

Bush Fire

Presbyterian Women Aotearoa New Zealand

June 2016

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INTRODUCING PWANZ COORDINATOR **Rev Erin Pendreigh**

The PWANZ Advisory Group is delighted to welcome Rev Erin Pendreigh as Transitional Coordinator. Erin brings to the position her faith, a mix of valuable skills, much experience and a passion for Presbyterian Women. The Synod of Otago and Southland currently employs Erin full time as its Mission Advisor. The Synod recognise that her work as Coordinator will enhance her work as Mission Advisor and has generously agreed to gift that work time as Coordinator to PWANZ during the transition period. Erin lists her strengths as communication, strategic, self-awareness, a relator and futuristic. She completed her Diploma of Ministry, at Knox Centre for Ministry and Leadership in 2013-2014. Prior to that she graduated with a Bachelor of Theology, University of Otago – with a major in Christian Thought and History, 2010- 2012.

Before becoming a fulltime Mum Erin was a Business Analyst for a Bank. Erin has had experience in: Establishing a Children's programme over two years as part of Sunday the outcome being 60 children attended; Event Management; Introducing Bible in Schools to Outram School; Leadership with youth; a passion for netball including completing the NZ Netball Coaching Course and enjoys watching and being involved in coaching and umpiring Netball. Family is important to Erin and when time permits she enjoys reading.



In March of this year, Erin was part of the PW delegation to New York to attend the UN Commission on the Status of Women Conference which she says opened her eyes to the plight of too many women around the world.

From Erin: *It is interesting how God works. In this case I saw the role of Coordinator advertised late last year. People around me suggested I apply. 'What me? (I thought) surely there are others with way more to offer'. Over the following months the vacant role stayed in my mind. My time in New York was profound from a personal level and also a faith and professional level. I came home with a deeper sense of call to participate in the movements of women both in our church and in our communities. I think transitionally (there will be some of you reading that will understand what I mean) and so here I am, wanting to help in ways available to help PWANZ find their next chapter as a mission of the wider church. On a personal note – I started life in Gisborne, but over the years have lived in the capital, in Auckland, further north in Kaitia, in Central Otago, in Dunedin and am now in South Otago. I am 24 years married to Rob who is also a minister of the Presbyterian Church, currently called to lead the parish of St Andrews in Balclutha. We have three children, Emma who is in her twenties living and working in Dunedin, Noah, 18, who lives with us in Balclutha and Kate who is finishing her last two years of school in Cromwell. Life is busy and full and I am daily in awe of the journey God has us on.*

Presbyterian Women – Funding Update

This financial year, in the eleven months up to 31 May 2016, five hundred and ninety-five (595) members have paid their affiliation fees and some with “freewill” donations. These contributions to PWANZ accounting now for \$6,353 compared to \$9,772 for the year ended 30 June 2015. Remember PWANZ end of financial year is 30 June, so make sure we receive your membership fees and mission contributions before then.

Presbyterian Women Representatives at Presbytery

Northern Presbytery – Rae Simpson

Central Presbytery – Peggy Jourdain

Southern Presbytery - A number represent Presbyterian Women who are not listed below as they are already Presbytery members, including Diane Acker of Invercargill:

Joan Sinclair, Presbyterian Women (Dunedin)

June Sinclair, Presbyterian Women (Central Otago)

Norma Caldwell, Presbyterian Women (Dunedin) and

Valerie Anderson, Presbyterian Women (Central Otago)

No word yet from Kaimai or Alpine Presbyteries on meeting dates for 2016.

If you have appointed representatives to attend your Presbytery meetings, please email their contact details to: PWANZ2016@gmail.com

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



PWANZ are currently working on the programme for our National Business Meeting on **Saturday 24 September 2016 at St John's in the City, Wellington**. All Presbyterian women are welcome to attend, financial members get to vote, ensure your membership is up to date. The theme for the day is “Sowing Seeds for the Future” and the Transition Team would welcome your participation in the day's activities which will highlight our plans ahead for 2016 / 2017.

More information to follow: mark your diary and make your arrangements to join us for the day.

What's Happening?



Have you seen our new facebook page? Have a look and like us.

<https://www.facebook.com/presbyterianwomenaotearoanewzealand/>

Keep up to date with what is happening around New Zealand on our facebook page. We would also like some news from your group to put up on the facebook page.

Strategic Planning Retreat "Presbyterian Women - Building Capacity"

A representative team of nine women from the North and South Islands will meet together for a weekend retreat in late August to focus on capacity development, to pray together, and plan ahead not only the future of PW but for a Women's 'Assembly' in 2017. The group is multi skilled, diverse theologically, and passionate about the future of Presbyterian Women Aotearoa New Zealand. Members of the group are Sandra Waldrom, Sally Russell, Carol Grant, Erin Pendreigh, Alofa Lale, Jin Sook Kim, Deborah Bower, Jill McDonald, and Stephanie Redhead.

If you have any new ideas or insights you would like to add into the retreat discussions please contact Carol Grant.

MISSIONS

Special project 2015/16

Thank you for all your hard work in supporting our two projects this year. Please remember to send in your contribution before the end of the financial year.

United Nations - News Clips

Ministry for Women Draft Eighth CEDAW Report (2015)

Presbyterian Women Aotearoa New Zealand commented on the Draft Eighth Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) Report. The Convention was signed thirty two years ago by the NZ Government. The full draft document can be found on the Ministry for Women web site www.women.govt.nz. We noted that the response time for this draft report was during the very busy lead up to Christmas after many groups had finished meeting for the year and included the Christmas and New Year public holidays when many people take January annual or extended leave. This short time frame gave us, as Presbyterian Women of Aotearoa New Zealand insufficient time to consult all our members to ensure a comprehensive response. The response will be attached to our United Nations Quadrennial report and sent to the relevant United Nations committees and used in discussions in NZ contexts.

A full copy of the PW response can be obtained from Carol Grant.

NZ National Council for Women

Presbyterian Women have endorsed the White Paper **Enabling women's potential – the social, economic and ethical imperative** – this white paper produced by the National Council of Women of New Zealand aims to build understanding and spark action for gender equality. See the full report at www.ncwnz.org.nz.

Ministry for Women International Caucus meeting - May 2016

Two international caucus meetings are held during the year - before and following the Commission on the Status of Women at the United Nations. NGO's and other key stakeholders gather in Wellington for a two hour meeting to hear progress reports from the Ministry for Women, MFAT and Government officials. These meetings are very well attended but little time is given for feedback of key stakeholders. Carol Grant represented PWANZ.

Congratulations to Annabelle Ritchie

Annabelle is one of the 2015 PW delegation members to UN CSW59 who has come one step closer to her dream after being selected by the Royal Society of New Zealand to attend the Summer Research School in Bulgaria in July. Annabelle is 17 years old and hopes to collect radio waves emitted from Jupiter and analyze them during the summer school. One day she would like to build rovers for NASA to explore other planets.

See the PW Facebook page for a copy of Annabelle's photo and the ODT article.



Congratulations to Suzanne Bishop and her Young Enterprise Pink Ladies Team at Columba College.

Suzanne was a member of the CSW 60 delegation and her Columba College Young Enterprise Team also includes Caroline Moratti, a member of the 2015 CSW 59 delegation to the UN. The group of enterprising Columba College pupils hopes masses of meringue pink pavlovas will make masses of money for the New Zealand Breast Cancer Foundation. Fifteen girls from the Year 13 Economics class have been taking part in Young Enterprise, an annual nationwide scheme where pupils form a company to sell a product for about 9 months. But this is no schoolyard cake stall! By July 1st the pink pavlova will be in all Countdown supermarkets - they aim to sell 40,000 pavlovas in the next 4 months. They already have them in the local New World supermarkets where they sell about 600 a week. See ODT for the full article about the Pink Pavlovas.



United Nations Commission on the Status of Women CSW61

Expressions of interest are already being received for the PW delegation to New York in 2017. The sixty-first session of the **Commission on the Status of Women** will take place at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from **13 to 24 March 2017**. Representatives of Member States, UN entities, and ECOSOC-accredited non-governmental organizations (NGOs) from all regions of the world are invited to attend the session.

Priority theme:

Women's economic empowerment in the changing world of work

Review theme:

Challenges and achievements in the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals for women and girls (agreed conclusions of the fifty-eighth session)

If you are interested in being a self-funded member of the PW delegation next year in March 2017 please email Carol Grant: nandcg@clear.net.nz

Full applications and CV's will be called for later in the year.

Local Government Elections

Elections of members of local authorities are held once every three years, on the second Saturday in October. The next elections will be held on 8 October 2016.

You, your group or church could discuss what is important in your area and consider standing for council or health board, supporting a candidate or attending or hosting a meeting of candidates. If we don't participate we can't complain when councils don't know what the community is thinking.

Key dates:

**27 June
2016**

Electoral Commission enrolment campaign starts.

15 July

Nominations open for candidates. Nominations have to be sent to the electoral officer for the council, district health board or licensing trust.

12 August

Nominations close at 12 noon. Rolls close. After this date, you can still vote with a 'special vote'.

17 August

Election date and candidates' names publicised by electoral officers.

**16-21
September**

Voting documents delivered to households. Electors can post the documents back to electoral officers as soon as they have voted.

8 October

Polling day — The voting documents must be at the council before voting closes at 12 noon. Preliminary results (i.e. once all 'ordinary' votes are counted) will be available as soon as possible afterwards.

Membership of Presbyterian Women

Do you know a member of your congregation who would like to join Presbyterian Women Aotearoa New Zealand?

Women and girls participate in a variety of ways in the church. Individuals are welcome to become members of PWANZ too.

Email: PWANZ2016@gmail.com for more details on individual membership.