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Availability: Pastoral staff are available at all times except for their days off which are:
Eric— Friday; Lisa - Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

Ministry Leaders:

St John's Mini Musicmakers: Sarah Kyte 464 0240
AAW Afternoon Group: Verna Rutherford 476 3975
AAW Evening Group Margaret McLanachan 453 0131
Mission Motivator: Vin Maffey 476 2231
Organist/Choir Director: Alan Edwards 477 2865
Parish Recorder: Sue Cathro 4554604
Verger: Brian Tegg 476 4505

Vestry 2021/2022

Vicar's Warden: Ethan Evans 021 081 38059
People's Warden: Melanie Cornish 0272 390 501
Treasurer: Heidi Schwellnus 464 0113
Other Members Rev Lisa Barlow 02772 14120
David Finlay 021 145 4065
Alan Firth 464 0272
Margaret McLanachan 021 216 9640
Phil White 467 6120
Synod Reps: Melanie Cornish 0272 390 501 Dr Paul Tankard 479 2869

Dates for Your Diary

12th October Evening AAW Group meet at the Botanic Gardens Café at 1pm

14th October Afternoon AAW meet at 2pm

13th November Vestry meet

27th November Lisa's Ordination at St John's



THE PARISH OF SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST

ROSLYN

News October 2021

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"From the Vicar"

It's good to be back together again in church, even if in slightly constrained circumstances! 'Togetherness' is fundamental to our 'Life together' – it is the heart of Jesus' prayer, 'that they may be one'. When we come together to worship we are the embodied answer to Jesus Prayer, the Body of Christ.

And we all know Jesus' principal opponent in that call to coming together, perhaps better than we might imagine . . .

'Old Nick'

Just the other day, I received an email about how the devil continues to feed on impulses within us. It is a wearisome but all too familiar tale. Some of you will know that a few years ago, some New Zealand churches separated from the Anglican Church over sexuality issues. I know some of those involved and so was aware that cracks of disunity were present in that body, over the issue of whether women should have leadership roles in the church. Yet, because they were focused on questions of marriage, they said 'these other things will sort themselves out'. Well now an email comes from the global leader of the group they joined, saying that he'd had a very difficult meeting with the other leaders for the part of their church in Kenya had just appointed a woman as bishop . . . and making the same noises about 'there is more that unites us than divides us' that our own bishops had made prior to the split.

And so the weary tale goes on. Always finding something to disagree about and to divide. Yet that is surely an almost universal story? People will always find a reason to divide from others. Of course it's Never the fault of those who leave, it's the fault of those other people. "Oh I thought they were my friend, but they didn't treat me like (I judge) a friend should . . ." Over and over the story is repeated as we seek a world where we have the world the way we want it . . .

For example, I wonder if **you've** ever left a church?

It's strange how so many people find a reason to do that, despite all that Jesus taught us about loving enemies and doing good to those who hate us . . . 'The songs are too old, the songs are too modern, the sermon is too long, or too short. I don't like pews, I don't like a

Sunday Services at St John's

Oct.	3	9.00am	Said Eucharist
		10.00am	All Age Eucharist,
Oct.	10	9.00am	Said Eucharist
		10.00am	All Age Eucharist
Oct.	17	9.00am	Said Eucharist
		10.00am	All Age Eucharist
Oct	24	9.00am	Said Eucharist
		10.00am	All Age Eucharist
Oct.	31	9.00am	Said Eucharist
		10.00am	All Age Eucharist

During the Week at St John's

Wednesdays

10.00am Holy Communion followed by morning tea in the Lounge

Thursdays

9.15am Mini Music Makers during school terms

Association of Anglican Women (AAW)

12th October Evening AAW Group meet at Botanic Gardens for lunch at 1pm

14th October Afternoon AAW Group meet at 2.00pm



LESLIE GROVES SOCIETY UPDATE



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our occupancy rates continue to be above the national average. A strong reflection of the high regard that Leslie Groves Rest Home and Hospital has in Dunedin.

The 202/2021 year finished with a surplus of \$566,000.

Our current cash reserves are in excess of \$1,500,000 thus allowing the

Board to confidently undertake significant projects in 2022

A significant number of improvements and upgrades have been made over the past year.

Installation of heaters in all bathrooms, courtyard upgrade, double glazing of skylights replacement beds and new hallway lighting at Sheen Street Replacement of dining room tables and chairs, some carpet replacements, two Tovertafel projectors, a specialist hoist and a robotic lawnmower.

The relocation of our Day Care (Onset of Dementia Programme) to the Hettie Robinson lounge at St Johns has enabled a significant increase in the number of participants.

As a result of improved hand hygiene and the wearing of masks when required, a dramatic reduction in respiratory infections has occurred

In spite of significant challenges re recruitment of staff (most especially Registered Nurses) we have been able to staff both facilities and our Day Care programme above the mandated level

For the year ahead the addition of 4 further Dementia level beds to the Taieri Ward, installation of a wood chip boiler in the Wakari basement and a joint project with the Building and Construction unit of the Otago Poly Technic to build a "fit for purpose" Day Care Building on the Wakari site will be significant events to mark the 70th Anniversary of Leslie Groves.

The preparedness of all current Board members to stand for a further year is a strong indication of the present of the health Leslie Groves.

Their service and the leadership of General Manager, Sean Kelly and staff, was warmly acknowledged.

Brian Tegg (Chairman)

Report from Lisa

Greetings all,

Back in August the day before lockdown was announced I took a funeral service here at St John's for a woman I cared for at Hospice. Funds for a funeral service were limited so I offered her and her family the opportunity to use our wonderful facilities here at St John's for no charge. Jan Ross and Tanya Tankard thankfully agreed to attend to the afternoon tea which was provided by the family. Thanks to both of you for your time and expertise. There was quite the clean up at the end!

This lovely woman had asked me to take her funeral months ago and she was comfortable with some prayers and scriptures being said and read. Her family are completely unchurched people so organizing this to honour her was certainly challenging. St John's was packed with people from all walks of life. They were noisy, unaware mostly of the sacred surroundings and essentially unknowing about the space they were inhabiting. The pew cushions were thrown around and books upturned by the children who had never been in a church before. Her young grandson ran up to the altar and asked when the judge was arriving? He thought it was a courthouse! It was a noisy din.

As the service began I walked up with her children carrying her ashes still with no lowering of the chatter and waited for quiet. As I smiled at a few in the pews who were paying some attention while others kept chatting I was equally grateful for my faith and also sad that so many of those in attendance had little sense of the sacred.

Yet as they became quiet (after being told with a smile to be quiet!) I looked at their faces and I saw the pain of grief and hopelessness. I also felt joy at the opportunity this presented me with to share the love of God with them. All I could pray internally was 'God help me.

The paradox of seeing the hopelessness and yet feeling joy also. As best I could I weaved into the service words of grace and hope that their family member and friend is forever held in the love of God and that they too are also held by a loving God.

I no longer hold to the 'sinners prayer' only needing to be said for redemption. I believe that our God is relentless in pursuing God's children with creative and unexpected ways of revealing Jesus to those who do not know. I pray that they heard the gospel and that God would be known to them. If you feel so inclined pray for her family. Her name was Pat.

A rap written by her son was played over the speakers along with Jimmy Barnes and several other artists. I did giggle internally at the irony of it all and thought that God was possibly having a giggle too!

As we go about our usual church activities at times unseeing the beautiful privilege it is to belong to the family of God let us remember those we know who have no insight into what a life lived loving Jesus is like. A life not without trouble and pain but a life full of meaning, purpose and beauty.

Let our sadness and concern for those who do not know Jesus compel us to pray for them and to witness to them this life of faith and hope.

Bless you all as you navigate this rather trying time.

Rev Lisa Barlow.

church that seems to be like my sitting room' The reasons are endless, even 'these people aren't really Christians. I need to find a church full of people who like me really get the gospel . . .' And as the stories of so many publicly zealous Christians shows over and over again, a fall is always preceded by Pride. After all in telling others that they're not really Christian – we put ourselves above them. (I did this once to my brother – he's a far better Christian than I)

People always seems to find a reason to 'throw themselves from the Temple', a reason to separate, to divide. That is to do the work of the 'diabolo' – the one who throws apart.

John Milton in Paradise Lost, paints a picture of the Devil (the diabolo) which some have suggested is a little too attractive. The line most often repeated from that work sounds perhaps less than alluring, where Satan says, **'I'd rather be a ruler in Hell than a servant in Heaven'**. This to our ears sounds shocking, but as we chase our own rabbit of division down into its burrow, in the darkest corner of our own hearts perhaps it finds an echo? 'I will Never forgive them', 'they're not really Christians', 'I thought they were my friend!'. I'd rather . . . than associate with them!

This last week our text was James 5, 'confess your sins one to another that you may be healed'. This scripture exposes what lies deep within us. Indeed we may even feel within us that blockage.

Jesus goes the way of the cross the way of utter humility and self forgetfulness, thinking Everyone better than himself, and so destroys the work of the devil. And then invites us to do the same, to bring to ruin the work of old Nick.

To forgive what the world would consider to be unforgiveable, to be a friend rather than to expect others to live up to our standards of friendship, to be happy to be with anyone who in this unchurched age meets around the table of Jesus, to be happy that amongst the people of Jesus, we're amongst the least. We do that when we confess our sins one to another.

Tragically, "To rule in Hell", is what drives so many in and out of the church in these days, but 'twas always thus. Ultimately as another poet, Dante revealed, to rule in Hell is to be frozen for ever in anger and utter isolation. The early church knew this well.

They understood that the deadliest thought Pride was one which thought of others as not as good as you, the thought which came from . . . 'Old Nick'. And the way to undo his work was humility, to seek help from others, to confess sins one to another, to understand that our enemies are the gift of learning humility. Or put another way, to follow Jesus who forgives those who murder him, who calls those who will betray him his friends, who holds all things together, who IS Life Together.

Blessings

Eric

In our backyard: Brockville support

A huge thank you to everyone who supported the call for toothpaste and toothbrushes. You gave enough for the two classes at the kindergarten, so they could do some teaching around that donation. No more needed for now.

Everything we have done has had an impact for which they are very grateful.

The most touching difference was with one little boy getting shoes. He suffers from a muscular development problem in his legs, so was falling over a lot. Medical experts had advised the family to get good shoes for him but they could not afford to. One of the teachers pointed him out to me. She was excited and visably moved to say he is hardly falling over now, running around, so proud of his shoes!

Can Collection, Sunday 17 October. Our last effort for the year: fresh fruit or vegetables welcome too. Monday 18 is the first day of Term Four, when we will deliver them.

Chris Carrell for the team.



From the Registers:

Rest in Peace:

3/10 John Moxey

A Note from the Recorder

Lockdown has had effect on all of us. We are so lucky to be able to meet at Church on a Sunday - though not as we know it! There is an opportunity to make a retiring donation of cash and envelopes after each service.

Although it is halfway through the financial year, it is never too late to join the regular donation system. All donations are receipted at the end of March and can be used for the rebate. If you are new to the Parish, or if you would like to be a part of the regular donors please let me know. I am happy to answer any questions you might have, and any discussions are confidential.

With the demise of cheques, direct crediting is the easiest 'way to go'. I can send you the appropriate form for you to fill in and take to your bank. **This form will also give you the Parish bank account number and your unique number for my records, for you to set up your own internet banking.** By creating an automatic payment on a date/s that suits you is a very convenient way of making donations to the Parish.

I am able to supply envelopes to those who would like them, just let me know.

My contact details are:

Sue Cathro, Parish Recorder.

Phone: 455 4604

Mobile: 022 171 5513

Email: b.s.cathro@xtra.co.nz

Rosters

During Covid we can not roster anyone on for Ministry at the door etc. However I will make contact with those who read and prayer to see when you are available to help.

Thank you.

Warden's Report

Hi Everyone,

Seems like a long time since we had the first person in New Zealand test positive for Covid 19 Delta variant. I circled the 16th August which gave us those few hours to prepare for Level 4.

After last time I knew the drill – try to steer clear of supermarkets, McDonalds outlets and liquor stores. I did pass the Pak n Save where there was a large gathering of people squashed together, all at the ready with their trolley's – no doubt it would have been a long night for the store....

I'm very thankful for frontline employees of many services that continue to support people in crisis and as this stretches out much longer than I expected, I can only think there must be so many who need our prayers and thanks. This includes our Christian organisations both clergy and congregation members, Leslie Groves team, Anglican Family Care and Missions around the world.

We've been fortunate this year to be able to continue with face to face worship from Level 2 this time round as well as online worship and prayers. It's wonderful to keep in touch and whilst it's a bit different it's wonderful to be together.

On 18th September Paul Tankard & I joined Synod via Zoom – 84 participants from around the Diocese. The items selected for discussion in this format were more administrative, such as minor amendments to standing orders and clergy voted for two new members for General Synod.

We will re-gather at St Matthews on 6th November God willing, face to face:)

Vestry met on Saturday 25th September, please make contact if you want to raise anything for Vestry for us to discuss and if you want any information on what we cover – happy to share with you.

Have a read of Psalm 91 – wonderful for the times we are experiencing.

Blessings to all.

Melanie and Ethan

The Church Fair and other things.

As you will all know by now the fair has had to be postponed till, hopefully, March next year. When it comes to covid 19 we probably all feel like kids sitting in the back seat after a long drive, “are we there yet, when do we get there?”. Once again I thank all those who so willingly offered their skills and expertise. Please keep that energy alive, I am very hopeful we will again reach level one where things can happen. For many of us 2021 rates as the year that almost never was but we must all keep our chins up and forge ahead. Have no fear, I will keep you all posted as events develop. In the meantime please support those around you and give thanks that the South Island has been spared serious harm over this present episode.

God Bless,
Craig McLanachan,
St John's Fair Convener.=

Afternoon AAW

On August 12th we had a fun quiz, complete with prizes. In September we were supposed to have a wig maker talking to us, but Covid lockdown got in the road of that but hopefully that will happen on 14th October.

If our programmes appeal to you, come and see if you like us. If you are free on the second Thursday of each month at 2.00 pm, please feel free to join us.

For further information my phone number is 476 3975, or text me on 027 238 6893. However, please stay safe, stay well, and stay in contact with one another.

Verna Rutherford [Leader]



Raffles

There are to be a few of the raffles we were going to have at the Fair for sale next month - November. A real bargain at just \$2 per ticket.

They are - 2 Christmas Cakes
Decorative Chocolate Jar
Goodies Hamper from Fresh Choice

Mission News

This tribute to Anthony McCormick was written by his wife, Anne.

Anthony joined the NZCMS family by association when he married me (Anne Giles) in 2004. Prior to that time, he had considered short-term Mission. After my six years in Pakistan (1989 until 1995) when I returned home to care for my elderly father, I felt that Global Mission wasn't yet over for me. We decided to pursue mission service together, applied to NZCMS as a couple and were accepted as candidates-in-training at the end of 2008. My father died in 2009 and the following year, we went to St Andrew's Hall in Melbourne without any clear idea as to where we would serve.

While at St Andrews Hall, our attention was drawn to Cambodia. After much prayer, thought and discussion, we concluded that Cambodia was indeed the place for us. In April 2011, we left New Zealand for Phnom Penh and spent almost two years studying the Khmer language. Although Anthony didn't find language study easy, he persevered and learnt to read, write and speak Khmer, but didn't achieve the proficiency he would have liked. We moved to Battambang early in 2013 and took up roles at the World Mate Emergency Hospital, a trauma hospital for victims of landmines, traffic and workplace accidents.

Anthony set up a social work department at the hospital, writing policies and procedures before recruiting and training Khmer staff to carry out social work amongst patients and caregivers. After two years at the hospital, he handed the programme over to Khmer leadership. He then spent his remaining years in Cambodia training social workers in non-government organisations. With the help of a translator, he devised and delivered training on almost 50 topics on social work theory and practice which were very well received. Anthony enjoyed this teaching role, valuing the opportunity it provided to upskill Cambodians to face the challenges that arose in their lives.

Anthony formed friendships with a number of Khmer people he met through his work, as well as at church and frequently found himself in a mentoring role, particularly to younger people, many of whom lacked older role models in their lives. In his quiet way, Anthony drew alongside these folk and they were very appreciative of the advice and encouragement he gave them, sometimes also having an opportunity to share his faith with them.

Anthony struggled with aspects of life in Cambodia, particularly the corruption, dishonesty and extreme poverty prevalent there. He missed the outdoors, the New Zealand bush and activities such as camping and tramping. He encountered challenges in both life and work but he faced these head-on, in the knowledge that God had called him to work there and had equipped him for this work.

As I have reflected on the obvious influence Anthony had on peoples' lives, reading and listening to many kind words since his death, I have been humbled to realise

again how privileged I was to be his wife and am so thankful that God brought us together for a season, albeit too short. Sharing some of what was expressed to me seems a fitting way to end this tribute to Anthony. Anthony was funny, definite, caring, interested and interesting, a visionary, risk-taker, a good sort. He was a safe, solid presence to his siblings in what was often a chaotic home. He faced life's challenges and overcame many obstacles particularly during times of untold sadness in his twenties. He had a mystical nature, didn't suffer fools gladly, fell short in his own eyes and was sometimes misunderstood. He was a curious observer of people who valued actions more than words. He was astute, intuitive, sensitive and wise, possessing both earthly knowledge and spiritual sensitivity. He had the ability to stand alone, yet stand alone, yet also valued community.

His life story was one of searching, adventure and transformation and he demonstrated fidelity in living out the phrase from Romans chapter 1, about being transformed by the renewing of his mind. He allowed himself to be moved by the suffering of others and knew how to serve others well.

Throughout his 15 month battle with cancer, Anthony refused to acknowledge the seriousness of his illness, remaining steadfast in his trust that God would heal him so that he could continue the work in Cambodia he believed God still had for him to do. Sadly, this was not to be. He allowed no negativity or pity about his situation even as he became increasingly vulnerable and didn't like how fragile his body had become. I, along with two of his sisters, was privileged to be able to fulfil his wish to remain at home, nursing him there up until his peaceful passing on 26th May.

Mission accomplished, Anthony. Well done, good and faithful servant. **(Anne McCormick)**

Vin Maffey,

Parish Mission Motivator

Evening AAW

Nothing much has been happening since the last magazine thanks to Covid although in August we did have a fun quiz night.

This month we are to meet at the café at the Botanic Gardens at 1pm on Tuesday 12th October.

Look forward to catching up with those able to attend.

