



# Alpine Presbytery

resourcing the braided river

[www.alpinepresbytery.org](http://www.alpinepresbytery.org)

**Executive Officer, Rev Martin Stewart:**

email [martin@alpinepresbytery.org](mailto:martin@alpinepresbytery.org);

phone 021 308 519

**Presbytery Moderator, Rev Barry Ayers:**

email [barry@alpinepresbytery.org](mailto:barry@alpinepresbytery.org);

phone 021 264 9677

**Office Support, Gail Weaver:**

email [gail@alpinepresbytery.org](mailto:gail@alpinepresbytery.org)

Office phone (03) 420 1400

**Postal Address:** Alpine Presbytery, PO Box 42120, Tower Junction Post Shop, Christchurch 8149

## Newsletter 13th May 2021

### Introducing the St Andrew's New Mission Seedling in East Christchurch

Recently, Alpine Presbytery Council appointed Rev Doug McConnell to be the contractor working alongside Presbyterian Support in East Christchurch. Doug is married to Sharon, and they have adult children. Currently he is the pastor at Linwood Baptist Church and he will begin in the Presbytery role on 5 July. Doug grew up in the east and has many deep connections in the communities there. Part of his role will be connecting with existing churches and agencies in the area. The initial contract is for 2 years.



Doug McConnell with Dugald Wilson

We are really looking forward to welcoming Doug into our New Mission Seedling network!

### Alpine Mission Fund applications

The next meeting of the Alpine Mission Fund is on **Thursday 17th June**. Closing date for applications is Friday 28th May—more information and application forms can be found on our website: [alpinepresbytery.org/alpine-mission-fund-putea-missioni/](http://alpinepresbytery.org/alpine-mission-fund-putea-missioni/)

### Coracle

There is a lot to be said for listening. In Hanmer that is exactly what we were invited into. An exercise of self restraint. To listen to stories of what some church communities are doing both locally and nationally. Hosted by Ben and Phillipa along with Abi we invited 70 people to come and hear stories of what God is up to.

Why "Coracle"? A coracle is a small boat that Celtic missionaries would set out in, sometimes with no rudder, and usually with no idea where they may end up - but trusted that God will lead them in mission. This is a wonderful image for those who gathered at Hanmer Springs to tell stories, and listen to what God was doing - and hopefully people left wondering what God could be doing where they lived.

It was a collection of explorers, pioneers, and pilgrims from all around the country meeting with people of like mind, asking similar questions, and being inspired by stories of God's mission in our church. It was great to hear from Honey and Tamiana, Ben and Phillipa, Josh, Susan, Soph and Cody, Allan McWilliams and many others as they reflected on the good, the bad and the ugly. It was refreshing and exciting to hear how they were all joining in with God.

Thanks again to Alpine Presbytery, PressGo, KCML and Ben and Phillipa for hosting.

### Presbytery Retreat in Hanmer

After the Coracle Weekend in Hanmer, a few of us stayed on for our Annual Presbytery

### Newsletter Items

Please share this Newsletter around your Parish, especially with members of Session/Parish Council and all office bearers.

Details of events, or requests to be added to the distribution list, should be emailed to [gail@alpinepresbytery.org](mailto:gail@alpinepresbytery.org)

Cut off for items for next week's Newsletter is **Thursday 20th May**

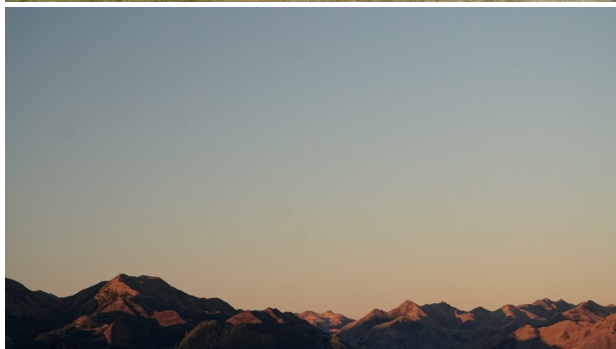


retreat, where we were joined by some additional retreaters. We were ably led into a reflection on the place of lament in Christian faith by Rev. Malcolm Gordon.

Our engagement was worshipful, reflective and challenging - you cannot understand lament from a distance, it is only as we enter into lament that we come to understand God's presence in the midst.

Thank you, Malcolm, for your heartfelt leadership. Somehow you managed to find a meaningful blend of a sorrowful heart and light-heartedness centred in God's deep sorrow and joy. The whole retreat was deeply moving.

Thanks also to our hosts Ben and Phillippa Necklen and Abi Trevathan - supported by their young families - who managed to make an epic four day commitment feel effortless. We have some amazing people among us!



## Rev Ian MacGregor

We have been advised of the death of Rev Ian MacGregor, who died peacefully surrounded by his loving family at Middlemore Hospital on 6 May.

Ian was born 30 January 1921 and died aged 100 years and four months. He attended the Theological Hall 1949-51 and was ordained at Otepopo-Kakanui, North Otago Presbytery on 1 February 1952. He resigned on 23 November 1954 to head overseas. On his return, he was called to Frankton, Hamilton in December 1957.

Ian was called to Rangiora in June 1967, and finally to Pukekohoe, South Auckland Presbytery in May 1978. He retired from here in January 1987.

Ian faithfully served the Presbyterian Church for nearly 70 years. He is remembered as a fine Christian man, with a firm Gospel-minded faith, and a very warm manner. We give thanks to God for Ian's faith, life and ministry.

We pray for Prue, and David and Elisabeth, Mary and Greg, and Rachel, and the grandchildren and great grandchildren.

## Presbytery Directory

If you need to obtain information from the Presbytery Directory, please initially ask your Parish Office, as most of these have been given a log-on to Infoodle.

If you do need for your own logon access, send your request to Gail at [gail@alpinepresbytery.org](mailto:gail@alpinepresbytery.org).

Please do bear in mind, though, that we need to be aware of our obligations under the Privacy Act.

## Resources

A selection of resources and links to resources to assist you with your work and outreach can be found on our website here: [alpinepresbytery.org/resources/](http://alpinepresbytery.org/resources/)

## Alpine Presbytery Culture & Strategic Framework

[Click here](#) to download this document, updated September 2020





## Give-it-a-Go Grants!

50 grants of \$500 are available to help churches and Presbyteries create a missional event, activity or focus.

- Your idea should be community-facing, and intergenerational and cross-cultural projects are even better.
- Try something new!
- How creative can you be?
- Where do you see God at work in your community?
- Take a risk: *give-it-a-go!*



Contact [lisaw@presbyterian.org.nz](mailto:lisaw@presbyterian.org.nz) for more information.

## Car Park sign available

St Margaret's Church in Bishopdale have ordered a carpark sign, but the wrong one was sent. They do not need to return the incorrect one, so are wondering whether any other church might have a use for it. The sign they are giving away has a 10km speed sign rather than a 5km. It is 50x36cm.



Anyone interested can contact [fiona@stmargaretschurch.org.nz](mailto:fiona@stmargaretschurch.org.nz)

## Elder Abuse workshop

Discussion based workshop on Elder Abuse with Luis Alevaro from PSUSI.

**Friday 21st May at 1.30 pm at New Brighton Union Church, cnr of Union & Collingswood Street**

All welcome, please pass this information on amongst your networks.

Organised by St George's/ Iona Presbyterian Parish, New Brighton Union Church and Port Hills Uniting Parish.

## Book launch for 'Cranes ever Flying' by Rev Dr John C England

**Saturday 22nd May at 2pm at Knox Centre, 28 Bealey Avenue**

Forum and book launch to prepare for Asia Sunday; participation by Christian World Service and Caritas plus panel speakers Dr Kathleen Rushton, Prof Michael Grimshaw, Reverend Brian Turner and Reverend Dr Matthew Jack

See flyer for full details: [Cranes Ever Flying](#)

## From the last Newsletter

- **Minister's Deaths:** Rev Neal Whimp and Rev Maurice Brown.
- **Other Newsletters:**  
[Bush Telegraph](#)  
["Woven" Presbyterian Children and Families - Term 2, 2021 \(mailchi.mp\)](#)
- **New journal table-of-contents - Hewitson Library**
- **Mother's Day Resource**
- **Engage Conference**
- **Connect Online: Young Adult Ministry Essentials with Paul Humphreys**

## Presbytery Contact Details

**Alpine Presbytery Moderator**

**Rev Barry Ayers**

[barry@alpinepresbytery.org](mailto:barry@alpinepresbytery.org)

Phone: 021 264 9677

**Executive Officer**

**Rev Martin Stewart:**

[martin@alpinepresbytery.org](mailto:martin@alpinepresbytery.org)

Phone: 021 308 519

**Resource Team Leader**

**Abi Trevathan:**

[abi@alpinepresbytery.org](mailto:abi@alpinepresbytery.org)

Phone: 027 339 6006

**Office Support : Gail Weaver**

[gail@alpinepresbytery.org](mailto:gail@alpinepresbytery.org)

Dropbox link for documents mentioned in this newsletter can be accessed via this link: control & click, or copy & paste the link to your browser:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/5k528skz4nighgg/AABDjLatKU2-C2reVHA6hVza?dl=0>