



St Paul's Presbyterian Church
"Partners in God's Mission of Love"

NEWSLETTER – September 2023



"Do this in remembrance of Me."

Service of Holy Communion

Sunday, 10th September at 10:00am. Please accept this as a personal invitation to be present.



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Editorial

Pam Clare

What's the connection between Bach, birthday parties, karate and tai chi, choirs and opera, piano and ballet examinations, antique fairs and repair cafes? They all take place within St Paul's buildings. Week nights and weekends are all busy, and often within an hour or two of leaving the buildings after worship, the doors are open again. Bridget has compiled an interesting account of what happens after hours at St Paul's.

The Tukituki Christian Camp on the banks of the Tukituki River near Haumoana, (originally known as the HB Presbyterian Bible-class Camp), also receives many bookings. It recently held an open day for Presbyterian churches, and Murray tells some of the Camp's story. We are fortunate to have three St Paul's volunteers serving on the committee that looks after the camp.

In this issue we are introduced to the incoming Moderator of the General Assembly, the Rev Rose Luxford of Oamaru who will be the next leader of the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa. Heather introduces us to the colourful craft and fellowship of tivaevae, Cook Island quilting, and we have an update from PWANZ on Mission Birthday Gift.

Who is on Keith's Seat? Well, he has examples of his drawings in both the National Library and MTG collections.

And we remember our dear friend and floral artist, Rae Wildbore. In 2021, when she was co-editing our newsletter, she wrote of her love of flowers even as a small child. She was often seen wandering with her hands tucked behind her back, so she wasn't tempted to pick anything as she bent over and smelt all the pretty colours in her mother's cottage garden.

Rest well, Rae.

From the Parish Clerk

Lynne Arnold

The next few months.....

I hope you have been enjoying the variety of preaching styles and content we have had on offer over the past 15 months. Yes, that is how long we have been without a minister.

A special thank you to all those who have contributed to our services, and to keeping things going.

The Worship Committee has been working to ensure we have someone to lead our services up until Christmas and I am sure there will be something there for everyone.

We have a visit from a PSEC representative planned for September, a member of a group who are receiving preaching training at St Columba's in October, and Jim Spall, the Session Clerk at St Andrew's will take a service giving us feedback on General Assembly also in October. Then some of our regular preachers will lead worship in between times.

On 22nd October (Labour Weekend) we will join Trinity Methodist for their service and on 29th October we will have one service at 10am followed by the AGM at 11:30am.

Our Christmas Day service will be at Trinity, as it was last Christmas and we will share with them during January, but as yet we have not confirmed when we will be at each location.

There is a planned Combined HB Pressies service in the Calendar for October to be held at St Columba's Taradale, so October is looking like a busy time. That service will be at 4:30pm so will not replace our own service.

The Parish Council is keen to have more combined services between the three Napier Presbyterian churches so if we are successful in making this happen, we will let you know. Those of us who attended the last one in Havelock North found it a very encouraging time. Worshipping in a full church is a joy.

If you have any questions about the next few months please do not hesitate to ask and you don't have to memorise any of the dates mentioned, we will keep you informed via email and the bulletin.



Combined Pentecost service at St Columba's Havelock North; St Andrew's & St Paul's perform together.

Incoming Moderator of the General Assembly



The Rev Rose Luxford of Oamaru will be the next leader of the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand.

Rose will take up the role of Moderator at the end of September, and will be the fifth woman leader of the Presbyterian Church in 120 years, which she says is both daunting, humbling and an honour. Rose is the minister of St Paul's Maheno-Otepopo Presbyterian Church in Oamaru.

Born in Dunedin and raised in Milton, she undertook secretarial studies at Otago Polytechnic. Subsequent jobs included short-hand typist for the University of Otago's Department of Medicine; apple grading; grape picking; secretarial work in Wanganui and Hawke's Bay; secretarial work for the University of Otago's Department of Zoology, and administrative assistant for the University of Otago's Division of Sciences.

Rose married in 1980. Following the death of her husband, she studied for a BA (Geography) at Otago, graduating in 1990.

In 1995, she studied at the Presbyterian Theological Hall, completing three years training for ministry and a Bachelor of Divinity (with credit) in 1997.

Rose was ordained and inducted at Iona Presbyterian Church, Blockhouse Bay in 1998 and served there for 12 years.

From 2010, she has served as minister at St Paul's Presbyterian Church in Oamaru – now St Paul's Maheno-Otepopo.

Rose has served the Presbyterian Church as Moderator of Auckland Presbytery, Moderator of the Southern Presbytery, as a Ministry Development reviewer, and in 2023 stepped down after five years as Convener of the Ministry Work Group. In 2023 she will step down as a member director of the Beneficiary Fund Trustee Company, and she will also take leave from the Church Property Trustees during her term as Moderator.

Rose has used the two-year lead in time since being elected Moderator designate in 2021 to explore what may be the current issues and needs of the national Church.

She plans to bring to the role of Moderator what she has learnt from her training in transitional ministry - the appreciative enquiry model. She says, “We need to be realistic about how things are, and make hard decisions, yet we also need to nurture and give oxygen to those things that are healthy, life-giving and surprising. We have amazing, gifted and creative people in the Church and they need to be valued and celebrated”.

Rose prays that she will serve the Church well as Moderator, with sensitivity, wisdom, openness and good humour. Rose has a close and supportive family network, including siblings, siblings-in-law, nephews, nieces, and also great nephews and nieces. She enjoys and values her family immensely.

Her favourite verse of Scripture is:

“I have come that you may have life, life in all of its fullness”. John 10: 10

www.presbyterian.org.nz

Theme & logo for General Assembly 2023: 'Authentic and Hopeful in Christ'



The theme that Rev Rose Luxford has chosen for General Assembly 2023 to be held 27th Sept to 1st Oct is 'Authentic and Hopeful in Christ'.

Rose says that being authentic is also being realistic about the challenges and anxieties that we face. "Yet undergirding all of this is the fact that we are people of resurrection hope. We are 'in Christ', the one who grounds us and gives us a sense of hope in our living. May we be guided by the Spirit in our decision making.

"I have chosen a Moderator theme logo of stylised flames/leaves and cross/body/stem. The 'arms' of the cross depict the faith in Christ that holds us in the world. The flames/leaves indicate the burning bush and life in Christ in our context in authentic ways. Also, our care for creation".



Rev James Gibb, first moderator of the church's General Assembly 1901.

Here he stands outside Dunedin's First Church in his full moderatorial garb, minus his three-cornered hat, modelled by the child.

teara.org.nz

Featuring St Paul's facility hirers and community groups

Bridget Dunn

We are very fortunate here at St Paul's to be able to offer the different spaces to a wide range of community groups. The people who hire our spaces include karate, yoga, Napier Civic Choir, Hawkes Bay Orchestra; opera, dance and piano exams and performances, literacy and te reo programmes. Additionally, St Paul's provide a home twice a year for the Art Deco Antiques Fair. Below, we have profiled a few of these groups to give a taste of what goes on in St Paul's Church buildings.



"I am very grateful to be able to use the church lounge for my tai chi class. Lessons are held on Monday evenings, some of my students have been coming to my class for over five years. I myself started learning tai chi in 2008. It is a martial art but we emphasise the health benefits. Occasionally in the summer the weather is fair

enough to be outside!" *Sandra Lilley, Tai Chi Teacher*



Celestina's Yoga class takes place at Asher Hall Tuesdays 5.30pm.



Literacy Aotearoa

Choice Change Freedom



Project Prima Volta students having a time of instruction at St Paul's Church

The Classical Musicians Group meet monthly at St Paul's Church. For musicians who wish to develop their skills and music in a *special acoustic environment*, giving them an opportunity to focus, develop and maintain their repertoire.



"Every Wednesday night, St Paul's comes alive with the sound of the Hawke's Bay Orchestra in rehearsal. Our small (but perfectly formed!) group of local musicians are bolstered with out-of-town players come concert time, with performances often held in the Church." Hawke's Bay Orchestra





SHOTOKAN KARATE HAWKE'S BAY

TRADITIONAL TRAINING FOR MODERN TIMES



Edmond Otis and his team of instructors teach karate three times per week to a wide age range of students. Ranging from four years of age to adults. Edmond's karate classes have been based at Asher Hall for well over a decade.



On the last Saturday of every month from February to November, Asher Hall comes alive with a team of enthusiastic volunteers who provide a free service of repair and mending torn or broken items. Thanks to

Helen Howard and her team of helpers at Sustainable Napier.

"The Repair Cafe is such a wonderful way of having the community working together, helping each other by fixing/"repairing" household items, a labour of love from expert volunteers."



Do you recognise these happy customers at Napier Repair Cafe?

Tukituki Christian Camp:

Murray Arnold

Last month there was an open invitation to the Hawkes Bay Presbyterian Churches to visit the Tukituki camp. We thought it would be a good idea to tell you a little of the Camp's story, which for some of you will be a trip down memory lane.

The Camp, first called the HB Presbyterian Bible-class Camp, was purchased in the early 1950s, and is located at the end of Moore Road on the banks of the Tukituki River (10 minutes from Haumoana). The first buildings were built by volunteers and hold many memories for those who spent time at the camp some having met their partners at Easter camps.



The old building (hall, kitchen, and dormitory) had to be demolished and a new building was opened in 2016. The replacement building has a large hall, kitchen, two meeting rooms and 3 dormitories, and is light bright and warm and is wrapped around with a wide verandah. It is a fantastic site with heaps of space, mown paddocks, specimen trees, and 6 caravan power points.



The camp, which is looked after by a committee of volunteers from the Hawkes Bay Presbyterian churches, is funded solely by income from camp fees and the lease of part of the site by an orchardist/market gardener.

The camp is booked most weekends and is used by church groups, schools, family groups, Scouts and Guides, and clubs and community groups etc.

Your Campsite Committee:

Brett Walker, Ron Laing, and Jo Magill (St Columba's Taradale), Jim Spall (St Andrew's), Murray and Lynne Arnold and Brenda Silson (St Paul's Napier) and David Werrey

The Art of Tivaevae Making

Heather Brown



Ever since quilt making was introduced by the Christian missionaries, more than a century ago, Cook Islanders have used this knowledge to “translate cultural themes and values into symbolic visual interpretations of the world around them”¹ stitching these onto quilts, cushions and soft fabrics which have become a valued part of the Cook Island culture. Quilts (tivaevae) are often given on occasions such as weddings and at significant

times. They are frequently made in bold “brave” colours and elaborately stitched.

Having been fascinated by tivaevae ever since seeing exhibitions in Auckland and at the MTG, I leapt at the chance to learn more when weekly Sunday afternoon sessions began at St Andrews. I soon learned that this was a wonderful communal activity and as important for the communal learning, and sharing as it was for the stitching. I also learnt that it is far trickier to do than I thought it would be! In no time at all we were asked to have an exhibition and have attached photos of what members of the group have created.



We are really grateful to art teacher Urarii Ruatoe for her art designs, to Berry Rangi for her inimitable and fun leadership of the group – urging us just to give it a go, for Oki George and her beautiful stitching, for the beautiful Taraani Ioane, and for Aiaiki te kura’s contributions. Meitaki Ma’ata for “showing us the way” and the for creating this very special group.

1 The Art of Tivaevae: Traditional Cook Islands Quilting by Lynnsay Rongokea and photos by John Daley



Ken with Taraani (centre) and Oki (far left)



Remembering Rae Yvonne Wildbore

2nd June 1944 – 16th July 2023

Colin & Barbara English

Rae Wildbore, a loved friend of many at St Paul's, died recently, after a comparatively brief illness. During her illness Rae said she wanted life to go on as normally as possible. That was a wish she fulfilled with grace and courage.

Rae had a long association with St Paul's. She was a Sunday School teacher, an elder and Session Clerk. She was involved in the Fireside Group as well as other women's activities. She took a leading role in arranging the flowers that beautify our church throughout the year. On Sundays she quietly took her place alongside us for worship.

Yet Rae's greatest contribution lay not so much in what she did, but in who she was.



In Church Rae was always ready to help wherever she could. She was 100% loyal and reliable. Happier in the background she shone in leadership roles when required of her.

During her working years she was conscientious, courteous and totally reliable.

Beyond the church she was a loving Grandma, welcoming, generous, inordinately proud of her grandchildren and their accomplishments.



As a mother she was loving, giving, accepting, and welcoming.

As a sister-in-law or aunt, warmly giving and kind.

As a friend, all the above, as well as being low key, hospitable and caring.

She was a keen gardener with a deep love of flowers who could produce exquisite arrangements.

She was also a dog person who often provided holiday homes for various four-legged friends!

Rae was a magnet for a number of four-legged friends; here she is with two of them, Romeo and Macey

Rae's faith was central to her life. It carried her through the vicissitudes of life that came her way. They sometimes challenged her, but they

never defeated her. She personified unconditional love, which came with a smile, hug and an open door. Well done good and faithful servant. Well done, good and loving friend.

Parish Register

Eric Francis Baggett who died at the age of 95 years on 3rd July 2023. A private funeral was held at Eric's request.

Rae Yvonne Wildbore who died 16th July 2023. Rae's farewell was held at St Paul's Church, Napier on Monday 24th July 2023 at 1pm.

Our loving sympathies go out to the families of Eric and Rae.



Care and Share Report

Dorothy Finlayson

Noneen and I represented St. Paul's and the Care and Share group at the funeral of Colin Uriarau held at Dunstall's Funeral Home on Saturday 19th August 2023. Moe (Colin's mother) was a member of St. Paul's congregation and a member of the Care and Share group. Until recently, Moe had been able to attend our gatherings but recently her health has not allowed her to leave the house. Moe had previously attended St. Stephen's church and was an active member of their groups. Our loving sympathy goes to the family.

Mission Birthday Gift from PWANZ

Marian Eagle

The Mission Birthday gift originated when PWMU (Presbyterian Women's Missionary Union, established in 1906) funded the Maori Mission through the Maori Mission Birthday League, to which every member gave one shilling on her birthday.

Those of you who have contributed for many years to the Mission Birthday Gift will be interested to read about the decision made for distribution of the remaining money left in the Mission Fund upon the winding up of PWANZ. I recently contacted Ruth Steven, Presbyterian Aotearoa New Zealand and received this reply.

“At the July meeting of the working group, it was moved that \$70,000 from the Mission Account be allocated to Presbyterian Support National Office and used in their Family Works Programme.

The remaining Mission money at final financial closure will be gifted to Global Mission Society for Vanuatu, recognising the long association we have had with that country.”

The long association with Vanuatu to which Ruth refers, reaches back to 1862 when the first New Zealand parish missionary societies were formed to support the New Hebridean Mission (now Vanuatu).

Reading back through our long record of gifting is a trip down memory lane with many names of past members of the congregation we knew and loved so well.

These records will now be placed with the church archives.

Train of Life: contribution by Ginny Suckling

By Jean d'Ormesson

At birth, we boarded the train of life and met our parents,
and we believed that they would always travel by our side.
However, at some station, our parents would step down from the train,
leaving us on life's journey alone.

As time goes by, some significant people will board the train:
siblings, other children, friends, and even the love of our life.

Many will step down and leave a permanent vacuum.
Others will go so unnoticed that we won't realize that they vacated their seats!
This train ride has been a mixture of joy, sorrow, fantasy,
expectations, hellos, goodbyes, and farewells.

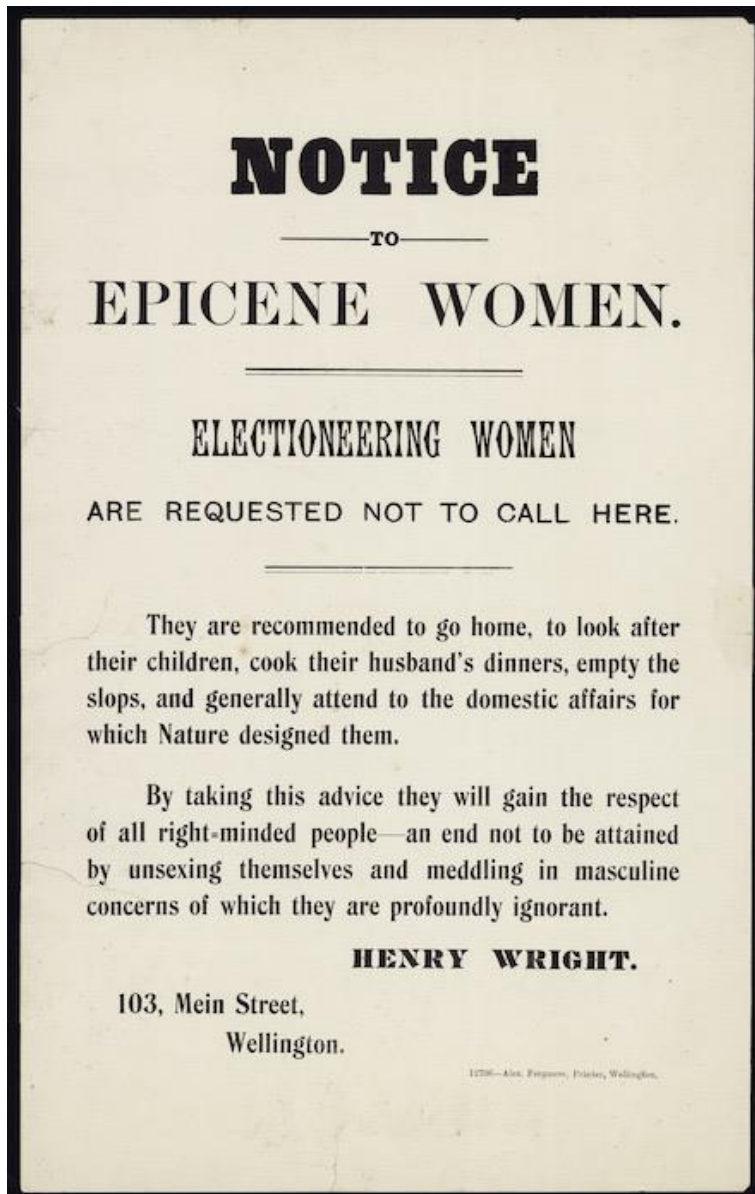
A successful journey consists of having a good relationship with all passengers,
requiring that we give the best of ourselves.
The mystery that prevails is that we do not know at
which station we ourselves will step down.
Thus, we must try to travel along the track of life in the best possible way -
loving, forgiving, giving, and sharing.

When the time comes for us to step down and leave our seat empty -
we should leave behind beautiful memories for
those who continue to travel on the train of life. Let's remember to thank our
Creator
for giving us life to participate in this journey.
I close by thanking you for being one of the passengers on my train!



Notice to Epicene Women

Jill McConnachie



With an election fast approaching, and New Zealand women having had the right to vote for 130 years, we can be amused, bemused, or horrified by this poster exemplifying attitudes towards women as they campaigned for suffrage.

I recall hearing that Prime Minister Richard Seddon was certainly against women having the vote - and look at women now.

I was in Brisbane at one time and spoke with an envoy from Ghana who

had been in New Zealand for a meeting of CHOGM (Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting). We had, at that time, women in the positions of Prime Minister, Leader of the Opposition, Chief Justice, and Governor General.

“Are there any men left in New Zealand?” he commented.

Who's on 'Keith's Seat'?



When the AA recently announced that they had stopped printing their paper maps and guides, citing costs and changing travel habits and preferences, they stated “We had an amazing team of designers, photographers, writers - and cartographers – who are fairly rare these days”.

So, what does St Paul's rare cartographer, Maurice Bartlett,

think of the change? “Oh, it's all done with computers these days” he says pragmatically.

Maurice joined the Lands and Survey Department (now LINZ, Land Information New Zealand) in 1959/60 and spent his entire career in the Napier office until he retired in 1998. He started as a draughtsman and worked his way through to become a cadastral and topographical mapper. Examples of his work can be found both in the MTG and the National Library collections and the online collections.

“Map of Napier/ drawn by M.D. Bartlett”. Department of Lands and Survey, 1963”.

Music has also been a large part of Maurice's life. Drum lessons after he left school led to a life spent playing in bands, from shows and concerts to Saturday night gigs at weddings and twenty-first birthdays. He began in a teenagers' band at Meeanee, playing at bible class dances. (Maurice grew up in Meeanee and attended St Thomas's bible class. He is sorry to see that the little church is up for sale). He played in the Frivs

orchestra for many years and with the HB Regional orchestra, conducted by Peter Williams, for 15 years.

He joined the Napier Frivolity Minstrels in 1967 at his drum teacher's suggestion. "If you want to learn some of the special songs, the 3:4s and 6:8s, come along to the Frivs". So, Maurice would go along, helping backstage with putting up the gear, taking it down, and listening to the music that was being played. And after some weeks of doing that, his teacher said, "Well, next Saturday we're going up to Wairoa to do a show. You can play the drums". And for over fifty years Maurice worked at everything connected to putting on a show (with the exception of appearing on stage!) eventually becoming the patron of the Napier Frivolity Minstrels.



Maurice continues to attend many music events, and has the programmes and music diaries to prove it. He has been a member of Hawkes Bay Heritage Trails since his retirement, and has been actively involved in the research and development of the sixteen trails. Maurice says that their popular brochures are available at the Napier iSite and can be accessed on line.

Regular Events

Care and Share: Held on the 3rd Monday of the month from 1:30pm in the Church Lounge (February – November)

Lunch group meets monthly on the 1st Friday of each month at noon for food and fellowship at various venues around the city

Jitterbugs Pre-school Music and Movement each Tuesday from 9am (during the school term).

December 2023 Newsletter

The closing date for contributions to the December newsletter will be **Monday 13th November 2023**. Please forward articles to **Pam** at pamclare@extra.co.nz or **Bridget** at the church office. Details below.

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