



Church group ponders new way of working

Presbyterian women meet

By **PAT VELTKAMP SMITH**

THE Association of Presbyterian Women model might be changed as leadership positions become vacant in the near future.

National convener Heather Tate said issues of leadership at a local and national level were raised at the southern regional conference held in Southland at the weekend.

Mrs Tate, from Palmerston North, has held national office for a three year term and is looking to hand over the reins.

The Rev Heather Kennedy has filled in a gap for Southland association members but she too is looking for someone to take her place.

And the editorship of the association's national newsletter, *Gleanings*, becomes available shortly.

Mrs Tate said some changes were inevitable with younger women less available to attend regular meetings and

happier to share their views via a website.

But that does not suit older members.

While the official title of the group is the Association of Presbyterian Women of New Zealand, the term Presbyterian Women NZ is coming into use.

This is largely through the association's link into Ecumenical Women, a faith-based United Nations body to which Presbyterian women are affiliated through former Southlander Mary McIntyre, now of Bannockburn, the association's UN convener.

She returns to New York in March to further develop these studies into the Commission on the Status of Women.

She said the formation of Ecumenical Women for women of faith made sense, giving clout with the greater numbers represented.

The southern regional gathering was hosted by women in the Oteramika Kennington parish.



Million-dollar church extension

By Malcolm Frith

The Upper Clutha Presbyterian Parish has announced it's planning to build a \$1 million community hall alongside St Andrew's Church in Tenby Street in Wanaka.

It's taken four years of planning for the church's project committee to reach this stage.

"In the next few weeks we will be submitting a resource consent application," said project committee member and church elder Graham McDougall. To fund the new building the church is proposing to sell the St Andrew's Community hall in Tenby St and St David's Church and land on State Highway 6 in Luggate.

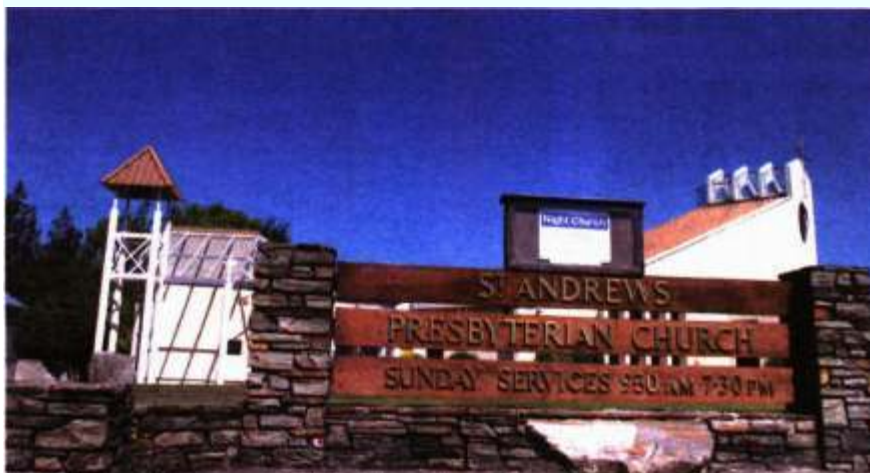
The existing community hall was built in 1967, but is now considered outdated. St David's Church was

originally built in 1927 for Hindon in Southland. In 1932 it was transported to Luggate. Both properties are owned by the Presbyterian Church's Otago Foundation Trust Board.

The new hall, to be built at the rear of St Andrew's church, will cater for group meetings, conferences and weddings. It will be equipped with state of the art audio visual systems, a commercial kitchen, crèche facilities, Sunday school rooms, offices and an upstairs lounge space for young people.

"This exciting project has been fully approved by the church's management team and its parishioners," Graham McDougall said.

If full consent is given, work on the new hall could begin late 2010.



St Andrew's Church in Tenby Street in Wanaka.

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