

Howick Presbyterian Church

The Torch

William Hunt Holt 1827—1910 "The Shadow of Death"



Next Quarterly Communion Service



Thursday 4 March at 10 am

**Sunday 14 March
9.30 am in the sanctuary**

Monthly Communion Services in the Chapel at 8.45 am

7 March

4 April Easter Sunday

2 May

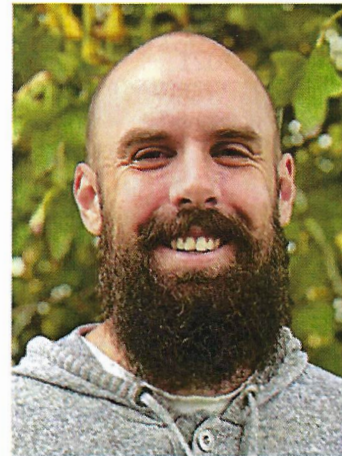
Followed by Fellowship Tea in the foyer and
10 am Café style Family Services in the Sanctuary



Easter Services

9.30 am Good Friday 2nd April

9.30 am Easter Sunday 4th April



Letter from Matt

Hi everyone!

A couple of exciting things coming up that I would love you to be involved in!

AUTUMN EVENING SERIES “BELIEF - BAPTISM - BELONGING”

Tues 16th March

Tues 23rd March

Tues 30th March

7pm - 8:30pm @ HPC

This is an evening series for anyone interested in a refresher on the fundamentals of our faith with regard to:

- “Belief” – What are our core beliefs about life and faith as revealed in the Bible.
- “Baptism” – The significance of Baptism and Confirmation.
- “Belonging” – What it means to walk with a local church.

This series is also for anyone who:

- Was baptised as an infant and would now like to take part in Confirmation.
- Has never been baptised and would like to be.
- Would like to make Howick Presbyterian their church home. (Membership)

Each evening will consist of a teaching time, small group discussion time and supper.

This is a great opportunity to help strengthen the foundations of faith, and for some to take that next step on their journey of faith.

If you have any questions, contact Matt Chapman.

Again, everyone is welcome to attend! We just need to know numbers so please contact Jane at the office to register:

admin@howpres.org.nz

HPC CHURCH CAMP – TOTARA SPRINGS - 13-15TH August

One of the highlights of the HPC calendar in 2021 is Church Camp! Only 25 weeks to go!

God has always used camps to transform people's lives. Many of you will have had significant faith experiences at camps over the years. Today, camps continue to be a powerful opportunity to seek God with a group of like-minded people.

This year HPC will be back at Totara Springs, in Matamata; an awesome facility that many of you will be familiar with.

Over the coming weeks more information will be coming out with regard to cost and program, but for now we would love you to put the weekend of the 13th -15th of August into your calendars.

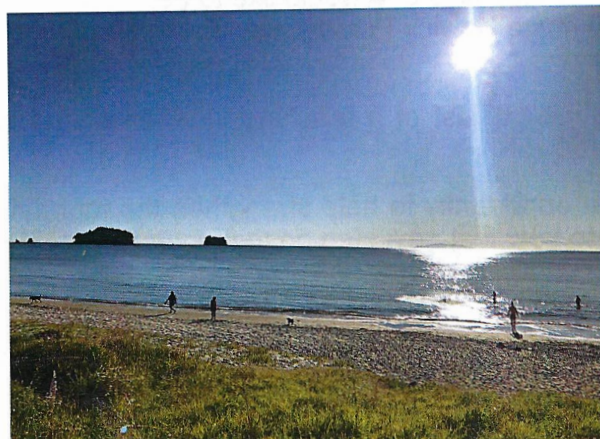
It's going to be a wonderful, inspiring, relaxing and fun weekend away. It's suitable for all ages, and there are a range of accommodation options for all your preferences.

At this stage, we would love to receive an expression of interest if you think you would like to come along. This will help us with our planning.

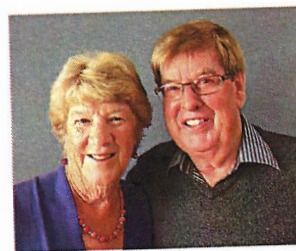
Please contact Jane at the office to let her know if you are interested, or are planning to attend camp.

It's going to be awesome!

Sunrise at Whangamata



A Message from the "Acting" Session Clerks



On the evening of New Year's Eve, sitting around the table outdoors, with family and friends, at Whangamata, a drink in hand, we were joyfully "toasting" in a bright and hopefully exciting year "2021" and saying "goodbye" to a horrible, challenging 2020 – or as the Queen would say "annus horribilis" 2020. The Covid -19 year! But here we are writing this note on February 15th in Covid 19 Level 3 Lockdown with our second "case" for 2021 of community spread Covid 19! More change? More disruption? More heartache? And the emotional rollercoaster continues as we jump across a range of emotions- anger, loneliness, frustration, fear, anxiety, anticipation, hope, no hope and many more.

Maybe, at this time, and times like this, we need to pause and remind ourselves of why we are Christians, and why we worship at St Andrews. We have an amazing God. We need to trust him in all areas of our life, and share our burdens and worries with him, constantly praying for strength, hope and positivity, so we can be a light in our circle of relationships and community.

There are many, many passages in the Bible referring to "faith" and "faithfulness" that may be helpful to us, if we make time to reflect on such areas of scripture.

Two of these that have helped us over the last few months particularly are

"Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervour serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer."

Romans 12: 11-12

And

"For we live in faith, not by sight".

2 Corinthians 5:7

Yes, in these challenging times we do have the answer.

Let us lift-up our eyes to our Lord.

He **will** hear our cry and give us the strength to get through whatever lies ahead for 2021.

Remember, if you are feeling lonely or vulnerable in some way, please let someone know. You have a church family and we care.

Blessings

Geoff and Liz Foster

The travelling Morans

This might be quite a short message, not because there is nothing much to say – in fact the opposite is the case, but because internet connection is very patchy on the West Coast of the South Island as we travel so I get small windows of really good connection and bigger windows of very little.

Trevor and I are enjoying our time away immensely. The first 2 weeks have now passed and we have got into the rhythm of living in a tiny house on the road. We are refining our skills of minimising water and gas use and planning what we want to do each day. I am confident that we won't run out of options unless Covid hits the South Island as it has again hit Auckland and then our activities will be somewhat curtailed for sure.

It is hard to choose the highlights so far but I think I would have to say that whilst the big 'tourist' spots are amazing and we are really enjoying being able to see some of these special places that we have in NZ, what I am personally enjoying is the little things. The time to notice things around me! Birds, plants and animals, sunsets (not sunrises I am afraid) and even time to read a book – a lost art in my life!! Somehow in my busy life, it has become easy not to notice the small things – and it is the small things that somehow keep us connected to our creator God. We have enjoyed the opportunity to worship in new places the last 2 Sundays. The first Sunday was in Stoke near Nelson and we were warmly welcomed. After the service Heather Botha came and spoke to me – she and Louis were members at St Andrew's some years ago and it was lovely to meet up with her again after many years.

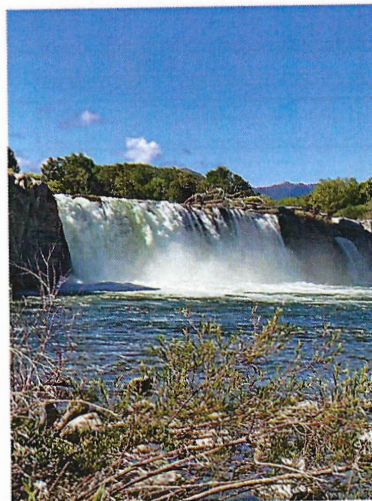
The next Sunday we went to the small Anglican Community Church in Karamea here on the West Coast. There we experienced typical country hospitality with informality, friendliness, humour and great singing!



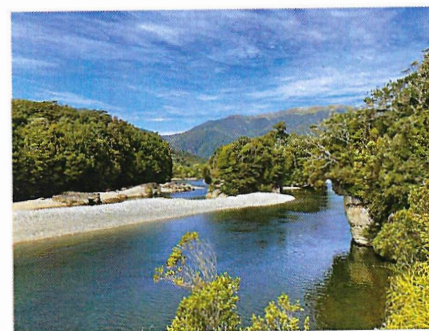
It was a privilege to be reminded that wherever we go we can find a welcome among God's people and know that we share something in common.

Here are a few photos to let you know that we are both thriving and making the most of our holiday.

With love and Blessings
Cherie Moran

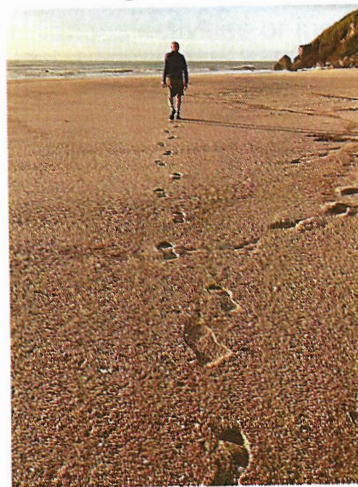


Marula Falls



Charing Creek Mokihinui

Mahurangi National Park



Moria Limestone Arch near Karamea

Finance Report from Parish Council

Financial summary for the 7 months ended 31 January 2021.

	Actual YTD	Budget YTD
<u>Income</u>		
Offerings	91,119	91,800
Property income	46,463	48,552
Opportunity shop	10,369	16,500
Other income	15,461	10,932
Total income	163,412	167,784

<u>Expenditure</u>		
Remuneration	71,311	73,296
Property expenses	49,624	65,109
Levies (PCANZ, Presbytery)	11,638	12,133
Other expenses	31,742	39,633
Total expenditure	164,315	190,171
Surplus (deficit)	(903)	(22,387)

Comments:

Offering income is almost at budget and we are very grateful for this. Since the 2020 lockdowns, many parishioners have begun making their offerings by internet banking or automatic payment. If you would like to find out more about this, please contact Janine via the church office or email finance@howpres.org.nz. Please remember that a tax credit of up to 33% of your donations is available from IRD. Do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about how to access this tax credit. Please contact Janine if you need copy receipts from previous years.

Property income includes rental from the church house (Vincent St), St Andrews Kindergarten Trust and users of the St Andrew's church Centre facilities.

Other income includes an unexpected gift of \$5,000 from a parishioner. Thank you.

Income from the opportunity shop is down as a result of Covid-19 lockdown restrictions in August and September but we do appreciate the work done by all op shop volunteers as well as the generous donations of clothing, bric-a-brac etc from the community.

If you have any questions about HPC finances/offerings, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Elizabeth Tremlett (021 172 6555)

Youth and Community Development Trust

This year we are once again opening up YCDT funding to support our youth within our church extended families. This will allow our youth to try various activities or increase their involvement in a chosen passion that they have. We have some amazing young people within our church community who have outstanding talents and we want to continue to foster these.

If you wish to apply for funding to assist with a range of activities which might include: music lessons, sports fees, dance/drama lessons, camps or leadership opportunities please contact the office for an application form.

The YCDT will be meeting during this term to consider all requests. Please feel free to contact myself or any of the YCDT trustees if you would like to know anything further.

We continue to be grateful and appreciative of the financial contributions made from members of the congregation to assist with this programme. If you would like to support the trust with a financial contribution please collect a brochure from the church office or contact myself.

Margaret Littlejohn

KINGS KIDS REPORT

I wonder if you were at our end of year Kings Kids and Wired service on 13 December last year? We were very proud of all our children and teenagers who largely took the service.



First our kindy children, Lucy McIntosh, Annaliese Hope, and Liam and Jacob Brewer brought the manger scene to us and did a very good job of reciting

'What can I give him, poor as I am?

If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb.

If I were a wise man, I would do my part,

But what can I give him? Give my heart.'

Very well done, little people.

Then we had a lot of fun bringing to you the true and remarkable story of 'The Christmas Truce 1914'. Lila Chamberlin, Lara

Diprose, James Blyth and Eve McIntosh read us a real letter written from The Western Front by an English survivor and then – there we were – English soldiers on one side of 'No Man's Land', - Joshua Hope, Thomas Harrison and Martin Duff and German soldiers on the other – Hannah Chamberlin and George Diprose. It was a special moment when Hannah sang the first two lines of Silent Night in German and then it was continued at the back of the church by James Harrison. There was a hush as we listened and I think it really must have been like that, all those years ago.

Our readers pulled the storyline together – Rebecca Klein, Lila Chamberlin, Eve McIntosh, Siosiane Vaea, and Olivia and Isabelle Johnson, all beautifully attired in gorgeous dresses from the Op Shop. Thank you so much Op Shop.



Going on to Wired from Kings Kids.

Four Wired young people, Zoe Chambers, Lavini and Paul Vaea and James Blyth read us 'One Solitary Life' ...

'all the armies that ever marched,
all the navies that ever sailed, ...
have not affected the world
as much as that one solitary life'.

And for sure it must have been the remembering of Jesus' birth and life which gave the soldiers the courage to leave their guns behind and see their foes as people just like themselves.

Thank you all for coming and supporting us, we really appreciate that and thank you children and teachers for a story brought to life that has encouraged us all and fed our minds and hearts.

On Sunday we begin again for 2021 and as is our custom, we will think about God's wonderful creation and paint pictures of something that stood out for us during the holidays.

We'll report more next time.

Heather, Steph, Carol, Val and Lepaulo.

Social Fellowship's Planned Programme for 2021

"Fish and Chips at the Beach" Church Picnic Eastern Beach at the South End

On Sunday 21st February the high tide in Auckland is at 3.15. We will meet at the south end of Eastern beach for fish and chips from 4pm. Bring your own food and drink with you. At four o'clock there should still be water to swim in, so bring your swimming things if you are keen.

Church Cleaning Saturday 20th March

Many of us have noticed that areas of the church are overdue for a "Big Clean". So it was decided that at 9am on Saturday the 20th of March we would embark on a big clean. If this day or time doesn't suit, there is still an opportunity to be involved on another day or time to suit you. Jane will sort out areas for people to be responsible for and you can put your name alongside an area to be responsible for. This worked well when we had a big cleaning day two years ago.

Passover Dinner – On Saturday Mar 27th Sophie Pabbruwe is organising a Passover Dinner at the church. The weekly notices will keep you updated closer to the evening.

Easter is the 2nd April Good Friday, Easter Sunday 4th April.

We will hold a Shared Lunch after Church on Sunday 21st May. This will be a fundraiser for Simon and Alison North, and their family in Japan.

In June we plan to organise a **Movie afternoon or evening** at the Monterey Howick.

Ladies Afternoon Tea Sunday 11th July More on this nearer the time.

Soup and Rolls will be in the café each Friday in August. There are four Fridays so it will be a good chance to catch up with friends over some warming food.

This is a fundraiser for the Kailikuri Health Centre in Bangladesh.

The Church Camp at Totara Springs, Matamata is on the weekend of the 13/14/15th August

Breakfast before church in September, the date to be decided nearer the time

Generously filled
bags 2020



Red Baskets will be distributed in early November to be filled for our Christmas Outreach into our Community.

Christmas Morning Tea - Thursday the 2nd Dec. This will be fundraiser for Launchpad (Bible in Schools, Christian Education). The money raised plus support from our church, is used to buy a New Testament for each Year 6 child at Mellon's Bay Primary.

Already since our meeting on the 11th February Covid is in the air, so, our first event the Picnic at Eastern Beach might not happen. But like everything else at this time, we will let you know when a change of plan happens. God Bless you all, Liz Foster

Pastoral Care Team

The pastoral care team continues to work to meet the needs of the parish. If you wish to let us know of a need, please do so through Jane in the office or a member of the team.

From time to time we are asked to help with transport, so if you feel that you may be able to help in this way we would love to hear from you. The Thursday morning church service is a place where transport can be needed.

The freezer is in need of a top up of meals for emergency needs, so if you are able help in this way it would be appreciated. Containers are available from Jane in the office.

Thank you for joining us in caring for one another. We look forward to hearing your concerns.

As you know Cherie is taking a well earned holiday during February and March.

From the team members :
Thelma Wilson
Mary North
Margaret Guyan

**ST ANDREW'S CHILTON KINDERGARTEN
QUALITY CHRISTIAN CARE AND EDUCATION**

11 Vincent Street, Howick, Auckland
P O Box 38 590, Howick, Auckland 2145
Telephone: 09 537 2282

Email: kindyhowpres@xtra.co.nz

Website: www.chiltonkindy.co.nz

Facebook: [StAndrews Chilton](https://www.facebook.com/StAndrewsChilton)

February 2021

Hello everyone,

Welcome everyone to 2021 – it has been a wonderful start at kindy with our holiday programme that commenced when we reopened after the Christmas break on the 11th of January. Many of the children had been away on camping holidays and had lots of stories to share. A number of other children brought their new toys to our “show and tell” where each child has a turn to talk about a particular item of interest that is personal to them.

Amongst the learning experiences that Ashtonne and Michelle created as part of our holiday programme, was where Michelle put lots of different plastic toys into various containers and moulds, filled them with water and froze them. We had little sunglasses, little dinosaurs, plastic animals, aeroplanes and many other items for children's hands to find. The children discussed how the water froze and melted, and what happened to the ice when you poured warm water onto it. The excitement grew throughout the day as the ice melted over several hours, and the children were able to recover the items frozen within.

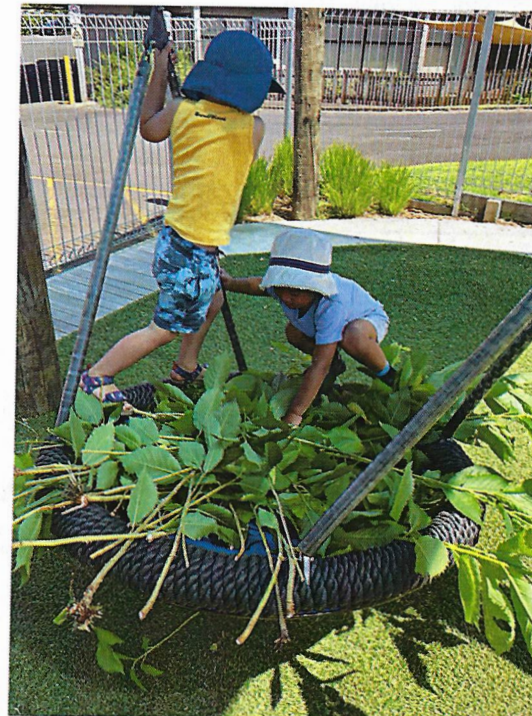
We also made a fort out of some sheets and ladders; the children were able to each pick a cushion and we had our morning tea outside, together with some story time in the fort. Again, the children were really excited about a different type of adventure. They shared their ideas of how to put the fort together, and where they wanted to sit. It was an especially hot day, so the extra shade was also welcomed.

When Michelle trimmed back one of our trees, the children took all of the branches and loaded them onto the swing. They described this experience as “building a new house that we can all live in”. The branches lasted for days, and we found they moved throughout the day to end up on our climbing frame!

I have included some pictures; and I hope you enjoy seeing them as much as we enjoyed following the children through the different adventures.

Blessings to you all for a healthy and happy start to 2021.

Janine Leaming
Finance & Operations Manager



Items of interest found while going through the minutes in the Archives.

Cherie Moran read ...Letter from an 8 year old child ...

Dear Mr McCay

I was reading the September Torch when I found the article of "Why Communion Cards?" and I have been thinking about it. Did Jesus give Communion Cards to the Disciples and if they didn't bring them with them they weren't allowed to come to the Last Supper? If so was Judas the one who didn't bring his Communion Card?

Yours sincerely Erin

PS. Could you put something in the torch of interest to the children please?

Following on from the letter, in the file was the reply from the Minister – a full typed page of

12th September 1988

Dear Erin.....

Thank you very much for your letter, and for reading the TORCH!! I hope other children also read it. I note your ps and I agree it would be great to have a children's page. How about you being its editor? Yours would be the task of scouting around and finding good lively material for the torch each month. A story, a puzzle, a quiz, even something to colour in (as long as it is simple enough to be produced on a wax stencil). You may have noticed that the Bible Classes have a page (nearly always) which they contribute (but sometimes forget). Maybe through the Sunday School we could get something going for children.

Having answered your last question first, I suspect you know what I am going to tell you! No, Jesus did not have Communion Cards for the Disciples to use at the Last Supper. No, Judas did something much worse than forget his Communion Card!

Let me suggest that you read that article in the torch again and think about Jesus' call, command and invitation to us to meet Him in the Lords Supper. The Communion Card is essentially like any other invitation card – a reminder – to us lest we forget the privilege we have in sharing with our Lord at His table.

Many other things we do in worship, have done for years, which Jesus did not give us. We have no record of His suggesting that we sing hymns – but we know that he joined in Jewish Worship which included singing, and his group sang a hymn (probably a Psalm) before leaving the upper room to go to the Garden of Gethsemane. We know that he gave us the Lords' Prayer as a sample prayer, but he gave no other instruction about prayers for worship on our own or together. On the other hand, he told the disciples to follow his example in washing one another's feet as he had washed theirs, but we have no record of their doing so. Footwashing is rare in worship (only at Easter Season on Maundy Thursday, the day before Good Friday, in some churches). In our church it would be good to try it at Easter. If we do, I must remember to ask you to join in. Thank you, Erin. Keep reading, asking, thinking, following Jesus.

Blessings to you and your family.

Samuel J.D. McCay



Lynne Rodgers read

My understanding is that when the work on the cross for Saint Andrew's was nearing completion, it was observed that there was a blemish in the wood on one of the arms.

The matter was discussed with members of the church and it was decided that as the mark was in the position that the nail that pierced Christ's hand would have been, a similar mark would be added to the other arm of the cross.

Also found by Lynne Rodgers in the files

Did you know ...?

HOWICK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
St Andrew's Church Centre
Vincent Street, Howick.
ph 535 4403, fax 537 5059

Minister: Rev Mrs Vivian Coleman
47A Cockle Bay Rd, Howick

Session Clerk: Lomond Seel
32 Botany Road, Howick

National Office (attn Hazel)
P.C.A.N.Z.
PO Box 9049
Wellington

Dear Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand

I am writing on behalf of Howick Presbyterian Church to draw to your attention the fact that we are now calling our congregation by the above name, in preference to the name St Andrew's Howick, as in the past.

The reason for this is that we are now in a joint use arrangement with the Auckland Taiwanese Presbyterian Church who share the facilities at St Andrew's in the fullest sense. This means that to be absolutely clear about to whom mail, cheques etc are addressed, we need to specify which of the two churches is meant. Thus, we are now calling ourselves Howick Presbyterian Church, meeting at St Andrew's Church Centre, Howick. The Taiwanese church is the Auckland Taiwanese Presbyterian Church, meeting at St Andrew's Church Centre.

The Session have asked me to write and clarify this situation, and to request that the year book entries for our church and ministers use this name, rather than St Andrew's.

I will send a copy of this letter to the clerk of Auckland Presbytery as well.

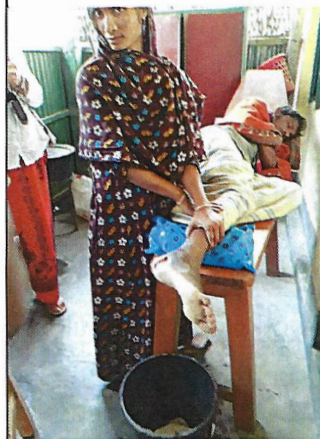
Yours in Christ

Vivian Coleman

Vivian Coleman

Kailakuri Health Centre, Bangladesh

In February 2019 three 'mature' volunteer nurses from Tauranga went to Bangladesh and spent time at Kailakuri. They were absolutely amazed at the skills and competence of the health centre staff. So much so that they felt there was not a lot that they were able to do to help. On their departure they did make some suggestions, the main one being that it would be good to have an enclosed dedicated area for administering dressings. Outpatients requiring dressings have always been taken to a narrow bed under the eaves of one of the buildings. This was exposed to the elements and often unusable in the rainy season.



Old and New

In September last year the British Women's Association in Dhaka asked if they could fund something for the project and agreed to fund a dedicated dressing room.

The biography of Edric Baker has now been adjusted with advice from a professional Editor and the manuscript is now being sent to prospective publishers.

Since returning home the three nurses have been active in raising funds for Kailakuri through garage sales and three showings of 'Soldiers Without Guns' one of which generated \$940, our largest amount for a single showing of this film to date.

Peter Wilson

From the armchair

As I have got older, I have often joked with friends that my feet are getting further and further away from my hands which makes certain tasks, like getting dressed just that more difficult. It is not impossible but it just takes longer as you negotiate trousers and socks.

Recently, what had been a bit of a joke became a little more serious. My left hip decided that it didn't want to be part of my skeleton anymore and signaled, through pain, that I should do something about it.

It is summer so I have been wearing sandals but when I tried to put on socks after my hip pain started, I found that it was just too difficult and painful so sandals became the only thing I could wear if I left the house. This has led to me thinking about what we wear when we go out. I appreciate that this can be a very sensitive subject and I have no desire to make any controversial comments or even start up a debate on what is and is not the 'right thing' to wear. This is very much my take on a situation.

I grew up in an era and an environment when going out determined what clothes you wore. A doctor's or dentist's appointment required that you tidied yourself up and were dressed appropriately. Attending church similarly required that you took care with what you were wearing. Today, the term 'Sunday best' which comes from the way in which people had clothes which they only wore on Sundays to attend church, has become part of colloquial expression even if people do not attend church.

Over time, I became less formal in what I wore in the workplace but I still, rightly or wrongly, maintained the idea that I should take care about what I wear to church. Thus, when I realized that I would be unable to wear socks and shoes, I felt that I could not attend church.

However, when thinking about this, I realized that I was hiding behind an excuse. There is nothing in the Bible that tells us that our prayers are only heard when we are in a specific place or wearing certain clothes.

In Matthew 11 verse 28, Jesus says "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." This is an offer available to all, not just those who are dressed in a particular, societally approved way. The idea that I will be relieved of my burdens and that I will be given rest is very appealing.

The next two verses, verses 29 and 30, complete this offer. "Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

This offer, which we are given by Jesus, is certainly more worthwhile than worrying about not being able to put on socks when I am dressing for church. Now it is up to me to overcome any fears I might have and accept the offer.

Ron Galliers

Answers to Prayers

So someone might want a pony for Christmas and they ask their parents and night after night they pray for a pony, but you might not have a back yard big enough for a pony, nor enough time to care for it, nor a plan for how you will dispose of the pony poo, let alone the money, but still you pray for a pony. When Christmas comes your parents might give you a kitten instead and say to you: here this is your kitten, care for her, love her, and one day, when you're old enough to buy yourself some land to have a pony, then you will be ready to look after a pony.

You see if we think this through, with God, when we ask, we are promised that we will receive, but it might not be what we asked for.

God is not our Father Christmas, he doesn't give us always what we want, but in our scripture we are asked to trust that God is good and that God loves to give good gifts to those who ask. So even if He doesn't give us what we want, He will give us those things which are good for us.

Here is a piece of writing which sums up really well from an unknown author:

I asked for strength and God gave me difficulties to make me strong.
 I asked for wisdom and God gave me problems to solve.
 I asked for prosperity and God gave brawn and brains to work.
 I asked for courage and God gave me dangers to overcome.
 I asked for patience and God placed me in situations when I was forced to wait.
 I asked for love and God gave me troubled people to help.
 I asked for favours and God gave me opportunities.
 I asked for everything so I could enjoy life—
 Instead He gave me life so I could enjoy everything.
 I received nothing I wanted. I received everything I needed.

Let us pray....

*Found by Bill Milnes
 In his own collection of saved items.*



Dedication and opening of the Worship Centre

Pohutukawa Coast Presbyterian Church celebrated its Service of Dedication and Opening of their Worship Centre of Sunday evening, 14 February. It has been a challenging journey for them, but a small group of women who believed in the vision prevailed, and with substantial help from St Columba, their beautiful Worship Centre has now been dedicated.

The service was taken by Mark Chapman, their Interim Moderator with greetings and representatives from Northern Presbytery. Rev. Margaret Anne Low of St Johns Papatoetoe presented a beautiful wall hanging illustrating 'Feed my Sheep'.

St Andrews Howick, was represented by Bill and Heather Milnes, with Matt and Ally Chapman also as part of the Pohutukawa Coast family. An especially warm welcome was received from Faye Clark whom many may recall from the days when Beachlands was part of HPC's Parish. Faye sends greetings to St Andrews with thanks for the support and encouragement given to them over the years.

Visitors to the Beachlands – Maraetai area are warmly invited to pop in and see what they have achieved. They are at the end of Jacob's Way, Maraetai.

Bill and Heather Milnes

You are invited



We will hold a **PASSOVER DINNER**,
to celebrate **THE HAGGADAH for SEDER**
on Saturday March 27 at 6 pm at St Andrew's Church.

A special program will be followed with a number of rituals and symbols, remembering the time when the Jews were escaping from Egypt.

The last time it was held was in 2015 and some of you will remember this special occasion.

There is a cost involved and we will make this a fundraising occasion for the FAMILY CENTRE IN ROMANIA.

Adults \$ 10.00 and a family with children under 16y \$ 25.00.

Closer to the time we will be able to give more information, ask for contributions of meals, offers of help.

Broken

From a Face book entry

I was in a Dollar Shop last night and there was a lady and two kids behind me in the LONG line. One was a big kid, one a toddler. The bigger one had a pack of glow sticks and the baby was screaming for them so the Mom opened the pack and gave him one, which stopped the tears. He walked around with it, smiling, but then the bigger boy took it and the baby started screaming again. Just as the Mom was about to fuss at the older child, he bent the glow stick and handed it back to the baby.

As we walked outside at the same time, the baby noticed that the stick was now glowing and his brother said, "I had to break it so you could get the full effect from it." I almost ran because I could hear God saying to me, "I had to break you to show you why I created you. You had to go through it so you could fulfil your purpose."

That little baby was happy just swinging that "unbroken" glow stick around in the air because he didn't understand what it was created to do, which was "glow".

There are some people who will be content just "being" but some of us have been chosen by God to be "broken". We have to get sick. We have to lose a job. We go through divorce. We have to suffer the disease of addiction. We have to bury our spouses, parents, best friend, or our child because, in those moments of desperation, God is breaking us, but when the breaking is done, then we will be able to see the reason for which we were created ... so when you see us glowing just know that we have been broken but healed by His Grace and Mercy!

Someone must be "deadly" at Scrabble

Just a selection of offerings for when you rearrange letters:-

Astronomer—moon starrer

Desperation—a rope ends it

The eyes—they see

The morse code—here come dots

Dormitory—dirty room

Snooze alarms—alas! No more z's

Earthquake—that queer shake

Eleven plus two—twelve plus one

And this one

Opportunity Shop



The Opportunity shop is up and running again after the Christmas break. Both workers and customers are glad to be back.

The shop has the best prices of any op shop in the area and that is very much appreciated by all our regular customers and with surprise by our new shoppers.

We receive many donation of clothes, kitchen ware, glassware, ornaments and jewellery from members of the congregation but also from the local community. A lot of tidying and "down sizing" has been going on over the holidays and we are the fortunate recipients!

On Monday and Wednesday morning we have ladies sorting and pricing the goods. A big task but one that provides great friendships and a lot of laughs.

We draw attention to the shop with the sign on the church property oon the corner of Vincent Street and Ridge Road and when the shop is open by the flag at the driveway entrance on Vincent Street.

Please tell your friends about us, as we have very little 'foot traffic' going by.

The shop is open Tuesday to Friday 10 am to 2 pm and Saturday 10am to midday (except holiday weekends)

Margaret Guyan

Neil Guyan explains the history of tunes and links between words of familiar hymns.

Some years ago when I was organist at All Saints Church, one of the parishioners complained that we were singing a hymn to the tune of 'Danny Boy'. The words were "I cannot tell why He whom angels worship". I explained that it was a very fine tune. And then I wrote the following notes:-

Many of our "standard" hymn tunes originated as secular tunes, and their backgrounds are remarkably varied.

Austria or the "Emperor's Hymn"

- By Haydn in 1797
- Original words—Gott erhalte Franz den Kaiser (God save Emperor Franz)
- The national hymn of Austria until 1918
- We sing: "Glorious things of Thee are spoken" and "Praise the Lord: Ye heavens, adore Him."

Finlandia

- Composed by Sibelius in 1899
- Part of a symphonic poem, an expression of patriotic sentiment
- Words were written in 1941, and it became an important national song in Finland—originally more or less a call to arms.
- We sing: "Be still my soul".

Kingsfold

- From a folk song dating from the Middle Ages, adapted by Vaughan Williams
- Original title: "Star of the County Down"
- We sing: "O little town of Bethlehem".

Forest Green

- An old ballad, adapted by Vaughan Williams
- Original: The Plough boy's dream (Advice on how to treat your horses)
- We sing: "O Little town of Bethlehem".

Monks Gate

- Sussex Folk Melody, adapted by Vaughan Williams
- Originally "Welcome Sailor" and "A Seaman and His love". Words include "A lovely lass I spied".
- We sing: "Who would true valour see"

Passion Chorale

- An old secular love song, adapted by Hassler and later Bach.
- Original words: "My heart is distracted by a gentle maid"
- We sing: "O Sacred Head".

Ar Hyd y nos

- Welsh traditional melody
- English translation of original words: "All the stars twinkles say"
- We sing: "God is Love".

Londonderry Air

- Irish folk ballad
- "Oh Shrive me Father" (Hear my confession)
- (Actually not all that secular!)

Obituary:: Elz, Sumwun

Recently we were advised of the death of one of our most respected and hardest working individuals, Sumwun Elz.

Sumwun's passing leaves jobs that will be hard to fill.

Elz has worked in many capacities since they joined us. They did more than a normal person's share of the work.

Wherever there was work to do or a committee to be one, some function to attend, money to be raised, all you heard people say was, "Sumwun Elz will do it".

Sumwun Elz was an inspiring individual. Often people wondered where they got all their energy from, but one person can't do everything. Were the truth be known, everybody expected too much of Sumwun Elz.

Everyone knew that Elz gave the greatest amount of time to doing things. Whenever there was a need to fill a job, everyone just assumed the Sumwun Elz would do it.

Those in charge are left thinking, now that Sumwun Elz has gone, what are we going to do. Elz left a terrible example of what should be done, but who is going to do all the things they did?

So please, when you are asked to help, remember there is no longer Sumwun Elz. It's up to you now!

In Loving Memory Of
Lorraine Stewart



Mother, Lorraine Stewart, passed away on 22 December 2020. Peacefully in the company of Irene and my sister Katrina. Neither alone nor afraid.

Mum had been residing in the care of the Baptist Home. Her appetite had been failing for some time. She just ran out of fuel and faded away into an endless sleep. Her passing could not have been more merciful.

Lorraine came to St Andrews in the mid nineties after living with her second husband Jimmy Stewart on the Shore for many years. They lived a nice life of retirement in Uxbridge road. Attended on alternate Sundays, St Andies and the Catholic church in Howick and enjoyed the company of family and friends.

Entertaining and establishing a tra-

dition of soirees that continue to these days amongst her old neighbours. Jimmy enjoyed the RSA and Mum got very involved with the Opp shop. She was still washing and ironing clothes up until about 2 years ago.

She took great care of her house and put enormous effort into her garden. She loved her garden. She seemed to have a special gift pinching and propagating cuttings. Lorraine had green fingers. As time and age acerbat-ed her frailty she resisted the inevitable move into care. Many a trick was employed to try and stay independent to the end. She drove her little pink car, fearlessly everywhere, way beyond quitting time.

The Baptist Home though excellent could not overcome her sense of loss. Loss of home, possessions, freedom and vigour.

Her funeral service was not one of loss or tragedy, but a celebration of a life well lived in faith and service.

Mum leaves behind her 3 children, 8 grandchildren and 15 great grandchil-dren.

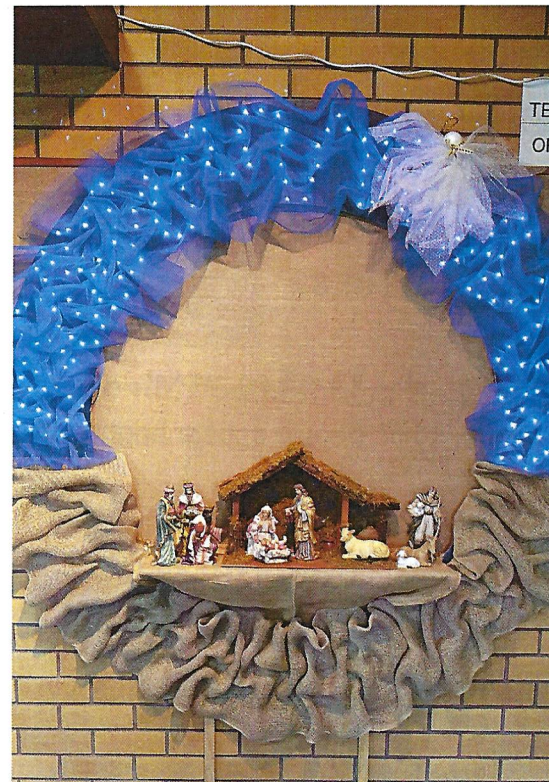
We all carry a part of her personality, family culture and traditions forward into our future. We might all hope to achieve a life such as hers.

John McLaren

Worth a smile or three ...

Paraprosdokians are figures of speech in which the latter part of a sentence or phrase is surprising or unexpected and is frequently humorous. Examples are:

1. Where there's a will, I want to be in it.
2. The last thing I want to do is hurt you ...but it's still on my list.
3. Since light travels faster than sound, some people appear bright until you hear them speak
4. If I agreed with you, we'd both be wrong.
5. We never really grow up -- we only learn how to act in public.
6. War does not determine who is right, only who is left.
7. Knowledge, is knowing a tomato is a fruit. Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad
8. To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism. To steal from many is research.
9. I didn't say it was your fault, I said I was blaming you.
10. In filling out an application, where it says, "In case of an emergency, notify..." I answered "a doctor."
11. Women will never be equal to men until they can walk down the street with a bald head and a beer gut, and still think they are sexy.
12. You do not need a parachute to skydive. You only need a parachute to skydive twice
13. I used to be indecisive, but now I'm not so sure
14. To be sure of hitting the target, shoot first and call whatever you hit the target.
15. Going to church doesn't make you a Christian, any more than standing in a garage makes you a car.
16. You're never too old to learn something stupid



In the foyer for Christmas 2020

