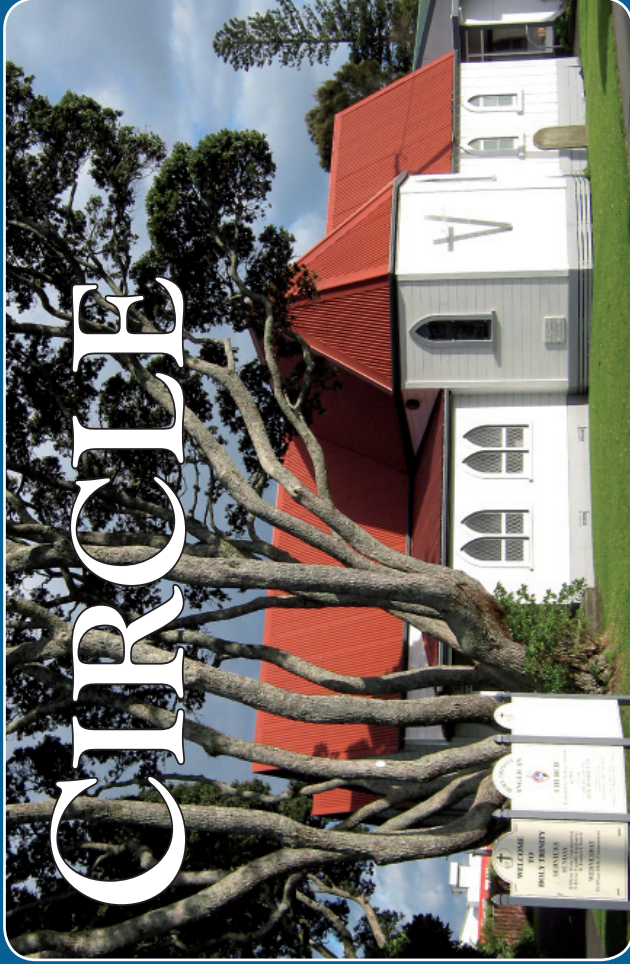
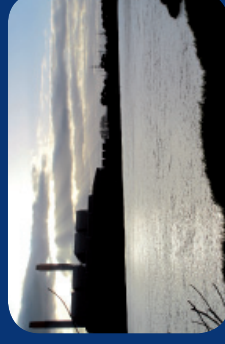
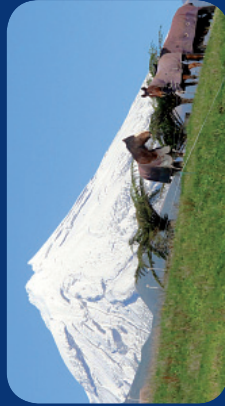


CIRCLE



From humble beginnings
Waikato + Taranaki



The Association of Anglican Women

August
2011

Volume 43
No 3



The Woven Flax Cross - P 5
AAW in Polynesia - P 7
NZ Red Cross, 80 years - P 14



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COVERS. Front Cover: *Stories and descriptions on the opposite page (3).* Back cover: *The Taranaki-Waikato 'Square'.*

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30 September.

From Our President

Greetings to all AAW members,

I along with Eileen Imlach, Robyn and Geoff Hickman, have recently returned from a trip to Fiji and Tonga. We were joined there by Milliana Fong, the Diocesan President of Polynesia.

We all felt very privileged to be there and see what the members are doing, especially with the water tank project and to see some tanks already installed and some with the concrete block foundations already in place. While we were there, an article appeared in the paper reporting that only half of Fiji has access to clean water - so this project has been very worthwhile and has even given their people the incentive to work for more tanks to be installed.

Another project we support is the provision of sewing machines. In some places, we saw the beautiful patchwork these women are doing - not only for themselves - but also to sell in the villages to raise money so as to buy more material.

The Kindergartens are thriving with so many 4-6 year olds with such happy faces and dedicated teachers, and they always have to replace equipment.

In Tonga the Anglican Church supports women and children and has many youth groups and this is an area which is most important. The women in their parishes are running fitness groups and are wanting to start cooking and sewing groups. It was also interesting to see how Tapa cloth is made

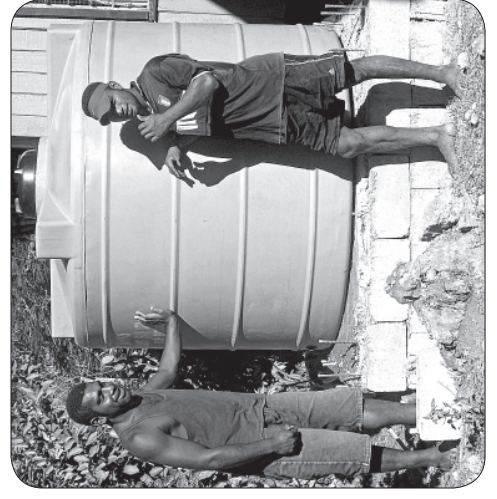
Christchurch is still very much on our minds. Our love and prayers are being expressed by different groups supporting the Bishops' Earthquake Fund.

Planning is well under way for Conference October 2012 in Napier. A number of Dioceses have just had their Annual General Meetings with changes in leadership. I welcome the new members of their executives and wish them well for the year ahead.

Blessings,

Elizabeth

The new water tank installed at the 'blue house' between Yalawa & Nadrala in Fiji.



From humble beginnings

Cover stories from our members

Holy Trinity Church, Fitzroy, New Plymouth

On his first visit to New Plymouth in October 1842, Bishop Selwyn selected sites for churches. On his third visit in March 1845, he laid the foundation stone of Holy Trinity. This “rustic chapel of the Henui” was built of rough logs of timber and thatched with bracken fern - and built for 50 pounds, the cost being borne by Bishop Selwyn. It was the only Selwyn church in Taranaki, and was opened for worship on 5 May 1845. A new roof of shingles replaced the thatch.

The settlement in this area was named “Weekestown”, and officially this name is still retained by the Lands and Deeds Registration Department.

Time and weather left their mark on the little chapel, and a building of a more permanent nature replaced the one of “rough-hewn” timber in 1872. In 1888, the church was enlarged by the addition of the transepts. The chancel and rear portion, with their vertical boards, can be seen as parts of the old church. Later, the church was enlarged, a new roof put on, and the vestry built.

Further renovations took place in 1903, and 1927, and forty years later, further extensions were made, and in the course of this work, the shingles forming the old roof were found under the corrugated iron.

Holy Trinity has a number of beautiful furnishings and memorials, including two masterpieces of needlework, “The Last Supper,” and “By the Waters of Babylon.” It is a ‘Class A’ Heritage Building - a notable building in New Zealand. Even the pohotukawa trees surrounding the church are protected!

Norma Benton

St Margaret’s Te Kauwhata

St Margaret’s Parish lies in the northern-most part of the Waikato Diocese and includes many historic sites. At present, artefacts both Maori and European are being discovered on the banks of the Waikato River where the Battle of Rangiriri took place in 1863, and also close to the stream where early pioneers went by boat and across Lake Waikare to the track which led to new settlements at Waerenga and beyond. When the railway came south from Auckland to Rangiriri in 1876 a settlement evolved around the station originally called Wairangi, and later renamed Te Kauwhata where the present township lies.

St Margaret’s Anglican Church, Te Kauwhata, was styled on the Selwyn Churches of the 1800s and built in 1937; it is now in the centre of a farming and grape growing area. An interdenominational church in Waerenga was built by local settlers in 1928 as a War Memorial, and Anglicans still hold services there once a month.

Joy Carter



Christ Church in the Parish of Taumarunui and Ohura

Christ Church, the first Church of England place of worship was built in the Taumarunui Home Mission District for 287 pounds and was dedicated on 18 December 1910. The first wedding took place with workmen on the site.

Although Anglican clergy and missionaries passed through before the 1900s, it wasn’t until the main trunk railway was linked by the Raurimu Spiral that settlers had access to the Central North Island. With timber mills operating and land being cleared for farming many small churches were built in outlying districts.

Following a fire in 1936 the church was renovated and the following year a beautiful rose window in the east sanctuary was dedicated and remains a special feature today. The creation of a church complex in 1993 gave a new dimension to the way the buildings have since been utilized.

One hundred years of history has seen both Parish and Diocesan boundaries have changed several times, but today Christ Church is the focus of the Anglican Church in the south of the Diocese.

Elizabeth Hayes

St Peter’s Anglican Church, Katikati - ‘The Rock on the Hill’

History records that the consecration of St Peter’s Church was to take place on 25th October 1883, but the builder refused to hand over the keys until his firm had been paid in full for his work and so the ceremony took place across the road at the school. The church welcomed its first worshippers when the final payment of 30 pounds had been made.

In 1980, it was decided that the church was too small for the increasing congregations and so an extension was planned.

After 15 years of fundraising, the new Worship Centre was opened by the Bishop of Waikato, David Moxon. Blending in with the existing building, it is used for services, concerts, dinners and the community. It also boasts an under floor pool for full immersion baptisms.

In 2009, St Peter’s Church celebrated its 125th Anniversary. Over the years, the worship, the singing, prayers and sermons have seeped into the very fabric of the Church, which stands proudly overlooking Katikati, ‘the Rock on the Hill’.

Audrey Hammond

‘Then and now’ small cover pictures: *Horses on the Mt Taranaki foot-hills; The Mokau Estuary; The ‘Diocesan Divide’ - The Awakino Gorge; St Peter’s Cambridge young people; The Pioneers’ Monument - Hamilton; The Huntly Power Station on the mighty Waikato River.*



Never boring - always challenging - deeply fulfilling

A day in the life of school chaplaincy - by the Revd Christopher Tweddell

5:45 am Walk twice around the ring road of the school, quiet time, prayer and exercise. Oliphant House boys loom out of the darkness and almost run me over, "Morning Chaplain" as they thunder past.

6:45 am Breakfast in the dining hall looking for students to gather fire wood for hangi. Two trailer loads of wood and help girls to prepare vegetables for hangi.

7:30 am Organise Prep Flag Day Chapel whilst having a shower (great place for chapel preparation)

8:15 am Run Flag Day chapel (once a year crazy day for prep school) transform chapel into an aircraft carrier with teachers as the crew in full costumes, lots of chocolate distributed.

9:25 am Period 2: Teaching Buddhism using latest Lady Gaga, YouTube clip.
10:25 am Year 10 chapels - boys followed by girls. The theme is the death of Shrek the sheep.

11:00 am Morning tea, pastoral chat with staff.
11:30 am E-mails, admin.

12 noon Lunch on the run, check on the hangi.

12:50 pm Judge debating, the moot is "Should we have same sex schools". Chandler wins (excellent - my house and my son gets 'best speaker'). I didn't adjudicate his debate!



1:30 pm Open mail, paperwork, write two student references. Counselling - catch up with student as I am covering for counsellor this week.

Start writing article - Circle, make PowerPoint for Sunday evening service. In corridor have involved theological conversation with a Year 13 student over whether Jesus committed suicide like Socrates.

3:20 pm Watch hangi being put in ground and talk to parents involved.

4:30 pm Cup of tea with wife, who also happens to teach Religious Studies, turns into department meeting.

6:00 pm Welcome parents and students to hangi; watch performance of cultural group; eat too much hangi and promise myself an extra lap of the ring road in the morning.

7:00 pm Report to Board of Governors. Content - Australian Dan conference, special character review, Kaumatua appointment, organ scholarships and restoration appeal, spirituality groups, confirmations, religious studies, field trips and pilgrimages, pastoral care, special days and celebrations, art installations, funerals and weddings, Jubilee celebrations, mufti days.

Chaplaincy, never boring - always challenging - deeply fulfilling.





The woven Flax Cross

During the communist period in Russia, the Russian equivalent of the AAW, the mothers and grandmothers, kept the faith and passed it on to their children and grandchildren.

Throughout the long decades of communism these networks of Russian women would have seemed powerless in comparison with the might of the Soviet Army or with the grip of an atheist police state.

Their faith, however, was finally vindicated. Mary's song, *The Magnificat*, is a song about the mighty being put down from their thrones

and the vindication of the humble and the meek. This is a song about the final justice and righteousness for which this world is destined. The Hebrew word for Mary is "Miriam" and the theme of Mary's song can be traced back to her spiritual predecessor, Miriam, the sister of Moses, who sang a song for the liberation of her people from the cruel throne of Pharaoh.

This was picked up in spirit by the Song of Hannah in the later Hebrew Scriptures and finally in a similar way in the Song of Mary. Mary sang before the birth of her Son, heralding the coming of the Kingdom of God. It was through the vision and solidarity of the women who proclaimed the empty tomb that the world - transforming message of Resurrection and Easter began.

I am told that in some Maori circles, the art of weaving is a symbol in itself of the way in which the most fundamental life forms are knit together, evolve, grow and are transformed.



For example, when one flax strand is held in the hand ready to be criss-crossed with another flax strand, the weaver says to herself "aroha mai", meaning "the love that goes forth".

When the second flax strand is held in the other hand and placed across the first strand, the weaver says to herself "aroha mai", meaning "the love that comes back". The spirituality being described here is that as love is sent out, so it returns to the sender: love given and love received are the full meaning of love itself; love always builds up.

New life shapes, and life forms emerge in the dynamic of love given and love received. So the emerging kete, or woven flax bag that is created

by the interweaving of flax strands becomes a living sign of the way love creates. The creation of the bag itself means that it becomes useful for carrying and sharing food and other treasures between a community of people.

The kete exists to serve a common good and becomes a practical and domestic sign of the way love serves, which is of course, the very nature of God and the greatest of all things. It was the spirituality implicit in this kind of image that led to the logo of our church here in the South Pacific.

The woven flax cross has become a sign of being Anglican in these Islands. At the centre of the woven cross pattern is the koru, a sign of new life. The koru is presented in red, a sign of life blood, of the life-giving love which flows through the heart of the Christian message and Christian mission. The design presents flax strands moving outwards, symbolising the life patterns of the Gospel transforming a new creation.

These signs are what the Association of Anglican Women stands for: the mission of God at the centre, calling forth a commitment to network, to weave together with friends, for the upholding of the greatest values of all, which are the basis of human life, human dignity and human hope. Although you may feel powerless at times, you are transforming and re-commissioning yourselves in the greatest cause of all.

God is the weaver of all creation and of all our lives.

By *Archbishop
David Moxon*



New Zealand's oldest stone church - and newest cathedral

Tena koutou katoa!

It is my privilege and my joy to send you greetings from New Zealand's youngest cathedral. Heartfelt greetings from this cathedral family as a whole - delighting in this opportunity to share a little of God's work in and through us.

Perhaps Taranaki Cathedral has been your spiritual home for many years - or perhaps you have yet to visit? Maybe somewhere in-between. Whichever it is, you are about to read about a national treasure, which is, even now, trusting in God's lead to become a centre for peace and reconciliation. Not "New Plymouth Cathedral" - for it is a cathedral for all of Taranaki. The word **all** is used advisedly.

How to express this? A picture may be the best way. This image shows the first stitch being sewn (by our Cathedral Kaumatua, the Venerable Tiki Raumati) in living expression of prayer which we have called *The Peace Altar Frontal*. Commissioned and begun on the day when the church commemorates Te Whiti O Rongomai, it is our invitation

to all pilgrims and visitors to the cathedral to offer a prayer for peace, and to embody that prayer by the sewing of stitches. During 2010, soon after "St Mary's Church" became "Taranaki Cathedral", the people of Parihaka and the Anglican Faith Communities of Taranaki each contributed an image, representative of their community, which were then transformed into a single work of art - symbolic of our unity in Christ. The diverse images include the three white feathers (the raukura), the sacred mountain Taranaki, several hands, a dove, prison bars, a wedge of cheese, an oak tree, a waka and many more! When the many stitches have been sewn, this sacred object will be the bearer of many prayers for peace and will cover the nave altar in the cathedral. I hope that you will have the opportunity to visit and add a stitch and a prayer.

This simple picture is so powerfully illustrative of our listening to and learning from this community, through the grace of God, that we might learn how better to become its servant mother church. Pilgrimage has long been a feature of the Christian faith. Pilgrimage is a spiritual journey to a holy place - and our cathedrals are such places. The peace altar frontal fundamentally expresses the

By the Very Revd Jamie Allen, Dean of Taranaki

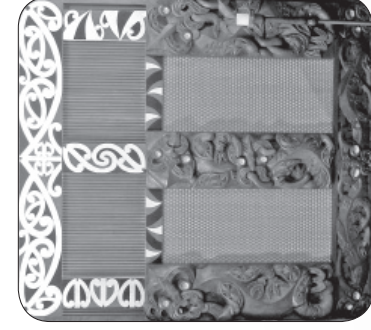


gathering of people being church. My heart always fills with excitement when I see a little group busy at their stitching: whether it be children from a local school, a member of the congregation, or visitors from overseas, they are gathered into our pattern of daily prayer. Our daily prayer *formally* happens at 8.30 am, 5.30 pm and midday - but of course is *less formally* happening in so many ways - when a thread is picked up, or a food parcel is given out, or a kiss of peace is exchanged, or a cup of cold water is given!

Pilgrimage is the best way to catch the vision of this time and place - but you might also think about purchasing John Bluck's new book, entitled *Taranaki's Cathedral - Bringing it to Birth*, hot off the press - published on 16 July 2011. (Available via the cathedral office - 06 758 3111).

Bishop John Bluck writes: "Most cathedrals take hundreds of years to build. In Taranaki, like most things that happen here, we did it differently. Just how differently is the subject of this book. It takes us back to the beginning to Bishop Selwyn's dream, 178 years ago and traces the journey St Mary's has made from parish church to cathedral. "Then the story shifts from history remembered to reliving those remarkable late summer days last year when with the help of the Archbishop of York John Sentamu, and a supporting cast of several hundred, St Mary's was consecrated as Taranaki's own cathedral."

"This is much more than a book about a building. Brought to life through the beautiful images of local photographer Rob Tucker, this is a story of transformation that engaged the whole community of Taranaki like never before."



Inscribed on the cathedral's consecration stone is: 'Whakakoriatia te Atua i runga rawa ~ Kia mau te rongo ki te whenua ~ He whakaaro pai ki nga tangata katoa.'

It is with those words - Glory to God on high ~ Peace on earth ~ Goodwill to all people - the message that was so central to the teaching of the prophets, Te Whiti o Rongomai and Tohu Kakahi of Parihaka - that I close this note of invitation and of love for you in Christ. Pray for us, as we pray for you.

Lovingly, Jamie Allen



Taranaki - Like No Other was the greeting awaiting those attending the 3-yearly Mothers' Union Provincial Conference in New Plymouth in June. Everyone was made welcome at the Brooklands Church complex as we explored the theme **Stepping Out - in obedience, in unity, in trust**. Messages were received from Archbishop David Moxon, and Provincial MU Chaplain, Bishop John Paterson. Elizabeth Hayes, representing the NZ AAW President, Janice Viles and Penny Merrall, President and Secretary of the Wellington AAW, were present.

St Mary's Mothers' Union were the hosts and we enjoyed excellent speakers including Kaye Healy, the Senior Vice-President of MU Australia speaking about the Mothers' Union Parenting Encouragement Course. The Wellington Diocese AAW/MU are currently looking at the programme to see if it could be useful in a New Zealand setting. Archdeacon Tricia Carter opened the Conference. She challenged us to think about 3 things - What did we bring to the Conference, What might we like to leave behind or give away to others, and Have we left room to carry something away with us?

Archdeacon Jenny Dawson's Bible Study related to our theme from Matthew 14:28ff. Our ability to trust God grows as we get to know him. Trust and faith come as we begin to let go. There is a need for caution but sometimes we need to step out. We often hold back through fear of being laughed at, being too old, too young, or trying to keep the peace but the need is sometimes to step out knowing Jesus says "Take heart, it is I, do not be afraid".

Our third guest speaker was Dr Jan Lockett-Kaye, Head of Humanities at the Western Institute of Technology. She spoke to us about Leadership and the varying styles one encounters. She said as leaders we need to capitalise on people's strengths. Sometimes people don't want to change, they are maintainers. Some want to move - they are change agents. If you have too many of these in a group everything flies apart. There is a need for both.

Some members enjoyed an outing on the Saturday afternoon and the rest of the programme was taken up with looking at MU work overseas and a report on what we are doing within the Province. We ended on a high note with the President-elect, the Revd Iritana Hankins telling us something about herself and her involvement in Mothers' Union before closing with Compline. On Sunday members shared in the Eucharist at the Taranaki Cathedral.

There has been some media interest here and overseas in the Bailey Report produced by Reg Bailey, CEO (UK) of the Mothers' Union. Reg was asked to make recommendations by the British Government about advertising standards and the sexualisation of children. Both the British Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition are strong supporters of marriage and family life. The Auckland Mothers' Union has begun work on the **MU Bye Baby Buy Campaign**. They are working with the Auckland AAW to present a motion to synod this year.



Overseas and Outreach

By Convenor, Robyn Hickman —C

NZ AAW Executive visit to Fiji and Tonga, June 2011

The 3-fold aims of the visit were as follows . . .

1. To visit some of the settlements with water tanks now installed and paid for by AAW funds raised as our thanksgiving offering in 2009.
2. To visit some of the kindergartens, and St Christopher's Home.
3. To visit AAW groups in Fiji and Tonga.

Fijian Racial Groups: There are three major races. Fijians are the indigenous people of course. The Indian community has traditionally worked the sugar cane farms but that is becoming difficult because of land leases and poor returns. The third group are the Melanesians who were often forcibly taken to Fiji from Melanesia, although some went willingly under false promises, to work in the sugar cane fields. When the British government finally outlawed the practice in the late 1800s the Melanesians were stranded in Fiji with no land entitlement and little hope of ever getting back to their homeland. The descendants of these people are the poor 'settlers' who now struggle for any rights - the landless people to whom the Anglican Church offers education and pre-school care.

Water Tanks. It was a thrill to visit settlements where water tanks are now installed and in use, collecting water from Anglican school or church roofs. The AAW President for Polynesia, Miliana Fong and husband Waqi, took us to the three tank sites along the Sigatoka River. The one at **Yalawa** replaces the cracked one supplied some years ago by AAW which I was shown on my visit 3 years ago. This chance visit prompted me to suggest funding a new tank and the idea was picked up by the Executive as an Anniversary project, being broadened to raise \$10,000 for a number of tanks. As we know you all contributed generously and enthusiastically to bring the total to nearly \$24,000 (or in Fiji, \$30,000!) Other visits near Sigatoka were to **Nadralla** and the private home of a church member whose roof collects water for three settlements' use.

Other visits included **Waidradra**, where the pilot water project began, and **Matata** near Suva. At most places there was a formal welcome, prayer, speeches, and feasting.

The tanks are funded by AAW, with locals responsible for erecting water stands and arranging spouting and plumbing. Moreover, the Diocese now has a 'Water for All' campaign under the auspices of Anglicare, to improve the provision and storage of water for the landless peoples - building on the initiative of the NZ AAW Appeal. Eleven tanks are now in place with another six sites applying for funds.

The Fiji Government does not reticulate water to the Melanesian settlements so it is very humbling to be among these people who value the tank water so much.

Kindergartens.

Eight kindergartens in the Diocese of Polynesia each receive \$200 from AAW Mission Funds, a slight cut-back for some, but allowing funds for the coordinators' travelling expenses.

The kindergartens visited were around the Suva area – **St John's, Wailoku**, is attached to the St John's Anglican School. The 26 children will automatically progress into the school of 270 pupils. Each morning the children are taught housekeeping duties to enable them to apply for house girl or boy situations when they leave school – a common first job. Coming from small crowded homes, kindergarten attendance gives them some important personal space.

We then travelled on to **St Mark's, Newtown** where 21 children meet at the back of the church, meaning that classes can often be disrupted by other church activities. The Archbishop is encouraging the church kindergartens to move into the schools for security and support and so to receive more benefits in education and facilities.

The kindergarten at **Holy Trinity Cathedral** in Suva is well established with 100 children attending the two sessions a day.



House of Sarah. The AAW Executive met us here for a pot luck dinner and exchange of ideas. The House was completed and opened by Bishop Jabez Bryce shortly before his death. The aim here is to provide a listening ear, a warm heart and a welcoming hand to those in need. AAW also uses the House as a

meeting place and offices there cater for the Water Tank Projects. Rent is paid to the Diocese by AAW and by Anglicare for the use of the building.

St Christopher's Home. Our final visit was to St Christopher's where we found the Sisters in good spirits and the children entertained us with action songs.

Sewing Machines. Since 2009 sewing machines have been supplied by AAW Mission funding to eleven parishes in Fiji, Samoa, and Tonga and AAW ladies now purchase one of their choice with the funds. The AAW ladies we met at Waidradra and at Holy Trinity were busy preparing items for the markets – quilts, pillowslips, and printed materials were all displayed. Several other AAW groups are quite keen to receive funding for machines as sewing is a way of raising money for other needs.

The Kingdom of Tonga

We flew on to Nuku'alofa on Friday morning and stayed with the **Sisters of the Community of the Sacred Name**, enjoying comfortable accommodation, generous hospitality from the Sisters, and from the four AAW groups in Tonga who provided all our meals.

During the weekend we visited the four churches of St Matthias, St Barnabas, All Saints, and St Paul where we were hosted by members of AAW.

At **St Matthias' Mission District** activities tend to be holistic with weekly bible studies for the spirit, exercise for the body, and soon cooking lessons for health.

All Saints was our next stop. Here, after the kava ceremony, we watched the tapa making. Every Saturday the AAW ladies gather to make tapa cloth, that they take turns to keep. Tapa is very important in the Tongan custom as it is presented at all important occasions. The youth often ask questions about the origins of the Tongan church, so more resources of stories of early missionaries, including Bishop Patteson (martyred in 1871) would be appreciated.

St Barnabas was next on the agenda. The AAW President was away at a conference. There are 28 families in this parish, largely funded by the local people. They were interested in AAW photos as they don't take photos themselves.

Finally **St Paul's**. Here the Youth Group was having a retreat for the weekend and they later entertained us over dinner. From here we visited two house-bound elderly ladies suffering from diabetes and cared for by their daughters. (This is a major problem because of the local diet.)

Sunday morning saw us back at **St Paul's** for their first **Youth Service** which had been initiated by Archbishop Winston Halapua at the last Synod when he suggested a monthly Youth Sunday. They took the Service with choir, readers, soloists, musicians, prayers etc - 30 youth. The 8.00 am Service was in English, but it was repeated in Tongan at 10.00 am.

This is the first time for many years that AAW Executive has visited Tonga - a most moving and enlightening experience. The President was funded by AAW, but Robyn Hickman, husband Geoff and Eileen Imlach paid their own expenses.

Reflections

A drop of water from the sea,
where all life began,
on your forehead, beloved,
to pour abundant life into you
all the days to come.

A drop of water from the sky,
bringing relief to your parched soul,
on your forehead, beloved,
that your spirit will never thirst
for God's grace.

A drop of water from my heart,
overflowing with joy,
on your forehead, beloved,
so you feel God's hope
holding your hand
with every faltering step
you take.

One drop from the sea,
one drop from the sky,
one drop from my heart
mingle with the Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
the living waters flowing with you
forever, beloved of God. Amen

Baptism is a sacrament that celebrates new beginnings; it is a new start to life when the baptised person is accepted and sealed by God with the Holy Spirit to represent Christ in the world. This prayer by Thom M Shuman is a reflection on the water we use during baptism.

Christine Scott

Two reflections are offered this time round in Circle - A reflection on Baptism, and the beginning of new life as a Christian. Thank you, Waikato/Taranaki.

Another reflection is from Wellington. Although this reflection is on the Aims of our Association it also connects us with the seed that is planted when someone is baptised. We never gather as just members of an Association; we gather and live out our baptismal promises in how we live and how we act. Thank you, Wellington.

From the 'Store of Life'

A couple was browsing in a big old fashioned store, a shop full of treasures and surprises. Then they made a shocking discovery: it was God who was behind the sales counter.

They walked over and asked, "What are you selling?"

God replied, "What do your hearts desire?"

The couple replied saying, "We want happiness, peace of mind, and freedom from fear.... for us and for the whole world."

God smiled and said, "I don't sell fruit here. Only seeds."

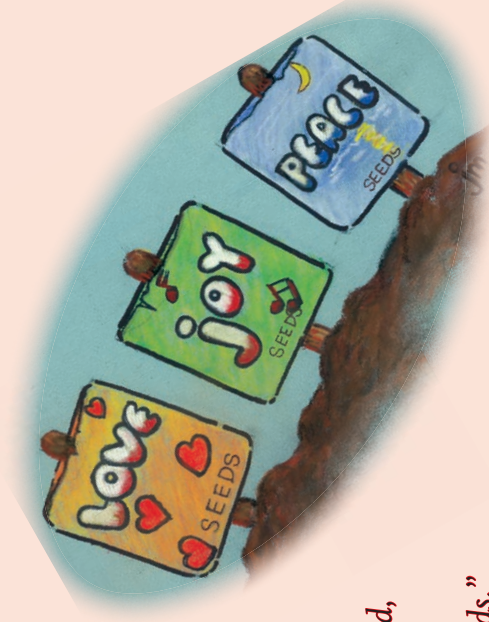
We can all sow seeds, even though they may not always grow as well as we would like. Sowing good seed correctly and nurturing young plants well is so important, for if we sow bad seed, the fruit will be bitter and lead to disappointment and distress.

As we all endeavour to uphold our 'Aims', let us try to sow seeds into the hearts and minds of others, praying that our words and deeds be the seeds of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

Dorothy Howard

As we pray for those who are newly baptised we pray
May God who laboured in love to create all life,
continue creating within us new hope, new joy, new vision;
and may we go forth to bring new life to the world.

Dorothy Brooker and others



Relating and Rejoicing

News from Pasefika and from N through Z

A U C K L A N D



Diocese of Auckland

St Aidan's AAW, Remuera has about 60 members. First visitor this year was Cree Harland, whose husband Bruce was a NZ representative at the United Nations. They come back to NZ for 3 months in summer but live in New York, attending a Grace church built in the 1700s. Cree told of the refurbishment of this historic church. Next, the group visited Holy Trinity Cathedral, being invited to view a wonderful set of vestments in the Sacristy - a delight to all interested in embroidery. June's speaker was John King, a direct descendant of one of the first missionaries to New Zealand.

On Wednesday 8 June, 60 members of the **Hauraki Archdeaconry** attended the Area Day held at Birkdale-Beachhaven's Anglican Community Church - *The Cedar Centre* - on Auckland's North Shore. The theme for the day was 'Joyful Voices, Seeds of Hope' joyful being the second part of the AAW Challenge with voices representing the members out in the Mission Field.

The day commenced with an AAW Service, banners processing to the singing of the AAW Hymn. The Revd Lorraine Lloyd showed on power point many of the mission areas she visited in Africa. \$200 raised went to the Overseas and Outreach Fund. Ten Groups arranged colourful displays, speaking of work being done by missionaries in Bangladesh, Egypt, Solomon Islands, Pakistan, and other ministry in Papua New Guinea, Sri Lanka, Melanesia and Polynesia.

After a shared lunch a member spoke on a recent trip to India with her husband and two friends. The cultures and living conditions were of concern, especially hair-raising traffic experiences they encountered! The sun coming out as we left for home brought a lot more 'joyful Voices' on the journey.



Left: Whangaparaoa members sing as they present gifts to members of the Diocese of Polynesia who live in Auckland. These included Rainbow gift bags for children attending kindergartens, 3 sewing machines and a mobile phone to reach isolated members.

Right: Diocese of Polynesia student at St John's College, Nai Cokanasiga, and her display.



Diocese of Wellington

Chill, Chat and Knit for Tawa/Linden AAW. Having recently decided to knit as part of our activity, after a month of clicking the needles we had a knee rug and a single bed blanket, all from peggy squares. Joan Lawrence, the first person to join our local Young Wives and eventually AAW, was the first to receive our knitted gift, presented to her at a local retirement home where she resides. Her delight well rewarded our group's hard work.

At Taihape, St Margaret's Ecumenical day is a yearly event not to be missed by those travelling from Palmerston North in Autumn when poplars and other deciduous trees turn gold. The speaker this year was Constable Yvonne Sisley who told us of her work with youth and families in Taihape and District.

The Revd Dawn Illston conducted the service in the lovely de Clere Church with its stained glass windows depicting some of early Taihape history. One of the visitors who makes this trip a yearly pilgrimage is 91-year-old Margaret Terrill who taught for years at the Primary School. We hope to be able to carry this tradition on for many years to come. *Janice Viles*

Epiphany Mothers' Union, Wairarapa. Every year we invite our sister churches: St Mark's, Carterton, St Andrew's, Martinborough and St Luke's, Greytown, to a social afternoon.

This time our 'fabulous five' (aka the committee) spread the net wider and invited fellow Christians from the town churches too - St James' and St Luke's, Masterton, Lansdowne Presbyterian and the Baptist Church. The service - remarkable for enthusiastic hymn singing - was led by the Revd. Neil Hansen. Then all were entertained by talented members from our group and the wider parish - a wonderful atmosphere of fellowship. Three raffles saw us raise money for MU projects.

Ascension Day at St Mary's Levin. Members of St Mary's MU and visitors gathered recently to worship in an Ascension Day Eucharist led by the Vicar, David Pearson. Following lunch, Leader Joan Foote introduced Yvonne Norfolk, Field Officer for the Horowhenua District Cancer Society. There are six cancer treatment hospitals in NZ, each responsible for its particular area. The Palmerston North DHB extends to PekaPeka (near Waikanae) to Taranaki, across to Waiouru, up to Ruatoria and east to Ekatahuna. Important fund-raisers for the Society are *Run for Life* and *Daffodil Day*.

Ozanam House in Palmerston North is close to the hospital and provides ensuites for two, while patients are having treatment. Volunteers transport patients and there is also a shuttle bus from Hawkes Bay.

Perdita Bentall, Wellington Diocesan MU President, presented Norma Whitt with an Honoured Member's Certificate. This concluded a very pleasant time of fellowship.

Diocesan Executive does AI! 'Appreciative Inquiry' (AI) starts from the search for the best in people and their organizations, and for what gives "life" to a living system when it is most alive, most effective, and most capable. From this basis it develops visions or dreams of valued and possible futures, and designs how these dreams can be made real by using what gives "life".

Through this 'AI' approach, members of Wellington's AAW Executive met to identify the best in AAW, what makes it effective, and to plan how we could be in five years time. What could we look like? Members of the executive worked thoroughly and positively through this process, ably facilitated by the Revd Stuart Goodin. We've begun a journey!

Guess who is coming to speak - but they don't! A local AAW group's speaker cancelled the day before the meeting. So, each member took ten minutes to speak about something treasured. Here's one gem for you:

"I had taken my special article which reminded me of an eminent professor of history who was engaged to enlighten us with amazing facts about our beautiful and very old city. But the night before, he was taken ill - and there were 40 members attending tomorrow! Then, as if an answer to prayer, someone came up with a name, they phoned and arranged for this person to speak.

"Shock, horror! His opening words were: 'Thank you for inviting me, I trust you will all enjoy my talk on the history of contraception!' There has never been such a meeting - everyone was alert at all times, not one even looked like taking a 'nana nap' during the entire presentation. This was one successful meeting!"

The Holy Trinity and St John's, Wainuiomata group began New Year with a pikelet evening, all being made by a member, Raewyn. Topped with jam and cream, they were consumed with much pleasure. The May fund-raising table sold fruit loaves, scones, sponges, lemon curd and jam etc., raising \$120 for the Christchurch Earthquake Appeal. Meetings are now held in Holy Trinity's Hall, much warmer for cold winter months.

Dora Apps



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Diocese of Christchurch

Christchurch battles on, especially in the Eastern suburbs, with after-shocks - well over 7500 to date. These shatter nerves and disrupt our lives. The recent eagerly-awaited soil report puts 5000 homes in the red zone which means they have to be demolished with an estimated 5000 to be demolished in the green and orange zone. However hundreds in the green/orange zones can be repaired.

For many of our AAW members, life is relatively normal while for others disaster has struck with disturbing and worrying consequences. Suburbs will be scattered and hundreds will be faced with not enough finance to bridge the gap for rebuilding or buying an existing home elsewhere.

Homes of those living in the hillside suburbs have mainly been struck by rock falls and jolting while those on the flat land, especially near the once beautiful Avon River and its small streams, have lost their homes through jolts and massive liquefaction.

The demise of some suburbs will affect schools, shopping areas, and churches. Our AAW Groups are coming to the rescue, cossetting and giving support. The caring, love and concern from AAW members throughout Christchurch and New Zealand have brought much comfort to the affected communities.

St Chad's, Linwood is a temporary base for the City Mission Food bank and other services. Their AAW has provided a 'drop-in centre' with refreshments and an opportunity for people to talk - as has been the situation with the three **New Brighton AAW Groups**. Talking and socialising is a way of relieving the stress and loneliness for some women.

St Stephen's AAW in Shirley has been meeting in the afternoon in a café at McFarlane Park but is now moving into the neighbouring parish hall at Burwood. St Stephen's have about 30 families who will have their homes demolished. **Mt Pleasant/Heathcote** had only four of their large group living in their homes after the February quake although some have now returned. They are 'maintaining togetherness' by having a pot-luck tea with husbands invited, in the church hall, offering a place to talk, and through visiting members with flowers and baking.



St Barnabas Afternoon AAW held its annual hospitality luncheon on 6 July at St Barnabas' Church, Fendalton when the group was joined by visitors from Leeston, Ellesmere, St Chad's Linwood, and the Christchurch Japanese Choir, who entertained us. One hundred people were catered for - all going happily.

This was the special effort for Mission Day raising funds to send to O & O. This is an annual function, but because of the earthquake, members felt the need to enjoy each other's company, and it was a helpful and happy occasion. Special thanks to the Christchurch Japanese Choir, which incidentally practises regularly at St Barnabas. They are a delight to hear.

With generous monetary gifts from the Selwyn Foundation in Auckland and the Mothers' Union in Australia, gifts of comfort and help have been able to be purchased for a number of members.

With God's help Christchurch will rebuild and again be our much loved "Garden City".

Jan Deavoll



Diocese of Dunedin

St Nicholas AAW had two special meetings in March and April. In March, our Bishop's wife Clemency Wright, spoke of her life, illustrating it with pictures of the houses she and Kelvin had lived in. It was entertaining, fun, and a great way to get to know her.

For the April meeting the theme was *Not the Royal Wedding* as it was two days before that event. Some members dressed up; one wore a tiara and cloak; another a real wedding hat, and two others wore fur coats. We had readings: Psalm 45 - which is an Ode for a Royal Wedding - and the 'Marriage at Cana'. Music included *Arrival of the Queen of Sheba*, Jeremiah Clarke's *Trumpet Voluntary* and *Land of Hope and Glory*. There were toasts to the Queen and the young couple in sparkling grape juice and wine followed by a special supper with wedding cake. (PaknSave's 'light fruit'.)

The Diocesan

AGM, held on May 14 at St Nicholas Church, Waverley, Dunedin, was attended by 40 people. The executive was re-elected and commissioned. After lunch the speaker was Julie Anderson, Principal of Queen' High School in Dunedin. This is a low



decile school and Julie told us how girls are prepared for life and left us with some questions indicating ways in which adults can help.

St Martin's AAW On a June afternoon, 40 people packed St Martin's AAW meeting room to hear Steve and Wendy Tripp describe working in the slums of Cambodia's Phnom Penh. Members of 'Servants of the Urban Asian Poor', they work with 'Christians for Justice'. When slum dwellers are forced violently off their land - without compensation - this group stands with them. Young men are rescued from the streets and drug addiction. Once rehabilitated, they are introduced to *Justees*, making screen-printed tee shirts (available from NZ Trade Aid shops). For this they are paid a fair wage: Cambodia's minimum wage is not a living one. Wendy surprised us all by describing her recent training in art therapy. Some who initially found this threatening were won over - a happy and inter-active end to a stimulating afternoon for our members and those from other local groups. The Tripps are also vivid letter-writers and this has helped keep our interest for these 4 years.

Margaret Tripp



Diocese of Waikato and Taranaki

On Tuesday 3rd May, about 30 AAW members and friends met at Athenree Homestead. We were greeted by our hostess for the afternoon, Edith Johnson, dressed in period costume. We all gathered around the old ballroom, a flickering fire enhancing the beauty of the wooden floor and walls, as Edith spoke about the Homestead's history and the restoration work done.

There were many interesting anecdotes and humorous stories, and afterwards, we were served with a delicious Devonshire afternoon tea.

We then had the opportunity to look around the building and were very impressed with the restoration work done. Altogether we had a most enjoyable afternoon.



Above: Judy Harden, Edith Johnson and Beryl Crispin at Athenree.

Left: Four (or 3½?) representatives from the Diocese of Wellington at the Mothers' Union Conference held at New Plymouth in June.



Diocese of Waiaapu

The 'joy-jar' of **St John's, Dannevirke** has raised funds for the Waiaapu Cathedral Organ fund, the local high school music room and for Dannevirke Family Services, a welfare and counselling service. A highlight of the year has been guest speakers, Ian and Pam Barnett, who spoke of their trip to Kenya and Tanzania and the many contrasts they found: the barren, desolate countryside and the huge mobs of wildebeests crossing the Mara River, an orphanage for baby elephants and abandoned mission stations, the tall slender Masai men and the small cow dung huts that you could not stand up in, Rothschild giraffes and a cave with bones of ancient men and animals. (**Cath Ryan, St John's, Dannevirke**)

The Diocesan AGM was held at Waiapu Cathedral over the weekend of 18-19 June. Some 70 members gathered and it was wonderful to see that most groups were represented. Bishop David Rice and Hugh McBain shared their visit to Papua New Guinea helping our members have a better understanding of that country. This was a relevant topic since PNG is the missionary focus for our AAW, and a relationship between the diocese and Newton Theological College has been mooted.

The dinner on Saturday night was a great time of fellowship and fun, featuring a lively quiz night, hosted by the urbane Basil Brooker. Bishop David joined us for the evening with his wife Tracey and the clerical team gave the other teams a good run for their money.

A silent auction was held with good quality donated items and the \$480.00 that was raised was given to the Waiapu Youth team going to Christchurch during the second week of the school holidays to run a children's programme in 5 parishes affected by the earthquakes.

New executive members elected at the AGM included: Helen Blow of Waiapu Cathedral for Treasurer, Gilian Dowd of St George's and St John's, Whakatane for Overseas and Outreach, Deborah Walsh from St Matthew's, Hastings for Circle and Christine Haugh of St Andrew's, Taupo for Social Concerns. All positions filled, the Executive was commissioned by the Bishop at Sunday morning 's Cathedral Eucharist, with the banners making a colourful display.

AAW Members of **All Saints' Taradale** enjoyed a video presentation, showing the induction of their former vicar, Di Woods, to her new position as vicar of St Aidan's Church, Remuera, Auckland. *Dot Galbraith*



Waipawa. Shirley Martin's long service & loyalty to AAW was recognised on 4 May by the presentation of an achievement and appreciation certificate by Daniel Evans, Hawke's Bay Regional President. Shirley was a long-serving committee member of Waipawa Fellowship, secretary for Diocesan President Judy Butler, and had played the organ for three churches for some 53 years. Sadly, on the morning of the special afternoon tea with members in her home, she fell and broke her hip and later died in hospital.

Woodville Holy Trinity

Women's group have been very busy the last few months, supporting the Parish with their talents and food skills, bazaars, flower shows, garage sales, as well as a Pancake race on Strove Tuesday. They now look forward to another evening of food hilarity with the theme – 'Stopover in Honolulu'.



If you've good eyesight - you'll spot a long-standing AAW member weeding the grounds.



Diocese of Nelson

The guest speaker at the **Nelson AAW AGM** was Viv D'Auvergne. She spoke of God turning her life upside down literally. She had a big house and garden and a busy social life. After being given a book called *Freedom from Clutter* she set about de-cluttering her house. Her husband dreamed of owning a house bus and travelling round the country. Once Viv saw inside his chosen bus she was hooked and made a pact with God – if they could find someone to mind their pets, house and garden she would go. It all fell into place and off they went with the minimum of everything but a comfortable home nevertheless.

Travelling round New Zealand they made new friends, learnt new hospitality skills - such as how to BBQ to entertain friends and family - and revelled in God's creation. They had a few hair-raising moments but Viv's prayer was for safety on the road, to have peace, and not panic. Her message was, "Your situation is what you make it and what you will allow, and de-cluttering is a journey and not a destination."



Greymouth Entertains at Teapot

The Nelson Executive held its annual overnight meeting at Teapot Valley Christian Camp, where local groups are invited. Bishop Richard spoke about the milestones in his personal Spiritual Journey. It was a moving testament which over 30 members felt privileged to hear.



Viv D'Auvergne



Bishop David and his PNG Necklace



Silent Auction Goodies

The members then discussed the Mothers' Union concern about the commercialisation and sexualisation of children titled *Bye Bye Childhood*. After dinner a great evening was held with members contributing items.

Greymouth Evening

Group celebrated the 'Year of the Rabbit' recently.

A garden was created in a corner of the Church lounge and several rabbits were seen eating the carrots, lettuces and cabbages grown there. Grandpa Rabbit (alias Rose Goodall) paid

a visit to see if Peter Rabbit was behaving himself. Carrot and celery sticks were nibbled during the speaker's talk and supper was a variety of lettuce sandwiches and a lovely carrot cake. A fun evening!

St Christopher's AAW in Blenheim has supplied cakes, beanies, knee rugs, crocheted blankets and two jackets to the AAW at their sister church, St Matthew's in St Albans, to be distributed to whoever needed them. Most churches in Nelson Diocese are contributing various items to the different Christchurch parishes.



From the mouths of babes . . .

An early childhood teacher was observing her classroom of children while they were drawing. She would walk around to see each child's work. As she got to one little girl she asked about her drawing. The girl replied, "I'm drawing God."



The teacher paused and said, "But no one knows what God looks like."

Without missing a beat, or looking up from her drawing, the girl replied, "They will in a minute."

Thanks, Wellington

80 years of the NZ Red Cross

From Joan Cockburn, Councillor of Honour. (abridged)

As New Zealand Red Cross celebrates 80 years of service this year (2011) thoughts return to the 1931 Hawke's Bay earthquake which was the catalyst for the then New Zealand Branch of the British Red Cross becoming an independent National Red Cross Society able to vote at international meetings.

80 years on, and the Red Cross has been extremely active with another major earth-quake, this time in Christchurch, but now greatly aided by sophisticated equipment as well as trained volunteers in search & rescue, welfare, IT communications and first aid. Emergency Response Team members from Hawke's Bay and elsewhere are assisting local teams, all working 12-hour days. The *Restoring Family Links* call centres are still operational. For the first time the NZRC has had to accept help from other national societies. Red Cross Water Stations have been needed here for the first time. Donations to the Red Cross Christchurch Earthquake Appeal have been absolutely outstanding. The promise that every cent given will be used to benefit garden city citizens is being honoured, since all administration and extra staff costs are being met by NZRC.

In 1931, 103 cars took 8½ hours to reach Hastings from Wellington, bringing doctors, nurses, blankets, medical supplies, cooking utensils, food, water, and crockery. Now, plastic replaces crockery, blue serge uniforms have been succeeded by red tee shirts, red overalls, or fluorescent striped red vests; email has replaced telegrams and telexes and satellite phones Morse code, but the desire to serve remains the same.

First Aid Training and Transport have been the most obvious of traditional Red Cross activities but as the needs of society change so does the work of our members. Today's services range from *Meals on Wheels* delivery to *Wander Risk Monitoring* to instruction in international humanitarian law. Junior Red Cross played an important role in the growth of the Society in the early days but now the new *People Savers Course* for school-aged children is popular. Shorter times in hospital mean shopping and book trolleys, beauty treatments and bandage rolling are no more but the specialist knitting of bonnets for premature babies continues.

War years saw a great commitment from the then Voluntary Aid Detachments with many members serving overseas. Now, at any one time up to 30 NZ humanitarian aid workers serve overseas in such troubled spots as Afghanistan, Somalia, Timor Leste, Iraq, Georgia, Gaza, or Fiji. When the first Russian refugees arrived after the revolution and the Polish children after WW2 Red Cross was there to help. This continues today with Friendship Bags being made by members for those arriving at the Mangere Refugee Centre in Auckland. Support for the Pacific Islands has been an ongoing feature of the work of NZRC especially after any of the disasters that take place in the area. NZRC has one of only five IT teams stationed in strategic Societies around the world.

As one of 186 National Societies NZRC has accepted its share of international governance and other responsibilities over the years. 80 years have seen many changes, but one thing that will never change is the voluntary service so willingly given by so many.

Book Review:

Reviewed by Margaret Lovell

Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life

By Karen Armstrong. Published by *The Bodley Head*. Available at *Whitcoulls* and *The Warehouse*.

This book captured me from the heading of the preface – ‘Wish for a better world’ - Who doesn’t? To read how it came about is a journey in itself - of thinking globally!

The aim: Seeking a compassionate world. We can change the world so get started. Nothing is impossible.

This world-renowned religious historian shows how compassion is the basis of all the major faiths and philosophies of the past - and could be of the present.

The world is desperately in need of compassion. Karen Armstrong argues that compassion is part of our inbuilt thinking but is inhibited by our instincts of selfishness and survival. We know the phrase: ‘Always treat others as you wish to be treated yourself’. But to do this we need to be compassionate. This programme is designed to bring forth the compassion that exists potentially within every human being and which can become a healing force in our lives.

She demonstrates how we can bring compassion to the forefront of our lives by undertaking twelve practical steps . . .

Step 1 - Beginning our journey with the traditions of the sages, prophets and mystics who did not regard compassion as an impossible dream. We need that kind of energy and conviction to-day.

Step 2 - Again we look back to look forward, inspired by examples, and then look at our family, our friends, our community and our country. Every man and woman can become a force for good in the world.

Step 3 - “When your mind is filled with love send it in one direction, then a second, a third and a fourth, then above, then below. Identify with everything without hatred, resentment, anger or enmity. This mind of love is very wide. It grows immeasurably and eventually is able to embrace the whole world”. We just start with ourselves.

The author suggests you read the book through, then return to the beginning to take it step by step. It is also a book that might be studied by a group.

Recipes from Waikato

Festive Square

100g butter
2 cups flour
8 each red and green glacé cherries

1 cup raisins
Slivered almonds
1/4 tsp almond essence

1/2 cup sugar
1/2 cup condensed milk

Cream the butter, sugar and almond essence, add flour. Press into greased pan. Cover the base with one cup of raisins, 8 each of red and green glacé cherries; sprinkle with slivered almonds. Drizzle all over with 1/2 cup condensed milk. Bake 150 C for 45 minutes or until cooked.

St Peter's Women's Fellowship Katikati

Savoury Chicken Dish

Sauté 1 onion, 3 rashers bacon chopped and 3 chicken thighs, skinned, boned and cut up.

Add: 1 cup sliced mushrooms
1 tin chopped tomatoes
1 tablespoon tomato paste
1/2 red pepper chopped

Season

Simmer for a few minutes.

Serve with vegetables or rice

Waihi AAW Fellowship Group



Lemon Freeze - a favourite with children

2 oz (60 gms) cornflakes crumbled
5 level tbsps caster sugar
1 oz (30 gms) butter melted

2 eggs separated
1/2 can sweetened condensed milk
4 tbsps lemon juice

Blend together cornflakes, 2 tablespoons caster sugar and butter.

Press all but 4 tbsps into the base of an ice cube tray. Beat egg yolks until creamy. Add condensed milk and lemon juice and stir until thickened.

Beat egg whites until stiff, not dry. Gradually beat in the remaining sugar and then fold through the lemon mixture. Spoon into a tray and sprinkle the remaining cornflake crumbs on top. Freeze – serve in slices.

Cillian Hall, Lone Member, Athenree

The Waikato and Taranaki 'Square'

- on the *Provincial AAW Banner*.

The basis of our square is the replica of the Waikato/ Taranaki Diocesan crest. It shows the Waikato river running through Waikato & Mount Egmont/Taranaki.

The Diocese falls into two districts, Waikato and Taranaki, and is divided by the Awakino Gorge, depicted by the clematis & giant weta. The clematis, surface stitched on to the crest, is prevalent throughout the Awakino Gorge. The giant weta is native to New Zealand and only found in Mahoenui {north of Awakino}.

The flax, which is appliquéd, depicts the early flax industry in Taranaki.

Quilted by Evelyn Froome, St Chad's West New Plymouth.

