

# Howick Presbyterian Church

## **The Torch**



**Winter Edition 2022**



## Next Quarterly Communion Service



**Thursday 2 June at 10 am**

**Sunday 12 June  
9.30 am in the sanctuary**

**Monthly Communion Services in the Chapel at 8.45 am**

5 June Pentecost

3 July

7 August

4 September

Followed by Fellowship Tea in the foyer and  
**10 am All Age Services** in the Sanctuary

### *Sitting at dinner one Sunday night ....*

The family meet for dinner every evening and there is usually a lot of cheerful chatter and lots of catch up about the day's activities and the challenges to be faced tomorrow.

The talk turned to memories and suddenly a question "Did you enjoy the church camp last year? We were so lucky to enjoy it the weekend before lockdown, weren't we?"

Then the question "Is there going to be a camp this year?"

Another question "Do you want to attend if there is a church camp?"

What would be the answers to these questions around your table?  
Its time to start asking the questions ...

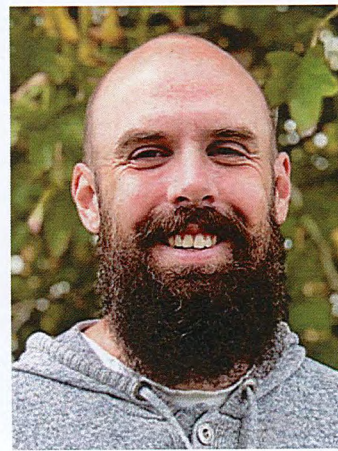
Here is the answer from the church

### **HPC CHURCH CAMP – TOTARA SPRINGS - 16—18 September**

So yes! there is a camp planned and yes! Its time to put these dates into your diary.

**P.S. The family agreed at that dinner table "Yes! We're going to camp!!"**

There is lots of planning going on in the background—so make your plans to attend! Let Jane know to add your names to the expression of interest list!



## *Minister's message*

Greetings everyone for this edition of the Torch! Big thanks to Jane for putting this together, and to everyone who has made contributions.

Our lockdowns over the past two years forced us to find new ways to stay connected to each other and our community as a church. This was especially true for our Sunday worship gatherings.

Initially we participated in pre recorded services accessible via YouTube. During our second major lockdown most of us learnt how to use Zoom, and we were able to share and interact in live worship gatherings together, and all take part in different ways.

When we returned to St Andrews for our Sunday gatherings we continued to use Zoom as a way to stay connected with those at home. However, it came with a few challenges in picture and sound quality.

We have now installed a simple live streaming video system at St Andrews which will continue to allow people to participate in worship from home, or anywhere in the world with internet.

Each week we will email you a Youtube link. Simply click on the link on a Sunday morning and you will be taken to a Youtube page with our live stream. After the service the live stream is then saved to our Howick Presbyterian Youtube Channel where you can view the video and previous videos at any time you like.

The purpose of this system is not to try and be "flash" or to encourage people not to gather in person.

The purpose of this system is Connection. The ability to be connected together as we worship for those who can't be onsite at St Andrews. This is relevant in a number of scenarios:

If you are unwell and need to stay at home, you can still participate in our worship gathering.

After a live stream, the video is saved on our YouTube channel and can be viewed at any later time. So you can watch in real time (live) or watch later on.



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If you have friends or family around the country or around the world that you would like to share our services with, you can simply forward them the Youtube link we send from the office. Or they can search and visit our HPC Youtube channel and find our services there.

If we have members in rest homes who are unable to be onsite, or if we have people in hospital, it provides a way to stay connected with them. All they need is a smartphone, ipad or laptop connected to the internet.

If we are having a wedding, baptism, funeral, or other special service we can allow friends and family from all around the world to share in the service with us. Though the video quality isn't as high as a camcorder, it can still provide a permanent record of a special event.

Because our Live stream now operates through YouTube, you can watch our service not only on your home computer, but also on your smart phone or iPad/tablet. You can watch it anywhere, anytime you have a mobile device with you. On the bus, on the train...

Youtube is a much simpler way of watching the video, compared with Zoom which requires some set up, an account etc. Just click on the link and you are there. Or search for our channel on Youtube and you will find all the videos there.

So please make the most of this helpful tool to share our worship gatherings with those you think might find it meaningful. If you have any questions, or need any help getting it working on your computer or device let me know.

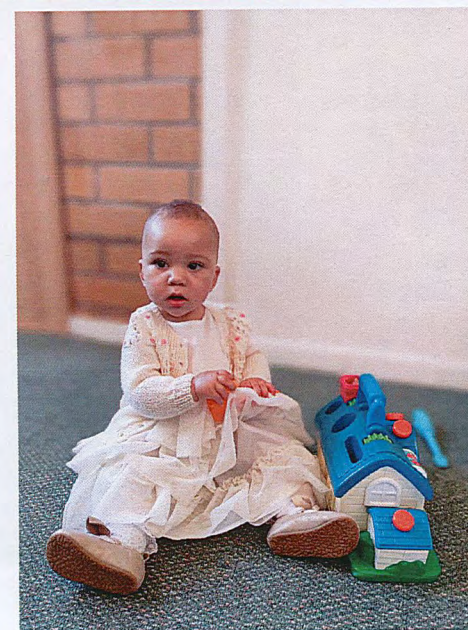
Grace and peace

*Matt Chapman*

## *Introducing Nomisa*

*Daughter of Johnny and Khosi Shortall*

*Baptised on Sunday 8 May 2022*





## KINGS KIDS REPORT

Hello everyone

Term 1 at Kings Kids saw us looking at the stories of Paul. First his furious opposition to the idea that Jesus might have risen. Then his dramatic change of mind. His travels and the marvellous things that happened as he told about Jesus, but also the tough things like beatings and time in jail. The last story was the best – the dramatic boat trip to Rome, the terrible storm that went on for 14 days and nights, the shipwreck and then, just as Paul had predicted, everyone of the 276 passengers, somehow making it safely to shore. Wow – what a man and what a ride! We concluded that it is true, Jesus never promised us an easy path through life, but he did promise to BE WITH US IN EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENS TO US.

Ally Chapman finished the term for us by teaching the story of Easter over three weeks. She did a marvellous job and on our tree you can see the beautiful palm leaves the children made for Palm Sunday.

Steph Chamberlin told the story of Mary, mother of Jesus for Mother's Day a week or so ago and the children made yummy shortbread for their mummies. I hope some got home before it was all eaten!



This term we are going to look at 'things Jesus did'. We began with the story of Jesus feeding the hungry, restless crowd with a little boy's left over lunch.

We are having fun and we love remembering that God loves us and we are special. xxx

*Heather Hoe*





## Wired

Like many church ministries Wired has gotten junior off to a slow start this year with the lockdowns and other restrictions imposed by the omicron outbreak. We are delighted to be back up and running each Sunday morning with a wonderful crew of young people. This term we are focusing on prayer, utilising a wonderful video based resource from 24 seven prayer. It has been very encouraging seeing our students hungry to engage more in prayer.

We are also looking at participating and leading in some of the all-age worship services that will begin on Pentecost Sunday. Later this term we will also start a junior leadership development program called Emerge, this is a two-year training course that helps young people understand the biblical concept of leadership and help them explore how God has wired them to serve in His Church and in the Community.

Intermediate and high School is a vital age for faith formation, please pray with us for all the wonderful young people entrusted to our care.

Thank you

*Matt Chamberlin, Jude and Alyssa Dosado*

### People Search

Can you find someone named in the Bible in each sentence? Underline as in the first sentence.

Answer on page 16

- 1 Water flows over a dam in the park.
- 2 These things must not happen.
- 3 The vegetables were fresh.
- 4 Fred had the best herd of cattle
- 5 The pet era seems to be here.
- 6 Nan drew a bird picture.
- 7 I wonder if he pushed the letter through the mail slot.
- 8 The mat the widow used was old.
- 9 The solo Monty sang was much enjoyed.
- 10 See the flea hopping along the wall.
- 11 He will blab anything.
- 12 Do children always tell the truth?
- 13 I saw a bell in the belfry of the church.
- 14 The jobs were easy ones.
- 15 It will not mar your table.

And now make sentences to use these names ...Martha; Dorcas; Levi; Anna; Bathsheba



Youth and Community Development Trust



[This Photo](#) by Un-



This is going to be an exciting year for YCDT as we continue to support our young youth, both within our own church and also within the wider community. We have some amazing young people within our community who all have outstanding talents and we want to continue to foster these.



[This Photo](#) by

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 (no matter how small), please collect a brochure from the church office or contact myself. We would like to continue to offer these opportunities to our youth. If you know of anyone who would benefit from some form of sponsorship please contact one of the YCDT Trust members.

*Margaret Littlejohn*





## Finance Report from Parish Council

Financial summary for the 10 months ended 30 April 2022.

	Actual YTD	Budget YTD
<u>Income</u>		
Offerings	150,486	157,499
Property income	69,642	73,841
Opportunity shop COVID Resurgence Support	6,700 4,696	20,454 -
Other income	44,844	34,213
<b>Total income</b>	<b>276,368</b>	<b>286,007</b>

<u>Expenditure</u>		
Remuneration	115,733	130,072
Property expenses	101,919	98,421
Levies (PCANZ, Presbytery)	16,403	16,437
Other expenses	64,904	80,316
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>298,959</b>	<b>325,246</b>
<b>Operating surplus(deficit)</b>	<b>(22,591)</b>	<b>(39,239)</b>

Regular offering income continues to be close to budget.

Thank offerings of \$17,651 have been received so far. The thank offering budget for the year ending 30 June 2022 is \$25,000.

It is wonderful to see the opportunity shop opening again. Thank you to all those involved in this work.

The current repair work on the chapel was completed in mid-May. Parish Council approved an additional \$10,000 in addition to budget to complete this portion of the work while the scaffolding was in place.

Remember, that you can claim a tax credit from IRD of up to 33% of your donations to the church and other charities. If you need any assistance with this (or copies of previous receipts), please let me know.

If you have any questions about HPC finances/offerings/expenses, please do not hesitate to contact me. *Elizabeth Tremlett* (021 172 6555)

## Church Camp 16—18 September 2022

is being held at Totara Springs Christian Centre at Matamata.  
Matt will be leading us with a group of enthusiastic helpers!!

Expressions of interest are open now—please let Jane in the office know to add your names to the list of folk thinking of attending.

**IMPORTANT**—Finance should not prevent anyone from coming to camp. Please contact Elizabeth Tremlett (Treasurer) on 021 172 6555 or email [elizabethtremlett@gmail.com](mailto:elizabethtremlett@gmail.com) if you would like to discuss this in confidence.

If you need help with transport, please let the office know and we will make a plan.

If you have any queries about accommodation or registration, please contact Matt Chapman.

*A time to get to know church whanau!*  
*It will be fun!!!! Ask anyone who went last year!!*

## The Haircut

A teenage boy had just passed his driving test and inquired of his father as to when they could discuss his use of the car.

The father offered his son the following deal.

"You bring your grades up from C to B average, study your Bible a little and get your hair cut. Then we'll talk about the car."

The boy thought about that for a moment, decided he'd settle for the offer and they agreed to it.

After about six weeks, his father said, "Son, you've brought your grades up and I've observed that you have been studying your Bible, but I am disappointed you haven't had your hair cut."

The boy said, "You know, Dad, I've been thinking about that and I've noticed in my studies of the Bible that Samson had long hair, John the Baptist had long hair, Moses had long hair, and there's even strong evidence that Jesus had long hair."

## Got to love Dad's reply ...

"Did you also notice that they all walked everywhere they went?"





## Girls Brigade

Girls Brigade is back for Term 2, we are starting off with a series on looking after our Earth. The girls have been recycling things we would normally throw away. The girls have made bracelets out of old pillowcases, bookmarks out of cereal boxes and made flower decorations out of egg cartons. The latest project was creating miniature houses to decorate our outdoor or indoor spaces from old milk bottles. Next week we are going to grow some seeds in old tea bags and yogurt pots!

*Danielle Smith*



## Breakfast Group

St. Andrews Breakfast group, meets on the first Saturday of the month at 8am for a continental breakfast, followed by a guest speaker.

Our speaker last month was Farida Masters. (pictured)

Farida held everyone's attention with her amazing thirty year history, from author and editor with several publications, all round the world, to leading into the history of her home land in India on the ancient faith Zoroastrian. Next month on 11th June we invite James Duncan to talk on the history of trams in Auckland.

Everyone welcome. Please contact Val Lott on [lotts@xtra.co.nz](mailto:lotts@xtra.co.nz) for all enquiries.



## Opportunity Shop

The Opportunity Shop has unfortunately been affected by the Covid Lock-downs.

We are now opening on Friday and Saturday only, from 10am-2pm.

This coincides with the opening times of the Toy Library in the Cafe.

We have found many of our former helpers are now unable to take on shop duty. We thank them for their many years of service.

We are very well stocked so would ask you to come and buy and get your usual bargains!

*Margaret Guyan*



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

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May 2022

Hello everyone,

Lots of gardening activities over the last few weeks – the teachers and children have prepared planter boxes and planted a range of flowers. They have carefully tended to the seedlings, watering and weeding them, and are now enjoying the variety of flowers. Well done team – they look gorgeous!

To celebrate Anzac Day, the children also planted poppies; they decorated small cups first, then planted a poppy into a prepared soil tablet. After a light watering, they have been put into a warm place where they will hopefully grow. We also celebrated Anzac Day with stories about the history and the meaning of the different coloured poppies.

Celebrating Mother's Day and Easter are two important events on our kindy calendar. The children get to make their own Easter baskets and a small Easter egg is placed in each basket for them to enjoy. Easter is a very special time with lots of activities to observe the story of Jesus. Children have the opportunity to voice a comment about Jesus, and these comments are included in the crosses that they also make.

For Mother's Day, the children made cards, coloured flowers from egg cartons and also painted flowers using their hands and a template of a vase. Paint is applied to the children's hands and they spread them onto a piece of paper to make an image. Some wonderfully creative ideas, and so much fun!!

It has been a challenging start to the year with many changes to the way we operate, the rules we follow and the outcomes of having Covid in the community. We have been very thankful that staff and families have adjusted to the changes well with minimal disruption. In saying that, I am

extremely happy that I am no longer changing the documentation on the walls which I seemed to be doing every other week during the earlier stages of Covid. I got to the stage that I didn't even put the paperwork for the level changes away as they were sure to be needed again!

So as we head into the cooler part of the year, we pray for your safety and wellness. We have included some pictures of our adventures, and we hope you enjoy them as much as we do.

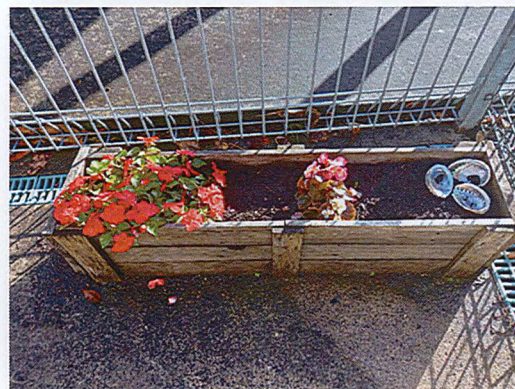
Blessings,

*Janine Leaming*

Finance & Operations Manager

Planer boxes

Anzac Day—painting tubs and seeds planted





## Flying with a grandson



On Good Friday our grandson Levi, who is now a qualified pilot, took us for a flight over Auckland in a 4 seater Cessna aeroplane. It was perfect weather. Blue sky and not a breath of wind.

We drove out to Ardmore where we awaited his arrival.

He flew in from Hamilton where he is based. He looked very smart in his Wai-kato Aviation uniform!

We were soon up and away flying over our home in Howick, then Pakuranga College where Neil taught for 40 years, Mt Wellington, Eden Park, around the Sky Tower and over Waiheke.

It was an amazing experience. We are very proud of him.

*Margaret and Neil Guyan*

### Answers from page 8

2 Seth	6 Andrew	10 Leah	14 Job
3 Eve	7 Lot	11 Laban	15 Mary
4 Esther	8 Matthew	12 Ruth	
5 Peter	9 Solomon	13 Abel	

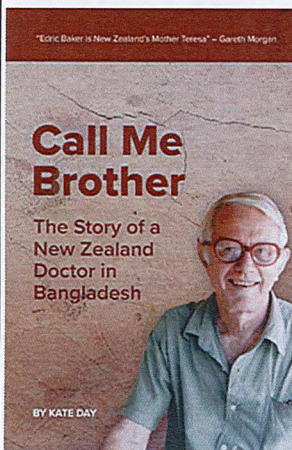
## Kailakuri Health Centre, Bangladesh

The Health Care Centre continues to run smoothly, although numbers of patients serviced have declined a little this year because of rising costs. The official government inflation 12 month inflation rate is 7%, but the true rate is much higher than this. For example, the cost of rice has been increasing by 3% a month. It is to be hoped that donations will increase so that patients serviced won't drop again this year.

On a positive note, support from within Bangladesh continues to grow. This is usually in kind rather than cash. Photo—Members of the Mymensingh Medicine Club donating medicine to Kailakuri



*Peter Wilson*



### Biography of Dr Edric Baker

Six years in the making, this is now ready for printing. Running to 360 pages and liberally illustrated with black and white and coloured photos recording Edric's adventurous life, the cost of printing in NZ is proving to be rather high. Preliminary inquiries suggest that printing to the same standard would be much cheaper in Bangladesh. If this checks out, some \$10 from the sale of each book could go to the project.

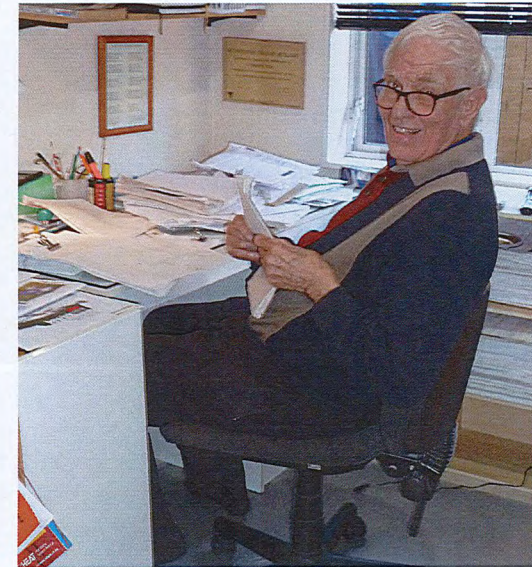


## *Lomond Maurice Seel*

Lomond was born on 9 April 1938 in Otahuhu – the first in a family which eventually included a brother, Alistair, and sister, Jennifer. His early church life was in St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church of Otahuhu, where he attended, and was married, before moving to Howick. When we married we built a house just across the fields from St. Andrew's Howick - always in view. Lomond attended what is now called the Chapel and served in the Howick Presbyterian Church in several ways until his health began to let him down. His last Church attendance was at Christmas time 2021 but if it had not been for Covid he would have managed a few more times. During his time as an elder he held the position of Session Clerk for 29 years and worked as Church Treasurer for many years.

His schooling was at Otahuhu Primary and Otahuhu College. He was quite 'sharp' and was usually the youngest in the class, arriving at the end of what would be today's Year 13 at 16 ½ years old. During his last years at school, a lack of interest in Latin and French found him taking accounting subjects. He immediately showed a talent in this area and on leaving school and attending University he completed the subjects to qualify him as an Accountant at the age of 19 ½ years – too young to join the Accountants' Society. His employment in a small Accountancy partnership as a junior clerk became a 33 year career and as the firm increased in size Lomond progressed until he became the Managing Partner. He really enjoyed his work, the people with whom he worked and those he met. Later he became involved in such things as Commonwealth Games administration, Manukau City Finance, Lotto organisation (with Sam McCay's approval), the meat industry and other smaller activities.

Lomond was an enthusiastic sportsman and during his lifetime played Rugby (for Otahuhu College and the Otahuhu RFC), Cricket (for the College and University), Squash and Tennis with business friends and, having a desire to play basketball, found himself at the YMCA in order to do so. This YMCA association became a 40 year commitment as a Board member, local President, National President, National Treasurer and life time member of the Association. He loved every moment and had a great pride in the association nationally and internationally. He also played casual games of volley ball at the Y. Golf at Waihi Beach with his holiday friends was a big thing in his sports life; the friendship of the group there was very special. When he suffered a major stroke 17 years ago, his active participation in sport became a thing of the past but friendship with those whom he had been associated never ceased and, as they all aged, what had been physical activity became social get togethers.



Fortunately the stroke did not seem to affect his speech or intellect so after coping with re-learning to walk, write and drive the car, Lomond carried on with voluntary and business activities for some years. His attitude being "this is the way it is, let's get on with it".

Lomond and I met when we were both 15 years old as my family moved to NZ and we settled just around the corner from the Seel family home; effectively our lives were entwined for 69 years. We had three children who grew up through St. Andrew's Howick and, fortunately, still live in New Zealand. We believe Lomond would have been happy with the goodbye funeral service we planned for him and he would have been very humbled by the many who came to say farewell or sent messages.

*Crystal Seel*

### *Quotes*

"Everything is bearable when there is love. My wish is that you try to give more people more love. The only thing that lives forever is love."

Elizabeth Keneer-Ross

"Your mind is like a muscle, it develops with use. If you don't use it; you might loose it. Your brain is God's gift to you. What you do with it is your gift back to God. Take time to think on these things."



## *The Milnes travelled round South Island*

Heather and I have just returned from a great 3 month tour of the South Island, travelling where practical, the roads less followed. We left home 27 January and headed south via Otorohanga to a lovely DOC camp site at National Park (fig. 1).



Over the Paraparas to Wanganui and on to a small fishing camp at Scotts Ferry, and a donated feed of flounder.

Ferry on 1 February and down to Christchurch for a few days with our daughter, and then on south via Wakouiti (3) (memories for Bill) with 4 days in lovely Dunedin (4) and a new dental crown for Bill.

Figure 2 Forest walk, National Park



Figure 3 Waikouaiti beach

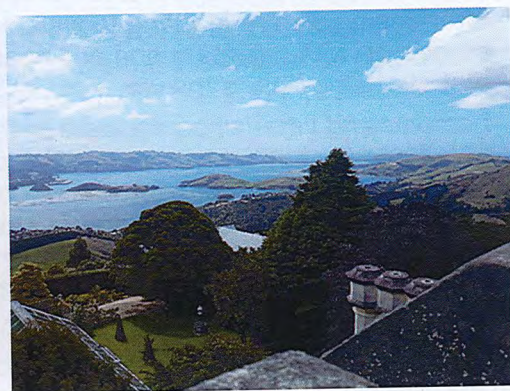


Figure 4 Dunedin Harbour from Larnach Castle

Onwards south via Kaka Point to visit Tony and Lisa Somerville, and then to our first real destination, the Catlins. where we spent a wonderful week of beaches, bush, birds, sunshine and waterfalls, with possibly the loveliest campground we've stayed at - Pounaweia (5), out from Owaka. A side trip to Cannibal Bay introduced us to a massive sea lion (6) and his harem, and a couple with toddler, cycling those steep gravel roads, on a tandem bike on route to Balclutha. Papatoeai is home to Blair Somerville's Lost Gypsy Gallery (8), filled with an amazing array of quirky, mechanised stuff to play with. What an imagination that man has.



Figure 5 Pounaweia campground, Catlins



Figure 6 Sea lion, Cannibal Bay



Figure 7 Wall art



Figure 8 Lost Gypsy (Blair Somerville) letterbox

Tony and Blair used to be in our HPC Bible Class, 'back in the day'. We were delighted to find lots of lovely contorted fuschia trees (9) and their orange colouring in the dull green of the bush really stands out. The nicest waterfall on our trip is McLean Falls in Chaslands (10). On via Curio Bay and the petrified forest and Fortrose (11) to Invercargill, where Bill dug a hole in the ground with a 12 t digger which was fun, but he wasn't offered a job.



Figure 9 Fuschia tree

Figure 10 McLeans Falls, Chaslands







Figure 11 Petrified tree, Curio Bay.

Heading west, Riverton is a lovely spot en-route to Manapouri, and highlight 2, an overnight cruise on Doubtful Sound (12), where we learned the locals name for seals - rock sausage! This was really a highlight, enhanced by the continual fine, sunny weather we'd had since leaving home. The guide said it was extremely rare to get 2 sunny days in a row. Photo 13 gives an idea how steep these sounds are as the 3 deck boat was at one place, less than a metre from the rock face (13).



Figure 13 Close up



Figure 12 Doubtful Sound from Wilmot Pass



Figure 14 Friendly Alpaca, Manapouri

Back to the lovely NZMCA campground at Manapouri and a visit to the Alpaca Farm next door (14). Rather than repeat previous trips to Milford, we chose to head to Central Otago via Gore and it is a lovely town, with a

fabulous campground at Dolomore Park, about 10 kms out of town.

The next destination for me (Bill), was to ride the Dunstan Trail from Cromwell to Clyde (15, 16). What a ride, a real highlight of my trip. About 3 1/2 hours, so to fill time, I rode to Alexandra for an ice cream, another 24 Kms or so. About 60 kms for the day and I was glad of the shuttle back to camp. I love Central Otago and it was a joy to come back, having spent 6 weeks in Clyde during Lockdown 1 in 2020. I also drove the very steep, windy, gravel Hawkburn Road, through the Old Man Range (I think), which was the route from Clyde to Bannockburn before SH8 was built. Another special memory for me, but Heather, for some reason chose not to come.



Figure 15 Dunstan Cycle Trail



Figure 16 The Staircase, Dunstan Trail

We continued west to Wanaka with a day trip over the Crown Range to Arrowtown and their memorial Chinese village (17). Then across the Haast, finding a white heron had taken up winter residence at the Haast DOC visitor centre. Then to Jackson Bay (18). The road is sealed, but so rough! Average speed 30-35 kph and there wasn't even any crayfish when we got there. We travelled north up 'the Coast' to Kumara Junction, then over Arthurs Pass for a few more days with Karina in Christchurch, and back west over Lewis Pass, via Murchison to Motueka. An impulse decision to take the Sea Shuttle for a cruise past the Abel Tasman Park was another stunning ride which brought us into a pod of about 50 dolphins, playing and showing off for us visitors (19).

Over Takaka hill to Collingwood and our final 'must-do', the 4 wheel drive tour on Farewell Spit (20). A special bus trip up the ever-growing spit, which is a world renowned eco sanctuary for terns and other ground nesting sea



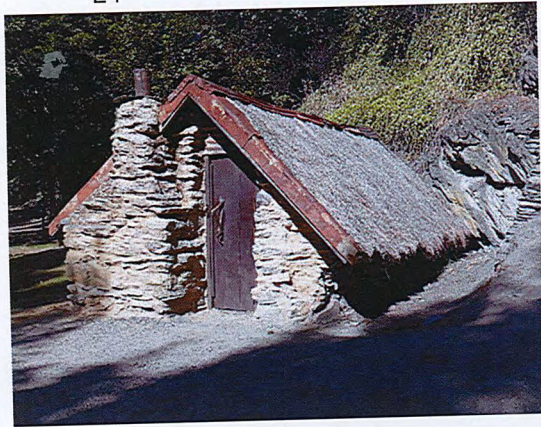


Figure 17 Storehouse, Chinese village, Arrowtown



Figure 18 Jacksons Bay



Figure 19 Dolphins Abel Tasman Park



Figure 20 Farewell



birds. To avoid disturbing the birds in their feeding and nesting areas, the ride was up the seaward side of the spit, past several sea lions and a dead puffer fish. We had lunch in one of the, now unused, lighthouse keepers' houses (21), then back down the coast to Cape Farewell, where we saw the spouts of 2 right whales. Our guide advised that there is a pod of 6-700 blue whales living in the area! The Collingwood Estuary is also "home", overwinter for 4 white herons, kotuku. We were lucky enough to see 1.

By now, our ferry deadline was approaching, so it was finally heading home, with stops at Richmond, beautiful Pelorus Bridge and the lovely Kaitoke Reserve, north of Upper Hutt and scene of Rivendell from Lord of the Rings.

How blessed we are to have the freedom to travel our breath taking country in our own way, at our own time. We have been given riches we too often ignore or lose sight of in the busyness of our lives. Thank you God.

*Bill Milnes*

## Ancestral Mathematics

In order to be born, you needed:

2 parents  
 4 grandparents  
 8 great-grandparents  
 16 second great-grandparents  
 32 third great-grandparents  
 64 fourth great-grandparents  
 128 fifth great-grandparents  
 256 sixth great-grandparents  
 512 seventh great-grandparents  
 1,024 eighth great-grandparents  
 2,048 ninth great-grandparents

For you to be born today from 12 previous generations, you needed a total of 4,094 ancestors over the last 400 years.

Think for a moment – How many struggles? How many battles? How many difficulties? How much sadness? How much happiness? How many love stories? How many expressions of hope for the future? – did your ancestors have to undergo for you to exist in this present moment...