflect and walk and look.

**And in that spaciousness the Holy Spirit is given permission to lead people further along the way to our Lord Jesus Christ.**

**One of the earliest names for the Christian life was 'The Way' signalling that we are continually journeying towards a destination, which is the One who sent us off and who waits at our ending with open arms.**

*Kelvin Peter Wright was the ninth Anglican bishop of the Diocese of Dunedin, NZ. Bishop Kelvin retired on Easter Monday 2017.*

*He was educated at St John's College, Auckland, the University of Canterbury, the University of Otago and the San Francisco Theological Seminary.*

*At his ordination Bishop Kelvin said, "After 30 years of ministry, I still don't comprehend the depths of it.*

*"All of us are loved by God and accepted by God.*

*"That simple truth had huge implications which many people still find hard to accept."*

# Mental Health in the widest sense



## The Rev'd Dr Pauline Stewart

Assistant Priest: St Barnabas Church, Fendalton, Christchurch and Counselling Psychologist

Have you ever considered how our lives have changed in the last 18 months? We now have vaccinations to complete, masks to wear, COVID tracer apps to activate and new rules to follow. Our lives have changed significantly in unexpected ways. Indeed, the whole world is changing during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Many people are not finding it an easy time to live. It is important to acknowledge that this is the situation and not conceal our challenges to save face.**

It is highly likely that when we disclose our challenges, others will respond with how they are feeling as well.

When adults are struggling or feeling anxious about events in their lives, they can frequently fear their feelings mean they are 'mentally ill', and that they should be 'doing better' than they are.

**Feeling confused, frightened — even terrified, powerless, and helpless — should not be classified as a psychiatric disorder.**

What do we know that helps?

Everyone deserves love, help, understanding, and support, whether from family and friends or, if they choose, from clergy or therapists or others.

**Some of the strategies we know to work when psychological challenges**



**present themselves, may include seeking social support, listening to music, physical exercise, meditation, prayer, having an animal, and doing volunteer work.**

All these have been shown to work well. People can use any of these to help themselves.

**For most people having someone to listen, really listen to hear, rather than listen in order to respond, helps immensely as well.**

In 2018, He Ara Oranga: Report of the Government Inquiry into Mental Health and Addiction, identified 3% of people as having serious mental health concerns requiring medical and psychological intervention. A further 17% have been identified as having mild to moderate mental health concerns. Good therapists

— and laypeople — can help normalise feelings and explore useful ways to cope and build resilience, if needed.

**It is normal to feel ‘anxious’ in times when our news sources are filled with negative information and gloomy predictions. As part of the church - the caring followers of Jesus - we are not immune to feelings of uncertainty and fear.**

**Our faith will be an important support. Jesus said to his followers:**

**“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.”  
(Matthew 11:28)**

Therefore, we can indeed have a variety of helpful ways to deal with the world in which we find ourselves in 2021.

# How will we go forward?

**Julie Walker, Social Concerns Convenor**

**As we come to grips with the COVID virus being with us for some time to come and changing the world forever, we need to reflect on how our society will care for both individuals and communities.**

**A political social commentator focused on this in the media recently, asking, “Will we be socially together” or “socially splintered?”**

Inequalities that already exist between different groups of society have been magnified during COVID and will continue to impact on those who live with issues of poverty — but there is the opportunity for us to focus more on the collective good.

**A return to focusing on**

**‘community’ rather than ‘individualism’ may be a positive outcome of living with COVID.**

In our first lockdown in 2020 we developed new respect for those who put their health on the line each day, for example by serving us in supermarkets, whether they were frontline workers or ensuring the ongoing supply of food.

There are also many examples of businesses thinking creatively about how they can reach out to those in their community. One of the local cafes in my community, Manly Café, regularly gives its left-over food to a local charitable food organization called Love Soup.

**It is a testing time for all relationships now, with**

**heightened stress levels being felt by everyone, but how we engage with people will be the key to how we move forward, according to psychologist Dr Ainslee Cribb-Sua'a.**

In August of last year, she talked about the need for social connection being more important than ever. She backed this concern up on national television (15 October 2021) by emphasising the need for 'future focused' korero (conversation) with all people but particularly with our tamariki (children) so that we can move forward with hope.

**Sparklers.org.nz is a website that she referred viewers to, for ways to support mental wellbeing for all.**

Questions: As an organization of Christian women, how will we go forward in supporting the needs of a very changing society?

**How will our faith make a difference to those we interact with on a daily basis, and how can we impact on people's lives, particularly women and children, in a way that will give them strength to go forward?**

*There are only two feelings.*

*Love and fear.*

*There are only two languages.*

*Love and fear.*

*There are only two activities.*

*Love and fear.*

*There are only two motives, two procedures,*

*two frameworks, two results.*

*Love and fear.*

**Michael Leunig, from  
'A Common Prayer'**

# Christian World Service: Support and dignity

**Gillian Southey, CWS**

**‘Seek justice, rescue the oppressed, defend the orphan, plead for the widow.’ Isaiah 1:17**

## **Joy and Justice at Christmas**

The Christmas story shines as a light before us, offering hope and promise in our lives as it has done for millennia.

**As we launch this year’s Christmas Appeal, join us to pray for people who are weary of life, silenced or treated unfairly, or who struggle to find what they need for each day.**

**Muneeswari is one woman whose life has been transformed.**

Growing up as a member of the Dalit community that lived on the edge of her village in South India, she knew to keep



her distance. At school, she sat at the back with the other Dalits, ate separately, washed her own utensils and walked barefoot. She left school to work in the fields before marrying and having three children. She knew never to raise her voice or complain no matter how badly she was treated.

**On the day her boss stepped into muddy water and demanded that she clean his shoes, something snapped.**

She protested and then he called her by her caste name. When she replied, he became angrier. Reluctantly she cleaned the shoes. When she finished work, Muneeswari went to the women's sangam or association. Together the women marched to the police station demanding justice. The women persisted with the complaint until the man was forced to make a public apology.

**Muneeswari joined the sangam and attended training sessions organised by Christian World Service partner, the Women Development Resource Centre.**

She has new confidence, a title deed to her home, access to government benefits and triple the pay.

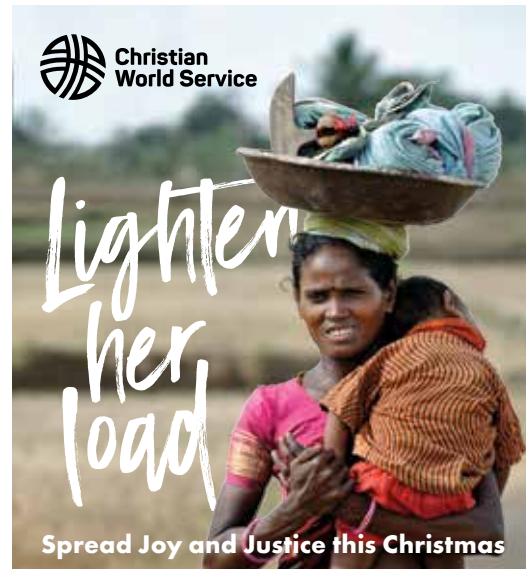
**Thanks to your support, she knows joy and justice.**

**Please give generously to the 2021 Christmas Appeal so more people find joy and justice.**

**Please read stories from our five partners and find worship resources at**

**<http://christmasappeal.org.nz>**

*Dalits were formerly known as Untouchables. From the very day they are born, Dalit children are considered 'unclean' or 'untouchable' under the caste system which was officially abolished in 1950.*



**DONATE NOW**  
[christmasappeal.org.nz](http://christmasappeal.org.nz)

# Did you know...

## **Myth busting: 'The Twelve Days of Christmas'**

Thanks to Anne Gover for highlighting and clergy help clarifying...

**The alleged meaning behind the words of the 'Twelve Days of Christmas' as found on the internet and often doing the rounds at Christmas time is just that – alleged. The claim, which appears to have surfaced in the 1990s, states that it was a secret way for Roman Catholics to remember their Catechism. That's a falsehood.**

The era under discussion begins with King Henry VIII's break with the Catholic Church in Rome and his establishment of the Anglican Church. In 1558, Henry's Catholic daughter Mary I died, and her non-Catholic

half-sister Elizabeth I took the throne; the following year the Act of Uniformity abolished 'the old worship,' and the open practice of Catholicism was forbidden by law until Parliament passed the Catholic Emancipation Act in 1829.

**The truth is, the state's toleration of Catholicism waxed and waned with the political exigencies of the times, and during some periods Catholics were treated more leniently than others.**

During the Puritan Commonwealth of 1649-1660, legislation banning the celebration of Christmas in England by anyone, Anglican or otherwise, was enacted, although these laws

were overturned with the restoration of the monarchy in 1660.

**There is absolutely no documentation or supporting evidence for the false (Roman Catholic Catechism) claims which appear to date only to the 1990s, marking it as likely to be an invention of modern-day speculation rather than historical fact.**

The key flaw in their theory is that all of the religious tenets supposedly preserved by the song 'The Twelve Days of Christmas' were shared by Catholics and Anglicans alike.

What we do know is that the twelve days of Christmas in the song are the twelve days between the birth of Christ (Christmas, December 25) and the coming of the Magi (Epiphany, January 6).

**'The Twelve Days of Christmas' possibly began**

**as a Twelfth Night 'memory-and-forfeits' game in which the leader recited a verse, each of the players repeated the verse, the leader added another verse, and so on until one of the players made a mistake, with the player who erred having to pay a penalty, such as offering up a kiss or a sweet.**

**This is how the song was presented in its earliest known printed version, in the 1780 children's book *Mirth Without Mischief*.**

**'The Twelve Days of Christmas' is what most people take it to be: a secular song that celebrates the Christmas season with imagery of gifts and dancing and music.**

<https://www.snopes.com/fact-check/twelve-days-christmas>

# Slavery, visas and prayer...

## The Rev'd Shirley Bennett

On 11 March 2020 my husband and I left for Zanzibar, via Sydney, Johannesburg and Dar es Salaam. We checked that it was okay to travel and we were assured 'everything was fine'. A few days after we left, NZ closed the border!

We spent three days in Zanzibar and during that time learnt about the island's role in the slave trade.

**David Livingstone lived there and was appalled at the treatment of slaves and the slave trade generally. He wrote to the British Home Office protesting against the practice. He calculated 60,000 to 80,000 people died on the way to the slave market in Zanzibar.**

It is estimated Livingstone travelled 48,000 kilometres on foot through the African mainland in ten years.

He was perhaps a failure as a missionary – he only managed one conversion to Christianity. But his work with the slave trade was an enormous ministry and Livingstone is held with great affection throughout Africa today.

*Christchurch Cathedral, Zanzibar - built over the slave market, with the slave memorial in the foreground*







After leaving Zanzibar we boarded the Rovos Rail train at Dar es Salaam. On the train our temperatures were taken every morning by the train doctor – it is standard practice for Rovos to have a doctor on board. We visited the largest National Park in Africa covering 55,000 hectares. The place was teeming with giraffe, elephants, zebra, hippopotamus and several species of migratory birds.

Instead of travelling to Capetown as planned — with borders closing everywhere including Australia (Qantas route) — the decision was made for us and five passengers from Europe to

leave the train at Victoria Falls. We had air tickets and electronic visas to travel home via Addis Ababa and New York but at the airport we were stopped at the gate before boarding the plane. Our visas were deemed ‘no longer valid’ and we ended up in quarantine. The official would not have it that Danish Zealand and New Zealand were two different places. Fortunately, the NZ Embassy for North Africa is in Addis Ababa and equally fortunately the Ambassador was home! He worked very hard on our behalf. New tickets were obtained along with new visas to get home. After another week, we eventually flew to Heathrow, before getting a QATAR flight to Auckland.

**What kept us going? A real help was the closing prayer in Night Prayer out of the NZPB: ‘Lord it has been a long day..’**

# Overseas & Outreach

Raewyn Dawson, Overseas and Outreach Convener

A	B	B	E	Y	U	W	N	N	D	I	L	L	E	X
P	C	V	S	W	Q	M	I	R	Z	A	B	N	P	P
A	A	O	S	P	R	I	N	G	M	Z	O	E	R	T
K	U	P	U	T	Y	K	K	J	Y	E	T	L	W	B
I	Q	W	U	E	E	U	I	P	V	C	S	S	V	Q
S	R	E	A	A	V	S	X	I	Y	Y	W	O	O	B
T	L	L	B	Z	N	Z	G	O	C	V	A	N	S	S
A	N	M	U	T	T	E	O	U	C	Q	N	W	Z	E
N	A	Q	W	E	N	R	W	N	H	H	A	V	P	P
Q	X	T	W	O	R	L	D	G	I	K	K	O	U	C
Z	O	Y	T	M	P	O	N	G	U	Q	U	O	G	N
P	L	E	L	U	I	X	E	E	B	I	S	K	A	H
O	G	I	M	C	M	I	S	S	I	O	N	U	N	Y
T	Y	U	K	P	T	M	N	B	V	C	X	E	D	Z
A	S	D	F	G	H	J	K	L	P	I	U	Y	A	T

Answer the ten Overseas and Outreach questions on page 19 and then find the words in the chart above. *Note: there are NO gaps/spaces for an answer that has multiple words (eg New Zealand would be NEWZEALAND).*



## OVERSEAS AND OUTREACH PUZZLE

1. What Island is St Patrick's College on?
2. Name the recent Anglican Missions vaccine justice campaign.
3. Where has Liz Giller worked for many years?
4. Where are the Wheeler family based?
5. Where have the Slack family moved in NZ to work?
6. What is the missing word in the organisation 'Christian ..... Service'?
7. What is the missing word in The AAW Aim: to participate in the ..... of the Church?
8. What season of weather is this now?
9. Where are Nick and Tessa Laing working?
10. Name a large place of worship.

SPRING; PAPUA NEW GUINEA; NELSON; WORLD; AMBAE;  
GET ONE, GIVE ONE; MISSION; ABBEY; PAKISTAN; UGANDA;



# Catalyst Corner

## Celebrating knitting: a community gift that keeps on giving

**Many Diocesan groups demonstrate people putting their time and skills into knitting for those in need. Some ideas....**

### **Middlemore Hospital's Kidz**

**First Hospital:** Beanies and booties but check with your local hospital to see if there is anything particular needed in specific styles or sizes.

### **Littlemore, Auckland**

Knits for prem to 12 months – including beanies, mittens, singlets, bassinet/cot blankets, cardigans.

<https://littlemore.co.nz/>

### **Plunket:** Vests and booties.

Pattern on their website for you to download. <https://www.plunket.org.nz/plunket/support-plunket>

**Knitted Knockers:** prosthetic breasts for cancer survivors. You'll need to use nice soft yarn. Patterns on website. <https://www.knittedknockers.org/>

**Twiddle Muff:** great for leftover yarn. Check need with local Rest Homes that have dementia and Alzheimer's patients. This is basically a knitted muff that has several fiddly attachments fixed to it – keeping hands occupied, providing a simple yet effective type of therapy.

### **Animal Sanctuaries:/SPCA**

Animal blankets and toys.

*Ideas for experienced and novice knitters taken from: [yarns.co.nz@gmail.com](mailto:yarns.co.nz@gmail.com)*

# Auckland

## **Auckland AAW Quiet Day**

On an extremely cold, wet Friday in August, not knowing it was just a few days before lockdown, we gathered in the hall at St James Church, Mangere Bridge, for our Quiet Day.

**The theme was Hope and the Christian Journey, which as it turned out, was very appropriate.**

**Why do we need hope?** Our morning session produced some lively discussion and sharing about times of hopelessness, both for Biblical people and in our own lives. Then we explored Christian hope versus the superficial hope our society promotes.

**The three qualities of Christian hope: realism, optimism and future focus, were explored.**



Realism, where life is hard and difficult, optimism, where the seeming impossible becomes possible, and future focus, where God's kingdom is both here and now, yet unfolding and only fully realised in some future time.

It was a rewarding day of reflection and sharing in our Christian journey.

**The Rev'd Hilary Leith, Auckland. AAW**

# Christchurch



*Shona Wray (left) and Margaret Harper after their hair styling.*



*Fashion insights.*

## **St Barnabas, Fendalton AAW In Betweens Group. Ladies' Day Out:**

Fifty AAW members had a great day at the Hornby Hub. The \$20 ticket admission included a café discount and discount vouchers. There were spot prizes and goody bags.

Following the event lots of positive comments were received by the organisers of this memorable day out.

The day was divided into three sessions:

- Beauty: Estelle Lauder consultant, Anne, from Farmers, did Pam Chapman's makeup.
- Hair styling: by a Rodney Wayne Hairdresser.
- Fashion: Caroline Eve staff demonstrated some of their fashion items.

**Jude Mackenzie**

**AAW North Canterbury Fellowship, St Bartholomew's, Kaiapoi:** We were delighted to receive so many visitors.

Grace Adams, our leader, welcomed all at the morning tea. Sandy Constable, our Vicar, and Ann Lloyd, our associate priest, conducted the service. Jocelyn Kew gave the prayers and helped with the communion. Margaret Maw played the organ.

After the service Rob Rea from St John Ambulance, gave a most interesting talk

on different aspects of his involvement. Grace thanked him and presented a donation of \$300.

After this we all enjoyed our shared luncheon and the company of friends.

### **Grace Adams, Kaiapoi AAW**

#### **Useful tips:**

- **St John alarms** can be worn as necklace or on wrist.
- Keep **medical information** for easy access either in the fridge or bathroom cabinet.
- **Instructions** for **DO NOT RESUSCITATE** are best to be in writing and should be mentioned at the time Ambulance called for.
- **Alert bracelet** for life-threatening illness or allergy is recommended.
- **Yellow Cards** from Chemist used to record medications are excellent – need to keep updated – keep in wallet or handbag.



Grace Adams and Rob Rea.

# Dunedin

## **Dot Muir: AAW President**

The big challenge I am finding, talking with groups as we all are going forward electronically, is this new system, internet banking. I'm sure as we get used to this, it will be easier for us and so efficient.

Our groups send reports frequently telling of their engagement in their communities. They all enjoy meeting up with each other, often having stimulating speakers to encourage them and enjoying eating out together.

I had a mid-winter feast outing with the All-Saints Gladstone Invercargill AAW group this month, held in the newly refurbished Homestead Tavern. 25 women and one

man enjoyed each other's company, listening and telling our stories.

There are 14 active AAW groups in the Dunedin Diocese to date and all groups unite in prayer, participate in the mission of the church, promote, safeguard and nurture Christian family life wherever they can.

People I have talked to are supporting one another in their various groups, maybe by supporting people in the community, or by knitting for babies in the hospital who are prem, or helping those in need or for missions overseas, or sharing fruit and vegetables, to name a few.



# Nelson

## Nelson Diocesan news:

We held a Nelson-Waimea Area Day at Nelson Cathedral. About 30 ladies gathered, and Lesley Bandy, a Cathedral parishioner, gave us a lively and entertaining account of her life in dancing. Born in England, she spent her early years in Auckland learning ballet and performing.

She was accepted for study at the Royal Opera Ballet School at Covent Garden in London. Her studies included character dancing, make-up classes and talks about ballet music. She found she needed to be strong mentally as well as physically and extremely well-disciplined.

She spent the next 20 or so years performing in Europe and the U.S.A. At age 39 she retired from dancing but moved into event managing and choreographing shows in the USA and NZ. Three and a half years ago she returned to



live in Nelson where she now runs Primarily Dance but is in demand all over NZ for her teaching and choreography skills.

Following a lunch of soup and rolls provided by the Cathedral ladies, and a short business meeting, we concluded the day with a service led by our new Dean of Nelson, the Rev'd Dr Graham O'Brien. The next day COVID took over, so groups have been maintaining their fellowship by telephone.

**Angela Shaw, Nelson AAW**

# Polynesia

**From report supplied  
by the Rev'd Sereima  
Lomaloma**

## **Preventing Violence Against Women**

'Break the Silence' Sunday (BTS) was first marked in 2014. The House of Sarah working with the Christian Talanoa Network has been producing liturgical resources for use by the churches. These include prayers and sermons in the English, iTaukei and Hindi languages.

**In 2018, following a representation by Archbishop Winston Halapua (as head of the Diocese of Polynesia), the Fiji Council of Churches took it up as an event to be marked in their Christian calendar.**

**Break the Silence  
Sunday is usually marked  
during the 16 Days of  
Activism on Violence**



**Against Women from 25  
November - 10 December  
every year.**

**This is an important commitment by the churches in Fiji because it signals to Fiji as a whole that the churches are against violence against women and girls.** It also sends a strong message of support to the survivors of violence. At the same time it is saying to the perpetrators that 'gender based violence is a sin!' Over the years the UN Women Multi-country Office in Fiji has been partnering with the House of Sarah in this work. Last year the German Embassy in Wellington became an additional partner to this worthy cause.

*It is encouraging to note that 44% of males and 51% of*

*females surveyed agree that when a husband beats his wife, others outside the family should intervene. This is a major shift in their attitudes as it differs from the prevailing view maintained that violence against women is a private matter. Other evidence also shows that they now*

*recognize that men's power over women is the root cause and that violence against women is never acceptable.*

*This has encouraged us to continue with this community mobilisation approach that uses the values of our Christian faith to bring about transformative changes.*

### **AAW Prayer**

Oh God, our Father, whose love for all people  
is proclaimed in Jesus Christ,  
we thank you for uniting us in prayer and fellowship.

Use us now in the mission of your Church.  
Help us to realise that everything we do and say  
reflects our love for you.

Bless homes and families throughout the world,  
especially those unhappy or in need.

Show us how, by our example and concern,  
we can take your peace and love  
wherever your spirit may lead us,  
today and all our days.

Amen

# Waiapu

**AAW at Waiapu Cathedral in Napier has seen a year of constant change, as indeed we are sure has every AAW group.**

After more than twenty-two years in Napier and many years of nationwide service before then, Judy Mills and her husband Murray moved north to be closer to family late last year. Their faithfulness, enthusiasm and huge hard work in both the community and church will be long remembered.

Another member, Helen Kapatou, received her NZ citizenship early in November. Helen has been generous in sharing her friendship and beautiful Greek baking and adds special diversity to our membership. Welcome officially, Helen!



**The group has enjoyed a huge output of lockdown knitting to keep new-born babies and children warm, beanies for local school children and for young patients being transported by ambulance.**

Our President Wendy Probert was instrumental in assisting a young mother, Mia, and her beautiful new-born daughter.

Mia is also about to complete her NCEA Level One, so she has had a busy year. Wendy,

alongside other members, was able to assist Mia in her journey of being both mother and student.

Our group meets in the hospitality room of a local Funeral Directors' business. We are grateful to Dunstalls for their generosity in offering a comfortable setting every month.

**Rotorua Group:** Various lockdown activities included knitting baby clothes for Plunket; visiting sick friends and relatives, handing memoirs in to childhood schools, donating books to a museum; ensuring genealogy is accessible for the next generation, spring

cleaning, making marmalade, completing a quilt for the Church Fair and visiting members living alone.

**Pat Gellatly, Rotorua AAW**



# Waikato & Taranaki

## Norma Benton, Waikato & Taranaki Diocesan Representative

**Keep Knitting and Carry On?** It's almost like enforced retirement, going into lockdown again, although all through there has been communication with different organisations I am involved in.

However, there is always gardening, baking, phoning friends and those on their own, and if you are so inclined – extra cleaning!

**Holy Trinity, Fitzroy, has a busy Knit & Knatter group that normally meet once a month, have a show and tell, and then our goods are collected for distribution to worthy causes.**

Jerseys, beanies, booties, knitted strips and squares sewn into rugs and crochet rugs – you name it, it is there. Some attendees are AAW members but non-members are happy to join our church group!



# Wellington

## Pat Vincent

Past President AAW NZ

### AAW Wellington Diocese Social Concerns Day

Women from around the Diocese enjoyed the two guest speakers at St Paul's Paraparaumu. The day was organised by Heather Dawson, our Wellington AAW Diocesan Social Concerns Convenor.

**Renée Corlett**, from the Wellington Regional Emergency Management Office listed basic safety needs during an earthquake or a tsunami and the importance of having a family plan.

The second speaker for the day was **Sophie Handford**, a Councillor for Kapiti Coast District Council and a climate activist. She is very aware of the impact of climate change on the Pacific islands.

Sophie is passionate about doing everything she can for

### Top Tips

1. If the tremor is **'long and strong - get gone!**
2. During an earthquake if you can't **'Drop, Cover, Hold'** --don't! Cover your head and hold onto something solid. If in bed, stay! Cover head.
3. Ensure there is water for three days (**3 litres a day**), and food for several days. Survival: start with the food in fridge, then freezer, then cupboards.
4. Have a **bucket and plastic bags etc ready** for an emergency toilet.
5. Keep your car fuelled.
6. Remember that if the power is out, there's **no cash machine** or cell phone communication.
7. Have a packed **grab bag** for evacuation – including important documents, medication/list of medicines, food, strong shoes, cash, torch, cards, a book.
8. **Locate** your Emergency Hub <https://www.getprepared.nz/my-community/community-emergency-hubs/>.

this cause and now the Council has a fleet of electric cars and e-bike docking stations.

She has just been selected as one of four influential young Kiwis to represent New Zealand at APEC Voices of the Future in November during APEC Leaders' Week.

Sophie and a few mates initiated help (such as grocery

shopping/delivery) for those living alone during lockdown. They help members of Grey Power with tech support.

**She also helps with an initiative called 'Share the Warmth' organised online where people are donating coats, blankets and curtains.**

Two large boxes of non-perishable items were donated by our members on the day for the local Food Bank.



*Sophie Handford*

### **House of Grace**

Recently our AAW Group, **St John's and St Michael's**, had Fiona Collins, Acting Director from the House of Grace, speak about how they support expectant teenage mothers.

This organisation was begun by Marcus and Treena van Rijssel in 1999, who wanted to create a maternity home with a loving family environment for pregnant teens, at a time when there were few options for these girls in NZ.



**The House of Grace Trust was established as a non-profit organisation in 2001 and has since helped more than 200 young women learn life skills and prepare for child parenting or adoption.**

The first home was established in Wellington and recently another home has opened in Hamilton. Here in Wellington the girls live with a young couple and their two young children as a family unit. The House parents in Hamilton have one year old twins and a three-year-old. So the girls get first-hand experience of what life is like with young children.

**One of the Bible verses that is at the Trust's heart is Romans 8:28: 'And we know that in all things**

**God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.'**

Our group presented them with money, an electric hand mixer, and several large bags filled with toiletries.





**St Peter's Palmerston North** knitted beanies for Prem babies at Palmerston North Hospital Neonatal Ward. Many happy hours were spent doing these, with over 20 hats and also woollen singlets.

**Claire Hunter and Diana Andrews from St John's/ St Michael's AAW Group in Johnsonville** knitted these beanies for the Mission to Seafarers.

**Pat Vincent**



**The Waiwhetu Fellowship** has an on-going project knitting squares for rugs and we make four to six each year.

**Last year we gave the Men's Shelter four rugs.**

**The photo shows four more rugs to give them.**



These had been knitted this year to give to the City Mission at our Mission Afternoon in September but had to be cancelled due to COVID.

The rugs will be delivered before Christmas.

**Mary Driver, Wellington AAW**

# Submissions/Subscriptions

deadline for next issue: 15 January 2022

**Submissions: please email to Pat Owen,  
the Circle Team Co-ordinator**

**Pat's email: [buxtons7@xtra.co.nz](mailto:buxtons7@xtra.co.nz)**

- We're looking for high-interest articles that inspire.
- If a group is elderly and the function is mainly a social one, with mutual support - that news is equally important.
- **We need high quality images**
  - Large jpeg files (usually at least 1MB in size)
  - Must be emailed as a separate attachment
  - Please don't insert photos in a Word doc/email
  - No photoshop please
- If sending a number of images, send them one at a time with a clear description of the image.
- **Text:** 100-150 words (max) please, sent as a Word doc or in an email.

**Subscriptions:** (for 4 copies per annum)

**AAW group orders: \$10 per person per year**

**Individuals: \$20 (includes postage and package)**

**Please send ALL Circle orders and payments to:**

Anne Gover, AAW Treasurer, 4 Lennox Street Gore 9710

**Email:** [annegover@xtra.co.nz](mailto:annegover@xtra.co.nz)

Include AAW group name/your name, postal address and email.

**For Internet banking:** NZAAW Westpac account:

03 0915 0026110 000 Ref: Circle-AAW group /your name

# **The Association of Anglican Women (AAW)**

- Formed in 1969 for all Anglican Women to become members - married, divorced or single women.
- Prior to this New Zealand Anglican Women were part of Mothers' Union Branches.
- The Association of Anglican Women has more than 3,000 members - the largest organization within the Anglican Church giving a voice and representation to women.

## **Our Aims are....**

1. To unite in prayer and participate in the mission of the Church.
2. To promote, safeguard and nurture Christian family life.

## **Our focus**

To grow and move forward as an organization. We are constantly moving forward, growing and doing all we can to get the message of God's love to others.

## **Spread the Word**

There's no better way to make an impact than to become an active advocate yourself. Join now and enjoy the fellowship, fun and friendship.



**Join us on Facebook**

search for NZ Assn of Anglican Women

**AAW website**

[nzaaw.org.nz](http://nzaaw.org.nz)

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