

Charter



Bi-monthly magazine of Chartwell Cooperating Church
Anglican | Methodist | Presbyterian



Some of the wonderful volunteers that got stuck into the working bee at Aratiatia Marae at Fairfield College on the 26th March
This is the Maara kai (fenced garden) before its transformation.

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Parish Information

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Secretary Kelera Luvu

CHARTER:

Amanda Bowcott, Aaron Bennett, Alec Utting, & Keri Wilson.

MILESTONES

Compiled by GWEN KENTISH

Deaths:

We offer condolences to those who have lost family members recently; to the family of **David Morrison** [d.3/3] husband of Nancy [Nan] and brother of Jean Horn. A family celebration has been held. **Eva Richards** has just died in Gisborne where she moved to be near her daughter Sarah. Eva and her husband John were foundation members of St Alban's from its beginning in Herbert Road and built one of the first few houses in Queenwood Ave.

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 23rd May 2022**

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.

Minister's Report

“Waihoki ko tatou tokomaha nei, he tinana kotahi i roto i a te Karaiti, ko tatou takitahi ia, he wahi tetahi no tetahi.” (Roma 12:5)

“We, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another.” (Romans 12:5)



Tēnā koutou katoa, greetings everyone. Since the publication of our last Charter magazine, a lot has happened both locally and globally. Everything that happens around us affects each of us, with varying degrees. Rightfully so, because we all share God's Earth, Our Home. We celebrate life, we feel each other's pain, and we spread the joy for all to share. We all belong. We are connected. Some of us have lost loved ones. May they rest in God's eternal peace and rise in glory! We pray God's peace and strength upon all mourning the loss of their loved ones. We have celebrated milestones in life. We have felt like not a lot has changed or a lot has changed and have felt helpless. Amidst all these, we are blessed to have a church family that we can call our own. To know that we belong to the body of Christ - the whanau/family of God is a gift. We celebrate the taonga (treasure) of our church facilities, a tangible place that provides a space for all to gather to worship God, nurture faith in Christ, build relationships, develop friendships and provide a home away from home.

Rajnish and I migrated to Aotearoa New Zealand as adults. Literally from the hour we landed at Auckland International Airport (thank you Warren Anderson, for picking us up ☺), we have experienced the love and support from people we have met and the churches we have been blessed to minister. Being ministers has afforded us the privilege of inheriting a church community, wherever we go.

We have also met immigrant families, who have called Aotearoa NZ their home, struggling to find connections in their local communities. If they don't belong to a dominant cultural group, or have professional connections, or are able to identify with a certain social group, they live in involuntary social isolation. Young families with no immediate family support. Generations growing up without experiencing the love and affection of relatives and grandparents. Grandparents pining for relationships with children and younger people who live overseas.

The current global pandemic has taught us how interconnected and interdependent humanity is. Also, the current war in Ukraine and the plight of millions of people of all ages, challenges one to look deeply into our own realities.

As a Church and as followers of Jesus Christ, we claim that “we who are many are one body in Christ”. We have a lot to celebrate individually and collectively as a church family. We continue to strengthen relationships with our friends and explore new relationships with our neighbours. We are committed to celebrating God’s creation and to the care of our environment so that we, and many generations to come, will have a tangible connection and a belonging to the natural environment. On Saturday the 26th of March, a group of us were welcomed into Aratiatia Marae for a working bee, by Eddie Neha, the Kaitiaki of Aratiatia Marae and Richard Crawford, Principal of Fairfield College. Thanks to Anna Casey-Cox for liaising with the iwi and organising this event. Thanks also to all for welcoming us and helping in various ways, and a special thanks to Rev. Cruz Karauiti-Fox, Missioner of Waikato for coming to tautoko/support us.

Our weekly Lenten Study group this year has been sharing vibrant interaction and incredible insights. Here are gifts from a couple of our members. The first one is entitled, “I Wonder,” with beautiful lyrics and tune composed by our very own Catherine Short. We are excited to share this with our church family and beyond. Thank you, Catherine.

*I wonder as I wander amid all this green,
why leaves bedeck trees... there are millions to be seen.
Sun and rain give new growth, Autumn winds blow leaves away.
Seasons have reasons for creating in this way.*

*I wonder as I wander over sand dunes by the sea,
why dead fish drift in on tides, rubbish litters the beach.
Some boats spill their fuel drift nets...such treachery!
Pollution is the enemy! Oh, why can't we see?*

*I wonder as I wander why hills are now mines...
Land is subsiding, Gold, silver... for our times?
Greedy wants betray us, Lord, forgive our squandering,
Our future's in jeopardy. Let's stop this right now!*

*I wonder as I wander what I've yet to give...
reflecting on my life and the ways that I live...
I'll continue my learning through actions and deeds...
reducing waste; conserving water 'tis precious to keep clean.*

*Walk, breathe in the beauty
Of our land, sea and sky
We're but guardians of the future
Keep our planet alive!*

The second one is a prayer, **“God’s Earth”** written by Dawn Smith:

*Lord, you gifted your earth to us for our sustenance,
benefit and enjoyment.*

*In return for your gift our commitment needs to reflect
our care of your world, via our use of it,
our management of it, our protection of it,
and our education of all about it.*

*Through this we show our gratitude and appreciation of your gift
and honour your faith and trust in us
As guardians of your world.*

We are also looking forward to watching a documentary, “The True Cost,” followed by coffee and cake. Keep an eye out on the weekly Parish Newsletter for further details.

As followers of Jesus, a significant step in initiating a sense of belonging to Jesus and connectedness to the church, the body of Christ, is in the sacrament of Baptism. We welcome God’s children to the family of God in Baptism. Come along and celebrate with the Baptism family and the whole church family on Palm Sunday, April 10th at 9:30am, in the church Hall.

On Good Friday, April 15th at 10:00am our Parish will be hosting the Combined Churches Good Friday service. As one body of Christ we will gather to focus on the journey of Jesus to the cross and reflect on what the cross of Christ means for each one of us. There will be time for communal worship, personal reflective spaces, and a labyrinth to help us in our reflective journey to the cross. On Sunday April 17th, we will celebrate together the Resurrection of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Another occasion of celebration will be a Service of Confirmation and Patronal festival on Sunday June 19th at 9:00am. Confirmation classes will begin after Easter. The heads of our three Partner Churches will also be present at this service to celebrate with us.

We continue to explore what we can do to make God’s earth a safer place for all to live and share. What can we each do so that our human sense of belonging and connectedness is tangible for all? It is said that belonging precedes believing.

In Christ’s service,
Jekheli Kibami Singh

*“Tika tonu, e te Ariki, kia riro i a koe te kororia, me te honore, me te kaha: nau hoki i
hanga nga mea katoa, a nau i pai i takoto ai aua mea, i hanga ai.”
(Whakakitenga 4:11)*

*“Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honour and power,
for You created all things, and by Your will they existed and were created.”
(Revelation 4:11)*



LENT & EASTER

Palm Sunday: April 10th

8am Holy Communion

9:30am Combined Intergenerational Service

Messy Easter: April 10th

4pm Interactive Family Service

Holy Week: April 13th

10am A reflective service with Holy Communion

Maundy Thursday: April 14th

7pm Service

Good Friday: April 15th

10am Combined Service at Chartwell Church

The cross will be carried from Discovery Church to Chartwell Church from about 9am

Easter Sunday: April 17th

8am Celebration worship with Holy Communion

9:30am Celebration worship with Holy Communion

Parish Council

Highlights

Feb and March 2022



Our last two Parish Council meetings were held on the 22nd February and the 30th March.

COVID 19 requirements still dominate our lives. We are currently still in red level. We continue with checking vaccine passes, the wearing of masks and, for now, not sharing morning tea after the services until the COVID 19 spiking Omicron case numbers reduce.

Parish Review

As we continue the review of our pastoral responsibilities and capabilities, working alongside Rev Daniel Park, the Parish Council hopes to be able to approve Terms of Reference for the Pastoral Team and in time a strategic plan. We will continue to seek opportunities for further funding to increase the hours for this position. The Worship Team review has been completed and new job descriptions have been agreed and shared with the Welcomers and Stewards as well as new Terms of Reference for the Worship Team. The Executive Team are looking at the future funding and staffing of the Youth and Family Team. We will be making suitable funding proposals to increase the capacity of the current role. After this, we will continue, in consultation, the review (based primarily on the Youth and Family strategic plan). Once this review is done the Parish Review recommendations and response work will be completed.

Strategic Plan Priorities

Through the priorities agreed in our three-year strategic plan:

- Sharon Ross Ensor is leading the team who are progressing our pathway to joining the Eco Church network.
- An invitation from Anna Cox was sent to the parish to invite them to join the team on a wānanga (working Bee). This is a part of building our relationship with Ngāti Wairere. It was successfully held on march 26th at the Aratiatia Marae.
- The Parish Council are waiting for the presentation of the work being undertaken on the welcome pack.

General Business

COVID 19 Protection Framework Management Plan - the constantly changing requirements of the Government and the Partner Churches mean that reviewing and updating will be an ongoing process. We will also monitor our vaccination policy and our Health and Safety Policy for potential changes as required.

Eco Church and Solar panel update: For the solar panel proposal, Parish Council approved exploring with the Eco Church network, sharing more environmental stories and getting three quotes for the cost.

We still have a vacancy for a Presbyterian representative on the Parish Council.

At our next meeting the Parish Council will approve a \$1000 donation towards supporting the aid work in the Ukraine.

We once again thank you all for your ongoing patience and support of the church as we navigate 2022. Our thoughts and prayers go out to all who are struggling during these trying times.

Executive Team Report

Feb/Mar 2022

- Covid-19 continues to keep us on our toes, particularly Amie who has to evaluate changes to rules and levels as they arise and determine what effects they will have on the use of our community spaces. Just when we are all getting used to a set of rules it seems another change is signalled!
- Fundraising remains a key focus for the Executive Team, not only making grant applications but also looking at sustainability of income for Chartwell Church. The Fair Committee met in early March and has recommended that we revert to running one Fair and one Book Sale in 2022. Running a series of sales loses the special event character of the Fair and cumulatively adds up to more work than a single Fair. In February we received another small grant from the Methodist Alliance Tindall Foundation fund of \$700 to sponsor two children for a full year of Holiday Clubs. While the fees for our Holiday Club are much lower than most operators, they are still out of reach of some families, particularly at this time of economic disruption.
- In February we received the most unexpected news that Doreen Riddell had left a bequest of just over \$20,000 to Chartwell Church! The Parish Council is considering how to use this gift to best effect. We are so very grateful to Doreen.
- A number of initiatives for the computers and audio-visual systems are nearing fruition and we will report back once they are completed.

- Finally, the latest deluge has highlighted that Warwick's efforts to resolve the roof drainage issues have not been completely successful. Unfortunately such weather events are not going to go away anytime soon and may possibly intensify so the team has agreed to contract a roofing drainage expert to evaluate the system. Thank you Warwick for all your efforts to try to resolve this tricky issue. Our thanks also to Keri for dealing with the initial aftermath of the huge leak in the Lounge!
- Thank you to all who volunteer their time and talents to make this church a great place to gather and worship.

Erica and Warwick (Co-Chairs)

Financial summary

Giving:

Several large donations have been received in recent months (some of which is tagged for specific projects) including a bequest of over \$20,000 from the estate of Doreen Riddell. We are very grateful for the many people who give so generously for the work of this church. This has seen the parish income from giving turn around from being around \$10,000 behind budget at the end of November, to now being around \$36,000 ahead of budget. This will underpin the community connection work that Daniel has been employed to undertake and also allow for some urgent spending on property repairs and IT replacements and improvements.



Hireage:

Hall hire continues to be well below budget and prior years as a result of Covid. February was a better month than we had seen for a while, with almost \$3,000 being received, but this was the result of funeral income and some hire charges that relate to the whole of the school term.

Over \$2,000 of overdue charges relating to After School Care has been collected this year. The programme was closed down in April 2021 and we have been working to recover outstanding debts where possible. The remaining \$5,000 has been written off.

Total parish income is around \$27,000 ahead of budget Year to date.

Overseas Missions:

At the start of the year we had accumulated \$3,800 of funds for overseas mission activities. Although we have made regular contributions to overseas mission initiatives, this fund has grown because of additional money generated from the plant sales which has not been fully spent. Last financial year the plant sales table made \$2,400! While the plant sales have been curtailed by Covid this year it has still made \$600.

This year there have been several major humanitarian crises which the Parish Council has decided to support financially using our mission fund. \$1,000 has been given to appeals for Afghanistan, Haiti and Tonga, and a proposal has been put to Parish Council to donate a further \$1,000 to assist with aid in Ukraine.

Solar Roof Panels for our Church

As part of our commitment to sustainability and to complement our Eco-Church membership, we have undertaken to further investigate the installation solar panels on the church roof. The proposal is to install up to 40 solar panels, giving us about 15kW of power. We have drawn up a document requesting quotations from providers which will be going to four suppliers.

What are the implications for us? We anticipate the cost to be around \$35k and we should budget for \$40k. An array of this size will significantly reduce our power costs but also help us to realise a more sustainable profile. We are not yet committed but we will reassess when we receive quotations. We already have \$10k promised and will be coming to you, the congregation, for donations in the next few months. Watch this space and many thanks to Jack for initiating this venture.





A group at Chartwell Cooperating Church have been talking over recent months about how we can become more intentional in showing our care for the environment. This is in keeping with section seven of our Strategic Plan (2021-23) which states that we want Chartwell to ‘be a place of serving and transforming. We want to be a church which looks outward to our surrounding community and engages with the needs and opportunities there.’ The plan goes on to say that this engagement includes exploring our bi-cultural relationship with tangata whenua and an intentional commitment to environmental care within our church building and in the wider community.

Our care of the environment includes standing alongside the tangata whenua, learning from them and working for justice and restoration of the land together.

At the end of last year a small group of us had an initial conversation with leaders from Aratiatia marae which is at Fairfield College who are part of our local iwi, Ngāti Wairere. Following that conversation the invitation came from Ngāti Wairere to come to a working bee at the marae as part of our relationship-building. On Saturday March 26th around a dozen people from Chartwell Cooperating Church gathered at Fairfield College and we were welcomed onto the marae by Eddie Neha, a leader of the marae and Richard Crawford who is Principal of Fairfield College and a member of the marae committee.





BEFORE



AFTER



After the formal welcome, assisted by Rev Cruz Karauti-Fox, the Waikato Missioner for the Anglican Diocese, we were given an introduction to the story of the marae and an explanation of the carvings on the interior of the whareniui which tell a wonderful story of not only Ngāti Wairere, but also of the intention for the marae to be a place where all people, from all races and places, can feel they belong.

After a delicious morning tea we got stuck in to weeding the maara kai (food garden) and the ngāhere (forest). There was a lot to do with the Covid situation meaning that the usual working bees and maintenance had not been able to be done for some time. You'll see by the photos that we made good progress which was hugely satisfying.

After sharing lunch together we all headed off for home feeling that it had been an excellent start to building what we hope will be a mutually enriching relationship with our local iwi.

A big thank you to Anna Casey-Cox for organising the morning. Anna's already established relationships with people within Ngāti Wairere are helping us to find our way with this.





WHO IS MY NEIGHBOUR?

We were blessed to have a great Messy Church event celebrating the theme of “Who is my Neighbour?” last Sunday.

We made lots of mess and had a chance to leave a piece of art behind for everyone inside and outside the building to enjoy.

We talked about what we could do to help our neighbours in the Ukraine. One activity was the coin trail. Thanks so much to all those in the congregation who supported us on Sunday by bringing coins along to add to this coin trail. We had a huge trail that wiggled around in a crazy line all over the carpet. In total we raised \$171.90 in coins, all of which will be donated to support the efforts of those working with refugees on the ground in Ukraine and in neighbouring countries.





With 92 pancakes, and 30 pikelets, 1 litre of whipped cream, 5 different syrups and loads of toppings, Shrove Tuesday (on a Sunday) was a hit with pancake artists and food lovers alike!



SHROVE ~~TUESDAY~~ SUNDAY



Pancakes for breakfast is a treat.
When you get pancakes for dinner—that's awesome!

At the end of February we celebrated Shrove Tuesday on a Sunday in Messy Church style. Thanks to a lovely evening we were able to have the event outside which was a blessing. The first fine pancake party we have had in four years.

Everyone enjoyed the carnival style games with a pancake twist and the relay races were well contested if not slightly competitive! All the while we had the BBQ running for a pre-pancake snack.

Of course there was a lot of decorating and eating of pancakes too. There were almost 100 pancakes and for something different we had a huge stack of pikelets as well. This was handy when you were almost full up and only had a little bit of space left in your tummy—not enough for another whole pancake but perfect size for a pikelet.

There were toppings of all descriptions including the new and popular jelly tip syrup (seriously, go get some—it's yum!!). It was fantastic also having so many fruit options! The design skills of those attending was up there with Masterchef and I am sure they tasted just as good.

Thanks to the organisers and Brad who was up visiting and helped Amanda make all the pancakes (the dream team back in action?). Thanks also to everyone who came along and celebrated with us. It was fantastic to have such a fun intergenerational event. We encourage family groups to add events such as this and other Messy Church events to their year's calendar. I can assure you that you will all have fun (a lot of it) and will also be supporting the efforts of our ministry team.





***“We don’t stop playing because we grow old;
we grow old because we stop playing”***

George Bernard Shaw



Messy Easter

Sunday 10th April 4-5:30pm

Chartwell Church Hall, Comries Road, Chartwell

Family Fun - Easter Story - Crafts - Afternoon tea - All Ages

For more information phone 8557434 or email office@chartwellchurch.org.nz

What's Happening

for families



Mainly Music:	Friday mornings in Term Time	9:30-10:45am
VIBE Youth Group:	Most Thursday nights	7-8:30pm
Palm Sunday Service:	Sunday 10th April	9:30am
Messy Church:	Sunday 10th April	4-5:30pm
Toy Library:	Every Tuesday and Saturday morning	
Holiday Club:	April 19-21	8:30-4:30 daily
Messy Church:	Sunday 22nd May	4-5:30pm

Calendars Mark Your Calendars Mark Your

One a penny, two a penny: The great hot cross bun debate

Do you like hot cross buns? Few people seem to be indifferent to hot cross buns: they either love them or hate them. For some they're an Easter tradition and for others they belong in the trash.



Delicious hot cross buns—those doughy, raisin-studded delights—are traditionally eaten during Lent, especially in the week leading up to Easter. Marked with an icing or dough cross on top, they've been a holiday staple of some communities for centuries.

The origins of hot cross buns may go back as far as the 12th century. An Anglican monk, Thomas Roccliffe, is widely credited as introducing the cross to the bun. According to the story, he baked the buns and marked them with a cross in honour of Good Friday. They are symbolic of this significant day in the Christian faith when Jesus was crucified. Each bun is decorated with a cross made from flour paste, which represents the cross on which Christ died. The spices in hot cross buns are said to represent the spices that were used to embalm Christ after his death.

It is also thought that hot cross buns were an ideal Easter indulgence partly because they were made without dairy, which was forbidden during Lent.

Easter in New Zealand is a time of chocolate eggs, cooler mornings and the smell of toasted fruit buns. But with each year, that aroma is less likely to feature cinnamon and allspice, as retailers introduce savoury, fruit-free and peanut butter studded hot cross buns. These days, there are dozens of modern twists on the classic holiday staple, but are they improvements? Or are we messing with a classic?

The choc-cross buns, one of the early renegade flavours, is pretty plain now compared to some of the variations including raspberry and white chocolate and brioche and mango that are now on the market. But without the fundamentals of dried fruit and spices can any of these even be considered a hot cross bun?

Without these ingredients, it's just a bun, right?

If you feel the cross is the most important feature then it stands to reason that as long as there is a cross it can be considered a hot cross bun. But not me. For me it's the package. It is the spices, the fruit AND the cross that are important and critical to

be termed a hot cross bun.

Just like the Vegemite v Marmite and the pineapple on pizza debate, this debate can get controversial and can make people hot and cross. And it doesn't end there. For some the issue is about when these delicious morsels get released onto the market (is the 4th of January too early!?) and for others it is about how they are best eaten. For me the issue is all about flavour. I mean, I for one am glad they are not available all year and that is only because I would eat them every day and not only would the excitement leave them a little—but I would certainly never get back into my jeans.

The main debate is about flavour, about naming rights.



Time and again, in annual baking industry competitions with over 100 different flavours entered, as well as in community polls, the classic edition of the hot cross bun proves most popular overall.

Check out these new hot cross bun flavours and decide for yourself.

1. PEANUT BUTTER

This seems to suit lovers of Pics peanut butter and in some stores has been combined with chocolate.

2. CHOCOLATE

For those whose sweet tooth isn't satisfied by Easter eggs alone, Countdown offers decadent Hershey's chocolate hot cross buns.

4. MAPLE

Sort of like a pancake, but in a bun. This is a relatively inoffensive twist on the traditional. The pull-apart recipe offered by New World includes brown sugar and Cottee's maple syrup.

5. MOCHA

These are Baker's Delight's popular chocolate chip hot cross buns, which are claimed to contain over 100 chips in every bun, plus coffee flavour.

6. MELTED CHEESE

Served with soup instead of tea and coffee. Swap out the raisins and dried fruit for cheddar and Parmesan, and you've got a hot cross cheese bun. Like a pizza bun, but

festive. I am not convinced!

7. ALLERGY FRIENDLY

It's the generation of dietary requirements, so we can't forget about buns for our coeliac friends to enjoy (or tolerate).

8. COOKIE SMASH CHOC (brand new)

The Cookie Smash Choc Cross Bun has the classic, soft dough that we all know and love, but instead of raisins it has delicious Cookie Time chocolate chunks and cookie pieces throughout, a cocoa cross on top and a mini Cookie Time Chocolate Chip cookie nestled into the top of the bun.

9. BRIOCHE

The fruitless and chocolate hot cross buns have been around for a few years but the brioche, with multiple versions, is this year's newest thing. It gets good reviews and many have been converted but although people seem to enjoy it, there often follows the words, "it's missing the spice though".

In my humble opinion the hot cross bun, in its full fruit and spice glory, is sacred and not to be tampered with. There is only one, true hot cross bun. I don't want to argue with you but you know I am right.

Queenwood Fellowship

Mindful of the current Covid realities, our first two meetings for 2022 have taken place outdoors. Unable to have our end-of-year meal together, we began 2022 "All on a summer's evening" in Judy Holdsworth's enchanted garden. It was great to be together, and also to help Judy celebrate her birthday with a surprise cake made by one of the members. This was early February.



Our practice is to meet on the second Wednesday of the month, so in March we took our tea and enjoyed the beautifully laid out Legacy Gardens at Templeview. I quote from our minutes: *"We were blessed with a balmy evening at Tuhikarama and were amazed with what has been achieved to protect ancient kahikatea trees, to landscape the lake including plantings and board walks, all as a memorial to those who built the village and the Temple."*

FAMILY GROUPS

Kakapo Group

Our first get-together for 2022 was hosted by Judy and Robin Holdsworth in a relaxing environment. This was a planning session, lunch and chatting. Because of uncertain times, we planned until May and will have another short session to finalise the programme from the list of ideas we gathered.

In March, Fraser Graham invited our group to his farm at Taupiri to be entertained by both young and old horse riders from Huntly and beyond. When we arrived (carrying chairs and umbrellas), we were greeted by Fraser and morning tea was ready. The weather was great and the countryside peaceful.

During the time we were there, we watched a group of competitors go through their paces. They demonstrated their skill and horsemanship, performing a series of tricky games and activities. A few of our group were taken back to their early years before school buses, riding their own ponies to school.

In the morning we watched the riders separate stock. This was an interesting exercise as some were not very cooperative. Another activity involved barrels and speed.

After watching these events it was the long awaited lunch. This was burgers with real Angus beef patties and followed by dessert. The lunch kept us satisfied for the afternoon programme. A huge thanks to Fraser for a fantastic day.

Our April outing is a trip to Raglan to enjoy the sea breeze and a lunch at the Orca Eatery.



Kingfisher Group

We began 2022 at the end of January, with a long-standing tradition of a barbecue lunch at the home of Alison and John Neal, under the trees in the country air. We had a good catch up as well as some planning for 2022.

February found us at the Claudelands croquet greens trying our hand with mallet and ball! Some of us managed better than others, but we all had lots of fun. We finished with afternoon tea – bring a small plate of food!

In March we have invited all the church family to join us on the banks of the Waikato River for a picnic lunch at Epworth.



Bellbirds Group

This is a photo of our group taken at Te Kowhai Saints restaurant last Tuesday 22nd of March. This building was formerly London Street Methodist Church.



From the Archives...

How wonderful is the gift that Trevor Bennett has with plants! And the way he uses that gift for the benefit of many is “love in action”. Fifteen years on from this article and he is still going! An amazing and humble man and head of the Bennett dynasty that resonates throughout the Waikato.

Charity gardener blossoms with supreme national win

HAMILTONIAN Trevor Bennett, who has raised more than \$50,000 for charity and won the supreme title in the inaugural NZ Gardener 2007 Gardener of the Year competition is still committed to his garden.

Currently he and wife Barbara are tending their vegetable plot.

As the supreme winner, Trevor receives a \$10,000 prize package including \$5000 to spend at Bunnings Warehouse, a luxury trip for two to the Ellerslie Flower Show staying at Auckland's award-winning Langham hotel, \$1000 worth of Kiwigold plants, \$500 worth of Tui garden products, \$250 worth of Daltons garden products and an assortment of other garden gadgets, books and tools.

The reluctant celebrity, who received the prizes on his birthday, says winning the regional Waikato title was one of the greatest thrills of my life comparable only to my wedding day. “It has been wonderful. I never expected it and I am just chuffed to win the national title.

After visiting the Ellerslie Flower Show to receive some of his awards Trevor says he could see the show in any of the three cities putting up their hands to host it.

“It could work splendidly in Christchurch's Hagley Park. If it came to Hamilton we are fortunate to have several locations ideal for such an exhibition.

“And it would allow all the visitors to see our wonderful Hamilton Gardens,” he says.

Trevor raised \$52,000 for church projects through his altruistic gardening exploits, spending all his spare time propagating cuttings and sowing seeds to raise funds for the St Albans church in Chartwell. Just last month more than 1000 of his vegetable and flower seedlings sold at the annual church fair.

The awards were launched to celebrate the unsung horticultural heroes who always dig in deep to share their love of gardening, but who would never dream of putting themselves forward for public accolades.



HTW151107CV04
Gardener of the Year Trevor Bennett with wife Barbara display the trophy awarded when the couple were entertained at the Ellerslie Flower Show.

MEN'S DINNER

Join us at the first Men's Dinner for 2022.
Hanging out with the guys and enjoying a
great Korean meal.

Guest Speaker: We will have
Cambodian pastor Kimsa
join us and share his
experience in the
Cambodian
killing fields

April 21st
6pm

@ Chartwell Church

\$5/head

RSVP FOR CATERING PURPOSES
daniel@chartwellchurch.org.nz
021415204



Don't Toss It - FIX IT!

Bring along your broken or damaged items & our team of local volunteers will do their best to help you fix them for FREE*

SAVE MONEY & REDUCE WASTE!

Electrical items, toys, clothing, bikes, furniture, household furnishings & more



*Small koha is requested to help cover material costs/event running costs

Chartwell Repair Café

Saturday 2nd of April and 7th of May
1:30-4pm

Chartwell Church Hall
124 Comries Road, Hamilton



REPAIR
CAFÉ
CHARTWELL

VOLUNTEERS WANTED! If you can help for an hour or two we'd love to hear from you!



CHURCH LIBRARY NOTES

Thank you to those who have gifted books to our library recently. Ian Harris, who spoke at a dinner at Chartwell Church last year, gave us a copy of his latest book Hand in Hand. In it Ian encourages us to open our mind to new possibilities and re-think what faith can mean in this new millennium. This is important if we are going to pass faith on to younger people, who are growing up in a world very different from the one we grew up in. Andrew took it with him when he had a stint in hospital, as it was good reading in spite of frequent interruptions.

Other new books include:

Radical Spirit: 12 ways to live a free and authentic life by Joan Chittister.

Settling In: My first year in a Retirement Community by Richard L Morgan.

Radical Gratitude by Mary Jo Leddy which helps us to free our spirit and appreciate family, community and the earth more deeply.

Ngaa mihi nui,

Jan Calvert



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