

# Alpine Presbytery

*resourcing the braided river*

## Newsletter 12th January 2023

*Cut off for items for inclusion in next Newsletter is **Thursday 19th January***

### ***New Years Honours List***

It is a custom that our PCANZ Moderator writes a letter to any Presbyterians who have received a New Year's honour. Please advise Gail ([gail@alpinepresbytery.org](mailto:gail@alpinepresbytery.org)) of the name/s and full contact details of any folk from the Alpine Presbytery region who have received a New Year Honour and any background information about the person and the reason for the honour. We will then pass these on to the Moderator, who will write on the Church's behalf.

### ***Child Protection WOF training***

***Saturday 18 February, 9.30am, Hope, Hornby***

The PCANZ Safety Warrant Fitness Training provides practical tools and insights to assist all those working with children and young people. The training will equip parishes to comply with New Zealand law, the PCANZ's Child Protection Policy and, most importantly, keep the children and young people in our care safe.

The WOF encompasses essential training on: An introduction to the PCANZ Child Protection Policy and Ethical Practice; Health and Safety Practices; Recognising, Recording & Responding to Abuse, and Safe Recruitment Practices

***This training is compulsory for all those working with children and young people under the age of 18 who do so as part of the PCANZ.***

Please either bring lunch or money to purchase food at the local mall. Morning and afternoon tea will be provided.

Register at:

[alpine.infoodle.com/f/WOFTrainingFebruary2023](http://alpine.infoodle.com/f/WOFTrainingFebruary2023)

### ***Mary Stanton***

Mary Stanton died overnight on 22 December. Mary had served as an elder at St Margaret's Bishopdale and served as Presbytery Clerk in the former Christchurch Presbytery for 22 years up until the formation of Alpine Presbytery. Mary was a positive, encouraging, and very efficient Clerk whose work was greatly appreciated by all who worked closely with her.

A Memorial Service for Mary will be held at St Marks, Avonhead on Saturday Jan 28th at 1:00pm

### ***A Shirley Murray Seminar***

Having spent a number of years researching the life and work of the Aotearoa New Zealand hymn writer Shirley Murray, Anne Manchester has produced a seminar called **"Under Shirley's spell: researching the life and work of Shirley Erena Murray"**.

Knox Church, Ōtautahi Christchurch is pleased to be hosting the seminar at 5.00pm on **Sunday 29 January 2023**, in the Hall of the Knox Centre, 28 Bealey Avenue. Entry is free, but any koha would be appreciated.

Anne will discuss why she decided to write Shirley's biography, her sources of information, and some of her interesting discoveries along the way, and the presentation will conclude with a study of two hymns.

### ***Very Rev Dr Ian Breward***

We have been advised of the death of Very Rev Dr Ian Breward in Australia on 30 December 2022.

Ian attended the University of Auckland where he gained a Master of Arts degree in 1957. He then attended the Theological Hall 1958-1960 and, having graduated with a B.D., he was a Commonwealth Scholar and studied in

Moderator: Rev Phyll Harris  
[moderator@alpinepresbytery.org](mailto:moderator@alpinepresbytery.org)  
Phone 027 352 7886

Executive Officer: Rev Martin Stewart:  
[executiveofficer@alpinepresbytery.org](mailto:executiveofficer@alpinepresbytery.org)  
Phone: 021 308 519

Resource Team Leader  
Abi Trevathan: [abi@alpinepresbytery.org](mailto:abi@alpinepresbytery.org)  
Phone: 027 339 6006

Youth & Young Adults Enabler  
Rev Sage Harris: [youth@alpinepresbytery.org](mailto:youth@alpinepresbytery.org)  
Phone: 027 356 0740

Treasurer: Christine Arnold  
[treasurer@alpinepresbytery.org](mailto:treasurer@alpinepresbytery.org)

Office Support: Gail Weaver  
[gail@alpinepresbytery.org](mailto:gail@alpinepresbytery.org)

Manchester, England and obtained a Doctor of Philosophy before returning to New Zealand and was ordained and inducted as Assistant Minister, Knox Church, Dunedin, Dunedin Presbytery in October 1963.

In February 1965, Ian was appointed Professor of Church History at the Theological Hall, Dunedin, staying there until January 1982 when he then took up the position of Professor of Church History, Ormond College, Melbourne. From 2000, Ian served as the archivist of the Synod of Victoria and Tasmania and retired from that in December 2013. In addition to wider roles within the Presbyterian Church—including being a Member of the Council of St. Margaret's College, Dunedin, (1966-1981)—Ian served as Moderator of the General Assembly in 1975. He also served as Deputy Chairman (1976-77) on the Board of Radio New Zealand.

Ian was a fine Church Historian. Our current Moderator – Very Rev Hamish Galloway – was a student at the time Ian was Professor of Church History and writes: “I, like many theological students from that time, remember his impressive intellect, amazing memory and huge capacity for taking in new information. He had an unforgettable presence in the classroom and an ability for keeping students engaged and learning.”

Ian published a number of books, including *Grace and truth: A history of Theological Hall, Knox College, Dunedin, 1876-1975* (1975); *A History of Australian Churches* (1993) and *A History of the Churches in Australasia*, (2001). ‘Mapping the Landscape: Essays in Australian and New Zealand Christianity--Festschrift in Honour of Professor Ian Breward’ was published honouring Ian who, for over thirty-five years, had taken a pre-eminent position in mapping the religious landscapes of Australia and New Zealand. In *Presbyterians in Aotearoa: 1840 – 1990* (the 150th Anniversary history of the Presbyterian Church in Aotearoa New Zealand) Ian wrote ‘Faith is both shaped by historical context and contributes to its shaping’ and his contribution was one of mapping and teaching and continuing learning in that space.

A great scholar of international repute, he was elected as a Life Fellow of Knox College in 2006.

We give thanks for Ian’s life and ministry; and pray for his family.

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### ***The Youth Ministry Kickstarter***

Setting up for a great year of youth ministry. Join the PYM Team **7-8:30pm, Monday 13 February**, for an incredibly valuable 90 minutes where will focus on the key ingredients of effective youth ministry. This session will be a great orientation for new leaders and a very helpful refresher for those who have some experience.

Register at: [https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=2t8iNjw-90qTMXghAMxv4ECs3BD8\\_Hxji3pSP41SoTpUNUFRkY1ODJBTzYwV0RIOFFQqZGSldSUyQIQCN0PWcu](https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=2t8iNjw-90qTMXghAMxv4ECs3BD8_Hxji3pSP41SoTpUNUFRkY1ODJBTzYwV0RIOFFQqZGSldSUyQIQCN0PWcu)

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### ***Presbyterian Women Aotearoa New Zealand Special General Meeting***

Following declining membership of PWANZ in recent years a motion was put at the 2021 AGM that a Futures Review group be formed to consider ways forward for PWANZ as a group. From that group a recommendation was put at the PWANZ AGM on 24 September 2022 that PWANZ be closed down. The following recommendation was moved and accepted by those present at the AGM

**Recommendation:** *That Presbyterian Women Aotearoa New Zealand (PWANZ) be closed down. In liaison with the National Executive all Parishes to be notified that their support for our continuing mission in Aotearoa are welcome but the current model of the organisation is unsustainable. The Special Consultative Status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council will lapse.*

To progress this recommendation, which has brought up a significant number of issues (outlined below), a **Special General Meeting** is required, and this will be held **on 25 February 2023 at St John's in the City, Wellington.**

Issues include:

- Ageing membership & declining finances (currently only 111 financial members)
- Vacancies on Executive (including President)
- How to maintain a woman’s voice with the Presbyterian Church, especially at a local level
- Lapsing of Special Consultative Status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council
- Loss of a dedicated missional outlook

For further information, please contact Ruth Steven ([pwanz2016@gmail.com](mailto:pwanz2016@gmail.com), phone 022 09628811) or Mary Gibbs ([mary@mrgibbs.co.nz](mailto:mary@mrgibbs.co.nz), phone 04 383 8446/027 3143188)

#### **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/)

#### **Online Worship Options**

Visit the “Resources” page of our website to view the links from those of our churches offering this.

#### **Alpine Presbytery**

**Culture & Strategic Framework**  
[Click here](#) to download this document, updated September 2020

## VACANCIES

### Eastern Bay of Plenty Presbyterian Parish Knox Cluster Part Time Ministry Position

The Eastern Bay of Plenty Presbyterian Parish (EBOPPP) is seeking a Nationally Ordained Minister, or other suitable candidate.

This is a 60% *permanent/part time* position, serving the faith communities of Knox-Whakatāne, Ohope and Waimana (referred to as the Knox Cluster).

This opportunity requires someone who can honour & support the existing life of these three separate faith communities and also take a leading role in initiating a new future under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. *You would do this as a part of our church leadership team & church community that is committed to following Jesus and reaching out to the local community.*

Position description and other supporting documents are available from the MSB convenor, Rev. Simon Cornwall: [simon@rdpc.org.nz](mailto:simon@rdpc.org.nz)

### St James New Plymouth - Ministry Leader

*Is God calling YOU?* St James Presbyterian in West New Plymouth, is seeking a new ministry leader. We are a congregation diverse in age and full of passion. We love doing life together in this increasingly crazy world, supporting and encouraging each other and those we interact with on a daily basis.

This ministry position is either full or part time; we are negotiable as to what would work for you.

We love kids and youth, and have an active ministry for both. (We are also looking for a part-time children and youth worker.) Resourcing and building on these ministries is a huge priority for us - they are the future after all!

This role will be focused on loving Jesus, loving us, equipping us, teaching us and joining us on our Christian journeys. We are keen to better engage with the local community and would love some support with this.

We have been praying for you, that God would already be tugging on your heart about coming to join us. We promise to continue if you do. We are excited for the future, and full of anticipation as to where God is leading us.

If you would like further information, contact our MSB convenor Graham Armstrong—phone 027 3490966 or email [gjarms50@gmail.com](mailto:gjarms50@gmail.com)

### Bother Peter Bray FSC in Christchurch

Brother Peter is the Kiwi Vice-Chancellor of Bethlehem University and will speak on **Thursday 2 February**, 7.30pm at the **Villa Maria College Auditorium**. Br Peter will provide a brief historical perspective and the impact the situation is having on Israelis and Palestinians and particularly the students at Bethlehem University. He will consider what justice issues are involved and what needs to happen for peace to come. All are welcome.

In preparation for the tour, he is making three videos; the second has just been issued. It is very powerful: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R17kia53-GY>

Download the poster here: [Br Peter Bray](#)

### Ministry Conference 2023

Advance notice that Ministry Conference will be held on **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May**.

*Is the Church in Crisis?* It feels to many of us that ministry in a secular world is tough. Everywhere we go, church leaders are talking about the church being in a state of crisis. But is the church really in the kind of crisis we often think it is? And what do we really mean when we talk about the secular or even ministry? At the heart of the gospel is the God who graciously ministers to us. The church is called to reflect and imitate this ministry of God. The ministry conference talks are an invitation to engage in these questions and to wonder what this joyful and hopeful ministry could look like today.

**Session 1:** Orienting ourselves in a brave new world: defining the secular

**Session 2:** Losing our heart: how our secular world is shaping the church

**Session 3:** The God who ministers to us: developing a theology of ministry

**Session 4:** Living for *Shalom*: ministering in a secular world

Sebastian Murrhiy will be the keynote speaker and we are really looking forward to hearing what Seb has to say about these matters.

#### Coming Up

**Shirley Murray Seminar:** 29  
January, Christchurch

**Child Protection WOF Training:**  
18 February, Christchurch

**Presbytery Gathering:** 3—4  
March, Kaikoura

#### From the last Newsletter

- **Christmas Message from the Presbytery**
- **Christian World Service Board Membership**
- **Notes from Presbytery Council, 3 December**

**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)

**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 request to Gail at [gail@alpinepresbytery.org](mailto:gail@alpinepresbytery.org), advising of their position in their Parish or the Presbytery.