



The Anglican Church in Aotearoa New Zealand and Polynesia

Anglican Women's Studies Centre

Report to 2018 General Synod/Te Hinota Whanui

By the Council for the Anglican Women's Studies Centre



From Left: *Revd Helen Roud, The Ven Carole Hughes, The Ven Mere Wallace, Revd Jenny Quince (Alternate), Mrs Kelera (Nai) Cokanasiga & Revd Evelini Langi* all dressed formerly outside the Palace of the Tongan Royal Family, Nuka'lofa.

Membership

Since last General Synod/Te Hinota Whanui the Council for Anglican Women's Studies has had a change of membership. We wish to thank the Reverends Amy Chambers and the Reverend Erice Fairbrother for their massive contribution that they have made in laying the foundation for the Council for Anglican Women's Studies.

At our meeting in July 2016 we welcomed Nai Cokanasiga, Tikanga Polynesia, and The Reverend Ellen Bernstein as new Councillors. In 2017 we welcomed the Reverend Helen Roud, Tikanga Pakeha to replace Ellen and also the Reverend Jenny Quince who was the alternate for The Reverend Numia Tomoana.



Council Meetings

- † The Council attempted to have a video-conference meeting in February 2017. Unfortunately, our tikanga Polynesian sisters were unable to connect and therefore not all business could be discussed or ratified until later in the year when we met in Tonga.
- † The Council met over 4 consecutive days during our visit to Tonga from 24-28 July 2017. Whilst in Tonga, the Council also visited the four Anglican parishes in Nuka’lofa, visiting with many women representatives and speaking to the assembly at St Andrews’ High School.
- † The Council hosted the annual one-day AWSC Link Gathering at St John’s Theological College on 22nd September 2017. In recent years, Links from tikanga Pakeha and tikanga Maori have been represented and now with further funding approval from St John’s Trust Board, the Council is looking forward to being able to formally expand the invitation to the Archdeaconries of Diocese of Polynesia and include tikanga Pacifica Link Representatives for the first time at this annual event in 2018 as fully-fledged Link Representatives of AWSC.
- † Revd Numia Tomoana and Karena de Pont along with former tikanga Polynesian Councillor Revd Amy Chambers, were presenters on the Saturday morning of *The Three Tikanga Church: Reflecting Theologically Colloquium & Conference* hosted by St John’s Theological College in October 2017.
- † AWSC Council meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, 22nd February 2018 in the home of AWSC Administrator, Karena de Pont.

General Synod Skills Matrix for AWSC Council

STRUCTURE OF AWSC	SKILLS REQUIRED FOR AWSC TIKANGA COUNCILLORS	CONTEXTUALLY SPECIFIC	OTHER
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> † Tikanga Maori Councillors x 2 † Tikanga Pakeha Councillors x 2 † Tikanga Pacifica Councillors x 2 † Administrator <i>Convenor of Council nominated by Councillors</i> <i>Additional Infrastructure—appointed:</i> † 5 Tikanga Maori Hui Amoranagi Link Representatives † 7 Tikanga Pakeha Diocesan Link Representatives † 4 Tikanga Polynesia Archdeaconry Link Representatives (2018) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> † Knowledge and some prior previous experience of AWSC † Leadership Development † Higher Education Experience † Writing † Communication † Verbal & written <i>(comfortable with English)</i> † Internet & email <i>(ready & able)</i> † Good organisational skills † Wider Church Experience † Three Tikanga Understanding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> † Gender Partnerships within the three tikanga—interact and respecting each other’s values † Networking / He Whakatunga—among women and across the church † Duavata / Connecting † Gathering / Huihuinga † Mentoring / Kaiakopono † Whakaputa / Publishing † Monitoring / Tiro tiro † Educating / Matauranga / Talanoa 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> † Empowerment of Women † Gender Representation † Advocate for Women in all forms / Taunaki I † Hui Organisations † Information Distribution † Experience with Anglican Church Structures † Theology and Missiology † Partnership of Tikanga and Gender



Annual Provincial Hui - "Treasuring Women in Ministry Series"

† 5th - 7th July 2016: KEEPING IT REAL: From Reconciliation 2 Restoration

This non-residential hui was held at St John's Theological College and the theme followed on from the previous year's "Violence is Our Church's Business". We were blessed to have some very gifted guest speakers including 2007 New Zealander of the Year, Louise Nicholas, Revd Heather Flavell, Jill Blythe and Khylee Quince. Our speakers spoke of their first-hand experiences and how they came to terms of the process of reconciliation through to restoration in their lives or through their work. Though some of the stories shared were very tragic, the courage and spirit demonstrated by all was very profound by those speaking and those reflecting in small group workshops. Being in three tikanga, sharing meals and the gospel together; reconnecting with friends made from previous years from across the tikanga remain a highlight for many for these hui. (refer to AWSC Newsletter – July 2016, Volume 6, Issue 6)

† 25th – 27th October 2017: KIA NGAWARI – Finding a Wholeness

This hui was hosted by tikanga Maori for the first time on behalf of AWSC Council. We were welcomed onto Te Karaiti Te Po Herenga Waka Marae in Mangere, Auckland by Bishop Te Kotahi Pikaahu and wahine from Tai Tokerau. Many women took the opportunity to stay on the marae at Te Karaiti and share in the experience across the three tikanga. It was a wonderful opportunity for us as three tikanga to learn first-hand about the various ministry outreach programmes provided by tikanga Maori and guest speakers included Dee-Ann Wolf-erstan from Te Whare Ruru hau o Meri, Khylee Quince, Law Lecturer from AUT, Reverends Rochelle Grace and Teri-Rori Kirkwood and Ruihana Paenga from Kahui Rangitahi. Worship sessions throughout the hui were led by each Hui Amorangi and the spirit of fellowship was tenable. (see to AWSC Newsletter – November 2017, Volume 7, Issue 10)

Mentoring

† **National Council for Women NZ Conference** – September 2016. Archdeacons Mere Wallace and Arch-deacon Carole Hughes prepared an abstract for a workshop session and submitted it for approval by the NCWNZ and they were accepted for inclusion. The title of the workshop was: '*Making Visible the Invisible*'. They highlighted our church's story in gender equity in leadership and offered insights from our stories of leadership. (see AWSC Newsletter – October 2016, Volume 6, Issue 9)

† **United Nations Commission on the Status of Women Reports** – *With continued support from the Archbishops, a representative from this Province is sent to this annual conference in New York. Representation is shared through the tikanga on a rotational basis. Each representative writes a report that is presented to the Archbishops and is published in our newsletter. Past representatives have formed lasting and effective relationships and the experience has helped significantly in their growth as leaders of this Church and their advocacy for and on behalf of women within the Church and society as a whole.*

◇ March 2016 – The Venerable Mere Wallace from tikanga Maori, attended **UNCSW60 "Women's Empowerment & it's Link to Sustainable Development"**. (see AWSC Newsletter – April 2016, Volume 6, Issue 3)

◇ March 2017 – Isadora Betham from tikanga Pacifica, attended **UNCSW61 "Women's Economic Empowerment in the Changing World of Work"**. (see AWSC Newsletter – May 2017, Volume 7, Issue 4)

† **IAWN** – Archdeacon Carole Hughes is a member of the International Anglican Women's Network Steering Group for the Anglican Communion. She attended a meeting from 16-21 October 2017 in London, where she met with a number of leaders from across other networks in the Communion. The Steering Group discussed significant issues that affect women from around the globe and reviewed the priorities of IAWN. The seven



priorities are: Promoting gender equality and the participation of women in all levels of decision making throughout the Anglican Communion.

1. Promoting gender equality and the participation of women in all levels of decision making throughout the Anglican Communion.
2. Sharing stories of women in the Anglican Communion.
3. Supporting and accompanying Anglicans and others who are working to eradicate all forms of gender-based violence, including human trafficking.
4. Advocating access for all women and girls to education and health care, including reproductive and maternal health care and resources.
5. Advocating the eradication of extreme poverty, hunger and environmental abuse.
6. Promoting the physical and spiritual wellbeing of all women and girls, including those from migrant, rural, indigenous and other marginalised communities.
7. Supporting women's sustainable economic empowerment and entrepreneurship, including gender budgeting and auditing.

† **Creating Breathing Spaces** – Reverend Brenda Reed and Anne Purcell received a contribution from AWSC in their journey to Hawaii to present their workshop at 14th annual International Summit on Preventing, Assessing & Treating Trauma Across the Life Span in March 2017. Brenda was also part of the team that provided pastoral care and ministry for the conference attendees. The **Creating Breathing Spaces** workshop was developed through their work at the Glen Innes Family Centre and this programme was subsequently recognized and honoured by the Auckland District Health Board as the recipient of the Chief Executives Award in the ADHB Health Excellence Awards. (see AWSC Newsletter – June 2017, Volume 7, Issue 5)

† **Leading Women** – Archdeacon Carole Hughes and Revd Numia Tomoana and Dean Jo Kelly-Moore were invited to attend **Leading Women**, a conference of the Episcopal Church in June 2016. This was an opportunity to be observers in the Episcopal Church intentional mentoring programme of women into senior leadership positions within their Church. From this experience, a pilot programme was developed by Carole Hughes and Jo Kelly-Moore and trialled in the Diocese of Auckland over three weekend residential retreats to address issues that face women in leadership in the Church and to develop further their leadership skills. The offering was intentionally tikanga context driven and therefore the delivery of the programme differed when Numia Tomoana piloted the programme in Tairāwhiti Hui Amorangi a couple of months later. It was hoped to be able to offer this programme more widely across the three tikanga but an application as a 'Special Project' was not successful.

† **EFM** – The resurgence of the Education for Ministry programme has been supported by AWSC over the past two years through providing financial assistance to those Anglican women who are unable to take part in this programme due to their financial circumstances. This grass-roots support is offered on a case-by-case basis and all who take part in the EFM programme speak highly of its content and learning.

† **Courtney Menary** – AWSC covered the cost of Courtney's airfare to Auckland so that could take part in an Auckland University Symposium as part of her DMin studies in March 2017. It was a privilege to hear Courtney speak later that year at the October 2017 *The Three Tikanga Church: Reflecting Theologically Colloquium & Conference* hosted by St John's Theological College and we look forward to seeing the Church recognizing her leadership potential in the future.



Link Gatherings

The one-day Link meeting per annum (one delegate from each Amorangi/Diocese) is held at St John's Theological College, Auckland and includes link reports, tikanga caucusing, consultation and updating of the Council for Anglican Women's Studies projects, hui organisation and sometimes a guest speaker. The 2016 meeting was held on Thursday, 20 October, and the 2017 meeting was on 22 September. In 2017 we also invited each Link person to bring a younger woman to the gathering to encourage active mentoring.

Publishing

- † **Monthly Newsletters** – The AWSC publishes and distributes via email a monthly newsletter. The email database includes women from across the three tikanga and our international relationships via IAWN and ACC. It is an opportunity to sharing resources stories, theology, poetry and art submitted from Anglican women throughout our Province. Back copies of the newsletter can be found on the Women's Studies webpage on www.anglican.org.nz
- † **AWSC Publications** –
 - ◇ ***Vashti's Banquet: Voices from Her Feast.*** This compilation of essays was published to honour the 25th Anniversary of the Episcopal ordination of the first woman Diocesan Bishop, The Right Revd Dr Penny Jamieson. It was a privilege to host the inaugural book launch of this publication in Wellington in April 2016 and to have Bishop Penny present to receive it and be recognized for her contribution in the life of this church. Subsequent book launches were held at our Hui in July in Auckland and in UK and USA. This publication is held in many theological libraries across the world in recognition of the esteem that the essay contributors hold. (see AWSC Newsletter – May 2016, Volume 6, Issue 4)
 - ◇ ***Tikanga Maori Art and Theological Reflections*** – This publication project is being nurtured by The Ven Mere Wallace this past year. Women Weavers from across the Hui Amorangi have been invited to submit work along with the theological reflection that inspired their work. The editorial team for this publication is due to meet in February 2018 and it is hoped to have this publication published before the end of 2018.
- † **Hymns for 40-year Anniversary of Women's Ordination** – Each tikanga was invited to contribute lyrics to honour this anniversary and that of women's ordination to the Priesthood in this Province. Contributions were received from tikanga Pacifica and tikanga Pakeha and these lyrics were published in our AWSC Newsletter prior to the anniversary and included in the resource package distributed by the General Synod Office.

40 Year Anniversary of Women's Ordination

On 3rd and 4th December 2017 our province celebrated forty years since the first ordinations of women to the Priesthood in the Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia. The Council recognised the importance of honouring this day together and in a format that embraced all three Tikanga. So we encouraged local ministry units and parishes as well as Diocese/Amorangi, to remember and give thanks for all the women who have been ordained over the last 40 years. A liturgy was produced by Archdeacon Carole Hughes. On 3 December many ministry units celebrated the educational, influential, and nurturing attributes of ordained women and their contributions and commitments to the life of the Anglican Church in the past, present and future. It was a day when stories were shared, as well as creative and prayerful contributions made. (refer AWSC Newsletter – February 2018, Volume 8, Issue 1)



Thank you

We continue to enjoy our ministry across our 3 Tikanga Church, and particularly with women who are offering so much in their local communities; the leaders, educators, nurturers, poets, weavers and mentors. The ministry of the Council would be somewhat limited without the commitment and work that Karena de Pont offers as Administrator. Her enthusiast, efficient, insightful, engaging contribution is deeply appreciated.

Kia ora to General Synod/Te Hinota Whanui for your aroha and support.

AWSC Councillors:

Tikanga Pakeha: The Venerable Carole Hughes (Convenor)
The Reverend Helen Roud

Tikanga Maori: The Venerable Mere Wallace
The Reverend Numia Tomoana

Tikanga Pacifica: The Reverend Evelini Langi
Mrs Kelera (Nai) Cokanasiga