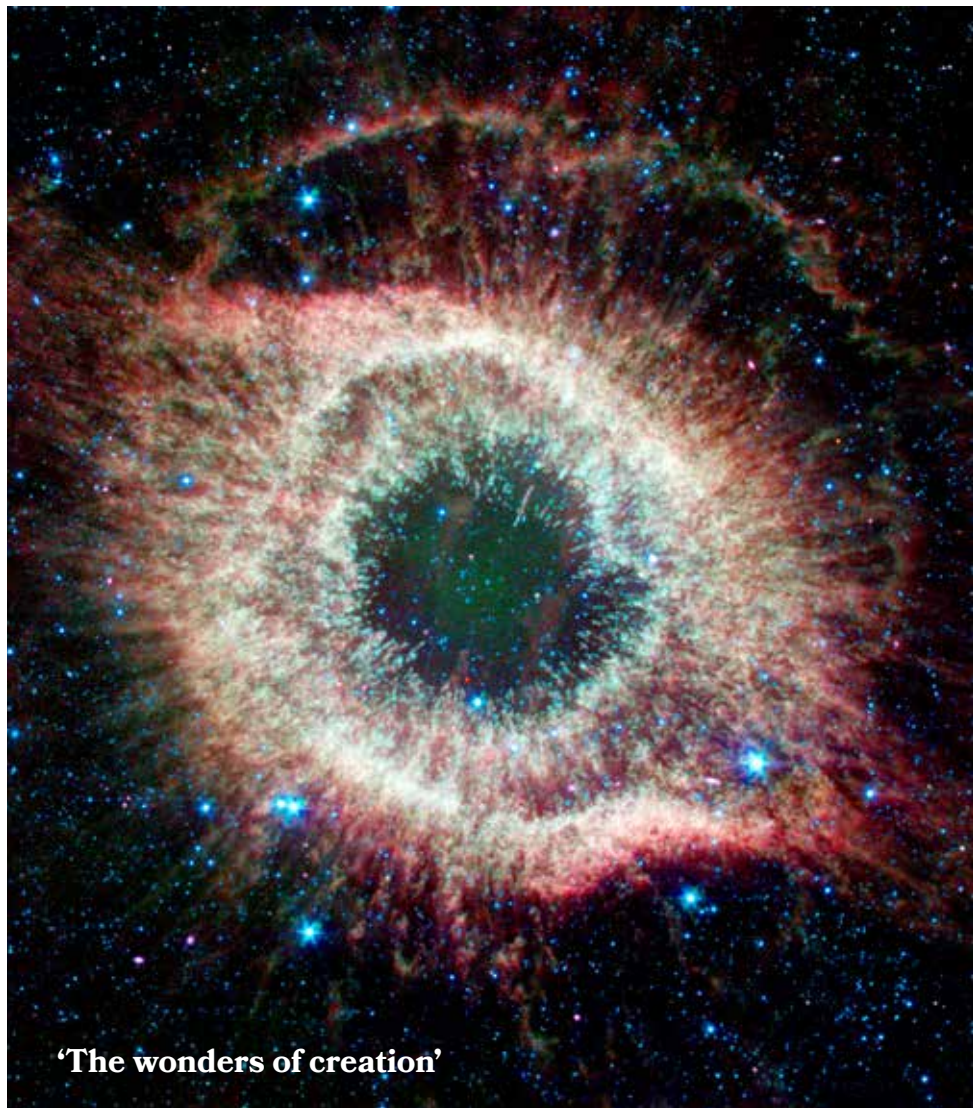


Circle



Connecting Anglican Women



Vol. 57 / Issue 3 / AUGUST 2022

'The wonders of creation'

Refresh Renew Rejoice

This three-year theme was announced at the 2021 NZAAW Triennial Conference, Christchurch.

Refresh: ‘I will refresh the weary and satisfy the faint.’
Jeremiah 31:25

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

Rejoice: ‘Rejoice in the LORD always, and again I say, rejoice.’
Philippians 4:4

These theme words were prayerfully chosen to help provide a focus. Please use them in any way you find helpful.

Judith Mackenzie

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

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Cover: **Bishop David writes, 'God challenges Job to contemplate the wonders of creation'.** *Page 7.*



Editorial note

In this issue we draw attention to youth issues. Dr Sue Bagshaw writes about the Youth Hub Project in central Christchurch and Julie Walker, Social Concerns Convenor, highlights the difficult decisions many of our young and most vulnerable must make in this post-Covid world. (See pages 9 & 11.)

Our speciality sections:

- **Did you know?** – *Volunteering is second nature to so many AAW members. ‘There is now enough quality data to show volunteering is good for the health’.* (See page 13)
- **Catalyst Corner** – *Age Concern has extremely helpful advice for all seeking to remain safe drivers – as well as when to stop driving.* (See page 14.)

From the President

Our guest episcopal contributors:

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

This issue features an article by the Rt Rev’d Dr David Coles who was Bishop of Christchurch, from 1990 to 2008. Bishop David’s article gives us an insight into the first public holiday in Aotearoa New Zealand to mark the Māori new year, Matariki. (See page 7.)

It is pleasing that Dame Sue Bagshaw has written an article about the Youth Hub to be built in central Christchurch. The purpose is to provide holistic care for young people, to support their physical and mental wellbeing.

At the beginning of May, the NZAAW Executive met in Christchurch at the Community of the Sacred Name for two days. In the last few years the request for changes to the AAW Prayer has been raised at NZAAW Executive meetings. In May, one of the decisions at the meeting was to add a few words to the AAW Prayer, to make it more specific and appropriate for the world in which we live. Dioceses can adopt the new version of the AAW Prayer or continue with the original AAW Prayer if they prefer.

This was a NZAAW Executive decision, and I wish to commend the executive members for their thoughtful discussions at our meeting, resulting in a well worded, updated AAW Prayer. *(The new version of the AAW Prayer is on page 16.)*

At the beginning of June, I travelled to Nelson for their two-day Diocesan meeting at Teapot Valley Camp, Brightwater. On the first day, I spoke about my role as NZAAW President, and displayed the NZAAW Banner. The future of AAW and leadership challenges at the local and Diocesan level generated a lot of useful discussion.

Although the shortest day is behind us, the winter weather is with us for a few more months, so keep warm and healthy.

NZAAW Facebook: Raewyn's weekly posts continue to have wide appeal and stimulate conversations enabling outreach, and growth. **The team will be introducing complementary posts shortly.** (Click  on www.nzaaw.org.nz)

Judith Mackenzie

Some hard questions

Extract from the Rev'd Hugh Bowron's sermon at Christ Church Cathedral 8 May 2022 at the commissioning of members of the NZAAW Executive

What does it mean to be a woman in 2022? What does it mean to be a faithful Christian woman now? What does it mean to be a loyal and devout Anglican woman now? How do we define what a family is now?

The answers to these questions were rather more obvious in the 1950s and early 1960s, the boom years and salad days of our church. We are now in a very different situation with the surrounding culture and society not in a mood to endorse the answers of yesteryear. Some hard thinking and exemplary living are now required of us to answer these questions at depth both convincingly and winsomely.

AAW can be both a pathfinder and a pioneer for us as our

church searches for the answers to these questions. As the Dean prays over the national executive officers of AAW we can ask that the Spirit of truth who promised to lead us into all truth will be with them, will give them grace to confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, and will embolden them to declare the word and works of God.



Bishop David reflects

Matariki



I am writing this on Aotearoa New Zealand's first public holiday to mark the Māori new year, Matariki.

I got up before 5am. There was a heavy frost and the clear sky was brilliant with stars, but Christchurch is flat and I couldn't see the horizon, but I knew the cluster of stars was there. Matariki, or the Pleiades in ancient Greek, meaning the 'sailing ones', refers to the way early mariners used them for navigation. They are referred to in the Book of Job twice, as God challenges Job to contemplate the wonders of creation: **"Can you bind the beautiful Pleiades... can you bring forth the constellations in their season?" (Job 38:31-2)**

We are reminded that people all over the Pacific, and indeed all over the world who have studied the stars identify them and use them, at least in Māori tradition, to mark the new year, when they disappear in early evening in May, then reappear at pre-dawn in June or July, coinciding with the winter solstice or the shortest day. **Māori have used this marker of time as a guide for planting Kumara as the days begin to lengthen, as well as for many other purposes.** It is a time for family gatherings and shared meals. A time of remembering those who have died and looking ahead with hope for the future.

As Christians we are people of hope, even when things may look bleak. In Peter's first Epistle we read that God 'has given us a new birth into

**a living hope through the
resurrection of Jesus Christ.’
(1:3)**

We sang Shirley Murray’s
hymn at a funeral for a clergy
colleague this week:

‘Our life has its seasons,
and God has the reasons
why spring follows winter, and new leaves grow,
for there’s a connection with our resurrection
that flowers will bud after frost and snow.
**So there’s never a time to stop believing,
there’s never a time for hope to die,
there’s never a time to stop loving,
these three things go on.’**



Cover: ‘The wonders of creation’

Credit: Rawpixel

***Retired Bishop David Coles
was Bishop of Christchurch
1990-2008.***

*He took up the position of
parish priest in Whakatipu/
Wakatipu, Queenstown,
for some years after that.
Educated in Auckland, he was
ordained in 1969, and worked
in parishes in the North and*

*South Islands of New Zealand
as well as in Manchester,
England. A very approachable
person, Bishop David has
been strongly supportive
of women’s ministry and
the AAW. Referred to by
Archbishop David Moxon as
‘a giant of the church’, he
lives now with his wife, Joy, in
Christchurch.*

*“Wakatipu is a corruption of the traditional name and did not mean anything
to mana whenua or the Māori language.” “The “wh” sound was more similar
to the sound in “whisper” or “wheel” than the “f” sound in “fish.”*

From <https://i.stuff.co.nz> Ed

‘Give us energy and enterprise.’

(From NCWNZ prayer)

Julie Walker, Social Concerns Convenor

Support for the young and most vulnerable.

Inequality across all areas of our society continues now in what is increasingly referred to as the post-Covid world or the ‘new normal’.

Education that supports the wellbeing of all family members and has the potential to change lives for the better, is an ongoing interest for me. It was alarming therefore to read in a weekend paper about the choices that many of our high school students are making, based on the needs or perceived needs of their families. Many are deciding to leave school early (without the qualifications they had planned to achieve) to contribute to their families’ struggling finances.

In many of these households the prime income earners are struggling with reduced hours and increased work uncertainty. Women overall represent 63% of the minimum wage earners in New Zealand - which impacts substantially on the ability of some families to meet their basic needs.

What is most disturbing is that the decision these young people are making to exit formal education early, will have consequences for their future ability to earn enough to make a real difference to life outcomes for themselves and their families. They may become trapped in a life/work cycle characterized by low wages, low morale, and low levels of mental wellbeing and self-esteem.

SOCIAL CONCERNS

As significant adults in our tamarikis' lives (our children and those we interact with) how do we communicate with them to support the best outcomes for their lives now and the future?

According to Dr Jessica Stubbing, a New Zealand Psychologist, we don't yet know the long-term effects of Covid on children and young people's mental health - but we do know that many are already demonstrating the negatives. Signs of mental health struggles can be demonstrated through increased levels of anxiety or depression or on the other hand can be demonstrated by different behaviours than usual such as 'acting out' and hyperactivity.

Evidence confirms that where whole families are struggling, the children of those families are struggling to a far greater extent than other children.

Our unconditional support is what our Tamariki need.

Most significantly we need to be prepared to look deep into ourselves and examine how far we will go to help. Can we take them directly to a health practitioner, set up an appointment with a counsellor or put them in touch with an organization such as 'Youth in Transition' (which offers mentoring support for youth at risk in my own local area)?

What unique resources and contacts do we have that can impact positively on our tamarikis' lives? How can we connect them with those that have the power to make a difference? The deliberate steps that we take now as individuals and as the body of Christ will help to create a more hopeful and meaningful future for tamariki of all ages.



Credit: Rawpixel

The Youth Hub

Dr Sue Bagshaw



The mental health of young people in the world is deteriorating.

In Christchurch this has been made more acute by our earthquake, and the 15 March 2019 massacre.

Mental health is defined as the ability to function well, maintain good relationships, and contribute to society. Mental ill health by contrast is the lack of function and the inability to care for oneself or others. Many young people are not unwell, but they have high levels of stress.

The Youth Hub is being built to provide holistic care to assist young people to develop well so that they can cope with all the challenges that life throws at them. It is also bringing together some of the organisations that work with young people so that

they can support each other and work more effectively.

It is hard to feel safe if your home is not safe either physically or emotionally. Thus, the first part of the Hub is housing. There will be hostel type housing with 20 ensuite rooms each with a fridge and jug, and shared kitchen, lounge, and laundry. Two youth workers will be in residence 24/7 and it has a quiet computer area for those who want to study. The criteria for entry will be that they will be looking for a job or in training and they can stay for 3-18 months.

The final planning stages are being entered into now. Most of this is being funded by the Government Shovel Ready money but if we do the foundations for the whole site ready for the next phase, we will be short, and so now

there is an urgent need for \$500,000 to save money later.

The whole project has been carefully vetted to ensure that it is suitable for many kinds of differently abled young people.

The Centre of the Hub will be the real healing place for creating mental health and will house a creative arts centre, indoor recreation (netball, drama etc) and music practice rooms. The whole building will be well insulated for temperature and noise.

At the very front will be a welcome whare and this will be the main entrance.

We will be looking for older people to help guide and teach the young people.

To finish the whole project, we need \$15 million. We hope to have finished the first part with the hostel housing and the services by the middle of 2024, Covid and supply chains willing. It would be wonderful to have \$5 million

to move smoothly into the apartments building and then another \$7 million to build the arts and recreation area.

We are going out to philanthropists large and small, local businesses and government for support.

Please contact us:

<https://www.youthhubchch.org.nz>

<https://www.facebook.com/YouthHubCHCH/>

givealittle.co.nz/org/youthhubchch



Salisbury St Entrance



Supported housing facilities

Did you know...

Is it time for doctors to prescribe volunteering?

Research shows giving up time for altruism can make you healthier, feel less stressed and aid weight loss. New research by the Harvard School of Public Health suggests that people who volunteer spend 38% less time in hospital. There are plenty of other reports which suggest volunteers of all ages are healthier, less stressed, potentially with lower weight, and reduced cholesterol, yet more stamina and flexibility.

It's hard to tell from the research whether people who look after themselves choose to volunteer or vice versa. Researchers say that doctors have no trouble telling people not to smoke, so should just as happily encourage volunteering. The NHS website does indeed

recommend volunteering on its Live Well pages, and doctors we spoke to were enthusiastic about the notion of altruism as a way to become healthier.

It is acknowledged among doctors that volunteering benefits physical and mental wellbeing. Some have suggested volunteering to patients on many occasions. Often the best results are when patients don't approach these activities as a 'cure' in themselves. Genuine altruism, passion about their chosen cause and a positive mental attitude really make the difference.

Adapted from The Guardian

(Volunteer week is celebrated every June. - Ed)

Staying safe



Age Concern offers free courses for older drivers

We drive on our roads every day. For many of us they are our lifeline – driving is a means of independence, social connection to family and friends and access to essential services.

With the generous support of Waka Kotahi (NZTA), Age Concern offers free ‘Staying Safe: Refresher Courses for Older Drivers’ all over New Zealand to help keep older people safe on the roads.

The theory-based refresher course is an opportunity for people to re-familiarise themselves with traffic rules and safe driving practices in a friendly and relaxed environment with other older drivers. The course includes

information on other transport options available to help keep you mobile for as long as possible, whether behind the wheel or when you stop driving.

To register for a ‘Staying Safe Refresher course for Older Drivers’, contact your nearest Age Concern.

From Age Concern website
<https://www.ageconcern.org.nz>

Note: The Age Concern website also has a link to the on-line Waka Kotahi (NZTA) self-rating driving assessment; information about the process for renewing your licence once you turn 75 and ‘Life without a Car’ workshops.
– Ed

Overseas & Outreach

Raewyn Dawson, Overseas & Outreach Convenor

Many are keen to know when and to whom the NZAAW is committing itself to support this year. It is outlined below:

Melanesia:

* \$1,750 - CSC (Community Sisters of the Church)

* \$1,750 - SOM (Melanesian Sisters in Guadalcanal)

* \$1,750 Community of the Visitation of Our Lady, Papua New Guinea.

All three communities of Anglican Sisters have low incomes and are committed to supporting children and Christian family life. They largely grow their own food.

Polynesia:

\$1,500 - (Tonga, Samoa, Fiji and the Cook Islands) This includes:

* AAW Diocesan Work (held in NZ to pay levies, etc),

* Kindergarten work, sewing machines for Churches, and a travel subsidy for the five Archdeaconries.

* **Special one-year Project** – to raise \$10,000 for a canteen at Bishop Kempthorne Memorial School near Suva, Fiji (as per previous O & O newsletter).

All these payments, if enough income is received, will be made in November 2022.

Thank you for your generosity in the past. Please consider how generous you can be to our Christian family in other places.

Facebook Outreach

Every Monday for three months on the AAW Facebook page I have been posting a short chatty piece to spread the relevance and access of the AAW to new people.

Please give me feedback if you enjoy it – or not - that's helpful too. It's another avenue to let wider Aotearoa New Zealand know about the AAW these days. Check it out!



Our updated AAW Prayer

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

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

Bless homes and families throughout the world,
especially those who are suffering from natural
disasters, illness or deliberate human action.

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

*“Dioceses can adopt the new version of the AAW
Prayer or continue with the original AAW Prayer if
they prefer.” Judith Mackenzie*

(See President’s Report P5 - Ed)

Auckland

Diocesan President: Margaret Rocard

From President's newsletter:

Social Concerns: Friday 22 July, 10am, the Robertson Lounge and Hall, St Peter's Church, Takapuna.

Writing this in June, we are looking forward to welcoming Angela, a speaker from Kiwi Harvest, which is a charitable food rescue and redistribution company, delivering food nationwide. We have asked everyone to bring a non-perishable food item to contribute.

We look forward to giving you all a full update in the next edition of Circle.

Julie Walker, our Social Concerns Representative for the Auckland Diocese, has co-ordinated this Kiwi Harvest meeting. We are planning to have a link to view this talk on the NZAAW Facebook page.

About Kiwi Harvest:

"Waste less - Food rescue.

New Zealand industry generates more than 103,000 tonnes of food waste per year, and it is estimated that 60% of food going to landfill is edible.

We work with food businesses, including supermarkets, wholesalers, producers, cafes, restaurants, and hotels, to rescue the good food that they are not able to sell – whether that is because of oversupply, damaged packaging, cancelled orders, mislabelling, or because the food is nearing its best before date or end of life.

Our small team couldn't possibly achieve what we do without the time, effort, enthusiasm, and ingenuity of our family of inspiring volunteers."

Christchurch

Diocesan President: Raewyn Dawson

Christchurch Diocese AAW:

Lots has been happening here as we lighten some of our Covid restrictions. Groups have been meeting face to face, although masks still give many of us identification problems.

I visited one of the two Fendalton AAW Groups, which was having a getting-to-know-you meeting with their newish Children and Families' Pastor, Barbara Neville. She brought along her friendly (and usefully pushy) large puppet and shared about her action-packed international life.

With our Diocesan Chaplain, the Rev'd Justine Tremewan, I also attended the Avonside Group which hosted over 30 women of the parish to a hot winter luncheon to hear Jenny Smith, of the Te Whare Roimata Trust, based in the Linwood area of the parish. It

was wonderful to learn about the bicultural ministry of hope for this neighbourhood, helped by many volunteers for three decades.

The highlight of the first half of this year was the AAW Diocesan Social Concerns and Overseas and Outreach meeting in June, which Pat Owen has reported on below.

Raewyn Dawson

Diocesan Social Concerns/ Overseas and Outreach Meeting in June:

Social Concerns speaker was the Rev'd Dr Mike Baker, Petersgate Counselling Centre Clinical Manager for the last 26 years. Today over 1200 clients come



a year, as need is greater than ever, covering stress, anxiety, self-esteem, anger, relationships, grief, identity and more.

Mike asked for our prayer for the Centre's finances and for the many very stressed young people. The website has very helpful information: <https://www.petersgate.org.nz/how-to-help>

Overseas & Outreach CMS speaker was Rebekah Dunbar, wife, mother of three, working with her husband to church plant in Phnom Penh, Cambodia (under the Anglican Church in Singapore). Covid was very serious there as the food markets were closed, affecting those thousands selling and needing food.

Prayers are needed for the children's education and health and to give thanks for God's faithfulness in these uncertain times.

A Koha was taken and within five minutes \$117 was raised and presented to Rebekah.

Patricia Owen

Northwest Christchurch AAW:

On 6 April some of our members made crosses for Palm Sunday. Vicar Jo Latham instructed us and oversaw the making of them. It was great fun, good to be together again and we all learnt a new skill.

Anne Burgess



Judy Palmer (LHS) and Rebekah Dunbar.



Rangiora AAW: Our annual fundraising luncheon was held at a member's home that could accommodate over 20 people. The committee provided delicious food with members paying \$10 for their meal.

Victoria Bennett, from St John the Baptist Church in Rangiora, spoke about her time in a kibbutz in the 1970s showing us mementos. After moving to a Baptist Village near Tel Aviv she met and married her husband. They lived in Israel for two and a half years, then in England, returning to New Zealand in 1981.

Victoria is an artist and book illustrator, and showed us her current work. She also works with adults who have an intellectual disability, which is challenging but has great rewards. Victoria held an exhibition in the Gallery in Rangiora Library raising money for a hospital in Nepal.

It was a privilege to listen to this wonderful talented Christian woman.

Ann Jelphs



Ann and Victoria. Credit: Pam Sollitt

Marchwiell AAW group: Being unable to meet as a group, our members made floral arrangements for the dining tables at Glenwood Rest Home which is an Anglican/ Methodist Home in Timaru.

Janet Love



Heathcote-Mt Pleasant AAW:

Jocelyn Golding and Ruth Perkins (sisters and both active AAW members) spoke at our May meeting. The theme for the evening was Gratitude for the Beauty in Aotearoa New Zealand.

They told us about walking the Queen Charlotte track (in the Marlborough Sounds) in January this year. This track is one of New Zealand's Great Walks. It takes four days plus a rest day at Portage.

It is a challenging walk, but the scenery is spectacularly beautiful and mostly through bush. Jocelyn and Ruth walked in a group with nine others (including three teenagers!) plus a guide. Their luggage was transported by boat.

Pat Owen/Ruth Perkins



Jocelyn (LHS) and Ruth.
Credit: Suzanne Stewart



Dunedin

Diocesan President: Dot Muir

Way to the Cross

Part of the celebrations for Matariki were in Queens Park Invercargill. Discussions and meetings took place with the organisers of the Murihiku Trust of how we could put Christ into the celebrations of Matariki.

This cross formerly stood in St. John's Anglican Church, which is now part of Southern Institute of Technology. The cross was a guiding light to all during five days of celebrations.

During the opening ceremony Karakia, Waiata and Manaakitanga (prayers, songs and respect) were given by members of the Anglican Māori Church to thousands of people who attended.

Dot Muir



Charlie and Lewis



Nelson

Diocesan President: Kathy Cuthbert



Nelson Executive meeting:

We were delighted to have our NZ President, Judith Mackenzie, with us at Teapot Valley Christian Camp. Interested members from local groups joined us for Thursday afternoon to listen to Judith update us on a lot of AAW information, including the website, Facebook page, the update to the AAW prayer as well as information on coping with leadership problems and some small group activities. She also brought the NZAAW banner to show us - much appreciated as many of us had never seen it. Following afternoon

tea, we had discussions on the way our Executive may develop in the future and then enjoyed a lovely meal put on by the Christian camp before concluding with a social hour.

Jan South

Holy Trinity Richmond

Afternoon Group: welcomed Senior Constable Kyle Abbot and Constable Sherie who are involved with fraud investigation at Richmond Police.

They gave us very helpful information on how to protect ourselves from the huge number of scammers who are constantly phoning, Emailing, door-knocking and blackmailing unsuspecting people like ourselves. There was a very lively discussion and we went home considerably wiser.

Jan South

Holy Trinity Richmond

Evening Group: who had helped with catering for Habitat for Humanity events in their early days in Nelson, welcomed Chloe Howard and Wendy to update them on the way the organisation had grown in Nelson. They now own a large building called The Hub in Tahunanui which houses their Restore shop and also a cafe and other organisations involved in working for the community. As well as putting people into their own homes they have built some rental properties and now are working on a big affordable housing development in central Stoke.

The Richmond Groups also invited members of their congregation, Rob and Tracey McConachie, who run **Driving Miss Daisy** in this area. Both were very entertaining and informative speakers. Tracey told us how she became involved in the organisation and the services it offered. Several of our congregation were already using it. Rob

shared his experiences of a trip to Greenland when he was involved as an air force chaplain several years ago.

Jan South

An Inspirational Woman:

Pam Sutton JP QSM
August 1926 - April 2022.

Those of you who knew Pam Sutton will remember with appreciation her service to Christ Church Cathedral, Nelson and the Nelson community.

As wife of Bishop Peter, she arrived in Nelson in 1965 and by 1968 she was in London at the World Wide Conference of Mother's Union with a group of New Zealand Women, to advocate for an Anglican Church organisation for ALL women. They were turned down but not daunted, and the Association of Anglican Women (AAW) was founded in New Zealand, with Pam as the first Nelson Diocesan President. AAW members remember her personal

attention to detail, her kindness and support. The vision of praying together, assisting in the church, reaching out to the community and overseas has never changed.

As an AAW delegate Pam joined the Nelson Council of Women (NCW) and represented them on a range of local organisations involved with social justice.

Memories abound of her advocating for more women to be Justices of the Peace, more women in the workforce and more training of education skills for them. In 1982 Pam was elected as Chairman of Nelson Community Education Services.

She was a trailblazer for women in the church. Her family and friends are in our thoughts as we mourn her passing.

‘She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue.’ Proverbs 31:26

Judith Fitchett.



Pam Sutton presenting Hope Bretton (LHS) with NZAAW Service Award. Helen Simkin (RHS) Diocesan President. (1992)



Pam Sutton with the AAW Diocesan banner with Dianne Higgins Diocesan President (RHS), 7 Feb 1999

Polynesia

Litia Smith Circle Correspondent

Fiji: World Day of Prayer



Holy Trinity Cathedral hosted Ecumenical World Day of Prayer



St Mark's AAW at World Day of Prayer

A political context comment from The Fiji Times 15/7/22

Fijian Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama spoke about Pacific unity at the Pacific Islands Forum Leaders dialogue. He said the most important consideration was how the Pacific Islands Forum chose to navigate the challenges and opportunities as they voyaged into the future.



Diocese of Polynesia AAW remember the life of a beautiful soul the Rev'd Lola Kolaimatangi who was our President for 4years.

“Will we forge ahead together, will we take individual paths, will we be assertive, or will we leave it to others to decide our fate? Our connections are anchored in the ancient past where our ancestors once sailed, and traded, bringing us together as peoples of the Pacific. These connections anchor our unity today, giving us common identity and purpose.”

Tonga

Some Good News: from Matangi, Tonga's Leading news website 4/7/22

The World Bank has given US\$19 million.

The new funding will add to the Tonga Safe and Resilient Schools Project.

This will further support the Tongan Government's ongoing repairs for schools impacted by the volcanic eruption and tsunami, and provide stronger building materials, better designs, and improved maintenance of schools. This will better protect schools from future disasters and climate events and ensure Tongan

children don't lose valuable learning time following a disaster.

Additionally, the new funding will further strengthen emergency early warning systems and improve disaster preparedness. Since 2015 there has already been disaster response training for government staff and the construction of two new Emergency Operations Centres.

These centres – and the training of the staff who operate them – were critical to the immediate response to January's volcano and tsunami.

Raewyn Dawson (O&O)

Waiapu

Diocesan President: Cynthia Prince

St John the Evangelist Cathedral of Waiapu, AAW

Fellowship: The Group has had two meetings in the afternoon, in the Cathedral Lounge. Both were successful and being able to stay warm and leave while it was still light were important factors. The members were also very happy to catch up with one another after months of lockdown.

There was a fascinating presentation at the June meeting when the People's Warden, Alison Thomson, spoke of her near 35 years' service as a JP. We were fortunate to share her wisdom and experience.

The Group also touched on the celebration of Matariki, particularly as its inaugural celebration as a public holiday began last month. We liked the idea of making the day special by honouring losses

of the past year, making a gift of the present and planning for the future. It seems to be a wonderful chance to make memories, to gather together and to share food, simple or festive - and certainly those reminders, thoughts and plans can be shared or kept private.

The Group was aware of its mission to share in overseas and outreach aid, and was also able to contribute to the renovation of the Cathedral kitchen. We hope to offer Cathedral and parish hospitality soon!

Susan John

St John's AAW Otumoetai (Tauranga):

At the February social meeting we acknowledged the work that Mary Toomer had given over a number of years to St John's AAW.



Acknowledgement of long service.

Mary is a loyal member who has contributed greatly to AAW, taking on many roles. At Regional level she was secretary for two Leaders until the Regional committee was disestablished. As well as her AAW activities Mary was always an active member of the church community, giving generously of her time and skills.

Mary and her husband have now moved into a retirement village, making it difficult for her to attend some meetings. However, she is still a loyal member of our group and we value her friendship and support.

Betty Owen QSO

Eastland AAW Group: Matariki is a time for coming together as whānau (family) to think about the past, plan for the future, and shape what we do in the world.

Did you know that the seven stars of Matariki are a whanau? The star Matariki is the whaea, surrounded by her daughters: Tupu-ā-nuku; Tupu-ā-rangi; Waipunarangi; Waitī and Waitā; and Ururangi. The journey they take across the sky is also whānau orientated – it is to visit their tupuna wahine (great grandmother), Papatūānuku.

We recently celebrated Te Pouhere Sunday acknowledging the three strands of our Anglican Church. We also celebrated our first Matariki Public holiday. To highlight this we attended the movie ‘Whina’ the mother of the nation. At our Tuesday meeting we followed up in true spirit of Matariki by sharing kai, stories and time together.



Image from www.govt.nz

The current issue of the NZ Geographic Magazine is a wonderful Matariki resource. We were fascinated by the tohunga kororangi (Māori astronomers), who navigated the seas using Māramataka (lunar calendar) to arrive in Aotearoa long before compasses. Māramataka is a guide to all aspects of life such

as planting, fishing, harvesting, resting and giving back. If you would like to know more, a Maramataka and chart naming the stars of Matariki are included in the NZ Geographic Magazine. Te Papa also has free online resources <https://www.tepapa.govt.nz>

Catharine White

Waikato & Taranaki

Norma Benton, Waikato & Taranaki Diocesan Representative

From the Diocesan AAW Newsletter: New Plymouth ladies of all denominations met this week at Holy Trinity Church, Fitzroy, New Plymouth. This was for Holy Trinity's annual Women's Day, commencing with a service in church, then 'Soup and Song' to follow. Lovely to meet up with our sister churches.

Our NZAAW President, Dr Judith Mackenzie, is very keen to visit the Waikato area of our Diocese before her term concludes next April. I would love to have offers of a venue where you could all meet her. You would appreciate meeting Jude who has ably led us over the past three years.

Norma Benton

St Chad's AAW New Plymouth Taranaki Archdeaconry

The Taranaki Link Group, St Chad's, West New Plymouth, held a Link Gathering in their church for AAW members in the New Plymouth area.

We enjoyed a BYO lunch, followed by an update on AAW matters from Norma Benton, Diocesan Representative, then 'Where to from Here' discussion about the future of our groups in Taranaki.

We agreed that the forwarding of reports were important, Circle was appreciated, and fellowship was very evident. St Chad's have agreed to take on the responsibility of Taranaki Link for a further year. The time together ended with a beautiful Taizé Service presented by Evelyn Froom LLM from St Chad's.

Mary Needs

Wellington

Diocesan President: Mary Driver

Wellington Diocese:

On Saturday 14 May the Diocesan AGM was held at St Andrew's Church, Plimmerton. The Ven Julie Rokotakala, Vicar General and Vicar of Kapiti Anglicans, spoke about the six 'P's in her life: Praise, Pride, Power, Perfection, Possessions (which are less important as we age but hard to let go), and People. She spoke on the question of leadership and aging. We all need to accept our limitations and receive help, and so

surrender power to enable and empower others. True freedom comes from letting go of power. All good points for us all to ponder and consider. The new Executive were commissioned in the lovely afternoon service conducted by the Rev'd Dan Ross.

Pat Vincent

Social Concerns: Gift of feminine hygiene products -

In response to the deadly tsunami that hit Tonga, Heather Dawson, Social Concerns Convenor for our Diocese, suggested feminine hygiene products. Although our groups in the Diocese responded brilliantly and sent a large variety of these products, the cost of sending them was prohibitive. The decision was made to donate them to groups in the Wellington area.





Mary Driver, our President, delivered some to the Women’s Refuge in Lower Hutt and Heather delivered a boxful to the Women’s Refuge in Kapiti. Louise Nicholson, Chair of the Women’s Centre, accepted them from Heather on behalf of the refuge.

Pat Vincent

**St John’s and St Michael’s
AAW Group: From tip-site to
flourishing forest.**

We were privileged in May to welcome back Elizabeth Kay to



speak, not this time about her father Bishop Edward Norman, but how her family and 18 local families have restored a degraded inner-city valley in the Wellington Town Belt into a bird-friendly native bush sanctuary. This valley was used for years by locals to tip unwanted goods. The clearing began in the early 2000s, first the rubbish which had accumulated since the 1930s

when there were no formal rubbish collections.

Rubbish included three baths, a dozen toilets, an Anglia car, coal ranges, millions of bottles and roofing iron. The next two years were spent ridding the area of possums and controlling the weeds so new plants had a chance to grow.

Over 3000 native trees and shrubs have been planted since 2005 Elizabeth’s motivation is, ‘simply to treasure God’s creation, and do what I can to nourish it.’ She says, “As you know, Wellington may look green, but so much of that greenery is weeds. However, there are now over 140 community restoration groups in Wellington so we can live in hope.”

Pat Vincent

St James, Lower Hutt, Wellington City Mission: For our June meeting, Olivia Lange was our guest speaker. Most members knew of the Petone

shop but there are many other aspects to the Wellington City Mission: a social supermarket, replenished lounge, budget and financial advice, and transitional housing. Volunteers are crucial but so are skilled, professional managers who implement a philosophy of caring for people.

At the end of the talk, Lillian Ross presented Olivia with a colourful rug and some knitted baby clothes. We also gave her the meeting’s grocery collection for their foodbank.

Sue Barlow



Crafty Critters

Apology: In the May 2022 Circle St James was wrongly placed in Upper Hutt. – Ed

Submissions/Subscriptions

deadline for next issue: 30 September 2022

**Submissions: please email to Pat Owen, buxtons7@xtra.co.nz
Circle Team Co-ordinator.**

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

Circle Subscriptions: (for 4 copies per year)

* **AAW group orders: \$10 per person per year. Please send orders and payments to your Diocesan Treasurer.**

* **Individual Orders:** Please send orders to, Anne Gover, NZAAW Treasurer, Email: annegover@xtra.co.nz, 4 Lennox Street, Gore 9710. Include your name, postal and email addresses.

Pay by Internet Banking to Westpac account: 03 0915 0026110 000

Ref: Circle, name, address

The Association of Anglican Women (AAW)

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

Our Aims are....

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

Our focus

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

Spread the Word

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



Join us on Facebook

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NZAAW website: nzaaw.org.nz