

Charter



Bi-monthly magazine of Chartwell Cooperating Church

Anglican | Methodist | Presbyterian



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Parish Information

CHURCH OFFICE:

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Facility Supervisor/Office Assistant: Ruth Bridge

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Contact phone numbers for:

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Rev Gloria Zanders 855 7434

PARISH COUNCIL:

Chairman

Aaron Bennett 027 497 6209

Deputy Chair

Seddon Polglase

Secretary

Vacant

CHARTER:

Amanda Bowcott, Aaron Bennett, Alec Utting,
and Keri Anderson.

MILESTONES

Compiled by GWEN KENTISH

DEATHS: We offer condolences to those who have lost family members in the past two months: To **Andrea and Peter Hollis and family** on the death of her mother on 18/10 in Rangiora; to the family of **Carole Harford** [d.25/10] whose funeral was held at Chartwell Cooperating Church [St Alban's] on 29 October; to **Ces Mirams and family** on the death of her husband **Peter Mirams** [d.23/11] whose funeral was held at Chartwell Cooperating Church [St Alban's] on 28 November; to the family of **Dorothea Kenney** (d. 25/11) whose memorial service was held at Chartwell Cooperating Church [St Alban's] on 1 December.

CONGRATULATIONS and best wishes to the **Siufanga** family. After four years of study at Trinity Methodist Theological College, and field work training in our Parish, **Veitomoni** has been appointed as Presbyter in the Rangiora Methodist Church. We wish Veitomoni and his wife Evone, their children Taiana, Evone, Manu and Uiliani safe travel and God's blessing on this new experience.

Danyon Hardie was nominated for Hamilton City Sports awards - Secondary School Sportsman of the Year (swimming). **Raukawa Jefferies** (former youth group member) was nominated for Karate.

BAPTISM: It was a delight to welcome **Brooke Awa Thompson**, daughter of Nicola and Kerry Thompson into our church family through baptism on 14 October.

Disclaimer: The articles contained in Charter do not necessarily reflect the views of the Ministers or Chartwell Cooperating Church. We seek to represent as wide a range of views as possible within Charter, to reflect the diversity within our congregation.



Ministers' Report

What a busy month it has been! Many thanks to all involved with the Church Fair and the Light Party. Without the combined efforts of a whole lot of our parishioners, this would not have come to pass. Special mention must be recorded for Erica and Amanda who both, despite being unwell, soldiered on



with great determination and effort. While the numbers at the Fair were smaller than usual, nevertheless it was most enjoyable and we still achieved our financial target. The Light Party had an increased number from the community. This again proves to be gaining popularity in our neighbourhood. Thanks go to Amanda and Bradley for getting us all involved.

By now, some may have already had a good look at our new and improved website. You can even view the website on your smart phone now as it has app capability. Thanks to Amanda for leading this re-development process – the website looks great. Thanks to Keri and Bradley who are keeping all the information current and up-to-date. It is fabulous to know that with the new format we have an increased number of hits. I do encourage all parishioners to visit the website and keep up-to-date with events – chartwellchurch.org.nz

On the Christmas flyer being given out, you would have noticed a “Blue Christmas” service on Advent 3.

A “Blue Christmas” service caters to those who have suffered grief in the past year and find it difficult to celebrate Christmas. The service helps us to appreciate those among us who are hurting in this season. It helps them to consider God who sends us His Son, to journey with us through life’s difficult days.

Do kindly invite your friends and neighbours to any of our Christmas programmes and services in December.

Have a meaningful Christmas with your family and friends this season. Do remember to bring Christmas cheer to one and all.

Blessings

Chee & Gloria

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR CHARTER:

The editor would love to hear from you if you have a contribution for publication in Charter. If you have something you want to share, or come across an article you think others would find interesting then please let us know.

Email: office@chartwellchurch.org.nz or leave at the church office.

Deadline for next issue: **Monday 21st January 2019**

Christmas Services 2018

Advent 1 – Sunday 2nd December

8.00am Holy Communion
9.30am Advent Lessons & Carols
9.30am Insight Service

Advent 2 – Sunday 9th December

8.00am Holy Communion
9.30am Family Service with children's nativity play

Advent 3 – Sunday 16th December

8.00am Holy Communion
9.30am Blue Christmas
9.30am Insight Service

Advent 4 – Sunday 23rd December

8.00am Holy Communion
9.30am Holy Communion
9.30am Insight Service

Christmas Eve – Monday 24th December

4.00pm "Carols & Crafts" Family Service
11.30pm Carols by Candlelight with Holy Communion

Christmas Day – Tuesday 25th December

Celebrate together the birth of Jesus
8.00am Holy Communion
9.30am Holy Communion

*Chartwell Cooperating Church
Cnr Camries Rd & Bellmont Ave,
Chartwell
Ph: 855 7434*

SUNDAY 9th December 9:30am

The **ZOO**
**Christmas
Play**

FREE ENTRY

Chartwell Church, 124 Comries Rd

CHARTWELL CHURCH INVITES YOU TO...

Christmas Eve Family Service
Carols and Craft

MONDAY 24th DEC @ 4:30pm

@ Chartwell Cooperating Church,

Join us for a family service on Christmas Eve.

Fun for all ages. Afternoon Tea

124 Comries Road, Chartwell

...and into the New year

- The **Wednesday Holy Communion Service** will run until the 19th December and then recommence on the 30th January
- **Whole Church Event : Footgolf and BBQ at the Hukanui Golf Course** on Sunday 3rd February from 3:30-6:30pm. All welcome to play or simply sit and enjoy each others company in the clubrooms.
- Annual Leave over Christmas:
 - Brad will be away from 26th Dec-6th Jan
 - Amanda will be away from Dec 26—13th Jan

Church Office Hours

The office will close at 3pm on Friday 21st December and reopen on Monday 14th January. During this period if help is needed please phone or text Rev Chee direct on 0274148909. Should he not answer rest assured his answer phone is checked regularly.

Sunday 3rd Feb 3pm-6:30pm

Foot Golf

It's Game on at Hukanui Golf Course!

Golf with a soccer ball and big holes



1550 Gordonton Road (15 mins Nth of Chartwell)

Wear comfy clothes, sneakers and BYO water bottle!

Complimentary BBQ dinner on Hole 19

Parish Council Highlights

Oct-Nov



Parish Council Roles

At the October Parish Council meeting Seddon Polglase was appointed deputy chairperson of the Parish Council and Meilia Clark took on the role of Parish Council Secretary on a trial basis to see whether it was something she would be able to do without yet committing to do the role on a permanent basis.

There are still two vacancies for Parish Councilors, and with three of the current committee due to finish their terms at the next AGM we are on the look out for anyone who could fill these vacancies.

After School Care support/oversight

The Finance and Administration Committee recommended that a group be established to provide oversight and support for Before and After School Care. This is a significant area of church outreach, income and risk, so it is important that we provide adequate support and oversight for this activity.

A group comprising Seddon Polglase, Michael Scott, Margaret Henshaw and Russell Young has been formed and are meeting with Megan on a regular basis. We thank this group for the important work they are doing to support the financial, administration, teaching, and pastoral work required with this activity.

Youth Ministry

Brad's working hours have been extended to 30 hours a week over the university holiday period. This gives Brad extra security and allows him to continue his great work at Chartwell into 2019. Brad is spending this time reviewing 2018's youth and family activities, planning activities for 2019 and working toward establishing a children's holiday programme which will run in January. This holiday programme will provide an opportunity for our young people to be involved in church activities during the holidays, an outreach to other young people in the community, and also the opportunity for some of our older youth to further develop their leadership, building on the Transformers and All Stars programmes.

A grant has been received to cover these extra hours.

After Amanda's serious health scare, we are very pleased that she is back on board and feeling relatively healthy again.

Constructing the Peace

*A hundred years on, it's time to lay World War 1 to rest and focus forward on constructing the peace, suggests **Ian Harris**.*

Sunday November 11th marked 100 years since the guns of World War 1 fell silent. Scars of the conflict remain in vast cemeteries, the photo albums of countless families, and the still-simmering tensions of the new world that lurched out of the wreckage of the old. In recent years it has been freshly engraved in our consciousness through a steady stream of books, ceremonies, exhibitions, stamps, coins, plays and television programmes.

Now it is surely time to lay that war to rest and refocus our vision and our energy on the subtler challenge of building a truly just and lasting peace.

That won't be easy. Ever since the Gallipoli campaign, New Zealanders have taken great pride in our country's commitment to the ideal of freedom from oppression. This impelled us to send young men in their thousands to fight and die for king, empire and the ruling classes of the day. They showed incredible devotion and valour.

So did their enemies, Turk and German alike. As each Remembrance and Anzac Day we mourn the fathers, sons and brothers who died in battle, so do they. But we seldom spare a thought for them or their families, most of them ordinary people just like us, caught up in a conflict far from their making. A hundred years on, perhaps we should.

Also, while we have naturally focused on New Zealand's toll in the abortive invasion of Turkey, little is heard about the much greater losses suffered by other participants. Our dead and wounded totalled 7991, Britain's 73,485, Australia's 28,150, France's 27,000, while the Turks lost 251,309. Those lives matter, too.

Nearly everyone agrees that war is ghastly and dehumanising, but we should recognise that not everyone loses out. In *Days of Our Years*, Dutch journalist Pierre van Paassen notes that even as the armies were locked in the bloodbath of Flanders, representatives of the German chemical trust, Swiss copper interests, and English, German and French armament firms met in Vienna. "Their sole purpose,"



he says, “was to devise ways and means of keeping the war going profitably.”

There were other such instances, prompting French author and Nobel laureate Anatole France to observe, “They thought they were dying for their country; they were dying for the industrialists.”

Such history has lessons for the present, but do we learn? The brutal murder of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi in Istanbul last month revolted the world, but the prospect of profits sways President Trump to go easy on Riyadh. He doesn’t want to jeopardise a \$US110 billion arms deal – think of American profits, think of American jobs . . . And think of the populations against whom the arms might one day be used.

Some argue that building these arsenals of mass destruction is the only realistic way to be sure of peace. They also guarantee that somewhere, some day, national leaders can resort to war again. The industrialists will be happy with that.

Moving from fascination with war to a full-on commitment to peace might begin with reflecting on the preamble to Unesco’s constitution: “Since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed.”

Everyone is capable of this change of mindset. It might begin simply by wearing a white poppy for peace alongside the red poppy of remembrance on Anzac Day. After all, the men and women we remember would say they fought to bring peace, so in this way we would honour them, too.

It might mean greater acknowledgment of those who took a principled stand against all war and suffered for it – as, indeed, Dunedin is doing by erecting a memorial to Archibald Baxter. The army sent Baxter to the Belgian front to break him, but he stood firm. No one should doubt his courage.

We might shift the emphasis from tales of heroism in war to stories of non-violence and heroism – to Te Whiti-o-Rongomai of Parihaka, Mahatma Gandhi in India, Martin Luther King in the US, Nelson Mandela in South Africa. As the poet Milton wrote, “peace hath her victories no less renowned than war.”

We might resist resurgent nationalisms by getting in behind organisations that promote peace through greater fairness throughout the world.

We might seek to understand how people elsewhere think – not so much to highlight our differences, but to register how much we have in common.

These are realistic ways, open to everyone, of building on the Unesco truth that victory in the cause of peace begins in the minds of men and women, everywhere.

Ian Harris Faith and Reason, ODT, November 9, 2018.

Y.A.C.C. And Messy Church

On Sunday we had the final Y.A.C.C and Messy Church for the year. The weather decided to try and disrupt our plans but like any great professionals, we had amazing backup plans.

Messy Church finished the year off by looking at gratitude during the festive season. With helpers full of enthusiasm, an afternoon of fantastic foods, and some creative crafts, it was a great way to see off the year. Our message to finish off the year was that during the festive season let's be grateful for what we have, let's stop comparing what we have to what others have and most importantly let us all enjoy the significance of the season.





Our Y.A.C.C final bonfire had to be moved indoors which meant having a fire was inadvisable. So instead we created a night of hanging out together and making sure we all had a good laugh. From table tennis with a net made of toilet paper, to mattress surfing and finishing with pass the parcel challenge version. Even though the weather tried its hardest to ruin our plans, a great night

was still had by all. It was fantastic to finish the year by spending time laughing as a group of friends.

It has been a challenging year so we would like to thank everyone who has helped this year. Without many others stepping up in multiple areas and in multiple ways, we would have been severely limited. We look forward to 2019 and the changes that are coming to keep moving our ministries forward.



7th Hamilton Girls' Brigade Awards Night



7th Hamilton Girls' Brigade Awards Night on 14 November was the culmination of their year's efforts when family and friends gathered with the Leaders and the girls. It was impressive watching the company, all in uniform, process into the church. Two girls prayed, then the Company Chaplain Rev Gloria Zanders, in leading devotions talked about Saints, then reminded the girls that they too are the light shining out for all to see, 'saints' with a small 's'. It is an interesting coincidence that it is 125 years of Women's Suffrage in New Zealand and 125 since Girls' Brigade began in Ireland. And it wouldn't be a Girls' Brigade event without a couple of action songs.

The Girls' Brigade Motto is ***Seek, Serve and Follow Christ***. Leaders help the Juniors to seek Christ, the Seniors to serve Christ, and challenge the Pioneers to follow Christ. This is a very well managed company, with an excellent team of six leaders who set clear goals and boundaries. The girls are enthusiastic to learn the life skills that are part of their programme. **Alison Taylor**, the Company Captain, has 25 years of leadership experience and at a recent National Conference received the National Executive Award for excellence and outstanding service to Girls' Brigade New Zealand. **Renee Sharp**, another of our officers, was elected to the Girls' Brigade National Board. **Nicola Hollis** has just completed her Queen's Award and will receive it at Government House in Wellington on December 1. She has been in the Company for 12 years and has now stepped up into Leadership.

Awards and badges were presented before the Passing Up ceremony where Juniors were promoted and received as Seniors, and Seniors were promoted and received as Pioneers. Finally some special Awards were received - the Brigader Brooch to **Phoenix McConachy-George**, the Leadership cup to **Rebecca de Leeuw**, and the

Optima Cup to the best all-rounder to **Letitia Taylor**, who is a third generation Girls' Brigader. Just before everyone moved into the Hall for a meal, Alison thanked our five church members who offer Devotions to the girls throughout the year.

Gwen Kentish

Chartwell Church

SUMMER HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

21st - 25th January 2019

**A SAFE, FRIENDLY AND FUN
ENVIRONMENT FOR ALL.**

Ages 6 - 13

Cost :

\$15 per day

\$65 for 5 days

\$115 for 2 from same family for 5 days

\$10 for 3 or more from same family each day

126 Comries Rd, Chartwell, Hamilton

For more information contact Brad Clarke

0273448641

Clarkebrad18@gmail.com



Kakapo Christmas Crush

*'Twas Christmas Crush time and all was well,
The workers had prepared and soon time would tell.
Real fruit drinks served on entering in and tables ever so neatly set
Crisp table cloths centre pieces, Christmas themed? You bet.*

*A moment of reflection for those to their maker have gone,
As we remembered their presence this year, gone but not long.
Then a reflection on our past years Val & Wal such wonderful hosts
Who in years gone by have given us the most.*

*Not missing a trick as we all found our seating,
Time for Grace and instructions about January's meeting.
Table by table we were ushered really soon
To the annex beside the big main room.*

*With food unbelievable on tables groaning
There was ham on the bone and chicken cooked, not roaming,
And hot new potatoes complete with lady serving.
And the salads, man! Made us feel oh so deserving,
Beautifully presented in flash serving dishes,
Wow what perfection. All one ever wishes.*

*Then if that wasn't enough, would you believe the next selection,
On tables were desserts all laid out to complete perfection.
Now one naughty man made a big trifle delicious,
Would you believe he put alcohol in one of these dishes!*

*There were garden strawberries so sweet and really delicious
Food and ice cream that answered all our prayers and good wishes.
Convivial chatter and catching up too
And maybe a few even went to the loo!*

*When all the chatter had died down and time was for going
We left with a very big Oops! Yes, a thankyou still owing.
So to the organisers, helpers, supporters and all their lackeys
We owe you one very big thankyou, for making us all so incredibly happy.*

*So we say many thanks to you wonderful people
We should shout out our thanks from the big church steeple.
Please accept our very grateful thanks
For your work in the background. Number 1 it ranks.*

*So January's meeting looms and we need suggestions
As to the programme for next year at this session.
The Holdsworth's front garden is to be the venue
A date we will find out and then we will send you.*

*So Christmas is looming and good times will wish for you.
So keep safe, have fun and look forward to the next do.
Merry Christmas from the Kakapo Management team.*

*As Christmas approaches, please remember
The Reason for the Season.*



CHURCH FAIR 2018

The Chartwell Church Fair 2018 was another success.



Our funds raised were down on previous years due to awful weather and therefore less people through the door. This was somewhat countered however with the funds raised throughout the year by our larger goods on Trademe. Erica has been working very hard for the whole year and is instrumental in this success. Thanks to the whole fair committee as they work literally ALL YEAR preparing, meeting, planning, running working bees to sort boxes, organising storage and doing pick ups of items. If you see Erica, Warwick, Jack, Carol or Amanda – give them a pat on the back because they have already started thinking about the fair in 2019. They could always use an extra member or three if you are keen to join them! Thanks also to Keri and Carol for providing spaces where we can stack all the goodies.

Dr Seuss's Grinch says about Christmas...

*"What if **Christmas**, he thought, doesn't come from a store. What if **Christmas**, perhaps, means a little bit more."*

That is how I feel about the Fair. The raised funds help in a myriad of ways

Fair	2018	2017
Cakes	\$852	\$679
Tools	\$556	\$934
Garden	\$2,467	\$2,694
Furniture	\$1,348	\$2,257
Electrical	\$1,100	\$1,977
Kitchenware	\$1,035	\$1,547
Furnishings	\$660	\$1,208
Linen	\$1,354	\$1,248
Books	\$907	\$927
Retro/Treasures	\$686	\$874
Pictures	\$577	\$561
Sports gear	\$341	\$563
Manure	\$1,495	\$1,770
Preserves and		
Jam	\$507	\$272
Bric a brac	\$354	\$985
BBQ	\$739	\$588
Jewellery	\$464	\$808
Morning tea	\$624	\$527
Sweets	\$542	\$812
Kids Things	\$667	\$958
Korean		\$216
Bags cases	\$366	\$409
Curtains	\$700	\$1,230
Trade Me	\$3,775	
Last Yr	\$2,014	\$820
Donations	\$1,165	\$57
Music	\$47	\$41
Expenses	-\$2,682	-\$281
	\$22,660	\$24,680
	<u>\$2,018</u>	<u>\$2,017</u>
Received Prior	\$6,924	\$4,755
On Day	\$15,425	\$19,925
Oct After Fair	\$311	
	\$22,660	\$24,680



around the church, that's for sure. But I believe the fair means a little bit more.

More faces! I love seeing the faces of so many people all in one place. People that we don't always get to see. It's a great chance for a catch-up and conversation while sorting a box.

More smiles! As we talk and greet each other and sort boxes, people are smiling and there is an energy and level of excitement and anticipation in the room. Even though it is tiring work the energy remains.

More boxes! So many people have donated goods to us for the Fair. That generosity is appreciated. It is great also that we can help people out by giving them a place to give their goods to. Often when we empty those boxes we do some reminiscing over some of the items inside – mystery boxes are a great conversation starter!

More community! The more people we meet from the community, the more we strengthen our own church community. Everyone is happy, the punters get a bargain and we are raising funds.

More vests! So many people show up to help. We have over 135 vests and there were less than a handful left in the box this year. That is an astounding level of support from all of you and it is certainly appreciated.

More youth! Over the last few years we have had the youth helping out at the Fair. Their expertise in unpacking and setting up is getting better every year and they make a significant contribution. They are more than just 'youth helpers'.

More first-timers! What a wonderful thing it is, in amongst the mayhem, to welcome new people into our church community. This year we had so many who were there helping for the first time.

What an introduction!

You are certainly part of our church family now. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

"The Fair, she thought, doesn't come from a store. The Fair, certainly means a little bit more."



Full House: this is the situation at the Selwyn Centre as we are required to keep our numbers at 20 to maintain a friendly, family atmosphere. We are now having to start a waiting list for those who are keen to join us. Sadly we recently said farewell to Carole Harford who attended our group when her health allowed.



During the past couple of months we have had some amazing people sharing:

- Mary-Pat came down from Kerikeri sharing about her time in Mozambique as an early childhood educator, including living with the local people and visiting outlying areas on her trusty motorcycle.
- Brenda shared about her life moving onto Irishman's Creek near Fairly as a young bride and her engineer husband working

in the development of the Hamilton jet boats.

- Jan Silvester shared about her trip to Costa Rica with an interesting slide show and informative commentary.

Neil sharing his genealogy with many interesting stories included.

OCTOBER:

Guests and volunteers enjoyed a visit to Duck Island ice-cream parlour in Hamilton East. This store has around 30 different ice-cream flavours to choose from. Prior to the church Fair we enjoyed a few activities together such as planting seeds, potting plants along with making some jewellery. October finished in the hall with several

learning to play indoor bowls - even from the seat of their walkers - while others used the lighter lounge bowls. A competitive group played Molkký, a more sophisticated skittles-type game which is scored to reach exactly 50 points.

NOVEMBER:

November had Nutrition as the theme, with dietician Lyn Fergusson sharing information and answering a host of questions, before talking with a small group of diabetics. Her message was eating healthy food with plenty of vegetables and fruit, limiting drinks high in sugar, eating breads and cereals with nutrients and fibre, using low-fat milk and milk products and daily protein. Meal portion size is important and we were pleased to learn of the takeaway meals we can have! This was followed the next week by sharing among guests and volunteers some of the pre-prepared meals available, including Meals on Wheels. It was interesting to learn that one of our guests was instrumental in setting up Meals on Wheels with YMCA and continues to be involved. We also shared our favourite recipes and some people brought samples to share. We look forward to Vicki from Rototuna New World, sharing about easy meals available in their store.

Along with the weekly programme, it is great to see the guests enjoying each other's company, both on Thursday mornings, increasingly during the week and in times of sickness.

St Alban's Selwyn Centre will meet for the last time in 2018 on 13th December and open again on 10th January 2019. We are currently working with HCC library staff to provide a "Holiday Programme for Older Persons" at Chartwell Library over the Christmas break. This will be open for all members of the church and community as well as our centre.

Helen McAlpine, Coordinator



Jack and Kobi Brinkman

Jack and Kobi Brinkman are featured this week in Sarah's Spot. Both Jack and Kobi attend Sunday morning at 9:30am and enjoy the Insight Service.

Jack and Kobi came to New Zealand in 1980 as they had a cousin here and they wanted to move out of Holland. It was a time when there were several changes in their lives and this helped them to make this decision.



They shifted to Hamilton in 1998. Kobi had looked in the telephone book and saw our church and went to check it out. She said there was a lovely minister and during the sermons, they had to go to little groups to discuss which was a new and different style to what she was used to. In the beginning, Jack didn't attend the services until the end of the year 2000 when he discovered Insight.

Before they retired Jack was a mechanical design engineer for the company ETL that worked in the dairy industry and he did projects all over the world. He worked in Australia, Indonesia, Canada and Switzerland, to name a few. That company went bust in 1999. When Jack went looking for another job many people told him he was "too old for other jobs". He didn't give up and eventually found a job at Shield Air where he worked for the next 15 years.

Jack and Kobi met 65 years ago during a very cold winter. They were with their friends and then went on other outings and got together. This was a very slow process as they both went to night school.

Jack's dream job was to work with aircrafts. Someone told him there was no future in aircraft, as in 1954 aeroplanes were very hard to come by and you didn't travel by air (which seems crazy now).

Kobi wanted to be a vet which never happened. She worked in a shipping company and then as a manager. In New Zealand, it was difficult to get a part-time job but she kept busy and started weaving. Kobi eventually got a job in market research as an interviewer. When they moved to Hamilton she started taking courses twice a year for weaving in Australia.

Jack did quite a bit of work for Habitat for Humanity after he retired which he has talked about in church. Soon Global Mission wanted to build a kindy in Vanuatu so

Ken said, “Jack, I have a job for you”. Jack and a team of seven others built a kindy in eight days. Since then he has helped repair and build many schools in Vanuatu and more recently in Tonga. Whenever he does a job where they insist on paying he puts the money in a trust for children in Tonga.

Jack and Kobi met the Silvesters and some of the other members of the church when Kobi came home on Sunday and said that she had volunteered him to help with the building of the new section of the church. Many years later Jack heard about the work being done at Pukemokemoke and he knew Warwick was involved, so he rang him up and Warwick took him there almost straight after. Jack has worked there now for a very long time and has helped with maintenance and putting in the boardwalk, along with many other projects.

Kobi not only weaves but she is an excellent painter. She has a diploma in arts (specifically tapestry) and has a room for weaving on her loom and by hand. Jack also has a room for his hobby which is engineering and designing things. He has a 3D printer which he uses to make many things including a marble clock! He also makes model ships which can take up to a year to build. Jack and Kobi really value education. If they could tell their twenty-year-old self something it would be to keep striving with your studies as you can go very far in life.



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CHURCH LIBRARY NOTES

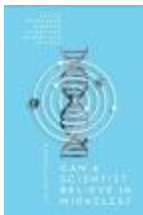
Compiled by
Gwen Kentish

When borrowing a book from the Library, please add your phone number to the card, as well as the date and your name.

THEOLOGY:



Faith in the Shadows: Finding Christ in the midst of doubt is by Austin Fischer, who asks questions about Christianity. He addresses contemporary science, the problem of evil, God's silence, and other issues, offering not only fresh treatments of these questions but also a fresh paradigm for thinking about doubt itself. Doubt, Fischer contends, is no reason to leave the faith. It's an invitation to a more honest faith - a faith that's not in control, but that trusts more fully in its Lord.



Can a Scientist Believe in Miracles? is by Dr Ian Hutchinson, a plasma physicist and professor of nuclear science and engineering. Drawing on his fascinating personal story, impressive credentials and experiences addressing university audiences, the questions he tackles

about God and science are both relatable and contemporary. He explores how science and Christianity are mutually supportive and intellectually consistent.

BIOGRAPHY:



Conversations with Bella: A Love Story, A Spiritual Odyssey, and the Gift of a Broken Heart by Dr Merv Dickinson.

This is a deeply moving memoir of profound spiritual wisdom. Ordained to ministry in the Uniting Church of Canada in 1958, with his doctoral studies in psychology and theology, Merv served as vicar of an Anglican/Methodist Parish in Taranaki in 1981 before settling into a twenty year career as an organisational leadership consultant. When Bella, his beloved wife of fifty years, dies suddenly, grief plunges him into previously unknown depths of love and inner connection. For a period, he experiences mystical moments when Bella seems powerfully present. Told in an intensely personal style, in language both poignant and lyrical, this memoir will inspire anyone touched by grief, as well as those who are on their own inner journey of awakening.

Adult Storytime

Chartwell Library

Thursday 20th December

Thursday 3rd January

10.30am to 12pm

Come and join us for:

Morning tea

Music

Readings and Reflections

You may also like to bring a book to share with the group

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The life and times of Jesus of Nazareth

It has been over the latter half of the 20th century and increasingly evident in the 21st that the Christian faith has undergone some serious scrutiny. An increasing reluctance to adhere to outdated and often all too literal understandings of scripture which is out of sync with contemporary living has seen a huge decrease in the numbers of Kiwis having any interest in religion of any kind. The rise of science and its



attendant discoveries, including the ability for the human race to destroy itself and the planet which sustains it, have increased focus on physical and geo-political problems in a secular society rather than philosophical or theological matters. Contemporary western society particularly is becoming more and more ignorant of its history and those who have shaped its past; the effects of present world figures and their influence on our increasingly precarious future are absorbing all our secular energy – there is little appetite for learning about an ancient world so radically different from the one we know.

Modern scholarship has been revealing much about the lives and times of historical figures and events of pasts both ancient and less distant. As a result our comprehension of our planet Earth and its insignificant place in the universe has altered rather dramatically even during the lives of most of us here present. We have Galileo Galilei and his telescope to thank for initiating that.

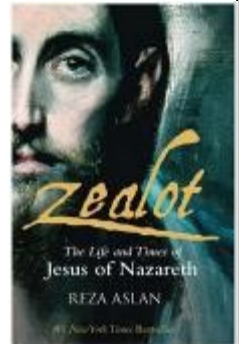
One of the historical figures more distant from us who had an even more profound effect on western civilisation than did Galileo was Jesus of Nazareth whose life and political execution was such an example to the people of his time that his name and teaching came to be revered, discussed, followed or dismissed over the next two thousand years.

We know few facts about the man: he was born a peasant Jew; he grew to manhood in obscurity; the last three years or so of his life he surfaced as an itinerant and gifted preacher offering a challenge to the Romans who occupied his country – the Promised Land – given by the God of the Jewish people to the exclusion of all others; he was considered such a threat to the established order of Roman governor/Temple priesthood that he was summarily executed in his early 30s by the common Roman method of crucifixion reserved particularly for those found guilty of sedition and/or blasphemy.

It is only in recent years that the distinction between Jesus the man of history and Jesus who became the Christ has become more recognised. It is worth reflecting that

during his ministry his teaching emphasised how to BEHAVE: some three centuries later this had largely morphed into what to BELIEVE with much argument and bloodshed resulting.

How that came about is chiefly due to Paul and his letters, written after the death of Jesus (whom he never knew in the flesh) and before the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 C.E. This is not the place to comment further on Paul's influence. I would rather alert you to a significant book published five years ago called *Zealot: the life and times of Jesus of Nazareth* by Reza Aslan. The author was born in Iran, raised in America in an evangelical household. As he matured his evangelical faith was angrily discarded as he felt he had been duped. His subsequent academic study and research of the historical Jesus for more than two decades has had an increasing influence on him far removed from what he was taught as a child.



In his absorbing and well acclaimed book, Reza Aslan offers a more radical view of Jesus than more commonly understood. The Kingdom of God is portrayed as the antithesis of the Roman occupation which must be expelled and the Promised Land ruled by those to whom it was given by God. People other than Jews had no rights to live there -- certainly not as rulers—and there was great change coming and soon.

Do not think I have come to bring peace on earth. I have not come to bring peace but the sword. Matthew 10:34

From a reflection given by Jock Crawford to Insight 4/11/18

**In October, the Kakapo group
visited the Te Awamutu Space
Centre in Kihikihi.**

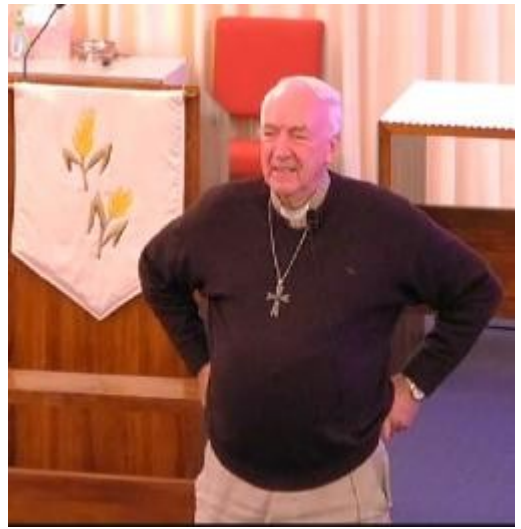
**Alec Utting takes a tentative
step into space.**



Progressive Exploration

October 7th - Bishop Richard Randerson

Bishop Richard Randerson has become an almost annual visitor to Chartwell to share his insights into a variety of topics over the last few years. His background as a former Social Justice Officer of the Anglican Church, and a Bishop over a long period of time, has given him valued perspective on some of the issues facing society and the church.



On October 7th, Bishop Richard led us in two seminars – the first explored the current debate in New Zealand on euthanasia, with particular focus on the End of Life Choice Bill 2018, and the submissions by the Anglican Bishops. There were two submissions by Anglican Bishops, reaching different conclusions, with Bishop Randerson being part of the majority group opposing the Bill. While opposing the Bill, Bishop Randerson found a lot of sympathy for some of the arguments used by supporters, and his arguments against it were much more well-reasoned than many spouted by some hard-line Christian opposition lobby groups. The Church's role in society to support lonely and vulnerable elderly was highlighted as of utmost importance, and is something that I believe people on both sides of this debate will agree on.

The second session discussed the Church's response to same-sex relationships, with the heading of the presentation "God's Love is in all Loving Relationships: An exploration of a Christian approach to same-sex relationships". Bishop Randerson was able to explain the history and recent decisions of the Anglican Church of New Zealand to allow for blessings of same-sex relationships in limited circumstances. He also spent time working through the "proof texts" that are often used by Christians to oppose same-sex relationships, providing some context and rebuttal for many of the arguments. The positions of the Presbyterian and Methodist Churches were also explained for our context.

Both topics generated thoughtful discussion and questions, and a variety of opinions were expressed. It is great to have the opportunity to discuss important and sometimes controversial topics in a church setting like ours.

Aaron Bennett



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