

Island Bay Presbyterian Church 2023 Annual Report



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AGM LETTER FROM THE MINISTER – AGM 2023

Another year goes by and 2023 is nearly over.

Much of what we do as a church stays the same, rooted in the discipline of weekly worship alongside mid-week opportunities for fellowship, prayer and service. There have been a few innovations this year: the youth tramp in January, I was asked to speak at a farewell for our MP Paul Eagle in June, we had a church ski trip in July, and I have taken time to explore more deeply how the traditional discipline of the Sabbath can speak into our post-Covid lives, as well as attending a conference on Inter-Generational Worship.

The core of my role however is overseeing the life of IBPC and trying to discern the ways the Spirit is calling us to love, serve, and connect with both our congregation, and those around us. I find our congregation to be very permission-giving, hopeful, patient, committed to the way of Jesus, and faith-full. We try new things, people get on board, it doesn't always work, but people seem to enjoy it nonetheless! I especially appreciated how people have given our experiments with "Inter-Generational" services a go – services where we have tried to give space for old and young to interact in a service together, rather than just sit and watch. It is an honour to serve here.

Since our last AGM, sermons have been led by Bruce, Jeanne, the Youth Group, Craig, Amber, Sunday Club, and Richard Noble as well as myself. On top of this, others have brought testimonies, especially a series on youthful experiences of the Sabbath. Next year I would like to give space for people to share about the interface of their faith with their work. We've also had our usual combined services at the Anglicans and Baptists down the road.

I feel like we are a team at IBPC, and although probably not many have the big picture of all that goes on in and thorough IBPC, I am grateful that so many do so much. I really find my own imagination and life of discipleship are inspired by having you all around me. Bruce, Helen, Mel and Harry on staff, PC, the Managers, our Tēpū Mō Tātou and Nourish volunteers (big shout out to Liz who has taken much on with Bruce's sabbatical), and Michael our cleaner. Our Brigade, youth and child ministry helpers. Our musicians and sound team, those who offer pastoral care and make soup, those who pray and read and preach and offer us a cuppa each Sunday. Those who support us financially, those who talk to visitors on a Sunday morning, those who show hospitality and offer a kind word – to name a few...

Kiddiccino has come to an end after many years. Literally hundreds of local families found fun, support, and an introduction to our church community through that group. These connections continue, and I was approached to lead a funeral for one of these families this year - this legacy deserves to be remembered and celebrated. So again, a big shout out to Mel and her team! This ending didn't lessen the activity at church though, with the growth of our youth work in partnership with our local Catholic parish. 30 youth at the ski trip is testament to that, Harry is much loved by our rangatahi.

In amongst the good, it has been a difficult season for people with the cost of living going up (notably for us this was evident in insurance rates rises), an uncertain and distressing global scene, climate change making itself felt, and pressures at work. All of this on the back of Covid has weighed many people down. I appreciated permission for myself taking some time off for study-leave, to re-group and re-assess my life rhythms. I hope the subsequent series on the Sabbath was helpful.

I am still struck that when Christians seek help with stress, secular professionals basically tell us to adopt a Sabbath discipline. The Sabbath is a prophetic taonga we can hold out to our nation in seasons like this. This is a topic I will come back to now and again.

Finances, insurance, and compliance continue to be a complex and ever-changing space for churches to navigate. I appreciated the ease with which we found consensus at our earlier congregational meeting on reducing our insurance cover to keep costs manageable. These rises have been a source of stress to many congregations, and I predict more congregations having to step away from their buildings as the Church in NZ faces a new season. Huge gratitude to Graeme and Craig and those who manage and lead in that space for IBPC.

Our need for grants funding has increased as Presbytery Central is poised to end funding our Tēpū Mō Tātou project in February 2024. They have funded the bulk of the project for 8 years now from the sale of the Newtown and Seatoun Presbyterian buildings; we have been very blessed by this trust and generosity, and it is time for us to find our own way. Tēpū Mō Tātou is a key part of our discipleship and calling to be church together, and led by Bruce this has really enriched our life of faith. I feel that the Kaupapa we have developed around this work could also be a blessing to other churches as well, and a potential partnership next year with a housing research unit could aid in the dream of sharing the journey we have been on with other churches. The closure of Granville has been very significant this year, many of us had spent a lot of time there getting to know that community and mourn that loss. Bruce and his team however have done a great job of staying in connection with our friends and helping them settle elsewhere.

I was asked by PC to look into setting up a charitable trust for Tēpū Mō Tātou as part of my research into funding options once Presbytery support ends (thanks to those inside and outside the congregation who advised and lead me through the pro's and cons of that move), but the extra work this would bring didn't seem worth it in the end. My initial grant applications this year didn't bear fruit which necessitated me doing a lot more research into the fundraising sector and how it works. We do have a new plan however which I am hopeful about, and I would love a team of people to help me implement it. At the AGM I will explain my thinking and ask for volunteers to be part of a grants team, this would not be an onerous task!

So, thanks be to God, who through the Spirit brings us to Christ and leads us into Life Everlasting! A Life that animates us now, and that holds us when our days under the sun come to an end. Thanks also to you all for another full and inspiring year. May God lead us and use us as conduits of grace in the year that is to come, breathing that Life into everything we do. I am especially excited to see what may come from Bruce's Study Leave project as the months go by.

Yours in Christ, Nathan Parry
September 2023

PARISH COUNCIL

We have had a good year; everything is starting to normalise while we pray that we find funding for our various plans.

We have continued to stream our services over Zoom for only a family or two to attend worship through this medium. Thankfully, we have been able to continue to worship together with our wider church family but utilise the technology available to help keep connecting with our wider family.

Ngaire Stagg was the last IBPC member to pass away just before last year's AGM, but Nathan did also preside over the funeral of Judy's much loved partner Reg. Our thoughts and prayers are still with Judy as she adjusts to this loss, and with all those in our community who lost loved ones over the last year.

This year saw us wrap up our Kiddiccino group. It has touched so many lives within our community which is continuing on through our youth, many of whom came through Kiddiccino.

Our Youth group has been going so well and we were finally able to engage those with our other groups through our successful ski trip. This was also a chance for our wider church to take part and get to know our youth. Made ever more sweeter being able to share it with Raelene, Emi and Maya, our family from Germany.

Our Brigades have been going fairly well. Some of the older members have been working together towards their Duke of Edinburgh awards. We had a good tramp early this year and another one in the coming months.

We also have CompassionFest coming up in the new few months. We pray for God's blessings and His continued wisdom to understand our next steps within our wider community.

With Covid, PC dropped the practice of asking the different church groups to write reports twice a year, though we receive regular updates on things from Bruce, Mel, Liz and (of course) Nathan. No-one has complained about not being asked to write a report, but if anyone ever has a great idea, or wants to pass something on, or desires prayer or resourcing, please do contact me and let us know.

On behalf of your Parish Council, we want to share our thanks to all of the tireless work people put into everything we do. The musicians in the band and ensemble for providing us a soundtrack to worship to. Our children's leaders in Sunday school, BB, GB and the youth. Your influence is a blessing to all. Thank you to everyone who is so willing to take part in services, lending your voices to read, preach and teach.

We were very happy to be able to celebrate Helen being with us for the last 10 years. Your work is invaluable and appreciated. We look forward to continuing to work together.

Thank you to Bruce and the team for your work in the community. You are such a blessing to everyone you are in touch with, and your influence is incalculable.

We also thank Liz for her faithful service and wisdom as she steps down from Parish Council after her 6 years.

Finally, thank you to Nathan. Your constant support and leadership are absolutely God given. Thank you so very much.

God bless.

Parish Council:

Sally, Sue, Liz, Kezia, Mel, Bruce, Nathan, Helen, Andy, Jeanne

ADMINISTRATOR

Centre hire: The year has been steady as far as casual bookings go, with a good number of bookings for a longer duration. Bookings management remains a core part of my work, as is communications both within the church and externally; monitoring property work and keeping on top of housekeeping tasks. I have brought in three community markets (December, February, July) to the auditorium this past year - a success for us (income) and them (also income), particularly as we have the bonus of a large car park. The Electoral Commission is currently hiring the Hall for the two weeks of our October General Election voting.

Property: the addition of a key lockbox for accessing the buildings has been really useful, as the issuing of keys and arrangements got very inefficient. We had a spate of break-ins plus vandalism in the year. That included the

obliteration of key lockbox version 1. Version 2 was relocated to a more public spot. Thanks to Graeme for this work, including the installation of another sensor light.

Waste management (of the kitchen variety) and waste reduction still has a way to go, so I hope this is still important to the church. I have a vision for a dedicated 'station' for all recycling.

Groups: Changes: the Tai Chi group moved away; a private dance lesson started; Rappelkiste (German playgroup) folded; Guides stretched to start earlier; Kiddiccino ceased at the beginning of 2023, and the Korean church added a 6am Saturday prayer session. A lovely line dancing seniors groups hired the hall (2 sessions/week) over April to August while their own Chinese cultural hall was being strengthened. So the weekly schedule has been dynamic. Our core community groups are: After School Care, Move It Danceworks, Plunket, Guides, Weavers and Spinners guild, Anne's preschool music and the Korean Presbyterian Church. Keri's 'Ballroom in the Bay' runs on a Monday night, and has done so since September 2022, so a full year. We do still have plenty of daytime space to offer new groups.

Special services and events: A funeral was held here this August. A large Indian wedding celebration was held here in April. Generally, larger indoor gatherings have been off the agenda. We again staged an art exhibition as part of the South Coast Arts Trail in April, with Pantea ably curating this.

Communications: The weekly email newsletter is a good routine, and read 'far and wide', I hope. With CompassionFest 23 on the horizon, I've been more active on the church's Facebook page, which has come to Facebook's attention: I get a whole lot of suggested pages to follow/groups to join; I refrain on your behalf 😊

The church website still provides core information about our programmes, policies and facilities, and is readily edited to feature special events like the upcoming CompassionFest. I still produce physical posters for local noticeboards, and chalk the footpaths as needed.

Our monthly team planning meeting have not resumed: trying to get six busy people together midweek hasn't worked, but I manage a number of catch-ups with Nathan in the week to check over priorities. I meet with the Baptist church administrator every couple of months to share ideas and strategies. I endeavour to be here two hours each day so I can respond to matters in a timely manner.

My thanks to key people who've supported this role during the year, particularly Nathan, Graeme and Craig. A special thank you for the friendship of all here. It is a caring group and this is so important. The variety and flexibility of this job, and the wider work of the church are what keep me enjoying the role, though I miss my Monday mornings and the Kiddiccino kitchen crew for a laugh to start the week. But who knows? It may rise again!

Great Housekeeping Moments: When the auditorium seismic strengthening was done in April, I rescued a couple of small pieces of the mahogany wall veneer, and they are still here. So, if anyone would like a souvenir?

Helen Scobie
Administrator

MANAGERS

Managers continue to support the ongoing ministries of the Church community by looking after the many background tasks that are required to maintain the buildings, keep the finances ticking over and administer the many occupants of the buildings during the week.

Many people contribute to the running of the Church and I want to thank some of them. Apologies if I miss anyone. These include Nathan Parry who liaises with Helen Scobie and puts in the hard yards writing grant applications to support the community ministries. Craig Bennett for looking after all the financial records and paying the bills. Helen Scobie who manages the bookings and a lot of the bills connected with hiring out the buildings (we note she has been in the job for 10 years now). Michael McLachlan who keeps the buildings clean. Irene McLachlan who manages the rosters, without which, nothing would happen, and Helen Reynolds who keeps the gardens tidy. Also, Janet McDonald and Wendy Nelson who act as Health & Safety advisors. We usually acknowledge the work of Nathan McLachlan and Graeme Mahoney who manage the sound and Zoom technology that allows us to hear what is going on in services and helping when sound is required by other users.

Thanks too, for the many people that are on the rosters, doing flower arrangements, putting chairs out, lawn mowing, organising Communion, doing door duty. Each one is a valuable contribution to the way Church happens.

Managers wish to report on some of the projects we managed during the year. These include the completion of the seismic strengthening work, bringing the auditorium to 70% NBS, a review of employment contracts, a review of the rental rates for the buildings and background work around the insurance needs of the buildings for the Church to make some tough decisions. Managers had a look at items for future maintenance and although the list is daunting, in terms of money to do this properly, we thought replacing the aisle carpet with tiles, painting the Manse weatherboards and upgrading the heating in the gymnasium were the highest priority for the next few years. The lounge deck was also stained.

Manse: While we decided not to raise the rental at the beginning of the year, we decided to increase it in June. There have been several repairs required around the property this year, including the garage door opener motor, the weed eater and we spent quite a bit when the water heater element in the downstairs cylinder died, leading to no hot water over a weekend. Some work in the garden was also done to control the growth of the trees etc.

Health & Safety: Managers regularly reviews this, and Janet & Wendy do a regular walkaround. Fortunately, we don't seem to be particularly prone to incidents relating to this aspect of Church life.

Graeme Mahoney
For Managers

FINANCE REPORT 2022-23

Once again, a big 'thank you' to all our faithful givers! The contributions of money and time from many enable our church to be part of God's mission in our community. If you'd like to be part of our team of regular donors through the Planned Christian Giving Scheme (which also enables you to claim an annual donor rebate from Inland Revenue), please come and talk with me.

Financial Statements 2022-2023

The deficit for the year, including depreciation, was \$5,853 compared to a deficit of \$4,015 from the previous year.

Regular giving from the congregation increased by 2%. Rent for the manse and church complex continues to make a significant contribution to our income. Donations included a significant gift from overseas.

Expenditure in other areas was broadly similar to the previous year, with the changes being due to general cost increases, insurance premiums rising significantly, and the work to improve the seismic rating of the church.

Most of the wages and costs of the Community Minister and the Youth Worker for the Berhampore outreach were funded by grants, with the balance coming from specified donations.

A full copy of the financial statements is included in this Annual Report. This year's Financial Statements have not been independently reviewed. This is a change from previous years. PCANZ now leaves it to each Parish to decide whether to have their financial statements reviewed, and Parish Council decided not to have them reviewed this year.

Budget 2023-2024

The budget assumes a full stipend for Nathan, a half-time stipend for Bruce (funded by grants from Presbytery and other organisations plus specific donations), and four part-time appointments (Children and Families Worker, Office Administrator, Cleaner, and Youth Worker). For the Youth Worker, the Berhampore portion is funded by grants. This year, the church portion is funded from General Funds as the amount agreed in 2018 from the Duncanson Fund has been used up.

On the income side, we are budgeting for an increase in regular giving due to specific donations for the Community Minister. The increase in camp fees is due to the ski trip and is offset by the expenses for this trip. Grants are down due to the Presbytery Grant for the Community Minister finishing in February 2024, and the Berhampore Youth work reducing from six hours per week to three hours per week from January 2024.

Changes in expenditure are due to:

- Inflation
- The decrease in weekly hours (from six to three) for Berhampore youth work from January 2024.
- The decrease in weekly hours (from six to four) for church youth work from January 2024. St Frances de Sales pay for an additional four hours per week.
- An increase in insurance costs for the manse due to increasing the level of cover, and a decrease in insurance costs for the balance of the property due to no longer having natural disaster cover on the hall complex. These decisions were made at a congregational meeting earlier this year.

The net result of this is a projected deficit for the year, including depreciation, of around \$12,000. As depreciation is not a cash expense, on a cash basis we hope to break even in 2023-24.

Craig Bennett
Treasurer

Profit and Loss

Island Bay Presbyterian Church - For the year ended 30 June 2023

Account	Aitken Legacy	Duncanson Legacy	General	Total June 2023	June 2022
Income					
Donations Received	\$0	\$0	\$3,936	\$3,936	\$1,089
Envelope Offerings	\$0	\$1,000	\$98,659	\$99,659	\$97,538
Fundraising	\$0	\$0	\$4,439	\$4,439	\$2,435
Government Grants	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,318
Interest Received	\$112	\$1,444	\$1,900	\$3,455	\$1,196
Loose Offerings	\$0	\$0	\$293	\$293	\$1,105
Manse Rent Received	\$0	\$0	\$45,130	\$45,130	\$43,540
Other Grants Received	\$0	\$3,500	\$59,319	\$62,819	\$62,512
Parish/Youth Camp Fees	\$0	\$0	\$665	\$665	\$1,066
Rent Received	\$0	\$0	\$44,905	\$44,905	\$44,168
Special Donations	\$0	\$0	\$40	\$40	\$0
Special Offerings	\$0	\$0	\$250	\$250	\$0
Total Income	\$112	\$5,944	\$259,536	\$265,591	\$255,967
Expenses					
ACC Levies	\$0	\$0	\$320	\$320	\$399
Accountancy Fees	\$0	\$0	\$545	\$545	\$516
Administration Wages	\$0	\$0	\$13,498	\$13,498	\$12,778
Assembly Assessment	\$0	\$0	\$6,804	\$6,804	\$5,566
Audit	\$0	\$0	-\$20	-\$20	\$415
ChiFam Wages and expenses	\$0	\$465	\$3,321	\$3,786	\$3,540
Cleaning wages	\$0	\$0	\$3,561	\$3,561	\$3,457
Depreciation	\$0	\$0	\$12,515	\$12,515	\$16,739
Education & Training	\$0	\$327	\$0	\$327	\$0
Fundraising expenses	\$0	\$0	\$942	\$942	\$265
General Expenses	\$0	\$0	\$1,139	\$1,139	\$1,314
Insurance	\$0	\$0	\$16,975	\$16,975	\$13,492
Light Power & Heating	\$0	\$0	\$3,466	\$3,466	\$3,085
Local Mission	\$383	\$0	\$126	\$509	\$1,024
Manse - rates	\$0	\$0	\$5,141	\$5,141	\$4,549
Manse - repairs and maintenance	\$0	\$0	\$2,144	\$2,144	\$1,006
Manse Insurance	\$0	\$0	\$3,022	\$3,022	\$3,079
Minister Housing Allowance	\$0	\$0	\$38,825	\$38,825	\$37,947
Minister and Staff Supervision	\$0	\$400	\$1,060	\$1,460	\$1,585
Ministers Allowances (Other)	\$0	\$0	\$4,018	\$4,018	\$3,934
Ministers Beneficiary Fund	\$0	\$0	\$4,906	\$4,906	\$4,851
Ministers Stipend	\$0	\$0	\$99,723	\$99,723	\$96,818
Ministry Expenses	\$0	\$50	\$1,255	\$1,305	\$1,949
Motor Vehicle Expenses	\$0	\$0	\$510	\$510	\$375
Overseas Mission	\$0	\$0	\$261	\$261	\$520
Parish/Youth Camp	\$0	\$0	\$2,885	\$2,885	\$1,031
Presbytery Levies	\$0	\$0	\$1,735	\$1,735	\$1,561
Printing, Photocopying & Stationery	\$0	\$0	\$953	\$953	\$256
Rates	\$0	\$0	\$1,657	\$1,657	\$1,437
Repairs & Maintenance	\$0	\$0	\$12,174	\$12,174	\$9,543
Telephone & Internet	\$0	\$0	\$1,071	\$1,071	\$1,224
Worship Expenses	\$0	\$0	\$897	\$897	\$1,483
Youth expenses	\$0	\$1,257	\$752	\$2,009	\$331
Youth Worker	\$0	\$10,060	\$12,323	\$22,383	\$23,912
Total Expenses	\$383	\$12,559	\$258,503	\$271,445	\$259,982
Net Profit	(\$272)	(\$6,615)	\$1,034	(\$5,853)	(\$4,015)

Balance Sheet

Island Bay Presbyterian Church

As at 30 June 2023

Account	30 Jun 2023	30 Jun 2022
Assets		
Bank		
ANZ 00 Account	\$28,678	\$16,278
ANZ 02 Account	\$5,002	\$3,065
Total Bank	\$33,680	\$19,343
Current Assets		
Accounts Receivable	\$889	\$3,600
Accrued Receivables	\$900	\$0
PCANZ AIF	\$97,409	\$109,430
Prepayments	\$3,159	\$1,385
Total Current Assets	\$102,357	\$114,415
Fixed Assets		
Buildings	\$1,370,000	\$1,370,000
Furniture & Fittings	\$79,964	\$79,964
Furniture & Fittings Accumulated Depreciation	-\$57,097	-\$49,100
Land	\$5,140,000	\$5,140,000
Plant & Equipment	\$64,238	\$64,238
Plant & Equipment Accumulated Depreciation	-\$47,363	-\$42,844
Total Fixed Assets	\$6,549,743	\$6,562,258
Total Assets	\$6,685,780	\$6,696,016
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accrued Expenses	\$2,642	\$6,820
GST	-\$816	\$1,067
Income Received In Advance 1	\$18,784	\$16,939
Payroll Suspense	\$3,435	\$3,538
Unpaid Expense Claims	\$97	\$158
Total Current Liabilities	\$24,141	\$28,523
Total Liabilities	\$24,141	\$28,523
Net Assets	\$6,661,639	\$6,667,493
Equity		
Aitken Legacy	\$2,641	\$2,913
Current Year Earnings	-\$5,853	-\$4,015
Duncanson Legacy	\$44,931	\$51,546
Retained Earnings	\$6,619,921	\$6,617,048
Total Equity	\$6,661,639	\$6,667,493

Depreciation Schedule

Island Bay Presbyterian Church - For the year ended 30 June 2023

Name	Cost	Opening Value	Purchases	Disposals	Depreciation	Closing Value
Buildings						
Church Hall & Lounge	950,000.00	950,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	950,000.00
Manse & Garage	420,000.00	420,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	420,000.00
Total Buildings	1,370,000.00	1,370,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,370,000.00
Furniture & Fittings						
Bathroom fitout	5,879.00	1,420.76	0.00	0.00	587.90	832.86
CHAIRS first 70	7,320.03	5,490.03	0.00	0.00	732.00	4,758.03
CHAIRS 2nd 70	7,079.12	5,545.31	0.00	0.00	707.91	4,837.40
Garden fence, gate	2,070.00	931.50	0.00	0.00	207.00	724.50
Garden of Memories	19,063.68	7,148.87	0.00	0.00	1,906.37	5,242.50
Gym floor	7,430.00	1,919.42	0.00	0.00	743.00	1,176.42
Kitchen fitout	5,649.20	1,553.53	0.00	0.00	564.92	988.61
Manse carpet	4,524.00	1,093.30	0.00	0.00	452.40	640.90
Manse downstairs fit out	20,949.16	5,760.99	0.00	0.00	2,094.92	3,666.07
Total Furniture & Fittings	79,964.19	30,863.71	0.00	0.00	7,996.42	22,867.29
Land						
Church hall and lounge	4,150,000.00	4,150,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,150,000.00
Manse	990,000.00	990,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	990,000.00
Total Land	5,140,000.00	5,140,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,140,000.00
Plant & Equipment						
Bakber oven	4,230.00	1,991.62	0.00	0.00	423.00	1,568.62
Church heaters	9,779.74	7,742.30	0.00	0.00	977.97	6,764.33
Church lighting	9,331.32	4,587.91	0.00	0.00	933.13	3,654.78
Church projector	6,337.00	2,015.23	0.00	0.00	930.11	1,085.12
Church sound system	20,149.47	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Dishwasher	4,949.90	2,330.56	0.00	0.00	494.99	1,835.57
Hall projector	3,943.56	1,577.41	0.00	0.00	525.80	1,051.61
Manse heat pump	3,180.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Westinghouse fridge and stove	2,337.39	1,149.21	0.00	0.00	233.74	915.47
Total Plant & Equipment	64,238.38	21,394.24	0.00	0.00	4,518.74	16,875.50
Total	6,654,202.57	6,562,257.95	0.00	0.00	12,515.16	6,549,742.79

Budget

Island Bay Presbyterian Church - For the year ended 30 June 2024

	Account	Budget 2024	Actual 2023
		\$	\$
Revenue			
Offerings			
	Regular Offerings	112,000	99,659
	Fundraising	3,000	4,439
	Loose Offerings	300	293
	Total Offerings	115,300	104,391
Other Grants and Donations Received			
	Donations Received	1,500	4,226
	Other Grants Received	49,170	62,819
	Total Other Grants and Donations Received	50,670	67,045
Property Income			
	Manse rental	46,800	45,130
	Church and Hall Rental	45,000	44,905
	Total Property Income	91,800	90,035
Investment Income			
	Interest Received	3,500	3,455
	Total Investment Income	3,500	3,455
Income from Services and Activities			
	Parish/Youth Camp Fees	12,000	665
	Total Income from Services and Activities	12,000	665
	Total Income	273,270	265,591
Expenses			
Ministry Stipend & Allowance			
	Minister Supervision	1,920	1,460
	Ministers Allowances (Other)	3,930	4,018
	Ministers Beneficiary Fund	5,235	4,906
	Ministers Stipend	103,720	99,723
	Minister Housing Allowance	40,290	38,825
	Ministry Expenses	2,000	1,305
	Motor Vehicle Expenses	500	510
	Total Ministry Stipend & Allowance	157,595	150,747
Other Staff Costs & Expense			
	Adminstration Wages	14,600	13,498
	ChiFam	3,500	3,321
	Cleaning	3,720	3,561
	Manse - wages	500	0
	Youth Worker - Rintoul	6,300	12,323
	Youth Worker - church	7,000	10,060
	Total Other Staff Costs & Expense	35,620	42,763
Property Expenses			
	Depreciation	12,516	12,515
	Insurance	13,725	16,975
	Light Power & Heating	3,500	3,466
	Manse - repairs and maintenance	3,500	2,144
	Manse - insurance	4,767	3,022
	Manse - rates	5,735	5,141
	Rates	2,396	1,657

	Repairs & Maintenance	10,000	12,174
Total Property Expenses		56,140	57,093
Administration & Office Expenses			
	ACC Levies	450	320
	Accountancy Fees	550	545
	Assembly Assessment	6,705	6,804
	Audit	0	(20)
	Education & Training	500	327
	Presbytery Levies	2,765	1,735
	Printing, Photocopying & Stationery	750	953
	Telephone & Internet	1,100	1,071
Total Administration & Office Expenses		12,820	11,734
Local Mission			
	Local Mission	1,000	509
Total Local Mission		1,000	509
Overseas Mission			
	Overseas Mission	500	261
Total Overseas Mission		500	261
Sundry Expenses			
	ChiFam	500	465
	Fundraising expenses	0	942
	General Expenses	1,800	1,139
	Parish Camp	11,500	2,885
	Worship Expenses	1,800	897
	Youth expenses	4,880	2,009
Total Sundry Expenses		20,480	8,337
Total Expenses		284,155	271,444
Surplus/(Deficit)		(10,885)	(5,853)

PRAYER ENABLER

What are the markers, I wonder, of an increasingly closer journey with Jesus? Is prayer my first 'go-to' when troubles come, or challenge confronts?

It's again been my privilege to plan and prepare Prayer Treks for us and the wider Christian community. On October 1, 2022, the meeting place was the Basin Reserve with a trek up Ellice Street to Parikowhai. Prayer meditation was themed around discrimination as the life of Anne Frank was recalled at the memorial to her and so many children lost. On request, I again offered this Trek on September 4, 2023. It was such a blessing to revisit Parikowhai and to return home via the Southern Walkway.

Theming on The Wonder of our Eyes, a group gathered at St Hilda's on June 10th, 2023 for a Prayer Trek around our wonderful South Coast.

With 70 of us heading for Ruapehu to Ski or tramp, July 27-29, 2023, the opportunity presented to prepare a Meditation Guide. My draft was turned into a Piece of Online Wonder with a link to Spotify for the songs included. You can find the link on IBPC website.

Our Labyrinth was again on offer during Lent in the Hall and in the Sanctuary for Holy Week. On Good Friday afternoon, all were welcomed to walk the track by the golf course 'finding' symbols of the Stations of the Cross enroute, sharing Readings and prayer, remembering that final journey of Jesus on His earthly mission.

Lord, bind us together with chords that cannot be broken.

Liz Bruce

PRAYER CHAIN

“The wonderful thing about praying is that you leave a world of not being able to do something and enter God’s realm where everything is possible. He specialises in the impossible. Nothing is too great for His almighty power. Nothing is too small for His love.”

– Corrie ten Boom

PTL – Praise The Lord as He continues to work through the Prayer Chain which operates each Tuesday at 8 a.m. It also operates at other times as necessary. Many topics have been covered over the past year and it is encouraging when we hear of results from our prayers.

- P passionate, persistent, personal, praise
- R repeated, reputable
- A adoration, attitude
- Y yearning, year-long, yes
- E effective, efficient
- R regular, reliable

- C compassion, confession,
- H harmonious, helpful
- A accolades, always
- I insistent, intense
- N now or never (depending on God’s will)

If you would like to be part of this group, please contact Janice Hopkins (mobile: 027 646 2191) or Liz Bruce (mobile 022 185 5357).

Janice Hopkins
on behalf of the pray-ers in the Prayer Chain

EPRAYER

Thursdays Prayer email is a reminder of Tuesday's Prayer Chain points and further requests to cover weekend activities and needs across the board as the Holy Spirit prompts.

Simply email Liz at e.a.bruce@outlook.com for prayer requests and/or to actively join in praying.

Hebrews 4:16 *Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.*

Liz Bruce

PASTORAL CARE GROUP

During the past year we have met on the first Tuesday of each month (except January). At times when we have not met it is because some members are away, or extra work loads and verbal reports have been sufficient. Meetings consist of a time of sharing experiences since we last met, raising matters of pastoral concern, including issues/people for prayer and visiting, and prayer for those in need.

The weekly email continues to be sent from Nathan and the Church Office to those people who are on the email mailing list along with Nathan's sermons (or the person preaching) which are very much appreciated by the recipients.

The Pastoral Care Team meetings can be -

- times of reflection of how church activities have been received and followed through;
- times of being a sounding board for various ideas or suggestions for activities to be held;
- times for praying for our faith community & it's involvement in our local communities.

Janice Hopkins

on behalf of the Pastoral Care Task Group, consisting of Liz Bruce, Hayden Mellor, Nathan Parry

CHURCH BAND – 2023

(For Year 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023)

As we celebrate the end of another year in the life of this church I have as usual waited till the last possible minute to write this annual report before the printing goes ahead! so here it is ... As with other years a very big **"Thank you"** must go to everyone who is involved or has been involved in the band in the past year –

- Firstly the sound desk crew – Graeme Mahoney and on occasions Nathan McLachlan, as without these guys you would probably hear the musicians but the singers!
- Then onto the Musicians – Joe Fecteau (Drums and Vocals), Andrew Bruce (Guitar)
- Edward Mahoney (Bass Guitar), Brenda Watkins (Piano) and also Bruce Hamill and Ivan Paul on occasions when Brenda was away. Unfortunately we have lost Ed for the present but do hope in time he can find a way of being part of the Band again – **WE MISS YOU ED!!**

- This leads to the singers – Angela Kilford, Graham Langton, and Irene McLachlan, as well as Richard Bruce who is always a willing and encouraging person especially when we do Haere Mai!, and on occasions Janice Hopkins and Gail Mahoney.

If there is anyone who would like to join in, do chat with someone in the group you are interested in. All are welcome, hopefully not all at once though, and try the group out.

We also give a big THANK YOU to our church families for your support and enjoyment of our music which we hope you have all enjoyed, and if whilst you are standing feel free to move / dance / boogie if you are enjoying the tempo of the song. This helps us to know that 'yes' they are enjoying this. It is appreciated when we receive feedback as this lets us know if we are going the right, wrong or in-between direction. Whether we should change things up or down. Or you have some music you would like hear us play, these are ways in which we can grow and go forward.

*Gods Blessings on each of you!
Your fellow worshipper*

Irene McLachlan
On behalf of the Band

ENSEMBLE

Ensemble gathers music and brings together opportunity to 'make a joyful noise to the Lord'. We generally play on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month. Whether quiet and reflective or clappy and bouncy, it's great to practise and to share the experience and expression of worship together.

Practices are usually held at church 3pm on the Saturday before we play. All who are experienced with their instruments, or who want to pick up an old musical talent again, are welcome to come along.

Thankyou Team

*Stayed upon Jehovah
Hearts are fully blessed
Finding, as He promised,
Perfect peace and rest. - Frances R Havergal*

Liz Bruce

THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

The group is continuing to thrive with an average of 8 people, meeting between 10 & 1130 am. We take time to read a section of Scripture, as the Spirit leads, and think and talk about it. We value Nathan's learning and

leadership and have studied a range of topics, often linked to the sermons of the week, including those from Exodus and Psalms, and are currently looking at some of the parables, both those of Jesus and in other parts of the Bible (e.g. Jonah).

Current affairs can also feature where a Christian viewpoint can give insight. This group also finds time to socialise with a cuppa, usually prepared by Michael McLachlan, who joins us briefly, before going back to cleaning. While most of us are retired, it isn't a requirement, and not everybody is from IBPC. We strongly value that people take the time to listen & find out what is happening in people's lives and to pray for people and for the world we live in. New people will be welcomed and included.

Graeme M and the Thursday crew

THURSDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY / HOME GROUP

In June 2023, Home Group finally finished the Essential 100 book we started a couple of years ago. Owing to various group members' commitments, we then took a break for July, August, and the first half of September. We are now starting on a book of devotions about women in the Bible.

Besides Kezia and Liz, Home Group now includes Kezia's flatmate Hannah, and two of Hannah's friends. However, new members are still very welcome! We meet at 7.30pm on Thursdays at Kezia's house. Like last year, prayers for continued spiritual growth would be appreciated.

CHIFAM & SUNDAY CLUB REPORT

2022 finished with a Pet Blessing service and a Pacific themed AGM in September, in October, the Heaphys hosted an All Saints/Halloween BBQ and we also had the Garden of Memories set up in the Nordmeyer Garden for people to leave shells in memory of loved ones. This is becoming a known, popular tradition in Island Bay.

At the end of November, we had our annual Advent Decorating/Fish & Chip night in time for hosting the National GB & BB Queen's Award Service. GB and ICONZ had a breakfast beforehand which was a nice alternative to a sleepover!

Amber ran an 'On the Day' Nativity play, which was held before the Church Family Christmas Lunch, and St Hilda's hosted the Community Carols later that afternoon. Unfortunately, we were unable to go carolling at Village in the Park this year, but it was awesome that a number of our Youth came along to the midnight Christmas Eve Service. New Year's Eve was hosted by the Parrys and many of our families came along for a super fun evening of games and delicious food!

2023 has been a little different. We wound up Kiddiccino at the end of 2022, after 13.5 years of serving the Island Bay community. The main reasons for this were low numbers (average of 5-6 kids) which never really recovered after COVID and Mel moving away from a preschool focus. Low kid-numbers are reflective of many kid-related

groups including the schools and kindy who have also been reporting low numbers over the last 18 months. It's most probably part of the usual demographic cycle.

2023 saw our Sunday Club numbers averaging around 5 (many of our kids have graduated up to Youth). We still have regular contact with our usual 9 families.

We've been experimenting with Inter-Generational worship this year where the service is structured so that all ages intentionally engage with each other in a worship service in some way. We had our fun traditional all-age services such as Jack the donkey and the petting zoo for Palm Sunday in Term 1, and an awesome Jonah play in Term 3, and we've also tried more prayer-stations based services at Pentecost, and interacting together over weaving at Matariki, where we split the congregation up based on birth month for a time reflecting on a parable around tables.

This year we did the Minecraft series in Term 1, which the kids enjoyed and a Shrove (Sunday) pancake breakfast. In Term 2, we focused on the "I Am" series – Jesus as the Bread of Life, the Vine, the Shepherd and Gatekeeper, the Light of the World, and the Truth & Light. Term 3 included our IBPC Ski trip which many of our families attended. Such a great weekend! Sunday Club and Youth Group have combined a lot over Term 3. We've focused on the story of Jonah and put on a play that also included our GB kids.

Thanks to all the people who have helped with Sunday Club this year remembering us in your prayers. It's much appreciated!

Melanie Heaphy

YOUTH GROUP

Island Bay Youth Group

The past financial year has marked the first year in partnership with the St Francis de Sales Catholic Church. This partnership involved the Catholic church half funding the church-based youth group. Part of this partnership has involved using the school hall for terms 1 and 4 and the IBPC complex for terms 2 and 3. This partnership has enabled greater reach for the youth group by creating connections with the St Francis de Sales school. We have seen that this partnership has made the group accessible for those who may not be interested in attending a Presbyterian youth group and because of this the group has seen significant growth.

Over the past year we have been trying to establish more regular connection with the other Presbyterian churches in our region. In the October school holidays in 2022, we went to Foxton Bible Camp with a group of 6 youth. This camp was combined with St John's in the City and St James Whanganui. At the beginning of 2023 we had a bonfire at Princess Bay combined with the Merge youth group (Khandallah Presbyterian, Ngaio Union and Wadestown Presbyterian). A group of 6 of us went to the Presbytery Central Easter Camp at Forest Lakes. This was the first Easter camp that these youth had been to, and I gathered a thoroughly positive experience. The games were a highlight with "Bible Smuggling" being one of particular note. These games were interwoven with sessions from Neville Bartley (National Youth Leader for Scripture Union New Zealand). Since Easter Camp we have had a combined sports night out at Knox Lower Hutt as well as a Cluedo event at St John's in the City.

This past year we have completed the Nua series (Scripture Union Ireland video series). This was good, however, upon reflection, we may have been slightly too large a group to facilitate in depth conversations and reflections on the topics presented. Following the completion of the Nua series we have begun separating the younger and older youth into two discussion groups. The intermediate aged youth have been delving into the Youth Alpha series while the high school aged kids have discussions around topics that they are wishing to discuss.

We finally managed to have the Rintoul and Island Bay Youth Group combined Ski Trip earlier this year after having to postpone last year. This was a great time of connection across the various youth groups that the IBPC community runs.

Thanks to the Youth Group Committee (Andrew Bruce, Mel Heaphy, Nathan Parry, Richard Turner, Pete Chew) for all their support along with and all the other people who make these groups possible.

IBPC Sunday Youth Group

In term 1 we journeyed through the 7 last words of Jesus and delved into what they meant and what they mean for us. Following this, in term 2, we completed “The Prayer Course”; an online video series using the Lord’s Prayer to teach us how to pray and enter in dialogue with God. We have also discussed whether Jonah was indeed swallowed by a whale in preparation for the All-Age service play of Jonah and Whale.

Rintoul Street Youth Group

Over the last year the Rintoul Youth Group has been about creating a safe space for them to come to relax. This has had a focus on playing more board games and card games as an activity to catch up while sharing some food and hot chocolate. In 2023, all the girls are in their final year at high school and a couple are starting to transition out of schooling. Yvonne is at Weltec school of hospitality a couple of days a week as a part of her schooling and Vannah is out at the Petone trade school full time. The girls have all gotten part time jobs on top of their relevant education commitments and it is becoming more common for one or two to be busy with work. This made it especially exciting to be able to take three of the girls on the ski trip earlier this year that we had been promising for so long. The four year 13 girls are coming into their final term at school at the moment and Lyric and Sema are nearing their exam period.

A huge thanks to Jan Hamill and Sara Turner who have been helping lead the Rintoul street youth group this past year.

Harry Troughton

11TH WELLINGTON GIRLS BRIGADE

- We have 6 kids attending on Monday nights (aged from 12-15) and 12 on Wednesdays (aged from 5-11).
- Thanks to Hannah and Mel for helping on Mondays, and Roger, Nathan, Melanie, and Usha for helping on Wednesdays. Special thanks to our College student helpers Jarna, Sarina, Georgia, and Molly for their help on Wednesdays.

- Thanks to our 2023 planning team - Usha Stewart, Naomi Matutaava, Jarna Stewart and Melanie Heaphy for fabulous ideas.
- Thanks to Margaret Cantwell for being our Treasurer. Margaret is finishing this year and we appreciate the last 8 years of her service – thank you so much!
- Thanks to Rev Nathan Parry for being our Chaplain and giving us support.
- Our 2023 focus has been GB Friendship in Africa. Each session has included a variety of activities including singing, crafts, and sport skills, loosely related to Africa. We have also celebrated Girls' Brigade's 130th anniversary.
- A big change in 2023 was running our Wednesday session later from 4.30-6pm (instead of picking kids up from school at 3pm, feeding them and running till 5.30pm). This took out a lot of stress managing the walking bus, the cost of food, and a full 2-hour session.
- Our numbers have dropped this year, but it's hard to say exactly why – many kids groups in Island Bay are struggling for numbers, including schools and Guides.

Highlights of the year include:

- A special Wellington Area Church Service in Johnsonville in September 2022.
- Pet Day at the end of September – families brought in their animals!
- Wearable Arts was a huge highlight. The girls created their own outfits on thermal drape tunics as a base for amazing creations. We put together a catwalk show (including make-up and carefully chosen music) at the Ballantynes Fundraising evening which was very well supported – thanks to everyone who came!
- Our end of 2022 session was a re-take of our catwalk show for everyone who was unable to make the Ballantynes evening.
- In December we once again hosted the National GB & BB Queen's Award Service. GB and ICONZ had a breakfast beforehand which was a nice alternative to a sleepover!
- 2023 highlights include a zoo trip, a trip to Bunnings in Lyall Bay to make planter boxes, and the beach and Paekawakawa reserve.
- A focus on the meaning of our names – making wooden name plates.
- Making big glass terrariums.
- Reading 'The Treasure Tree' – a Christian-based book on personality traits.
- We've had two sleepovers this year – one for Palm Sunday and one before our Jonah & the Whale service where the girls took part in the play.
- Many of our girls attended the IBPC ski trip to Ruapehu.
- Our Monday night group of older girls has seen a good core develop and it's been good to see them participating in our wider youth activities at IBPC.

We thank parents and leaders for their awesome support, positivity through this year of so many concerns and challenges.

Team Leader Brenda Watkin

BOYS BRIGADE

It has been a full on year again for the 30th Wellington Boys Brigade Company. It has been a steady time, with group numbers remaining fairly static this year. However, we have to report that a few of the boys have stepped aside from being involved this year with other areas of their life becoming more to the front of where they are at. We also had a family return to the UK for family reasons but they wish to remain in contact with us.

We continue to have a great leadership team, with Daniel McLachlan, Peter Martin (who is stepping down at the end of the year), Paul Vickers, Irene McLachlan, Richard Bruce and till the end of 2022 year Brenda Watkin, and have had a lot of help from various parents during the year. We continue to have our regular meeting nights on Thursdays, with a combination of games and teaching/learning sessions for both sections going on through the night.

Our main focus in Boys Brigade is the continuous growth of boys within the group in all facets of their lives. This follows the stated object of the Boys Brigade: "*The advancement of Christ's kingdom among Boys and the promotion of habits of Obedience, Reverence, Discipline, Self-respect and all that tends towards a true Christian manliness.*" This manifests itself in many ways during the year, with games, group sessions and activities such as Swimming, Growing gardens, Electronics, Bicycle Skills, Games including Bomb Defusal, Soccer, Basketball, Floorball, visit to the beach, drill, Christian Education, community service, to name just a few of things that occur during a typical year.

Every activity and situation is treated as an opportunity for each boy to learn or grow from – how they interact with each other, how they can deal with challenges or adversity, the enjoyment of picking up a new skill or new bit of knowledge. As leaders, we are in a privileged position to be part of each boy's life for these roughly two hours a week, witnessing first-hand the changes that take place as they grow into young men.

The 30th Wellington Company has been linked to Island Bay Church for decades and receives a lot of support and guidance from the church leadership as we run our program each year. At least once a year this relationship is acknowledged with a Brigades Service. This past year, Boys Brigade New Zealand also held their Queens Award Service at IBPC in December. During the service, a number of Queens Award recipients from around NZ attended and shared some of their journey through Boys and Girls Brigade.

At the time of this report, we are at the end of the third term, with the next term taking us through to our awards night and breakup in mid to late November.

Many thanks,
Irene McLachlan
On Behalf of The Leadership Team
30th Wellington Boys Brigade

NOURISH

Nourish is a church plant led by UV Berhampore and members of Tēpū Mō Tātou.

This year we have met in the Rintoul St Community Room, starting with a meal before sharing a time of worship, reflecting on scripture and prayer. We have enjoyed continuing to journey with neighbourhood friends, celebrating life's milestones and praying with each other over life's challenges.

God's faithfulness has sustained our gathering during a year of change. With the closing down of Granville Apartments, we saw less of some friends who moved further away to other social housing complexes. Some families took up opportunities to move to new housing closer to their employment. Other friends experienced sickness and the loss of loved ones. Among these changes, the predictable rhythm of the Nourish service provided a helpful cadence for people to centre on God in a safe and welcoming space.

Some lovely connections were made this year between people from Nourish and members of the IBPC congregation. Our hope is for further opportunities to foster connection and relationship between the two groups.

In the first half of 2023 the Crosses undertook a time of sabbath leave. Thanks to Joe, Bruce and Jan for holding Nourish so well during this time.

The Nourish team is made up of David and Maria Cross, Joe Fecteau and Bruce and Jan Hamill. We have also enjoyed having Ivan Paul join us this year.

Our thanks to the IBPC congregation for your prayerful support and interest in this pioneering work.

A LETTER FROM THE COMMUNITY MINISTER 2023

Kia ora e te whānau IBPC,

This time last year we were coming out of the worst of the lockdowns and we had learnt of the closure of Granville Flats. This year has been dominated by the dissolution of the Granville Flats Community and its dispersion. I spent the latter quarter of 2022 supporting tenants as they shifted around the city. During the shifting and afterwards, I began to connect with other complexes. At the end of the year with many of the Granville tenants having moved or about to move we held a final gathering of Granvillites to coincide with our annual Christmas party. A significant number of Granvillites came back. It was a beautiful time and a sad time. Rintoul Flat community celebrated the end of the year in their usual joyous way with lots of tenants cooking lots of food.

The end of the year was also an ending of sorts for the Urban Vision team with Zac and Vanessa Shilston leaving to live at Ngatiawa and the Crosses taking Sabbatical leave for the first 6 months of 2023. This left Jan and I and Joe taking responsibility for the Nourish Community. It also meant a change of venue to the Rintoul Community Room and a certain change of style with less children present and a closer connection to the Rintoul Community.

Along with the transfer of some Granville Residents to Rintoul Street has come significant growth in Rintoul Street Community during 2023 with an increase in gardening activity (led by Anita with support from others), a new Fixery workshop (led by Simon and Charlie) and regular Table Tennis lessons (by me). Rintoul moved to the Saturday evening slot for Kaibosh (vacated by Granville) once Granville Kaibosh delivery finished and the team reshuffled themselves to deliver to Rintoul. Sara, Ange, Nathan, Amber, Liz and Janice have done a great job. They are regularly supported at distribution time by Ann Rardin and also by Rintoul tenants like Anita and Theresa and others. We also had the support of tenants from Newtown Park (Elizabeth and Margaret). Further food resilience was added in when Joe Fecteau volunteered to deliver bread from Pandoro's cafe every Wednesday after work. This has been greatly appreciated by tenants.

At the same time as increasing my involvement with Rintoul Street I have begun to connect with Newtown Park. I was asked if I could support and guide the Kaibosh team there and have enjoyed doing that every Wednesday morning. They have 6-8 tenants who distribute Kaibosh but a few complex issues had arisen where my experience was deemed useful by both Council and Tenants. I also got a key and opened up the Community Room at Newtown Park every Monday afternoon. This has enabled me to keep in touch with ex-Granvillites as well as meet new people from Newtown Park. I have had some involvement with Central Park and Kotuku communities, however, I have limited this due to time constraints and a need to prioritise my engagement locally. Debbie McGill, a tenant leader at Granville, continues her leadership at Kotuku establishing a sewing group (Fixery) at Kotuku flats in Kilbirnie. The plan is to shift the Granville Community mural to Kotuku, provided the local community approve.

Two highlights of the year occurred in February of 2023. After making a break from her significant drug habit Charlene Moeke asked me to baptise her in the Ngatiawa River. It was a great joy and a healing moment for her and her parents and all of us who are her friends. The second highlight was the opening of a major exhibition in the 'lightbox' on Courtney Place. David Cook, Mark Amery and Anna Brown created an installation of photography, stories and poems entitled 'The Voice of the People: Te Reo o Ngā Tāngata' which gave expression to the stories and lives of City Housing Tenants, particularly in relation to their sense of home. Granville tenants featured highly and I wrote and performed a farewell poem (poroporoake) for Granville Flats. It celebrated the richness of that community and gave us all a sense of closure. The installation was also published as a 'newspaper' within the Dom Post a few months later.

Granville Lunch on Thursdays continued on for the few who relied on it until two months ago, then shifted to Rintoul St Flats and Newtown Park Flats (on alternate weeks). This shift coincided with the beginning of my Study Leave project. Liz Bruce has been an enormous support at this time, helping organise the change in my absence and also the 'BGI bread run' which supplies our lunch. Jenny McIntosh continues to be a valuable helper every Thursday. The bread run has continued to be supported by council tenants, in particular Dee, but more recently by Charlie from Rintoul. Other members of the team (Nathan and Nanu) have stepped up when they could.

The Fruit and Vege Coop continues to help locals with affordable nutrition. We now sell free-range eggs for \$8 a dozen and a bag of fruit and veges for \$15. Thanks to Harry and Lindsay and Liz who have substituted for me when I have been away.

In July I came across an opportunity that reminded me that my seven yearly Study Leave was due. I learnt that the Presbyterian Support Central was wondering what to do with the land that was the site of Kilmarnock Rest Home. It had been flattened and stabilised and drained at considerable cost, but they were no longer in a position to build a rest home on it. Finances are tight and they are legally constrained by a clause in the easement agreement to do 'social good' on the site. After a moment's thought, it occurred to me that it would be a wonderful site to build a housing community on – a place to put the whanaungatanga back into transitional housing. Working, as I have for the last seven years, in community development on the fringes of homelessness, I have seen the issues that ex-streeties face when they get a flat. I started dreaming about how the lack of community might be better addressed in this process and decided to apply to do my Study Leave researching the project. Parish Council approved my application and I have spent the last two months talking to people in the Transitional and Social Housing space about how they do it. I have also been looking into who might fund such a venture and who might want to be involved, in community, on the ground supporting those in greater need. I have discovered a lot of enthusiasm for the idea and have had the privilege of picking the brains of awesome people in over 40 conversations (and coffees), i.e. I am grateful for many more people than I can list here.

The resulting vision has multiple dimensions in order to address well the diversity of needs. I am envisioning a therapeutic community with a permanent team supporting others tuakana-teina style, interfacing with a rental community of those able to live more independently but participating in the life of the community. This in turn could exist alongside and related to a co-housing community including those with their own tiny houses and those building and renting to own. I have come to believe that the diversity of tenure is better for all and allows people a pathway towards stability and independence where they can do mahi together with others and each person has both privacy and independence as well as common space and support. The land is large (2.4 hectares of flat land looking over the golf course and the city) with space for mahi around building and gardening. Common spaces could be built for meeting, eating, cooking, chapel and interface with wrap-around services. As I write this report the board of PSC is thinking about our proposal and has a workshop process to see if they want to explore it further with us. If they do want to there will be much more to be done.

Thank you to Harry for reporting on his role in the youth group at Rintoul Flats and to Maria for reporting on her role. Thanks everyone for your support. Please pray with us at this time of change. The funding for my role is due to run out in the first third of 2024.

Koinei āku mihi ki te Atua mō te maha o ōna koha. Koinei aku mihi e rere atu ana ki a koutou katoa mō ō koutou manaaki mō ō koutou tautoko i tēnei mahi. Arohanui e te whānau.

Bruce

WELLINGTON SOUTH ICONZ UNIT

We have had a stable roll of eight boys attending this year at St Hildas. They have enjoyed physical games galore, with challenges in football skills , team work in balancing and gym circuits, with co- operation required for these in treasure hunts. Each week a craft was taken home in which each boy's family saw end results of their theme on importance of names, Te Reo week, or conservation topics and concerns for Ukraine, Oceans, ANZAC, Matariki celebrations or topical occasions such as BB's 140th year and Easter events. We have had visits to the local parks, the Life Light Trust, seeing restoration stages of St Hilda's pipe organ and the renovation of the veil frontage to strengthen the church wall. They loved the visit to Bunnings where each used tools to make a wooden truck with a gift of a plant.

We have used our WhatsApp page to keep in touch with our supportive families, finding it worthwhile for communicating.

We are thankful to prayer for God's grace, for His love and guidance to leaders and boys' families, in the use of St Hildas complex, the grass area at the back, and appreciated the support for our weekly commitment in the safety of the Walking bus and for Richard Bruce with my husband, Roger Watkin (who is stepping away this term, after eight years, giving ICONZ back up assistance). Earlier in this year we were grateful for Christine Dagger being the extra adult (grandmother of one of the boys) and Naomi Roche being present for her Duke of Ed service to guide the boys in their craft sessions. Consequently we need an extra adult for this term 4 to finish the year.

Along with this we have had IBPC involvement of Rev. Nathan Parry as our Boys' Brigade Chaplain, especially currently inviting the boys along with our supportive parents, by organising a day tramp into the Tararuas in November.

Leader Brenda Watkin