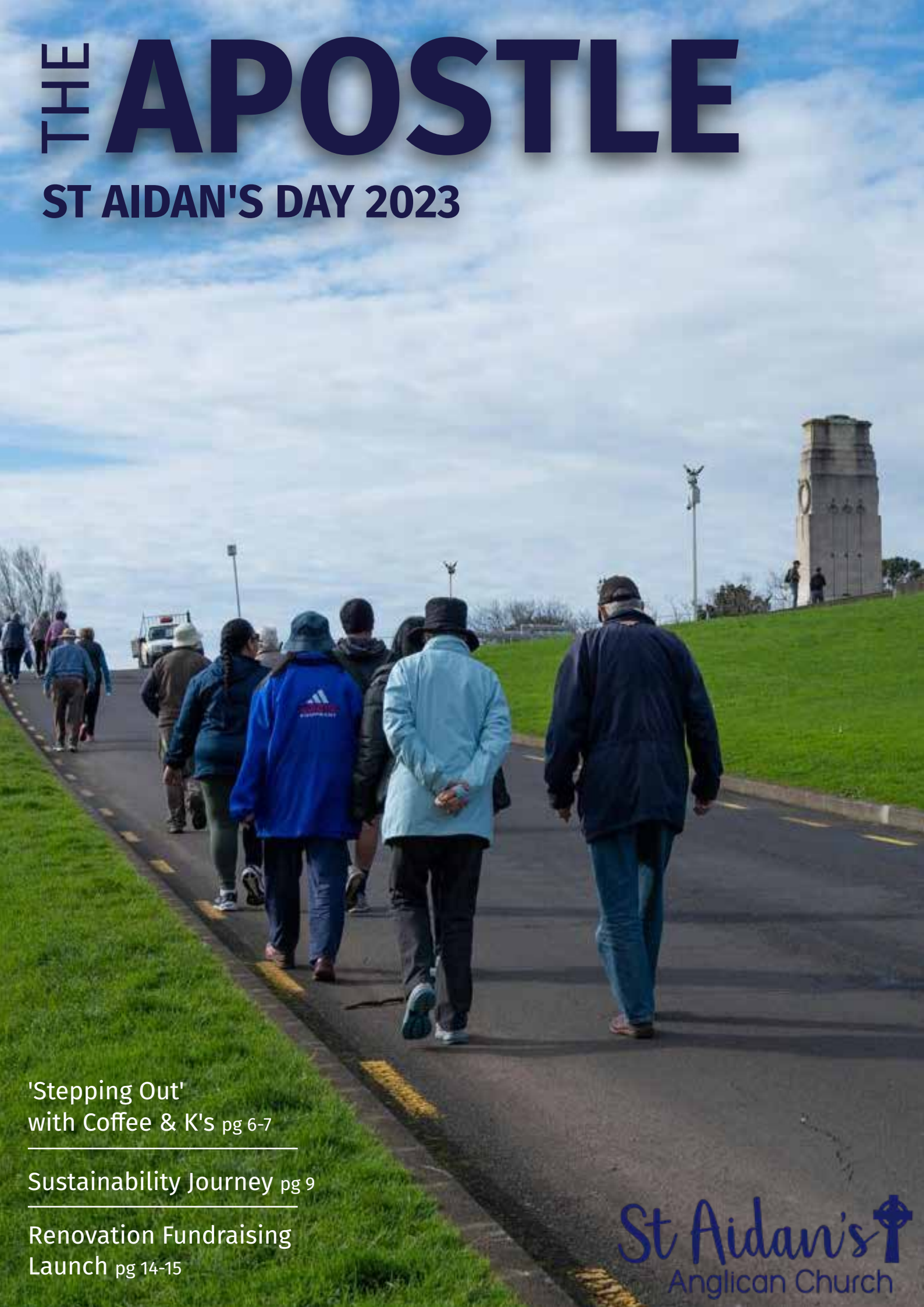
THE APOSTLE

ST AIDAN'S DAY 2023



'Stepping Out' with Coffee & K's pg 6-7

Sustainability Journey pg 9

Renovation Fundraising Launch pg 14-15

St Aidan's Anglican Church

Vicar's Foreword

Drawing towards the end of August, the rear-view mirror tells me that 2023 has had a few bumps along the way.

As we know, the most widespread of those was Cyclone Gabrielle. She caused havoc around the country, and we did not escape the effects with roof tiles lifting and flood damage to the youth bunker below the church. We are grateful for an $8,000 grant from the Anglican Missions towards the repairs needed.

Just last month a small fire in one of our hall toilets caused some unwanted Sunday night excitement. With Ascot Avenue closed and several fire appliances on the scene, we momentarily hit the headlines, causing a concerned phone call from Kerry on his holiday in Fiji asking what had happened, and another parishioner to drive across town at 11pm to check if the church was still standing. If you're reading this from afar: it is!

I also succumbed to some 'bumps' in 2023, needing to take time off for surgery and working reduced hours during subsequent chemo treatment. I want to take this opportunity to say thank you to the parish: your care, prayers and practical support during this time have been wonderful. You have been an expression of God's love to me.

Alongside the 'bumps', parishioners have continued stepping out, and we tell some of those stories in this edition. There's a new monthly walking group led by Vaoa, helpfully picking up our magazine theme of 'Stepping out' – see page 6. It's a great option for those wishing to blend intentional activity with social interaction.

Sustainability is the focus of Emily's article, in which she challenges us to step out and inspire others toward a more sustainable world. While we still have a way to go, it is helpful to see through Emily's eyes the impact we are making as a church.

We have two visual articles – photographic evidence of our annual fundraising quiz on page 21, and a similar pictorial report of our new Pentecost multicultural lunch which celebrated St Aidan's cultural diversity.

The young adults are anticipating an exciting end to their year as they step out in faith after saying 'yes' to a 14 day pilgrimage in Jerusalem. This will push many out of their comfort zones, but they are looking forward to the challenge as they see for themselves the places they have read about in the Bible – see page 12.

May I draw your attention to one more article, that I am particularly excited about? On page 14 are some updated plans for our 2023 building project, which now include the men's hall toilets. These will be converted into unisex toilets and include disability facilities. No longer is it a building project for some future year. We are stepping out in faith, launching the fundraising campaign now, with the intention of beginning the building this year. Would you please join me in considering prayerfully how you can support this project? It's time to step out, now. ✝

Blessings, Louise

Cover Photos Isobell Tregoweth

Front: July Coffee & K's. Read more about it on page 6

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'The Apostle' magazine is published on behalf of St Aidan's Anglican Church. All articles printed in the Parish Magazine are at the discretion of the editor. Content and size may be edited to fit publication. For permission to reproduce any material in this magazine, please contact our office.

We welcome your contributions and photos for the Christmas edition of 'The Apostle' magazine. Deadline: 31st Ocober 2023.

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Youth

We have Youth group running on both Friday nights and Sunday mornings during term time. Sunday mornings are when we look at the Bible, and recently we have finished our theme of 'Growing Older and Wiser', which taught us that no matter your age or experience we all have something valuable to offer even when we doubt ourselves.

This term, our focus is 'New Testament Characters', covering topics such as Seeing Jesus with Open Eyes and The Disciple of Doubt. We are looking forward to the discussions these stories will inspire.

Outside of St Aidan's, many of the youth attended E-Fest at Willow Park, exploring the theme of 'Disruption', coupled with plenty of activities and fellowship with young people from across the Auckland Diocese.

Likewise, our Senior youth recently attended the AYM leader's retreat at Huia, taking the opportunity to build relationships with others while also learning more about our own strengths and being more aware of how we use them in our day-to-day lives. ✝

Nic & Cameron

Youth Room Refurbishment

The Young Adults have been upgrading the youth room, after items had to be thrown out following the floods earlier this year. Thank you so much to everyone who has helped make this upgrade a success – those who lent us their paintbrushes, lifted heavy furniture, threw rubbish out, cleaned the floors, painted the walls, applied for money on our behalf, donated furniture – it's all appreciated! We are still looking for a few items to finish off the room, but please feel free to come downstairs and check it out next time you are at church. ✝

Cameron, Isobell, Izzi & Nic

REGULAR MINISTRIES

Sunday Services	8am Holy Communion. 9:30am Family Communion.
Wednesday Service	11:30am Holy Communion.
Weekly Prayer	Thursday mornings at 9am. Come along or join **via Zoom online** or by phone.
AAW	A women's afternoon fellowship group. Meets monthly on 1st Tuesday at 1:30pm. Contact Mary Parkinson.
Choir Practice	Saturdays at 10am in the Bethel Room. New members welcome. Contact Antoinette Pope.
Coffee & K's	Meets for a walk and coffee on the 4th Saturday of each month. Contact Vaoa Davis.
Contemplative Prayer	Meets each Wednesday at 9:45am via Zoom. Contact Anne Priestley.
Kids' Church	All children ages 3-10 during the 9:30am Sunday service. Contact Izzi Hoskyn.
mainly music	Wednesdays during term time at 9:30am. Music and play for families with pre-school aged children. Contact Tracy Helg.
Men's Ministry	Meets for breakfast, last Thursday of the month at 7:30am. Contact Kerry Davis.
Pins & Needles	Meets monthly on 2nd Monday of the month. Contact Gail Hodder.
Small Groups	Contact Sheryl Swanevelder or Louise for more information.
Vestry	Our governing body meets monthly on the 4th Thursday. Contact Louise or Kerry.
WEF	A women's evening fellowship group. Meets monthly on 3rd Tuesday at 7:30pm. Contact Jan Evans.
Writing Group	Meets on the last Friday of every month at 10am. Contact Anne Priestley.
Young Adults	Meets every 2nd Sunday at 11am plus occasional social events. Contact Isobell Tregoweth.
Youth	Ages 11+ at the 9:30am Sunday service, and Fridays at 7pm. Contact Nic Mercer.

ST FRANCIS DAY PET SERVICE

SUNDAY 8TH OCTOBER

4PM IN THE GATHERING AREA

All are welcome

ANZAC Day 2023

It was my wish to create a floral tribute with meaning to mark ANZAC Day 2023.

The vase reminded me of a battered cartridge shell, a reminder of the weapons of war that were so very damaging.

I chose grey canes to represent the spirits of those soldiers who lost their lives fighting in wars and left in far off lands.

I included Pohutukawa to remember the New Zealand soldiers in particular, who fought in the wars.

The Silver Dollar gum is to remember the Australians, who took part alongside the New Zealand soldiers, with whom we share ANZAC memories on 25th April each year.

The pine represents the Battle of Lone Pine in WWI when the ANZACs together were victorious in the Gallipoli campaign in August 1915.

The Silver Fern reminds us of the silver fern worn so proudly by the New Zealanders.

Rosemary is for remembrance of all those who were involved in active service, the Home Guard, and those who helped run our country at that time, including the women who stepped up and did the men's work so willingly.

I have included a knitted flower, remembering those women and men who diligently knitted socks, scarves, and balaclavas for the men serving our country in times of war.

The poppies are for remembrance for all commonwealth countries. The poppy reminds us of those who lost their lives, or suffered, in wars, conflicts, and peace keeping operations, a tradition which grew from a poem, 'In Flanders Fields', after WWI.

So, this is my tribute to those who died in action, fought in wars, were injured, maimed or debilitated.

We will remember them. ✝

Gail Hodder

Tribute to the Rev Canon Roy Everall

I first met the Everall Family in 1963 when their second son, Warwick and I started in the Lower Primers at King's School. We visited each other's homes, the Everalls in Parnell and our home in Remuera. When they moved to St Aidan's in 1969, we became even more regular visitors to each other's homes. Briar was a very good cook, and the Sunday Roast Lunches were superb. There were usually several other guests as well as their own family. Roy and Briar were wonderful hosts.

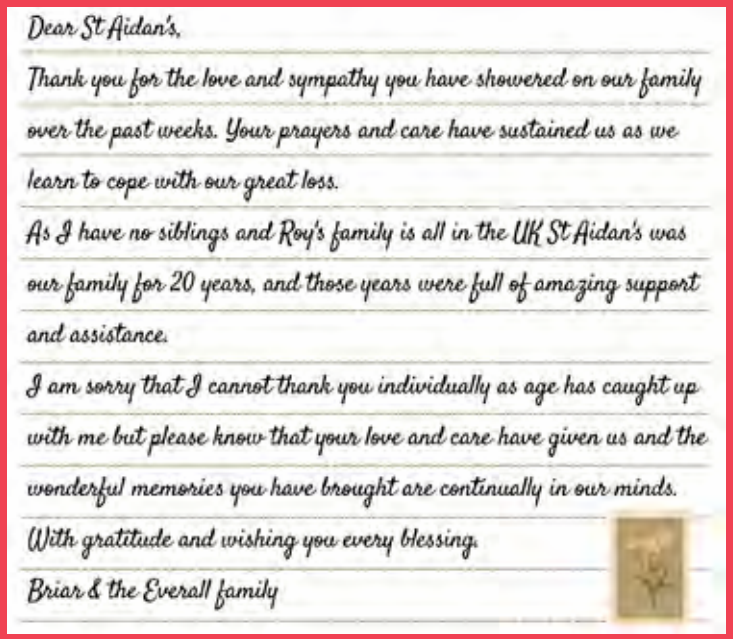
I would often stay at the Vicarage (the old one!) when my parents were away.

After my father died in 1991, Roy was a great source of wise counsel. I knew I could always turn to him for advice. I always enjoyed my discussions with him whether it be church-related matters or world affairs.

His was a wonderful ministry at St Aidan's. He was a good preacher and wonderful with his pastoral care and showed a keen interest and supported all the groups of the parish.

Go with God, Roy. I will always value your friendship and support. ✝

Stuart Sinclair



Dear St Aidan's,

Thank you for the love and sympathy you have showered on our family over the past weeks. Your prayers and care have sustained us as we learn to cope with our great loss.

As I have no siblings and Roy's family is all in the UK St Aidan's was our family for 20 years, and those years were full of amazing support and assistance.

I am sorry that I cannot thank you individually as age has caught up with me but please know that your love and care have given us and the wonderful memories you have brought are continually in our minds.

With gratitude and wishing you every blessing.

Briar & the Everall family

'Stepping out' with Coffee & K's

Our Coffee & K's ministry has certainly clocked up a few kilometres over the past few months and seen new faces join the group. It is a relaxed activity somewhat like 'stepping out' in faith in which we enjoy walking a pre-planned circuit. It has been a blessing to walk alongside those who have joined the group thus far!

The camaraderie and making new connections continues to be the draw-card for the group! The 8am and 9:30am parishioners are starting to see that we are after all one family by coming together for gatherings like this. We enjoy the beauty of our surroundings through God's creation. Table fellowship is also a highlight and we conclude our walks with good coffee and baking in different cafes around the local area.

Our walk in March was postponed due to rain but in April we were blessed with glorious weather to do a loop around the base of Cornwall Park. The day was also enjoyed by like-minded walkers including various groups fundraising for the Auckland City Mission's 17 kilometre walk to the Home Ground premises in the city. Our Coffee & K's group also supported this initiative by fundraising for the homeless. A well-deserved coffee was appreciated at the popular Cornwall Park Café at the conclusion of our walk.

It was wonderful to welcome some new faces in May for the Waiatarua Reserve Loop. Commencing at Meadowbank Mall, the route took us on to Grand Drive through the network of paths around the reserve, through wetlands and past a stand of Australian gum trees. Although sections of the track were damp following recent rain, it did not deter us from completing the course and finishing with coffee at B&J Café in the Meadowbank Mall.

Our walk in June welcomed yet more new faces to the group. The Te Ara ki Uta ki Tai route started on St Johns Road near the Meadowbank Pony Club. We followed the newly installed pathway that runs parallel with the eastern rail line and Purewa Cemetery, crossing over the Ōrākei Basin while admiring views of the Auckland city skyline. Ampersand Eatery in the Ōrākei Bay Village blessed us with great coffee, muffins and scones!

Our mid-winter walk in July was another great turn-out. Our morning was bathed in glorious sunshine for the Auckland Domain Loop. It started at the Wintergardens and we headed along towards the historic grandstand, up past the War Memorial Museum, and concluding back at the Wintergardens Café for coffee. It was wonderful to see more new faces and to be a part of a morning that was greatly enjoyed by all.

The satisfaction of getting out in the fresh air, being with others, and witnessing the beauty of our city is so uplifting for one's spirit. So, why don't you come and join us by 'stepping out'?

Coffee & K's welcomes you on the fourth Saturday of each month for an easy 45 minute walk, followed by coffee at a nearby café. Nau mai, hāere mai! ✝

Vaoa Davis

If we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another

1 John 1:7a

Electronic Roadside Sign

As most parishioners will know, the electronic roadside sign was damaged in the Auckland Anniversary weekend storm. Buffeting from the storm caused the wooden supporting posts to snap off at ground level and the electronic sign, along with the information panel, fell into the rockery, lying there for a couple of weeks until a number of willing helpers were able to move them.

Some weeks later a team of volunteers shifted the electronic sign to the back of the stage and therefore out of the weather. In the meantime another maintenance team member arranged for two steel posts to be cemented into the ground close to where the sign was originally. Digging holes for these posts was quite an exercise with the tree roots in that area. However persistence paid off, and eventually two substantial steel posts were concreted in and the information panel and frame were bolted to the steel posts.

These steel posts are quite something – being the size they are, they are going to last a very long time!

A couple of weeks after the posts went in, the sign's electronics were checked over. Two things became obvious: the sign had suffered remarkably little damage from its face-plant into the rockery, and the electronics were far from clean, having a widespread blackish deposit. The latter is a result of the sign being out by the road with all manner of vehicles trundling past, day and night.

Two major electronic items were taken home, dismantled, cleaned, serviced and reinstated.

The sign (still in the hall at this stage) then had power applied temporarily. To our great surprise, it didn't trip a fuse but sprang into life and scrolled the words of Psalm 34:4 across the front, and - curiously - displayed a time and date from May of this year.

However, the sign did actually still work!

The next job was to take the sign (which actually consists of two large steel boxes sitting side-by-side) to a team member's home for renovation, as it must be remembered that the sign has been outside in all weathers for over ten years. A surprising quantity of rust was scraped and chipped off. Then came patching of the inevitable rust holes, followed by priming, undercoating, and top-coating both boxes along with the steel frame that holds the two sign boxes.

The sign was reinstated two weekends later. First up was the steel frame and, to our great relief, all the bolt holes still lined up.

Then it was time to lift each sign box into place. This was quite a task as they are large, bulky and reasonably heavy. However the job was accomplished and, most importantly, without incident.

Another weekend some weather-sealing was applied to the upper surface of the boxes to slow the inevitable deterioration Auckland's salty air creates. With that accomplished the severed electrical cable was then separated out, checked, and found to still be intact – hooray! The cable was made safe again and at the time of writing, is where things stand.

The next job is to chip out some concrete as the electrical cable has to be rerouted slightly, extend the cable, run it up a post and into its box, followed by reconnecting and testing.

All this is still a fair amount of work, but the end is now in sight, and soon the local community and passing motorists will once again enjoy messages from our church scrolling across the sign for all to see and contemplate. ✝

David Cotton

Stop Press: The E-sign is now back online and working!

Sustainability Journey:

Cultivating Change and Community Commitment

Three years ago, with a sense of purpose and determination, I eagerly put up my hands to attend a Sustainability Workshop in Pukekohe, which was thoughtfully organized by the Anglican Diocese. My primary goal was to contribute to the development of Diocesan Zero Carbon, a vital initiative to address environmental challenges. The first meeting proved to be a transformative experience, providing me with a wealth of knowledge and inspiring ideas.

During the workshop, I had the pleasure of meeting like-minded individuals from various churches around Auckland. The exchange of ideas was invigorating, and I felt a growing sense of camaraderie among us. Inspired by the collective enthusiasm, I came back home with a long list of sustainable projects I planned to pursue. At the forefront were the ideas of installing a compost bin to reduce organic waste, and planting fruit trees to enhance the ecological diversity of our community.

However, life had other plans, and the world was soon engulfed in the grip of the Covid-19 pandemic. My well-intentioned plans were temporarily shelved as we all grappled with the new reality of social distancing and lockdowns. The list of to-do's for sustainability, unfortunately, remained untouched during that time.

As the pandemic persisted, an entire year passed before I had the opportunity to attend the second sustainability meeting. This time the focus was on managing waste effectively. The workshop was a valuable reminder of the importance of environmental stewardship. Once again, I was filled with ideas and eagerness to contribute.

Despite my best intentions, I found myself unable to materialize those ideas into action. I realized that many of the projects required ongoing commitment and resources. For instance, while the idea of building a compost bay was appealing, it demanded continuous effort and human resources to manage effectively. The obstacles left me feeling disheartened and guilty for not accomplishing more.

However, my perspective took a profound shift when I had the opportunity to attend the latest workshop on 'Planting in the church grounds.' The workshop proved to be a moment of clarity, as I realized that amidst my regrets and self-criticism, I had overlooked the remarkable achievements of our community in the realm of sustainability.

Our Church grounds stood as a testament to the dedication and hard work of numerous volunteers.

Thanks to Anne Mercer's thoughtful landscaping, our grounds were adorned with an array of trees, shrubs, and ground covers, which not only added to the beauty of the place but also contributed to the local ecosystem. The care provided by the volunteers was commendable, as they nurtured these plantings with love and attention.

Moreover, the effort to transition from plastic cups to reusable glasses, spearheaded by Annmarie, was another step towards sustainability. The simple act of using reusable glasses significantly reduced plastic waste, showcasing the power of small changes in driving environmental impact.

Anne Priestley's initiative in starting a group focused on community-oriented writing for advocacy and justice was yet another remarkable contribution to sustainability. Through her efforts, the community was mobilized, and voices were raised for various environmental causes, instigating positive change.

Isobell's project, Pātaka Kai, was a heartwarming example of community support. By sharing excess produce with those in need, we fostered a culture of cooperation and solidarity. Not only did this initiative minimize food waste, but it also showcased the power of empathy and compassion in building a sustainable community.

One of our most cherished achievements was the establishment of our Mission Shop which runs a recycled clothing store. The focus on reusing items instead of discarding them highlighted our commitment to reducing waste.

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Our efforts in this area are further complemented by the organisation of a vibrant garage sale, which became a centrepiece of our sustainability journey.

The Garage Sale is a celebration of reuse and recycling, bringing the entire community together. The overwhelming amount of items that found new homes through this event was impressive. Our team work tirelessly to ensure that items are redirected to the right places for reuse and recycling. The dedication and meticulousness in segregating metals for metal scrap facilities and finding suitable homes for clothing exemplified our commitment to environmental responsibility.

The success of the Garage Sale and the sustainable practices within our community are a testament to the power of collective action. We may not be able to do everything, but by focusing on our strengths and passions, we unknowingly achieve remarkable progress in promoting sustainability.

As I reflect on our journey, I invite others to join us in our efforts. With more hands and minds working together, we can magnify our impact and accomplish even more. Sustainability is not a one person endeavour; it requires a community united in purpose. Together, we can shape a brighter and greener future, where compassion and responsibility toward the environment are at the heart of all we do. Let us stand as beacons of change, and inspire others to follow in our footsteps towards a more sustainable world. ✝

Emily Paul

Stepping out with the Writing Group:

helping businesses to encourage recycling

Have you ever opened a packet of biscuits, only to discover that the packaging is difficult or impossible to recycle?

Fed up (pun intended!) with this problem, I took some food packaging to the June meeting of the Writing Group, and wrote polite emails to the manufacturers.

Ceres Organic told me: 'Packaging is a major focus of the brand and something we continue to learn more about through our journey towards more sustainable solutions.' This company has used compostable packaging for some of its products. But it's hard to achieve the right conditions for its decomposition at home, and there's still very little commercial or local body infrastructure to deal with it. So Ceres took the tough but understandable decision not to increase the range of their products which use compostable packaging.

Some of Pam's biscuits have no recycling information on them. Pam's customer services told me (in part): 'We are working towards 100% reusable, recyclable or compostable retail and private label (Pams, Value and Gilmours) packaging by 2025. An audit of all our packaging materials was completed earlier this year.' They mentioned their intention to improve labelling. Sounds good? They are a big outfit, and their decisions matter. I wondered, though, why they hadn't got on with their packaging audit earlier. Also, those words '...working towards... by 2025...' don't fill me with hope for swift action.

On Donovans chocolates (someone had given me a couple of packets!) the recycling information was not obvious. One packet said: 'Dispose of me responsibly' - but how? (I've seen some products - not Donovans - which include a picture of a rubbish bin alongside these words, not exactly a responsible approach!) Donovan's customer services replied: Donovans is a product of Mother Earth, and they have a sustainability page on their website. At least some of their plastics are recyclable, either at the kerbside or through the soft plastic recycling scheme. 'We have investigated many different options. Currently this is the best option for our customers. We are always testing and looking into other options...'

At this point, I felt like a cup of tea and a biscuit!

One step at a time? Packaging is a difficult problem. You too could write or phone companies to ask how to dispose of their packaging. By doing so, you remind them that customers want responsible choices.

Basic food materials are often packaged in more eco-friendly ways. Perhaps next time, instead of buying biscuits, I'll make some! ✝

Anne Priestley

Parish Events

Palm Cross making session, getting ready for Palm Sunday

Autumn Night Market

Parish Special General Meeting

Autumn Night Market

St Aidan's Big Mission Home walking team

Stepping Out in Faith

The Young Adults Journey to Jerusalem!

What's going on?

In November 2022, Sarah West (Chaplain to Young Adults for the Anglican Diocese of Auckland) asked the four of us if we would like to join a crew heading over to Jerusalem. We couldn't believe it!

We have since joined the Community of Ordinary Saints (COS), an inclusive community of Anglicans in their 20s and 30s from churches across the Diocese of Auckland. Four other COS members are heading to Jerusalem with us, along with Sarah and the Diocesan Youth Facilitator, Steph.

The majority of this trip has been funded by St John's College Trust Board, for which we are extremely grateful. We would also like to thank those who have donated towards the remaining costs we are fundraising to cover.

Arriving on 19 November in Jerusalem, we will participate in a 14-day pilgrimage called "Palestine of Jesus" through St George's College.

While our schedule hasn't been set yet, the "Palestine of Jesus" pilgrimage draws upon various places, narratives, and landscapes in both historical and contemporary contexts.

Some location examples include the Holy Sepulchre, Jacob's Well, the Sea of Galilee, the Mount of Olives, the Garden of Gethsemane, the Dead Sea, the Yad Vashem Holocaust Remembrance Centre, and a Palestinian refugee camp.

Who are we?

Cameron - I have been at St Aidan's for almost nine years as a member of youth and young adults groups. Formerly a verger at St Aidan's, I now work full time as a restaurant manager at Mexicali Mt Eden.

Isobell - I've been at St Aidan's since I was in Year 9, so about 17 years now. As for my mahi, I am the Fundraising Specialist at Parenting Place Charitable Trust and also the Website and Social Media Content Manager here at St Aidan's.

Izzi - I joined the St Aidan's community in 2018 after moving to Aotearoa from America. At church, I work as a verger and am the Children's Ministry Coordinator. Outside of church, I work in the local screen and theatre industries and currently work at the Directors and Editors Guild of Aotearoa New Zealand.

Nic - I have been a part of the St Aidan's community since I was born 26 years ago. I am currently the youth leader as well as working full-time as the Assistant Accountant at Laidlaw College.

Cameron

Isobell

Izzi

Nic

Why did we say yes?

Cameron - In 2019 and 2020, I participated in the AYM BOLD programme, designed to challenge and develop young leaders. This involved a mission trip to Fiji, which was an incredible faith experience for me.

My hope is that stepping out in faith and visiting the Holy Land can be another mind-opening experience for me in the very places where Jesus walked.

Isobell - I think it's going to be incredibly humbling, informative and spiritually inspiring. I chose to say yes to the trip as I wanted to connect with the Bible and the stories we hear every week at church more.

As Cameron said, it'll also be awesome to walk where Jesus walked. But I also think it's going to be confronting and emotional as well. It's a true stepping out in faith moment for us all!

Izzi - Because adventure is out there! This is an incredible opportunity to travel to a part of the world that has always felt widely distant.

Being given an opportunity to connect with the historical, cultural, and geographical context of the Bible is something I had never thought was possible. It's honestly the opportunity of a life time so I couldn't say no!

Nic - I have always been interested in increasing my understanding and knowledge of the stories that I have heard in church throughout the years, as well as the opportunity to explore a place that holds so much significance.

It's a journey that I may never get the chance to do again and to experience as part of a group rather than on my own will make the experience so much more exciting.

What are we looking forward to the most?

Cameron - I am most excited to see the historic sites, such as the Holy Sepulchre and the Garden of Gethsemane.

I look forward to exploring the history of the area, comparing and contrasting with Jerusalem today. I want to be pushed out of my comfort zone and come home with stories of new experiences.

Isobell - I am honestly looking forward to the whole trip. I love that we'll be engaging with both historical and contemporary contexts. I think every space and landscape we explore is going to be a memorable one.

But if I had to pick one thing, then I'd say the Sea of Galilee! I am also excited to meet new people from around the world.

Izzi - I am most excited for the opportunity to connect with history and my faith through physically being in such significant places.

I often find historical sites deeply moving, so am excited to see how my faith evolves from being in the same spaces as Jesus, Mary, and the other Biblical greats. I expect lots of tears... but the good kind!

Nic - I am looking forward to being able to explore and take in all the historical sites, especially the ones that we hear and read so much about and learn more about them.

I am also excited to meet the people and experience the culture of a country that is significantly different to New Zealand.

Thank you

A massive thank you to those who have donated to this adventure!
We look forward to sharing our trip with you when we are back.

Gathering Area Kitchen and Hall Toilets Refurbishment

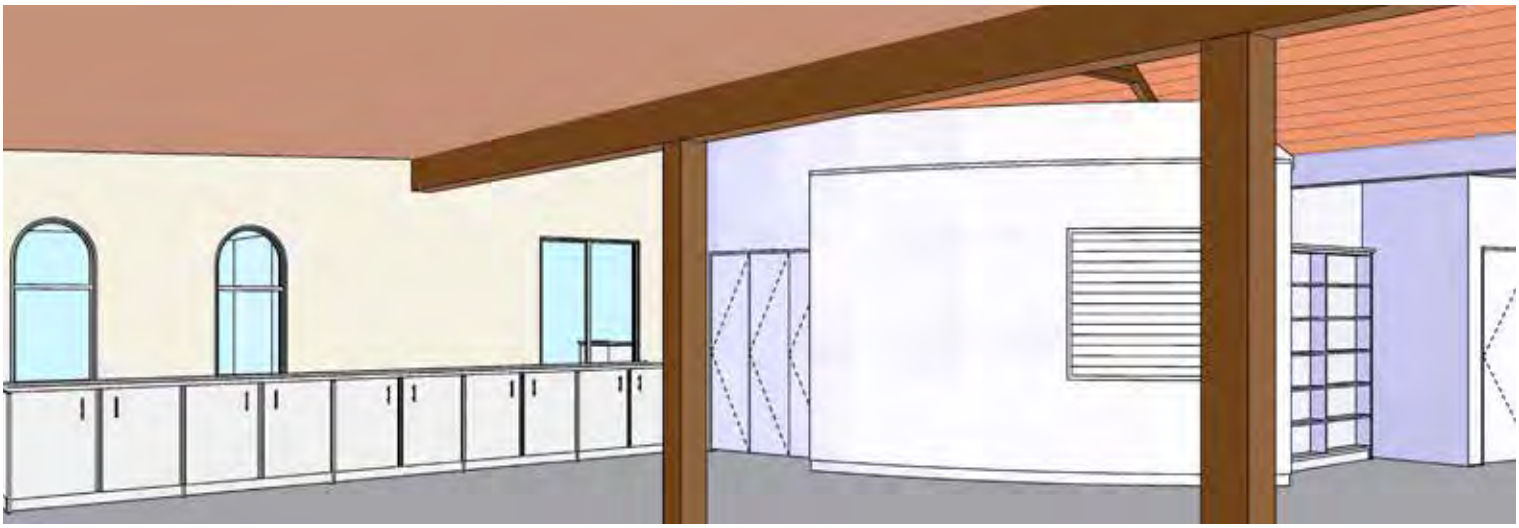
Biblical mandate

The importance of hospitality is illustrated throughout Scripture. Hebrews 13:1-2 says, “Keep on loving each other as brothers and sisters. Don’t forget to show hospitality to strangers, for some who have done this have entertained angels without realizing it!” We are called to do the same because as we serve others, we serve Christ. The church building is our parish home and whether it’s a funeral gathering, or after our regular Sunday worship, hospitality is a key part of these gatherings. We want, and need, facilities that are safe to use, and are welcoming for those who use them.

Problem

The existing Gathering Area Kitchen is no longer fit for purpose for the increased/ changed activities that now occur in the Gathering Area compared with when the kitchen was first installed. The new emphasis on Health and Safety places the onus on us to address areas of concern. is under-utilized.

- The size of the kitchen is too small even for our weekly Sunday after church refreshments.
- The half-size fridge is inadequate for our needs.
- Health and Safety - Lack of a stove in this space means that all heating needs to be done in the social lounge and then carried down the stairs. This carrying of hot food occurs at funerals, Friday night social events, Youth group sessions and Sunday special morning tea events. We are fortunate that we haven’t had a fall as people try to manage the hazard of the stairs.
- Health and Safety - Poor hygiene for hand washing. Regulations have now changed and it is no longer acceptable to wash hands in a kitchen sink before preparing food. A separate basin must be provided.
- Lack of sterilizer. The dish washer takes at least 40 mins if not longer to clean items. For large groups people have been known to take the wine glasses home to wash to then bring back, or when the dish washer is full take a load up to the hall kitchen sterilizer.
- Inadequate bench space. A catering company was seen to have put platters on the kitchen floor laden with food because of lack of space!
- Inadequate storage. Many items are stored in the hall kitchen such as plates and then carried back and forth when they are required in the Gathering Area.



The kitchen refurbishment plan

Addresses the points raised above - full size fridge, improved bench space for preparation, stove for heating items meaning that the stair trip hazard when carrying hot food is removed, storage is increased. A servery for the distribution of tea and coffee away from the existing trolleys will create more space in the Gathering area during functions. The increased size of the kitchen will allow more people to enter the space without it being a source of frustration for those 'on duty' not being able to continue with their tasks. A stove in this area will also mean that we are not dictated by the social lounge bookings as to whether an event can proceed in the Gathering Area.

The hall toilet's issues

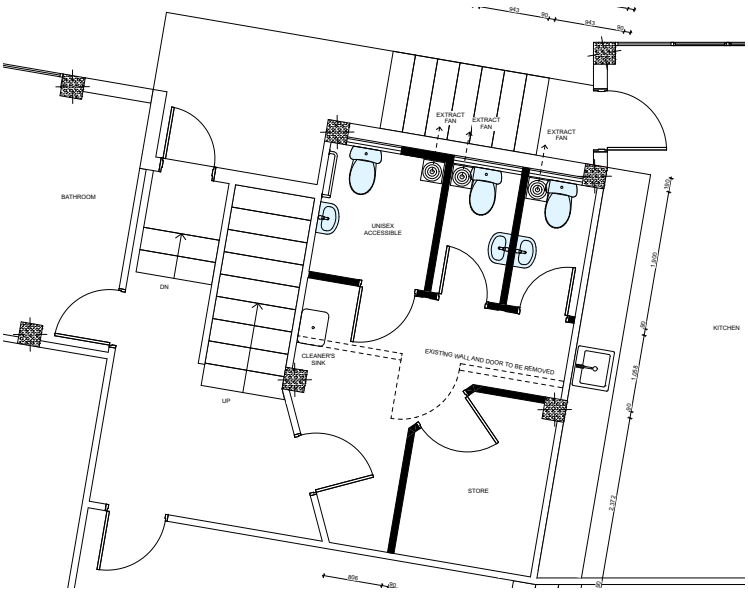
The hall toilets have long been an area of concern by parishioners stretching back several vicars. The men's toilets have a constant pungent odour which no level of cleaning is able to remove, they are outdated, and the unused space which once might have been useful for people changing after badminton games is now only used for unsecured storage. There is no disability facility at this level in our complex for anyone who might have a walker or need a rail to support them as they use the toilet. Our toilets are no longer fit for purpose or hospitable for people using our facilities.

What now?

The time schedule for some of the key events are:-

- Fundraising launch on 27th August 2023
- Building to commence on toilet project by 1 December 2023
- Building to commence on the GA kitchen project by 20 February 2024.
- We have the plans and we are gaining the necessary consents. Our fundraising target is $150,000 and we are already underway thanks to an early donation.
- Please prayerfully consider how you might be able to financially support this project. Pledge forms are available or speak to one of the fundraising team: Keith Simpson, Nigel Brown, John Button, Garth Williams, Stuart Gray, and Tony Clephane.

Gathering Area Kitchen



Hall Unisex Toilets & Cleaner's Closet

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Sibuns
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Proud to be part of the St Aidan's community.

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www.sibuns.co.nz

Pentecost Multicultural Lunch

Stepping out and celebrating our cultural diversity at St Aidan's. Pentecost provided an excellent opportunity to try something new, a lunch with a touch of cultural heritage. The colourful flags and decorations on the day certainly added a festive flavour to our gathering and the conclusion was, "to do it again next year!"

Pins & Needles

Winter really is upon us now – cold, wet with a few sunny patches. I am amazed at the amount of lovely, knitted garments that are brought along to our meetings or delivered from our outworkers.

Thank you, to every one of you who knit to keep our babies, toddlers, the elderly, and the homeless, warm and cosy. It is all very much appreciated.

We donated some two dozen beanies to the homeless through the Auckland City Mission - they were delivered on a Thursday morning and distributed that evening to those sleeping rough on our streets. The City Mission were delighted and have suggested that, if our group is able, they would love more beanies, scarves, and mittens please. We have plenty of wool to knit more.

On delivering knitting to ATWC I learned that they had run out of all clothing to distribute to children in need, and were contemplating having to buy clothing. Fortunately, the Mission Shop at St Aidan's was able to donate a box of clothing and ATWC were most grateful.

One of our knitters, Jane Williams, also creates beautiful children's quilts. She very kindly donated a number to the Pins & Needles group to be sold so we could purchase more yarn. A very successful outcome indeed earning us $240. Thank you Jane.

I would also like to mention a very special little group we knit for – I call them the "Angel Babies" – those babies who are stillborn or have a very short life. These babies are very special to families, and at such a difficult time should also be remembered with love.

We were asked if we could knit some small sizes so that these babies could be presented to their family looking nicely dressed. I delight in knitting the tiniest little booties and beanies for these little ones in the hope that it brings some comfort in a very difficult situation. These babies are part of a family and not to be forgotten.

I recall visiting a family on the birthday of their little girl who had died from a brain tumour. We joined in their celebration of what would have been Ana's 8th birthday with a lovely cake with candles and sang happy birthday. She is still very much a part of her family, never forgotten. ✝

Gail Hodder

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord. *Colossians 3:23a*

Hall Toilet Fire

A fire which started in one of our hall toilets resulted in nine fire vehicles attending on Sunday evening 30th July. Only one was needed, but it was good to know that, if the fire had been worse, they would have been well resourced to deal with the situation. We are very thankful that all of our safety procedures worked well. The dance group in the hall at the time evacuated quickly and the fire was contained to the one area.

It was reassuring to see Bishop Ross in his role as volunteer fireman on the scene adding to the knowledge that our building was in safe hands. We sincerely thank the NZ Fire Service for their rapid and effective reposnse.

Spring Crafts

Egg Shell Seed Starters

Materials:

- Eggs & egg carton
- Spoon
- Dirt/soil
- Seeds
- Water
- Marker

Instructions:

First thing you want to do is use some eggs. Have a cake you've been meaning to make? Now's the time. Crack the eggs carefully, I suggest using a spoon, around the upper ⅓ of the egg. Remove the top and empty the egg into a bowl for whatever you plan on cooking.

Next, rinse out the eggshell and allow to dry completely. It will be sturdy, but fragile, so handle with care.

Fill the eggs ⅔ full of dirt and place 1-3 seeds in each egg. Cover with a light layer of dirt and press down gently. Use the spoon to add about 1-2 tablespoons of water to each seeded eggshell. Set in a sunny spot free from drafts and wait for them to grow!

Write what seeds are in each egg so you don't forget.

When they've grown enough to be transplanted into the garden, you can just pop the whole eggshell into the ground and it'll naturally fertilize the plant as the shell decays! ✝

Bow-Tie Pasta Butterflies

Materials:

- Coloured permanent markers or paint
- Black sharpie
- White paper
- Bow-tie shaped pasta
- Glue

Instructions:

Start by painting your little noodles with bright fun colours and let dry.

For the grass, carefully cut the noodles in half and paint them green. Glue them all to a piece of white card stock paper.

Add sharpie antennas and dots behind them so it looks like they're flying! ✝

String Flower Art

Materials:

- Cardstock or thick paper
- Scissors, pencil
- Yarn
- Thick needle
- Flower template
- Pom poms
- Glue

Instructions:

Find a flower template you like, you can find one very easily by Googling 'flower template' online. You can make these cards any size you'd like, so once you have found a template shape you like, adjust it to the size you want and print it out. Cut your card paper to fit the flower shape.

Using the flower template, trace over your paper with pencil, then punch holes around your drawn-in flower with the needle.

Thread your needle with yarn and start threading through the holes. It's a good idea to start from one end to another. When you're done tie off a knot behind the card and repeat, starting with a new color yarn.

Glue a shiny pom pom in the middle and you are done! ✝

St Aidan's
Anglican Church

ANNUAL BAKE-OFF

SUNDAY 3RD SEPTEMBER

AFTER OUR 9:30AM SERVICE (APPROX. 10:30AM), A MYSTERY JUDGE WILL TASTE ALL OF THE COMPETING COOKIES. THE REST WILL BE SOLD FOR $1 PER COOKIE AS PART OF OUR GARAGE SALE FUNDRAISING.

A New Serenity Prayer

by James Martin, SJ

God, grant me the serenity
to accept the people I cannot change,
which is pretty much everyone,
since I'm clearly not you, God.
At least not the last time I checked.

And while you're at it, God,
please give me the courage
to change what I need to change about myself,
which is frankly a lot, since, once again,
I'm not you, which means I'm not perfect.
It's better for me to focus on changing myself
than to worry about changing other people,
who, as you'll no doubt remember me saying,
I can't change anyway.

Finally, give me the wisdom to just shut up
whenever I think that I'm clearly smarter
than everyone else in the room,
that no one knows what they're talking about except me,
or that I alone have all the answers.

Basically, God,
grant me the wisdom
to remember that I'm
not you.

Amen

@staidansremuera

Donations Needed

Calling all Parishioners, their families and friends of St Aidan's

We are accepting quality saleable items of furniture, toys, books, media, antiques, and high-end items.

DROP-OFF DAYS

Drop items off to the Social Lounge*
(Located in between the church and hall)

Saturday 2nd September, 11am-1pm
Sunday 3rd September, 11am-1pm
Tuesday 5th September, 4pm-6pm
Thursday 7th September, 4pm-6pm
Saturday 9th September, 11am-1pm
Sunday 10th September, 11am-1pm

Donations directly to the hall in the final week, 11th - 15th September, 9am-5pm.

Please note: we will not be accepting beds, filing cabinets, TVs, computers, printers, electrical items and white goods this year.

*We can collect oversized items by arrangement.

ST AIDAN'S REMUERA FAMOUS ANNUAL

GARAGE SALE

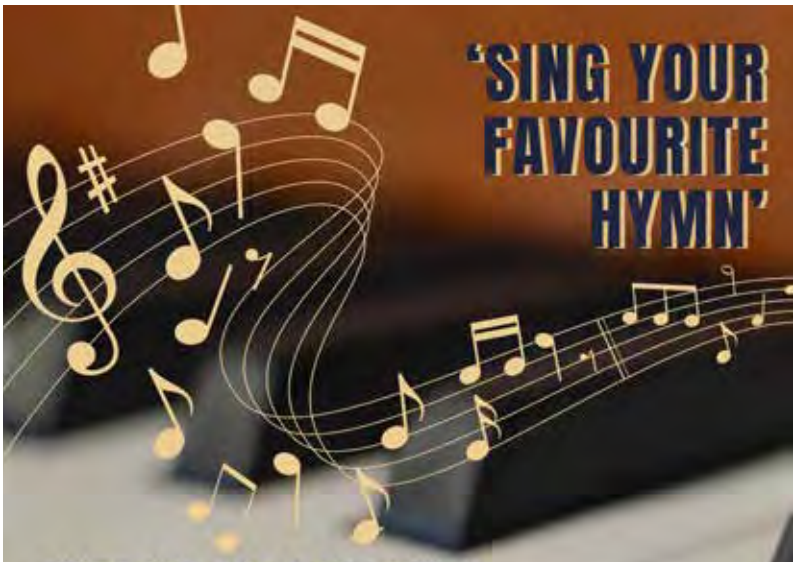
SATURDAY 16TH SEPT, 8AM

5 ASCOT AVENUE, REMUERA

This fundraiser supports our church projects, outreach missions and the maintenance of our facilities for community use.

St Aidan's
Anglican Church

'SING YOUR FAVOURITE HYMN'



ST AIDAN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH
5 ASCOT AVE, REMUERA

SUNDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER
2:30PM

Anita Banbury will lead,
with Brian Millar on the organ.
Followed by afternoon tea.

FREE ENTRY

St Aidan's
Anglican Church

Annual Quiz Night

Thank you very much to everyone who contributed to the success of our Annual Quiz Night in July. Money was raised for Habitat for Humanity's 'Healthy Homes' Programme, which provides low income whānau with free items to support better health outcomes over the winter period.

Women's Evening Fellowship

During the last four months, Women's Evening Fellowship has continued to enjoy a variety of very interesting speakers.

We had to reorganise a couple of evenings due to unforseen circumstances.

In April we welcomed one of our members, Lynne Florence, who has had a long association with St Aidan's Church and Parish. Lynne gave us a wonderful talk on her trip overseas with her husband Russell.

As Lynne spoke of their experiences, we were treated to lovely photos of the scenery around several of the world class golf courses in Ireland. They then enjoyed some sightseeing in Ireland before heading to Scotland. There they had a really fascinating time following Lynne's interest in genealogy and travelled to towns, villages and cemeteries of special interest discovering family connections. A wonderful evening to 'travel on the other side of the world'.

May was a rescheduled evening, that gave us an insight into ultra endurance swimming. Brian Gray, who is a parishioner, spoke to us about his most recent achievement of swimming 54km around Waiheke, non-stop except for 30 seconds every hour to take an energy drink. The swim took 13 hours, 44 minutes. He had three support boats while he was swimming.

Reaching the finish around 5.45pm, Brian said he wasn't overly tired, thanks to his daily training regime of 8km per day even on his days off work. It was certainly an amazing achievement.

June: Hato Hone St John were our guests. The evening was called 'Three Steps for Life' using the defibrillator. This was a very different evening, with the speakers Mia Noyes and a volunteer Stephen Robinson, bringing eight mannequins for everyone to practice on using the demonstrated techniques. Everyone found this great fun and a terrific learning experience.

Mia also gave us very good information about managing emergencies when one was alone or isolated, or with no cell phone. The evening was advertised locally inviting people to join us, so it was lovely to welcome some parents and their children. It was certainly a worthwhile, fun and informative evening.

With accumulated Koha we were able to make a $300.00 donation which was greatly appreciated.

In July we were able to welcome Katene Eruera after the postponement in February.

Katene is the recently retired Manukura/Principal of St John's Theological College. He spoke of his ministry being like different seasons. They were Worker/Priest (community Lawyer/Priest) in Whangarei, Military Chaplain (serving both in New Zealand and overseas), a Rector in Alice Springs, and an Educator at St John's College.

Since retiring from full time ministry, Katene is a PhD candidate at AUT Management School. The title of his PhD is, "Nurturing Christian Leadership in Māori contexts — Exploring new pathways to culturally responsive, sustainable and resilient Christian Institutions in Aotearoa NZ".

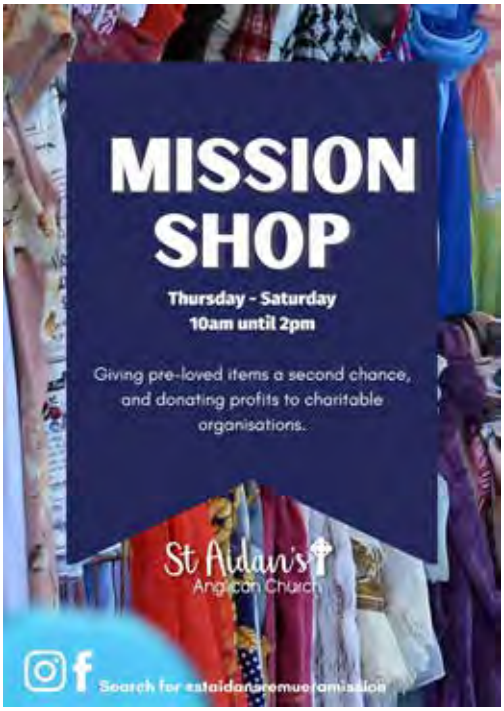
Katene hopes to make a meaningful contribution through his research, as we are sure he will. A very interesting and relevant talk which we all enjoyed. ✝

Jan & the team

Mission Shop

Good news to begin with – we achieved around 80% of our average annual total by the end of July. In 2019 it took until mid-September to get to that total, so we are really doing well. Donations continue to pour in, and people are now thinking about the Garage Sale.

We have been working hard the last few weeks to get all the summer clothes off the racks and replaced with winter clothes. All the winter boxes are now emptied so the bulk of the work is done. The summer clothes are in boxes, now awaiting the Garage Sale in September.



We regretfully say farewell to Wilma Willis who has been with the shop since we opened in 2014, however we have also welcomed several new volunteers to the team in recent months, so thank you all for your loyal support.

Jenny Haggitt

Association of Anglican Women

Our group has enjoyed great fellowship over the past few months and we have had good attendances at our meetings despite the miserable winter weather we've experienced. We have also welcomed new members to the group in recent months.

In May Terrena Griffiths enlightened us on the wonderful work of the Chip Packet Project and showed us how they make survival blankets from used chip packets and any other foil lined packaging. At our June meeting we heard from Josh Couch, Senior Producer of the Christian Broadcasting Service. He spoke about the radio programmes, podcasts and media chaplaincy that CBA organise within mainstream broadcasting. Diane Brereton, Social Connections Manager at Age Concern, along with Leti, were our speakers at our July meeting and they informed us of the services offered to the community. Leti also Informed us about their new initiative "Homeshare", based on generational living.

Our most recent meeting at the beginning of August saw us "Celebrating 40 years of the AAW Prayer Book". A book compiled by Rosemary Atkins and other women of the Waiapu Diocese. This book is used at all our meetings and is a great resource for prayers and readings. Rosemary reminisced about putting the book together along with Peter's support. Marie Taylor was AAW New Zealand President at the time and she also spoke about the book and its usefulness.

Each month we begin with a service in the church and are wonderfully supported by Louise or Kerry, when available, and Antoinette plays the organ. We finish off every meeting with a wonderful afternoon tea and everyone spends time together in wonderful conversation.

In September our speaker will be Michelle Brinsden, Eastern Bays Songbird Project Coordinator and at our October meeting we will be having an extra special afternoon tea in support of Breast Cancer Awareness Month. ✝

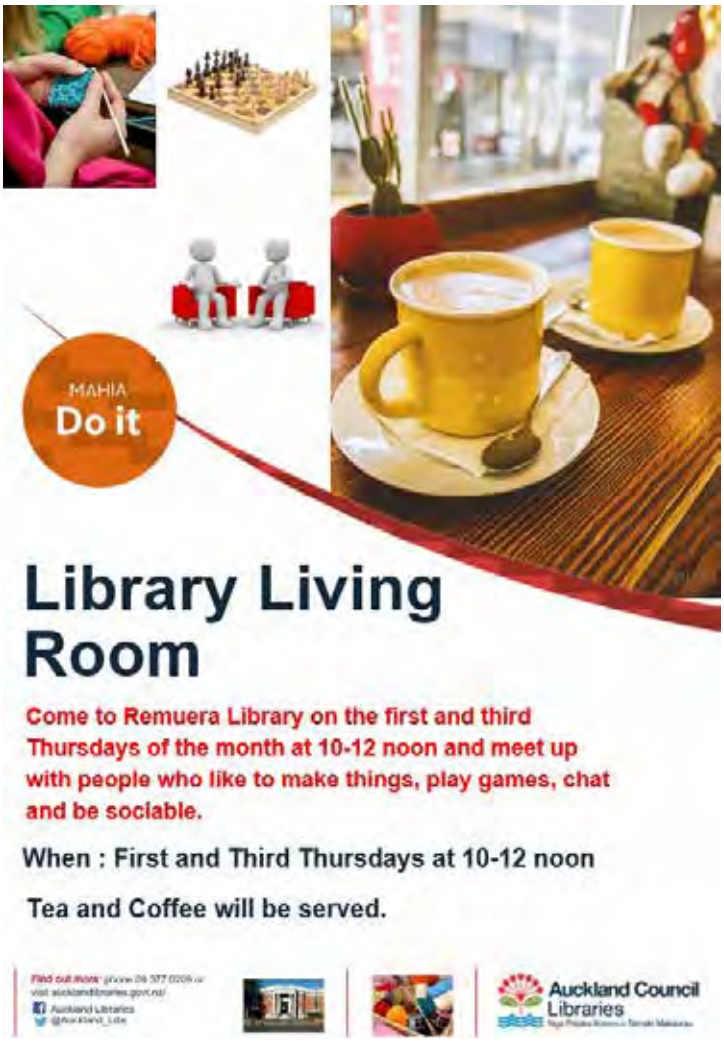
Mary, Sue, Christine, Marie, Robyn, Rosemary, Desré, Gail, Terrie & Margaret

A Pastoral Care Acrostic Poem
(Author unknown)

Pastoral Care is the loving response to people in need - wherever they are, and whatever they need.

Perceptiveness of people and the issues that they bear,
Attention to the trappings and the wrappings present there,
Sincerity in listening and reflecting what we hear,
Tenderness of presence to those hurting and in fear,
Openness in hearing what is different from our view,
Reverence for the treasure of a life which seems askew,
Affection for the beauty beneath the surface of the skin,
Love to dare and time to share for the soul alive within,
Compassion in the presence of a badly mangled life,
Acceptance of the anger, the depression born of strife,
Respect for all humanity and the baggage it must bear,
Enable us to share the journey as we offer Pastoral Care.

Community Noticeboard



Ōtāhuhu Food Festival

Saturday 30th September, 10am to 4pm, Great South Road, Otahuhu.

An all-day family event with over 100 ethnic food stalls and trucks lining the Great South Road in Ōtāhuhu. All celebrating Auckland's Ethnic Diversity through food!

St Aidan's Hall

Did you know there are exercise classes and social activities you can attend in our Hall?

YogaOne - Mondays at 8:45am weekly

Flexercise - Tuesdays at 10am weekly during school terms

Seniors Time to Dance - Thursday at 10:30am weekly during school terms

Pilates with Kimberley - Saturdays at 11am weekly

Dance Clubs - Friday, Saturday, and Sunday evenings

Martial Arts Groups - Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings, and Saturday afternoons

Visit our website www.staidans.co.nz/current-community-groups/ for more groups, more info and contact details of each group.

Space for you and your baby

Auckland Anglican Space for you and your baby is a parenting programme mainly for first-time parents of newborn babies.

Parents and babies attend the sessions together and extended whānau are always welcome. Participants usually join Space when their baby is between two and four months old. Parents of older babies are welcome to enquire if a suitable group has a place available for them to attend.

Our vision is "empowering and encouraging parents to support the development of the whole child in their first year of life."

For more information, please contact the Auckland Anglican Space programme coordinator Carolyn Wellm
Email: **space@aucklandanglican.org.nz**
Mobile: **022 657 5851**

Endowment Trust

Thank you on behalf of future parishioners.

Our latest donation: During the year a donation has been received into the Endowment Trust from the estate of Mary St Quentin Hills. Mary was a regular active parishioner over many years but sadly passed away in March 2022. We are extremely grateful to Mary and her family for remembering St Aidan's in this way by contributing to the future of St Aidan's parish.

What is the Endowment Trust? The Endowment Trust was established in 2014 to help secure the financial future of St Aidan's in good times and bad. It is managed by the General Trust Board of the Anglican Diocese of Auckland who ensure that the investment of the capital fund is secure and when appropriate they distribute the income.

Where can you find out more? A pamphlet is available with more details about the Trust or you can read about it for yourself on our website. If you want to speak to someone further about the Endowment Trust please speak to Marie Taylor, Russell Florence or John Priestley. ✝

Double Trouble

ON DISPLAY AT AUCKLAND MUSEUM UNTIL THE END OF 2023

For the past year, 'Peter', one of the world's rarest, most complete Tyrannosaurus rex skeletons, has captured the imagination of visitors to the Museum.

Now Peter is being joined by Barbara, an even larger female T. rex with an incredible survival story of her own to tell.

For the first time ever, Auckland Museum is the only place in the world to exhibit an adult male and female T. rex together. Don't miss two of the rarest, real T. rex skeletons ever discovered.

Exhibition also on now until 12th November, "Egypt: In the Time of Pharaohs". (Tickets required)

General Admission entrance is FREE for Museum Members and Auckland residents with proof of address, such as a library card or utility bill, by donation for those from the rest of New Zealand, and international visitors are required to purchase tickets.

From the Registers

March to July 2023

Baptisms

Noelle Donovan

Clare Donovan

Weddings

Weihong Yi & John Donaldson

Colly Wu & Leo Hau

Moira Russell & Arthur Aguiar

Funerals

Beatrice (Trixie) Curry

Emily (Alice) Wylie

Sheila Swarbrick

Richard Caughey

Wallace Mackrell

Pamela Grant

Colin Lewis

Evelyn Draffin

Geoffrey Lindberg

Janet Hanna

Kids' Zone

Jesus Walks on the Water

During the fourth watch of the night Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. Matthew 14:25 (NIV)

Based on Matthew 14:22-33 (NIV)

G	E	V	E	N	I	N	G	R	P	B	C	Y	P	O
S	S	C	P	Q	N	T	S	D	U	R	O	O	A	W
C	I	V	D	O	U	B	T	K	O	X	A	A	M	C
U	D	N	W	A	L	K	I	N	G	F	F	Y	T	E
O	N	E	K	G	A	X	B	Y	A	U	Y	S	U	O
S	J	D	U	K	L	A	W	C	F	Q	N	I	T	M
D	L	V	H	O	Q	L	B	O	G	A	M	Y	P	H
D	Z	O	E	I	C	O	J	U	W	Q	N	B	L	Z
D	J	Y	F	M	M	N	O	R	V	A	J	W	N	W
T	K	V	W	L	I	E	A	A	D	X	T	O	Q	A
I	A	W	I	N	D	M	F	G	P	V	R	E	F	V
F	P	S	A	V	E	U	R	E	W	S	B	A	R	E
V	L	A	K	E	D	Y	A	S	P	K	Y	Y	S	S
C	Y	O	X	H	E	Z	I	T	U	Z	U	A	I	K
R	H	A	N	D	A	N	D	Q	Y	N	H	W	X	H

EVENING	HAND	DOUBT	WAVES
COURAGE	AFRAID	SAVE	SINK
LAKE	WALKING	BOAT	WIND
PRAY	COME	WATER	ALONE

1

2

3

4

Kids' Church

Kids' Church has been very busy since the last magazine! We have continued learning how we can 'Let Our Light Shine', with lessons on how to be superheroes of Christ and how we can do great things if we work together.

We have done a lot of fun activities and crafts as well! We learnt about Jesus' ascension through a rising bubbles science experiment, the Trinity by looking for and exploring three-leaf clovers, and teamwork with parachute games. We have also 'gotten our craft on' with clay, watercolours, melty beads, yarn, pipe cleaners, and more!

Check out some of the crafts we have made this year:

1 & 2: Kindness Rocks

3: Shadow and Light Pictures

4 & 5: Watercolour Matariki skies ✝

Izzi Hoskyn
Children's Ministry Coordinator

5

Contacts at St Aidan's

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027 448 4467
Available: Tues pm - Sat am, Sun

Priest Associate
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Available: Sun-Thur

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Youth Leader
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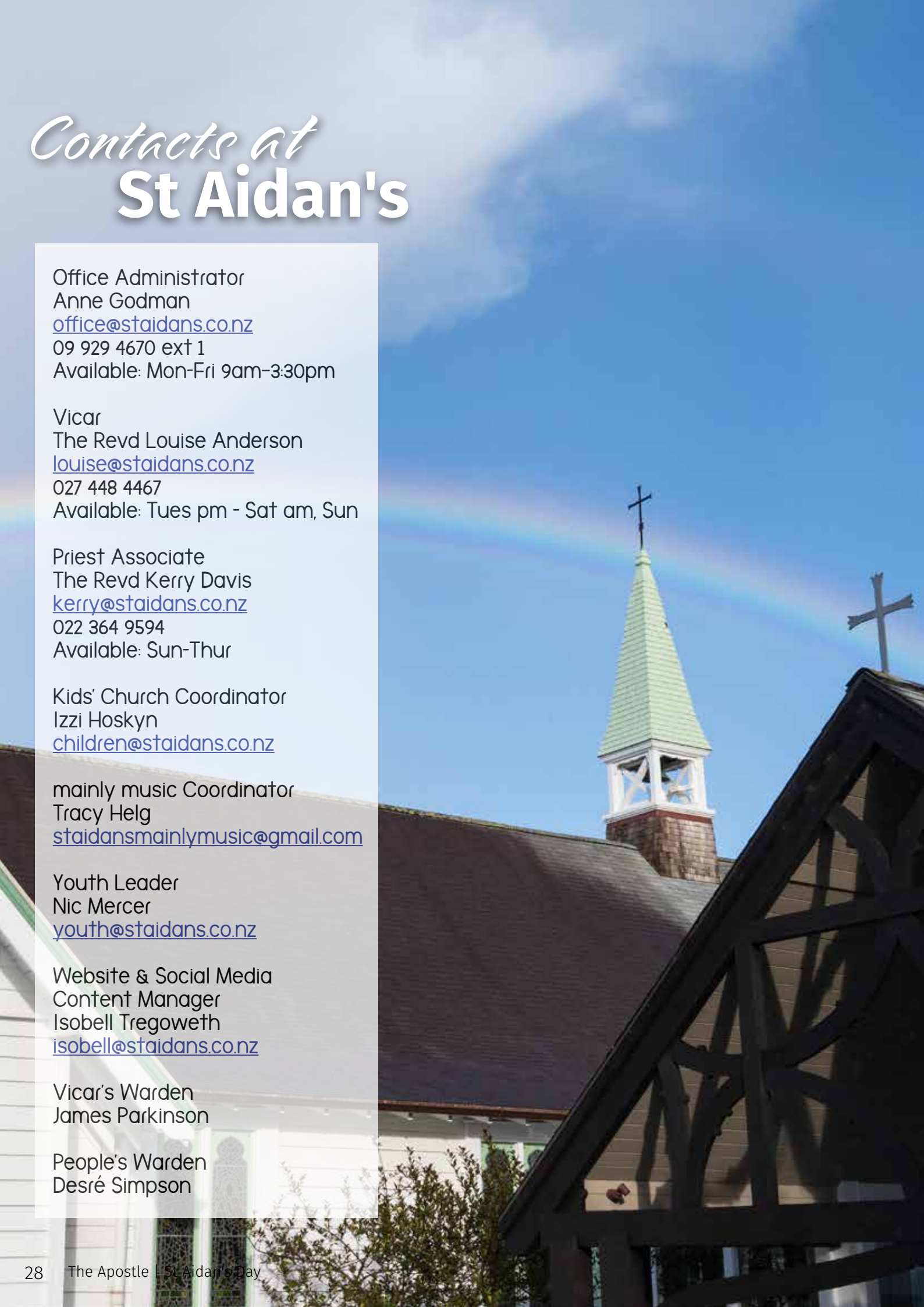
Website & Social Media
Content Manager
Isobell Tregoweth
isobell@staidans.co.nz

Vicar's Warden
James Parkinson

People's Warden
Desré Simpson