

OUTREACH

AUCKLAND CITY MISSION

Food Bank: The Parish continues to support the City Mission Food Bank programme by way of parishioners' weekly donations of non perishable food items.

In addition this year, we continued what has now become an annual tradition of setting aside four weeks during the colder Winter months to encourage parishioners to boost donations of specific toiletries and food items which are often in short supply on the Mission's food bank shelves. There is always a generous response to this Winter appeal.

Auckland Angels: In the lead up to Christmas, many parishioners welcomed the opportunity to once again participate in the City Mission's Auckland Angels programme. During the festive season, the Mission strives to make a difference to families already under considerable financial stress. As Christmas angels, parishioners donate new toys, books and other items which will be given as Christmas gifts to children who would otherwise have gone without.

Big Mission Home: It was exciting for us as a Parish to take part this year, for the first time, in the City Mission's Big Mission Home walk. The Mission drew our attention to the fact that many homeless people can cover long distances on foot to gain access to medical care and food, to check up on one another, and to find a safe place to sleep. Big Mission Home encouraged Aucklanders to seek sponsorship from friends and family for organised walks and to donate funds received to support the Mission's outreach to those living on the streets of our city. The Parish responded enthusiastically with 3 teams of walkers taking part, Team 1 climbed three volcanic cones in our neighbourhood, Team 2 walked the Cornwall Park loop and Team 3 stepped out on a 17km hike from St Aidan's to the Mission's HomeGround building in Hobson Street. It is hoped that this might become an annual event for those keen to be involved.

Barbara Weir

HABITAT for HUMANITY

Curtain Bank: The Parish continues to be a drop off point for donations of used, full length curtains for Habitat's Curtain Bank. Donated curtains are washed, double lined

and given free to assist low income families in keeping their homes warm and healthy and thereby reducing energy bills.

Home Repair Programme: Our annual Quizz Night selected Habitat's Home Repair programme as the recipient of funds raised on the night. This programme offers interest free loans to low income home owners struggling to afford critical maintenance and repairs to their homes. It was pleasing to be able to make a donation of \$2,000 which was gratefully received and acknowledged by way of a letter from the Habitat team.

Barbara Weir

CHARITABLE PURPOSES GROUP

This group held its usual annual meeting to recommend to Vestry its proposals for an appropriate distribution of the year's income from the Parish Mission Shop. This year, donations were approved to NZCMS; Anglican Board of Mission; Anglican Trust for Women and Children; Auckland City Mission; Christians against Poverty; Prison Chaplaincy Aotearoa NZ; Interchurch Council for Hospital Chaplaincy; Prisoners Aid and Rehabilitation Services. In addition, donations were made from the CPG emergency relief fund to Christian World Services in its work with the victims of the earthquake in Turkey and Syria; to the Anglican Mission's emergency appeal in the wake of Cyclone Gabrielle; and again to CWS to support relief efforts in Libya following the devastating flooding in that country.

It is important to acknowledge the work of Jenny Haggitt and her team of volunteers in the Mission Shop without whom these outreach donations from the Parish would not be possible.

Barbara Weir