



The Bream Bay Anglican

The newsletter of the Bream Bay Anglican Mission District

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Knowledge corner

Why do we sing hymns in church?

--by Richard Hancock

'The purpose of church music has always been simply that of praising God'. Christians have sung in worship from the beginning. In Matthew's Gospel we read about Jesus and his disciples after the Last Supper, *When they had sung the hymn* (probably from Psalm 115-118). Psalms, in a wide variety of forms, were and are still the basis of many hymns.

The first attempt to set up a standard for Christian music was by Pope Gregory the Great at the end of the 6th century AD when he established the *Schola cantorum* in Rome to train musicians for leadership. The Medieval rise of Gregorian chant was initiated by this, but over time it became so elaborate, that ordinary worshippers could not join in.

The 16th century Reformation broke with this approach. Martin Luther deliberately introduced singing with one note per syllable so the people could join in. His approach has influenced hymns ever since.

(Please turn to p. 3)

From your Parish Council

Highlights from the Parish Council meeting on 24 October:

Council approved a **revised 2024 budget**.

The Treasurer has proposed a way to reconcile the **2023 Annual Statement of Accounts** with TML and resolve an historical \$6000 accounting discrepancy. A Special General Meeting of the parish will be called to approve the statement, probably in November. The Council is reviewing the structure of our financial accounts to determine if they are fit for purpose. The 2025 budgeting process has begun.

The **Foodbank** has received a grant of \$1,600 for a new refrigerator/freezer from the Tindall Foundation. There was an incident of client verbal abuse of the Foodbank coordinator; a health and safety review is being conducted.

The **Op Shop** Committee recommended a new tranche of grant recipients, which was approved by Council. A new power board has been installed at the shop, and there is a review of the lighting. The lease with Whangārei District Council is now being reviewed.

The **Parish Census** is going on now. Please help us by completing and signing the short form: this form will help us comply with the most recent Privacy Act as well as Diocesan requirements for parish membership.

Overstickers have arrived to change the street-facing signs to 'Bream Bay Anglican Parish' and will be installed by 1 January.

A **new ciborium** has been donated anonymously for use at St Paul's; our thanks to the donor. A Diocesan Faculty is being prepared to instal a tabernacle at St Paul's in cooperation with kaiwhakairo (carver) Walter Ashby. Norman Cave constructed the base structure from salvaged materials from St Peter's.

Anyone holding a key to the **interior doors at St Paul's** is encouraged to return them to Essie Leech. They are now redundant.

The **December Council** meeting will be on 19 December, brought forward because of the Christmas holiday.

Council minutes are available at each church once they are approved.

Christmas Tree Exhibition

"Sharing the Joy of Christmas"- the lovely, thought- provoking display of Christmas Trees is on again this year at St.Peter's, Waipu.

There will be between 10-20 beautiful trees, decorated by a number of groups—families, clubs, special interest groups—in styles, sizes, colours which best suits them. Each tree will have a short explanation regarding who has presented the tree, and what indeed Christmas does mean for them. Again, a children's area will be available for stories, colouring, and craftwork. Set-up day is Thursday, 19th December with the Blessing of the Trees and a light supper at 7.00pm, and thereafter ,the exhibition is open daily 2.00pm-8.00pm from Friday 20th December. Closing and clearing-up on Monday 23rd December.

🕒 The **Fellowship Group** meets at 11:00 a.m. on the first Wednesday of each month in the Pavilion of St Paul's. The next meeting will be 6 November.

This month at BBAMD

Sunday, 03/11 All Saints (transf)

9:30a Eucharist of All Saints, with Commemoration of All Faithful Departed, St Paul's

2:00p First Sunday Hymns, St Peter's

Sunday, 10/11, 32nd Sunday in OT

9:30a Eucharist, St Peter's

Sunday, 17/11, 33rd Sunday in OT

9:30a Eucharist, St Paul's

2:00p Concert St Peter's

Sat 23/11 Villy Day Out, 10a-3p

Soccer Field, Ruakākā

Sunday, 24/11, The Reign of Christ

9:30a Eucharist, St Peter's

Thursday, 28/11

5:00p Parish Council meeting, St Peter's

30 November, Feast of St Andrew, Apostle & Martyr



Confirmation Service

There will be a service of Confirmation at Holy Trinity Cathedral (Auckland) on 8 December at 5p, Bishop Ross presiding. If you are aged at least 16 and have been thinking about reaffirming your faith in this way, please contact Mark as soon as possible so we can so we can notify the Bishop's Office and begin a process of preparation.

Villy Day Out

Saturday, 23 November, 10:00a to 3:00p is the Villy Day Out celebrating children in Ruakākā. The event will be held on the fields behind the new Recreation Centre. BBAMD have signed up for a stall with the theme 'Garden to Table'. Ray White realtors have generously lent us a marquis to protect us from the sun.

If you can volunteer for a few hours on the day, please let Mark know. You will be working with children and helping them to plant seeds—gloves will be provided. We will also want you to be ready to talk about God and the church. It is a great opportunity for outreach and to establish our presence in the village. Come and have a great time!

Charitable Donation receipts

You should by now have (finally) received your charitable donation receipts from the Diocese. If you have not, or if it is inaccurate, please speak with Essie Leech.

If you give by direct debit through your bank, please **make sure that your envelope number is included in the reference field**. Everyone has a number. If you don't know what it is, please contact Essie. **Not including your envelope number is the most common reason bank transfers are not recorded correctly**. Charitable giving is highly secure, and recorded by your number. **It is your responsibility to ensure that your direct debit is correctly coded** so that the Diocesan accounts can issue your receipt in timely and accurate way. We outlined this process in the September newsletter. **Please take a moment now and update your bank automatic transfer information to include your envelope number**. If you give a separate or directed donation, the same number should be included so that the donation can be appropriately credited.

December will be the last issue of the Bream Bay Anglican until February 2025. Get your stories in soon and enjoy the summer!



Friends of the Organ invite you to join us in singing favourite hymns.

First Sunday Hymns

St. Peter's Church, Waipu

2.00 - 3.00 pm, Sunday 3 November, 2024

Hymns will be introduced by Richard Hancock.

Organ: Anne Connolly-Munt

Tea & Coffee will be served after the singing.

This is a free event

All welcome

There will be a break in the series during December 2024 and January 2025. First Sunday Hymn sessions will begin again at 2pm on 2 February 2025.



Can anyone identify these awesome volunteers at the Op Shop, ca. late 1990s?

Regional clergy changes

The Revd Chris Swannell took up the role of priest in charge of the Russell Mission District on 14 October.

Please remember Chris and the Russell community in your prayers.

Upcoming in December at BBAMD

The First Sunday of Advent is 1 December

Christmas Tree Festival, 11-14 December, St Peter's

Community Lessons and Carols, 15 December, St Paul's

There is no Christmas Eve Service

Christmas Day, 9:30a at St Peter's and St Paul's

Welcome Danny Bridge, newest Parish Council member

Danny was co-opted to Council at the September meeting to fill the last vacancy. Danny writes,

'I was born on a particularly cold winter in December 1975. Dad's apples froze solid on the seat of his Land Rover whilst waiting for his life to change forever. Then seven months later the UK had its hottest summer on record, and many crops failed. I was brought up on various farms in East Anglia in England in a small, tight-knit family. I have one younger sister, Krissy. I worked on the farms from a young age, getting my first pay packet at age 7 (the shepherd who paid me put £5 of his own money in a brown paper packet). I went into forestry, first as a trainee forester. I soon left to become a self-employed forestry machine operator, got bored, and started trying to fix the machines instead.

'I'm now married with three wonderful children (Katie, Bobby and Lucy) who make my days. They are my main motivation to get up and get on. Many of my wife's Kirsty's family live in the Bream Bay area, and that is why we ended up here from Australia after the passing of her mum and dad within six months of each other in 2020.

I would like to be the best person I can be for my kids, learning about the stories in the Bible, and figuring out the metaphors helps me to try and do that. Life has been lived many, many times by our ancestors, and similar roads have been travelled.'

Danny's grandfather was an Anglican priest, so he brings long experience with the Church. Danny now works at a hydraulic engineering firm, volunteers at the Fire Service, and supports Katie as she volunteers with Surf Lifesaving. We are hoping that Danny will bring his energy and passion to the Council, particularly in the area of Christian education. Welcome Danny, and thanks for making time for us!



Danny at work on a Sunday at St Peter's

Why do we sing hymns? (cont. from p.1)

Most hymns used to be based on biblical poems and stories, metrical versions of the Psalms being common. In England, with the Evangelical Revival in the 18th century and Anglo-Catholicism in the 19th, leaders began to use their own words and translate earlier Christian poetry into hymns, many of which we still use today.

Singing is wonderful for us as it involves our minds and our bodies. Singing together with others builds community. Praising God together in song builds a community of faith.

St Francis Day Blessing of Animals at BBAMD

On the Sunday after St Francis' Day BBAMD held its recovered annual tradition of Blessing of the Animals in the Hall at St Paul's. Eight dogs attended the services, and (except for the puppy!) were very well behaved.

The guest speaker was Michele Clark, who is the coordinator at Wandering Angels, the animal rescue located in Waipu. She talked about her own experience, and the extensive network of volunteers WA relies on to keep the project going. In addition to food (which is largely supplied by the pet food manufacturers), veterinary bills are an enormous expense.

WA is supported by BBAMD through the Op Shop charitable giving initiative. However, there is an array of merchandise on sale through their website, <https://www.wanderingangelswaipu.com/> A sample of the cards for sale (designed by Michele's daughter) is below.

If you'd like to volunteer with them in any capacity, including purchasing their cards, head over to their website.

Dozens hospitalized after new hymn is introduced in church.

