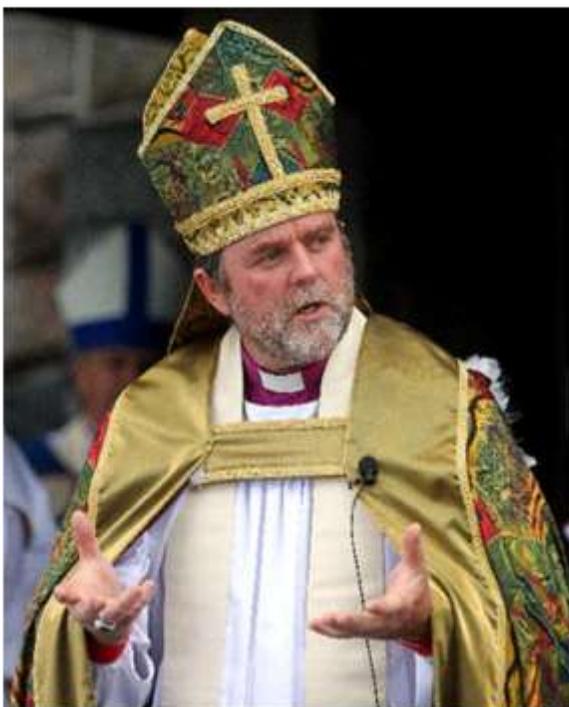


In the Province of Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia
And throughout the World

Greetings from the New Zealand President
Newsletter No. 49
May/June 2013



The Most Rev. Philip Richardson

Recently enthroned as one of the three Archbishops heading the Anglican Church of Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia.

Archbishop Philip has been Bishop of Taranaki for 14 years, and will continue his dual role from his base in New Plymouth.

Previous Archbishop, the Most Rev. David Moxon is now resident in Rome, having been appointed by Archbishop Rowan Williams as **the Anglican Communion's Chief Representative to the Roman Catholic Church**

From the President

E te whanau a Te Karaiti, Tena koutou katoa

Dear Mothers' Union and Friends

The Right Rev. Philip Richardson was officially Enthroned as the new Archbishop and Primate of the Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia at a service held at The Taranaki Cathedral Church of St Mary on 11 May 2013. The collation of Wharehoka Wano as lay canon was also held and he will hold the position of Reeves Canonary, in recognition of Sir Paul Reeves, a revered former Archbishop and Governor-General of New Zealand.

On a beautiful brisk morning, the Cathedral was filled with official guests at the invitation of the Archbishops of Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia, visiting Bishops from both the Province and Amorangi, clergy and lay ministry. Belinda Richardson and her family, Lady Beverley Reeves, widow of the late Sir Paul Reeves, daughter Sarah Reeves (who preached the sermon) and her husband, were honoured guests amongst the crowd who filled the cathedral to participate in this great occasion. I was privileged, as Provincial President representing the **Mothers' Union, to be invited to attend the service. Amongst others, it was good** to meet our new MU Diocesan President Anne Knox, and MU members in the Waikato/Taranaki Diocese who were present.

Likewise, The Mothers' Union was also represented at the recent enthronement of the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Right Rev. Justin Welby, at Canterbury Cathedral, England, by the Worldwide President Mrs Lynne Temby and CEO Reg Bailey. After the excitement of the enthronement of Archbishop Philip, I flew back from New Plymouth to fulfil a commitment I had made to speak at two services the following day - Mothers' Day at St Peters, Takapuna

I talked about being a mother in Tikanga Maori, how it informs my faith, values and family life. As a Maori first and foremost, to validate Tikanga Maori insights it **is meaningful to establish one's Maori identity to which you belong as in your** tribal affiliation, in my case to *Nga Puhi Iwi*, residential boundary for sub-tribe *Te Aupouri te Hapu*, Genealogy ancestor *Rev Heemi Kapa born 1788 and died aged one hundred and fourteen and buried at Te Kao, who was my great -great -grand father*. He turned to Christianity in the mid 1800s and worked with the Missionary Joseph Mathews where he soon learned to read and write. An ordained clergy he served in the far north parishes retiring after 56 years. Our family endeavours to build on his sacred memories and take pride knowing that Christ is valued and glorified always. These factors influence our choice of lifestyle and nourish our fellowship, relationships and how we treat others. We live frugally, responsibly, and accept that we make mistakes. My faith in Christ enables me to participate in his ministries and to be the best servant I could ever to be. It was a Happy Mothers' Day.

We believe in Marriage!!!

In our February newsletter we said “Mercy me, what shall we do, when same-sex marriage is here?” Well it has happened in New Zealand. The Marriage (Definition of Marriage) Amendment Act 2013 has received Royal assent and will come into force by 19 August 2013. So what shall we do? We published the Mothers’ Union official statement in February. It begins “*The Mothers’ Union continues to hold the view that marriage is between **One man and one woman***” A friend has just found a card (estimated to be between 60-70 years old) which had belonged to her mother. It contains the MU prayer and the (then 3) Objects, the first of which was to “Uphold the Sanctity of Marriage”, with the footnote “The Mothers’ Union affirms the Christian principle of the permanence of the relationship between **husband and wife**”. Some things do not change. In each Anglican Province we are committed to operating within the laws of our own country. Therefore, for the sake of the children, we will continue to support the “**Family in its many forms**” .

The Mary Sumner Lecture this year will be given by Sir Owen Glenn, whose Glenn Family Foundation is investigating the cause and effect of the adverse conditions under which some of our children are living, and what we can do about it. His subject will be -

The Role of Motherhood in Protecting and Nurturing Our Children”.

Mary Sumner Day, Friday the 9th August 2013, 11 a.m.

At St Mary’s in Holy Trinity Cathedral, Parnell, Auckland

open to all members, friends, and the general public,

followed by lunch in the Selwyn Library

(Diary it now)

*Attending Archbishop Philip’s
recognition service
at St Mary’s Cathedral,
New Plymouth,
on 11th May 2013*

*MU Executive members,
Virginia Wells
Rosemary Bent
Rev. Iritana Hankins
Pamela Ferry
Anne Knox.*



WAIKATO/TARANAKI DIOCESE

Dean Jamie Allen of the Taranaki Cathedral Church of St Mary and a **member of the St Mary's Mothers' Union** writes:

Some years ago, in a parish in the UK, I took the decision to join the Mothers' Union.

To many people this may sound a little strange—especially given that I am, quite patently, not a mother, and never will be. But, in fact, anyone who is baptised and believes in the importance of family life, both women and men—can become members. Married or single, parent or not, all can and do **join the Mothers' Union. That's the richness of this organisation. Which has more than 4.1 million members in 83 countries.** I feel that membership is a sign that we have a shared belief in the importance of family values.

I joined because I passionately believe in those aims, and in living them out. I want to make a difference and to celebrate the blessings of family life. **Today the MU's worldwide work includes the support of marriage and family life;** many projects, including the teaching of parenting skills; work in raising HIV/AIDS awareness; work in prisons; arranging holidays for those families who cannot afford them; marriage support; bereavement care, especially amongst children; and, of course the fostering of spirituality appropriate for family life.

The image of the MU has sometimes masked its dynamic work of supporting marriage and family life but increasingly, worldwide, the importance of its work is being recognised. All that the MU does is rooted in prayer and in spiritual understanding that family life provides a stability in society which is much needed. The MU is concerned to embrace all those whose marriages have met with adversity including supporting one-parent families and being concerned for children at risk, especially those who have become estranged from their families. This is a key aspect of much of the pastoral ministry which I do in our community here in Taranaki—especially through the Prepare-Enrich Programme which we operate regularly from the cathedral for those preparing for marriage—or those whose relationships are going through difficult times.

Today's society places enormous pressures on loving human relationships and the MU's work has never been more needed, to the Glory of God.

Archbishop of Canterbury's speech to the Lords on the Government's

Gay Marriage Bill, published by the Anglican Communion News Service on 4th June 2013. It concludes **"This bill is not at heart a faith issue; it is about the general social good. And so with much regret but entire conviction, I cannot support the Bill as it stands."** Voting was in favour of the Bill, and it proceeds to another reading.

WELLINGTON DIOCESE

This report gives the following details of activities in individual Branches.

St Mary's Levin hosted a lovely Lady Day service, with Geneth Davies from St Peter's Palmerston North celebrating the Eucharist and giving a short sermon on volunteering.

St Mark's February meeting included a service commissioning Margaret Jones as the new Branch Leader, and farewelling Ann Parnell for her move to Wanganui. Jo Shepherd was presented with a 50-year membership badge. In March, Ann Adams visiting from Derby spoke about MU in her village, and in April Dianne Windsor told us about her recent trip back to Pakistan. Branch members have been baking to help stock the freezers at Ronald McDonald House, and knitting items for the Neo Natal Unit at Wellington Hospital.

St Stephen's Marton visit members in rest homes, often taking them out for lunch and to visit churches in the area.

Epiphany Masterton were busy in March, attending on the 1st the **World Day of Prayer at St Patrick's**. On the 2nd, hosting a group of refugees now living in Wellington. On the 5th, greeting our new Diocesan MU President Heather Dawson. On the 20th hosting the AGM of the AAW Wairarapa. April 2nd was the Quiet Day led by Rev. Peter Brown in meditation according to the Benedictine rite, and those attending were calmed and elevated by our experience. On April 10th the Annunciation of our Lord to the Blessed Virgin Mary was celebrated.

A visit from Rosemary Hill, from an MU Branch in Les Charente near Cognac in France. **The French group have been running an AFIA (getting "Away From It All") programme, similar to some of the English ones, for the past three years.** They made hot cross buns, not part of French cuisine. Men as well as women are encouraged to become members of MU France which is part of the Province of Canterbury. The biggest MU Branches in Europe are made up of refugees or migrants, mainly from Africa.

The PEP Programme—**Val Malcolm's prayer letter is much appreciated by the facilitators.** Some of the course material is being amended, and ways of training new facilitators investigated. Unfortunately, Kaye and Rob Healey are taking up a new position away from their current parish and will no longer be involved. Other Dioceses in NZ are looking to the success of this programme as an inspiration to setting it up locally.

Members are praying for the health and safety of Luca Duckworth, daughter of Bishop Justin and Jenny, as she enters her Gap Year (before University) with a visit to Mozambique and then later to Taizé.

"Heatherfeather"

Diocesan President

Mothers Union Provincial Draft Financial Report
For the period commencing January 2011 to March 2013

OPENING BANK BALANCE	Suffix		\$
General Account	00	4,514.91	
Travel Account	02	<u>2,765.13</u>	
TOTAL BANK BALANCE			7,280.04
INCOME			
Membership Subscriptions			
Donations		1,903.00	
Levies		2,020.00	
Action & Outreach		259.00	
Travel		931.00	
Families World Wide		675.00	
Sundry		6,484.00	
Interest Received		<u>106.83</u>	
TOTAL INCOME			<u>12,378.83</u>
			19,658.87
OPERATING EXPENSES			
Administration			
Printing		1,130.42	
Postage & Packaging		598.16	
Bank Fees		84.50	
Sundry		3,978.26	
Travel Allowances		<u>246.00</u>	
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES			6,037.34
CLOSING BALANCE			
	Suffix		
General Account	00	6,389.67	
Travel Account	02	7,231.86	
TOTAL BANK BALANCE			<u>\$ 13,621.53</u>
<u>UNPRESENTED TRANSACTION</u>			
Overseas Telegraphic Transfer to MSH			\$ 5,807.48

Notes to the report

Financial membership in the past year stood at 385, which requires a frugal approach to Expenditure. We need to keep the membership numbers up to cope with rising costs of communication and travel for the PP. Notwithstanding, our magazine continues to be a successful medium to distribute news both here and overseas,

Diane Chapman, MU Provincial Treasurer/Secretary.

AUCKLAND DIOCESE

There are a lot of exciting things happening in Auckland this year. Our AGM was held at Holy Trinity Cathedral on 7th April (Low Sunday). Expertly chaired by our Chaplain the Right Rev. Ross Bay, on completion of official business we had leisure time to enjoy the cathedral surroundings with a guided tour and relaxed discussions over afternoon tea before joining the service of Night Prayer which included the commissioning of our new executive by Bishop Ross.

Emilie Aldwinckle was thanked for her six years of service as Diocesan President, and Joan Neild, Leader of the Orewa Branch, was commissioned to succeed Emilie as DP. Jean Williams also retired from the committee after 40 years of continued service to both the MU and the AWW. Katherine McIntyre and Jocelyn Leef were elected on to the Executive.

Our annual Quiet Day, shared with AAW, was held on Friday 30th May, guided by The Right Rev. Te Kitoi Pikaahu, who gave us an insight into the Feast of Corpus Christi which we were celebrating that day. We studied the bible reading from Luke 24: 13-35 **giving news of the death of Christ, and how the disciples' reaction has resulted in the way we celebrate the eucharist today.** This was followed by meditation on a Taize theme. Like Wellington, we found the day calming and uplifting, We have accepted **Bishop Kito's offer to conduct the Quiet Day again next year, and we can only say to those who were not present "Do not miss it". Remember the saying heard many years ago "Mothers' Union is a way of life. Not just another monthly meeting".**

Leaders Like Lydia—A Theological Discourse in Flax, Fabric and Word Weaving.
Raranga, Siapo and Word Weaving.

Women from the length of New Zealand and the Pacific, attended the Hui which was **conducted by the Centre for Anglican Women's Studies, at Vaughan Park Anglican Retreat Centre at Long Bay, Auckland, over a three day residential stay.** The Raranga Workshop was facilitated by Rev. Mere Wallace, the Siopo Workshop by Rev. Brenda Sio and Rev. Amy Chambers, and the Word Weaving workshop by the Rev. Erice Fairbrother. During the course of the Artistic retreat participants had the opportunity to explore their artistic preference in small groups, as well as a personal reflection time, worship, and large group discussions. The outcome of the Hui will be the **writing of a book about the event by members of the Anglican Women's Studies Centre.**

Our Mothers' Union Diocesan President, Joan Neild, who participated in the Word Weaving workshop, greatly enjoyed the friendship and interaction with others at this event.

We have also had some sad occasions, on the sudden death of Gwentyth Dillon, long-time leader of the St Oswald's Branch at One Tree Hill, and the passing of Mavis Allnutt after a long illness, who came to NZ as a Mothers' Union member from Wales, and was quickly immersed in the Henderson Branch, and Diocesan activities.

Finance

It just so happens that on the right we have panel No.3 (the last in the series) from the “Families First” magazine—a not too subtle request for funds, either by subscription or donation. We need to hear this message. If you can help build up our financial resources, please contact the NZ Provincial President (Iritana). In the very beginning Sally Tonkin raised \$1,000 by weaving and selling mohair scarves. A challenge to anyone with artistic abilities. I have previously suggested, unsuccessfully, that others might join me in making a small but regular automatic payment into the MU A/c. \$10.00 once a month is less than the cost of a very light lunch and, if enough of us can each do this, it will make a significant difference. The Provincial President is required to travel extensively, and NZ can only benefit if she has the wherewithal to mix with and learn from the officials at MSH and other worldwide leaders. A sudden flurry of cake stalls is not going to meet the bills. Can we rise to the challenge?

Thank you to everyone who responded to our request to update the mailing list. There were many replies, and it may take another stab to get it right. Please continue to respond if mistakes are still occurring.

Remember to Sow a Seed in Prayer
God of welcome, take our mustard seed of faith;
Nourish it with the Holy Spirit,
That confidence will grow within us
To speak our words of invitation.
May our vision flourish.
Amen.

A Sunday school teacher asked her children on the way to service, “And why is it necessary to be quiet in church?”
One little girl replied, “Because people are sleeping.”

THE PROVINCIAL TEAM

Provincial Chaplain: The Right Rev. John Paterson, P.O. Box 87255, Auckland 1742.
Provincial President: The Rev. Iritana Hankins, 20 Mataroa Road, Otahuhu, Auckland 1062,
Email i.hankins@xtra.co.nz, Phone: 0064 (0)9 276-3088
Secretary/Treasurer: Mrs Diane Chapman, 20 Mataroa Road, Otahuhu, Auckland 1062,
Email: chapman-01@hotmail.com, Phone (09) 275-7061 or 027 430-9047
Guest Editor: Mrs Margaret Wilson, 301 St Heliers Bay Road, Kohimarama, Auckland 1071
Phone 0064 (0)9 521-1229 Email maggies.mill@xtra.co.nz

Many branches,
flourishing, because
of the energy and
generosity of
previous generations.
Now the future is in
your hands.



Legacies can make a lasting difference to Mothers' Union's future. To find out how you can include us in your will, call or write to Emily Petty at:

Mothers' Union
Mary Isidore House
24 Sultan Street, London SW1P 3BB
Tel: +44 (0)20 7222 5533
Fax: +44 (0)20 7227 9237
Email: emilypetty@themothersunion.org

registered charity number 246221

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families

In memoriam Tom Wilson
who died on 10th May
2013. An incredibly
patient and generous
supporter and benefactor
of the Mothers' Union.