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The bi-monthly magazine for the Anglican
Parish of Upper Riccarton - Yaldhurst
St Peter's and St Luke's Church

The Gateway

August 2017



A very big Thank You to Academy Funeral Services who have very kindly printed this Booklet in colour for us.

Weekly Services



St Peter's Church
Church Corner, Upper Riccarton

Fridays during term time:

6.00 – 7.00pm Youth Orchestra

7.00 – 8.30pm Youth Group

St Luke's Church

1st & 3rd Sundays

9.30 am Holy Communion



St Luke's Church
School Road, Yaldhurst

Parish Office

22 Main South Road
P.O.Box 6088, Christchurch
Ph.(03) 348 5653
2nd line (03) 348 5608
email: stpeter@world-net.co.nz

St Peter's Church

Sundays

8.00 am Holy Communion

9.30 am Holy Communion

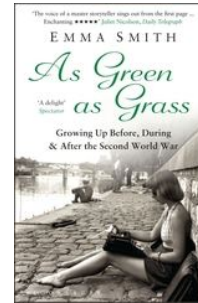
9.30 am Good News Club

11.00 am 4th Sunday Family
Service in the Bowden Hall

Wednesdays:

10.00 am Holy Communion

Book Review



"As Green As Grass"

by Emma
Smith

"As Green As Grass – Growing Up Before, During & After the Second World War", by Emma Smith. Born as Elspeth Hallsmith in Cornwall, in beautifully and uniquely written word Emma tells of her experiences as she was growing up. The way she writes is interesting and intriguing – forming her sentences in an old-fashioned way, to my thinking. The zest, thirst for life and buoyant spirits of Emma, as she recalls in brilliant evocative details the qualities of England in the 30s and 40s, give her book the feel of a ready-made classic. Endlessly engaging, it tells the story of a wonderfully normal and yet completely unusual young woman, determined, against a backdrop of enormous social change, to be a writer, come what may.

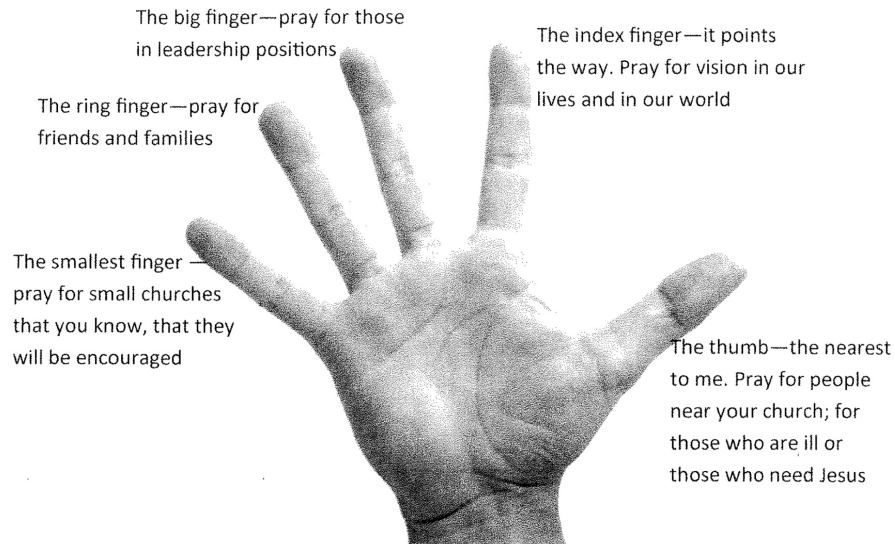
Margaret Mahan

Bible Trivia

1. This book contains the longest verse in the Bible. Name the book.
2. Jesus Said: In the beginning was the _____, and the _____ was with God, and the _____ was God.
3. Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the _____, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.
4. She bore Abraham's first son. Name the person.

Kids Corner

The Hand of Prayer Take Five



The Hand of Prayer Take Five

Prayer changes things.

Looking at your five fingers and seeing your hand as an instrument of prayer, would you pray for five minutes a day? If so, your prayers added to another 12 people would add up to **one hour**

Encourage your church to grasp the hand of prayer.

God said, "I have heard your prayers. I have seen your tears"
2 Kings 20 v5

Did you know?

- ◇ There are more prayers in the Bible than sermons
- ◇ Jesus expected his disciples to pray—he said "**when**", not "**if**" you pray.
- ◇ God does hear our prayers



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From the Vicar Rev Nick Mountfort

GET THEE TO A NUNNERY

Recently I went on a retreat. I try and do this each year. A retreat is a time of being away; in my case the Home of Compassion, a Convent in Island Bay, Wellington, for 8 days. It was silent, there were 12 of us, and we met each day with a Spiritual Director, had communion together and a daily guided meditation. It's taking the call in the psalm "to be still and know that I am God." Jesus himself often withdrew for prayer.

What's really interesting is the reaction of others. One said, "Anglicans don't go on retreat. That's what R.C's do! One person got a fit of the giggles thinking about me trying to be silent for 8 days! Another wondered how we did meals without talking. Others have simply said, "How was the holiday", not thinking that a retreat is anything other than a holiday.

I know I am very privileged to be able to do this, but there are retreats in everyday life that don't mean time away.

NOTICEBOARD

FOR YOUR DIARY

Parish Race Day	9 September
Combined Spring Service with Methodist Church	10 September, 10am at St Peter's Church
Garage Sale	23 September
Plant Sale	7 October
St Luke's Patronal Service	15 October, 9.30am

Coffee And A Chat

Thursday mornings at 10 am,
York Room
St Peter's Church Hall
All Welcome
Coffee \$2 Cake 50c

Next Gateway Closing Date

Please send articles and
notices for the next Gateway
to the Editor
(seokjen@yahoo.com.sg) by
20 September.

St Peter's Staff Contact Details

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Director of Music	Haydn Hill	325 7464	
Vicar's Warden	Corin Murfitt	348 8625	021 345 804
Parishioners' Warden	Jo Winfield	322 8723	027 256 7205

Website: <http://stpeterschurch.nz>



St Peter's Anglican Church at Church Corner and St Luke's Yaldhurst

PARISH RACEDAY

Barrer and Co, St. Peter's Restoration Fundraising Committee together with the co-operation of the Canterbury Jockey Club are sponsoring the race day at Riccarton on **Saturday 9 September** - unfortunately coinciding with one of the days of this year's Synod. Sponsors have been sought and sponsorship amounts over \$1000 (our commitment to each of the race stakes) will go to our cause. We have several very generous sponsors for the meeting already with a request that the amount ideally be at least \$5000.

Obviously, as in the past, parishioners are welcome to attend this Parish event. We have been given a private box (not the same as last year) where there will be a cash bar. Race books, entry will be provided and the sumptuous meal in the Balmerino Room is available for the all-inclusive price of \$30.

Please mark this in your diary and invite some friends. It is a fundraiser this year!

Place your names on the board at the back of the Parish Hall or contact the office.

Corin Murfitt

From the **PARISH REGISTERS**

Funerals

John Robb
30 Jun 17

Colleen Scalan
31 Jul 17

I find that God does guide and strengthen me when I bother to listen.

Among the strong messages I got this last retreat is the call for me to be a pastor first and an administrator second. With such an active and community focused parish, it would be easy to lose sight of people and spend time organising the parish. I'm blessed to have a great parish administrator and wardens who pick up most of this, and an excellent fundraising team.

To come back to our theme for this year, what would it be like to ask, "What's one thing I am doing that I can build on to strengthen my friendship with Jesus?"

*"God does guide
and strengthen me when I
bother to listen"*

You don't have to go to a nunnery, but we all need to be still and know that God is God.

Nick

Family Service

a service to behold

Can I commend to you the Family Service held the 4th Sunday of the month in the Bowden Hall. It is not a traditional Anglican service that most of us 'oldies' know. There is also a difference from the Family Services we used to hold at St Peter's many moons ago. However, it is a service to behold. To witness the very young, the teens and the 'more mature folks' actually outwardly expressing enjoyment in an Anglican service is a sight to cherish.

The music is stimulating on a cold morning and the orchestral accompaniment is accomplished. The presence of the Bishop Julius choir is a bonus. Each month the numbers attending increases and at the most recent service, there was virtually standing room only.

We must thank the parents and young parishioners who sought this service, our Vicar (and Vestry) for accepting and implementing the suggestion but especially curate John for successfully actioning what appeared to be a challenge. His face says it all!!

The shared pizzas at the end of the service are welcomed and perhaps somewhat of a dangling carrot. Thank you. Corin Murfitt (Vicar's Warden)

Corin Murfitt
(Vicar's Warden)



DAYTIME FELLOWSHIP

In June, we welcomed our AAW Chaplain Rev Stephanie Robson to our meeting. It was great to catch up with her and hear what she has been doing since she left the Cathedral.

In July, we had our annual soup and rolls lunch which all must have enjoyed because no one seemed to be in a hurry to go home. The following week, we had a meeting in The York Room to discuss remits. Not the most popular topic on the "things to do" list.

In August, we will hear from Mandy Kennedy, the new CEO of Ronald McDonald House.

Over these three winter months, we have had the Evening fellowship joining in with us. This has been a pleasure and a great boost to our meetings.

For information, please phone

Barbara Fleming (342 8982)

EVENING FELLOWSHIP

Several members have enjoyed joining the Daytime group for their June, July and August meetings; some of us met recently to discuss the NCW Remits.

News from the AAW Groups

On Wednesday 20 September, we'll have our annual "dinner out" at Hoofbeats Restaurant, Riccarton Racecourse Hotel. Details in the bulletin. Last year we enjoyed a pleasant social time and delicious food. Please mark the date in your diary.

The AAW Diocesan Festival Communion will be held in the Transitional Cathedral at 7pm on Wednesday 11 October - if you'd like to attend, transport will be available.

You may like to visit the Diocesan AAW Art & Craft Fair at St Barnabas, Fendalton, on Saturday 14 October, between 9am to 1pm. All items will be for sale to raise funds for Overseas & Outreach. Some of our members have made things for this sale.

On 18 October, our monthly meeting will be back in the Bowden Hall. One of our parishioners, Margaret Morton, will tell us about her recent trip to China and Japan.

The end of 2017 is creeping nearer with the AGM on Wednesday 15 November at 7.30pm in the Bowden Hall, so please come. We hope to begin with a Communion service and follow the meeting with a party-plate supper.

For information, please phone

**Margaret Mahan, Leader (942 2114) or
Janice Newnham, Secretary (358 6242)**



race day at Riccarton is also featured in this issue of the Gateway.

In the middle of July, our Parish Recorder and Diocesan Manager, Edwin Boyce, made a presentation to the congregations on the subject of bequests and parishioners are invited to consider this means of support most seriously. Edwin or the Vicar would be happy to talk further about this with anyone.

I wonder how many parishioners are aware that St. Peter's celebrates its 160th anniversary of consecration at Easter next year. How wonderful it would be if we could be almost at our target and ready to commit to reconstruction at that time. But that will require everyone's cooperation and generosity over the coming eight months. I hope we can count on yours.

David Winfield (ph 322 8723)

Garage Sale September

Our second parish garage sale this year will be held on 23 September. We have lots of goodies coming in (thank you) but please remember that we cannot take computers, printers, fax machines, video players, TV's, children's car seats, electric blankets (unless brand new), broken items, or chipped crockery. Nearer the time we will offer to collect big items but at present we have a storage problem. Thank you for your support.

Gwen Guild



Occasionally, we get beautiful China for the Garage Sale.

Windows for the Soul

From one of my favourite hymns "For the beauty of the earth..." some wonderful words stand out for me:

"For the joy of ear and eye
For the heart and mind's delight
For the **mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight**"

Memories of the interior of our St Peter's Church spring to mind, particularly the array of heritage stained windows. Some of these are illustrated and described in detail in Audrey Storer's book "Light and life". Not only are they magnificent and notable heritage art, but they are integral to the enrichment of our worship and not to be treated as a backdrop or as overhead decor.

Set in Revival Gothic architecture (designed by Isaac Luck and Benjamin Montfort in the 1850s-), the windows are outstanding examples of the Arts and Crafts Movement in religious art. The architect, Cecil Wood, a follower of this movement, was also responsible for designing and planning the stone cladding of our church in the 1900s.



Biblical stories are depicted in wonderful detail. But more than that, the windows have a profound effect in my own life. Each window is a ministry in itself, light and life, linking sense to sound and sight. The two windows which had such a profound effect on me are etched in my inner thought life.

At a needy time in my life, I was drawn to the window of Jesus, the Good Shepherd, holding the lamb that got lost (that was me!) and the other was the Soldier with the Breastplate of Righteousness, the Sword of Faith and the Helmet of Salvation... How I needed these!

These pictures reached where no words could. They were constant - always there. By absorbing these pictures, over time, I could drag myself out of a fairly deep hole. These ministry windows have power, if you like, a "mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight". How easy it is to be blinded by current "fads", such as the brutal fake "industrial chic" style, and the multi-functional "one size fits all" design which loses focus. The whole set of stained glass windows deserve to be retained in their original position where we can see them and be restored in our inner lives, just as I was.

Our church needs to be 'Ffit for purpose': saving souls!

Documentation is currently being prepared in conjunction with CPT for applications to major funders. Amongst others we are hoping to make submissions in order to apply for a Heritage Incentive Grant through the Council. The local Riccarton / Wigram Community Board has generously gifted us with \$15,000 and the promise of a similar amount in the next financial year. Other donations continue to arrive for varying amounts and all are most welcome of course.

Regular contact continues with the Barrer team and we have been delighted to welcome a new member of their staff,

Kylie Malin, who is getting well settled in to the task and bringing a good deal of energy and a wide experience.

Sale items continue to be available on our table in church (including of course the cards and prints of St. Peter's Anglican Church) and another order of engraved pens has been received. These are already selling well and can be purchased from Fay Mangos, Pamela in the Parish Office, or myself. The Book Sale, back in June, was another successful venture and raised well over \$2000. As we go to print, another Quiz Night is being put together. Details of a

To: Parishioners

From: Janet Noonan 3486473, Jill Lyall 3581115

Subject: Plant Sale

This year, our plant sale is on Saturday 7 October. There is still time to divide and pot up some plants from your garden but this should be done by the end of August latest. Pots and potting mix are available at our little potting shed beside the garage sale shed or ask at the Parish Office. Please NO garden soil.

Seeds, seed-raising mix and containers will be handed out following services on Sunday 10 September. We ask that parishioners raise 6 or more trays of vegetable seedlings. Instructions are available.

Plants (named) for the sale may be delivered to the Parish Hall on Thursday 5 October between 10am and 1pm or Friday between 9am and 12noon.

Donations of other garden items may be left in our potting shed anytime. Also appreciated is a donation towards our raffle e.g. a purchased plant or garden item (needs to be new) or simply a donation so we may buy. Many thanks for your help.

Every bit counts towards a successful sale again this year.



'A' TEAM THERAPY

Nearly every Friday morning between 9am and 12 noon, a group of volunteers meet to undertake the seemingly endless myriad of jobs that need doing to keep our magnificent church grounds and property in the shape we have come to expect. It never ceases to amaze me that apart from the damage to our beloved church, God has blessed us with one of the most beautiful church grounds in Christchurch. But they don't look after themselves. It is the dedication of our paid staff and volunteer workers that maintain this ambience, and because we have such fun while we are doing this work, we invite like-minded people to join us.

The work is not arduous. You can come for as long or as little time as you can afford, and we fully accept that you might not be able to come every Friday. You will always be welcome and you

will always be in good company. We have a variety of skills. Some like gardening, some like carpentry, some like painting, some like repairing electrical items and some like getting their hands in mucky places which need cleaning out after leaf fall. But we all share a good joke and have a laugh, especially at morning tea, which is often attended by our Vicar, especially when there are scones on offer.

Serving in the "A Team" is a way we can give to the church of our talents without it costing us money. If you feel moved to join our team of men and women, please call Dennys at 357 4204, or just turn up on a Friday morning wrapped up in old clothes, and with working gloves and a spade, or fork, or rake, or secateurs, or pruners, etc.

In our "year of strengthening" come and help us strengthen the team of dedicated out-door volunteers in our wonderful parish.

Dennys Guild
Ph. 357 4204

Strengthening through Our Young People

This year our children's ministry has been trying to think of a variety of ways in which we can strengthen our relationship with each other and God. During the last year, the Children's and Youth Ministry work at St. Peter's has grown, and we now have a variety of ways in which our children and youth can participate in our ministry.

These include:

- **9.30am Sunday Service: Pre-School Group (2-5 years) and Good News Club (5-12 years)**
- **Youth Group: Friday Nights, 7.30-9.00pm, Church Hall**
- **Youth Music Group: Friday Nights, 6.00-7.00pm, Bowden Hall**
- **Family Service: 4th Sunday, 11.00am, Bowden Hall**

In addition, we have our children and youth getting involved in our worship and ministry which include administering the communion, reading, serving, welcoming, and helping out with the music. It has been so exciting to watch many of our young people become so actively involved in the service but also to see them grow in confidence as they explore ways to strengthen their promise to God, in extending their ministry and serving in His name.

A good example was presented at one of our recent family services where we celebrated our patronal festival, St. Peter's. Here we discussed what it means to be part of our church and that the strength of any church depends on solid foundations. If anyone knows about solid foundations, then Canterbury people do! Because we live in a diverse world and Christchurch is becoming more diverse in ethnicity. Using a range of building blocks, all different colours and sizes, the children built a representation of our church. They carefully thought about the structure and how strong the foundations needed to be in order to ensure all the layers would hold up. Just like our faith, as we grow, we need to

have strong foundation to ensure we can strengthen our faith and provide ministry to others. The children encouraged all the congregation to write their names on individual blocks so that the final building included and represented everyone. This meant that despite all our differences we are united and strengthened by God's love and mission. We felt that this also represented the current challenge we have before us in fundraising and rebuilding St. Peter's.

The children have also been exploring ways to strengthen their relationship with God, and the challenge has been to explore this in ways that the children can relate to and sustain beyond our Sunday worship time together. The children were able to identify MANY situations in which they felt sometimes life just doesn't seem fair! However we must always remember that no matter what, God is always with us, through good times or bad. The children made the wristbands using selected verses written on them, just as a reminder God is always with us and will provide that strength, comfort and love; unconditionally.



We hope that some of the following verses provide you with the same comfort, love and strength that you need to face and cope with what life may present.

The Lord gives strength to those who are weary. (Isiah 40:30)

If you are tired from carrying heavy burdens, come to me and I will give you rest. (Matthew 11:28)

We tell you what worries us, and you won't let us fall. (Psalm 55:22)

Now that I pray that God, who gives love and peace, will be with you. (2 Corinthians 13: 11)