



Presbyterian Women  
Aotearoa New Zealand

# **50th ANNUAL REPORT 2012-2013**



Presbyterian Church  
of Aotearoa New Zealand



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**Aim:**

To unite in prayer, study, fellowship and service

To make a Christian witness in home, church and community

To support the work of partner churches in worldwide mission and evangelism

**Mission Statement**

"Serving God locally and globally with love."

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## Membership Statistics

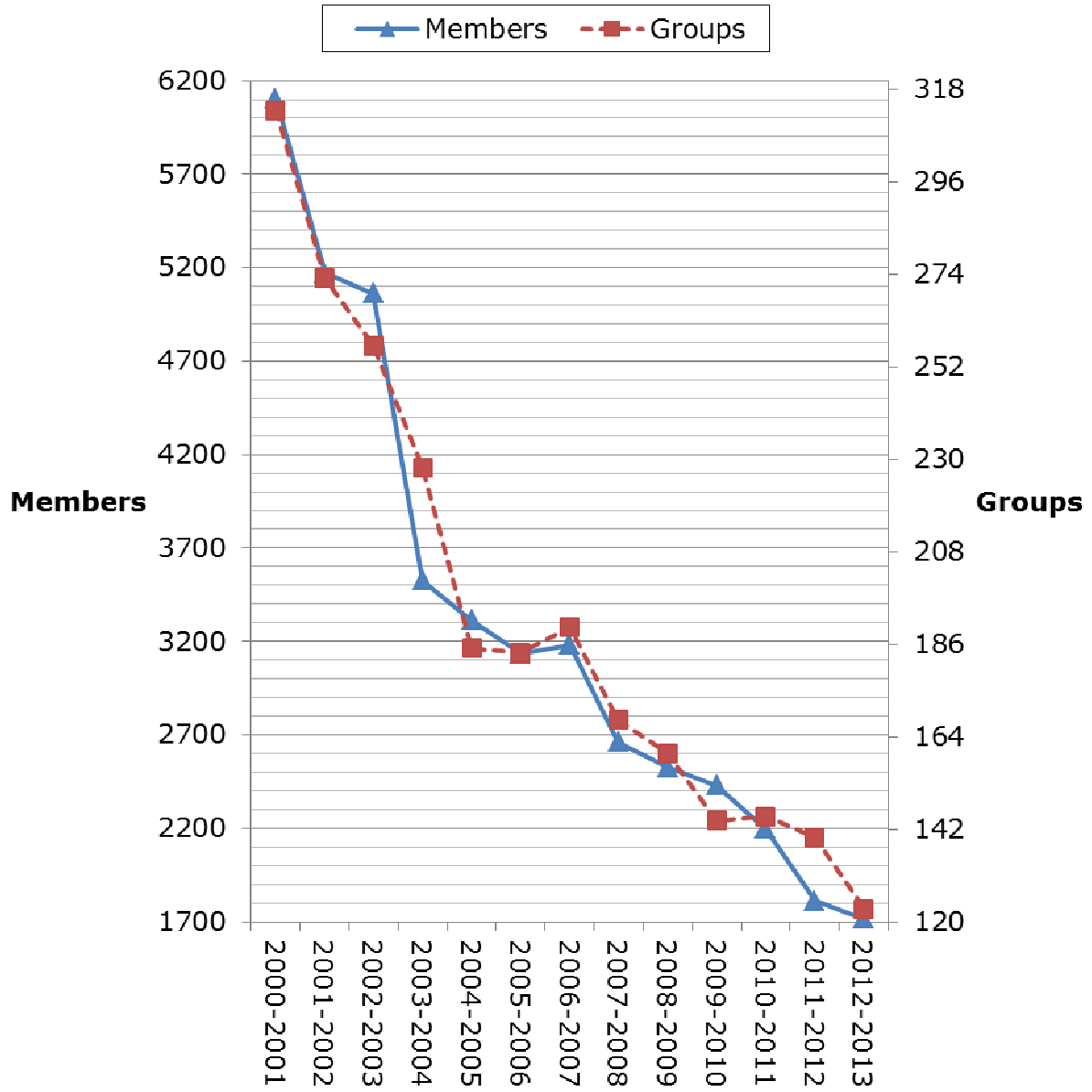
Region	2010-2011		2011-2012		2012-2013	
	Members	Groups	Members	Groups	Members	Groups
Northern	92	10	131	11	93	7
Waikato	308	20	286	24	199	20
Bay of Plenty	147	10	140	8	130	10
Hawkes Bay	143	4	101	3	112	6
Taranaki	138	9	100	7	33	4
Wanganui	50	4	50	4	53	4
Manawatu	135	6	59	4	83	7
Wairarapa	39	2	28	2	23	2
Hutt Valley	69	3	53	3	25	1
Wellington	178	8		5	230	9
Nelson/Marlborough	49	7	40	5	45	4
Greymouth	18	1	18	1	6	1
Christchurch	285	22	247	29	176	16
South Canterbury	116	6	80	3	92	5
North Otago	94	6	106	6	51	4
Central Otago	99	7	107	7	66	7
Dunedin	131	8	124	8	143	8
Gore Clutha	20	1	30	1	45	2
Southland	85	11	112	9	109	6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2196</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>1812</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>1714</b>	<b>123</b>
Difference with previous year	-234	1	-384	-5	-98	-17

### Notes

1. Previous statistical returns *may not* be as reliable as the 2012/2013 returns. It would appear that not all groups submitted a return in previous years. This year the National Secretary ensured that a statistics return was received from every group.
2. In the last 5 years, ie. 2007/2008 – 2012/2013, there has been a 36% loss/reduction in the number of members, and a 27% loss/reduction in the number of groups.
3. Compared with 10 years ago, ie. 2002/2003 – 2012/2013, we now have *less than half* the number of members & groups, ie. 64% less members and 52% less groups.
4. Compared with 12 years ago, ie. 2000/2001 – 2012/2013, we have lost 72% of our membership, and 61% of our groups.



### Membership Statistics



## **National Reports**

### **National Convenor**

Three years have passed since I was appointed Deputy National Convenor here in Wellington at the Pacific Island Presbyterian Church in Newtown. In April 2012 at the National Gathering in Christchurch, I was appointed National Convenor replacing Mary McIntyre who was developed a life threatening illness. Mary recently described her life as being in the very slow lane now. She is home based surrounded by very good support and visits from her family from New York and New Zealand. Our prayers and thoughts are always with her.

At the Presbyterian Women National Gathering in Christchurch, it was resolved to change the name of our organisation from APW to Presbyterian Women Aotearoa New Zealand. This was ratified and is now included in the PCANZ Book of Order. It was a pleasure to attend the General Assembly in Rotorua to present this remit on your behalf, which was seconded by Valerie Anderson. The purpose of the name change was to encourage younger women to become involved in following the aims of our organisation to unite Presbyterian women in prayer, study, friendship and service and support word of partner church in worldwide mission and evangelism with a focus on supporting women. The Rt Rev. Ray Coster launched our 'Braded River of Faith' at the GA12 where Rev Judy Bedford was inundated with requests for multiple copies.

To further the name change and subsequent branding we were delighted to secure the services of Jessica Kayser to develop a new logo for Presbyterian Women. Jessica is a design graduate and the National Coordinating Group believe she has come up with the perfect logo which encapsulates the idea of a burning bush in a New Zealand/Pacific context, the small koru a sign of new growth and the colour red fits well within the marketing framework of the PCANZ.

Due to the name change we consulted Heather McKenzie (PCANZ) regarding our Constitution guidelines. Heather has developed for you an updated 'Terms of Reference' which incorporates our new name Presbyterian Women Aotearoa New Zealand. You will note that the document whilst reformatted still contains the principles and purpose of the former document. A[part from changes in clarification and consistency with PCANZ Church policy, we seek one minor change approval ratified by the National Coordinating Groups. That the new mission statement be: "*Supporting women locally and globally in God's name.*" This mission statement will then be aligned to our aims.

At the grassroots level in Dunedin, our Deputy National Convenor, Liz Miller and I initiated an on-going friendship gathering of the women of Knox Church and newcomers to meet once a month on a Friday night. This initiative has taken off and up to 35 members now look forward to this gathering with expectation. This initiative sprung out of Liz and I attending an afternoon APW group meeting run by Phyllis Varcoe (90 something years) where we were asked to give a personal speech on our lives within and beyond the church or any special interests. We used this idea to develop the evening group so that now two Presbyterian Women groups are run at Knox Church in Dunedin. Ms Van Lal Hming Sangi from Myanmar enjoyed a rare occasion to speak freely amongst women. When women bond together good things happen. A beautiful quilt emerged. A picture of this is now featured on the PCANZ Church directory at the request of Angela Singer, Marketing Director. Knox Presbyterian Women also worked with a Knox Choir fundraiser which gained funds for the Church and our Presbyterian Women national project. Joan has worked industriously on the global and local project on our behalf and we look forward to hearing more of this later.

In February this year Rev Pamela Tankersley, Ngaire Pearce, Liz Miller, Valerie Anderson and I held a consultative workshop in Wellington to seek the views of younger Presbyterian Women with some of the funds endowed by Nan Burgess. This small beginning leaves scope for further development. You will note the recent article in the Gleanings (thank you Rae Simpson) which highlights the difference between the older Naomi and younger Ruth. The younger women at our workshop do want to become involved in a women's group within their

church without the restrictions that some older women currently pose. This sends a clear message for positive cooperation and understanding. I pray that God's love will surround them as they reach out to one another.

Globally, Rev Pamela Tankersley and Ola Leasi joined together to represent Presbyterian Women Aotearoa New Zealand at the United Nations. Ola's participation was funded in part by the Council for World Mission. Pamela and Ola will speak to you on their participation at this conference themed 'Elimination of Violence against Women and Girls'.

In July 2012 I had the distinct pleasure of representing you all as a guest of the Presbyterian Women USA at their Triennial church wide gathering in Florida. Presbyterian Women were very generous meeting the costs of my flights and accommodation. I was somewhat overawed to be in the presence of some 2000 women of all ages. I joined other international guests from the South Sudan, Syria, Poland, Canada, India and Bangladesh. It was a sobering experience to come face to face with women who daily encounter oppression, war and poverty. I was asked to present a workshop on the Earthquake disaster affecting Christchurch. It was a privilege to make this presentation with photos supplied by Rev Sheena Dixon (Christchurch) displaying graphically the effects of the quake on the people and churches in Christchurch. When I returned to New Zealand, PWUSA sought my opinions of their gathering and what life is like for New Zealand women. This was subsequently featured in the National Presbyterian Women USA publication 'Horizon'. The visit to America was a heaven sent opportunity and I am still able to correspond with the women I have met. The women in America would love to come to New Zealand. I am hopeful that Presbyterian Women New Zealand may be able to find the fund to invite the President of PWUSA to New Zealand at the next National Gathering, perhaps preceeding the next General Assembly? PWUSA would need one year's notice.

I have enjoyed meeting women in Dunedin, Ashburton, Christchurch, Wellington and Levin and thank you for your invitations.

My experience as National Convenor Presbyterian Women Aotearoa New Zealand has contributed hugely to the Christian fabric of my life and I wish to thank everyone involved for this remarkable journey. I always love to hear what other women's group are doing so I shall be reading the Gleanings, Bush Telegraph and PW on the PCANZ website for future updates.

With love and blessings to you all.

**Jan Harland, retiring National Convenor**

### **Deputy Convenor**

As a third generation member of the Presbyterian Women's organisation in its various incarnations, I have been privileged to represent you this past year as your deputy convenor. I had barely taken early retirement when I was asked to do this job and it has been a truly meaningful way to ease the transition from one part of my life to another.

National Council of Women of New Zealand conference entitled '*Women and Work : No Barriers*' was held in Dunedin in October and I was pleased to be able to represent Presbyterian Women at this. The conference focussed on what NCWNZ could do to encourage girls and women to look at areas they might not have previously considered and to tackle the barriers that can prevent women from working in non-traditional roles and from career progression generally.

I was so impressed with the work of NCWNZ as shown at this conference that I joined the Dunedin branch and have now become a member of the local committee.

My major task has been to collate all the statistics forms from 2011 and from 2012 into annual spreadsheets which give a simplified overview of the Presbyterians, branches and individual members in one document.

There have been a variety of events where I have been able to represent Presbyterian Women, mainly in the Dunedin area:

- With Jan Harland I attended a meeting of the Mosgiel-North Taieri Presbyterian Women's group, where Jan and I spoke about the National Gathering in Christchurch, and another of the Mornington Presbyterian Women's group.
- The Dunedin Presbyterian bimonthly meetings, where I will be the speaker at the coming one, telling about my experiences in the role of National Deputy convenor this past year, and reporting back about the outcomes of this meeting.
- I attend the Knox Afternoon Presbyterian Women group monthly meetings and, with support from Jan, have started and run an Evening group aimed, I thought, at younger women, but in reality attended by women from 30-90. This group has been a catalyst for increased fellowship and friendship within the Knox community, and was the vehicle for the crafting of a magnificent quilt which featured in the March edition of SPANZ as well as being the illustration on the 2013 PCANZ Yearbook. Our women take turns at telling the story of their life's journey and we have speakers lined up for months ahead. Our goal now is for our men to have a parallel group.
- The Highgate parish in Dunedin has a 'Missions Slot' once a month. I was asked to speak on behalf of Presbyterian Women, telling the congregation about the Special Project, but extended this to talk about other mission projects we are currently involved with currently and have been in the past.

There have been two occasions where I have had the opportunity to attend events outside Dunedin:

- The Ashburton Presbyterian Women's Day and Meeting in October with Jan Harland and Ngaire Pearce from NCG.
- The Consultative Workshop in Wellington in February where some members of the NCG met with a group of young women from around the country to brainstorm ideas about extending the fellowship of our organisation to the next generation.

Looking back at all these events, the overall feeling I have received is that, whatever guise our meetings or events are cloaked in, the common thread is networking and fellowship. To me, networking and fellowship means people feeling accepted and feeling part of a community. WE need to take the best of what we have and to build on it to enable our communities to grow. We need to take a broader vision of what is possible rather than to stick with the tried and the true. Be creative. Think outside the square, but remember the foundation of friendship in all we do.

My experiences in this role with Presbyterian Women have challenged me at times, but have enabled me to develop skills and confidence which I will continue to use in leadership at the local level. I thank you for the opportunities which I have been given, and wish that the organisation which is Presbyterian Women will continue to remain strong and faithful to its roots, in serving God locally and globally with love.

God's blessings to you all.

**Liz Miller, retiring National Deputy Convenor**

### **Communications Convenor**

After 2 and a half years in the Communications convenor role I find I still have a lot to learn. I enjoy being in this role that I have decided to stay on for another year.

In December 2012, I attended a CEDAW meeting. I found myself in an unfamiliar environment and with the work carried out by the CEDAW group. At this meeting, each representative were putting their names against a group that they could either lead or assist and follow up with a Government Department to ensure that the allocated task by the Women's Affairs is being viewed and some action plan put in place. It was at this meeting I found out I knew very little

about the work carried out by these passionate and very dedicated group of women. The CEDAW Organiser was sending out an updated list of areas that required an Organisation to lead. I advised PW's contact person will let them know when we receive their updated list.

Special thanks to Angela and Yang for their support and help with uploading our Gleaning newsletter. We are now able to access our Gleaning Newsletter via Publicaion or via the Presbyterian Women's ministry website.

Thank you to Rae for all her work in putting together our bimonthly Gleaning Newsletter. Items not included in our Gleaning Newsletter will be loaded into the PW website. I do apologise to all our members and co-ordinators who have not received on or our two Gleanings this year, this is due to my distribution/contact list not being updated. Please send my your new email/snail address if you have moved or have changed your email address or you have a new contact person.

Thank you to all the Co-ordinators around the country for distributing our newsletter and keeping everyone informed of happening events around the country.

### **Faatali Leiu**

#### **Mission Birthday Gift**

There has been a few requests for envelopes. I have had a new supply printed and now realise that is the best option. I would like to suggest Mission Birthday Contact be printed in the Gleanings each time it is produced.

### **Bev Quigley**

#### **Mission Convenor**

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart as working for the Lord, not for men. It is the Lord Christ you are serving." Colossians 3:23-24

As we reflect upon the last year, it has been a learning experience for me.

Our Mission Projects are a wonderful outreach and has the support of Members. We have had mishaps along the way with groups not receiving their Project Packs but hopefully a new list of Group Convenors we will be ready for our 2013-14 Project Packs.

CWS continue to give us great support and I thank them for providing the information about Women's Groups around the world needing our support. It always amazes me how they seem to find incredible stories of wonderful work done within communities with so little financial assistance and the joy when we can provide them with so much more. The work done in Tonga is going ahead and waiting for our assistance.

Disability and Spirituality NZ are still working on the need for their booklet and the theological approach to Disability. They are now waiting for finance to pay for writing, editing, design and illustration. The booklet will include a checklist for churches, re-accessibility and other factors in making services user friendly for people with disabilities. It is good to hear that our member groups are accessing the people from Disability NZ to come and talk to them.

The Methodist President and myself have been meeting and the work for the new project for the coming year is well underway. We have followed the lead from United Nations and their role on "Elimination of Violence against Women and Girls", and have had a great response from Women's Refuge NZ. We are in the process of choosing the special needs from their up and coming agenda for this year, and I am very excited about this choice of special need. I

am sure we will see great benefits in the future. Thank you all for your support and help.

## **Joan Roberts**

### **Resources Convenor**

It is pleasing to have a good response to the Spring and Christmas resources, not so many for the Easter one. It would be helpful to have some feedback so I can have an idea what groups want. I am now aware that new resources need to be prepared well in advance to be promoted in Gleanings to allow groups to plan their meetings. I am in the process of developing a spring study.

## **Bev Quigley**

### **United Nations Convenor**

We were pleased to represent PWANZ at the 57<sup>th</sup> session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) held at UN Headquarters 4-15 March 2013. CSW 57 was one of the largest gatherings ever for CSW with over 5000 NGO representatives attending.

We were accompanied by Mrs Sheryl Bryant who registered with us for the NGO and Ecumenical Women events.

In February Pamela and Ola attended a Caucus with Ministry of Women's Affairs, meeting with the Government delegation that was to attend CSW, including the minister, the Honourable Jo Goodhew and MWA CEO, Jo Cribb, and others who were attending as NGO representatives. This year there were over 20 NGO reps from NZ, thanks to the excellent work of Pacific Women's Watch Aotearoa who found sponsors and made arrangements for 15 representatives from agencies such as Shakri (immigrant women) Women's Refuge Collectives, and TOAHH Nest, (a group focussing on violence against women.)

We are grateful to the Council for World Mission for contributing to the costs of sending Ola with Pamela to CSW, as a way of introducing Ola to the process. CWM had also sponsored Ms Karyn Lasei, from Congregational Union of NZ, to join other young woman in a team from the World of Tertiary Students Christian Federation and the World Council of Churches women's desk. Karyn is a Director of CWM, for the Pacific Region.

Before the Commission, Pamela had worked with a team from Presbyterian Women USA, a coalition of faith-based advocate groups to CSW, to prepare a worship service, and Ola and Pamela also prepared material for the Parallel Event workshop with PWUSA, on the theme of a faith response to institutional violence.

#### Schedule:

- |   |                   |
|---|-------------------|
| • Orientation Day with Ecumenical Women   | Saturday 2 March  |
| • Consultation Day with CSW NGO's   | Sunday 3 March    |
| • Opening of the Commission   | Monday 4 March    |
| • Reception at NZ Mission to UN, with Hon Jo Goodhew                              | Monday 4 March    |
| • Leading worship with PWUSA  | Tuesday 5 March   |
| • Reception for NGO reps,   | Tuesday 5 March   |
| • Leading parallel event with PCUSA   | Wednesday 6 March |
| • Ecumenical Women Dinner and briefing  | Wednesday 6 March |
| • Caucus meeting with Govt Delegation and NZ NGO reps                             | Wednesday 6 March |
| • Presbyterian Women Dinner   | Thursday 7 March  |
| • Protest march through streets of NY to protest violence against Women and Girls | Friday 8 March    |

In addition to these highlighted events, each day we joined Ecumenical Women in well-presented and moving worship in the Tilman Chapel at the UN Church Centre and attended 3 or 4 selected parallel events (workshops) each day from those presented by NGO's from around the world. We found it more difficult this year to watch and engage with the process at the UN, with the government delegations, but appreciated we could watch it at the Presbyterian UN Centre in the Church Centre. We are grateful to PCUSA for including us in their arrangements, with warm hospitality. This year over 70 PWUSA women attended CSW. Pamela was invited to address the group on the opportunity of being a NGO with consultative status in their own right.

### **Work Programme of the 57<sup>th</sup> Session**

The theme this year is the *Elimination of Violence against Women and Girls*. The Minister of Women's Affairs Hon Jo Goodhew presented NZ's statement to the Commission. It can be found on <http://www.mfat.govt.nz/Media-and-publications/Media/MFAT-speeches/2013/0-5-mar-2013.php> Negotiations were carried out for NZ on the final agreed statement by a team led by Denise Leviore of MWA and we appreciated the efforts she and the team at the UN made to consult with the NGO representatives.

However, our particular interests were in seeing this theme advanced from a faith-based perspective and as it impacted on Pasifika women, in NZ and in the Pacific. With Ecumenical Women, we focussed on the following "Talking Points"

#### **A. Cultural, structural and economic violence are underlying factors that must be addressed. We urge member state governments to:**

- Recognize women's contributions and promote equality for women as active and equal decision-makers.
- Oppose all forms of gender-based stereotyping, discrimination, oppression and violence.
- Eradicate cultural practices that perpetuate violence against women and girls.
- Reduce the gaps in political parity and representation and work towards greater inclusion of women in decision-making, leadership and representation in governing structures.
- Create and enforce laws by which women are guaranteed equal pay for equal work.

#### **B. Education is a vital part of the change process, especially societal change. Education must incorporate men and boys alongside women and girls. We urge member state governments to:**

- Partner with civil society in conducting awareness and educational campaigns about gender discrimination and gender-based violence in all its forms.
- Provide training to police, medical staff, teachers and school administrators and others who may encounter victims of violence to recognize that violence, provide education on local and national laws and make reporting of abuse obligatory.
- Work towards education and access to full reproductive health provisions, including contraception, disease prevention, and family planning
- Train law enforcement personnel regarding the prevalence and appropriate serious response to reports of domestic violence especially within indigenous populations, as well as minorities and the poor.

#### **C. We must pay particular attention to the needs of rural and minority populations and improve their access to resources and services. We urge member state governments to:**

- Increase women's and girls' access to education, especially for rural and minority populations, so that women and girls might contribute their full potential and skills in their communities, have increased confidence, and be assisted to better face challenges arising from contact with male dominated enterprises.
- Increase funding for victim support programs that especially address the needs of rural and minority populations.
- Eliminate transportation constraints that prevent women in rural areas from accessing basic resources that would enable them to participate in local, regional and international economies.
- Increase access to information, law enforcement and court systems, medicine, food, water, education and other services in rural and isolated areas.

The importance of our presence as Christian women working for gender justice was high, as highly conservative religious groups (including the Holy See) are persistently refusing to allow greater gender equality, especially in relationships, and there is concern that even the platform agreed to at Beijing in 1995 will become diminished.

The Agreed conclusions (unedited) can be found on [http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/csw/csw57/CSW57\\_agreed\\_conclusions\\_advance\\_unedited\\_version\\_18\\_March\\_2013.pdf](http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/csw/csw57/CSW57_agreed_conclusions_advance_unedited_version_18_March_2013.pdf)

### **Theme for CSW58**

*Preview on the priority theme of 2014:*

Challenges and achievements in the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals for women and girls

### **Conclusion**

Meeting with women from all parts of the world, with church women, with the members of the UN NGO Committee New York who co-ordinate the orientation for NGOs, the daily briefings and the parallel events is a stimulating experience. Listening to the stories and gaining a global perspective, continually remind us that we come from a very privileged background in NZ, and it is incumbent on us to work for the rights of all women.

Apart from the annual opening, this is now the biggest annual gathering at the UN, a testament to the passion and determination of women from around the world to work for empowerment, justice and gender equality as women of the world stand together.

As Presbyterian Women, Aotearoa, we see this global advocacy for women as the other half of our strong emphasis on being women involved in global mission.

Thank you for the opportunity to represent Presbyterian Women Aotearoa New Zealand.

**Pamela Tankersley, UN Convener**

**Faaolataga Leasi, Pasifika Convener**

## **Financial Report**

### **Treasurer**

With advice from the Review Team the financial reports have changed from an accrual type method to a cash based method. This means that all transactions for the financial year are reported. Hence the amounts received from Mission Birthday, Stamps, Turaking Maori Girls College and Special Projects include income from more than 12 months.

**Ngairi Pearce**



Association of Presbyterian Women Aotearoa New Zealand  
Statement of Financial Performance  
for the period ending June 30 2013

	2013	2012
<b>Operating Income</b>		
Affiliation Fees	\$ 11,871	\$ 9,238
Annual Reports	\$ 150	\$ 129
Donations	\$ 854	\$ 741
UN Travel Grant	\$ 2,500	\$ -
GA12 refund	\$ 519	\$ -
Interest: Bequests	\$ 5,559	\$ 5,894
Interest; Savings	\$ 5,579	\$ 6,361
Conference	\$ -	\$ 11,123
Refund Special Project	\$ 168	\$ -
Total Operating Income	\$ 27,201	\$ 33,485
<b>Special Projects Income</b>		
Emergency Aid	\$ 854	\$ 1,146
Mission Birthday Gifts	\$ 32,146	\$ 23,348
Sale of used Stamps	\$ 10,016	\$ 8,321
Turakina M G C	\$ 5,965	\$ 4,906
TMGC Boarding Scholarship	\$ 6,043	\$ 37,500
Knox College	\$ 300	\$ -
Womens Refuge	\$ 310	\$ -
Special Projects 2011/12	\$ 38,347	\$ 50,843
Special Project 2012/13	\$ 23,316	\$ -
Braided River Publication	\$ 7,602	\$ -
Librarian	\$ -	\$ 3,000
Jaghardri Hospital	\$ -	\$ 200
Total Special Projects Income	\$ 124,899	\$ 129,262
Total Income	\$ 152,100	\$ 162,747



Association of Presbyterian Women Aotearoa New Zealand  
Statement of Financial Performance  
for the period ending June 30 2013

	2013	2012
<b>Operating Expenses</b>		
Allowances	\$ 750	\$ 675
Bank Fees	\$ 43	\$ 58
Gifts	\$ 79	\$ 36
Office Expenses	\$ 802	\$ 290
Postage	\$ 197	\$ 180
Annual reports	\$ 578	\$ 673
Refunds	\$ 548	\$ 561
Subscriptions	\$ 277	\$ 263
Audit Fees	\$ 748	\$ 707
NCG Travel and expenses	\$ 8,028	\$ 7,337
United Nations Travel and expenses conferences	\$ 9,895	\$ 4,965
GA17	\$ 644	\$ 11,123
Birthday Mission	\$ 1,160	\$ 638
	\$ 192	\$ 60
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 24,242</b>	<b>\$ 27,565</b>
<b>Specific Project Expenses</b>		
Emergency Aid	\$ -	\$ 1,500
Jaghardri Hospital	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000
Mission Birthday Distribution	\$ 12,000	\$ 17,060
Study Grant	\$ 2,900	\$ 2,100
Turakina MGC	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000
Turakina Scholarship	\$ -	\$ 37,500
CWS Fiji Appeal	\$ -	\$ 348
Knox Appeal	\$ 300	\$ -
Womens Refuge	\$ 350	\$ -
Special Project 2010/11	\$ -	\$ 52,325
Special Project 2011/12	\$ 37,904	\$ -
Special Project 2012/13	\$ 5,000	\$ -
Special Project costs	\$ 1,149	\$ 443
Braided River	\$ 9,039	\$ -
Consultative Workshop	\$ 3,572	\$ -
<b>Total Special Projects Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 82,214</b>	<b>\$ 121,276</b>
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>\$ 106,456</b>	<b>\$ 148,841</b>
<b>Surplus/deficit</b>	<b>\$ 45,643</b>	<b>\$ 13,906</b>



Association of Presbyterian Women Aotearoa New Zealand  
Statement of Movements in Equity  
for the period ending June 30 2013

	2013	2012
Opening equity	<u>\$ 166,517</u>	<u>\$ 152,611</u>
Surplus/deficit	\$ 45,643	\$ 13,906
Closing equity	<u>\$ 212,160</u>	<u>\$ 166,517</u>



Association of Presbyterian Women Aotearoa New Zealand  
Statement of Financial Position  
for the period ending June 30 2013

	2013	2012
<b>Current Assets</b>		
ASB Cheque Account	\$ 6,242	\$ 5,996
ASB Trust Account	\$ 954	\$ 1,175
ASB Savings - Conference	\$ 4,540	\$ 3,777
ASB Savings - Emergency Aid	\$ 5,371	\$ 4,396
ASB Savings - UN Travel	\$ 8,307	\$ 11,747
ASB Savings - Mission/Project	\$ 59,141	\$ 44,448
ASB Savings - Publications	\$ 2,660	\$ 2,345
ASB Savings - Study Grant Fund	\$ 5,871	\$ 6,771
ASB Savings - General Funds	\$ 10,537	\$ 10,221
ASB Savings - TMGC Boarding Schol	\$ 5,541	\$ 5,377
ASB Savings-Bequest	\$ 21,753	\$ -
Receivable Accrued Interest	\$ 4,309	\$ 1,721
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$ 135,228</b>	<b>\$ 97,974</b>
<b>Investments</b>		
ASB Term Deposit - UN Travel Funds	\$ 10,530	\$ 10,530
ASB Term Deposit - General Funds	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
ASB Term Deposit - Trust Funds	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000
ASB Term Deposits - Womens History	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000
ASB Term Deposits - Trust Funds	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000
ASB Term Deposits - Women's Study 1	\$ 16,500	\$ 16,500
ASB Term Deposit - Bequest	\$ -	\$ 20,803
PSDS - Publications	\$ 10,650	\$ 10,650
<b>Total Investments</b>	<b>\$ 187,680</b>	<b>\$ 208,483</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 322,908</b>	<b>\$ 306,457</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Accrued Expenses	\$ 748	\$ 707
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 748</b>	<b>\$ 707</b>
<b>Income held on behalf of:</b>		
Jagadhiri and St Thomas	\$ -	\$ -
Mission Birthday Gifts	\$ -	\$ 5,439
Stamps	\$ -	\$ 2,397
Special Project 2011	\$ -	\$ 13,764
TMGC - Bursary	\$ -	\$ 1,520
TMGC- Boarding scholarship	\$ -	\$ 6,043
Grant Librarian	\$ -	\$ -
Petty Cash	\$ -	\$ 70
<b>Total Income held on behalf</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 29,233</b>



Association of Presbyterian Women Aotearoa New Zealand  
 Statement of Financial Position  
 for the period ending June 30 2013

	2013	2012
<b>Trust Funds</b>		
Auckland Manse Account	\$ 60,275	\$ 60,275
Cowan and Johnson Bequest	\$ 1,719	\$ 1,719
M I Glendinning Bequest	\$ 4,499	\$ 4,499
Margaret Hewitson Memorial Fund	\$ 15,634	\$ 15,634
R Strang Bequest	\$ 389	\$ 389
A C Cunningham Bequest	\$ 11,977	\$ 11,977
Annie Permin Post Grad Bequest	\$ 10,209	\$ 10,209
J E Prince Bequest	\$ 5,298	\$ 5,298
Total Trust Funds	<u>\$ 110,000</u>	<u>\$ 110,000</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>\$ 110,748</u>	<u>\$ 139,940</u>
Net Assets	<u>\$ 212,160</u>	<u>\$ 166,517</u>
<b>Retained Earnings</b>		
Total Equity	<u>\$ 212,160</u>	<u>\$ 166,517</u>

For and on behalf of the Committee;

Chairperson: PP M. P. O'Connell Date: 13-10-2013



**ASSOCIATION OF PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND  
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND NOTES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2013**

**REPORTING ENTITY**

The Association of Presbyterian Women was founded in 1964 and is an Autonomous body within the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand (PCANZ). The Presbyterian Church, and its constituent parts, is a registered charity under the New Zealand Charities Act 2005, registration number CC33597.

The main objects of the Association are:

- To unite all in prayer, study, fellowship and service, enabling them to make a Christian witness in home and Church and Community;
- To support at home and abroad, the work of the parent Churches;
- To encourage an informed interest in worldwide mission and evangelism.

**CHANGES IN ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

There have been no changes in accounting policies. All policies have been applied on a basis consistent with previous years.

**ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The following accounting policies have been adopted in the preparation of these financial statements:

- The principle used for measurement and reporting is that of historical cost and the matching or revenue earned and expenses incurred is by using accrual accounting concepts.
- These financial statements have been prepared for internal management decision making, and as such are of a special purpose nature.

Particular accounting policies which materially affect the measurement of profit and of the financial position are:

**Accounts Receivable**

Accounts Receivable are valued at net realisable value.

**Investments**

Investments are valued at Cost

**Goods and Service Tax**

These accounts are prepared on a GST inclusive basis since the Association is not individually GST registered.

**STATEMENT OF COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENT LIABILITIES**

The Association has not entered into any Commitments as at 30 June 2013 (2012:\$0)

The Association is not aware of any Contingent Liabilities as at 30 June 2013 (2012:\$0)





**ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT TO: Association of Presbyterian Women**

I have reviewed the financial statements of Association of Presbyterian Women for the year ended 30 June 2013 in accordance with the Review Engagement Standards issued by the New Zealand Institute of Chartered Accountants.

A review is limited primarily to enquiries of company personnel and analytical review procedures applied to financial data and thus provides less assurance than an audit. I have not performed an audit and, accordingly, I do not express an audit opinion.

Based on my review, nothing has come to my attention that causes me to believe that the accompanying financial statements do not give a true and fair view.

Signature: Martin Wakefield

Address: Canon Street, Timaru

Date: 18 October 2013

## **Regional Reports**

### **NORTHERN**

Our year began at St John's Presbyterian Church, Mt Albert, with the August meeting which was our AGM. It was chaired by Rev Dr Colin Marshall, who then told us of the material he has written for people for whom English is a second language, particularly for training leaders. He spoke of his mission to young people in Tanzania, and his work there with The New Life Foundation who are establishing a much needed orphanage.

Our November meeting, held at St David's in the Fields, Hillsborough, began with a Christmas devotion. Our speakers were Ira and Katy Hopkinson, who told us something of Wycliffe Bible Translators, and of their own personal faith journeys that had led them to take their family of four at the beginning of 2013, to work with this mission in Chang Mai, Thailand. This was followed by a short talk from a representative of Presbyterian Support Northern, who talked to us of the work they do with 'Family Works'. She left with several boxes of Christmassy food that our member had brought for the Support food bank.

Our first meeting for 2013 was a communion service at Somervell Presbyterian Church, Remuera, led by its minister, Rev Brett Johnston. This was followed by Di Willis, who shared with us something of the work of Elevate – Christian Disability Trust, which is the New Zealand part of our APW/MWF project. Di has been involved with this group for a long time and is passionate about care of people with disabilities. She brought with her two interns and together they did some 'role-plays' on how to approach a person in a wheelchair. This was heart-warming and a reminder in good caring. We were encouraged to take home the Elevate magazine 'The Encourager', which has some very inspirational stories.

The June meeting was hosted by Browns Bay parish, where we were welcomed and led in devotion by the minister, Rev Robin Palmer. Jacqui Ryan from Christian World Service shared with us the overseas part of our project, 'Light the Way for Women in Tonga'. This programme aims to empower women by encouraging them to actively participate in development through: food security, environmental protection, good governance, leadership development and human rights. Copies of the pamphlet, 'Growing good in Tonga' were available for members to take home.

We give a special thank you to Alison Farrant for the many years that she has represented us at National Council of women. Alison has moved out of Auckland and Rae Simson is now our representative.

We continue to support the Fellowship of the Least Coin. Our members still collect stamps, and in spite of diminishing postings, we have had a record year. \$832.37 was raised from donated used stamps. This was a great effort and we owe a special 'thank you' to Julia Buckingham for managing this. Thank you also to Julia's husband, Ward for once again auditing our books. We have 121 members made up of seven groups and twenty two individuals. Attendance at our meetings is small however, but we remain in good heart, and give thanks to God for His many blessings.

### **Natalie Watkin and Mary North**

### **WAIKATO**

It is with thanks to God that I present the 2012/13 report of the Waikato Presbyterial.

Since our AGM 2012 in Morrinsville we have had three combined regional meetings with Waikato/Thames Valley Methodist Women's Fellowships. At all these meetings we are encouraged and challenged by stimulating speakers and the fellowship with other members from around the region. Unfortunately for some of our groups it is a reality that advancing years and long distances prevent them from joining us. The annual reports from some of these



isolated branches are an inspiration to us all.

With a different format for National Statistics this year I haven't had as much detailed reporting of local activities. The reports I have received demonstrate a grassroots commitment in all branches to caring fellowship, a committed effort to mission and outreach both in your own communities and the wider church.

#### REGIONAL MEETINGS:

Waikato APW hosted the regional meeting at St Alban's Chartwell in October. There was a large attendance from across the region. Our guest speaker was the Very Rev. Pamela Tankersley who is/was PWANZ National Convenor of the United Nations committee. In a thought provoking and at times disturbing address Pamela highlighted the struggles of women in many countries and the U.N. committee's role in raising awareness of women's issues and bringing change.

In February it was Waikato Presbyterial's turn to host the annual rally day at Narrows Park. Seventy APW/MWF members from throughout the area (1 group from Taumaranui and another from Whangamata) travelled to join in the day.

Focus was the 2012/13 National Mission Projects. "Disability and Development". Sister Jaqui Ryan, Northern field rep. for CWS spoke about the AMA TAKILOA A E FEFINE TONGA- "Light the way for Women in Tonga".- a programme designed to improve health and increase food security, self-sufficiency and income in the villages. After lunch a group of Tongan women from St. John's Hamilton East told first hand of the struggles of Tongan women in the islands and demonstrated weaving crafts.

Our second speaker at Rally Day was Roberta Francis who highlighted the local section of the project - to raise funding for the publication of a booklet: "Welcoming Churches" by the Disability, Spirituality and Faith Network. Using her own experiences to illustrate, Roberta challenged us: "for disabled people life is complex and all around us there are people coping with problems caused by disability."

Our third combined regional meeting was hosted by MWF in Te Aroha in April. Our guest was the Rev. Prince Devanandan, Methodist Mission and Ecumenical. The Methodist Church has had a long association with missions in the Solomon Islands. He gave an illustrated address highlighting some of the blessings and difficulties faced at Helena Goldie College and Hospital.

#### NATIONAL BUSINESS MEETING:

At the end of May I joined 70 other members from throughout N.Z. for the National Business Meeting of P.W.A.N.Z. in St. John's church in Wellington.

The meeting was tinged with sadness- our National Convenor elected in 2010 died two days prior to the National Business Meeting. Mary was a leader with passion for church and community: "her commitment to the underprivileged will be forever remembered". Until the week before the Wellington meeting it was uncertain whether we would have national office bearers. The Lord must have a task for His servants: all positions were filled. National Convenor: Lafulafu Ekanasio, Deputy Convenor: Le'autuli'liagi Sauvao, Secretary: Rev. Shona Bettany are the new appointments.

#### THANKS:

Though I act as your Co-ordinator I am deeply indebted to the other members of the APW Coordinating group who give me advice and capably undertake their respective tasks. Elaine McFall, our treasurer; Doreen Riddell, Mission and Gleanings distribution; Colleen MacDonald, Programmes and Stamps; and Gladys Mead immediate past convenor.

#### CLOSING THOUGHT:

Be encouraged. One loan brick on the path doesn't make a building. Many interlocked bricks build strong structures.

"Now he's fitting you in brick by brick, stone by stone, with Christ as the cornerstone that holds all the parts together." *Ephesians 2:20-21, 'The Message'*.

God bless all your endeavours in His name.

**Alice Hill, Coordinator**

### **BAY OF PLENTY**

The last report was presented on the 11<sup>th</sup> September 2012 so this report really covers a 10 month period but it has been a busy time culminating in the National Meeting which included the change of some of the National Officers details of the changes now being confirmed.

I have just read an article in "which the comment was made that God's way was not the way that the devil tried when tempting Jesus but rather as Jesus reminded his disciples when they argued over who among them was the most important is to serve, not to be served. This was not a particularly attractive message to them –nor to us, if we're honest.

It is a message that many of the Presbyterial have thought about and followed this year and the reports that have been given at our regular meetings have varied from details of Carols on the Waterfront to Piazza and Prayer to A Christmas Pageant to stalls at Markets to meetings for children and helping in the background at GA12. Then there are foodbanks, cycle repairs and pantry gardens which involve many people. The Rotorua area is now gradually combining into the Rotorua District Presbyterian Church with the parishes working with each other and in their own congregations.

Thanks to the groups which have hosted us over the year; Te Puke who coped also with our last AGM and then St Columba who ran a most entertaining Christmas meeting and St James who enabled us to see the Tongan video that formed part of the Project. I know that in many cases this involved extra work for people at busy times as is the position with St Andrew's today but it has all been appreciated and the chance to get together and have fellowship has been a blessing.

Thank you to all who have continued to work for Presbyterial in any way particularly with Daphne with Parish and Community, Magda with Mission, Dawne with finance and Jan with the book stall. We also thank Fred Wright for all he has done with our stamps.

As we head into another year remember that Jesus said "Your Heavenly Father knows what you need."

**Mary Page, Bay of Plenty Presbyterial Regional Co-Ordinator.**

### **HAWKES BAY**

#### SEPTEMBER 2012 AGM AND GENERAL MEETING

This took place at St Columba's Church, Taradale where the Moderator, the Rev Jo McGlashan, led the Communion service. Mention was made in the meeting of the car accident in which Prue Neild and Sally Russell had been injured. Happily they are now (2013) well again. Sue Read ended 10 years as an excellent NCOW representative and we welcomed Jane Herries as her successor. The National Secretary had written asking us to consider ways of engaging younger women in PWANZ – our new acronym.

#### NOVEMBER 2012 GENERAL MEETING

St Andrew's Church, Hastings hosted our 'Christmas' meeting. Jo McGlashan introduced the Rev Adrian Skelton as the incoming Moderator. We were asked to nominate women 24-45 to attend the 'consultative workshops' being held in February 2013, to suggest how PWANZ should move into the future. AS our bank account contained about \$800, we agreed to donate \$300 to Global Mission and \$200 to Turakina Maori Girls' College. In her first NCOW report Jane Herries mentioned that, as we now meet only four times yearly, it is hard for her to get

our feedback on proposed legislation, copies of which reach her at least weekly. Jane hopes gradually to set up email links with some member and send a hard copy of some important bills to parishes.

#### MARCH 2013

At St Andrew's Church, Waipukurau Jeanette White's devotions on the theme 'So be it' were very moving. There being \$400 in the bank, we decided to give \$200 to Family Works Hawke's Bay. We heard of NCOW beginning the legal battle to regain its lost charitable status, and we were reminded of the NCOW's annual dinner where the Chief Ombudsman, Dame Beverley Wakem, was to speak.

#### JUNE 2013 GENERAL MEETING

This was held at St Andrew's, Hastings. A letter was read describing Presbyterian's proposed role in the new Presbytery Central, but member felt that they needed more information before committing to this new structure. In response to a letter from the Very Rev Dr Graham Redding, \$100 was donated to Knox College students towards their books.

Altogether by 30 June 2013 over \$1600 had been raised for the 2012-13 Special Projects on:

- a) Supporting the people of Tonga
- b) Welcoming disable people into our churches

This figure is consistent with those for the previous two years, which is pleasing.

This seems an appropriate place to thank Jill McConnochie for her sterling (!) work as our Treasurer once again.

#### ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS 2012-13

<i>Date</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Present</i>	<i>Apologies</i>
September '12	St Columba's Taradale	26	4
November '12	St Andrew's Hastings	22	6
March '13	St Andrew's Waipukurau	19	10
June '13	St Andrew's Hastings	18	11

#### SPEAKERS AT MEETINGS

Our thanks once again to the following:

September '12	The Rev Jo McGlashan	Service
November '12	Jan MacLachlan	Trip to Poland
March '13	Richard Dawson	Veronica's Place
June '13	Barbara Hodgson	A Family Group Conference

Finally, thank you to all the women – not named already – who care about this organization and have worked for it during the year. May God bless you.

#### **Christine Gould (Sec) for Win Rapley (Pres)**

#### **TARANAKI**

It is with pleasure that I present the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Report of the COMBINED TARANAKI PW/ MWF. These Gatherings have been arranged and attended by a great group of women, and I am glad to be a member of it.

In February 2013 a "Consultative Workshop" was held in Wellington to consider the future of APW. Ten younger women attended from around N.Z. including 2 women from Taranaki, namely Sue Staveley and Joy VanderSar. It was a very positive Gathering and all felt that there would be a future for P.W. –although it may take on a different form in the days ahead.

Our July Rally Day & AGM in 2012 was held in the New Plymouth Methodist Church Complex. Tributes were given for past Executive Members -Edith James (MWF) and Carole Shaw (APW)

who had passed away during that year. Reports were presented on the APW National Conference by Joan Roberts & Fay Drinkwater and the Afternoon Session included discussion on 2 Questions:- "How do you feel about the future ?" and "What is OUR future ?"

October Rally was held at the Co-operating Church in Oakura where with our Special Project as the topic, we heard from Guest Speaker Brian Erickson (Manager of Taranaki Disabilities Centre Trust). Reports were also given on the MWF Biennial Convention by Joan Wedding and Joan Roberts, while Sue Staveley shared her experiences at the P.W. Consultative Workshop.

March Rally was held at the Samoan Methodist Church in Fitzroy, New Plymouth. Rev Limu Isaia led us in Communion and this was followed by the DVD on the Tongan Community Development Programme which was part of our Annual Project. Rev Manoa & Mrs Akenesi Havea were the afternoon Speakers giving us an inspiring challenge. We also heard Joy VanderSar `s impressions of the "Consultative Workshop"

I extend sincere Thanks to all who have hosted our Rallies, and all who have made our time together a happy and memorable experience. Thanks also to my Executive who have supported our work in various ways.

Over the year we have averaged some 27 folk at our Rallies. Currently we record 96 members in the District, but 2 Groups have indicated that they can no longer carry on, which leaves us with just 5 affiliated Groups in Taranaki. We will encourage individual members to enrol as Associate Members of the District. In quoting from "Gleanings" it is interesting to note that Nola Stuart has written a paper - "Where to from here?"; this paper recognises that we may need to consider a different way of being "Presbyterian Women".

I close with the thought that the writing is on the wall concerning most of our Groups -because of our advancing ages, - BUT there will still be a future. Let us pray for our Leaders as they seek for the way the way ahead !

May God bless you all as we look forward to another year of fellowship and service.

**Fay Drinkwater, President**

### **WANGANUI**

Once again I have the pleasure in presenting the Annual Report. This for the year 2012/13. We have had 4 meetings over the time, with an average of 15 members attending. Though small in numbers they are a loyal group, who still find pleasure in the fellowship, different venues, and joining in the mission of the wider church. Thanks, ladies for your support.

At the last AGM in August, Phil Warner spoke of his work in China and Hong Kong with "Open Doors", Christian advertising and as a volunteer with Crossroads.

In November, Nancy Hazeleger spoke of her trip to Talua Training Centre, Vanuatu, with a powerpoint presentation to show us a selection of activities and village life.

The March meeting was held at the home of Denise Evans, in Hunterville. Jean George and Edna Morris showed us a great selection of publications from the Bible Society. The informality of meeting in Denise's lounge was a good place for frank discussion on APWs future.

The meeting in June was around the 2 parts of our Mission Project. We watched a CWS DVD on the Ama Takiloa Project in Tonga. To cover the NZ part of Disability and Spirituality in our Churches, we had Rev Anne Bennett tell us about her time as chaplain at Kimberley in Levin and the services she runs at St Davids, Palmerston North, called Kumbaya.

My thanks go to the wonderful committee for their support and friendship over this last difficult year. Good teamwork is the base we work on, and all are willing to carry on for another term, with God's help and your continued loyalty.

**Enid Waters, President**

## **MANAWATU**

As Regional Coordinator for Presbyterian Women Manawatu I have much pleasure in presenting the 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Report. As I prepared this report I noted that next year in 2014 we will be celebrating fifty years of Presbyterian Women. Over all these years, the women have met together around this region for fellowship, spiritual growth and in service to a wide variety of communities. So many women to remember, each wanting to achieve a difference in the lives of others. There will be much to celebrate.

As planned, we held three meetings this year including two Regional Days the first being held in Palmerston North in July 2012. The Regional Day theme was "Being Godly, Green and Gracious" which featured three busy, young Mums who shared their experience of -Reaching out to God in the fast lane. The programme continued with "green" themes of caring for God's planet; the Plant to Plate programme taken by volunteers into primary schools; the impact of packaging, consumerism and recycling; plus using baking soda for numerous cleaning jobs. We were pleased to welcome Mrs Faaolataga(Ola) Leasi, the National Pacific Island Representative for Presbyterian Women ANZ who presented the meeting with a gift of a Decorative Candle holder.

Our second Regional Day held in November was hosted by Levin Uniting with the theme "Who is My Neighbour?" We were treated to speakers of programmes outreaching to the community at Hinemoa House and through Neighbourhood Support. Presentations included health programmes and support in Vanuatu. The Very Reverend Pamela Tankersley shared her experiences with Global Mission and as our United Nations Convener. There was much discussion around the poor status of women in many parts of the world. It was good to have our National Convener Jan Harland participate in this Regional Day and have a chance to meet more Presbyterian Women. She explained the purpose of the Consultative Workshop to be held and the idea of seeking the views of younger women and how they might be involved in Presbyterian Women.

As always there was a wonderful response in providing Christmas gifts for Prisoners Aid and Women's Refuge.

The Regional Days held on Saturdays have attracted around 40 or more women including women who are in the paid workforce Monday to Friday. We have been encouraged through the attendance too of women who have not participated previously.

In March we visited Turakina Maori Girls' College at Marton to share Communion in the Chapel with the School Chaplain. We were invited to join the students and staff in the Assembly Hall. Sadly the Chapel was closed due to possible structural concerns in the case of an earthquake. Our small group was warmly welcomed by the School Principal and provided with lunch much to our surprise. The experience was very much enjoyed and the girls' singing, the highlight of the day.

In late June around 7 of us attended the National Business Meeting of Presbyterian Women ANZ hosted by St John's in the City, Wellington. The NCG actively promoted change and sort confirmation for change. A new strategy was needed including a different structure and greater involvement of younger women which would allow the organization to move forward and be viable into the future. It was heartening to have the meeting endorse change! Already younger women have shown interest and some have been elected to the new National Executive. We were very proud when one of our own younger members Rev. Shona Bettany of Levin was voted in as National Secretary.

Though the dates for fund raising have been extended and now close in September we

anticipate that there has been the usual commitment to this year's Special Project. We thank everyone and also too for saving stamps, it is so worthwhile.

It has been very encouraging to have a team of supportive women to come together as the Planning Committee. My sincere thanks to them. I thank June McQueen and Jocelyn Hannay for their support as they step down from the team this year.

Finally thank you to the Secretary and Treasurer, Conveners and Representatives for their work and may we continue to move in a positive direction.

**Heather Tate, Regional Coordinator**

### **WAIRARAPA**

I am always amazed at the wide variety of speakers, happening & fund raising that come from the reports of First Church, Martinborough and St Luke's Union Church, Masterton Fellowships, and this year is no exception.

Speakers included Marilyn Symons, wife of Rev Jim Symons of America who ministered to Lansdowne/St Luke's Churches for four months. Geoff Walker on his trip to Uganda, Charmaine Alpe and Annette's trip to Cairns, and Anne Dodd cruising on the Rhine. Lois Kusilifu talked about her background and faith journey, and Keiko's Tai Chi demonstration. Other subjects were reminiscing of events and the joining of Knox Presbyterian and Wesley Methodist Churches in 1973, becoming St Luke's Union Church. Occupations before marriage – and what a wide variety they were and something inherited from your mother. Member met with Maria and David Cross and baby Toby, who were home on leave from Manilla, where they serve in the slums with 'Servants of the Poor in Asia'. We applaud their work and uphold them with our prayers.

Fund raising events during the year included The Kirk Fair, Country Fairs, Book Fair, Kirking the Tartan at Martinborough and the Fair Day Fund at St Lukes.

Both Fellowships led Services during the year to raise funds for the Special Project, with a total of \$450 from the two groups being forwarded.

Some members were able to attend the Presbyterian Women's Business Meeting in Wellington and learnt of the future of Presbyterian Women Aotearoa NZ.

My thanks go to Barbara Evans who so ably looks after the District Finances, and Rosemary Ward who keeps us up to date on Maria and David Cross.

I pray that the two Fellowships continue to serve the women of their Churches and Community.

May God's love surround each and every one of you in this coming year.

**Marion Chisnall, Regional Coordinator**

### **HUTT VALLEY**

*Although this area has no Presbyterial, the one remaining group continues to keep Presbyterian Women Aotearoa New Zealand alive.*

### ***Silverstream***

It is my pleasure to present the annual report on a successful year for the Evening Fellowship group. We meet every 2nd Wednesday at 7.30pm in the church lounge. Our group is open to

all ladies in the congregation and new members are always most welcome. Each month we have a guest speaker or one of our own members speaks about their earlier life.

Our year starts in February with a picnic and a catch-up with events over the Christmas break and ends with a Christmas dinner at the Fig Tree Cafe. In the intervening months we had a varied programme with an ex-NAC air hostess taking us back a few years with her tales, an antique dealer who showed us what was happening in that line and had us looking differently at what we had in our china cabinets. A new service to people requiring some assistance was noticeable driving around Upper Hutt in blue cars with flowers and 'driving Miss Daisy' written all over them. The franchise holder joined us one night to explain what it was all about and provided us with a most enjoyable night.

Pat Christiansen spoke to us on the triumphs and vicissitudes of serving on the Upper Hutt City Council for many years. Two young men who cycled from Cape Reinga to Bluff, Chris Te'O and Mark Lerwill gave us a lively night and we congratulate them for the supreme effort they put in to complete this huge long trip to help with awareness of men's cancer. In between, in all our spare time, we knitted baby wear for the Special Care Baby unit at the Hutt Hospital. Looking back it has been an interesting year.

My thanks to all committee members, Adrienne Chandler, Joyce Castle, Pam Hurly, Jacqueline Kitchen, Shirley Main, Hazel O'Brien and Ann Pemberton, who amongst other things, always provides a lovely supper.

Last but by no means least, I would like to thank all who turn up every month to share with us and make it so enjoyable.

St. Margaret's also has an Afternoon Fellowship which caters for older women who give very generously to various needs in the community. This group is not affiliated to PWANZ.

**Shirley Graham, Convenor**

## **WELLINGTON**

For the last few years, Wellington has had only five parishes with a women's group. But we do have two very large and loyal Pacific Island groups from Newtown and Porirua. Their support has always been very strong and they now provide members of your national committee. Most of our members in these two groups work, many in professional positions; are active in their own parishes and their communities. Two PIC members attend the Wellington Presbytery meetings and we have two delegates attending the Wellington Branch of the National Council of Women.

In May, the PIC Porirua group hosted the national gathering which was held at St Johns in the City. Members from PIC Newtown and St John's also helped with the arrangements and many Wellington members attended the gathering.

In December, as usual, we held a combined Christmas meeting at Johnsonville. This was well attended. It was the Methodist Women's turn to organise the service but we had choirs from Wadestown and our PIC parishes taking part.

**Lois Robertson**

## **NELSON / MARLBOROUGH**

*Although this area has no Presbyterian, the individual groups are continuing to keep Presbyterian Women Aotearoa New Zealand alive.*

## **Kaikoura**

This past year we have met 8 times with average attendance of 3-4 members. We welcomed one new member giving us a group total of 5.

We looked at "spring cleaning hints" based on the book "wonders of baking soda" and reflected on our Sunday School days. One member gave a most interesting talk on her trip to Cambodia.

Mission continues to play a prominent part in our meetings & we share various publications, pray for the people's needs & continue writing to Kathryn McDaniel in Thailand.

We still support our former hospital patient, for birthday & Christmas.

Our Christmas function was joined with the "Coffee Morning ladies" for a lovely shared lunch. Money raised from our gift auction was forwarded to "Women's Refuge".

We continue to support the various APW projects & deliver "meals on wheels"

A big thank you to St.Pauls for the \$5000 yearly donation which enables us to continue supporting Hospital Chaplaincy, Jagadhri Hospital, Ludiana & Kathryn.

My grateful thanks to you all for attending the meetings and keeping our small group functioning.

May God bless you all.

## **Margaret Wright**

### **Stoke**

During this year we have had the usual variety of activities. Our members have joined with local Stoke churches for World Day of Prayer in March, been invited to join Tahunanui ladies for a social afternoon as well as the Country day in September where the theme was "Love" and each church made a display, all very different.

The Combined Stoke Churches Ladies evening is held each year on a 5<sup>th</sup> Monday and during the past 12 months we have taken part in both the one for 2012 and 2013. The first was held in St Andrews where we hosted a most enjoyable evening with the guest speakers who spoke on their time working in Pakistan in a school for missionaries children. 2013 evening was held in St Francis church where ladies watched a DVD on the work of Susanne Aubert and plans for her canonization. Father Maurice Carmody is to show this at the Vatican in support of her being the first saint from NZ. At these combined occasions an offering is always taken which goes towards the families sponsored under the auspices of Save the Children Fund. \$400 was a pleasing result for this.

Subjects of speakers have included a visit to Chatham Island, Stoke Library, Trade Aid shop and the Nelson Womens Centre. Our own members have given talks on visits to Costa Rica and Mexico; life in Japan; new arrangements of Presbytery as well as Easter and Christmas programmes. These have all been most interesting and informative. We do thank all who have given of their time to share with us.

By now the Christmas lunch has become a tradition. It is held early in December and we always invite members of other Presbyterian churches as well as senior members of our own church. This is always greatly enjoyed by all and I must thank all who provided and served this meal. Last time we also enjoyed the entertainment of the Ranui Road Kindergarten children. They were delightful. Many thanks to them and their teachers.

At the beginning of the year we joined for lunch at Smugglers which we all enjoyed.

Members have knitted for babies at Middlemore Hospital (formerly National Womens Hospital) and made comfort dolls for Nelson Childrens Ward.

Ladies have also done some catering.

We have supported Knox interns, trade aid, Jagadhri hospital, India, scholarship.

Average numbers at the meetings have been about 14.



The Project combined with the Methodist Women this year will share funds for Community Development in Tonga and the Disability, Spirituality and Faith Network in NZ. 40 people enjoyed a dinner in May as our main fundraiser and \$700 has been sent. Many thanks to all who worked towards this grand goal. The Tongan section was covered in a Sunday service and the speaker at the dinner spoke of disability services in Nelson.

Members have expressed sympathy to those who have been bereaved during the year. Our prayers continue to be with you all. There has been money received by our group from the estate of a previous member of the group who died last year. Some of this has been sent to Guardian Angels scheme of the Presbyterian Support, Nelson which takes special care of children at risk. We are most grateful for this.

All our members enjoy meeting together monthly. It is a time of sharing and learning of the work of the Gospel here and in other lands and cultures. We are able to support Nelson groups who work with people in the community. I hope and pray that as we go forward into 2014 we might attract new members and so make our group more viable. All ladies are most welcome. My thanks to all who support our work for Christ in St Andrews.

### **Anne Evans, President**

### **Tahunanui**

Our members numbers have slipped this year with some people going to Retirement Homes and illness, but we thank those who have been there to help with our projects. We are also very thankful for the help the congregation have given us with their time and support.

Our aim is for mission, both at home and abroad, and we have had a successful year raising money for these projects:

- National Special Project, \$500
- Garage Sales in November \$750 and November \$800
- Grandparents raising Grandchildren, receive a monthly food parcel, plus \$650
- Luncheon at Helen King's home for Katherine McDaniel's work in Chang Mai, \$250
- Food and lemons sent to Phyllis Harris for her music group at Lincoln Church Christchurch
- 49 Blankets, jersey's etc. sent for Operation Cover-up in Moldova
- Donations to Hospital Chaplaincy, Christchurch Presbyterian Support, Global Mission, Rice Bowl appeal, Westpac Helicopter, Plunket and St John

Women's Day was held at Tahunanui this year which was very successful. Thank you to those who organized this event.

November we once again had our visitors afternoon when we invited other Church Ladies to join us. The Tahunanui School Choir came to sing to us, and Kim Macdonald spoke about the work of Neighbourhood Watch.

We thank everyone who has helped to make this another great year and thanks to God who has guided us to where our help is needed.

### **GREYMOUTH**

It is my pleasure to present the 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Report of the Greymouth District Uniting Parish Women's Fellowship.

Our membership, which was 15 twelve months ago, is now down to 11, but we continue as an active, enthusiastic group fulfilling the Fellowship Objects which are:  
*To promote by worship, study and service the spiritual and social life of it's members so that they may make a Christian witness in home, church and community.*

It is with sadness and thanks for the contributions they made to our Group that we record the deaths of Helen Atkinson, Jean Johnston, Sheena Topp and Life Member 102 years young Jean Schaefer.

Our only speaker from outside the Group was Mrs Nicki Mora who showed slides and told us of all the excellent activities that take place for high school age young people, weekly at The Shed. From within our members Thelma spoke about her trip to Hawaii, Doreen and Jan shared their trip on the Rhine and Val and Doreen their tramp to the Hollyford. We shared favourite Bible verses with a sales table for the Bible Society, did exercises led by Val, and enjoyed a mid-winter lunch and games to which member of the congregation were invited.

Coffee and Dessert Evening for our Church Shop workers was held in February with another planned for November to return to that time of the year.

Our annual Spring Flower / Communion Service and afternoon tea was, as in the past, an enjoyable ecumenical occasion well supported.

We were hostesses for the 2012 Ecumenical Afternoon choosing the theme 'Favourite Hymns' for items. Fifty ladies mixed well and enjoyed the occasion.

A social afternoon was held in January for Jean Schaefer's 102<sup>nd</sup> and Elaine Smith's 80<sup>th</sup> birthdays.

Following our suggestion to Parish Council, our new meeting room was named the Jean Schaefer Room. A suitable plaque was installed in the room and also one on the flat screen TV we purchased for the Church Hall.

We bought a blind for the Jean Schaefer Room. Two copies of 'A Braided River of Faith : volume 4' were purchased for the Church Library and Devlin Family, as the late Esma Devlin featured in it.

We participated in filling three shoe boxes of items required by young people in the Pacific. At our last Executive Meeting it was unanimously agreed that our meeting as such cease. All business will be dealt with at our monthly meetings.

This is a summary of a busy year of highs and lows, during which your support of each other has been evident. Thanks to you all for your willing participation in many ways enabling our Fellowship to continue.

Blessings for another year of Fellowship and Friendship.

**Jan Smith, President**

## **CHRISTCHURCH**

As I sit down to write the 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Report of the Christchurch Presbyterian Women I look back on the comings and goings in our home over the past 24 hours. We have had our 5-6 hour visit from the Insurance Company, the Loss Adjustor and the Building Company. Five burly gentlemen arrived on our doorstep, a Scot, an Irishman, a Brit and two Kiwis. They talked, measured, looked in all the nooks and crannies and generally studied every square inch of our home and property. It reminded me of Presbyterian Women and how we are not just a New Zealand based group but a worldwide movement working for our Lord in our own little corners of the world looking in the nooks and crannies to find a way to serve. As we await the outcome of our visit 'a rebuild or a repair', whatever the outcome we know that the Lord will be leading us all in the right direction.

Once again you have all had a busy year in your parishes, the outreach you all do in your communities is just amazing and you have had very interesting speakers and visits around the city and surrounding areas. Although the numbers within your groups are slowly dropping due to illness and death you are all still keeping in contact and visiting those who are no longer

able to attend. This is such a valuable ministry and I comment each one of you for this wonderful service.

We were saddened this year to say farewell to our loved Treasurer Norah Mahon. Norah has been a member of the APW for 50 years and has served her Parish of St Marks Fellowship Group loyally for most of those years. She has been a member of the Executive for over 10 years and how we miss her laughter, her sense of humour, her hard work and the meticulous way she has kept the APW financial books. Her funeral service was a celebration for her life and it was wonderful to see so many of our members in attendance. We also said goodbye to past Executive members Mary Crozier and Sally Wilson from our group, both loyal hard working ladies who contributed so much to the life of our Presbyterial. We continue to remember their families in our prayers.

Over the past 12 months, the Presbyterial has had an interesting and busy time as well. Dugald Wilson gave us a total update from the Presbytery on the state of our parish Churches following the Quake, through the city and surrounding country areas as well. A rather sobering story and it was a great insight into the extent of the damage. October saw us all head out to the beautiful little church at Cust where Ada welcomed us in true country style. We were given a very interesting talk about the history of the area by Bernard Kingsbury in the morning, our offering went toward the work of Search and Rescue and in the afternoon Philemino spoke of her life in Singapore, where she had come from to the present day. We had our Christmas programme in November led by the Executive and we finished with the blessing of our gift boxes for pillars and a Christmas morning tea. Susan Baldwin the vicar from Malvern entertained us with her adventure aboard a Sailing ship, Francis from Lifeline talked about the training and the work done by their volunteers, Ellen Paynter from the Hamlin Charitable Fistula Hospital Trust spoke about the fascinating work they are doing in Ethiopia and Grant Watt spoke about his work as a City Walking Guide and gave us an interesting delve into the history of the area. Georgina and Bernard from Christchurch Women's Neo Natal Unit gave us a glimpse of the work done in this unit. A number of our members had worked there over the years and we were able to give them more knitting as well for the prem babies and then to complete the year our own Margaret Simpson spoke of her years as a Midwife on the District in England, another fascinating story and we continue to be amazed at the incredible things our members have done throughout their lives.

Your generosity is unbelievable. The knitting of slippers, beanies, mittens etc. is just mind blowing. Each month Mary has the joy of delivering boxes of slippers to low decile schools, the smiles on the children's faces warms your heart and they and the school staff and Principals are so grateful for your kindness. Every request we made you respond to whether it is for knitting, providing morning tea for a school staff or a one off request for equipment for a kitchen for a needy family. 'Super Grans' have been able to equip kitchen for mans a family in need as a result of our request and for this we say a very big thank you.

Lois, our stamp lady is having a great time selling the stamps you bring in each month. They tell us that snail mail will be a thing of the past but in the meantime we will continue to collect those little items so she can sell them. Thank you Lois for this great work. Mary continues to sell stamps each month and I know how you appreciate this wonderful service she provided. Joyce and Susan represent us on National Council of Women and Joyce also on the World Day of Prayer Committee and Molly on the local Church Women United Committee. Margaret and Margaret represented you all at the National Business Meeting in Wellington and Gillian and I have attended the Annual Meetings of the AAW, the Catholic Women and the MWF. WE enjoyed the combined Communion Service and the executive continue to meet with the Methodist committee for lunch each year. My thanks to Dulcie and Val for continuing to look after our Sales Table and to our wonderful Executive. After a number of years as our Mission reporter Esther has retired and we thank her for keeping us up to date with the Mission scene. To Gillian, Margaret, Mary and Margaret I extend my sincere thanks for their incredibly hard work behind the scenes, their friendship and laughter, and their sense of humour, planning , providing hospitality, food for special events and their amazing support of me over the years. A special thanks to Margaret for stepping into Norah's shoes and looking after the books. They are indeed treasures.

Thank you to each of you, our wonderful and loyal members for your patience, generosity, regular attendance at our meetings, your love and your prayers and your support and for the wonderful outreach you do in your parishes on behalf of Presbyterian Women in Christchurch. May God continue to bless each one of you as you continue to serve our Lord in your communities and in the wider world.

**Allison Blackler, President**

### **SOUTH CANTERBURY**

Our year began with 32 members enjoying a meal at Richard Pearse Restaurant on July 10, when our speakers were Suzanne and Ian Carpenter who shared their experiences of working in Malawi.

Our AGM was held in the St Stephen's Lounge on September 11, when following the shared lunch, Michael Earle, the Church Donor Relations Co-ordinator for Christian World Service, was our speaker.

On December 4, our Christmas meeting was held at St Paul's, when about 30 members attended. We began with devotions prior to Lunch and various other activities followed later.

As the Moderator of the PCANZ was visiting this area in March, we were fortunate to have the Rt Rev Ray Coster to speak to us on March 12 when we met at St Stephen's Lounge.

Our meeting on May 14, was held at Trinity Church Lounge in Temuka when following our shared lunch, Ofa Boyle, who moved here from Tonga some years ago spoke of her work with people who move here from the Pacific Islands. This related to the overseas part of our current Special Project to support the Tonga Community Development Trust.

Our Executive members have met three times during the year to plan the meetings.

I acknowledge the contribution to Presbyterian Women in this area made by the late Bev Manson and the late Janet McKenzie, both of whom we miss very much.

We encourage members to bring items for our Sales Table, so that the proceeds can be used for any Conference expenses.

We are grateful to Bev Quigley who continues to be our representative on the South Canterbury Presbytery.

We continue in the support, as much as possible, of the annual Special Project with the Methodist Women, the Mission Birthday Gift and the sale of used stamps.

As we give thanks for God's guidance in the past, we acknowledge our continuing need for this also in the future as we seek to promote the work of Presbyterian Women.

**Allison Linscott, President**

### **NORTH OTAGO**

No report.

### **CENTRAL OTAGO**

At the Annual Meeting of 'The Gathering' held on August 20<sup>th</sup> 2012 in St Margaret's Church Frankton in the Wakatipu Parish, it was agreed to hold two 'Gatherings' a year. At the same meeting, the task of coordinating 'The Gathering' roster, the finances and passing on

information to groups, was given to the Upper Clutha group for the next two years. Queenstown and Roxburgh groups are now not functioning, but still attend Gatherings.

It is with sadness, but with great thankfulness, that we record the death of Mrs Bette Lawson, long time member and strong leader in the church in Central Otago. Mrs Lawson of Roxburgh was a wise and loving person whose life of service has left us all a fine example to follow.

The attendance at 'The Gatherings' is between 50 and 60, and it is a time of fellowship and learning. A shared finger food lunch, gives time for talk with people from other parts of Central Otago, and the sharing of ideas.

The Gathering in Frankton in August 2012 brought us interesting speakers from the Department of Social Development and from the Christian Broadcasting Association. It was good to be able to hear firsthand from these people. A very talented woman, played her violin bringing haunting Celtic tunes for our enjoyment.

The first Gathering for 2013 was held on April 11, in the St Andrews Church buildings, Wanaka. Because of problems the meeting time was delayed from February, but it was felt that an autumn meeting followed by a spring meeting would be the best timetable to adhere to. Members were interested to hear the experiences of a retired Principal of a Dunedin secondary school. The speaker challenged members to 'transcend the spire, the organ and the pew' and challenge changes in our communities, which are not always for the best! A trained 'Kids Friendly' person living in Wanaka talked about 'Kids Friendly' and then demonstrated how she communicates with children. The 'Family Works Manager' for the Upper Clutha Parish also spoke about her work in the wider community, as well as in parish situations. An Upper Clutha member shared her beautiful embroidery work with us.

As a group, 'The Gathering' continues to support Diane and Jim Young who work with SIM in Africa; the Christian Broadcasting Association and Presbyterian Support Otago. This is done through the offering taken at each meeting and a sales table which is also held. All groups continue to save stamps which a member takes responsibility for selling.

Like many places our membership is in the older age group, but there is strong interest in the meeting, which sees women who do not attend the monthly Parish meeting in attendance. Sincere thanks to the women of Cromwell and Districts Parish for their leadership over the years 2010-2012. A job well done. We are grateful for all that 'The Gatherings' have already achieved in the past, and look forward to the future, confident that God's grace and guidance will lead us on where we need to be in the coming years.

**Catherine Little, Joint Coordinator**

## **DUNEDIN**

We have pleasure in presenting this Annual Report at the Annual Meeting on 27 August 2013 in the Maclean Room, First Church, Dunedin.

At the September 2012 meeting Betty Scarlet spoke about her recent visit to the Islands where she lived many years ago.

The Mini Conference on 27 November 2012 was held at the St Clair Presbyterian Church. We were warmly welcomed by the members with morning tea prior to the morning programme. Rev Denis Povey spoke at the morning session on 'The Women in my life'. He highlighted the involvement of women in the church community today – women not wearing hats, taking their place as elders and action in the community where the support of the church was required, despite the fact that not everyone agreed to be involved. So many facts that Denis referred to were remembered and caused some mirth among those present. In the afternoon Barbara Turnbull gave an interesting illustrated talk on her recent work with the Red Cross in Afghanistan.

At the first meeting in 2013 Rev Anne Thomson highlighted details re significant places she visited in Israel. After lunch Clare Thomson spoke about her time in Myanmar. She told of sharing in worship, food, fellowship and we heard of the changes they have seen in their churches and communities following the Golden Jubilee. They spent an afternoon being taught by the women how to make paper German Stars. At the end of the day they had an opportunity to share how they felt about what God was calling them to do.

At our next meeting Liz Miller told us about her experience as Deputy Convenor on the National Executive.

Outreach:

Parishes support the Presbyterian Women Mission Projects, Presbyterian Support Otago Volunteers, Youth Grow & Food Bank. Many women are involved in organisations which are concerned with people's welfare.

Communication:

Presbyterial Newsletters and any other appropriate information are warmly welcomed when they come to meetings. We have cared for our members pastorally and encouraged Fellowship Groups to come to our meetings.

Thanks and appreciation:

To all who attend meetings, participate in devotions, provide gifts for speakers, collect stamps, support projects and host meetings – our representatives at National Council of Women, Amnesty International, Festival of Flowers, Presbytery and Synod of Otago and Southland.

This is an appropriate time to look at where we have come from – here is some information from early minutes of PWMU:

- Minutes – written neatly in ink with a fountain pen I guess, then typed – a paragraph on the missionary the parish was supporting and this included their programme when they came home on furlough.
- Ministers chaired the Annual Parish meetings.
- 3850 stamps collected in a year.
- NZ Presbyterian Church had 6 missionaries.
- Visited Deaconess College with gifts.
- PWMU members could accept the challenge of witnessing forces of evil in our world.
- Ministers selected themes for Annual General Meetings, eg. 'Aspects of Stewardship' etc., Jean Kitchens 'The Postmodern Parish' 2003. "The Church exists for mission for taking the good news about Jesus Christ into a hurting world and to assist in what the Jewish community refers to as the repair of the World."

So we enter the next fifty years of Presbyterian Women Aotearoa New Zealand – whatever may be its title in the future.

**Norma Caldwell and Phyllis Varcoe, Co-convenors**

## **BALCLUTHA**

The St Andrews Fellowship continues to meet monthly in spite of some indecision over meeting days and time. With the growing age of members and after meeting at nights for many years, it was decided to trial afternoon meetings during the winter months. Finding an afternoon that did not clash with too many members different interests was difficult. We are currently meeting on the third Thursday of the month at 2pm.

The AGM in June was postponed until the July meeting when Roy Johnston, a geothermal geologist spoke about the years he and his family spent in Ethiopia. Roy was invited back to tell of the years he had spent working on Reunion Island in the Indian Ocean followed by time on Liher Island near Papua New Guinea.

PACT workers, Trish Payne and Raewyn Gray enlightened us on the work done by the LINK

Centre in our area in September.

The following month we heard of the work accomplished by Heni and Gavin Landreth who during a few weeks in Botswana helped with rebuilding of homes.

Members enjoyed a happy Christmas meal in November, prior to carolling at the Rest Homes and hospital before Christmas.

The year began with a visit to Dr and Mrs Visage's garden followed by a brief meeting and supper supplied by the Romahapa C.W.I. as a fund raiser for the "Cancer walk for life".

Graham York showed photographs and spoke of his impressions of Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania during a recent visit, and at the April meeting we heard of nurse, Christine Taylor's experience working in Cooper Pedy. In May we were updated on waste and recycling by Laura Gourley, CDC Waste minimisation officer.

Members continue to support Jim and Diane Young in Malawi, gathered children's books for use in Papua New Guinea, knitted booties for new born babies, collected cardboard cartons for Kaka Point Sunday School and made monetary donations to South Otago Link Centre and Knox Theological Hall.

Thank you to secretary Jenni , treasurer Ruth, the various conveners and everyone who has contributed to happy meetings of Christian Fellowship. God bless you all.

### **Marylyn McClintock**

### **GORE**

It is with pleasure that I present the Annual Report of meetings and activities for A P W Morning

Coffee Group. This is a friendly and happy group of 20 plus members who enjoy the fellowship and company of these meetings. Hostesses arrange the morning tea and speakers or demonstration.

Meetings open with morning tea, usually followed by devotions and our speaker for the day. We have had many and varied speakers during the year detailed as follows.

In September Adrienne Rodgers gave a most interesting talk on the influence our ancestors have in forming our lives. In October Mikaela from Migrant services told us about the many different nationalities we have in our area and the work she does to help them into the community and the work force.

In November in the absence of a speaker, members told us of interesting happenings in their lives with Rev Chris Rodgers telling about his work in Tekapo conducting church services and marriage ceremonies.

Rev Rodgers again spoke to us in February with experiences in work overseas.

In March we were addressed by Rev Murray Shallard on different subjects but mainly outlining the training theological students spent many years completing. He also told how good it is that APW groups donate money towards the buying of text books for students at Knox College.

Late in 2012 Joyce Mason resigned as Meals on Wheels organizer and was presented with flowers at the Christmas Dinner. Nola Affleck has taken on that position. Special thanks to Joyce who had been doing this duty for around 40 years. Our annual dinner was again a huge success with the main course being prepared and served by Heartland Hotel Manager Matthew and his wife Missie ably assisted by Chef Trish. They were thanked and presented with small gifts.

Members provided the sumptuous dessert and Chris and Adrienne Rodgers were the guest speakers outlining Christmas in countries around the world.

During the year we made various donations: Knox College \$200: Bible of the Month \$495.00, Missions (Margaret Currie) \$200. Monthly Offerings \$ 466.20 Organ Repairs \$1800. Each year we also support the APW Special Project with a donation of \$200.

Our really big project was the laying of new carpet in the Hall Lounges. This was a most successful project with donations coming from various sales and personal donations. We are

sure that those many people who use the rooms have noticed the extra comfort and warmth of the new carpet.

We sincerely thank all those who helped with monetary donations and support.

We have also donated a good amount to the church funds which is made up of profit from the Catering Committee. Once again we thank Dawn and her team for the wonderful work they do in the name of the Lord and for the Church.

Several members of our group have suffered serious illnesses during the year and we wish them well and are so pleased when they are able to return to our meetings. To those who suffered bereavement we extend our sympathy and love.

To Kay our Secretary thank you for your support; our thanks also to Val who filled in for Kay when she had a time of illness; and to Helen and Val who have delivered the messages from the Bible Society each month.

To our Hostesses each month thank you for the wonderful speakers you are able to have and preparing our rooms and morning teas.

If I have missed anyone you have my apology and thanks.

Blessings to you all. You will always find a warm welcome at our meetings.  
Yours in love and faith.

**Joy McVicar**

## **SOUTHLAND**

This is Southlands second report since 2011: since I have taken this role. Back in 2007 I had had an epiphany that all Presbyterian women would feel valued no matter the age group. I thought by joining together to fellowship and by the elder age group imparting wisdom and sharing of ideas, that this would enhance God's Kingdom here on earth – basically what they have been doing for many years. Unfortunately what I did see was dwindling numbers that were of concern. Many of the women are tired from years of selfless work not only for the mission-fields but work for their families and their communities. So what actually happened was that Rev Heather Kennedy passed the numerous suitcases in which was home for a bygone era for me to continue that what has been done for decades. And so I have blundered through a new era; one in which emails replace letters. Many of the women have computers and are really quite savvy with this new technology and so I would send out devotional up-lifters (you know the ones that many groan at receiving but actually can make you think and challenge your views at times).

Back in 2011 we had 11 branches operating throughout Southland. However due to numbers declining, Limestone Plains and Ohai Nightcaps have since withdrawn their memberships along with one independent, Eva Loan. These women had all been vibrant members of APW and to be honest, some are still members having joined in established branches. For others, I continue to keep them informed through the wonderful world of electronics by flicking them the Gleanings etc of which so many of our women are grateful.

To date we have seven branches operating: St Andrews (Gore) (20 members), Central Southland (18 members), Lakeside Te Anau (10 members), Riverton Union (25 members), Hedgehope Mabel Bush (8 members), Oteramika Kennington (10 members), Windsor Community (38 members).

We also have one Independent, Vilma Cocker who is a member herself at St Andrews (Invercargill) Women's Group which has an attendance of 15 women.

We endeavour to have an annual Gathering the latest on held at Windsor Community where we were informed of the invaluable work that Women's Refuge undertake here in Southland. About 40 women attended and the fellowship was educational and inspiring; and the afternoon tea supplied by the Windsor ladies was amazing!



I attend and represent Presbyterian Women Aotearoa New Zealand every second Tuesday at National Council of Women and spoke on the work of our organisation quoting from the booklet "Presbyterian Women on the March" (written and compiled by Elizabeth Dickie with the assistance of the 75<sup>th</sup> Jubilee Committee of Southland Presbyterial 1906-1981).

Our thanks go to the National Contacts; especially those that supply the Gleanings and the Treasurer who makes sense of the monies that is sent to her and passes it on to the appropriate sources. Thank you to Rev Shona who touches base and Nola Stuart and Alison Kidd who keep me on the right track.

All praise to God who keeps us bound together in His work here on earth.

**Dianne Acker, Convenor**