

CIRCLE



NELSON



CHRISTCHURCH



WELLINGTON



POLYNESIA



DUNEDIN



AUCKLAND



WAIKATO



NAPIER

Theme for 2015-18:

Grow in Discipleship, Dreams, Dedication

The Aims of AAW:

- *to unite in prayer and participate in the mission of the Church*
- *to promote, safeguard and nurture Christian family life*



The Association of Anglican Women

Volume 48, November 2016

CONTRIBUTIONS

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.

PHOTOS: Email (*attached as a "FILE", not as a "picture"*) original digital photos (*high resolution jpg files*)

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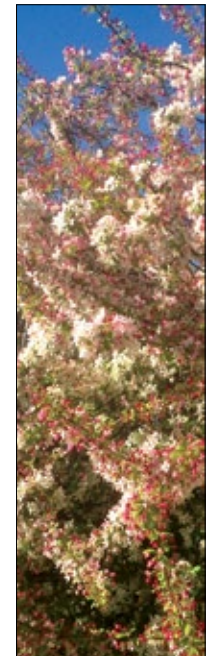
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OUR PRESIDENT



Dear Members

This is a special moment for me as I write my first column as your new President. I feel very humble and privileged to be called to this position. It has been a whirlwind two weeks since my commissioning with members of the NZ Executive in a lovely evensong service at St Paul's Cathedral Wellington, attended by friends and supporters of AAW. The sermon was preached by Archdeacon Judy Hardie on the theme: "Empowered for Service" - she outlined the history of AAW, its aims and her involvement. The choir (by chance) was only women, so all in all this was a special service.

After the National Executive meeting I had the pleasure of taking Rev. Lola Koloamatangi, President of Polynesia to speak to two local

AAW groups. Lola shared her story as a counsellor working with women victims of domestic violence. She spoke of the caring of AAW women and the importance of water to Tonga which has no natural streams and relies on rainwater, hence the need for water tanks.

Three days later I represented you at the National Council of Women's Conference held at Te Papa. This was followed by attendance at the Wellington Diocesan Synod in Palmerston North. The two day NCWNZ Conference focused on Gender Equality - Driving Cultural Change. The third day was the AGM. This was my first NCWNZ Conference and I found it inspiring to be in the presence of such formidable women with wonderful speakers and great networking opportunities. It was pleasant to meet up with fellow AAW members from around the country. Dame Miriam Dell was one of the speakers at the Friday evening function celebrating 120 years of NCWNZ. Dame Miriam spoke of her days as NZ President and President of the International Council of Women. The conference was opened by the Prime Minister the Right Honourable John Key who spoke

about supporting women in education and training, keeping women and girls free from violence and pay equity.

In the previous edition of Circle I wrote that this year in the Wellington Diocese we have been focusing on how we can grow and move forward as an organisation. This was as a result of the AAW Consultation Survey undertaken nationally last year. Like NCWNZ and many other organisations we need to change in order to grow our organisation, to attract new members and to find leaders for our groups. Change comes within an organisation. This focus has started with the NZ Executive and will be further developed next year before going out to the dioceses and groups. I feel passionate about this as we are a wonderful organisation and I want us to continue. Our work with Social Concerns and Overseas and Outreach are important messages we need to talk about. Younger women are interested in being involved in such projects. Jenny Duckworth, Wellington Diocesan Patron and wife of Bishop Justin emphasised the importance of storytelling and encouraged us to tell our stories as AAW members at Sunday services. Visibility in the parish magazine with photos and interesting

articles is also a very good way of keeping the parish aware of AAW activities and projects. Partnering with the next generation is important. Assisting with Messy Church, Mainly Music and other activities are valuable. Other suggestions were craft activities such as knitting projects, as younger women enjoy these.

Interestingly I attended a workshop at the NCWNZ Conference on Mobilising Mothers: social media's role in affecting positive change for women. This was led by a communications and marketing duo of women called Double Denim. Behavioural change is brought about by awareness, engagement, and advocacy and then you encourage people to share the meeting. They made the point that women want meaningful engagements. Their five key points about women were:

1. They want time - work/life balance: looking for convenience and making decisions about what they give their time to.
2. They want value - want to spend wisely
3. They want love - want to feel understood and valued and want support
4. They want connections- women



EX-PRESIDENT MARGARET

want to feel part of something bigger.

5. They want respect.

These things are what we are about and can offer but how often do we tell other women or groups in the community about ourselves, or our parishes? All too often our AAW groups don't seem aware that they are a part of a bigger organisation i.e. AAW Provincially. I'm amazed that whenever I've spoken to my own congregation about AAW that often the response is: "I didn't know you did that". Our challenge is to spread our message and to inform our parishes and wider communities of our work.

Many of the NCWNZ speakers spoke of the need to build networks. Edith Wharton said. "There are two ways of spreading the light; to be the candle or the mirror that reflects it". We need to embrace technology, particularly social media to engage women, particularly our younger women. They want to join a cause – we could be that cause.

Archdeacon Judy Hardie in her sermon said, "I want to emphasise how important it is to share our faith and our belief.... I would hope that the Association of Anglican Women, in all their good work in the parishes of our country, in their awareness of and response to the tremendous needs of so many people both locally and in the wider world, still has a concern for the nurture of faith in people of all ages. I see this need especially for those vulnerable 30 - 40 year olds who struggle to hold fast to their faith in the face of the distractions and turmoil of their worlds." This is an important aim of AAW.

Please keep in your prayers the women of the Waikato/Taranaki Diocese as they seek a new leadership team.

1 Peter 4:10: Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.

Blessings

Pat



My term as Provincial President has come to an end so I would like to thank to everyone I have made contact with in the past three years. I have met some wonder-

ful ladies on my trips around New Zealand and truly appreciate the hospitality, sightseeing and gifts received. Thank you. Thank you also to the members of the Executive for your time and help during my term. Huge thanks to the Circle team for all they have done in this time also. Special thanks go to my secretary Ainsley for all she has done during 2013 – 2016. A very important job completed with confidence and goodwill.

I wish Pat and her team a great three year term.

All the very best.

Margaret



Secretary Ainsley with my thank you gift



EDITOR'S NOTES

It has been a privilege to edit the Circle magazine. Thank you to all who have contributed to the magazine and offered encouragement during this time. Heartfelt thanks go to Marilyn Sim who has been responsible for the layout.

As the magazine moves to Wellington I am mindful of the change from winter to spring, a time of new beginnings. I have walked through the Dunedin Botanic Gardens several

times recently and I praise God for the burgeoning of new growth on previously bare branches and the rainbow of colour provided by spring flowers. How fortunate we are to live in this beautiful world. Let us remember our blessings as Christmas approaches and we are reminded of the CWS Christmas appeal.

Greetings to all, especially the new circle team.

Marjorie Brown

PHOTOS FROM THE AGM



Left: handing over the badge.

Below: NZ Executive.

Front cover: the banner



FROM BISHOP KELVIN

When I drive through the Southern parts of our Diocese I see in the distance the dark green of the forests of Fiordland. Those forests are the end of the Western world. This is where the houses and the roads run out, and some of those far wild places are so impenetrable that no one has yet set foot in them, and there are sometimes rumours of moose, or moa inhabiting the deepest thickets. All around me are the ordered, prosperous farms of Southland, and it is this juxtaposition of civilisation and wildness which gives the South such a powerful and for me attractive energy. Living on the edge is an exciting place to be; it is a place of possibility and promise as well as a place of endings. And this is where the church, and the AAW finds itself, here

in the early years of the 21st Century: on the edge. It has been wonderful hosting the AAW and the Circle magazine over these past months, and now as a new leadership takes office and moves the focus further Northwards, I hope some of this edginess remains. While sometimes we in the church can be tempted to despair at what we perceive to be decline and ending, it is in reality the edge of that into which God is leading us. I pray the blessing of the resurrected Christ will be known amongst all members of the AAW as they move, in the power of the Holy Spirit into all that God has in store.

Bishop Kelvin



Selecting

What should be the topic for the Circle article this time, I wonder. What is happening in the world? Well, much the same during the three years that I have been writing these articles and, in a sense, much the same as has been going on since the beginning of the world. Inequality and poverty, refugees and displaced people, discrimination, religious divisions and ethical issues round birth, death and all that lies between, people helping people, people trying to change unfair laws ... much greed and fear amid attempts to be compassionate

What is top of my mind? Elections! Funnily enough, American elections more than our local body ones but both are important.

I don't know about you but it has been with horrified fascination that I've been watching the American presidential race. How is it possible that a maverick with no political or diplomatic experience, who says the most outrageously defamatory and inflammatory things, can run neck and neck with anyone, let alone with someone with Hillary Clinton's experience? And for me, these questions stand, regardless of the political divide. What is Donald Trump appealing to in

the American psyche? And is Hillary Clinton not? Perhaps in the mix are the legitimization of some of the less charitable ideas people have, the fear of the stranger, the admiration of money-making and distrust of the political machine.

We will no doubt watch with interest to see how the American election works out. This is one decision, however, that is not ours to make, even if downstream the results affect us. That puts us in the same boat as many millions around the world, whose lives are disrupted by the decisions of others, whether political, military or environmental. May it lead to an increase in fellow-feeling, if nothing else, and gratitude that literal boats are not involved, as they are for many refugees.

As I write, we are in the midst of local body elections here and you will have already voted by the time you read this. Here we do have some say. What are the issues that you based your vote on: experience and new ideas; concern for the young; the poor; the elderly of our communities; an ability to balance the books; a breadth of vision or particular issues? There are so many ways of looking at

these things. I am pleased to live in a community where it was necessary to vote for our council and local boards and congratulate all those standing to work on our behalf. And I congratulate our mayor, who is standing unopposed, as I take that to be a sign that he'd doing a good job.

There are many things – maybe more than we realise – that are dealt with at the local level and about which the Council is an appropriate body to approach. One I learned of recently is that the definition of 'appropriate heating' for rental properties is currently made through local by-laws. (I gather this will change with a new Act coming into force next year, which will require a heating appliance from a variety of types to be supplied in the living area.) Local decision-making appears to make good sense in issues like this, as what may be appropriate in Northland will be different from Southland but only if councils do make the by-law. Some have not, so that the provision of a hot point may be deemed sufficient. Therefore heating will be more expensive than it would be with a more efficient method than a portable heater. It seems to me that

these are the kind of issues we might approach councils about, as we become aware of them. Bit by bit, we can thus transform our communities into more caring places.

Engagement with our Councils, either at their request through consultations, or at ours when we find out about issues of concern are vital to a properly democratic process.

Two quotes to finish with:

"The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men (and women) to do nothing."

(Generally attributed to Edmund Burke in the 1700s, though not found in his writings. May be a paraphrase of something John Stuart Mill said a hundred years later.)

and

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers."

Galatians 6: 9,10

By Pip Harrison



OVERSEAS AND OUTREACH

Greetings to all of you and a big “thank you” for your support of Overseas and Outreach during the year. We have two stories for you this month, both of which are dramatic. Our first comes from the newsletter of Nick and Tessa Laing, Northern Uganda. Tessa writes:

“We sat around a beautiful pile of pikelets, sliced mango and bananas with our friends and their two little kids. Our neighbour Lucy was in hospital, very ill, and needed a lot of practical support. Finally, she was recovering. I took another pikelet, glanced out the window, then did a double take. Smoke was billowing out of Lucy’s door! We sprinted over and found her bed ablaze with thick choking black fumes from the mattress filling the room. With the help of our



Nick and Tessa Laing

friends, a neighbour, our small fire extinguisher and many jerry cans of water we managed to put it out. Lucy’s return from hospital was not as joyful as we hoped.

The fire did not remain a mystery for long. The culprit was a small boy named Aken, only 11 years old. He’d managed to steal Lucy’s key. His mother had a long-standing family feud with Lucy, apparently fuelled by jealousy at Lucy’s fortune in finding a new home and moving in with us. With Lucy still in hospital, we were the ones to take our young arsonist into the police. The police shrugged it off saying he was young, and sent him home with zero follow up. His mother sent him to stay with relatives in the village, but he was chased away after stealing and selling their chickens.

Two weeks later we woke to find our hut roof was on fire. I will never forget the fierce red glow and crackle of the grass thatch as I rushed outside. Neighbours came sprinting to our rescue from all directions with jerry cans and basins, throwing water on the fire and dragging our furniture and things outside. Unbelievably, Lacor hospital fire truck showed up and doused our hut in water inside and out, extinguishing every last ember. Physically we’d escaped extraordinarily well:

OVERSEAS AND OUTREACH CONTINUED

no-one harmed, property soggy but not burnt, roof damaged, but still liveable. But I knew we weren’t going to get much sleep that night. Or the next night. Aken, of course, had fled and nowhere to be found....After several weeks, Aken was finally found, charged with arson and taken to the children’s remand home till the court hearing. This brought us time at an opportune moment: Nick’s parents were about to arrive! Time to pray, get away with family, and put things in perspective. I visited Aken again before we headed off to collect them at the airport. The remand home is depressing, but not horrible.....We decided to drop the charges and find a way to get him to school.

Our time away with Nick’s parents was glorious.....Bliss ended a day too soon by a phone call to say our home had been thoroughly broken into..... Needless to say, our feelings of insecurity were further shaken, and we felt betrayed. We were glad to have Nick’s folks around.

So, all in all it hasn’t been an easy return to Uganda. We’ve also had a bad run of illness: between us 8 skin infections, 3 bouts of malaria (all Nick’s) and numerous tummy bugs. And yet when I look back on the last 5 months there is so much to be thank-

ful to God for. We have some great relationships with young neighbours. Lucy recovered when we thought she might not make it. While I’ve yet to get a smile out of Aken on my visits to the remand home, he certainly associates me with food. He is coming home in a week. He can join our afterschool reading classes for neighbourhood kids. Then, he will go to boarding school, his first year paid for by Nick’s parents. If you are the praying type, our big request is that you pray with us that his life is turned around, and that the brokenness can be healed. Pray for complete forgiveness from all ends, pray for Aken and his future, pray for redemption. For so many reasons, we couldn’t be here without your support and encouragement.”

Our next story came as a big surprise! The Sussex family (Phil and Becky and their four children, Bryn, Toby, Pippa and Molly) will be leaving Cambodia in January 2017 and heading back to New Zealand:

Phil writes: “We have hugely appreciated your support over the past 5 and a half years that we have been living here in Cambodia as NZCMS mission partners. Early in January 2017, we will be finishing our work in Phnom Penh and relocating back to



New Zealand. There are a number of family reasons which have led us to the conclusion that this is God's timing for us. We have a real sense of peace about our decision in spite of the sadness which comes in leaving behind people we love in the place which has become our second home. Looking back over our time in Cambodia I (Phil) have created eight different undergraduate university lecture series, all of which have now been handed over to Kmer lecturers – it's exciting that they are now being taught across two dental schools. Over the past five years I have seen a steady improvement in the standards of oral surgery which I will continue to tutor for the rest of 2016. It's been great to partner with local pastors who have been using the dental outreach clinics as a platform for sharing the Gospel. I plan to hand over this clinic work to the senior Christian students who are soon to graduate. The One-2-One weekly dental prison ministry is in good hands and will continue beyond my departure.

Our family has experienced first-hand, the hugely important role that a mission school like Hope has in the pastoral care and education of missionary children. Over her time at Hope

School, Becky has had the privilege of contributing to the lives of many children. Bryn, Toby, Pippa and Molly have had an amazing experience of Christian community and education while I have played a role in the governance of the school as a board member. We are more than ever convinced that Hope School has a vital role to play in enabling missions and we are very sad to leave that behind."

From "Kid's Corner" Molly writes "We climbed up the Great Wall of China on holiday and it was awesome! I had to sit behind Dad and he always went over the bumps!" Pippa writes: "When we go back to NZ we are going to have to find another home for our cat Seppy (September)... We saw her as a tiny kitten and saw her grow up. I will be so sad to say goodbye."

Becky says "We really do value your prayers as we continue to work here for the rest of the year before heading into this next major transition. Please pray that we will stay "present" here with the work we still have to do whilst at the same time, be in a space to make necessary preparations for our return to NZ. Please also pray that senior Christian students who graduate next June will continue to care for



Sussex Family -Bryn,Toby, Molly, Pippa, Phil & Beck

the vulnerable communities we serve, that Phil's partner organisation would find supervisors to allow the students to continue with the prison ministry and our children as they say goodbye to many friends – help us all to "leave well"

Please continue to pray for our other mission partners. I would like to thank AAW Dunedin for their help

in publishing these articles over the past year. I wish you all a peaceful and joyous Christmas, happy holidays and every blessing in the New Year.

*Shelley Vette
Overseas and Outreach Convenor*



On 22nd September almost 3,000 people from as far afield as New Zealand, Australia, Africa, Canada and the United States gathered at Winchester Cathedral for two services to celebrate the 140th anniversary where the MU was founded by Mary Sumner in 1876. Among them were the 42 members of the Mary Sumner Choir from Lusaka in Zambia, who led some of the worship. We were ably represented by our Provincial President, the Rev Iritana Hankins.

Archbishop Justin paid tribute to the work of the MU around the world, likening members to a great army. He described the Mothers' Union as the world's greatest women's group and urged them not to focus on what remained to be accomplished or on challenges that seemed insuperable, but to look at what had been done through the MU and to see God's hand in it.

"It is an army that is facing struggles in most countries of the planet," he said. "It is four million strong. It faced the plague of HIV/Aids in much of Africa and produced grass roots solutions. It is a powerful voice in education, both formally and informally

– both in scholastic education and the education of Christian values and family life."

And he added, "The Mothers' Union campaigns excellently, it nurtures wonderfully, but above all and beneath all, it prays – thank God."

Archbishop Justin said the MU more often met in places of suffering, poverty and struggle than in great cathedrals. And he likened their campaigning zeal to the persistent widow in one of Jesus' parables who presses a judge for justice.

"They can relate to the tough widow, faced with injustice, indifference and corruption," he said. "And for these reasons – for their weakness, their poverty, their marginalisation, their suffering – they are loved . . . the Mothers' Union is loved by God."

Rosemary Bent



- Dunedin

Gore and Districts AAW Evening Fellowship discovered the history behind some of hymns we sing. Alison Allan researched eight hymn writers from the oldest hymn we have outside the bible to the most popular hymn of the last decade in the UK. Following the explanation, we sang the hymns accompanied by Lois Shallard on the keyboard.

'Hail Gladdening Light' was written by an elderly bishop, St Athenogenes, on the way to his being martyred in Armenia on 16 July AD 305. He left copies for his disciples and it was said that he sang this hymn of joy just before he faced the flames.

Another old hymn dating from the 8th century is 'The Day of Resurrection' written by St John of Damascus of the Greek Orthodox Church for the funeral of a fellow monk who was dying in the room next to him. He started singing the hymn loudly and the dying monk came shuffling into the room to protest the unseemly noise. It was translated into English in the 19th century – a thousand years after it was first written.

Martin Rinkart wrote the words of 'Now Thank We All Our God' during the Thirty Years War of 1618-1648 in Germany as warring armies from

Protestant and Catholic countries reduced the population of Germany from 16 million to 6 million people. He spent thirty-two years ministering to the needy people of his native city of Ellenburg, a walled city which became overcrowded with fugitives and as a result suffered from diseases and famine and in 1637, the Black Plague.

'Abide With Me' by Henry F Lyte was written in 1847. Lyte, an Anglican priest, battled TB for most of his life. He coined the phrase, "It is better to burn out than to rust out."

Sarah Flower Adams, also in the 19th century, wrote 'Nearer My God to Thee', which is based on Jacob's dream in Genesis 28:12. This hymn is also remembered as being played by the orchestra on the Titanic and sung by passengers as the boat sank on 14 April 1912.

Written in 1860, 'Eternal Father Strong to Save' author William Whiting was inspired by the dangers of the sea described in Psalm 107. It was popularised by the Royal Navy and the United States Navy in the late 19th century, and variations of it were soon adopted by many branches of the armed services in the United King-





time about the holiness of God and was longing for revival in the churches and a spiritual awakening in the nation. “Shine, Jesus, Shine” has been a song of hope at noteworthy events such as the 1996 Dunblane memorial service for 16 students and teacher who were tragically killed, and the Tasmania massacre

memorial service for the 40 people killed by a lone gunman, also in 1996. Other large gatherings that used the song include the Billy Graham crusades and the largest ever open-air mass in 1995 in Manila, where Pope John Paul II is said to have “swung his cane in time to the music.

dom and the United States. Services who have adapted the hymn include the Royal Marines, Royal Air Force, the British Army, the United States Coast Guard and the United States Marine Corps, as well as many navies of the British Commonwealth.

The eighth hymn is ‘Shine Jesus Shine’ written by Graham Kendrick in 1987. He had been thinking for some



*People are often unreasonable and self-centred. Forgive them anyway.
If you are kind, people may accuse you of ulterior motives. Be kind anyway.
If you are honest, people may cheat you. Be kind anyway.
If you find happiness, people may be jealous. Be happy anyway.
The good you do today may be forgotten tomorrow. Do good anyway.
Give the world the best you have and it may never be enough. Give your best anyway.
For you see, in the end, it is between you and God. It was never between you and them anyway.*

Mother Teresa

- Christchurch

Mid-Winter Activities:

Ladies from St Mary’s Halswell AAW held a knitathon to create beautiful and snuggly blankets for the Christchurch City Mission’s clients. They joined forces with Spotlight, Sydenham who supplied all the wool. According to Michael Gorman, City Missioner, “The timing of this generous gift was perfect to help people through the cold winter nights in draughty homes. Thank you ladies”.

Timaru AAW:

Members enjoyed a mid-winter lunch at St Mary’s Church Hall.

Spring arrived in September in Christchurch, with spring flowers starting to bloom, and a very busy month for AAW. The AAW Festival Eucharist was held in the Transitional Cathedral with Bishop Victoria Matthews as preacher. It was a treat to have the St Margaret’s College Choir lead our singing at the service. During the service a new AAW Diocesan travelling banner, depicting the beautiful glass windows of the Transitional Cathedral, was blessed by Bishop Victoria.

The following afternoon, five AAW

members delivered two boxes of laundry bags to the Burnham Military Army Camp. These will be given to soldiers who are based overseas.

This project was a challenge initially, but it had a very worthwhile outcome for the NZ Army, Papanui Returned and Services Association and Association of Anglican Women.

Judith Mackenzie,
President



Diocesan President - Judith Mackenzie, gives a laundry bag to one of the Army Officers (right) and the Anglican Army Chaplain (left).



- Nelson

Waimea Women's Fellowship

was pleased to hear Lee-Ann O'Brien give a fascinating account of her work as an Adolescent Nurse Specialist working with teenagers. Teenagers may consult her on all health, sexual, mental, and general problems. She commented "there is a place for older people to teach some teenagers to read, cook, budget, and play games."

AAW All Saints Nelson:

In July, we met at a member's house for a special afternoon tea and a catch up with those members who don't like coming out in the evening. August was a shared tea and games night, and September, we had the pleasure of Lee-Ann O'Brien as our speaker.

Nativity AAW, Report:

A member of our Parish, Robyn Rolston went as part of John Ferguson's 'Healing Mission to Nepal' where they experienced the primitive living conditions of the Nepalese, who willingly shared their resources with the team, who in return shared the word of God.

In response to Chris and Catherine's request, we sold scarves made by the women of Central Asia. The

scarves are very light and a variety of colours, the 10 we had sold quickly so more have been ordered.

Early in September members provided sweet nibbles for the Parish 'Soup & Pizza' night, enjoyed by 100 Parishioners.

Cathedral AAW

Dean Charles Tyrrel, 'Elder Person Ministry' gave us an insight to how this Ministry Works. He also spoke of his travel to England for his daughter's wedding, held in Windsor Castle Chapel.

Rev. Nigel Whinny, Priest In Charge of the Cathedral told us of his life, the places he'd been before becoming a priest in England, and his new life in New Zealand.

Our Annual Luncheon Outing this year was held at 'The Grape Escape'

Dallas Wood, Senior Law, gave members important advice on making a will, and other legal issues we as seniors need to be aware of.

Shirley Montgomery from Trade Aid told of how Trade Aid started in the Nelson Region, and displayed items they sell. She also told the story of Trade Aid chocolate coming to our market.



A box of laundry bags on display, made by our AAW members, given to Army personal at Burnham.

A CELTIC BLESSING FOR CHRISTMAS

Child of Glory
Child of Mary
Born in the Stable
The King of all
You came to our wasteland
In our place suffered
Draw near to us who to you
call.



Bless to us this Day of Joy
Open to us Heaven's generous gates
Strengthen our hope
Revive our tired souls
'Til we sing the joys of
your glory
With all the angels of
heaven.

From: Celtic Blessings for everyday Life



Holy Trinity AAW, Richmond:

For the past many years We have supported Operation Christmas Child, a unique project of Samaritan's Purse bringing God's hope and joy to children who may never have received a gift before, Decorated shoe-boxes, are filled with clothes to wear, a toy to love, things for school, something to play with and soap, flannels and tooth-brushes. Our AAW's September meeting, is dedicated to this cause, Our Holy Trinity family, provide the articles, to fill, the boxes, AAW, and Holy Trinity. members decorate, and fill the 54 plus boxes we send each year.



Olympic Games

The Olympic Games were well supported in Greymouth, with a mini Olympic Games held at our August meeting. We divided into 4

teams (based on the tables we sat at for dinner) NZ, USA, Canada and Ireland. After an explanation of the events, teams put on their distinctive hats and group photo were taken, then the Games began! The events were: discus (throwing yoghurt container lids), javelin (throwing straws), running (flicking golf balls along a table) and golf (throwing bean bags into holes in a box). Competition was fierce and there was great revelry and much laughter among the teams. At the conclusion of the sports events, the teams regrouped at their tables for the Olympic quiz. Questions based on the 2016 Rio Olympic Games were asked and puzzled over. When the points were added together ... the winner was ... Team NZ! Congratulations to all who participated in this fun evening.

*Samara Martin,
AAW Holy Trinity,
Greymouth*



- Wellington

Celebrating 50 Years of Mothers' Union Membership

On Tuesday 12 July, at St James' Church Lower Hutt, the St James' AAW led by Lillian Ross, hosted a delightful afternoon to celebrate Leila Pilkington's 50 years as a Mothers' Union member. At the Celebration Service conducted by the Rev Dorothy Howard, tribute was paid to Leila for the work she has done at parish and diocesan levels. Hers is a faith that

had never wavered. At the end of the service Ann Carpenter presented Leila with her 50 year badge.

A delicious high tea followed the service. Leila enjoyed being feted as guest of honour.

This event was a wonderful acknowledgement of the Mothers' Union work of a much loved lady. Congratulations, Leila.



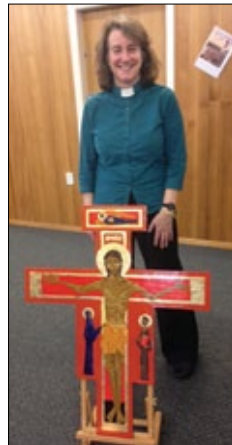
Diocesan Mission Day St Paul's Waiwhetu Wellington Diocese

August the 6th was perhaps the coldest day we had during winter but our hearts were warmed at the meeting at St Paul's Waiwhetu. Members from across the diocese gathered over morning tea and the day began with a welcome and a short reflection. Stories of generous hospitality showing God's grace at work in our communities, were told by Wayne Kirkland. Rev Tric Malcolm, Wellington City Missioner informed and enthused us of the work in which the city mission is involved. The mission encounters many who are lost, least and last and offers them a place of safety, security and support encouraging them to grow, cope and give. We collected a supply of feminine hygiene products to be included in some of the parcels of food given out by the City Mission. These were blessed by AAW Chaplain, Rev Dr Jenny Dawson and our new Diocesan President, Revd Sandy Williams was photographed with the collection. Shelley Vette....NZ Overseas and Outreach Convenor updated us about the people AAW support overseas. The Wellington Mothers' Union members welcomed Rev Sandy Williams as the new Diocesan President with a book

about Mary Sumner, the founder of MU 140 years ago. And....of course there was food, fun and fellowship. A great day and many thanks to the organisers.

WRITING an ICON

Iconography is an ancient art form of communicating with God. At a meeting of the AAW Kapiti Region in September, the Rev Jean Malcolm (pictured with her icon cross, especially made for worship by brothers from the Taize Community in France) is a *writer* of icons. Her presentation of this art and how it can be used as an aid to prayer, enlightened, informed and encouraged us all in the understanding of this. Some call icons 'paintings', as paint and brush are used in the process of creating them. However the traditional term used for the construction of an icon is *writing* rather than painting as each is a piece of visual theology. The surface



of the icon is a fragile place through which God breaks to meet us....a thin place. The holy figure(s) is/are a channel for the Divine light to come to us. Gold is employed to enhance the light, and the highlighting on the clothes and surroundings reflects God's light from this holy person, in the same way that their lives reflect God's light. The eastern Orthodox tradition values icons as a way to engage with the Holy Spirit in everyday life. In the worship time shared after her presentation we took time to contemplate....to gaze at God, and allow God to gaze at us....to dare to enter into the vulnerable, thin place, where God breaks through to meet us in the eternal now.....

Reverend Lola Koloamatangi

Reverend Lola Koloamatangi and Philippa Wesney, President of Women's Fellowship in the Anglican Parish of Levin. The prayer quilt gifted to Lola and the AAW women of Polynesia, was made by women in the Parish of Pauatahanui. Lola spoke to women of the Diocese at an afternoon gathering at Johnson-

ville and in the evening at Levin. Lola also encouraged members through her talk following the National AGM at the Cathedral of St Paul, Wellington.

New Provincial President from Wellington.....Pat Vincent.

At Evensong on Sunday the 11th of September, in the Cathedral of St Paul, Pat Vincent was installed



Rev. Lola Koloamatangi



as, New Zealand AAW Provincial President, along with the executive committee for the Province.

The women of the cathedral choir sang the office with such beauty as we prayed for strength and faith for Pat to fulfil her ministry as President. Her Executive members were welcomed as they dedicated themselves as leaders for God's work within AAW in NZ and Polynesia. Members gathered to support them in prayer:

Loving God, we ask that you will give to each one a sense of your presence and the knowledge of your constant love. Grant them guidance and the humble obedience to accept it. Give them love, wisdom and understanding. May they be conscious in all they do that the members support and uphold them, Inspired by the love of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Jeanette Green/Barber 1939 – 2016

Jeanette Barber, as I knew her in the 1980s and 90s has been an active and keen member of the Association of Anglican Women since its inception in 1969, first in Foxton Parish and then

at St Peter's, Palmerston North. Her secretarial and shorthand skills, and willingness to use them, were recognised at Diocesan level and in 1972 she became Minute Secretary to the Executive when Betty King was Wellington Diocesan President. Jeanette continued in this role for 12 years, serving with another three Diocesan Presidents, Joan Gregory, Kath Pullar and Gwen Orchard, finishing in 1986. Her dedication and involvement in AAW continued and she was a regular attendee at the Biennial AAW Conferences held at Bridge Lodge, Otaki in the 1980s and early 1990s, then at El Rancho, Waikanae until numbers dwindled and the conferences ceased. At one of the Otaki Lodge Conferences a Friendship Wall was drawn up and each



Jeanette Green/Barber

person chose to partner with someone and keep in touch with them. Jeanette and Caroline Burt (now Stuart) joined up and for many years kept in close contact. Caroline writes that "Jeanette lived on a Pig Farm in Foxton and we had a family bach at Foxton Beach, though lived in Wellington. When we went to stay one summer holiday, Jeanette insisted that my eldest son, Michael, go and stay on the farm. He had a wonderful week and still remembers being encouraged to drive a tractor. My two girls were next and they enjoyed the kittens they found there. Jeanette was a very hospitable person and really loved children. Once we were invited for a meal and the power went off. No problem, Jeanette just phoned her friend Hilary in town and we all ended up there at her house with the food. We were also invited to Jeanette's wedding to Keith Green and enjoyed a real country style wedding breakfast and dance in the Ashurst hall. Thank you Jeanette for being a real friend and showing God's love to our family."

In 1992 when I was elected NZ AAW President I asked Jeanette to be my secretary at national level. My husband, Theo, was at that time vicar of St Peter's Palmerston North and

Jeanette was the Parish Secretary, so it was a happy and convenient arrangement. She often talked of the early days of AAW in Wellington Diocese and we had a very happy three years together. I can still picture her in the Vicarage typing up the new Constitution, known as Rules and Guidelines, which was passed at the 1994 AAW Conference in Karori. I recall being amazed at the speed of her typing.

Soon after our term leading NZ AAW was completed, Jeanette remarried and moved to Ashurst on the outskirts of Palmerston North where she continued her interest in AAW. In more recent years she moved to Tawa to be nearer her daughter and her declining health meant she had to give up her involvement with AAW. Her funeral service was held at St Peter's Church Palmerston North on 1st July and attended by a number of current AAW members. "May she rest in peace and rise in glory."

Anne Carpenter



- Waikato and Taranaki

On 11th June at St. Luke's Te Kuiti, a special meeting of AAW was held in the presence of our patron Waikato Bishop Helen-Ann. The Task Force (members of which had been elected at the Diocesan AAW AGM after it was established that an executive could not be formed) had been given the brief of preparing a full report on the state of affairs of AAW in the diocese and its affiliation to the national body. This report was the reason for the special meeting, along with the hope that a diocesan executive could be formed after members had gone away and, after 3 months, considered nominations. The result of the special meeting was that, with no nominations forthcoming, the diocese AAW would go into recess for 18 months. This decision was not made lightly. There was much soul-searching and sadness but also hope; hope in that AAW would become more effective in witnessing to the AAW aims of mission locally, nationally and internationally through the groups and lone members of the diocese.

This occurred as members consolidated their programmes for the rest of the year. Although some groups

and lone members have had a sense of "disconnectedness" from the national body, the general feeling has been "to just get on doing what we do well" - prayer, fellowship and ministering to our communities.

In the future we hope to have the relationship with the National body "re-instated" so that we can again - together- be even more effective witness for Christ in the places He has placed us.

*Mary Macnaughtan
Chair - Task Force.*

Congratulations to Anne Francis, member of St Mary's, New Plymouth Mothers' union who received an award for distinguished services to the National Council of Women, Taranaki Branch. This was presented to Anne by the World President of the International Council of Women, Jungsook Kim. Anne has been a member of NCW for over 30 years and the citation mentioned Anne was the glue that kept NCW going.

Golden Oldies' Mission Trip - August 2016

This year we were greeted with rain which continued for most of our twelve days in Fiji! However, we did see some sunshine, and visited villages, an old people's home, a hospital, the House of Sarah, a prison, schools, a young mum's group. We met AAW members, held workshops - praying, singing, speaking and dining with many people. This year, due to the rebuilding of St John's College we stayed at St Christopher's Orphanage. In the past many people had been visited by the Golden Oldies Mission group, and look forward (as we do) to meeting up again. Although still coping with tragedy the Fijian people are always welcoming.

There many stories of devastation but the one thing that stood out for me this year, was the devastation of Cyclone Winstone in the village of Maniava, three hours north of Suva. Of course, there are many other villages that have been hit hard, but

Maniava is the one we visited. Of forty houses only two were left standing so many make-shift homes and tents were seen. Although planting food has been done, some varieties do not mature for many months or even years.

As bricks can be made in this village, the Golden Oldies' Development Fund is helping to build the first



brick home; the occupant will be an elderly lady who was taken up with her house by the hurricane and since has not been able to speak. Pens and toothbrushes were handed out to all the children – and they were delighted. On the trip, we saw many acres of pine plantation that would have been ready for milling stripped to the bare trunk.

Following the trip our GOM fund has provided rugby shirts for the boys in black and gold with the words “Golden Oldies Mission” on the back! I’m sure the Maniava Giants feel very proud! We have also funded a fishing boat (which has been blessed and launched) and donated building tools which are

being sent over.

We cheered along with the Fijians when they won their very first gold



medal at the Olympics! We watched the television with the children and they were so excited! Flags were flying from cars and houses. We just missed crossing paths (at Nadi Airport) with the team arriving home.

These trips are so rewarding. The 2017 trip could be at the end August-early September, so please consider joining us. This was my third trip, so does that tell you something?

*Norma Benton
New Plymouth*



- Waiapu

Weaving Future for Gisborne new-borns:

Congratulations to Catharine White of Holy Trinity AAW Gisborne who has been honoured by the Department of Corrections with a Community Work Partnership award.

For many years Catharine has worked with women who have been sentenced to community work. She teaches them how to weave Wahakura (flax bassinets) for babies at Gisborne hospital at risk of sudden infant death.

Catharine's work is voluntary and each programme is for two weeks. Catherine's programme has developed

a great relationship between corrections and Ngato Porou Hauora.

The programme attendees weave the Wahakura for whanau, women in the community or their own future arrivals.

Catharine said that a lot of talking is done and one woman told her that she used to drop her kids at school every day then go home and drink. After doing the programme she decided to make her house smoke, drug and alcohol-free. It's lovely to hear these stories.

Catharine fulfils our aim: *To promote, safeguard and nurture Christian family life.*

*Elaine Wood
Waiapu President*

*Catharine White
making Wahakura*



- Auckland

The Mothers' Union/AAW Quiet Day, held in the new Bishop Selwyn Chapel at Holy Trinity Cathedral in September, was 'significant in many ways, primarily because this was the very first Retreat to be held there', said Dean Jo Kelly-Moore, who was a very able and inspiring leader. The photo is of the group of AAW members who travelled from Whangaparaoa early to get car parks and then seats in the very front of the Chapel.

The most striking feature of the Chapel is the Cross placed just outside the floor to ceiling sliding-glass doors in front of the altar. The cross is on a 10 degree angle in line with the trajectory of the gilded gold leaf ceiling. A simple design but magnificently executed. The kauri altar and furnishings were all carved from a solid board-room table no longer required but donated to the project and turned into exquisite pieces of simple design. The altar is dedicated to Sarah, wife of Bishop Selwyn, and is carved and polished in such a way that the wood grain gives the appearance of a cloth on the table (which is fitting as Sarah was well known for wearing laces and fancy fabrics). The



Chapel is a beautiful space, surrounded by full length glass and nestled into the gardens behind the Cathedral. There are already eight weddings booked to be held there!

Dean Jo introduced the theme for the day as expanding our thoughts about God and focussing on the place of women. The reading from the book of Wisdom in our opening devotions led us to meditate on the depth, the height and the wisdom of God. Jo's reflection on the recent Synod which had focussed on giving space to the changing landscape of the church, led us to consider the use of the word 'man', how we understand the fullness of God, and the ways and titles to use as we address God. Focussing on the feminine idea we thought about





how women can be empowered to see themselves in the image of God; how to nurture women and encourage them to find their place in God; the love of God as expressed in Hosea; the mother eagle pushing babies from the nest to fly; the nursing mother, “even these may forget, but I will not forget you”. The extraordinary nature of God is not limited to male and female as the scriptures open us up to holding this mystery. To understand the preponderance of ‘father’ images we need to understand the times these words were written into the Old Testament and we need to understand the scriptures for our times today and for eternity.

We were invited to write a psalm, being mindful of the feminine images of God being a gift. When we know God we want to make him known, and so we were encouraged to express the feminine images of God. Finally we

put our thoughts into writing our own prayer for the day.

In the light of knowing God in a new and expanded way, what might that say to our priorities for ministry together - and what might God be saying to each one of us about our call to mission and to ministry?

Visit to St Bride’s Church Mauku.

I was invited to join with the AAW group at St Bride’s Mauku on their combined day with the local Methodist Church Women’s Group. These groups combine once a year, alternating between the churches. A service was held in the historic church of St Bride’s.

After the service we retired to the hall where the speaker was Lyn Haywood an artisan cheesemaker for Glenbrook Cheese Company. Lyn spoke about her interest in cheese making started and the processes she needed to learn to accomplish this. She now has a successful business. We were able to taste and purchase cheeses.

Following afternoon tea I spoke about AAW encouraging them in the work that they do within their group.

*Barbara Dixon
Auckland Diocesan President*

GIVE US HOPE

“The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.” John 1:5

Each morning around 100 young children brightly clothed in orange and yellow head towards their school in the south of Haiti. The air is filled with laughter as they leave their chores behind them. Once inside the building they squeeze into



chairs ready to begin the day’s lessons. At school they try hard to listen knowing their parents want them to have the education that was denied to them by poverty and bad government.

After school, the teacher checks in with her three colleagues and the education adviser assigned to them by Christian World Service partner, Institut Culturel Karl Lévéque (CKL). In a country where the literacy rate is around 61%, many teachers have had no training so the adviser plays a crucial role in the learning process. With his support, the teacher can prepare lessons for the next day and get some help managing her class.

Each week, the parents take their seats in the classroom. This is their school and

they are determined their children will not miss out on the advantages of education. The Coterelle School like the three others supported



by ICKL is run without government support. Often parents cannot afford to pay school fees.

With help from the United Church of Canada, they were able to build a brand new school after Haiti’s major earthquake in 2010. In this very poor community your gifts to the Christmas Appeal helped buy a grain mill to pay for the running of the school, supply furniture, books and other equipment.

The earthquake destroyed ICKL’s office, they struggled to keep their work going. CWS knows how important it is to support local partners after an emergency. They know who needs help first and will stay in communities long after others have stopped funding. In Haiti, Nepal and for refugees in Lebanon and Jordan they are a lifeline.

Since 1945 churches have worked together to give hope to families in need and after disaster. Please support the 2016 Christmas Appeal endorsed by the Archbishops. Read more:

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



