



*Growing in Christian faith, love and action we responsibly
and joyfully care for God's earth and all people.*

Johanna's Jottings

This month Brendan Sweeney who is the Financial Officer for the national Church (PCANZ) is visiting Blenheim to run a workshop on the new process of reporting to the Charities Commission. Some of you may already know about this from other organisations you are part of. It is something Parish Council and Finance Committee in particular need to understand. Any of you are welcome to attend the workshop which will be held in our church on Wednesday, 18th March at from noon till 2pm..

Whenever we advertise Presbytery and national church events you are all most welcome to attend - the more you are all involved the stronger we are as a parish and a presbytery.

Thinking ahead there will be an Alpine Presbytery Gathering in Christchurch on Friday and Saturday 8-9 May. On the Friday the particular focus will be an anniversary of the ordination of women as elders and ministers. There may be a small amount of business on the Saturday but the greatest amount of time will be spent with inspiring speakers or workshops and eating and worshipping together. Do plan to come if you can, especially if you have friends or family to stay with in Christchurch.

This month we have had a service of baptism. These are always wonderful times when we celebrate with the family concerned and have an opportunity to be reminded of our own baptism and faith commitment. These occasions come to us because one of you or some of you together have made sure that someone felt



able to ask. You/We as a parish, as a congregation and as individuals have shown ourselves to be welcoming. We have shown in the way we live and worship that God is present and active in our lives and that we invite others - babies, children and adults to join in our expression of faith.

Can you keep your eyes and ears open in the next wee while for what you see as signs of that welcome and invitation, and if you notice anything you think we could improve on let me or someone from worship Committee or Parish Council know. If your insights are related to the children please talk to someone from the kidz@andrews team as we are reviewing our plans and policies this year for kidsfriendly registration and to make sure we are doing as well as we possibly can.

This month I am organising my Minister's Review. Rev Nancy-Jean Whitehead from Amberley will come up on 13-14 March. If you would like to take part please let me know. There will be an opportunity to fill in a questionnaire and to talk with Nancy-Jean. She will then talk with me and write a report which reflects what I am currently doing and names 2-4 goals for me to work on to make changes or improvements over the next three years. I need some of you to help me by taking part in this and would appreciate you giving some thought to it. I believe it is useful to have some who are not on Parish Council help in this way. Everyone sees from a slightly different perspective and it is useful to have a broad view.

Your sister in Christ

Johanna



Parish Register

15.2.15	Joshua Louis Kaito Tanichi
15.2.15	Shirley Jane Tanichi

Rest Home Services

You are invited to any of these services. It's good to have people to help with hymn books, share the singing and so on. And the residents really enjoy having others come. Takes about 30 minutes. Mark these dates now.

<i>March</i>	<i>Preacher</i>	<i>Home</i>	<i>Time</i>
Tuesday, 3 rd	Johanna/John	Ashwood Park	2pm
Wednesday, 11 th	Johanna/John	Redwood	10.30am
Thursday, 26 th	David	Springlands	11am
Friday, 27 th	Marion	Aberleigh	11am

DO YOU HAVE TROUBLE GETTING TO CHURCH?

Or getting anywhere for that matter.



This is a reminder of Taxi Mobility Scheme which is run by the council. Several older persons' organizations give out vouchers after a client has been assessed as to whether they can become a user.

The vouchers give the client a discounted amount when using Taxis or the mobility taxi. Some organizations which you can use are M S and Parkinsons or Aged Concern.

If you would like to know more about this scheme,
talk to Jane Heywood 578-1327.



Lectionary The following readings are set down for the next few weeks in a lectionary used by the Presbyterian and Methodist Churches in New Zealand. In St Andrew's we normally follow the lectionary except when other readings are required for special circumstances. You may wish to follow the readings even if you are unable to attend services.

Date	1st Reading	Psalm	2nd Reading	Gospel
1 March Lent 2	Gen 17: 1-7, 15-16	Ps 22: 23-31	Rom 4: 13-25	Mk 8: 31-38
8 March	Ex 20: 1-17	Ps 19	1 Cor 1: 18-25	Jn 2: 13-22
15 March	Num 21: 4-9	Ps 107: 1-3, 17-22	Eph 2: 1-10	Jn 3: 14-21
22 March	Jer 31: 31-24	Ps 51: 1-12	Heb 5: 5-10	Jn 12: 20-33
29 March Palm Sunday	Is 50: 4-9a	Ps 118: 1-2, 19-29	Phil 2: 5-11	Mk 11: 1-11
HOLY WEEK Monday 30 th	Is 42: 1-9	Ps 36: 5-11	Heb 9: 11-15	Jn 12: 1-11
Tuesday, 31 st	Is 49: 1-7	Ps 71: 1-14	1 Cor 1: 18-31	Jn 12: 20-36
Wednesday, 1 st	Is 50: 4-9a	Ps 70	Heb 12: 1-3	Jn 13: 21-32
2 April Maundy Thursday	Ex 12: 1-4, (5-10), 11-14	Ps 116: 1-2, 12-19	1 Cor 11: 23-26	Jn 13: 1-17, 31b-35
3 April Good Friday	Is 52: 13-53: 12	Ps 22	Heb 10: 16-25	Jn 18: 1-19: 42
4 April Holy Saturday	Job 14: 1-14	Ps 31: 1-4, 15-16	1 Peter 4: 1-8	Mt 27: 57-66
EASTER 5 April Dawn	Ex 14: 10-31, 15: 20-21	Ps 114	Rom 6: 3-11	Mk 16: 1-8
5 April Easter Day	Acts 10: 34-43	Ps 118: 1-2, 14-24	1 Cor 15: 1-11	Jn 20: 1-18

kidz@andrews

We began our [Kidz@andrews](#) programme on 1 February. We have been retelling the story from Mark 2 of some friends bringing their friend to Jesus and cutting a hole in the roof to get to Jesus. You can see the model we made in the window at the moment.

On the first day of Lent we made pikelets to share for morning tea and talked about Shrove Tuesday and Lent. This month we also farewelled the Thiel family who are moving to Canterbury. We will miss Colin and Sarah, but we wish them well in their new home and school. We were thrilled to have children visit us for Joshua Tanichi's baptism.

Garden Tour 2015



Last year's garden tour was so successful we are going to do another this year, probably about the same time in October — date to be confirmed. Although it is some way off, this is the time we need to be thinking about it and planning. If you would like to offer to help in some way, do get in touch with Jennifer Willis, Gill Mutch, Chris Grant or Rose Pelvin. Likewise, if you have innovative ideas for stalls or attractions to be included, let us know early.

We will be looking for volunteers for stalls, serving food, making teas, helping with publicity etc. There must be something you can help with. Perhaps you can start early and pot up some plants for sale, or search out those gardening books you no longer use. And 'spring clean' the garden shed in the autumn and donate the surplus garden tools. This is a major fund raiser and something that everyone can be involved in and enjoy.

At Last Month's Parish Council

- The Christmas Light display was a great success and will be repeated this year with increased publicity.
- Johanna will be on holiday in the first week of June but will be back for Communion. She will also be taking study leave, probably in July.
- Confirmation has been received from Marlborough District Council that our kitchen is now registered for commercial use and can be hired out.
- A reminder about taxi chits for those eligible is to be publicised in the Chronicle.
- It is import to provide up-to-date information for the website. Please send any news or photos to Wally Elder direct or via the office.

Next meeting 17 March, devotions Gail.

THE ADOLESCENT BRAIN SEMINAR

Nathan Mikaere-Wallis is a dynamic, gifted educator and inspiring presenter. He lecturers at Canterbury University and is a Child Protection trainer, father and foster parent. With a background in child counselling and teaching, Nathan has a nationwide reputation as an inspirational speaker on the topic of brain development. Nathan uses humour to make this sometimes complex topic both easy to understand, and relate to in daily life .

You are invited to attend:

Tuesday, 10th March, 6.30pm

Marlborough Girls' College Assembly Hall.

Main Entrance, 21 McLauchlan Street, Blenheim

Cruisey Church met on the 21st of February for the first time this year. There were 9 children present, 2 of whom came for the first time. Our helpers did their usual great job of helping the children understand what was expected at each craft table, chatting with them and admiring their work.



For the beginning of the year our theme was New Beginnings. They made a new name badge for themselves to wear at Cruisey Church. In worship we heard the story of Zechariah and Elizabeth having a baby just as an angel had told them. Do you remember they called the baby John which was a new name in their family just as the angel told them?

In the foyer at church are open invitations to Cruisey Church. They explain it briefly and list all the dates for 2015. Do take one if you have someone you'd like to invite or indeed if you want to be reminded of the dates when we meet for yourself.

CELEBRATION!

On 13 May 2015 it will be the 50th anniversary of the ordination of the Rev. Margaret Reid-Martin, as the first woman ordained to ministry of Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand. This year also marks 60 years since the General Assembly in 1955 agreed to the ordination of women elders.



The women ministers in Christchurch wish to mark this special occasion and we are working with the Alpine Presbytery Establishment Officer to include this celebration as part of the May meeting of the Alpine Presbytery.

Dates: Friday, 8th and Saturday, 9th May.

Friday morning and lunch will be for the women ministers to gather. There will be a further programme in the afternoon before Presbytery gathers for the evening meal.

Venue: Knox Church, Christchurch.

SEVEN WONDERS

A group of students were asked to list what they thought were the present “Seven Wonders of the World”.

Though there were some disagreements, the following received the most votes:



Egypt's Great Pyramids.

Taj Mahal.

Grand Canyon.

Panama Canal.

Empire State Building.

St Peter's Basilica.

China's Great Wall.



While gathering the votes, the teacher noted that one student had not finished her paper yet. So she asked the girl if she was having trouble with her list. The girl replied, “Yes, a little. I couldn't quite make up my mind because there were so many.” The teacher said, “Well, tell us what you have, and maybe we can help.”

The girl hesitated, then read, “I think the Seven Wonders of the World are:



To See.

To Hear.

To Touch.

To Taste.

To Feel.

To Laugh.

To Love.



The room was so quiet you could have heard a pin drop. The things we overlook as simple and ordinary and that we take for granted are truly wondrous!

From APW 2006 Devotions Vol.3, source unknown



CHRISTIAN WORLD SERVICE

Success Stories:

Hermalinda had been given an avocado tree by the Council of Protestant Churches (CWS Partner) as part of their programme to improve income and food for small farmers. With the training she received she was delighted to share her harvest.

Last October she proudly showed coordinator Trish Murray her garden in rural **Nicaragua**. Cinnamon, mango, tangerine, avocado and 12 orange trees were flourishing despite two years of unpredictable weather. She grows papaya, pineapple, squash and 26 new plantain plants. The original 15 chickens had provided eggs and food for the family. Despite giving chickens to neighbours for special occasions her flock now numbers 25. Hermalinda and her husband don't know how they would have managed without CEPAD. The drought has been long and the seasons too short.

On the other side of the world **South Sudan** has suffered through major conflict and poverty. Many people in the world's newest country have been left to fend for themselves and the hope that came with independence in 2011 has gone.

Arnesto Zara aged 31 was determined to have some education despite decades of war, His father died when he was six and his mother worked hard to grow the food they needed to stay alive. In 2011 he had saved enough money to sit the Sudan School Certificate but with few jobs available he had to return to farming. By digging at least two hectares of land he can grow enough food to feed his family of six and pay school fees and medical costs. "It is hard because I use my hands for digging every day," he says.

He dreams of going back to school but his priority is his children. CWS partner Marisi Service Agency has formed a young farmers group of which Arnesto is chairperson, Last year MSA lent them a tractor to plough their land and is now providing training to improve their farming techniques.

If you would like to support CWS helping communities around the world survive disaster, overcome poverty and build dignity and self-reliance, the address is **P O Box 22652, Christchurch 8140**

In order to measure your level of proficiency as a choir member, the following test has been carefully developed by experts.

1. You are entering the choir loft on Sunday morning and suddenly trip and fall down. You should: *a. Assume a kneeling position and break into fervent prayer. b. Pretend that you've had a heart attack. c. Crawl into the nearest chair. d. Sink to the floor in shame.*

2. You are a soprano and count incorrectly. As a result you boom out a high "C" one measure too soon. You should: *a. Slide into an inspired "O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing." b. Look triumphant and hold on to the note. c. Stop abruptly in mid squawk but keep your lips moving. d. Sink to the floor in shame.*

3. After all those long hard choir rehearsals, you show up twenty minutes late for the Christmas musical. You should: *a. Climb into the back row of the choir from the baptistery. b. Enter pretending to be a soundman checking cables and then suddenly slip yourself into the choir. c. Turn the lights out in the church and slip into the choir during the blackout. d. Read M. Stephen's pamphlet "Techniques for Tardy Appearances."*

4. While singing, you discover you have only one page of a two page hymn. You should: *a. Hum for your life. b. Sing "watermelon, watermelon, watermelon." c. Try to get another hymnal out of the choir rack with your feet. d. Sing the first page over again.*

5. Inevitably that dreaded big sneeze occurs toward the end of the choir special. You should: *a. As you sneeze, come down hard on your neighbour's foot to create a diversion. b. Try to make it harmonize. c. Sneeze into the hair of the choir member in front of you to muffle the noise. d. Sink to the floor in shame.*

Count the number of A's, B's, C's, and D's you checked and find your proficiency rating below:

4 or more A's...there is nothing more you need to know to be a first rate choir member.

4 or more B's...your church choir reflexes are fully developed and you should do well in choir.

4 or more C's...your church choral experience is spotty but your team spirit is on target. You will be an asset to most any choir.

4 or more D's...it is recommended you take soccer or group therapy counselling.

AUTUMN MORNINGS IN BLENHEIM

There are mornings you walk down the street
and the sky is all clear and the air is all still,
and the sun's up and shining
and covering the houses and trees and hills
with a lovely golden glow.

And it's wonderful:

as if God were smiling on the whole of creation,
inviting us to get out and about and explore and enjoy it.

And there are mornings you walk down the street
and the fog has come in, masking the sun;
hiding the houses, the trees and the hills
under a lovely pearly blanket.

And it's just as wonderful:

as if God had shut out the world with its pain and its troubles,
Inviting us, for a moment, to enjoy a private peace.

*Am I suggesting the weather's direct from God;
that it's God clears the clouds, God brings the fog?
No. In the realm of nature, it's nature makes it happen;
the forces God made possible in the act of creation.*

*But in the realm of spirit, the inner realm, the personal?
There God can address us, and often does.
It may not be God clears the clouds, or God brings the fog.
But it may be God provokes our response;*

Pulls us up as it were -

"Now look at this," says God. "What do you make of this!"

John Shallcrass

St Andrew's: Calendar & Contacts

Special this Month

Sunday, 1 st	Harvest Festival 10am
Thursday, 5 th	Joy Ministries 5.15pm
Friday, 6 th	World Day of Prayer 10 am at Wesley
Sunday, 8 th	Communion and Flower Sunday 10am
Tuesday, 10 th	Finance 7.30pm Office Property 7.30pm
Thursday, 12 th	Pastoral Care 7.30pm Foyer
Tuesday, 17 th	Parish Council 7.30pm R6
Wednesday, 18 th	Finance Roadshow Noon-2pm
Thursday, 19 th	Afternoon Tea service 2.30pm
Saturday, 21 st	Cruisey Church 5pm



All welcome

April

Thursday, 2nd	Outreach Committee 1.30pm Joy Ministries 5.15pm
Friday, 3 rd	Good Friday Service 10am
Sunday, 5 th	Easter Morning Worship 10am



Regular Services

Sundays	Mornings 10am, Evenings 7pm
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Regular Events

Tuesdays	Sewing Group, 9.30 am
Thursdays	Craft Group, 10.00 am

Contacts

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