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# Bush Fire

Presbyterian Women  
Aotearoa NZ

**August 2018**

### 2018 WE ARE...at the Well

PWANZ Executive are bringing a series of **regional gatherings** to you over 2018, supported by CWM with a “building capacity” grant.

Reduce your carbon footprint and attend your nearest Gathering...more than 50 from **Central** Presbytery attended on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> July St Andrew’s **Hastings** for a full-day of activities, including presentations with Dr Deborah Bower and Caren Rangī.



Heather says “We had a lovely day in Hastings. Well done!! Deborah was amazing and so thought provoking. Caren had so much to offer too!”

Ann adds “I think there was 14 of us from Manawatu who attended the Regional gathering in Hastings. A wonderful day out, we borrowed a van and 11 of us went together in that with the others coming privately. It was quite cold in the morning in the church but it was a beautiful day. Really great to hear Deborah speak again and also Jill doing a conversation with Carin Rangī - very interesting lady and most down to earth.”



Is there a wedding on here? was a comment as we entered through the camellia trail.



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Above Carin Rangi in conversation with Jill McDonald, Minister at St Andrews, Hastings. Right: Deborah Bowers



**A new generation of Presbyterian Women.** Come meet with us at the well for nourishment, engagement, inspiration and connection. MAKE A DATE IN YOUR DIARY at the venue nearest you (see below) and organise to bring others too. Load up the car and join us at:

#### **Northern Presbytery in August**

**Forrest Hill** on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> at 11.30am, Dr Deborah Bower will be joined by Dr Arda Jebejian, born in Aleppo, Syria, and raised in Lebanon. Arda is an accomplished scholar who specialises in applied linguistics and TESOL, visiting from the Gulf and sponsored by the Bible Society.

**St David's in the Field**, Hillsborough on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 12.30pm.

#### **PLUS**

**Southern** on Saturday 22 September, at St Andrews Community Hall, Manse Street, Invercargill.

Time: 10.30am - 1.30pm

**Kaimai** in November – details nearer the time.



**To assist us with planning and catering please register in advance** email: [pwanz2016@gmail.com](mailto:pwanz2016@gmail.com)

#### ***Joint Interfaith Submission on the Zero Carbon Bill***

Paul Blaschke wrote “thank you to all 70 odd of you who endorsed the interfaith submission on the Zero Carbon Bill.” Dr Mavis Duncanson, PWANZ UN Convenor and Sandra Waldrom, PWANZ Administration put their names to the submission to Ministry for the Environment on behalf of the PWANZ Executive. Copies of the final submission are available from [pwanz2016@gmail.com](mailto:pwanz2016@gmail.com) or keep in touch with the progress of the Bill through [www.mfe.govt.nz/have-your-say-zero-carbon](http://www.mfe.govt.nz/have-your-say-zero-carbon) .

## ***Presbyterian Women Aotearoa NZ Executive Report***

### **AGM 2018**

The PWANZ Executive calls for remits and nominations to fill the two volunteer vacancies: President and Communications Convenor. As required under our Terms of Reference these must be in writing to the Executive (next meeting 25 August 2018). For more information email [pwanz2016@gmail.com](mailto:pwanz2016@gmail.com).

Please note details in your diary and make travel arrangements.

**Date:** Saturday 15 September

**Place:** St Alban's, 339 Albert Street Palmerston North

**Time:** Registration opens from 9am

Meeting close: 1pm for lunch

2pm: workshops celebrating 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Suffrage, including:

the Very Reverend Pamela Tankersley, past Moderator of the General Assembly and Penny Mudford, Chair of Rural Women NZ and member of the PWANZ 2018 delegation to the UN.

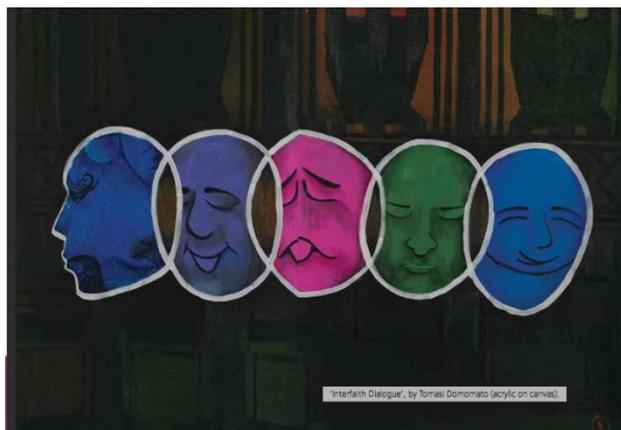
**Close:** 4pm

**BushFire** Ensure Presbyterian women receive their copy of your monthly newsletter – BushFire, forward email addresses to [pwanz2016@gmail.com](mailto:pwanz2016@gmail.com), or request a hard copy with a postal address. Remember Group Contacts to provide a list of each of your members as we recognise individual membership.

### ***Central Reports***

Faaolataga (Ola) Leasi and Sandra Waldrom attended the Opening Mass for the National Conference of the Catholic Women's League of Aotearoa NZ in Wellington on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> July, along with Anglican Women and a representative from the Salvation Army.

Ann Smith writes from Palmerston North "on Saturday June 23rd, we had a get together - Mid Winter Soiree, although we held it at lunchtime at the Coachman hotel where we had Soup and Bread selection, fancy cakes with tea and coffee. I welcomed everyone and our devotion was a beautiful old song by Edith Piaf - Non, je ne regrette rein. Played the song through with the words on the table and then translated it into English and had bible verses to meet the translation. (It wasn't my own work but was given to me by one of my Budget Mentors- it seemed so fitting for a Soiree) Our guest speaker for the day was Jasmin Vanderwerff who is a wonderful young lady now employed as Children, youth and family minister at St Andrews Church in Marton. She spoke on her call to Missionary work with YWAM in Mexico and Brazil."



***Interfaith Dialogue*** by Tomasi Domomato (acrylic on canvas) from the CWM publication Travelling Together Daily Devotions 2018

## **Presbyterian Women – Membership**

Do you know a member of your congregation who would like to join Presbyterian Women for just \$10 per year?

### **Membership includes:**

- 11 copies of the BushFire newsletter;
- a vote at the Annual General Meeting;
- participation in PWANZ's submissions to Parliamentary Select Committees;
- a voice advocating for women and women's rights in the wider church;
- joining an organisation with Special Consultative Status at the United Nations and sends an annual delegation to the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW);
- PWANZ can comment directly to the United Nations on Government policy and write alternative or shadow reports.

Membership is still \$10 when costs are rising e.g. postage now \$1.20.

### **Individual Member**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Congregation \_\_\_\_\_  
Postal Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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Membership @ \$10	\$ _____
Special Project	\$ _____
Mission Birthday Gifts	\$ _____
UN Mission	\$ _____
Other (please specify)	\$ _____
TOTAL	\$ _____

Direct Credit: ASB 12 3011 0117101 00

*In reference use - name / membership*

**This year is the year to promote membership – if we all ask one other person to join then we are on the way to becoming a vibrant relevant part of our church.**

## **UN Report**

### **Is New York calling you?**

Please spread the word that Presbyterian Women Aotearoa New Zealand welcomes expressions of interest to join the delegation to the 63<sup>rd</sup> Commission on the Status of Women (CSW63). This gathering is held at the United Nations headquarters in New York from 9-22 March 2019.

The priority theme for CSW63 is "Social protection systems, access to public services and sustainable infrastructure for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls".

Women of all ages with a passion for social justice and the empowerment of women and girls are welcome to contact the joint UN Convenors for further information: email [mavis.duncanson@gmail.com](mailto:mavis.duncanson@gmail.com) or [am.tangney@gmail.com](mailto:am.tangney@gmail.com). The trip is self-funding and costs are estimated at around \$5000-\$6000 per person.

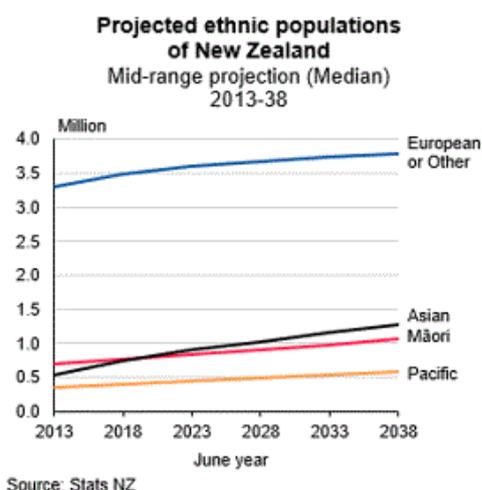
Congregations and individuals may like to consider how to encourage and support applications from their community. **Who do you know in your church or wider community that you can ask to go?** You can help with some fundraising – sausage sizzles at popular shopping sites work well, have a dinner and ask a cultural group from within your community to perform.

To read about the experience of women who have attended past CSW meetings go to <https://bit.ly/2KjkrUz>

Mavis Duncanson, Joint UN Convenor

### ***Diversity in New Zealand***

Recently I've heard interesting, challenging and inspired talks on multicultural New Zealand.  
Sally Russell



Statistics NZ collects data on ethnicity, where people were born and what languages we speak. It will be interesting to see the 2018 data.

In November 2017 they published their updated projections from 2013 which was the last census to 2038.

- the broad Asian ethnic group will increase the most, from 541,300 in 2013 to more than 1.2 million in 2038 (an increase of more than 122%)
- the 'European or Other' population is growing, but not as fast as other ethnic populations
- the Māori, Asian, and Pacific populations are growing faster because of their younger age structures – combined with higher birth rates or migration
- the overall ethnic share of 'European or Other' is projected to fall from 75% of New Zealand's population in 2013 to 66% in 2038

# Children and Young People

SCRIPTURE: Proverbs 22:6

TOPIC: Raising a Child is a Community Effort

Childhood in Samoa is usually filled with church activities and Samoan traditions. Families normally hold morning and evening prayers every day. Every member of a household is given chores to assist in cleaning, cooking, washing, and beautifying the landscape. Men work on taro plantations, others raise pigs and chickens, women weave mats and clothing, children pick the leaves and collect wood, others care for the young babies. These are all part of a community effort and Samoa was well known for raising children communally. In other words, every adult in the community has the responsibility of teaching, educating, and grooming a child in the village or family. Likewise, a child learns different talents from the adults in the community. This was very efficient and is still an ongoing tradition today with modification.

Our text relates a similar experience regarding disciplining children. Teaching a child is a community effort because it offers a variety of lessons, styles, and avenues to acquiring knowledge. But the most important aspect is that children are able to immediately observe and practice using the information transmitted by adults. So as the child grows, he or she understands the teachings, meaning, reasons, and purpose of contributing, giving, helping and working together as a family and community.

Our text shows that if a child is taught to understand and participate in exercising knowledge, they will continue in that path of helping others. In a communal environment where everyone participates in raising a child, we will see a positive outcome in the child where he or she will grow to receive that gift and reciprocate that love for other people in their family, church, and in society.

Raising a child is our responsibility as a community. The church plays a part in inspiring children, society contributes through the provision of guidance, and family assists in ensuring that they are heard and comforted.

## Prayer:

God we pray for your guidance in raising our children. Grant us the patience, endurance, and wisdom to share with our children the way that they should follow. Equip us with the tools to teach our children and bless them with the gift of hearing and understanding so that we may all do your will. Amen.

Mrs. Filomena Hunt Leituala  
Congregational Christian Church in American Samoa (CCCAS)