

WAIAPU News

Issue 54

October 2012



Jocelyn Czerwonka addresses Synod, Dannevirke, 15 - 16 Sept.
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God is my rope

From Chicago to Taupo



Youthtober, Waiapu 2012

Kantoa Rimon is from the Solomon Islands and is attending Rotorua Boys' High.
He is pictured after being buried by his St Luke's Youth Group buddies at Ohope Beach.

Waiapu Diocese gives high priority to its mission to young people. Our diocesan and regional youth facilitators work directly with our youth and also seek to encourage all parishes to find ways to touch base with the young people in their local community.

“Youthtober”, often referred to elsewhere as “October”, is the month for every Parish in the Diocese to think youth: to run a youth event and pray for and focus on young people in their local communities.

To mark Youthtober, Waiapu News is doing something that has never been done in the past century of Waiapu publications. We have given our regular contributors a well-earned holiday and have dedicated the October issue to one topic – ministry with young people. (With an obligatory mention of diocesan Synod towards the back.)



From the DYMF

From the wot? Well, read on.....

You may have noticed something different about Waiapu News this time. We are excited to have the opportunity to have a *Youthtober Waiapu News* edition celebrating some of the many children's and youth ministries happening all around the Diocese and new possibilities for us all to consider, such as *Black Dove and Leadership Training For Youth*.

Youthtober is not just about encouraging Parishes to engage with young people for one month in October. It is very much about devoting the month of October to pray and discern as a parish how to best be effective in mission and ministry to and with young people

in our parishes and communities. In many ways it's the start of the 'youth year' ahead as we pray, discern, plan and find the passion amongst us to serve God with our children, young people and families.

It is wonderful to see people with a passion for the young people in our Diocese and communities and we are always looking for more. We will be sad to say good-bye to one person in particular who has been very passionate about supporting youth ministry in Waiapu. That is Rev'd Brian Dawson. I first met Brian before he was ordained. He was our bus driver on that wet dark night in 1998 when we were travelling through the Waioeka Gorge to

Top Parish in Gisborne. Many of us remember it well, as the front tyre punctured and we were stuck on the bus in the gorge for three hours trying to keep forty young people entertained. That experience turned out to be just one of many, many bus rides for Waiapu youth with Brian as our driver.

While in Rotorua Brian was a member of the Bay of Plenty Youth Oversight Committee and, on moving to Havelock North, was involved with the Hawke's Bay Anglican Youth Ministries and the Diocesan Youth Oversight Group (now Waiapu Youth and Families). He has also been a regular bus driver and supporter of Top Parish and Parachute Festival

and many other youth events.

Brian certainly has a passion for supporting young people in their Christian journey. As Diocesan Youth Ministry Facilitator I would like to say a very big THANK YOU Brian for the many ways you have supported youth and children's ministry in Waiapu. We will miss you! One thing though, it is reassuring to know that when many of our young people fly the Waiapu nest and head to Wellington, you will be there to greet them.

Arohanui, Jocelyn

(Diocesan Youth Ministry Facilitator – DYMF)

Don't miss out- join the Anglicans@Parachute 2013

BUY Now! It's all changed! Buying tickets now to be part of the Anglicans@Parachute Supergroup is very different this year.

Tickets need to be purchased online at: [Parachute 2013's iTicket page](#) and you must add the following code TREAR1720151 to register as a member of the Anglicans@Parachute Supergroup.

Buy soon as tickets have been limited to only 17,500, whereas in the past over 23,000 people

have attended.

The sooner you buy the cheaper your tickets will be.

Waiapu are still doing our Bus and Meal Deal and will be saving camp sites for those who are part of our group but you will need to advise us if you are planning to come.

Contact Jocelyn Czerwonka at: jocelyn.dymf@xtra.co.nz

Waiapu Diocese might be losing Brian Dawson but he won't be lost to Waiapu Anglicans at Parachute Festival. Not only has Brian been our wonderful bus driver collecting people along the way from Hawke's Bay and Bay of Plenty on the annual pilgrimage to Parachute or Top Parish, but he has always been a great supporter of our Anglicans@Parachute group and a willing musician to take part in our Anglican worship. Brian is pictured here with Brittany Kusserow from Auckland playing at the Anglican Eucharist at Parachute.



Photo by Chris Parkin.

From Chicago to Taupo - Jo Koegan talks to Jenny Lewis

Meet Jenny. She lives in Taupo, Bay of Plenty, with her husband Brandon. They both worship at St Andrew's Anglican Church. She is also the family and community coordinator for St Andrew's.

Jenny and Brandon moved to New Zealand a bit over one year ago. Before that, they lived in the U.S.A where Jenny had just finished full time studying biblical and theological papers at Wheaton College in Chicago.

When Brandon got short listed for an interview for a geologist position in New Zealand, they had to both seriously consider the possibility of shifting to the other ends of the earth, leaving family and friends and all things familiar.

Jenny grew up in a small town in New Jersey State. She attended the Catholic Church during her early years but migrated to a non-denominational Protestant church by the time she was in intermediate. At a young age she became involved in various youth groups in the town. She sees these experiences as an important part of her faith journey, because of the teaching and encouragement that she received from the churches she was involved

with and the love and encouragement that she received from these groups.

When they moved to New Zealand Jenny applied for a few jobs, including the position of Growing Through Grief Co-coordinator.

She wasn't able to make the interview for the GTG position but was very surprised when John Blundell, the Vicar of St Andrew's, suggested that she apply for a new position, of Family and Community Co-ordinator. After some prayer and thought she decided to apply, and was appointed.

Very soon after she was appointed, John and Jenny Blundell moved up to Auckland to take on a new ministry role, and Jenny found herself in a sink or swim role, with a wide scope for her new position; and swim she did. Jenny and the new vicar, Peter Minson, work very well together.

A typical week for Jenny involves some staff time together, visiting families, catching up with young people and spending time with them and encouraging them in their faith walk; running a "Kids for Christ" programme, and

coordinating the Sunday morning kids time.

Recently her role has increased, with fortnightly pot luck dinners held at St Andrew's, which have become a regular highlight for her.

They provide good food and time for people to catch up, ultimately creating space for the new and familiar faces to connect with others in God's family. Jenny also sees these dinners as a chance to help people connect with each other and feel part of a wider community.

Jenny sees her role overall in the Parish and the community, as one of :

- encouraging families and people in their faith walk
- helping young people explore their faith
- helping them feel loved
- working with families to see what their needs are
- teaching

She sees the future of the role as one of taking time to be with people and hear what people's needs are; helping being a part in the Church that helps guide people closer to God, and getting people connected with their community and with God.

While spending time with Jenny and talking to her, it is easy to see her passion for what she does, for the young people, families and the local community that she works with, and see her commitment to her Church and community.



Year long internship *2013 Year Long Youth Ministry*

Have you ever thought of having a gap year as a Year Long Youth Intern in Waiapu? If this sounds like something you might like to do then why not let us know.

Applications open now!
Application Forms are available from:
Jocelyn Czerwonka, Diocesan Youth
Ministry Facilitator: jocelyn.dymf@xtra.co.nz

Extreme Youth Events

YOUTH

It's almost that time of year again where annually we celebrate the month of October with our young people. This year we would like to offer examples of extreme and not so extreme activities that you could do with your young people as part of celebrating Youth-tober with them. These resources and others you might have are a very exciting way to engage young people and it provides an opportunity for young people to become connected. We would like to encourage you during the month of October to discover a way in which you are able to develop and nurture our young people.

Flash Mob

A flash mob is a group of people who assemble suddenly in a place, perform an act for a brief time then disperse, often for the purposes of entertainment, and artistic expression.

Here are some suggestions that may be great to try:

- Appear as a group at a fast-food outlet and break out into the superman grace then leave or share a meal together.
- Supporting your local community – Each group member with \$20 in hand appears like a flash mob at a struggling business in your area to support and encourage them.
- With spring time upon us, it would be a great time to offer to help tidy up some one's back yard, as a group.
- Have the youth group fundraise money to watch their vicar skydive from an airplane. Fundraising ideas can be busking, or getting your congregation to donate for a food raffle, etc.

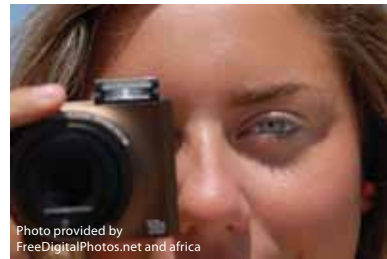


Photo shoot

A photo competition that has the five marks of our mission as the categories....

- To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
- To teach, baptise and nurture new believers
- To respond to human need by loving service
- To seek to transform unjust structures of society
- To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth

Participants enter into a category and take photos accordingly eg photos of God's creation, or photos of someone acting out loving service. Have really good prizes for each category or perhaps get good sponsorship to attract a good turnout. You can decide what age range you want to put on the competition. Display photos at your church and judging can take place there as well.

Prayer warriors

This activity is to help develop young prayer warriors in your group and church. Bring in a pile of newspapers, news magazines or printed Internet news articles. Ask each teenager to find a news story or happening in the community, nation or the world that captures his or her heart. This could be a story of need or a story of celebration or hope.

After each member has chosen a story, invite the teenagers to pray for these needs or situations using the following guide:

"Lord, we ask Your guidance for..."

"God, thank You for..."

"Lord, send comfort to..."

"God, we pray You will..."

TOBER

Not so Extreme Youth Events

Parish Concert

Have a Parish talent night, get some well known locals in as judges, get a local retailer to sponsor some decent prizes. Advertise it in your Church newsletter, free local paper etc. Have a shared supper. Get someone to M.C the evening.

Equipment needed: sound system, judges, prizes, M.C.

Parish Bake/Cook off

Choose a category, e.g cakes, and have a parish bake off evening, afternoon. Have teams against teams, or individuals. Have a judge to taste test, and eat the left overs for a shared supper, or morning tea @ Church (if you hold it on a Sat night). Award 1st, 2nd, 3rd prizes.

Equipment needed: kitchen, prizes, judge.

Quiz/games night

Set up a room with various board games around the room. Let people try out what they want, provide light snacks for people to munch on. End the evening with a quiz with some simple prizes.

Equipment needed: various board games, snacks for eating.



Inter Youth Group

If you have a group of young people that meet regularly. Why not invite a neighboring group of young people along to your next youth event, lifelong friendships could be formed, good times are sure to be had.

Equipment needed: young people, transport may need to be provided for the young people to get there.

Sports Events

Have an all age's sports event. Use a local park to hold it in, (have a wet weather plan if raining). Have relays, a soccer tournament etc. Have a shared picnic lunch to end the day with. Invite your neighbors along.

Equipment needed: sports equipment for what sport you are playing, invites for people, wet weather plan.

Xbox night

Borrow your kids, grandkids X box. Set it up in your Church lounge, hook it up to a big screen and have a fun inter-generational night. Choose games that everyone can play. Video shops often rent out X boxes and games.

Equipment needed: Xbox and games, big screen, speakers.



USEFUL WEB SITES FOR RESOURCES

www.strandz.or.nz

www.youthspecialities.com

www.sermons4kids.com

Youth Interns 2010 – Where are they now?

Jocelyn Czerwonka

Who in Waiapu could forget Michael, Emma and Josh, our very first Waiapu Interns, and many ask what they are up to 2 years on. All three are now living in Wellington. Here are their responses to questions we put to them:



Catching up with Emma Hocking at Youth Forum in Christchurch this year was a real delight for me. It was wonderful to see Emma, one of our 2010 Youth Interns serving the youth in her capacity as an OSS (Order of Saint Stephen) member. Emma had chosen to spend her week's holiday baking delicious morsels for the young people and leaders. It was a good chance to ask Emma about why she chose to spend her Gap year as an intern in the Diocese of Waiapu and what she got out of it.

Emma's response. "I was in limbo, not sure of what direction to take in life, not sure where to go. The internship was an opportunity for discernment. It was everything I was hoping it would be in terms of discernment; especially through activities I was able to take part in. For me there was involvement with the Whanau Aroha Centre in Merrivale, preschool music sessions and helping to revamp Taupo's 'Kid's

4 Christ' which included taking them to Top Parish for the first time in several years. I had exposure to working with all ages which helped to highlight my passion for working with pre-schoolers.

"There were other highlights too, like attending General Synod in Eastland. Having the opportunity to make connections on a large scale with our three tikanga Church and finding ways to work together. Having to study (New Testament and Christianity in NZ through EDITS) was enjoyable, interesting and a new way to look at the Bible. The NZ history has been very relevant to my current studies.

"It was interesting to see some of the inner workings of a church at a Parish level: what goes on behind the scenes, rather than just a person who turns up on Sunday. Another highlight was the number of people I met.

"Now that I am in the Wellington Diocese I feel nostalgic for Waiapu. I get Mum to send me the Waiapu News. Waiapu will always have strong affiliations for me and be my home diocese, no matter where I am.

"I am now living and studying in Wellington, doing a Bachelor of Teaching and Early Childhood. The experience of studying extramurally with EDITS helped inform my decision to now complete my studies through the Open Polytechnic rather than at a traditional university.

"I feel really privileged to have had such an experience of our diocese and wider church which many people do not get offered.

"OSS continues to be my main connection with church. It's provided me with a Christian family and community away from home. I'm still looking for a church but playing hockey on Sundays makes that difficult."

Emma's final comments were that for her, Michael and Josh, "the internship has made us friends for life. We will always have a special connection with each other."

Emma has just finished her first year through Open Polytechnic and has discovered she really likes self-directed study.

Emma
Hocking

During 2010 Waiapu provided me with the life changing opportunity to be a Youth Intern. This was, in essence, an ecclesiastical Gap year, offering in addition the structure for spiritual, theological and vocational discernment, and the rich and generous hospitality of the diocese.

I left college unsure how to spend my life. When the opportunity for a year's discernment arose, I leaped at the chance. However, I finished my year with far more questions than when I began. This is not to say that I did not learn a tremendous amount. The intern experience allowed me to work alongside and experience the ministry of the people of Waiapu, described in Bill Bennett's Hymn as "...the pilgrims of our age...the bearers of good news..."

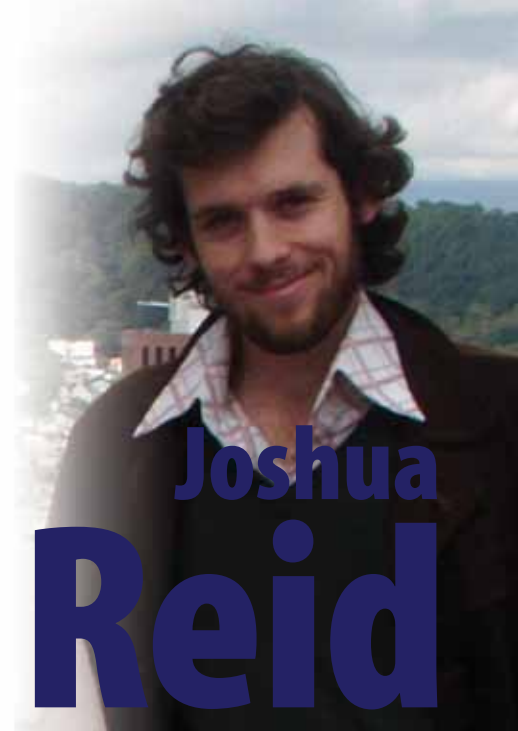
During my time in the parish of Waipaoa with Joan Edmundson I met the director, Dr Ron Newton, and staff of our leading organ

building company, the New Zealand Organ Manufactory. Later when I finished my internship, and did not get into the C.M.S or University, Ron gave me a job. This meant travelling the country, tuning, building and upgrading pipe organs. I still worked for the church but now as a tradesman. In July the following year I was in San Francisco and was offered an apprenticeship with Rosales Organ Builders. However, I declined and returned home to begin basic training in the Army.

After running around Waiouru with the shortest haircut I have ever worn, I swapped the barracks for a flat of artists in Wellington and began work in the hospitality industry. At the end of the year the opportunity arose for summer school. If we could study six university papers in 11 weeks and pass them with a B+ average we would be granted University Entrance. By now I had moved

into a flat in Cuba Street, as the old flat was classed as "unfit for human habitation". I was not really able to appreciate living in a vibrant city, as, due to the colossal work load, I spent every waking hour studying, combined with the restraints of dyslexia. By March this year I was granted U.E. and began my B.A. majoring in History and Media, and discovering a passion for education. I joined the choir of St James' Church and moved into an intentional Christian community household in Moera, Lower Hutt. It is somewhat like Urban Vision. I am going back into the Army at the end of the year part time to try and offset the mountain of the student loan I will acquire.

This is where I am now, a young man aspiring to be an historian, journalist and theologically literate layperson, willing to serve the church in whatever capacity to which I might be called.



Joshua
Reid



Michael
Hebenton

Michael is loving life in Wellington. It's a 'wonderful city, great culture, fun theatre and many shows'. Life is busy with work, study and shows. He has almost completed his second year at Victoria University working towards a Bachelor of Arts and majoring in theatre, although he's hoping to take a slight diversion next year if he gets accepted to attend Toi Whakaari, the NZ Drama School.

Many of us remember Michael's passion for acting and performing and so it should be no surprise that he hopes to become a professional actor one day. Church and the internship gave Michael many opportunities to stand before congregations leading worship, preaching,

doing dramatized readings and such things. He recalls preparing and performing a 5 minute monologue for a Good Friday Service telling the Easter story from Peter's perspective. At Top Parish there was a moment of fame when he won the Top Parish Performance award for an interpretive mime of Natalie Imbruglia's pop rock single 'Torn'.

Was his year as an intern helpful? "Yes, definitely." It helped to have the space to really think about where he wanted to go in life and with his future studies and led him directly to where he is now. For me that was very encouraging to hear, as the whole internship is designed to help young people discover their gifts and passions and where they think God might be calling them.

I also asked the question: "Did doing the internship put you off church at all?" "No, not at all," said Michael. Although he did

confess that it had been hard to find a church in Wellington where he felt comfortable and working at Warehouse Stationary on Sundays made it tricky, but there have been other ways to maintain the faith. He and Emma are presently trying to do regular Morning or Evening Prayer, and being part of Order of Saint Stephen(OSS) has also been important. Currently there are about six OSS members living in Wellington who regularly catch up, and there is the opportunity to attend the OSS National Retreats.

So life for Michael is all sounding pretty sweet, but to top it all off he is about to embark on a 3 week Outward Bound Course. Somehow I think it might be a while before we see this young man living back in Waiapu. He is pretty determined to find that professional acting career in Wellington one day, but who knows where else God may lead him.

LT4 Youth -

'It takes a village to raise a child'

In Waiapu 'it takes a parish to walk alongside a young person doing LT4Youth.'

Leadership Training for Youth (LT4Youth) is up and running. The launching at Diocesan Synod is just in time for parishes to embrace LT4Youth during Youthtober and to pray and plan for exciting times ahead working alongside young people. Parish packs are available and our youth facilitators are all set and ready to assist parishes in getting started.

This is something every parish can embrace at any time – all you need is a passion for seeing young people grow in faith and develop leadership skills along the way. LT4Youth is all about parishes partnering with young people, providing mentors and helping young people work through the 5 modules based on the Five Marks of Mission. Support, workshops and camps will be facilitated by the Waiapu Youth Ministry team throughout the regions for both young people and their mentors.

You've heard it said that 'it takes a village to raise a child'. Likewise, for LT4 Youth to be effective it will 'take a parish to walk alongside a young person as they embark on this adventure'. In order for a young person to sign up their parish needs to be willing to 'sign up' too. That means agreeing to make the commitment to walk alongside the participants, provide a mentor and ensure they are given every opportunity to develop their leadership skills in the parish

and community. Young people aged 14 years or older can sign up for LT4Youth which will take approximately two years to complete. As each module is completed they will receive a badge and certificate and on completion of all 5 modules they will receive the 'Bishop of Waiapu Award'.

Our first camp will be held in the second week of the October holidays and will be an exploration camp for young people finding out what LT4Youth is all about.

Mentors' Training Workshops will be held around the regions on the weekend of 23 - 25 November. All those who interested in being mentors are encouraged to attend one of these workshops. Phil Trotter our new National Youth Advisor will be our guest speaker.

A summer LT4Youth Camp is planned for January 16-18 in Tolaga Bay.

It is fitting that we in Waiapu are launching LT4Youth at this time, when in just a few weeks people will be gathering from all over the world to attend the Anglican Consultative Council (ACC) in Auckland, at which our very own Waiapu Youth Interns will be serving as Youth Stewards.

The 5 Marks of Mission which our LT4Youth modules are based on, were developed over several years by the ACC and have been

adopted by the Diocese of Waiapu as the 'Five Fold Mission Statement of the Church'. They are:

To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom

To teach, baptize and nurture new believers

To respond to human need by loving service

To seek to transform unjust structures of society

To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth

It makes sense to base our LT4 Youth programme around these as this is what we need to be about as Anglicans in the 21st century and what we need to pass on to the

younger generations. 'The Mission of the Church is the Mission of Christ'.

Black Dove

Many of you have read about Black Dove which has already been launched in Mt Maunganui by Rev Richard Vialoux. If your parish and young people are not quite ready for LT4Youth then Black Dove is the perfect forerunner. Ideally suited for intermediate age and slightly younger this again is an opportunity for parishes to work on a 5 step (dove flights) approach to helping young people grow in faith and commitment.

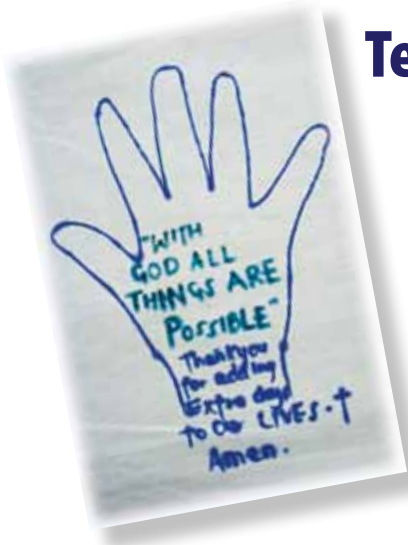
Contact Richard at vicarang@vodafone.co.nz or your regional youth facilitator.

"Top Parish promo..."

Hopefully St Madys will be back again in 2013 to celebrate St Paddy's day once again at Top Parish, 15-17 March in Rotorua



Leadership Training For Youth



Telling
Our Story



Faith
Formation



Serving
Others

Care of
Creation



**Social
Justice**



God is our rope

Delight yourself in the LORD and he will give you the desires of your heart. (Psalm 37:4)

Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him and he will do this. (Psalm 37:5)

David Tait tells his story

I love these two verses because I have the pleasure of living within the parameters of the desire of my heart, which is to impact this generation, to better the next; but I believe that to do this I really have to trust God. Let me explain: On our abseil wall in the Kiwi Adventure Trusts building in Ahuriri kids will walk up confidently and then look down. What is often said is an anagram of “So Here I Tremble!”

To continue the metaphor, we have a high adventure activity called the cliff traverse. But, to set this up, we must first abseil into a cave 30m down the face of a 100m cliff on a 40m rope. This means there is a 60m drop at the end of the rope. Your brain picks up the risks and says “DON’T DO IT!” There is that moment when you lean out and either trust and go through with it, or retreat. The problem with the cliff traverse is we have to swing into the cave and that is never fun. If we are not willing to do it participants will not have the opportunity to experience what the cliff traverse has to offer. Because, though darn scary, swinging into the cave is necessary to establish an activity on the cliff where youth can walk along ledges, swing across the abyss and dangle off a 60m abseil.

Abseiling for me illustrates what adventure is: a ‘new or exciting undertaking where the outcome is not certain.’ Students will look at the ropes and say to me “will they break?” After millions of hours of rope usage a modern

climbing rope has never failed in normal use due solely to overload. Abseiling is safer than walking up the stairs to the top of the wall.

But to want to hang yourself off a rope over a cliff you must first have the desire to do it. My journey in youth work and the development of my desire to change people through outdoor adventure and challenge started 25 years ago at a Christian Summer Kayak Camp. But it was the desire of the youth leader who initiated that camp to impact youth through adventure that seeded my desire.

I spent the next twelve years tramping, biking, kayaking and then for about two years I competed seriously in multisport, racing every major event in the North Island. What I had discovered in adventure was the ability to achieve and grow.

It is hard to segue into the next part of the story, but in 1997 I married Tanya. I was about to embark on an amazing life-enriching journey. It started with Tanya’s insistence that I leave my dead end job and move to Auckland, where I trained as an outdoor instructor. A job came up in Hawke’s Bay and for two years I taught outdoor education. I quit my job about two weeks before my son Teva was born. Then a friend rang me and said “I have a challenge for you.”

For the next two years I worked with youth

on a project-based literacy course. But I felt frustrated, as I felt that there was no adventure in my life anymore. So I started to provide adventure for others and created the GO-4-12 Youth Adventure Race. But I believe that God decided I needed to step out on the edge a bit to test if I was serious about what I was doing. This came in the form of a conversation with the director of the Atomic Events Trust where I worked. He said “we love what you do but we cannot afford to pay you to do it.”

The easy thing was to get a real paid job; or I could trust that God was my rope and continue doing what I now knew was my calling. It was always Tanya’s belief in me and what we were doing that acted as our compass. But deciding to trust God was the best decision we have ever made. We used our savings to pay the bills for eight weeks and found support from some unlikely avenues.

One relationship that formed was with the Parish of St Luke’s.

Then just when things seemed predictable and manageable The Kiwi Adventure Company came up for sale. I was asked if I wanted to buy it. I turned it down. Then Mike Wilson approached me, as excited as a Jack Russell terrier with a ball. “We should do this!” he said, which I knew meant ‘You’ will be doing this. The logical thing was to say no again, as it represented a huge amount of work and risk,

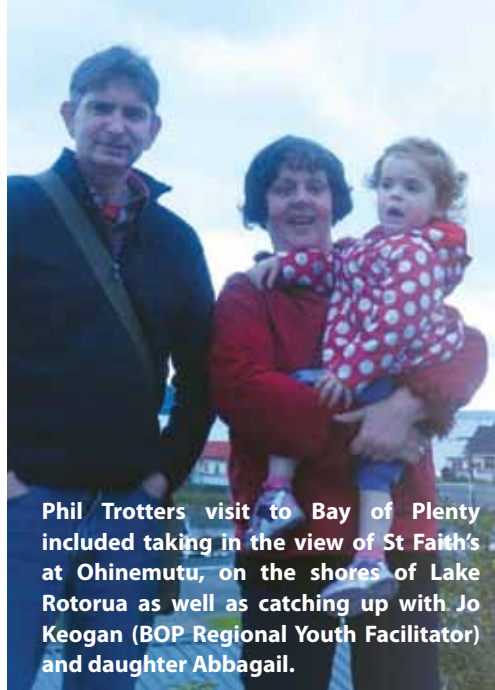


New Anglican National Youth Advisor visits Waiapu

As Phil says; 'Anglicanism is very much a live option for the Christian Faith.'

but revisiting that abseil metaphor, I knew God was my rope. But was my rope long enough to reach the bottom? The answer was no. After two years of running the Kiwi Adventure Trust, not only did we have the initial \$35,000 loan to establish the trust, we were also in the red by \$75,000. It seemed that the rope had run out as we dangled in the dark. I remember looking back at what we had achieved and feeling it was a terrible pity that it was going to end. I took a big breath, trusted God, swung out and then in towards the cliff and abseiled ...

...I landed in the cave on the cliff. I can see all the kids, mums and dads and youth that we have worked with this year (over 13,500). We have also successfully supported the YMCA, Atomic Events, AYM, Equippers, Bay City, Pirimai Youth group and of course the Hard Hats programme that I run as part of my work at St Luke's. My team is with me and we are inviting others to join us, as we establish strong anchors and lines for new challenges and opportunities, including the exciting prospect of working with The HB DHB and with a young fathers group. We also have some amazing opportunities to work with more youth at risk and marginalised. But with these opportunities come new challenges, as well as the simple fact that we are still in a precarious position financially. But we believe that this is only the beginning if we are willing to trust God.



Phil Trotters visit to Bay of Plenty included taking in the view of St Faith's at Ohinemutu, on the shores of Lake Rotorua as well as catching up with Jo Keogan (BOP Regional Youth Facilitator) and daughter Abbagail.

Meet Phil Trotter, our new Anglican National Youth Advisor for Tikanga Pakeha. Youth Ministry has been Phil's vocation, which began after qualifying with a BA in Education. Snapped up by the Methodist Church, Phil spent 8 ½ years as Regional Youth Advisor in Christchurch. Several other youth positions followed including time at All Saints Palmerston North, Avonhead Baptist in Christchurch and working for Praxis while also being house dad and hubby to his growing young family. In 2001 Phil became the Youth Advisor for the Anglican Diocese of Christchurch, a position he remained in until his appointment as National Youth Advisor in June this year.

Phil and his lovely wife Carol spent 9 months at St Johns College in 2008 where Phil completed the Anglican Studies programme and there he said he really gained a much deeper appreciation about what it is to be Anglican.

I first met Phil at PADYS (Professional Anglican Diocesan Youth Staff) meetings in 2006. One thing I have particularly noted is that his appreciation for who we are as Anglicans has definitely grown. He is very passionate about seeing youth workers and parishes well supported and resourced for youth ministry. Now, his passion has moved to a National level, to serve and support youth ministry, Diocesan Youth Staff, and; 'to help create a church that gets youth ministry and young people's God given role in the church.'

I took Phil on a super quick tour of a small part of Bay of Plenty where he began to get a bit of insight into who we are in Waiapu. Phil was particularly excited to hear about our (LT4Youth), meet Rev Richard Vialoux and hear about the Black Dove programme at the Mount and visit Jenny Reynolds and her team in Kawerau where we saw their Friends and Heroes programme in action.

OSS? *You may be wondering what is this OSS our youth interns keep talking about?*

OSS or Order of Saint Stephen is a religious order for young Anglicans between the ages of 16-30 years from around New Zealand. It gives them a chance to experience their faith journey with God through a 'Rule of Life' which is focussed around Prayer, Community and Service.

Members do this as a nationwide network and also as individuals with a mentor they begin to explore what mission and ministry is all about. Karen (Kaz) Yung is the OSS Network Coordinator. By the time this edition of Waiapu News goes to print Kaz would have visited Waiapu's Youth Synod where she will be taking time to get to know some of our young people and share with them the OSS story. Find out more about OSS by contacting Kaz at oss.aotearoanz@gmail.com



Emma Hocking attended this year's Youth Forum to provide daily baking for the attendees, an act of service as an OSS member. Here she is standing next to the OSS prayer candles

I would never have dreamed of being a youth leader

*Sandi Hall
Hawke's Bay Anglican Youth Ministry Facilitator*



When asked to write about myself I thought, I am someone who prefers to be an encourager of others, with me supporting in the background. Thanks be to God, ever the prodger, edging me on to the next challenge, whether with my family, my work as a teacher or the ministry, he has called me to be with young people. Once I would never have dreamed of being a youth leader. It was just way too far out of my comfort zone. Who me? I'm too old and I don't know a lot about the workings of our church.

However, my life has always been busy and I do like a challenge. It keeps me feeling energised. I don't know if it is because I have brought up four boys but I enjoy being around passionate, positive young people who just need someone to guide them. "I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty" (Philippians 4: 12). I have learned the secret of being content in any situation, whether we are fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. "I can do all things through him who strengthens me" (v13).

This speaks to me so much about life's journeys and the struggles we will encounter when we stand up and say, "I believe in Jesus, Son of God". What is important to me is that young people learn to know and have a relationship with him: How to trust in him and let him be their guide through the 'white water years'. When they go through a stormy patch I encourage them to pray and to think of all the things that we can thank God for. It is often not until we do this that we realise: Wow, I have been truly blessed. Then in the darkness a light

is shining; a light of hope.

Part of my work involves working with our local Hawke's Bay Youth Council. This is a humbling opportunity to see the passion and hard work of some of our young people, using their talents in a positive way to bring glory to God.

A recent new initiative has been the youth bands at All Saints, Taradale. With one of our key people leaving us recently we needed to rethink what we would do about our two worship bands. The young people discussed it at our Youth Council meeting and said they wanted to be more involved in leadership with music. After much prayer and collaboration we now have a mixture of five worship bands: one for each Sunday and one with just Youth for the 5th Sunday. Praise the Lord, there was an opportunity and they grabbed it wholeheartedly.

I heard words like: "We want to give worship leading a try and we want to be intentional about it." Challenges around commitment are being worked through but it is going well. I am proud of them. We are always keen to have others join us. Practice is at 4 pm each Sunday and the service is at 6.30 pm. The long-term dream is to visit other parishes for a youth service. To do this we would need a van and a couple of guitars, so we don't have to borrow from adults. For now there are a few of us adults who support, encourage and facilitate this process, being there but not actually doing it for them.

St Luke's July Youth Alpha Camp

Alex Czerwonka

The St Luke's Rotorua Youth Alpha Camp at Awakeri and Ohope involved making and walking a labyrinth at Ohope Beach. Labyrinths have been used for centuries by Christians as a way of reflecting on our journey with God through life.

The Youth Alpha sessions involved exploring the role of the Holy Spirit in our Christian life. We also had time for enjoying the hot pools at Awakeri and a beautiful sunny day at Ohope using the lovely little church of St Nicholas, Ohope as our base for the day.

The retreat ended with a fish and chip tea by the beach and a reflective journey home to the bright lights of Rotorua. Thanks to the Parish of Whakatane and especially the Rev Tessa Keene for assistance with making this possible.

The sixteen of us who were involved in this spiritual journey included eleven of our young people who had a great experience which will be added to as we reflect and remember and continue to grow and learn.

Some of us got up to our necks in trouble (see the cover) and even went swimming in the sea! Thanks to Saachi for the pictures.



Youth Interns at General Synod

Brendon

Back in July I had the pleasure of attending the Anglican General Synod held in Fiji. The discussions were interesting and it was good to sit and listen to. The reports were great; the one that stood out in my mind was that of the Tikanga Toru Youth Commission, which was focused around three points of youth ministry: make the first move, every moment is the right moment and because it matters. The point "because it matters" became huge as a quote used by people when making speeches. This quote was made famous by Bishop David Rice. While in Fiji I had the opportunity to catch up with Seini who was the other year long intern last year. General Synod was a great chance for me to see more of the church processes that we don't always know or get to see.

Hayden

My journey to Fiji for General Synod was great. I had an awesome time, met some lovely people, and made good connections with the Fijians and people I met from all three tikanga.

Our duties as stewards were mainly handing out the microphones for people to speak and handing out important papers. Considering it was quite warm, we filled up the jugs of water as they got low. Overall was a great experience

Saachi

General Synod 2012 was an amazing experience all round. Learning about the wider church and community was extremely interesting but my highlight of this experience would be networking, making connections and building relationships with other Anglicans on a three tikanga level. I enjoyed the warm tropic weather and experiencing a new culture.

I was one of 10 youth stewards who helped at General Synod. It was interesting to sit in on the mass convention and listen to the Anglican politics, making decisions and heated arguments within the three tikanga. I am very privileged to say I got a lot out of my experience at General Synod and hopefully I will be able to go next time.



General Synod youth stewards, including Waiapu's Hayden, Saachi and Cruz Karaiti-Fox

Youth Interns 2011 Where are they now?



Seini and her youth group at General Synod, with Bishop David Rice, Brendon and Saachi

Seini Tawa

I've been really involved with the youth both in our parish and Archdeaconry level. I'm continuing my music studies. I know God has always been there for me and that's the reason I am enjoying my work for him with our young people.

At the moment, I am an assistant youth coordinator for our archdeaconry and also the assistant youth president of my parish.

Coming back home was a big challenge for me, as Waiapu has opened up my eyes to see the potential I have and the many God-given gifts that we have here back at home. The challenge is trying to help our youth understand their own talents and motivating them to make use of them in glorifying God.

The internship contributed a lot in my journey with the Lord. After my music studies, I plan to take another theology course. I'm praying for God's will to be done.

Our youth group has been privileged with Waiapu's great contribution. It was a life changing moment and they have felt it too. Talk about sermons and sharing Gods word in the church! I've been really up to that lately. I shared the word of God twice during

our youth service at our Easter Camp. My theme was "How do you explain God in your very own context?... very, very, very powerful. I never used to be that confident before. It was the many opportunities that I had in Waiapu that really boosted my confidence in public speaking.

I'm just praying, if it is God will, I'll be back in NZ. I still do reminisce on my time in NZ and look forward to coming back one day.

Brendon Bryon-Kay

Over the past six or so months I have been working as a parish youth worker at my local parish of Holy Trinity. The skills that I learned last year as one of the diocesan youth interns have helped me so much in the role and the internship gave me the confidence and the skills in speaking to run a youth group and plan youth events. It is those skills that have given me the courage to do many things within my Parish, for example, to preach on Sundays and to speak up so that the youth voice can be heard and is not lost in the background.

The youth internship program was a great way for me to figure out what I want to do with my life and to get involved and learn more about the church in all its different forms.

Waiapu Synod 2012

The first session of Waiapu's 60th Synod met in Dannevirke on 15th to 16 September

By Noel Hendery, Photos: Adrienne Bruce

Motions in brief

Marsden Cross Bicentennial Project: Synod has committed Waiapu to raising \$30,000 among parishes and individuals to support the project at Oihi, Bay of Islands, to commemorate the bicentenary of the proclamation of the Gospel in NZ.

This development involves a chapel, a gathering place, an interpretative centre and a series of eight pilgrimage way stations. The 20 hectares of pilgrimage land at Oihi is costing \$1.6 million, with \$300,000 still to be raised. The buildings are to be paid for by trusts, benefactors and probably some Government support.

Youth voice: Synod agreed to find ways of meeting that will support respectful discussions and the sharing of a greater diversity of perspectives from all ages.

Resourcing Paid Lay Ministry: Synod will explore the resourcing and encouragement of those in paid, licensed ministry, including regular gatherings, training opportunities, covenants with parishes and paid sabbaticals.

This reflects the significant development of lay ministry recently.

Synod Representation: Each parish may

have two lay representatives (currently it is one per parish), provided that one of those representatives is under 40.

Mover Brian Dawson: *"This is ageism, this is tokenism – but we still have to do something."*

Earthquake prone buildings: With many church buildings needing to be strengthened, replaced or demolished, Standing Committee will set up a working group to oversee the process and provide assistance by organising bulk inspections, technical advice and bulk contracts to carry out necessary upgrading.

Aged Care Work Force: Synod asks Government and DHB's to acknowledge the work aged care providers, and to increase wages, improve employment conditions and commit to more employee training.

Bills

An amendment to the Canon of Parishes to allow all parishes to have two wardens. Where there is no Vicar or Ministry Leadership / Support Team to appoint or recommend the second warden, the ordained person(s) with oversight of the parish will have that role of making such a recommendation to the Bishop.

An amendment to the Canon of the Waiapu Anglican Social Services Trust Board to allow

the Diocesan Trusts Board to appoint eight trustees to WASSTB (including the Bishop or his nominee), to also be the directors of Anglican Care (Waiapu) Ltd, the board of the company for our aged care establishments.

Report highlights

Synod members received 60 pages of reports.

Diocesan Youth and Families Committee has a vision that every parish has children and young people and their families as an integral part of every aspect of their life.

The diocese has adopted Childsafe – a programme developed for Australia and NZ designed to ensure the safety of children and young people.

Eastland Regional Youth Facilitator's Committee. The Youth Facilitator's position was reduced to half-time in April.

Waiapu Anglican Social Services Trust Board and Anglican Care (Waiapu) Ltd. There is now one combined board for both organisations.

Management has adopted the "Heart and Mind" model. The "Heart" aspect is to ensure that the core beliefs of social justice and Christian values are fundamental to service

delivery. The "Mind" aspect of the model is to assist our services to build resilience."

Anglican Care (Waiapu) Ltd had a final year profit of \$2,016,312. However, "our facilities are aging and will continue to require significant reinvestment."

Archives. "We are still concerned that at the local and ministry unit level all papers and minutes and correspondence should be well cared for and give an accurate account of events. Certainly any records older than 25 years are better held by us."

Overseas Missions. The target of \$184,800 for 2011 agreed to at Synod was exceeded (\$185,687) and Waiapu is the only diocese ahead of target this year.

Other actions of Synod

Diocesan Registrar. Synod acknowledged Cliff Houston's contribution to the Diocese at this his final Synod. Bishop David announced his successor as Colleen Kaye.

Election of Standing Committee:

Clergy: Reverends Alex Czerwonka, Erice Fairbrother, Ron Elder, Joan Edmundson, Jo Crosse

Lay: Susanna Shelton, Ray James, Hugh McBain, Alison Thompson, Brian Watkins

Balloons and rocks. Rock = Jesus and balloons = our young people. "We want to keep them connected to the rock. LT4Youth is a way to help us do this."

PRESIDENTIAL CHARGE

Bishop David tabled his Charge and then spoke forcefully about mission. He spoke of the need to ask ourselves – Do we believe in God? We are called to be in touch with people and finding God's presence in them: Knowing God and making God known. Knowing people and making people known.

"If you want to learn and discover what God is up to in the world, just now, stop trying to answer this question from within the walls of your churches. Like strangers in need of hospitality who have left their baggage behind (Luke 10), enter the neighbourhoods and communities where you live. Sit at the table of the other, and there you may begin to hear what God is doing." (Alan Roxburgh)

Knowing Jesus and making Jesus known, changing hearts, attitudes, practices and behaviours, a new/old way of living out our faith.....

I believe the events, occasions, initiatives and ministries I recount here have been prompted and informed by our Diocesan Vision Statement.

Anglican Care. Anglican Residences for the elderly must have a far more intentional and deeper relationship with the Praying Communities in close proximity. In other words, we must not solely rely upon our licensed chaplains.

Educational institutions affiliated with Waiapu. We are raising the bar with regards to relationships at Hereworth and Woodford. How prominent is the Anglican 'Special Character' in the lives of our affiliated schools?"

Children and families ministry. The best way to engage in ministry for and with children and families is to join where children and families are, in our community.

Clergy Conference. Honouring our history, constitution, and Diocesan Vision, Tikanga Rua relationships remain exceedingly important to us. What will be remembered from this year's Combined Clergy Conference with Tairāwhiti will be those informal conversations with our colleagues from the hui amorangi.

Waiapu News, Website, Bishtube, Latest News, ENews. Communications are an extremely demanding piece of work. When we do not get it right, please accept our apology.

Cursillo. We now have 82 Cursillista in Waiapu. If you want to know more about this "short course in the faith" chances are there is a Cursillistas nearby with whom you can have a conversation.

Deacons. Our deacons ask that leaders ensure that the Order of Deacons is understood and becomes a part of our missional ministry; God's calling sisters and brothers to diaconal

ministry will provide a clear set-aside model of missional life in each Praying Community.

Leadership Team. Thank you to WLT for their willingness to work consultatively and collegially as a think-tank and advisory group.

Discerning prayer and gifting processes. Please ensure that discerning prayer and gifting processes are part of the way of being church.

Leading training for youth (LT4Y). "Raising up confident young people who are committed to faith, service and leadership."

Local shared ministry. New "models of missional-ministry" will continue to emerge and develop. And as a result, the Local Shared Ministry Conference will grow in size and importance.

Mission trips. I hope to see an increasing number of mission trips. We should give significant thought and prayer to these "neighbourhood visitations", within these islands and beyond. Hugh McBain and I plan to visit PNG next month when we hope to pave the way for a "formalized relationship."

Missional mapping is an instrument to create an environment of intention and accountability concerning how we respond to the needs of those who live where God lives, our neighbourhoods.

Orientation for new clergy. We have designed a clearly road-mapped *Orientation*

Process which involves: welcome by Praying Community, stories in *Waiapu News*, social occasions in the respective region, visit to the diocesan office, meeting with Social Services, visit to Waiapu Cathedral.

The new Ruahine Model came into being out of a call to explore the ways we can engage more deeply with and respond to the need of our sisters and brothers more readily.

Social Services Board amalgamation. I hope this combined board will provide the necessary expertise to both missional branches of the diocese and enable our services to work together in a far more seamless manner.

Staff changes. I hope we are moving into a time of stability and continuity with our Diocesan Staff. We have appointed a new General Manager of Waiapu Social Services, Peter O'Brien.

Top Parish. One of the better youth events in the Anglican Church.

Waiapu Anglican Social Services. I wish to thank the entire Social Service Staff. I acknowledge and celebrate the aroha and mahi of everyone working in every aspect of this missional ministry

Youth internships, synods, Forum, etc. We are known in other dioceses and hui amorangi as the "Youth Diocese." It is my hope and prayer that we can grow into that perception. I want to express my genuine gratitude to everyone involved in ministry with our young people.



Kristy Boardman addresses Synod for Youth Synod

Finances

The Notes to the Financial Statements begin: “The Anglican Diocese of Waiapu is an incorporated body established by letters patent issued by Queen Victoria.” Now, that is gravitas.

This is the first time the diocesan and parish finances have been reported in a combined fashion.

The total assets for the Diocese amount to \$78,713,957 (down from previous year \$81,358,567). Just under \$57.5 million of this is parish buildings and other fixed assets (down from \$60.5 million the previous year, due to property revaluations).

Major areas of diocesan expenditure include diocesan services (\$588,600), youth mission (\$236,500), ministry training (\$201,400), hospital chaplaincies (\$75,000), wider Anglican Church (\$50,000).

Parishes raised \$6.8 million and spent \$5.9 million, leaving a surplus of \$953,500, including \$1.06 m on church restoration and development projects.

Clergy stipends and related costs amounted to \$1.1million, down from \$1.48 million, due to the movement of clergy movements and currently fewer paid clergy than a year ago.

Investments: The Income Fund, holding parish and social services funds, made a

return of 5.5% for the year, unchanged from the previous year (although actual income was down).

Permanent Fund paid a distribution rate of 12% per unit, unchanged from the previous year. However, the value of each unity dropped from @2.25 to \$2.13.

“Income Fund income is still inhibited by low interest rates. Investors should be prepared to accept a small drop in the Income Fund interest rates.

The Board of Diocesan Trustees currently manages \$17.3 million in the Income Fund and \$11.9 million in the Permanent Fund, plus \$5.8 million of property investments in the H B Trust.

Budget

The Diocese did not reach the level of deficit predicted, resulting in a \$75,000 surplus.

The Parish Assessments will be held at the 2013 level, with the small deficit being funded from accumulated reserves.

The total Diocesan budget for both the 2013 and the 2014 years is \$1,528,200. \$370,750 of that is for mission (diocesan, regional and youth) and the balance for the wider Anglican Church (\$100,000), parish support (\$87,000), decision making – Synod, etc (\$40,500), training (\$217,500) and diocesan services (\$604,950) and “other” (\$131,800).

Personal Comment -

A motherhood and apple pie Synod

Every Synod is different. Some focus on mission, some on the wider community, some on internal church policies.

The focus of Synod 2012, if there was one, was more on Synod itself – how to make it more effective, more interesting and stimulating, to have wider representation, more youth participation.

One attempt to do this was the (re)introduction of small discussion groups, for Bible study and to encourage the silent majority to have a voice. A good idea for the Bible study, but when the groups met to discuss Synod issues, they had a wide option of topics to discuss, with no time frame and no time for feedback. The result was often a tendency to wander around topics rather than focus on reaching a consensus or coming up with creative ideas.

Some of the most memorable moments were musical – Saachi’s moving song on the effects of the misuse of alcohol, Tom Libby leading Synod in “Be Still and know” in the middle of a speech, or the enthusiastic singing of “Whakaaria Mai / How Great Thou Art” and “Jesus of the Eastern Sky” in a packed St John’s, Dannevirke.

There was often little debate of motions, not through lack of interest, but because the motions tended to lack a sharp edge. They were often motherhood and apple pie motions, difficult to disagree with in principle but lacking specifics as to how the worthy intentions could be carried out.

No one, for example, could disagree that young people should have a say in Synod, or that we should support our paid lay ministers more, or that we should get behind the bicentennial celebrations. The challenges are in the “how?”. That is where Synod lacked focus.

By Noel Hendery

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