



# Alpine Presbytery

*resourcing the braided river*

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

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## Newsletter 12th August 2021

Our Presbytery Moderator, Barry Ayers is taking a period of leave until 13th September. His mother died recently and he is feeling the need for some time-out. We wish Barry & Clare a time of good rest and we hold them and their family in our prayers as they grieve the loss of Barry's mother.

Rev Andrew Nicol is acting Moderator for this period.

### Ministers' Deaths

**Rev Noel Butler** died earlier this week, at his home in Christchurch. His funeral service will be held **2pm on Friday 13th August** at St Mark's Presbyterian Church, 150 Withells Road, Christchurch.

Noel worked for Wright Stephenson & Co Ltd after he left school. He then attended the Bible Training Institute of New Zealand from 1962 to 1963. He completed a BA at Otago. Noel and Rosemary married in January 1968, prior to Noel entering the Theological Hall where he studied from 1968 to 1970. During this time, Noel served as secretary and later president of the Theological Hall Students Union.

Noel was ordained and inducted as assistant minister, Mosgiel-North Taieri, Dunedin Presbytery, in November 1970. He accepted a call Lawrence-Waitahuna, Clutha Presbytery, in October 1973, later serving as Moderator of Clutha Presbytery, 1977.

Noel next accepted a call to Richmond Grove, Invercargill, Southland Presbytery in September 1978. He was Moderator of Southland Presbytery, 1986. He was then called to Trinity, Nelson in May 1987 and served as Moderator of Nelson Marlborough Presbytery, 1994.

In May 1995, he was appointed to interim parish of Dunedin South (Musselburgh, Tainui and St James), Dunedin Presbytery for a four year term before he accepted the call to Dunedin South, Dunedin Presbytery, 1999. He was Moderator, Dunedin Presbytery, 2004.

Noel was granted the status Minister Emeritus, 16 December 2005. He and Rosemary retired to Christchurch and have been active members at St Margaret's. He served in a number of stated supply and transitional ministry roles in retirement.

We give thanks for Noel's life and ministry and pray for Rosemary, Chris and Penelope, Malcolm and Bente, Rodney and Sonia, and grandchildren Jordan; Ava, and Tjelle; Grace, and Naomi.

**Rev Dr John England** died on 30 July 2021.

John was educated in Napier before studying for his BA and was a High School teacher before attending Trinity Theological College (1950-1951) and the Theological Hall for two years in 1959-60. John married Rita Mayne on April 15, 1954.

He was ordained Assistant Minister, St Columba Christchurch (Shirley-Richmond) on December 15 1960.

### COMING UP

**St David's Ashburton 50th Anniversary:** 21st—22nd August

**St Luke's, Halswell, 60th Birthday service:** 29th August

**Cut-off for applications for Presbytery Grants:** 31st August.

**General Assembly Ministers' Resourcing Day:** Christchurch, 29th September

**General Assembly:** Christchurch, 29th September—3rd October

### 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 19th August**



In June 1964, John was appointed Christian Education Worker, Education Dept Field Worker, a position he held until 1969 after which he took up the position of Secretary for Christian Education & Lay Training, East Asia Christian Conference, a position he held until 1973. He was the Secretary for Education & Ministry, Christian Conference of Asia from 1973 until 1975 when he took study leave on a WCC Fellowship, at Selly Oak, Birmingham.

In December 1977 John and Rita were commissioned at St James' in Auckland as staff members of the Presbyterian Methodist Joint Board for Mission. John then held significant positions in Hong Kong [Programme Co-Ordinator Tao Fong Shan Ecumenical Centre, Hong Kong 1977 – 1986] and Kyoto, Japan [Associate Dean, Programme for Theologies & Culture in Asia, based in Kyoto, Japan]. He was Visiting Scholar, Edinburgh University, 1986 –1987.

John and Rita returned to NZ in August 1990 and 'retired' at the end of the year. Rita, using her librarian skills worked with John on the 'Theology and Cultures in Asia' programme. John was the Author/Editor *Theology in Action* (with Oh Jae Shik, 1973); published *An Encounter with Education for Liberation & Community* (1975); *Living Theology in Asia* (1981); *The Hidden History of Christianity in Asia – the Churches of The East before 1500* (1996, 1998, 2002). He was the Chief Editor & Writer of *The Research Guide to Asian Christian Theologies* (3 vols) 1997 – 2004 for which, in 2003, he was conferred a Doctorate of Humanities, Honoris Causa, by Silliman University, Philippines. His most recent book *Cranes Forever Flying* was published just this year – 2021.

A lasting legacy of the life and work of John and Rita is the Rita Mayne England Collection – held at the Hewitson Library at Knox College - a valuable resource for the study of religions, cultures and theologies in Asia. Its basis is a large working collection formed by John and Rita, in the situations in which they worked for over 40 years.

Rita died in 2005 and in 2010 John married Helen. He is survived by Helen and four children of his marriage to Rita.

In John we had a taonga of enormous significance within the academic and Christian communities of which was a part in NZ and throughout Asia. John's understanding and appreciation of the Christian faith that spread from Judea eastwards towards the Pacific was huge and he's recognized amongst his colleagues as a scholar of outstanding repute.

John's intent in his writing and publishing was to shift our understanding of the faith away from the Eurocentric viewpoint that has unfortunately and somewhat tragically almost totally shaped our perceptions of the faith. John maintained that as an Asian/Pacific nation our knowledge and appreciation of the faith as one Way amongst other ways, needed to be shaped by more than half-the world's population than we have allowed it to be.

(Rev Dr Don Fergus)

## **Alpine Mission Fund and other Presbytery Grants**

A reminder that the cut off dates for applications for Grants is **30th August**. Information and application forms can be found on our website, or by following these links:

### Alpine Mission Fund

[Alpine Mission Fund Information Sheet](#)

[Alpine Mission Fund Expression Of Interest](#)

[Alpine Mission Fund Application – General, \\$10,000+](#)

[Alpine Mission Fund Application – Building, \\$10,000+](#)

### Presbytery Grants

Details of the various funds can be found on the [Alpine Grants Information Sheet](#)

Application forms can be downloaded here:

[Grant form Alpine August 2020](#)

[St David's Trust Grant Application Form August 2020](#)

## **St. David's Church Dedication 50th Anniversary**

St. David's Parish in Ashburton will be celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the dedication of the Church building. We invite Presbytery and Synod members to join us on Saturday 21st August at 6pm for potluck dinner, and on Sunday 22nd August at 9.30am for the thanksgiving service. RXVP to the Church Office on 03 308 174

We celebrate God's faithfulness and goodness in the life for the church and for the grace and privilege of serving the wider Ashburton community.

## **Part-Time Ministry Position (Ordained or Lay)**

**Cashmere Presbyterian Church in Christchurch** are seeking a person to take on a Pastoral role of *up to 66%*, whilst

Rev Hamish Galloway serves his term as Moderator of General Assembly (up to two years), with a starting date of 1<sup>st</sup> October 2021.

Our expectations of the person appointed are that they:

- Will work out of the offices at the Cashmere Presbyterian Church
- Will lead and preach at two Sunday worship services per month and attend the Worship service on at least one other Sunday.
- Will undertake regular Pastoral visiting of members of the congregation, including taking a special interest in the younger families who are connecting with our church.
- Will work in close partnership with the other staff members of the parish.

To express your interest, please email the Parish Administrator, Gail Weaver, at [cashmere.church@xtra.co.nz](mailto:cashmere.church@xtra.co.nz) - including details of your experience and the strengths and talents you think you can bring to this position - by **31<sup>st</sup> August 2021**.

## Praying for Children week: 22nd- 28th of August

Presbyterian Support and Presbyterian Children & Families, with support from PreCare, have partnered to create a rich variety of resources to guide you and your church community through the week.

Sunday resources with liturgical prayers, a short reflection with questions for conversation and an all-age activity to engage with plus a take home practice, can be found here: <https://resourcingprayerandworship.wordpress.com>

Other resources, including printable bookmarks, can be found here: [Setting the scene for Praying for Children week 2021 Karakia Mo Ngā Tamariki – Seeds of Love \(wordpress.com\)](https://resourcingprayerandworship.wordpress.com)

## Notices & News from other organisation

### Leadership Development Administration Assistant

This role reports to the Leadership Development Facilitator of Scripture Union NZ and has key relationships with the SUNZ Ministry Staff, Finance Team and Marketing Team.

This role is an FTE 40% role. Its overall purpose is to support the Leadership Development Facilitator with administrative support along with providing a working relationship with parents/participants, pastors/youth workers, camp leaders/directors and SUNZ staff and volunteers. Ideally this person will be based in Ōtautahi/Christchurch.

More details at: [www.sunz.org.nz/assets/Uploads/Leadership-DevelopmentAdministration-Position-Description-2021.pdf](http://www.sunz.org.nz/assets/Uploads/Leadership-DevelopmentAdministration-Position-Description-2021.pdf)

### New journal table-of-contents - Hewitson Library

Here are the contents pages from the most recent issue of:

[Christianity Today, Vol 65 No 4, May-June 2021](#)

[Sojourners, Vol 50 No 8, August 2021](#)

[TuiMotu InterIslands, Issue 262, August 2021](#)

Email [hewitson@prcknox.org.nz](mailto:hewitson@prcknox.org.nz) if you would like copies of any of the articles scanned and sent to you

### From the last Newsletter

- Celebrating Leaders in Sunday Worship
- [Bush Telegraph](#)
- The Hope Seminar

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/5k528skz4nqhgg/AABDjLatKU2-C2reVHA6hVza?dl=0>

## Presbytery Contact Details

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## 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

## 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 have a 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.