Theme for 2019-2022:

*Growth through Gratitude, Grace and Guidance*

The Aims of AAW:

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

Contributions for *Circle*

**Diocesan AAW Group and Members' Items:** Please help the *Circle* editorial team by sending your contributions and reports, email or hand-written, to your Diocesan *Circle* Publicity Representative so that she can collate, edit, proof and select what to send from each diocese to keep to the approximate word allowance of about 360 words per diocese. This allows for around two pictures.

**Diocesan Coordinators:** All copy should be emailed to the *Circle* Co-ordinator, Judith Mackenzie, judith@jmacwebdesign.nz

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

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

**Join us on Facebook:** Search for NZ Assn of Anglican Women

AAW Website: nzaaw.org.nz

**Front Cover:** Archdeacon Judy Hardie officiating at the Provincial Golden Jubilee Celebration in Wellington's St Paul's Cathedral.

**Back Cover Photo:** Farewell President Pat!

Copy deadline for the next issue:

**31 December 2019**

Please help us by adhering to this deadline
From the Editorial Team

Well, this is it – the last issue of Circle produced by the Wellington Diocese Editorial Team. And it is a bumper issue that gathers in all unused relevant Jubilee ‘copy’ that has come in recently.

For three years we have planned and plotted and pieced all types of ‘copy’ and a wide range of photographs and visuals. We’ve drunk numerous cups of tea, coffee and milo; swapped hundreds of emails; talked and laughed and thoroughly enjoyed a unique fellowship. We have learnt so much, not just about publishing, but about people and about ourselves.

We have received a lot of positive feedback about our Circle issues; at the same time, we’ve watched regular contributors grow their written and visual skills which is really gratifying, for the quality of our magazine is dependent on our all working together. An editorial team cannot do it by itself; we thank you for your support, advice and friendship.

And now we hand Circle over to Judith Mackenzie and her team in Christchurch knowing we have done a good job for our readers. We pray that the Christchurch team enjoys a positive experience too. We wish them well in their three-year tenure of Circle.

God Bless.

Pat, Mary, Anne, Diana and Janice

Circle Subscription Information for 2020

After discussion at our recent Executive Meeting it was decided that the Circle subscription will be increased beginning 1st January 2020 to $8 plus $2 postage and packing. This is due to the increasing postal charges which no longer cover the cost of dispatching Circle.

For an individual subscription to Circle, please send your request to the Circle Business Manager, c/- Judith Mackenzie, 5 Chepstow Ave, Christchurch 8052, including your name, postal address, email address, and your cheque for $10 made out to Circle.
John 1:4 “in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.”

The ground is rock hard but great grandmother Farazia knows she must keep digging. She needs to get seeds into the ground so she can feed her family. In all her 79 years she cannot remember so many droughts but they just keep coming and now with six people to feed she tries to ignore her aching limbs.

The work is hard but she loves her grandchildren who remind her of her own children and their parents lost to AIDS. Every day her prayer is the same. She wants them all to grow up and have children of their own. Right now, she wants them to have clean water.

In the south of Uganda where she lives, rainfall is failing. The waterholes and streams they relied on have long dried up so now it is a three to five kilometre trek to fill up their containers – and the water is polluted and heavily mineralised. The walk often twice a day means her grandchildren miss school and have little time for chores like watering the vegetables on which they depend. If only she could have a rainwater tank to store the rain when it comes.
To celebrate our Golden Jubilee the Executive have used the legacy left to us by Barbara Archer, to enable us to award a gold bar to our members who have been in AAW for 50 years. Further details to follow.

Once a month Farazia attends her village association set up by Christian World Service partner, the Centre for Community Solidarity. The group has been such a strength to her, especially after her oldest granddaughter was raped on the way to the river to collect water. When she can, she adds a little money to her savings account – her goal to raise $366 for her half share of a new rainwater tank. Once a year, members select a piece of paper – only two will get a tank. Next time it will be her – she knows her time will come.

The 2019 Christmas Appeal features the work of five CWS partners working in communities facing water issues. Resources are available for your parish or group. Please give generously to this appeal for water.

More information is available at http://christmasappeal.org.nz/
President Pat Vincent's address "AAW: Past, Present and Future" at the Provincial Golden Jubilee celebration ‘Growth through Gratitude, Grace and Guidance’

Fifty years is a major milestone for an organisation. This Golden Jubilee celebration is not only a festivity, but an occasion to pause and look back at this fifty-year journey. Referring to our new three years’ theme of Growth through Gratitude, Grace and Guidance - Gratitude for 2019 as we celebrate our Golden Jubilee and give thanks and praise to our Lord for our past 50 years of service.

Such a celebration as this gives us all the opportunity to join together in focusing on our groups, Diocese and our wider AAW organisation. It’s an occasion for you, the members here, to tell and hear stories of the past and present days of our organisation, for an organisation that has a strong sense of its history will have a better sense of identity to build on for the future.

"In the future, when your children ask you, 'What do these stones mean to you?' you should tell them ..." Joshua 4:6-7

Our organisation as you are aware, began from Mothers’ Union England but in July 1968 a delegation of nine from NZ went to their World-Wide Conference in England to put forward two resolutions:

• a change in the qualifications for membership. (Note that divorced and single women were not eligible for Mothers’ Union membership.)

• the establishment of Provincial autonomy.

At the meeting of the Mothers’ Union Dominion Council held in Wellington in November 1968 a report was given on the policy discussion which took place at this conference. The two resolutions had been defeated. A questionnaire was developed and sent out to members. One of the questions was:

• Should there be any qualifications for membership in addition to the acceptance of the aims, eg. Baptism, Communicant status? Members were in agreement that there should be no qualifications for membership other than the aims.

It was not the usual practice for the Mothers’ Union to hold a Dominion Council on two consecutive years, but in view of what could be termed a crisis situation Council members were definite in their desire for a Council Meeting in August 1969 to discuss a more permanent name and framework for this comprehensive society.
The Council convened in Wellington with 47 delegates and several observers present on Monday 11 August 1969 at St Mark’s Church Centre, Wellington at 7.30pm. That evening, they listened to the President and then had that night to mull over the points made.

The following morning the vote to decide the name took place. It was proposed that a comprehensive name was necessary as a temporary measure to embrace the two types of branches i.e. the name the ‘Christian Family Fellowship incorporating the Mothers’ Union and the Young Wives’ Groups in New Zealand’ and if desired other groups in the future. A lot of discussion took place and eventually the name ‘The Association of Anglican Women’ was moved by Mrs Elizabeth Tipping, seconded by Mrs Mildred Waite and carried.

According to our archives this Council Meeting stood out on its own in the history of women’s work in the Anglican Church. It was unique. It provided a bridge between the Mothers’ Union of 94 years’ standing and the Association of Anglican Women which came into existence before the meeting ended. Mrs Jeanne Parr was declared to be the first President of the Dominion Council of the Association of Anglican Women.

We also must take time to remember the women who are no longer with us. Jeanne Parr sadly passed away just before Christmas in Cambridge. Jeanne had the difficult task, as our archives note, of welding together a new organisation of about 18,000 members from this troubled time of severing our ties with Mothers’ Union, England. Jeanne and her Conference had the task of establishing a new identity for this new organisation and to foster and promote relationships with the various groups which had wanted greater independence. This included the AAW Prayer and the adoption of our official colours of blue and gold. Our official magazine was shortened from Home Circle to Circle.

Another name of note was Mrs Barbara Archer of Palmerston North. It was noted in the archives, “But no one in the Dominion worked harder than Mrs Barbara Archer, the Dominion Treasurer. This had grown to be a demanding office handling not only domestic moneys within New Zealand, but all the grants sent to different parts of the world for overseas work. She also singly compiled the answers to all the Questionnaires and provided an excellent chart for Council, as well as
her complicated Balance Sheet for audit.” For our archives Barbara wrote up the history of our first 10 years. She also kindly left us a financial legacy.

Also Mrs Thora Holland, Dominion President of the Mothers’ Union in New Zealand at this time.

So today we honour the founding members of this wonderful group for their vision and commitment.

But it is also a moment to look ahead at the mountains still to climb. Over the last couple of years we, as an Executive, have focused on how we can grow and move forward as an organisation, using the results of the AAW Consultation Survey undertaken by our members in 2015. Like the National Council of Women NZ and many other organisations, we need to change to grow our organisation, to attract new members and to find leaders for our groups if we are to continue our legacy.

We began this journey looking at our reason for joining AAW and for most of us it was that we received an invitation to join. Relationships and a purpose have kept us in AAW. Our portfolios of Overseas and Outreach and Social Concerns are something we should be proud of and work to heighten our parish and wider communities of this essential work undertaken by our group. Younger women are interested in being involved in such projects. We can provide these projects. The need to make AAW relevant to the next generation is essential for the continued existence of our organisation.

Last year we developed an 18-month Operational Plan. Our key result area was Membership Growth and we set out 5 objectives to achieve this. Our first objective was to share plans and ideas that would enable parish groups and diocesan committees to develop intentional plans for growth. To achieve this we have set up a website, put out a group marketing brochure, use Facebook and Circle.

This journey began in the Wellington Diocese. Jenny Duckworth, Wellington Diocesan Patron and wife of Bishop Justin spoke to the Wellington Executive when I was President at a special meeting and emphasised the importance of storytelling and encouraged us to tell our stories as AAW members; eg. at Sunday services. Not just to give our usual notices but to tell what we are doing and why. Visibility in the parish magazine with photos and interesting articles is also a very good way of keeping the parish aware of our
activities and projects.

Throughout the Bible, the Lord reminds people to tell all generations of our Lord’s wonderful works. Part of what that means for us as AAW members and women of the church is that we must continue to do our Lord’s work and let people know how he has worked in our lives.

Our challenge is to spread our message and inform our parish and our wider communities of our work. As the largest group of women in the Anglican Church we are a voice for women in the church and are a very important part of the life of the church.

Archdeacon Judy Hardie in her sermon at my commissioning 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 and 40 year olds who struggle to hold fast to their faith in the face of the distractions and turmoil of their worlds.” Again this is an important aim of AAW.

For all our groups the challenge is an ageing membership and the difficulty of filling leadership positions. But our organisation has been a great training opportunity for many of us who have been encouraged and mentored to try leadership roles. This is how I came to this position.

We are fortunate that we still have wonderful women who continue to put their hands up to be leaders, secretaries, treasurers and members of committees to run our regional areas and groups. Our challenges continue to be to find new members to continue our important work and to support our ladies to lead groups. We have to be open, to be more flexible and to look at different structures so groups can continue eg. shared leadership, less business at meetings, a variety of activities, the use of social media, and joining in with younger women - not expecting them always to come to us.

Last year I listened to a talk from Bishop Justin Duckworth on the year’s Lent devotional: *A Sent People*. Bishop Justin Duckworth spoke on *Sent Together*. When I listened to this it resounded with me as I thought the points he made were very relevant to us. He spoke about why God calls us as a group. He calls us as a group because if He calls an individual, and
something happens to the individual, then the whole work falls down. The second reason why He calls a group of people is because one person doesn’t have all the gifts necessary. Thirdly, God calls us together and not alone because actually it’s tough! Sometimes it’s so hard we need the encouragement of one another to keep going. God also calls us together because when we’re together we’re relating together. It says in Scripture that people will know that God exists because of our love, one for another. Lastly it’s just better when we’re together. It’s more fun when we’re together. I agree with all of his points. Because when we get together it seems all is possible.

I want to leave you with the thought of what talents you have and how you can use them to walk in the way of Jesus and leave a legacy. What can we as a members of AAW do to continue the important legacy of this group?

According to Max Lucado a Christian author, writer and preacher: “God never said that the journey would be easy, but He did say that the arrival would be worthwhile.”

Like Jesus entering Jerusalem and the subsequent events that took place the journey is not always smooth and we must expect road-blocks in the way. The journey for us AAW members is one of new roads to take and places to arrive at.

Hopefully our organisation will be here in another 50 years to mark our centenary; but for now, let us celebrate this golden occasion and milestone and give gratitude and thanks for our organisation and members.

Pat Vincent
Provincial President
2016 - 2019

Provincial Golden Jubilee Celebration

Our Provincial (National) Celebration of our Golden Jubilee took place at the Wellington Cathedral of St Paul on Thursday 29 August, starting at 10.30am with a moving Choral Eucharist (see photos next page).

The Venerable Judy Hardie was the Celebrant, The Vicar-General Archdeacon Julie Rokotakala the Preacher. The music was provided by Michael Stewart (organ) and Anna McBride (piano). The Mass Setting was A Little Mass – Chilcott, beautifully sung by the Seraphim Choir of Chilton St James’ School, (Conductor Ella Buchanan Hanify).
Provincial Golden Jubilee Celebration
Provincial Golden Jubilee Celebration continued

Lunchtime and Provincial President's Address

Left: Cutting the Cake. Pat Vincent (centre) surrounded by from left: Past Provincial Presidents Paulene Murdoch, Rosemary Atkins, Jan Deavoll, Anne Carpenter, Molly Fulton, Marie Taylor.
The function was well-attended and it was a pleasure to welcome many members from outside the Wellington region. Before the catered lunch and the cake cutting, Provincial President Pat Vincent spoke on the *AAW: Past, Present and Future* (see page 6). Six Past Presidents recounted various memorable highlights of their times in office:

**Marie Taylor (Auckland) 1980-3:** The introduction of the AAW Prayer Book, which, after a little updating, is still in use today.


**Anne Carpenter (Wellington) 1992-5:** The 1993 Centenary of Women’s Suffrage and the launch of the Kate Sheppard $10 note in 1994. The AAW Silver Jubilee Celebrations and her trip to Tonga, Samoa and Fiji to celebrate the Jubilee with them. For the first time the National Conference was held over a weekend (rather than mid-week) thereby showcasing AAW to the wider church.

**Molly Fulton (Dunedin) 1995-8:** Being invited as the AAW Observer to the World Wide Mothers’ Union Conference held in York (UK) in 1998.

This conference was held every 10 years in conjunction with the Bishops’ Conference at Lambeth.

**Jan Deavoll (Christchurch) 2001-4:** What stood out was the warm Christian support received throughout her term from Bishops, Clergy and many AAW members whom she met while travelling in New Zealand and Polynesia. AAW was in its heyday and well into the computer age!

**Paulene Murdoch (Auckland): 2007-10:** She recounted the funny side of organising a large conference. To help offset unexpected costs the organisers made and sold jars of marmalade.

**Elizabeth Crawley (Waiapu) 2010-13:** who couldn’t be with us, wrote of the warm response from New Zealand dioceses to the earthquakes in Christchurch and Seddon. Also, visiting and viewing progress in AAW 40th anniversary projects in Fiji and Tonga. AAW and *Circle* became a charity registered with the Anglican Church. She appreciated it was an honour to be Provincial President.

**Vice President Judith Mackenzie (Christchurch)*** closed this session.

Our sincere thanks to the organising committee and helpers who made this day so memorable.
Above: 2016 - 2019 Provincial Executive

2019-2022 Provincial Executive
Back Row: Diane Higgins, Christine Aitken, Norma Benton, Barbara Dixon and Cynthia Price (both partially obscured), Shelley Vette, Mary Driver, Wendy Probert, Julie Walker.
Front Row: Anne Gover, Treasurer; Pat Vincent - Past Provincial President; Judith Mackenzie, Provincial President; Pat Owen, Secretary
The AAW AGM was held in the ‘Loaves and Fishes’ room at the Wellington Cathedral of St Paul on the afternoon of Sunday 29 September. Business progressed smoothly, then outgoing Provincial President Pat Vincent was thanked for her excellent leadership over the past three years.

Pat was delighted to receive gifts that included: a patchwork quilt to which contributions had been made by groups throughout New Zealand; a kowhai bag made by Shelley Vette that had a pink scarf from Fiji tucked inside; a kete made by Catharine White (East Coast); and a beautiful bouquet of flowers (see photos).

The Commissioning Service held in the Cathedral at 4pm, was presided over by Dean David Rowe, and the new Canon Katie Lawrence preached. AAW members had been invited to sit in the choir stalls which gave members an intimacy with the ceremony and the changeover from Pat to Judith Mackenzie (Christchurch) was made special.
Recently Judith Mackenzie, Shelley Vette, Anne Gover and I had the pleasure of visiting our members in Fiji for six days. We started in Nadi and visited groups in Nadi, Lautoka and Ba. We then travelled to the Suva - Ovalau Archdeaconry staying at the Anglican Hostel attached to the Diocesan Offices.

The first night the welcome service and dinner were held at Suva Cathedral with the Diocesan Executive Committee, Vicar General and Dean. It was so beneficial to meet and establish relationships with their Executive. We discussed a variety of topics including funding.

For the next three days we were taken by the Executive to meet seven of our groups in the Suva area having talanoa (dialogue), devotions and lots of lovely food. At each venue we gave presentations about our roles and current work. We were humbled by what our sisters were able to produce from the sewing machines we’ve donated. They have made the most beautiful priests’ robes, tablecloth sets, and sheet sets and sold them at the local bazaar or amongst the congregation to raise funds to cover their subscriptions and to provide necessary items for their churches.

Most groups meet weekly to share Bible study and sew. It was pleasing to see their groups included a variety of ages and it was a joy to visit three of the eight kindergartens we sponsor. The children enjoy the equipment that our funds provide. A visit to St Christopher’s Home where we met Sr Kalo and the children was very rewarding.
Visit to St Christopher’s Home, Suva

We met with the House of Sarah Team (named after Sarah in the Bible whose life was transformed by God) and learnt about their projects aimed at transforming their women’s lives by eliminating violence towards women.

On our last night we were honoured with a dinner where everyone shared prayers, speeches, food and dancing. We learned that each group had made a special effort to make a new outfit, incorporating gold to celebrate our Golden Jubilee year and wore these to their celebration at Suva Cathedral.

With the House of Sarah Team

With Rev Amy Chambers, Manager, Moana Anglican Services and Teaching Centre (MAST) Suva

Above: St John’s, Wailoku, Suva
-School and Kindergarten, Church

It was a wonderful experience and a highlight of my term of office. Our thanks go to the members of the Polynesian Executive for the comprehensive programme and most of all for being wonderful and generous hosts.

Pat Vincent

Visit with the Vicar General Rev Orisi Vuki and Rev Sepiuta Hala'api'api, Diocesan Secretary and Registrar, and members of the Polynesian Executive
Recently I had the pleasure of representing you at this conference held over two days in Wellington in the National Library of New Zealand; an apt venue as it is the home of the Suffrage Petition.

The theme was *Organising for Change*. Unfortunately our Social Concerns Convenors were unable to attend but Judith Mackenzie was there representing her NCWNZ Christchurch Branch.

**Remits:** The 5 remits were all passed including the remit on *Equality in Early Childhood* that Julie Walker, our Social Concerns Co-Convenor submitted on behalf of NCWNZ Hibiscus Coast. Thanks to members for responding and to Wendy Probert for the compilation of your responses.

The first day was spent on the AGM of NCWNZ, covering the various reports and business. It was disappointing that no audited accounts were available for discussion and that the Centennial Fund has been used with no strategy for repayment. NCWNZ stated that membership fees were insufficient to cover the operating budget. Nationally, Organised Membership fees have again been put up. They have to look seriously at the office spaces they own as they need major upgrades. It is pleasing to see NCWNZ applying for grants to fund their various strategies around their *Gender Equal* campaign.

**There were some impressive speakers:**

- **Saunoamaali’i Dr Karanina Sumeo,** EEO Commissioner with the Human Rights Commission was the keynote speaker. She spoke of the need for pay transparency among organisations and that it was a system’s responsibility and not a privacy issue. Pasifika women fared poorly in equal pay statistics. “We should not settle with what we’ve got now”

- **Dame Catherine Healey:** Prostitution Law Reform: the need to have many leaders

  - **Jan Logie MP:** need to establish networks and get the message out

  - **Sue Moroney ex MP:** look for opportunities to have events, reach out to social media, make it relevant to the lives of the people you want to reach.

**Lessons Learnt from Previous Campaigns** was one of the main addresses and some points are relevant to us to help grow our groups: eg. a
Great acronym GAME came out of this:

**G: Goal** – what are you trying to achieve?

**A: Audience** – who does your campaign need to influence? Always focus on your supporters and the people you can persuade.

**M: Message** – what are you saying? Are you using the best language for the audience?

**E: Engagement** – how is your audience getting the message?

Rape Prevention Education: A campaign is being launched to ‘Ask for Angela’ to be introduced in bars in New Zealand to signify to staff that a woman is feeling threatened. While ‘Ask for Angela’ is not currently used in New Zealand, some bars have similar programmes already in place. In seven Wellington bars customers who feel unsafe can order an ‘Angel shot’.

There were some interesting workshops on a variety of topics including, Effective Advocacy, Engaging with Young People (feminism), Women’s Rights at Work, and Women Engaging with Climate Change.

Some of the points made were that climate challenges impact on women particularly, as families are often displaced and migration increases the risk of trafficking and exploitation. The case of the 2004 Asian tsunami was cited where 80% of the fatalities were women.

**Climate Strategies:**

**Implementing climate treaties:** countries with the highest representation of women in Parliament are more likely to develop international treaties.

**Resilience Planning:** increases when women are involved in planning

**Prioritising traditional environmental knowledge**

Indigenous women have long been leaders in environmental conservation

**Promoting sustainable consumption:** women make the majority of consumer decisions in the OECD countries and are more likely to make sustainable, ethical consumers.

“The greatest threat to our planet is the belief that someone else will save it” - Robert Swan

Pat Vincent
The Invisible Generation

I don’t know why, but many of those to whom I’ve chatted recently, have been decidedly grumpy; one even admitted to wanting to kick the cat! From what I can surmise their grousings evolved from their perception that, as ‘senior citizens’, they felt unrecognised, forgotten and invisible to younger generations.

One was really upset. ‘I’ve read in the newspaper that Kiwi Bank, my bank, is planning to abolish cheque books. I know I’m computer literate, but I like sending the occasional cheque. When I do everything on-line, I feel I’m losing some control over my finances. The problem is that nowadays we are expected to trust disembodied voices on phones or computers, to administer our transactions from centres often located abroad, like the Philippines. And when mistakes are made – and mistakes are made – rectifying them is time-consuming, and complicated by our not understanding each other’s English dialects. And it’s so impersonal!’

A second complained that she was tired of being nearly run over on pedestrian crossings. ‘Hardly anyone gives way,’ she moaned. ‘No wonder there are so many accidents. Drivers these days are in so much of a hurry, we are invisible to them.’

Another was unhappy with her grandchildren. Recently widowed, she was invited by her daughter to Sunday lunch. On arrival, her daughter was busy in the kitchen, her son-in-law nowhere to be seen. ‘Go into the living room Mum; the children are there,’ said daughter. When she entered the living room the children were sprawled in armchairs and across couches busy on i-pads, cell phones and a lap-top. No one looked up to greet her. ‘Where do I sit?’ she asked. ‘If you can find a space it’s yours,’ replied eldest grandson. At this she quietly left the room and went to the kitchen to watch her daughter, feeling ‘invisible, a nuisance, unwanted’.

Now I don’t condone bad manners, but these grumbles set me thinking. Generation gaps are widening so fast that it’s sometimes difficult for us to keep up. Yet change does have to happen, and I’m thinking it might be up to us to initiate ways to adapt.

For example: How often do we walk on to pedestrian crossings without pausing, much less looking both ways for traffic? As we drivers know, traffic is so thick and fast now,
that often pedestrians aren’t seen until they are on the crossing. It costs us nothing to pause sufficiently for ourselves to be seen. I find drivers usually stop with alacrity then, and often with a smile and a wave.

If we put ourselves in the shoes of bankers and businesspeople, we soon realise that our NZ financial village has been absorbed into the global economy. I don’t like the lack of personal contact in transactions, but I can understand why these changes are being made. Administration costs are always passed on to the consumer, one way or another. It is therefore appropriate for businesses to consider cheaper methods to use that will save their money – and ours!

As for the grandchildren, they should show us respect…but, I do remember visits from ‘oldies’ when I was young. I’d be banished somewhere ‘to be quiet and keep clean and tidy’ while parents were busy with preparations for the visit. Then when I was engrossed in an approved activity, I’d be interrupted by the announcement that the visitors had arrived. The expectation was that I go immediately, all smiles, to greet them. I used to find this an ordeal and often wished I could make myself invisible. My Auntie Kit had the sloppiest of kisses; Aunt Lottie’s chin grew bristles! And how I squirmed as my looks, growth rate and inherited family characteristics were discussed – in detail! I used to feel my space was being invaded as I stood there silently seething.

I believe we senior citizens are not the invisible generation; younger folk still respect us, still love us, and want us to be happy. However, we should not expect always to be the centre of attention. Now we are older – and wiser – and living longer, we have more time and opportunity to change our lifestyles, to morph into new ways that give us enjoyment, a new identity, a form of independence. All it takes is a little compromise, understanding, empathy…

Unfortunately, younger generations are often in a hurry, over-busy with loads of commitments to fulfil. Expectations of them have increased: financial, material, social… What say we step back, give them some space, even help them out; we’ve got the time. Let’s help make intergenerational relationships lovingly reciprocal.

Mary Houston
New Bishop of Nelson

History in the Making

August 31 was a very special day for the whole of the Anglican Diocese of Nelson as we joined together to witness the Episcopal Ordination and Installation of the Rev Stephen Maina Mwangi as the 11th Bishop of the Anglican Diocese of Nelson, and the first Kenyan Bishop in New Zealand.

The Cathedral was packed with representatives from all over the Diocese. Clergy, both current and retired, were present and processed in.

A large screen was also set up at All Saints Church for those who could not be accommodated at the Cathedral. (A live stream of the service can be viewed by using the following link: https://www.nelsonanglican.nz (11th Bishop of Nelson)).

Although Bishop Steve has been in the Christchurch Diocese as Director of NZCMS for a number of years his roots go back to Kenya and it was a real delight to have a large contingent of young Kenyans who came to Nelson for this service. During the service we were privileged to share the spontaneous joy they expressed in their worship.

The Archbishop of New Zealand, the Most Reverend Philip Richardson presented Stephen Maina Mwangi to be ordained Bishop, and then the Archbishop and Bishops who were present installed him as the 11th Bishop of Nelson.

Bishop Oscar Muriu of Nairobi Chapel delivered a very powerful and challenging sermon. Bishop Steve had been a clergy person in his Diocese before coming to New Zealand.

After the service all the able-bodied clergy processed down Trafalgar Street to the Trafalgar Centre where refreshments and a delicious finger food lunch were served. The Kenyan contingent provided an amazing, colourful spectacle for the Saturday shoppers. Once again we were treated to the bubbling spontaneity and joy from the young Kenyans interspersed with the speeches of welcome to Nelson and the farewell thoughts from those who had worked with him in the Christchurch Diocese.

Bishop Steve has his wife Watiri and two teenage daughters, Rinna and Tanielle with him in Nelson. We are all looking forward to sharing in their lives and ministry.

Rosemary Mellsop,
Nelson Cathedral AAW
New Bishop of Nelson continued

Archbishop and visiting Bishops

Recessional from the Cathedral

Civic welcome at Cathedral steps

Kenyan song in Cathedral
We have recently received exciting news on the situation in Ambae from Rod, a contact of Michael Hartfield’s who recently returned from visiting Ambae. Rod Kestle, a Rotarian, is a regular visitor to the Island and took the opportunity this time to visit St Patrick’s College and reports that:

- The College Principal is absolutely delighted that we are fund raising and Rod agrees that supporting the refurbishment of the girls’ dormitories is needed, relevant and very appropriate.
- While the hospital on Ambae has been cleaned and is fully operational, the school is in disarray.
- Since the eruption, the main response has been keeping the lawns mowed and carrying out very minor repairs.
- While the Vanuatu Government supports the school getting back on its feet (it has a good solid educational reputation) it is not able to commit funding until the school has re-opened.
- Having a stable and reliable power supply (last year a student was electrocuted just before the evacuations started as the entire electrics short-circuited because of ash damage) and clean water are the most critical issues.
- The four girls’ dormitories are in a very poor state. They were already spartan with few furnishings of any kind other than rows of three-tiered bunks even before the eruptions, but since then they have deteriorated further. A cow for example has been using one of the girls’ dormitories as shelter for the past 8 months. While the dormitories are structurally sound (they are made of concrete) they need to be thoroughly cleaned and painted.
- While some students have returned and classes are being held, some of the boarding students are living in completely inadequate shelter, so the funds we raise will be very well received.
- Michael has discussed the possibility of working more closely with Rotary on this project as it has existing commitments in Vanuatu. He will report to the Executive on what any potential partnership could look like.
Note: AAW Executive is pleased to announce that the $1500 so far donated by our members through fundraising efforts has been transferred to Anglican Missions for the Ambae Project.

Shelley Vette
Overseas and Outreach Co-ordinator
Beverley Galloway

Beverley, a parishioner at St Luke’s Havelock North since 1983, has been a tireless worker for the church. A quiet leader, she is always pleasant, supportive and encouraging to others.

Beverley started preschool music as an outreach for young mothers. This event still survives today. She has served on the Vestry as Synod Representative and co-ordinated the Parish Fair for some years. Beverley was also the Mission Guild Leader for 19 years, which included involvement with a successful opportunity shop. For several years she organised the Christmas pageant, and has co-ordinated several floral festivals. Beverley is a member of the Cathedral Chapter of AAW and has been Diocesan President of AAW.

Beverley had two tragedies in her life: the death of her husband aged 50 years and later her youngest son in an air crash. Recently Beverley developed macular degeneration with marked visual deterioration, but this has not stopped her remaining active in AAW, helping with preschool music and cooking for Messy Church.

Rosalind Buddo

Rosalind’s involvement with AAW began when she married David, who farmed at Poukawa in Hawkes Bay. Having become part of community activities and parish life at Poukawa, Rosalind soon joined Mothers’ Union and served on the committee. As AAW evolved, Rosalind became a capable and willing participant, taking a turn as secretary and leader of the group, and eventually serving as O&O Representative at regional and diocesan levels.

In 1986 Rosalind was invited to be part of the team who wrote Linked in Prayer, the book of family prayers initiated by Rosemary Atkins. In 1988 this group also produced Joined in Love, a collection of prayers for married people, written from personal experiences. Rosalind also served on the team which produced the Circle magazine at this time, and was involved with developing the resource In Other Words in 1993.

During her years of service Rosalind has been an inspiration to many and a generous supporter of AAW.
Rev Dorothy Brooker

Dorothy’s early life was not easy. She spent her second birthday in hospital as the result of losing part of her leg in an accident. Further to this, her mother sadly died in childbirth just before Dorothy’s fourth birthday. Later she was tragically widowed when her two children were small. None of these sad events has dimmed Dorothy’s spirit or limited her activities.

Dorothy trained as a nurse specialising in cardio-thoracic care, working with eminent Greenlane surgeons of the time. During her involvement with St Andrew’s, Epsom, she read of the need for nurses in Melanesia and subsequently joined the team at Godden Memorial Hospital, Lolowai, Ambae. It was here that she met her husband Arthur, and gave birth to their two children. After Arthur’s accidental death in Lolowai, Dorothy brought her children back to New Zealand where she continued her nursing career.

A change in direction led to ordination in 1985. After serving as vicar of St Augustine’s and St Luke’s Rotorua she “retired” to Napier where she cared for a sister with dementia.

She continued to maintain an active ministry in the Cathedral, especially in pastoral care.

Dorothy has always been committed to AAW and women’s issues and was involved in the writing of the prayer books many groups use today.

Currently she is Chaplain to the Waiapu AAW, and an Independent Member of the HB NCW where she serves on the Executive. Equally committed to issues of justice and peace, Dorothy joined the Third Order of St Francis in 1986, a step that eventually led to her becoming the Minister General of the World Order in 2005, with oversight of 6 Provinces and 3000 members. In recent years she helped to establish the Hawke’s Bay Interfaith Group, which enabled good communication between the Cathedral and local Muslims after the March massacre in Christchurch.

Dorothy is a tireless worker in all the groups she belongs to, and the Franciscan values of justice, peace and environmental responsibility permeate all she does. A truly inspirational woman.
Jennifer Harris

Jennifer Harris has always led a very active community and working life. She received a Napier Citizen’s Civic Award in 2011 in recognition of her community work.

While bringing up four children with husband Des, she served on the Establishment Committee of the Napier Parents’ Centre for thirteen years, and also on the committee of the local kindergarten.

A trained secretary, she taught commercial subjects and life skills to teenagers and adults, and then worked as Administrator at St John’s Cathedral for eight years. This was combined with Workplace Chaplaincy from 1987-2012, visiting many workplaces each week. This involvement with people and their concerns, which might include redundancy or family crises, led to her becoming a marriage celebrant in 1996, and later a funeral celebrant.

A life-long learner, she completed an Education For Ministry course in 1998 and another in Clinical Supervision in 2000. She has been a licensed Lay Minister of St John’s Cathedral since 1997, and is on the Flower Guild.

Jennifer has actively supported AAW at different levels over the years. She has been a valued member of HB NCW since 2004, and last year was awarded a “Distinguished Service” honour from their national body. Jennifer’s commitment to making her faith attractive, loving and healing to those unfamiliar with the church is an inspiration to the rest of us. How does she keep looking so young?

Brenda Fine

Brenda Fine immigrated to New Zealand in 1950. She married David and has 2 sons, 4 grandchildren, 1 great grandchild and another due in November. David encouraged her participation in her many church, civic, community and artistic endeavours.

In the early 1970’s she became the first AAW Archdeaconry President in Wellington. Her involvement with AAW continues today. She shared many interests with David, including Bank Wives, Jayceettes and Wellington Boys’ College committee. In 1981 she
was a finalist in the Benson and Hedges Fashion Awards, Wool Section. Her involvement in NCW began in 1974, and as President she coordinated the 1988 National Conference in Napier.

Brenda has received many awards for her work including: for her work as Chairwoman of the Women’s Health Committee, she received a Hastings District Council Civic Honour. In 1993 she received the Suffrage Centennial Medal; a QSM was awarded in 1995 for her voluntary work; and a St John’s Service Medal for 35 years’ service. Brenda Fine is a truly inspirational woman.

Rosemary Atkins

Many AAW members have been encouraged and inspired by the leadership given by Rosemary over many years; from when she joined the Hawkes Bay Archdeaconry committee in 1971 and became president the next year.

As a visionary leader of the Waiapu Diocese from 1975 to 1978 she was a successful facilitator and encourager. During this time she was made a lay canon of St John’s Cathedral. From 1983 to 1986 she was NZ President as well as supporting her husband, Bishop Peter of Waiapu. As bishop’s wife, she involved AAW members throughout the diocese in catering for Synod lunches.

In 1986 Rosemary brought Hazel Treadgold, World President of Mothers’ Union to New Zealand for the celebration of our beginning at Mothers’ Union Avonside Christchurch. She was on the planning committee for the Wives’ Conference held in conjunction with the Lambeth Conference of Bishops in 1988. She also represented NZ as speaker at the Spring Festival in the Diocese of Newcastle, Australia in 1987.

With others she was instrumental in writing and publishing successful prayer books for women. Over her lifetime Rosemary has been an inspiring, encouraging, supportive friend to many and has an extraordinary gift of seeing potential in people and encouraging them to give of their best with God’s help.
Waiapu's Inspirational Women continued

St John’s Cathedral of Waiapu would like to celebrate two more inspiring women in their parish. They are women for whom life has not been easy, and who maintain a fierce sense of independence. Both are lively, tolerant, unassuming, selfless and capable of great love. They are sustained by their own steadfast sense of faith.

Elisabeth Paterson

Elisabeth Paterson has held lay ministry positions at the Cathedral for more than half her life time. She has often preached, led worship, taken funerals, and been a quiet, faithful and committed visitor to many residents in local rest homes and to others who are housebound. She has also taken home Communion to many. For years, every second Wednesday has seen a popular and well-attended Bible study group hosted at her home. Elisabeth’s honesty is endearing. When asked if vegetables ever won her, over chocolate, the answer was a firm ‘No’. Her car is known by its back passenger seat strewn with parish newsletters. There would never be any room for that material in the front as more often than not there would be a grateful passenger. Elisabeth is in her eighties.

Shirley Hosking

Shirley Hosking now aged 94, spent 30 years in Wairoa at the parish of St Paul’s before coming to Napier. At St Paul’s she became a Sunday school teacher whilst a 12 year old school girl. Those were the days when the number of 3 to 12 year olds attending each Sunday was over 100. Retiring to the St John’s Cathedral meant a new involvement in a different parish life. Pastoral care, flower guild roster, Op Shop, embroidery group and breakfasts after the early morning Wednesday services featured. All of this gave her great pleasure, as did playing the piano, gardening, reading and hospitality. She was known for her attention to detail. For several years on Christmas Day she made sure the three youngest were always treated to marmite and honey sandwiches - white bread, no crusts and meticulously cut into tiny squares - whilst everyone else enjoyed a more conventional meal.
Otumoetai

An Overseas and Outreach Day was held by the Otumoetai AAW to raise funds for Kailikuri Health Centre in Bangladesh. A member of our Church has just spent six weeks helping out at this Health Centre and gave us an insightful talk on the conditions under which the people are working.

53 people attended the luncheon, including 8 from St George’s, Gate Pa. Over $500 was raised on the day for the Health Centre. Since the luncheon we have received a donation from a Holy Trinity member which means in total $650 was raised.

Guests were also invited to donate items towards a mission trip to Tanzania by Helping Hands. Petra Wordsworth from Gate Pa was delighted with the huge response to this request.

Following lunch we were entertained by a young Scottish Highland dancing group. AAW members then presented a short play on what was worn to church 50 years ago, including the essential hat, gloves and small handbag.

A very happy day concluded with the singing of the Irish Blessing.

Mary Toomer

Trip to the Islands

On a recent trip around the Islands we called at Suva and wanted to go to the House of Sarah. I met up with Lusi who is a counsellor and works from the House of Sarah. At present they are running two projects:

- **Sarah Carers** which is about counselling women and children in need
- **Sarah Faith** that is about prevention of abuse.

There are rooms at the house where women and children could go at a time of stress.

That day Luse, a tour guide, took us to the Mokani Village in the Vau area, where we were entertained with a Kava ceremony and a lovely meal, followed by a walk around the village. This brought many memories flooding back of my trip to Fiji and Tonga in 2011.

There are still so many villages that
Diocesan News - Auckland

St James' Ladies' Fellowship Group

The Group has knitted prayer shawls, blankets, jumpers, jackets, beanies, booties for The Anglican Trust for Women and Children. The articles were made during our Prayer Shawl and Knitting time. We presented our offerings to Judy Matai’a, CEO, Shelmaine Terblanche, Project Manager and Sue Zimmerman, Board Member, who spoke to our group about the work of The Trust.

Barbara Dixon

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Diocesan News - Waiapu continued

are in need of clean water.

I had hoped to meet up with Millie Fong, but sadly Millie was unwell.

Elizabeth Crawley

Note: The NZAAW Executive has provided money for guttering, water pipes, and a water pump that has been installed in Tonga. (See page 24)
St Peter’s, Takapuna

• On-going Mission Support

At St. Peter’s this year we have committed ourselves to make a special effort in the call to support the City Mission.

At our May meeting we were delighted to welcome Chris Farrelly, the Auckland City Missioner. Chris gave a wonderful presentation about the work and history of the City Mission, the most important project being *Homeground*.

We collected a full box of food items along with our normal Sunday collections from our church services. Chris reminded us that lots of women also have great need of personal hygiene items and we made up a full box of these much needed items so often overlooked. Maybe it is something to be considered for all our AAW groups.

*Chris Barker*

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Chris Farrelly is the tall man standing towards right of mid-centre at the back

• "Keeping little ones warm and snug this cold winter"

St Peter’s craft group meets once a fortnight producing amazing, much needed, snug blankets and warm little beanies. The brightly coloured blankets are knitted with love and enthusiasm, and completed with careful stitching around the edges. These blankets are in keeping with our commitment to mission to those in need and were delivered to Granger Grove House at the open day for ATWC.

The members who attended were quite overwhelmed with the work that is done for young mothers and their babies. Within a few more weeks, our group made another delivery of blankets and beanies which were gratefully received.
AAW Golden Jubilee Celebrations

What a busy time it was in the Auckland Diocese during October with groups celebrating the 50 years of AAW!

**Holy Trinity Otahuhu** celebrated along with the dedication of their new hall. Bishop Bay was on hand to oversee the cutting of the cake especially made for AAW.

**St Aidan’s Remuera** co-ordinated the celebration with a service adapted by Rev Louise Anderson from the AAW Service Book to celebrate 50 years. Special prayers were read during the service. A cake was shared with Lillian Gnanasunderam who celebrated her 100th birthday.

The **Auckland AAW celebration** service was held on 3 October. We were fortunate enough to hold the event in the Bishop Selwyn Chapel of Holy Trinity Cathedral, Parnell with Bishop Ross Bay presiding, assisted by Dean Anne Mills. Rev Hilary Leith delivered the intercessions. Pat Vincent, Christine Kennedy, Mary Parkinson and Sue Williams did readings.

To celebrate five decades of AAW in the Auckland diocese, five candles were lit by Past Auckland Diocesan Presidents during the singing of the AAW hymn. The Bishop’s sermon was well received.

Bishop Bay also carried the Crosier from Bishop Cowie. Mrs Elizabeth Cowie was instrumental in forming women’s groups - the forerunner of the AAW in Auckland.

It was great to see representatives from the diocesan groups from Whangarei in the north to Mauku in the south. There was an informal time to catch up over refreshments. Many people who had not met up for so long were delighted to catch up.

No celebration is complete without the cake which was cut by Marie Taylor and Paulene Murdoch, both past AAW Auckland Presidents and past AAW New Zealand Presidents.
Suva and Ovalau Archdeaconry 50th Anniversary Celebrations... Friday 16 August

Taveuni Episcopal Unit AAW 50th Anniversary Celebrations St Leonard's Parish, 23 August
Top Row: AAW, Parish Leaders with Bishop Henry Bull and Diocesan Secretary, Rev Sepi Hala'api'api, Middle Row: AAW St Timothy, Nabuni-ika-damu, AAW St Thomas, Labasa, Celebration Lunch Bottom row: Celebration Lunch
Roslyn AAW Evening Group

Sue Cathro was our speaker at the last Roslyn AAW Evening group meeting. She arrived with a suitcase full of a selection of University regalia. These were laid out in an orderly fashion for us to view and try on. The clothing had its origins in Europe in the 1820s. Gowns were originally full length and included a peaked hood. They were eventually modified by the English universities of Oxford and Cambridge. New Zealand gowns are of the Cambridge style.

Sue modelled the various types of head gear and showed us the different hoods in many colours depicting the numerous faculties. Behind this huge collection of regalia, is a band of volunteers, led by Sue, who sew the hoods, add the fur, care, maintain and distribute regalia for each of the graduations at Otago University. Sue told us that there are 600 gowns required for each graduation. A big job two or three times a year!

Christine Aitken

A Double Obituary

Pat Sandle who died 9 August 2019
and Audrey Bascand
who died 24 July 2019

It is with much love and deep regret that Dunedin Diocesan AAW acknowledges the death of two amazing and talented past members of St John’s, Roslyn Evening Group.

Their wonderful gifts were first combined and used during Molly Fulton’s tenure as NZ National President from 1995 to 1999. During this time, Pat Sandle was Editor of the Circle magazine and, with each issue, Audrey Bascand designed an eye-catching cover and other creative art work throughout the pages.

Once again, when Margaret Tegg was NZ National President, from 2004 Pat and Audrey again took up the roles...
St Chad’s, West New Plymouth

St Chad’s AAW held a Women’s Day on Sept 4th and were delighted to welcome about sixty guests from a number of fellowship groups in the city and around the coast. The theme for the day was People Helping People which was reflected in the service led by Evelyn Froom, LLM.

It was a joy to have Spotswood College’s Head Boy and Girl and their respective Deputies to assist in the kitchen with lunch. These four young people were able to mix with our guests while serving the soup and were looking very smart in their college uniforms. This event was part of their Community Outreach project.

Michelle Ramage, the Chairperson of the Roderique Hope Trust, was our guest speaker. She is an inspirational young woman who not only holds down a full time job but can also work up to forty hours a week on a voluntary basis. She has a team of helpers who work mainly with the homeless. They find accommodation, furniture and any supplies necessary for young families. Their outreach into the community is expanding all the time. Michelle also has other projects in which she is involved. Her talk was very interesting and enlightening and as a result many questions were asked by our guests. Michelle was a nominee for the Taranaki Daily News Person of the year for 2018.

The collection taken at the Service amounting to $250.00 was presented to Michelle for the Roderique Hope Trust. To find out more about the Trust go to https://www.roderiquehopetrust.co.nz/about/

Mary Needs

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**NB:** Audrey Bascand was a well known NZ artist who specialised in drawing, printmaking, etching and water colours. She attended the Canterbury College School of Art, studying design and majored in art metalwork. Throughout her career, she taught arts and crafts, worked as a commercial artist, and illustrated four books. Examples of her work can be found in various galleries, including the Hocken Collection, Dunedin, Te Papa (Wellington), Auckland Art Gallery, and the Turnbull Collection, National Library. Unfortunately we do not have a photo of Audrey.

*Editorial Team*
Obituary: Mary Frances McKenna

A wife, mother, grandmother and great grandmother. Mary was a teacher in Palmerston North prior to the arrival of her children, later returning to teaching and furthering her studies. Mary was the first woman nominated to the Awatapu High School Board, and a Trustee of Arohanui Hospice for 35 years.

She was a long time member of AAW and NCWNZ (with a Distinguished Service Award); and she received a Civic Award for participation in a large range of community organisations.

Until recently, Mary was the Wellington AAW Diocesan Social Concerns Convenor. Previous to this she was Secretary to the Executive. St Matthews, Palmerston North was a very important part of her life. Her involvement there began in 1963, with Young Wives and later the Association of Anglican Women. She was recognised for her work there with a Bishop’s Medal.

Mary’s family was very important to her; she travelled overseas when grandchildren competed in sports events, and visited her son and family in London.

Mary was a hard worker for the causes she supported, giving of her energies unstintingly. She had a wonderful sense of humour, a wide range of friends and loved going to coffee and lunches with them.

A wonderful friend who will be greatly missed. R.I.P. Mary

Janice Viles

Northern Region – Golden Jubilee

AAW members gathered at St Stephen’s Marton, on 10 August 2019, a day short of 50 years since the meeting was held at which AAW was convened.

A well-attended Service was conducted by former AAW member, Rev Robyn Pierce, and the Organist was Rev Alison Stewart, a member of St Peter’s Palmerston North. Helen Parker of St John’s Feilding wrote the service. The homily, in the form of a poem, was read by Janice Gower.

Following the service members
from Groups shared memories in the ‘Down Memory Lane’ slot.

A delicious meal was provided by the St Stephen’s Caterers, and the cake was made by Mary Rowan of Whanganui AAW. Guest Speaker was Val Malcolm, former Northern Region President, and also attending were Anne Carpenter, former Provincial President, and Mary Driver, Wellington Diocesan President. Members reminisced over coffee and cake while enjoying the display of memorabilia.

A wonderful day was had by all, thanks to a hard-working committee.

*Janice Viles*

50th Jubilee Celebrations – St James’ Lower Hutt

The Women’s Group celebrated the AAW 25th Jubilee on Tuesday afternoon 11 June 2019 with a Thanksgiving Eucharist presided over by Rev Dorothy Howard. The reflection was given by Rev Rosie Dell. A time of remembering past activities of the group followed, then a special afternoon tea at which was sung a song set to the tune of *All Things Bright and Beautiful*. The church organist, Jonathan Berkaun accompanied us on his accordion.

It was a happy afternoon of fellowship and laughter. The cake was cut by Mary Driver, Wellington Diocesan President, and Chris Coleman, a long-time very active member of the group.

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**All things bright and beautiful**

All ladies great and small
Speakers wise and wonderful
The dear God bless them all.

**The AAW meetings**

The fellowship that springs
We share enduring friendships
And talk of many things.

**The Rimutaka ranges**

Hutt River running by
New plaques across the driveway
Where our ancestors lie.

**The banner is an attribute**

At ho-ome and away
For all who helped to make it
We offer a bouquet.

**From Chapel to the church**

We move around a lot
From pews to tables at the back
Don’t want to lose the plot.

**All things bright and beautiful**

All people great and small
Leaders past were wonderful
Our true God bless us all,
Celebrating our Golden Jubilee

Northwest Christchurch AAW

In July, 25 members of the Northwest Christchurch AAW group had lunch at “Paris for The Weekend” to celebrate AAW’s Golden Jubilee. It was a time of great fellowship with delicious food and plenty of chat. We were thrilled to have Jude Mackenzie join us and I had the honour of cutting our birthday cake with her.

Anne Burgess, Leader

Diocesan Golden Jubilee Celebration on 11 August, 2019

A special annual Diocesan Festival Eucharist was held at the Transitional Cathedral, at 2pm on Sunday 11 August 2019, followed by a seated High Tea at the back of the Cathedral. We had white tablecloths, fine bone china cups, saucers and plates, sandwiches and cakes catered by AAW members.

Bishop Alan Pyatt and Mrs Elizabeth Tipping travelled to Wellington to a meeting held on 11 and 12 August, 1969 when the Association of Anglican Women was formed. Mrs Elizabeth Tipping was delighted to cut the AAW Golden Jubilee cake on 11 August, 2019.

You may notice the cake decorations were used twice – we like to share and recycle when the opportunity arises! Our thanks to Libby Reveley of Northwest Parish who made and iced both delicious 50th Anniversary Cakes.

Jude Mackenzie
President AAW Diocese of Christchurch
Our executive meeting in June was an overnight meeting held at Teapot Valley Christian camp. Our speaker on the Thursday afternoon was Rev. Dawn Danauda who recently spent a year in Vanuatu based at the Talua Theological Training Institute, which is a Presbyterian Theological College on the island of Santo Espirutu. Dawn was teaching English to Diploma level students aged from 19 to 35.

She was previously Vicar of Awatere Parish in Nelson through their 2013 and 2016 earthquakes, and had welcomed seasonal workers from Vanuatu into that parish. They called her “Mama Dawn”. In Vanuatu they would come and sit on her mat. She loved their passion for their culture, music, drama and dance.

Dawn was able to tell us first-hand about the challenges of the volcanic eruption on Ambae as the evacuated people had lost their social village structure as well as needing food and provisions. She was delighted to hear about our Golden Jubilee project to help the girls of St Patrick’s College as they returned to Ambae.

She brought back a collection of the dresses she wore in Vanuatu and members of the group modelled them as she explained their significance in the island’s culture. a work dress, formal dress (white for Sunday), friendship dress.

Women’s ministry is not fully supported in Vanuatu but both the Government and the Presbyterian church support women in ministry. She was honoured when the local teachers at Talua asked her to preach at the graduation ceremony.

In August, a Nelson Waimea Area day was held at Brightwater. The speaker was Rose Moon from the All Saints parish who shared her life
Poem - Growth through Gratitude, Grace and Guidance

AAW’s Golden Jubilee

We celebrate with GRATITUDE today
50 Golden Years of AAW
In our Church
In our lives
And those who paved the way.

Emerging with GRACE
From Mothers' Union
In September 1969,
Our first AAW banners
Proudly found a place.

Embracing all women
Whatever age or
Stage in life.
Loving mother, daughter,
Partner, friend or wife,

Groups spreading Aotearoa wide
Welcoming our Sisters in Polynesia.
All GROWING together
In fellowship and prayer
Father/Mother God as our GUIDE.

So at this special time
Let us reflect
On days gone by
With humility and pride.
Confidently looking forward
With hope, our faith.
And AAW friends at our side.

Chris Robertson-Parkes
[Lone Member Waiapu]

Diocesan News - Nelson continued

story with us. Coming from a British naval family her childhood was spent in different places in the world.

She trained as a nanny in some of the orphanages in big country houses in England. When qualified she spent time in Germany working with special needs children, then back to the UK to work with terminally ill children. She then moved to the USA working as a nanny for some of the rich and famous before marrying a Kiwi and moving to NZ.

Before retiring here, she worked helping families with multiple births and also worked with the elderly.

Jan South
A New Carol - God with Us, Emmanuel

An angel.  A girl.
A 'Hail Mary' greeting.
An angel.  A man.
A 'Don't you worry' meeting.
Agreement.  A song.
Somewhere to belong
    for Jesus.

Three men.  A star.
To guide them on their way.
A palace.  A king.
What did prophets say?
Three gifts.  A warning
Before the day is dawning
    for Jesus.

A census.  A trek.
But nowhere warm to stay.
A worry.  A plea.
A long and grinding day.
A smile.  A byre.
Somewhere safe to lie
    for Jesus.

A danger.  A flight.
No easy start to life.
Refugees by night.
Familiar with strife.
This is God with us
At the very heart of Christmas
    in Jesus.

An angel.  Some men
stuck out minding sheep.
A message.  A song
to pull them from their sleep.
A journey.  A door.
A stable full of awe
    of Jesus.

So in good times and sad,
Let's decorate the tree!
Sing carols!  Share meals!
Be thankful as can be!
Celebrate the season
For Jesus is the reason
    for Christmas.

Pip Harrison
(To listen to the music go to the AAW
Facebook page)
'What is the AAW?' some people ask,  
While others just think it’s to do with a flask;  
A club for anonymous alcoholic women.  
   Well, IT’S NOT.  
And it isn’t a clique of self-righteous snobs.  
But a mixture of women with varying jobs,  
A church group for those who share the same Creed,  
And help one another when they see a need.  

(Anon. 2003)