

St Paul's Garage Sale & Silent Auction



CHURCH LIFE
SEPTEMBER 2017



Kaiwaka-Mangawhai Scout Group
Community Service — St Paul's Church

Magazine for Mangawhai Mission District

St Paul's Kaiwaka St Michael's, Hakeru Christ the King, Mangawhai



Minister's Musings

We are supposedly in the season of spring. Though with all the unsettled variations in our weather you could be forgiven for thinking spring has passed us by. For all that it is the time of year for blossoms and growth, for green and colour after the bleakness of winter. The time when days get longer, lighter and warmer.

It is also a traditionally a time to clean up and clear out the clutter – sometimes called “spring cleaning”. During the winter months inevitably things pile up inside. Now is the time to sort through and get rid of the “junk” – both in our dwellings and in our beings. With this in mind I invite you to reflect on these words written by contemporary New Zealand Psalmist, Joy Cowley:

Spring Cleaning

*Hey, Jesus, did you say something about possessions?
Well it just so happens that I'd be very pleased
if you'd take some of this stuff which keeps getting in the way.
For example, that old trunk, filled with ideas that no longer fit.
In the past they've served me well, but now they're tight.
They chafe and are splitting at the seams.
You've given me new garments to grow into.
Over here, I've got stacks of answers dating back to the days
when life was filled with questions.
You took the questions last collection.
I don't know why I'm hanging on to these.
Down by your feet are some masks, I keep accumulating those
in spite of the fact that I promised myself
I'd never wear masks again. They're so heavy!
These bundles are heavy too,
judgmental attitudes wrapped in fear.
Can you help me to move them?
Hey Jesus, why don't I just hand it all to you
and let you deal with it? Why don't I just stand here
and admire the results of our spring-cleaning?
You know, this house is surprisingly big.
I didn't know I had so much space.
Hey Jesus, would you like to move in?*

May you enjoy the warmth of the sun and bask in the love of the Son. May the season of spring herald blossoms, freshness and joy in your life.

Shalom, Wayne

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Where Did the Bible Come From?

The Bible has an amazing history, surviving wars, disasters, language changes and culture shifts.

In ancient times, the stories of God were passed down through generations by word of mouth. It's not known who first recorded these stories, but it could have been as early as 1,400 BC. The recording of all the books in the Old Testament took hundreds of years. Once they were all written down, the process of collecting them all together probably began around 400 BC.

Different Christian communities have, through history, come to different decisions about which books belong in the Old Testament. They have all accepted the 39 books in the Old Testament that form the Hebrew Bible of the Jewish people. Catholic Christians also use an additional seven books, plus some extra material in the books of Daniel and Esther. Orthodox Christians accept ten or more additional books as well as the additional material in Daniel and Esther.

When it comes to the New Testament, the majority of Christians agree that the New Testament contains 27 books. The first century AD saw the beginnings of a collection of Christian Scriptures, with two types of document – accounts of the life of Jesus and letters. Early in the second century AD, these two types of documents became known as 'Gospel and Apostle' (like the Old Testament categories 'Law and Prophets'). Paul began writing the first parts of the New Testament possibly as early as 20 years after Jesus' death. The rest of the New Testament was written between about 50 – 100 AD. In 369 AD, a Bishop named Athanasius was the first to list the 27 books currently in the New Testament and insist on those. This list was confirmed at a church level in 397 AD during the Church Council of Carthage.

The first translation of the whole Bible into English was done by John Wycliffe in about 1380. In 1526 William Tyndale produced the first printed New Testament in English. Commenting on the new, and indeed exciting, availability of the Bible in ordinary English, historian John Richard Green writes in his book *A Short History of the English People*:

No greater moral change ever passed over a nation than passed over England during the years which parted the middle of the reign of Elizabeth from the Long Parliament. England became a people of the book, and that book was the Bible. It was read at churches and read at home, and everywhere its words, as they fell on ears which custom had not deadened, kindled a startling enthusiasm. As a mere literary monument, the English version of the Bible remains the noblest example of the English tongue. But far greater was the effect of the Bible on the character of the people. Elizabeth might silence or tune the pulpits, but it was impossible for her to silence or tune the great preachers of justice and mercy and truth who spoke from the Book. The whole temper of the nation felt the change. A new conception of life and of man superseded the old. A new moral and religious impulse spread through every class.

Since then, the Bible has been translated into English many, many times. A real gift and treasure to encourage, challenge and inspire us, and to help us in proclaiming the good news.

St Michael's, Hakaru

Everything is ticking along nicely at present. The cemetery is clean and tidy as is the Church.

The poles in the car park have proved a success so far, just a couple of what looks like frustration skids.

On the burial side of things, business is a bit slow, we have sold one ashes plot for Kevin Bruce Dowson, ashes to be interred later.

We have had contact with an ex local lady Sonny Reardon (nee Bowmar) wanting to place a plaque on the unmarked grave of James Holloway. James worked for Sonny's grandfather for many years after returning from fighting in the Crimean War.

It is great these unmarked graves are being cared for.

We have a wedding booked in for 2nd December, Andre Venter is to marry Cynthia Joens, Rev Wayne has this under control.

That is all from the Hakaru folk for now, Our next Service is on Sunday 29th October 11-30 a.m., shared lunch to follow in the Hakaru Hall.

Neville Dowson



Synod Highlights

For those who usually worship in smaller congregations, it was great to gather as the Diocesan-wide church as we began Synod with a Eucharist in St Mary's. It is a wonderful older wooden building with a very special atmosphere. With the organ playing, choir singing and full pews it was an excellent way to begin Synod.

The opening service reminded us that we are part of something bigger; that our church in this Mission District belongs to a "family" - the Anglican Diocese of Auckland. This means we are not on our own and have access to helpful support and resources. An important aspect of this was highlighted in a report on the new Health and Safety legislation. Even though we are a church comprised mostly of volunteer members it affects us greatly. These new regulations are in one sense a "pain" - working out policies and achieving compliance here in our Mission District would be a real headache. The blessing is that our Diocese has a group working on this, with excellent resource people. They will share the appropriate policies with us and enable us to comply – a gift from the Diocese. This is just one example of the benefits of being part of the larger family.

On the other side of this, being part of the family means we have responsibilities towards it. In real terms this is the Diocesan Quota which each Ministry Unit contributes towards the running of the Diocese. The Quota has been voluntary, but Synod agreed to make this compulsory (in effect no change for us as we already pay the assessed amount in full). The good thing was the formula used to work out the Quota for each Ministry Unit was explained – and while you can never satisfy everyone, the formula seemed about as fair and reasonable as possible. However there is an appeal process, so there remains room to negotiate.

Other highlights were getting to see the practical outworking of mission we support through being part of the Diocesan Family, for example: the City Mission and its vision for building 80 units to house the inner city homeless and low-income workers; housing advocacy; our work with children and young people (the Sunday evening after Synod would see 1000 youth worshipping in the cathedral!); overseas mission. There was also a forward thinking Motion moved by two Youth Representatives for encouraging resource sharing between Ministry Units.

At the closing worship it was wonderful to hear and be accompanied by the new cathedral organ. The organ console looked as complicated as the helm of the Starship Enterprise, but is the control centre for a magnificent sound!

This is part of our mission, wherever in the Anglican Diocese of Auckland we happen to be: to make a joyful noise to the Lord, and encourage others to work and sing with us, as we follow our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Shalom, Wayne

Who Packed Your Parachute?

Charles Plumb, a U.S. Naval Academy graduate, was a jet pilot in Vietnam. After 75 combat missions, his plane was destroyed by a surface-to-air missile. Plumb ejected and parachuted into enemy hands. He was captured and spent 6 years in a communist Vietnamese prison. He survived the ordeal and now lectures on lessons learned from that experience.

One day, when Plumb and his wife were sitting in a restaurant, a man at another table came up and said, "You're Plumb! You flew jet fighters in Vietnam from the aircraft carrier Kitty Hawk. You were shot down!" "How in the world did you know that?" asked Plumb. "I packed your parachute," the man replied. Plumb gasped in surprise and gratitude. The man pumped his hand and said, "I guess it worked!" Plumb assured him, "It sure did. If your chute hadn't worked, I wouldn't be here today."

Plumb couldn't sleep that night, thinking about that man. Plumb says, "I kept wondering what he might have looked like in a Navy uniform: a white hat, a bib in the back, and bell-bottom trousers. I wonder how many times I might have seen him and not even said 'Good morning,' 'how are you?' or anything because, you see, I was a fighter pilot and he was just a sailor." Plumb thought of the many hours the sailor had spent on a long wooden table in the bowels of the ship, carefully weaving the shrouds and folding the silks of each chute, holding in his hands each time the fate of someone he didn't know.

Now, Plumb asks his audience, "Who's packing your parachute?" Everyone has someone who provides what they need to make it through the day. Plumb also points out that he needed many kinds of parachutes when his plane was shot down over enemy territory he needed his physical parachute, his mental parachute, his emotional parachute, and his spiritual parachute. He called on all these supports before reaching safety.

Sometimes in the daily challenges that life gives us, we miss what is really important. We may fail to say hello, please, or thank you, congratulate someone on something wonderful that has happened to them, give a compliment, or just do something nice for no reason. As you go through this week, this month, this year, recognize people who pack your parachute.



A Quiet Sanctuary

The flowers were in place. Perhaps another spear to balance and spread the width. I re-entered the sanctuary acknowledging the cross on the altar as I lowered my head. But what was that at the top of the cross – a dangling spider dead within the threads of an old cobweb? A delighted laugh escaped unbidden from deep within me as I stepped forward to see better. A young “praying” mantis! Brought in perhaps on the flowers. I needed to return it outside, for despite the appropriate place it had somehow chosen, it would not survive long. How to do this? I fetched a couple of the remaining plant spears, approached the sanctuary again positioning my hands close to the golden cross to hopefully encourage the praying mantis to willingly leave its temporary haven. It backed away warily, its forelegs raised and its eyes large upon its small frame. I quickly and gently picked up the cross, God would approve I was sure. The cross was surprisingly heavy as I walked towards the side door of the nave, which I’d opened while fetching the spears, I hoped that the little creature would not yet abandon the sanctuary it had found. From the lowered cross the praying mantis took its cue and climbed into, what I suspected later, was a “Breath of Heaven.” How appropriate if that should be so.

Pamela



Some of My Thoughts from Synod

Both St Mary's and the Cathedral are magic places to worship in, especially having the choir join in with us. They really sound like Angels in Heaven when the young ones hit the high notes (this is as I imagine them) and of course the organ music was great with its 152 organ pipes working!

At Synod we are all allocated seats and this year we were in the 3rd row from the front Section B 58-69, Wellsford Parish was next to us, and Paparoa along the end so we were a bit lucky we could have been 345 at the back.

Bishop Ross and Bishop Jim were great the way they chaired the meetings each day, treating everyone as equals and adding amusing comments every so often.

The lunches were very nice and very adequate as were the morning and afternoon teas and the delicious soup and rolls and savouries Thursday evening.

Sometimes after remits were passed we were directed to split into small groups and put forward our opinions, then they were conveyed to the meeting by an allocated speaker from each group. This happened about 3 or 4 times, not after every remit.

One lady spoke on Health and Safety, one of her concerns being family members of the deceased insisting on helping the grave digger. We have been asked to discourage this practice. This was of particular interest as we have had problems at Hakaru with family wanting to help fill the grave in, much to the disgust of family members of the grave next door getting upset at the mess.

That is all for me, I have completed my 3 years as Synod member so I hope the next Synod member enjoys their experience too.

Thank you all for having the confidence to elect me.

Yours Sincerely and God Bless, Ann Dowson



The partnership lasted 13 years then we decided to go our own ways, Neville buying bull calves at 4 days old and rearing them on the top half of the farm and Neville driving school buses, quite a busy life style. After the buses we sold the farm and leased glass houses at Mangawhai, travelling back and forth each day as the children were still at high school. We leased for 1 year but decided not to buy even though we enjoyed the work, Neville was then employed by Christine and Bill Bygrave to help build their new rotary cowshed, this work lasted for 6 yrs then Ann worked on the Kaiwaka telephone exchange and we leased more land to raise bulls.

While in Kaiwaka Neville was in the Kaiwaka Fire Brigade for 28yrs, 13 yrs as Secretary, He attained his Gold Star for 25 yrs Service, he also spent 17 years in the Kaiwaka St John and became the Divisional officer for 5 yrs this came to an end once we shifted to Hakaru. Ann was on Plunket Committee, and Playcentre committee, Kaiwaka CWI, and Garden Club President and Secretary some of the time, also RSA Womens Section secretary for many years, and later on Paparoa Parish Vestry representing St Pauls at Kaiwaka.

In 2009 We decided to buy K.D Wintle's farm at Hakaru, and spent 17 years farming bulls, during that time Neville was diagnosed with an acoustic neuroma the balance nerve near the brain, from which he recovered after the big operation with sheer perseverance and determination. After 17 years we decided the bulls were getting a bit dangerous for us to rear as they could get quite bossy so we decided to lease the farm to see if we missed it, and we didn't. We sold the farm including our nice new home and shifted to Mangawhai in Dey Street where we are very happy to-day. People say how do we fill in our time, well we belong to the RSA, FRIENDS of the Museum where there is always something needing help with, we are involved with our church and we are members of the golf club and Ann belongs to the Kaiwaka/Mangawhai Garden Club, as well as our garden to keep up to standard. We also enjoy riding our bikes, walking and swimming, and fishing, and of course our family, especially watching the grandchildren moto crossing and surfing.



Church Profile - Ann and Neville Dowson

Neville Douglas Dowson was born at his parents "Wattle Glen" residence in Kaiwaka on 25th Sept 1940. 4th child of Erwin and Stella Dowson, Erwin and Stella had 8 children, 3 boys and 5 girls.

Neville says he had a wonderful childhood, playing games, going on outings to the beach, playing tennis in the summer and rugby in the winter, one of his favourite outings was going to Auckland and crossing the harbour on the vehicular ferry. Neville attended Kaiwaka Primary School (walking all the way each day with his family and cousins. Neville loved his rugby making the Otamatea reps 3 years in a row, and also has several tennis trophies.

Neville left school at the age of 15 to work for his father building concrete tanks, fertilizer bins for aerial topdressing, piggeries. He later worked at the Kaiwaka Lime works. At 17 he attained his heavy traffic license under special conditions as his brothers had to be away at compulsory military training and his father needed him to be able to drive his truck. This stood him in good stead for driving for Ray Parker who had a general carrying business. He drove for Parkers for 5 years.

On 9th September 1963 Neville married Margaret Ann Montgomery Williams whom he had first known at primary school, they even played tenniquoites together and won the competition.

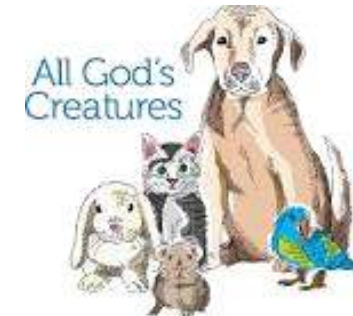
Ann was born in Napier on 3rd Nov 1941 to Betty Noeline Montgomery Williams and Sigurd Montgomery Williams. While Ann's dad was away in the air force Betty and Ann lived with Granny and Grandad Couper, Betty's parents and Marjorie, Ann's aunty spoil her rotten!! (much to Betty's dismay!! After the war the family shifted to Pahiatua to a place named Pori and when she was 6 Ann attended Makuri school (Ann couldn't go when she was 5 because there was a polio epidemic).

When Ann was 8 yrs old, sister Lynne was born and at age 10, brother Robert was born. The family then shifted to Hatuma near Waipukurau and Ann attended Hatuma School for 2 years, then... Ann's dad drew a Land and Survey farm at Hakaru in a Returned Services Ballot. Two brothers were born, Colin and Paul. Ann went to Kaiwaka School, then Maungaturoto District High School. Form three at the old school and form 4 to 5 at what is now known as Otamatea High School. Ann left school after she attained School Cert, enjoyed being Fleeso when her Dad's sheep and some of the neighbours sheep were shorn, worked at pumping petrol at Kaiwaka Motors for Mr Eric Judd and when 18 joined the Navy in the Communications branch. She spent 3 yrs in the Navy engaged to Neville the last 12 months of that time, qualified for Petty Officer WRNZNS and as mentioned before, married Neville at St Michaels Church Hakaru on 9th March 1963, Allan was born 8th September 1964 and twins Susan and David born 5th Sept 1966.

Our first home was in the Flats at Kaiwaka, and then a lovely little brand new cottage on Ross and Melba Dunn's farm on Dunns Road now known as Baldrock Road where Neville helped milk 140 cows, and raised 150 pigs, Ross was also a hay baling contractor which Neville helped with also.

In 1964 we went into a partnership with Neville's brother Terry, milking cows and farming 300 sheep and more pigs.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS



St Francis of Assisi Service
SUNDAY 8th OCTOBER 2017 - 9.00 AM
MANGAWHAI CHRIST THE KING
ANGLICAN CHURCH
Molesworth Drive, Mangawhai Village

ALL PETS WELCOME

**Bring all living creatures, whether they be pets,
birds, farm animals, etc (suitably restrained).
Where people are not able to bring an animal, they
may like to bring a photo or picture of an animal
they love or a soft toy**

Enquiries: Ph Wayne, 09 431 4122

Combined Mission Districts Quiz at St Paul's Church



Kaiwaka Mangawhai Scouts Group
Community Service at St Paul's, Kaiwaka

