

# Quest

Magazine of Mount Maunganui Anglican Parish



September 2008

## Vicar's Corner

It's been  
a long  
time  
between  
drinks

The last time I wrote, I was recovering from surgery. Four months on I have returned fit and well from being in a 100 year time warp in Dreketi, Fiji. No power, no TV, no beef, lamb or pork, no hot water, no bath etc. Living with people who survive almost solely on what they are able to extract or grow from the land has been a huge learning experience for Jimmy and me.

The simplicity of the lifestyle seems ideal in terms of stress-free living but, like all communities, it has its own stresses. Although they make do with what they have available, the village people are acutely aware of the need to provide their children with a good education and health practices to enable them to engage in tertiary education to improve their opportunities for employment in the wider world.

The content of the container, to which so many of you contributed, was a real blessing and an uplifting gift to the people of Dreketi. It also gave us a line in to the schools in the area where we were not only able to contribute to a recycling programme and encourage the community, but also to listen to stories which gave us a clue to how our ongoing relationship might evolve.

While we were in Fiji, the Diocese of Waiapu formalised a partnership with the Diocese of Polynesia. This commitment will be mutually beneficial, and I'm sure that we will learn a lot about not sweating the small stuff. I have definitely learned about the difference between needs and wants.

Having lost 9 kilos I returned home needing some clothes that fit properly. I decided to have my clothes altered rather than buy new ones. What I have to think about now is what I do with the money I didn't spend on new clothes. Hmmm!

Many of you gave surplus clothes, books, toys etc. for the container. I heard many people say "it's a good opportunity

Time  
goes fast  
when  
you're  
having  
fun

to have a clean out”, and “I’ll have a look and see what I’ve got”. It has made me think about why I have so much useful stuff that sits in my cupboard unused. I am definitely not a hoarder and I didn’t think I was materialistic, so why can’t I let go of these unused things? Am I just plain selfish?

Either way, I am reviewing my lifestyle. Also, losing 9 kilos was not just about the heat - I think I probably have too much of everything!!!

The Gospel calls us at every turn to share our wealth, love our neighbour as ourselves and not to worry about tomorrow. There is a message here for me - to practise what I preach!

As it happened, we had plenty of beautiful spring water to drink, and lots of fun with these beautiful people.

The Fiji experience was indeed a mutually fulfilling experience for us and our hosts, and I will continue to reflect on the ‘making a difference’ component, in a quest to discover what or where God is calling me on this wonderful journey of faith.

Hopefully my wonderings and yours will lead us to finding ongoing ways where we can both teach and learn ways of being true messengers of the Gospel of love that intends all people to become fully human and fully alive.

You are welcome to come hear more of our Dreketi story

Marie and Jimmy’s Dreketi Story

Thursday, October 2

1.00 p.m. or 7.30 p.m.

at St Mary’s Church,

1 Marlin St. Bayfair

*Marie*



## Back to Church Sunday



Back to Church Sunday is an opportunity for people who haven’t been to church in a long time to come back and see what is going on.

It began as an organised event in Manchester, U.K. a couple of years ago, when most of the churches in the area agreed to band together and organise advertising and resources that would support local people

inviting their friends, neighbours and colleagues back to church on one particular day. Thousands of people responded to the invitations and now Back to Church Sunday involves hundreds of churches in the U.K. and has spread as far away as New Zealand.

Members of the regular congregations at St Peter’s and St Mary’s have been hearing about BTC Sunday since the middle of July and contemplating who to invite. We have also been reminded about the value of a personal invitation and how much it means to be asked to something by a friend.

If you receive an invitation, or if you read this and would like to join us on this day, please do come along. You will be warmly welcomed.

You may be surprised at both the familiar things that haven’t changed and the interesting changes that have been made since you were last in church.

**BacktoChurchSunday**



*You are  
specially  
invited*



*We'd love to welcome you to  
a special service at our church  
on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> September  
at St Peter's 8am  
or  
St Mary's 10am*

**BacktoChurch**Sunday



## Living The Dream



What an interesting meeting we had at A.A.W. in July with our speaker Shirley Faull telling us about living her dream. She is a young at heart 80 year old who has always enjoyed adventure.

A motor racing fan, at the age of 76 she decided to become actively involved in motor sport. Car rallying is her forté. She came to our meeting in her red rally car and rally gear and spoke of her exciting events and winning the Denny Hulme Challenge Trophy. We can never again say we're too old for anything new or adventurous.

At our September meeting on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> we are filling boxes for Operation Christmas Child. This is a Samaritan's Purse Project run annually for children overseas. We would appreciate any donations such as pencils, pens, crayons, felts, small books, soap, toothbrushes, facecloths, small toys – anything to fill a shoe box for children from 6 months to 10 years.

A.A.W. welcomes any ladies to our monthly meetings on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday at 1.30pm in St Mary's Church Hall. If you are new to the area come along and enjoy the fun and fellowship of a great meeting.

Contact Jeanette Hastie 574 8004

## Being the Hands of Jesus

Within our Mt. Maunganui community there is a group of friends who perform a valuable service, by quietly and voluntarily giving their time to be a companion to someone in need.

They are there for someone just released from hospital who needs a friend to stay overnight for care and company.

A person who is losing mobility may not qualify for ACC and their family may live far away, but they do need that helping hand for the everyday tasks they are unable to cope with at this time. In come the Nightingales.

It may be a person caring for a loved one with a long term illness, who needs a friend to answer that cry for the chance to have an uninterrupted night's sleep, which will enable them to carry on the job of carer a while longer. Or just some company and a cheery smile to help the long hours pass - be it loneliness or a life-threatening illness.

We salute Val Brazier and her friends the "Nightingales".

I am reminded that the five pointed star on the NZ Registered Nurses medal represents -

My hands outstretched to help

My feet carrying me to the tasks,

My heart holding any confidences in trust.

May God bless you in this work.

Val Ready



## Looking Backwards and Forwards

Consider how much has happened in the past 12 months

Vestry met on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> August to review the past year and look ahead for the next 12 months. As we looked back we became aware of how much has happened in the past 12 months.

- The Market celebrated its 1<sup>st</sup> birthday and we have transitioned from the initial Co-ordinator to a new Coordinator
- Dreketi project
- Edmund Hillary service
- 2 new organists at St Peter's and filling in at St Mary's
- Christmas Shoebox project involving AAW, youth, children and Family Centre
- Drop In – lots of new volunteers and great growth in sales
- Twilight Fair – new time, food court, new management
- New street sign at St Mary's
- Nearly 4 months without the Vicar
- Lay people taking on more responsibility for the rest homes
- New parishioners evening
- Back to Church Sunday
- Music group growth at St Mary's
- Power point now used each Sunday at St Mary's
- Moa Park Kids Club starting in August
- Nooma Nights underway in July
- New Administrator in the Parish office

And these are just the *new* things without listing the ongoing work of the Family Centres, Growing Through Grief, the pastoral care network and more.

Our focus for the year ahead will be to build on the Neighbourhood Group network; continue with a lively programme of Christian education; make connections with people in the 20s to 40s age group in as many creative ways as we can and ensure that all our existing programmes are well supported and resourced.

## Nooma Nights

A new gathering is happening in the parish for Gen X. It's mysteriously called Nooma Nights.

Nooma Nights Frequently Asked Questions(FAQs)

*What is it?*

A new gathered event for adults to explore their Christian spirituality

*What does Nooma mean?*

The name nooma is an English phonetic spelling of the Greek word pneuma, which is commonly translated "spirit" or "breath".

Pneumatology refers to the study of spiritual beings, particularly the interactions between humans and God.

*Where will it meet?*

In the homes of the participants. The home for each night will be advertised in the Angle, on the Website, by text and email/Facebook

*What form will it take?*

Conversation. Watch a short DVD and discuss the issues raised.

Hospitality provided by the host household

*Why has the name Nooma been chosen?*

There is a series of 20+ short DVDs using the title NOOMA which will be the basis of the DVD content, although other DVDs will also be used.

*Who is it for?*

Younger adults connected with the Mt Maunganui Anglican Parish and their friends.

*Who will support the Nooma Nightclub?*

Bonnie Heberton, the Parish Family Worker, will support the participants to make the group function effectively.

You are welcome at a

### Nooma Night

Check details of time and place on  
[www.mountanglican.org.nz/Nooma](http://www.mountanglican.org.nz/Nooma)

## Moa Park Kids Club



On August 26<sup>th</sup> we launched a new programme for children – a weekly after school club for kids aged 5-8 years. The club is part of our overall goals of providing ministry to children from baptism through to confirmation and connecting with adults in their 20s to 40s. Advertising for the Kids Club

began in week 1 of the third term in school newsletters and through St Mary's Family Centre. By opening day in week 6 of the term we already had 13 children enrolled and hope to build up our numbers from there.

*Why a kid's club?*

Our parish has strong connections to large numbers of pre-school children through St Mary's Family Centre, St Mary's Tahatai Centre and Jive Bunnies Pre-School Music but we lose most of these connections when the children go to school and the families no longer have preschoolers.

We have a proven commitment to weekly work with primary age children through our involvement with the Tall Kauri Programme (which no longer runs), our own Sunday School programme and Wild Wednesdays.

A Kids Club enables us to offer families a continuation of ministry for their 5-8 year olds. In time we hope to extend this to the next age group up. A Kids Club also gives us the opportunity to connect with other families in our community – one of the target groups we have identified for mission and outreach.

Why not in one of our own halls? There is no suitable free time slot at St Mary's because it is already used so extensively and St Peter's is a bit small for this kind of activity. The planning group decided this was a good problem to have, and looked around the community

for a suitable venue. The Scout Hall on the edge of Moa Park gives us a good indoor and outdoor space. The rental is just \$5/hour and we know the person who manages the hall. It is old and comfortable with lots of storage and obviously well used by children over many decades. All these things pointed to it being a very good venue for our club. We are also aware that some families will come to a neutral venue but will not come to the church. The programme is being designed with lots of outdoor activity using the park, creative stuff indoors and outdoors, and projects encouraging care of the environment. In the first week we will be planting a vegetable garden. We have a strong values base and will be using our faith stories and our interaction with the children to reinforce these values.

The parish has received a grant of \$825 from Gwen Rogers Trust to cover the rent for the first 3 terms and allow us to buy some equipment to get going. We will be asking for a donation from parents and hope to keep costs very low using mostly recycled resources for our projects.

The hall is not large and other users have indicated that a group of about 20 children fills the place well so we will not be looking to continue growing in numbers but to grow in our connection with the families.

We have a team of 10 people available as leaders. We have received a great supply of resources for our set up. Now we need you to pray for this project and the people involved.

Our Values	
creativity	fitness
peacemaking	respect
friendship	sharing
kindness	caring



## Singing our Faith

This is the basis of a talk by Bonnie Heberton at St Mary's in the context of a service about our favourite hymns and the impact of music in our worship.

Colin Gibson, a well known New Zealand hymn writer and professor of English at Otago University, gives some reasons why we sing hymns.

Hymn singing expresses our God-given creativity

1. Hymn singing provides a natural vehicle for the primary activity of most worshipping communities: the expression of praise and adoration through the offering of song to God
2. Hymn singing links us to synagogue worship, the context in which Jesus would have grown up, and the practice of the earliest Christians. We sing because our foremothers and forefathers also sang in this way.
3. Hymn singing adds to the variety of what we do in worship – standing, sitting, kneeling, reading, speaking etc
4. Hymn singing develops the spirit of unity and solidarity. It is a simple activity in which everyone can participate but to do it well we have to work in union to start together and stay in time.
5. Singing internalises our faith. What we sing, we remember and internalise far beyond what we see or read or hear.
6. Hymn singing supplements the work of the sermon. Carefully chosen hymns can help us explore the theme and the readings further
7. The very act of singing expresses our God-given creativity. Songs were composed by creative people. We sing new songs to express our openness to change.
8. Hymn singing expresses the universality of Christianity in time and place. We sing songs written all over the world. We sing songs that Christians will sing in many other countries. We sing from centuries past and songs from our current time.
9. As an activity hymn-singing declares the equality of Christians with each other – we all get to sing on an equal footing

10. Hymn singing provides an outlet for both the rational and emotional qualities of our spiritual nature. At its best, hymn singing draws us beyond our thought and emotion into a deeper contemplation and experience of God.

*How do we select the hymns and songs we will sing?*

In the introduction to a British hymn book “Complete Anglican Hymns Old and New”, published in 2000, the editors outline the following criteria for the selection of hymns:

- Hymns are selected to address contemporary issues in the context of the basic truths of our faith.
- It is a longstanding tradition that texts of hymns are rewritten and revised to meet the current needs. Many of the hymns now regarded as classics are in reality very different from their original texts.
- The pool of hymns and songs is always being added to. We sing new music because it is traditional to do so.
- As a guiding principle the editors wanted the overall tone of the collection to be positive: to bear witness to the abundant grace and unconditional love of God; to enable the church to sing of the good news of salvation; to celebrate humanity as God’s creation, fallen though we are, and affirm the essential goodness of the world which God has made and to which god is committed even unto death.
- Images and language in the hymns need to be appropriate to the time. In this instance militarism and triumphalism were deemed inappropriate while inclusive language for the human race is almost always used.

These ideas reflect the way in which we choose hymns and songs in this parish. We also place emphasis on singing songs written in our own southern hemisphere context and reflecting our own seasons and landscape.

It is a tradition of the Anglican Church that texts of hymns are rewritten and revised as language and culture changes

## Signs of the Times

The new street sign at St Mary’s attracts a lot of attention. Located on Girven Rd it can easily be read while driving along that busy street. It is even well lit at night through a God-incidence of street lighting and lighting from the garage.

Everyday we advertise the activities that are on in the hall and also have signs for the Market and the Fair. Soon there will be some catchy slogans ready for occasional use.

The street sign is one of the ways we are communicating with the community, letting them know what goes on here and, by doing so, offering an invitation to join in. We have had people ring and enquire about the activities they have seen advertised. Lots of people commented when we put up our own sign after a spate of vandalism (see below) and many parishioners have reported conversations with their friends about the impact of the sign.

Another way we are communicating with the community is through our website. This has information on nearly all the activities in the parish and groups we are connected with. Worship services and contact details of staff are listed. People have rung to book weddings and funerals after first going to the website for information.

A Mothers Union member from Wales contacted us through the website asking if we could deliver a birthday cake to her son who now lives at the Mount. A young man in need of some pastoral care contacted the Vicar through the website listing. Have you looked at the website lately? If you don’t have your own computer, check it out while you’re at the Library or call in to the Parish Office and ask to have a look.  
[www.mountanglican.org.nz](http://www.mountanglican.org.nz)



## The Diocese is Coming

Our parish is hosting the Diocesan Synod from 26-28 September. Each parish sends a lay representative plus their clergy and there are also representatives from the Socials Services, AAW and the youth.

Alongside the Synod, young people from each parish are also invited to attend a Youth Synod. The adults will have their meetings at the Tauranga Yacht Club and the youth at the Fishing Club at Sulphur Point.

Some representatives will be staying at the Armitage Hotel and the Tauranga churches are also offering billets.

This will be the first Synod for Bishop David Cappell Rice and it will be our privilege to host the Synod service on Sunday morning at St Mary's at 11am.

Hosts for billets still required. Please contact Joanne at the Parish Office 575 9945 Tues, Thurs, Fri.

**\*\*Note: Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September 10am service changed to 11am\*\***

### Who does what and when in the Parish Office?

Laurie Tubbs is the Parish Secretary. She works in the Office at St Mary's, next to the Drop In Centre, from 9am to 2pm Monday to Thursday. Laurie prepares the weekly Angle (newsheet), the powerpoint for St Mary's, sends out the readings and service sheets, answers the phone and manages the rosters (among other things). Laurie also sends out any emails to the Parish.

Joanne Watson is the Parish Administrator. She works in the Office at St Mary's from 9am to 2pm Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Joanne handles incoming and outgoing money, manages the bookings for both halls, looks after the Peace Garden plaques, updates the Parish Roll and makes new name badges.

The aim is to have the Office staffed everyday from 9am to 2pm.

## The Cutting Edge

An ecumenical experience in Diaconal leadership and service. Deacons and others interested in diaconal ministry gathered in Wanganui for four days recently, hosted by the Methodist Deacon Task Force.

Deaconess Louise Williams, President of the World Diaconia Federation, fresh from a regional meeting in Fiji (which Marie Gilpin attended), was the first speaker. Louise explored five images of diakonia with us:

washing feet – loving personal touch

waiting at table – nurturing and feeding

telling the story – proclaiming the Gospel

tending the door – being boundary runners

bearing light – addressing brokenness and the prophetic role.

The other keynote speaker was Rev Dr. Peter Pocock, an Anglican Deacon from Australia and lecturer at Charles Sturt University School of Theology. He encouraged us to place our ontology ahead of our function – something that Deacons know, but need to remind

the rest of the church quite often.

One of the activities we did as a group was to make a list of the gifts that a Ministry Selection Committee might look for when interviewing candidates for the diaconate. The list was expansive. We noted that deacons need opportunities to tell their story so the church understands and values diaconal ministry within the community.

Each of the speakers brought us back to Biblical images, reminding us of our grounding and from whence our calling comes.

Deacon Doreen writes...  
Harry and I were greatly moved by the support we received from our church family when our daughter Kerry-Anne passed away and then 10 days later my brother. It was the gospel in action and it is great to be a part of it. Thank you!

May we all together travel on sharing Christ's love to the wider community.

Doreen Swinburne

## From the Registers

<b>Baptisms</b>	<b>2008</b>
Zoe Joanne Davis-Calvert daughter of Grant and Joanne Davis-Calvert	29 <sup>th</sup> June
Samaia Rose Appleton daughter of David and Tanya Appleton	20 <sup>th</sup> July
<b>Funerals</b>	<b>2008</b>
Cynthia Berice Hare	26 <sup>th</sup> June
Grace Frances Reed-Bailey	7 <sup>th</sup> July
Phillippa Whebby Russell	5 <sup>th</sup> July
Bryce Arthur Charles Cowley	17 <sup>th</sup> July
Gladys Norah Sherwin	1 <sup>st</sup> August
Olwyn June Wallace	6 <sup>th</sup> August
Henry Joseph Uttinger	16 <sup>th</sup> August
Catherine (Nel) Helen Lake	28 <sup>th</sup> August
Robyn Marie Cox	29 <sup>th</sup> August

## Regular Weekly Events

### **Mondays**

1.00pm Indoor Bowls St. Mary's  
6.15pm Girl Guides St Mary's Hall

### **Tuesday**

9.00am Recycled Teenagers Exercise Class, St Mary's Hall  
3.30pm Moa Park Kids Club, Scout Hall Valley Rd  
4.30pm Brownies, St Mary's Hall  
1.00pm Grow Group, St Mary's Hall  
7.00pm Rangers, St Mary's Hall  
7.00pm AA Meeting, St Peter's Hall

### **Wednesdays**

10.00am Holy Communion, St. Peter's with morning tea  
10.00am Care and Craft, St Mary's Hall  
4.00pm Pippins, St Mary's Hall  
5.30pm Yoga, St Peter's Hall

### **Thursdays**

9.00am Art Group, St Peter's  
9.30am St. Mary's Pre-school Service and  
St. Mary's Tahatai Pre-school Service  
10.00am Jive Bunnies Pre-school Music, St Mary's Hall  
4.00pm Growing Through Grief, St Mary's Hall  
5.00pm Singing Group Practice, St. Mary's Church

## Regular Monthly Events

1st Monday	2.00pm Malyon House Communion Service
3rd Monday	7.30pm Vestry Meeting St Mary's
2 <sup>nd</sup> or 3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday	6.00pm Tripe and Onions Club St Peter's
1st Tuesday	1.30pm Bernadette Home Service
4th Tuesday	3.30pm Bayswater Village Service
1st Wednesday	1.30pm Somervale Service
2nd Wednesday	1.30pm A.A.W. Meeting St Mary's
2nd Thursday	3.00pm Somervale Service
3rd Thursday	11.00am Malyon House Service
2nd Saturday	9.00am Arataki Market St Mary's
1st Sunday	10.00am St Mary's Interactive Worship

## Parish Directory

Vicar	Rev Marie Gilpin	575 6148
Deacon	Rev Doreen Swinburne	575 6367
Family Worker	Bonnie Hebenton	575 9930
Parish Office Mon to Fri	Laurie Tubbs Secretary Joanne Watson Admin	575 9945 9am to 2pm
Pastoral Care	Rev Peter Coughlan	572 2288
People's Warden	Stan Trotter	575 7467
Vicar's Warden	Shirley Shilling	575 9662
St Mary's Drop Inn	June Barker Manager	575 0572
St Mary's Family Centre	Jackie Collins Manager	575 9915
St Mary's Tahatai Centre	Cherie Hughes Manager	572 5016
Papamoa Mission	Rev Arthur Bruce	542 1870
Growing Through Grief	Naarah Simpson	575 4944
Parish Website	<a href="http://www.mountanglican.org.nz">www.mountanglican.org.nz</a>	
Parish Email Addresses	Vicar	<a href="mailto:vicarang@clear.net.nz">vicarang@clear.net.nz</a>
	Secretary	<a href="mailto:mountang@clear.net.nz">mountang@clear.net.nz</a>
	Administrator	<a href="mailto:adminang@xtra.co.nz">adminang@xtra.co.nz</a>
	Family Worker	<a href="mailto:jbheb@clear.net.nz">jbheb@clear.net.nz</a>
Parish Address	St Peter's	11 Victoria Rd
	St Mary's	Cnr Girven Rd & Marlin St
	PO Box 10322 Bayfair Mt Maunganui	