



Little Acorns



October 2022 – January 2023

The Quarterly Newsletter of
Holy Trinity Anglican Parish, Woodville

Springing into Advent

Spring is well advanced, especially since we're now past the start of daylight savings. The lambs in the paddocks are getting big, and the leaves are coming in thick on the trees. These signs of new life are a comfort as we pause to remember members of the Holy Trinity parish family that have passed away over the last few months, as described in the next items in Little Acorns.

Turning from sorrow to the abounding growth we see all around in this season, this time of brighter days brings with it the hard work and satisfaction of spring-cleaning. Opening all the windows, getting curtains washed and out on the line, wiping down every surface.

The season of Advent begins at the end of November, and is in many ways the spiritual equivalent of spring-cleaning. It is chance for us to take stock of our priorities and give them an airing in the bright light of God's love, to look at our behaviour and give it a thorough rinse in the clear water of Jesus's message of how we should live, and to give our prayer and Bible study a good wipe to knock off half-hearted dusty indifference.

I know that all stretches the metaphor a bit, but the real opportunity of Advent, of the time leading up to Christmas, is to reflect on our faith, on the words and actions that make up our lives. Hopefully what we say and do reflect in a profound way just what we believe. Advent is the chance to consider our lives, to look at just how we do live and to try and make some changes where we see ourselves falling short. We don't need to be harsh on ourselves for our failings, but we do need to try to do better wherever we can.

Advent reminds us that we worship a God who is not just out there beyond the stars, but who is here with us in everything we do, a God who is present in every part and moment of this world of blossoming spring green, summer sun, autumn chill and winter

grey. A God who loves us so deeply that he accepts limitations, is born, lives, dies, and rises again!

This spring and later for Advent, I wish you every blessing of the warming sun and loving Son!

Arohanui, Rosie



Remembering Judy Harding

In early September we sadly marked the passing of Judy Harding. Judy was a dedicated member of Holy Trinity, giving active service as part of Sunday worship, groups such as the Young Wives, later the AAW, and in the day-to-day running of the parish, including as our longest serving Treasurer. She had to manage the parish's finances through some very tight times in the 1980s and 90s, and helped lead a number of fundraising initiatives, including the successful cattle scheme that she and Graeme put a lot of work into. Even in the tough times Judy demonstrated great faith, and knew that things would eventually work out.

Judy's faith shone through in other ways, as a calm and contented person. Her great loves were her family, her church and her farm – her love of the land and her animals shone through so clearly.

Judy was a quietly confident person, who enjoyed a good natter, catching up on all the news and proudly sharing everything her family was up to. Her smile was so warm and genuine, it lit up any room. The last few years have been tough with the health issues she faced, but it was always so lovely to see her when she did make it to church.

It was a profound privilege to have known and loved Judy as a close member of our church family. While we are comforted in the knowledge she is at peace, and reunited with Graeme, her passing leaves a big gap in our parish's fabric. But we know it leaves an even bigger gap in the lives of her loved ones. Our prayers, love and support go out to all of Judy's family.



In Memoriam

Our deep sympathy and prayers go out to Brenda Cunningham and her family at the sudden death of her daughter Gayle Cresswell in late September. This came only a little while after the death of Jenny Chapman, mother of Alistair and mother-in-law of Anne, Brenda's youngest daughter. Together with Judy's death this has been a very difficult time for the wider Cunningham family, and our love goes out to them all.

The Rev. Adrian Gover passed away in early July. Adrian and Margaret (who sadly passed away in 2017) had lived in Cambridge since 2007, but were part of Woodville's life for many years. Adrian came to the ministry as part of the calling process in the 1990s that saw Holy Trinity move to the local shared ministry model, and was an active worship and outreach leader in his time here. Adrian was

very active in the Church in Cambridge. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Adrian's family.

Our sympathy and prayers also go out to the family and friends of other Woodville or former Woodville folk who have died over the last few months:

- ⊕ John Bradley
- ⊕ Jack Hartstone
- ⊕ David Thompson



Prayer for Queen Elizabeth II

September saw the sudden passing of the Queen. While her majesty had been having some mobility issues, her death was very unexpected and saw the Commonwealth nations plunged into official mourning.

O Jesus Christ our Saviour,
Lord of lords and King of kings,
we thank you for our late Sovereign Lady,
your servant Elizabeth, our Queen, who is now with you in heaven;
grant, in your tender mercy, comfort to those who mourn her death,
strength and wisdom to our King,
and blessing upon our nation and the whole Commonwealth,
that upheld by your grace,
and trusting in your goodness,
we may know your power to save,
for we pray all these things in your precious name, Amen.



Farewell to Jean McKinlay

It is with heavy hearts that we bid farewell to another of our parish's special members. After a lifetime in Woodville, Jean has moved to Palmerston North to be closer to family. Jean was an active member of St James and the wider community, and has touched the lives and hearts of many. While the move is not a long distance one, our love and prayers go with Jean.



Young at Heart, Older Folks' Social Afternoons

2pm on Monday 24 October, Monday 28 November 2022
and then Monday 23 January 2023

Holy Trinity Hall, Fox Street

Please contact Rosie McMillan if you'd like help with transportation.

Woodville Food Bank

Woodville's Food Bank continues to provide food parcels to those in need. A big thank you to everyone who supports this vital community service! If you're able, please feel free to bring a can or packet of foodstuffs along anytime to a service – there is a collection basket at the rear of the church.



Senior Citizens' Christmas Lunch

12pm, Monday 19 December 2022

Holy Trinity Hall

Please contact Rosie McMillan if you'd like help with transportation.



Christmas Services

Saturday 24 December 8.00pm

Christmas Eve Family Service at Holy Trinity

Carols start at 8.00pm, service begins at 9.00pm

Sunday 25 December 9.30am

Christmas Day Service at Holy Trinity

Details on the Woodville Combined Churches' community carol service will be advertised separately when they're available.

Freewill Offerings

Just a reminder that now that banks are no longer issuing or accepting personal cheques, offerings can be made with cash or via online banking. The online details are, bank account number 02-0796-0017499-00 and for the reference code please use your regular envelope number.

If you don't currently use the regular envelopes but would like to use online banking, please contact the Treasurer (phone number at the back of the magazine) and she will issue you with a reference number.



Christian World Service Christmas Appeal

At the close of World War Two, the National Council of Churches launched the first Christmas Appeal by asking New Zealanders to remember "the millions in the east and the west, who are hungry, cold and homeless". The first appeal went to the people of Greece who had given food and shelter to New Zealanders during the fighting. For the last 77 years, your gifts have helped people in every corner of the world find the food, warmth and shelter they need for each day. Working together with CWS, we have supported local partners to tackle hunger at its root and made known God's love for the world.

With your help, displaced people have planted new gardens, farmers have learned to grow food in tough climates, , and medical clinics and programmes are helping keep millions of people well and treating a variety of illnesses and conditions. With your gift and prayers, we can help many more families. Please give generously to the 2022 Christmas Appeal.

Information about the CWS partner groups and the work they do will be available on posters at the back of Holy Trinity or online at www.christmasappeal.org.nz. In Advent there will be envelopes available in the church to make a donation.

Open Our Eyes

Open our eyes, Lord,
especially if they are half shut because we are tired of looking,
or half open because we fear we see too much,
or bleared with tears because yesterday and today and tomorrow
are filled with the same pain,
or contracted, because we only look at what we want to see.

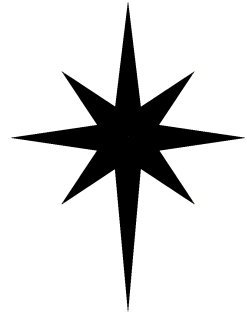
Open our eyes, Lord,
to gently scan the life we lead, the home we have,
the world we inhabit,
and so to find, among the gremlins and the greyness,
signs of hope we can fasten on and encourage.

Give us, whose eyes are dimmed by familiarity,
a bigger vision of what you can do
even with hopeless cases and lost causes
and people of limited ability.

Show us the world as in your sight,
riddled by debt, deceit and disbelief
yet also shot through with possibility
for recovery, renewal, redemption,

And lest we fail to distinguish vision from fantasy,
today, tomorrow, this week,
open our eyes to one person or one place,
where we - being even for a moment prophetic -
might identify and wean a potential in the waiting.

And with all this, open our eyes, in yearning, for Jesus.
On the mountains, in the cities,
through the corridors of power and streets of despair
to help, to heal, to confront, to convert,
O come, O come, Immanuel.



An Advent Prayer from the Iona Community



A Tasty Jubilee Celebration

While recent events have overtaken things, back in June Holy Trinity marked the Platinum Jubilee in style, hosting a Platinum High Tea in its Hall. As well as toasting the historic milestone, the event raised \$640 for Arohanui Hospice. The hall was decked out with bunting, flags, and photos from the Queen's 70-year reign.

Community choir Stand Up & Sing opened the tea with a selection of songs. The 60 attendees then got to enjoy a celebratory cake and a range of tasty treats, accompanied by a steady stream of tea.



Honorary Queen for the day, Dot Johnstone, provided a regal oversight of the proceedings and awarded the prizes for best dressed female (won by Sue Ladd in garden party finery) and best dressed male (won by Tony Crompton, looking like a true pearly king). Rob Harris read out a letter he had penned for sending to the Queen as a marker of the day. Attendees also brought along their favourite pudding recipes to be compiled into a platinum pudding cookbook later in the year. The cook book will still go ahead but will now be commemorative rather than celebratory.

A big thank you to all the volunteers that made food or helped with preparations and serving on the day, to Stand Up & Sing for their amazing performance, Dot for being honorary Queen, Natalie Burt for styling Dot's hair, Carole Rivers for the incredible Jubilee cake, and everyone who came along to make the day such a success.



Mid-winter dinner – A night in Old London Town

Pearly Kings and Queens, cockney street sellers, and Victorian toffs mixed and mingled in the Holy Trinity Hall on Saturday 23 July, as they all stepped into Old London Town for the evening for the annual mid-winter dinner.

A power cut early in the evening added some extra fun to the proceedings, but the candles were brought out and the cooks soldiered on using alternative options to make sure the night wasn't too disrupted for the hour the electricity was off. The evening featured themed games, a multi-round quiz, and a delicious three-course menu. People had a great time, filling the hall with laughter, chat and music.

A big thank you to everyone that came along – people's ongoing support makes the dinner the fun event it is. Planning has already started for next year's dinner.





Bazaar and Flower Show

A good crowd turned out at the Holy Trinity Hall on Saturday 9 September, where they found tables laden with baking, sweets, produce, plants, crafts and raffles. A selection of beautiful blooms filled the centre of the hall, so no one could mistake the day for anything but the Church's Bazaar and Flower Show!

The Anglican Women's Group wish to thank everyone who came along, entered flowers, or donated baking or raffle items to make it such a fantastic day!

Waiapu Synod 2022

The Diocesan Synod was held in Mt Maunganui on 16–17 September. The Synod papers and reports are available online at <https://www.waiapu.com/resources/synod-documents-and-diocesan-year-books/>.

Archbishop Don Tamihere and others discussed the theological concept that has been gifted to Waiapu from Te Pihopatanga o Aotearoa, Te Oranga Ake – the flourishing of the people. This was followed by Bishop Andrew delivering his annual charge, a copy of which can be found at the back of Holy Trinity.

There were reports and presentations from the Anglican Missions Board, the Diocese's Safeguarding Risk Manager, the Diocesan

finance IT project, and Anglican Care Waiapu. Three Bills were considered and approved, "The Amalgamation of the Parishes of Riverslea and Hastings, Statute 2022", "The Repeal and Replacement of Canon 2 of Regions Bill 2022", and "The Chancellor and Legal Advisers Bill 2022".



Garage Sale

The Church held successful garage sale on Saturday 9 October, which saw just over \$1,000 raised for the parish's general funds. A big thank you to every who donated items for sale, and all the helpers that made the sale run so smoothly.



Events

October 2022

- Wednesday 19th 2.00pm Anglican Women's Group meeting in the Holy Trinity Hall
- Monday 24th 2.00pm Young at Heart social afternoon in the Holy Trinity Hall

November 2022

- Wednesday 16th 2.00pm Anglican Women's Group meeting in the Holy Trinity Hall
- Monday 28th 2.00pm Young at Heart social afternoon in the Holy Trinity Hall

December 2022

- Monday 19th 12.00pm Senior citizens Christmas lunch in the Holy Trinity Hall

January 2023

- Monday 23rd 2.00pm Young at Heart social afternoon in the Hall

Pastoral Visits

As disciples we are constantly called to be the hands and feet of Christ. Please let Rosie McMillan know if you would like a visit, or you're aware of someone who would appreciate a visit.



Church Services

October 2022

Sunday 2 nd	9.30am	Eucharist
Sunday 9 th	9.30am	Family Service
Sunday 16 th	9.30am	Eucharist
Sunday 23 rd	9.30am	Morning Worship
Sunday 30 th	9.30am	Eucharist

November 2022

Sunday 6 th	9.30am	Eucharist
Sunday 13 th	9.30am	Eucharist
Sunday 20 th	9.30am	Family Service
Sunday 27 th	9.30am	Eucharist

December 2022

Sunday 4 th	9.30am	Eucharist
Sunday 11 th	9.30am	Family Service
Sunday 18 th	9.30am	Eucharist
Saturday 24 th	8.00pm	Christmas Eve carols and service
Sunday 25 th	9.30am	Christmas Day service

January 2023

Sunday 1 st	9.30am	Eucharist
Sunday 8 th	9.30am	Family Service
Sunday 15 th	9.30am	Eucharist
Sunday 22 nd	9.30am	Morning worship
Sunday 29 th	9.40am	Eucharist

Key contacts

Parish website: www.htwoodville.org

Email address: htwood@gmx.com

Role	Person	Telephone
Local Priest	Rev. Rosie McMillan	06 376 5972
Parish Wardens	J Wiri	027 694 5958
	R Squires	06 376 5076
Vestry Chair	V Tomlinson	022 643 9419
Parish Treasurer	J Wiri	027 694 5958
Parish Secretary	B Boyden	027 270 2004
Anglican Women's Group	Rev. Rosie McMillan	06 376 5972
Foodbank Coordinator	J Worboys	06 376 4023