

Alpine Presbytery

resourcing the braided river

Newsletter 13th October 2022

Cut off for items for inclusion in next Newsletter is **Thursday 20th October**

Thinking about Co-Governance

For some years, under a concern for how Māori representation may or may not be necessary or desirable on the basis of commitments made under te Tiriti o Waitangi, some local councils have floated the idea of Māori wards and Māori representation on Councils. In some places, this "floating" has resulted in Māori wards being established; in other places, the "floating" has not. In every case, considerable conversation has occurred (some informed, and some not) about co-governance and concerns about how co-governance sits next to the principles of "one person, one vote" democracy.

Given that there is likely to be a lot of community conversation over the next year or so about Co-governance, the new Public Questions Group at Knox Ōtautahi Christchurch did some reading, thinking and writing. The resulting paper can be accessed here:

http://www.knoxchurch.co.nz/data/news/202208170000_Co-governance%20Release.pdf

Just move, don't think about it!

Recently Anne received a call to St David's Union Church in Timaru. It has seemed to work out, we moved!

My work is mostly regional and remote, and it could flex because Alpine Presbytery doesn't seem to mind flexing. So, Presbytery has set up an office in the former BNZ building in Timaru, and while I look across the road at an early 70's brutalist underutilised and somewhat dusty seven-story building, there are seagulls and clouds to the left and the right and very good coffee just over the road, and very little traffic to get me steamed up on the commute. And I'll still be popping up around the rest of the Presbytery as needed.

Most importantly, Anne is happy. St David's feels like a good fit, and, while it is half-sized to what some would say a



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church should be, it is very well made. Hear this, St David's hasn't had an ordained minister for 35 years! Anne's great wish is to not wreck but add value to an already good thing!

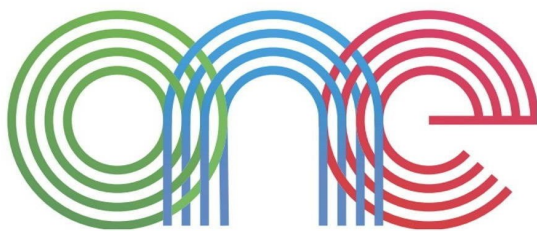
On the side, Anne and I get to live on our Totara Valley property (28mins from Timaru). We live in a wagon-thing in close proximity to each other while the house build progresses (our house used to be a 130 year-old church and it is taking a while to convert!), and with most of our belongings in a storage unit or in our garage. We are glad it is not winter! Around us are early-morning birds (the magpies start first at 4.45am), wide vistas, cows that grunt and moan in the night, thousands of stars in the night-sky, occasional tractors, plants springing back into life, two cats wondering if they have made it to heaven already, and many jobs needing starting or finishing.

Yes, we moved. Don't do it too often though, if you can help it, it is exhausting! The goodbyes, the boxes to pack with stuff that ought to have been sifted, the lugging, the tidying and cleaning, the trips to the dump, the untidiness and chaos of entering a period of prolonged in-betweenness on a building site... it takes it out of you. The exhaustion turned up this week as a chest cold for me. I began acting like the old man I am.

Yesterday, before driving into work, I popped up into the air. 6.5m high on a giant scissor-lift that the builders are using to put up the spouting. Up with the birds! I surveyed the kingdom (actually, the queendom) and, felt giddy – with the fear of height, and with anticipation of all that this arrival means.

I felt alive, despite my hacking cough and Anne calling me to come back to earth. I vow to never move again until I move next time. May it be far, far away, further than the eyes of you and me can see!

Martin Stewart



PCANZ NATIONAL LEADERS' CONFERENCE

The One Conference—17-19 November, in Wellington.

If you haven't registered yet, get in quick because the **registrations do close on the 23 October**. And for youth leaders there is a promo code which lets youth leaders attend for **\$99 rather than \$129**. Contact Abi Trevathan or Sage Harris for details.

For more information on the Conference, go to www.oneconference.org.nz/

Resources

A selection of resources and links to resources to assist you with your work and outreach can be found on our website here:

Online Worship Options

Visit the "Resources" page of our website to view the links from those of our churches offering

Alpine Presbytery

Culture & Strategic Framework
[Click here](#) to download this document, updated September

PLANTARAMA

@
Cashmere Presbyterian Centre
 Cnr Dyers Pass Rd & MacMillan Ave

Saturday 15th October
9am to 12 noon

Plants for the vegetable garden, plants for the flower garden, and tools to help with the process!

Blenheim
St Andrew's Church
Garden Tour
15 & 16 October 2022
10am—4pm

Tickets \$20.00

Available from Devon Garden Centre and Islington Gardens.
 (Selmes Trust, Cresswell's Shoes, Roselands Pets & Plants, and St Andrew's Church Office. Cash Sales only)
 This tour includes a plant stall, pickles and jams stall and a Christmas & Craft Stall.
 Cream teas and filled rolls will be for sale.

ST NINIAN'S CHURCH RICCARTON 5 PURIRI ST

 * **It's a celebration**  *
 * **With Flowers** *
 *
 * **An expression of** *
 * **gratitude for the post earthquake** *
 * **restoration of** *
 * **Riccarton's** *
 * **historic stone** *
 * **church.**  *
 * **A Plant stall on site** *
 *

FREE ENTRY

Enjoy our church and floral displays
Friday 28th Oct 1pm—3.30pm
Saturday 29th Oct 11am—3pm
Sunday Worship 30th Oct 9.30 am

Common sense is a flower that doesn't grow in everyone's garden.

Coming Up

St Andrew's, Blenheim, Garden Tour: 15th & 16 October

Plantarama at Cashmere Presbyterian: 15th October

Floral Celebrations, St Ninian's, Christchurch: 28-30 October

From the last Newsletter

- Hope Rolleston
- Inductions of Ministers
- Bush Telegraph
- Volunteers needed to help Refugees
- New Hospital Chaplaincy vacancy at ICHC
- PSUSI AGM

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

Presbytery Directory

All Parish Offices have been given a log-on to Infoodle, so please contact them initially if you need any contact details.

Due to our obligations under the Privacy Act, logon access is not openly available; anyone wanting this should send a