



THE ROCK

Anglican Parish of
Cabersham Saint Peter,
Dunedin, New Zealand

September 2019 — Feast of Dedication



The Saint Peter's Ladies' Guild

By The Vicar

When the Reverend William Ronaldson was instituted to Saint Peter's in 1881 a favourable omen for his church building project was the formation of a new women's organisation. A Ladies' Guild was formed, a development noted with warm approval by the vestry. This would turn out to be one of the most enduring and significant lay organisations in the parish due to its remarkable fund raising capacity. The steady cash flow emanating from this band of willing helpers would see the parish through some of its darkest days. Two significant leaders of the Guild were Miss Ronaldson and Miss Brodrick, daughter of Septimus Brodrick, one of the Churchwardens.

As the new Saint Peter's church building took shape in 1882 the Guild was active in a variety of fund raising activities, including a sales stall at Dunedin's "International Exhibition", whatever that may have been. However, the debts incurred by this ambitious church building project developed to crisis proportions and left the parish struggling to pay the Vicar's stipend.

Miss Brodrick, President of the Ladies' Guild, on behalf of that influential fund raising group made major efforts to save the ministry of the Vicar. In late 1886 they stumped up 50 pounds towards Ronaldson's stipend. The following year they stood behind an offer to find a further 50 pounds towards the stipend. However, even their generosity and willingness to help had its limits. When the vestry came to them in desperation as the last port of call to fund the arrears in mortgage payments on the Kew Parsonage they had shot their bolt.

When Father Bryan King was parachuted in by Bishop Nevill to save a parish on the verge of financial collapse

(Continued on page 2)



The St Kilda Brass acknowledges audience applause during a sell-out concert in Saint Peter's this month. The band's blue floodlights lent a quite different ambience to our church—an apt one for the concert titled "something borrowed, something blue".

PHOTO.: ALEX CHISHOLM.

♦ Core members of the band will join us on 22 December for our premier Christmas Service—a Festival of Brass and Carols.



Vicar Hugh Bowron (left) pictured with the Reverend Jay Behan, Vicar of St Stephen's, Shirley, during the social gathering following the ordination of Bishop Steve Maina as Bishop of Nelson. Jay Behan is to be ordained in late October as Bishop of the extra-Provincial diocese of New Zealand.

PHOTO.: SUPPLIED.

The Saint Peter's Ladies' Guild

(Continued from page 1)

and closure he had one potential ally to call upon. When Nevill said of King that "he attracted to his side a band of earnest ladies" he was referring in large part to the Guild, the women's organisation that could be counted upon to be a cash cow which indefatigably fund-raised for the parish on an almost continual basis. Perhaps women didn't have the vote at parish meetings, but they had indispensable economic power. Maintaining a relationship of co-operative goodwill with them was essential for clergy survival in marginal parishes. King was clearly able to do this.

As the mission church of St Peter the Less came into existence in the 1920s its laity copied the example of the mother church and brought the St Clair branch of the Ladies' Guild to birth. After getting off to a flying start the St Clair Guild was caught up in the crisis of 1930 when Canon Button's downgrading of the status of St Peter the Less led to their putting themselves into recess. The disbanding of the St Clair branch of the Ladies' Guild meant that a formidable

Letters

The Rock welcomes letters to the Editor. Letters are subject to selection and, if selected, to editing for length and house style. Letters may be :

Posted to : The Editor of The Rock,
c/- The Vicarage, 57 Baker Street,
Caversham,
Dunedin, N.Z. 9012

Emailed to: TheRockEditor@stpeterscaversham.org.nz

Ask The Vicar

For answers to questions doctrinal, spiritual and liturgical.

Write to : Ask The Vicar, c/- The Vicarage as above

Or email: AskTheVicar@stpeterscaversham.org.nz

ASK THE VESTRY

Questions about the secular life and fabric of the parish may be:

Posted to : Ask The Vestry, c/- The Vicarage as above

Emailed to: AskTheVestry@stpeterscaversham.org.nz



The Ladies' Guild pictured outside Saint Peter's in the 1880s.

PHOTO.: SUPPLIED.

money making machine was no longer available to the parish. However, when St Alban's Corstorphine began soon after the Second World War it too generated a branch of the Ladies' Guild.

In 1969 Father Teal redefined the function and role of the Saint Peter's Ladies' Guild in a major way. He declared that the success of the Wells organisation meant the parish was no longer dependant on the Guild to provide a considerable proportion of the parish's finance. Instead it should focus on keeping a weather eye on the state of the interior of the church and prodding the vestry to take action where required. It should be responsible for the care of the church linen and the care and maintenance of the vestments. In this connection Rae Read made a gold cope for Father Blair Robertson which is one of the most attractive of the vestments the parish possesses. Lastly the Guild was to raise finance for missions. St Christopher's Home in Suva, Fiji—run by the Community of the Sacred Name—was a favourite mission charity.

(Continued on page 3)

The Saint Peter's Ladies' Guild

(Continued from page 2)



A closer shot of the 1880s ladies.

In its latter days the Guild was led by Grace McAllan who made sure Guild meetings began with more religion than just a cursory prayer and then by Joan Tubman. Originally Joan Chetwin, she was the first Matron of St Barnabas Rest Home until she married one of the residents and moved down south with Mr Tubman. After his death she returned to the parish and was much involved in the Guild and the Choir.

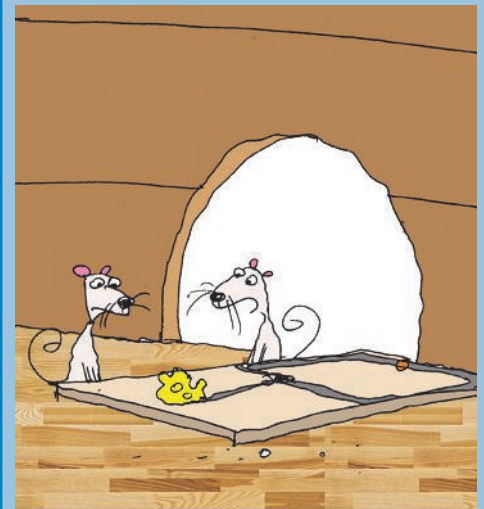
Obviously the Guild was more than just a parish fund raising organisation. Its members enjoyed each other's company, had social outings and had recreational pursuits particular to their interests. It was part of a wide variety of para church organisations which provided points of belonging for Anglican laity and generated a kind of complete Anglican world which subtly infused and reinforced an Anglican style of Christianity. 📺



The Saint Peter's Ladies' Guild during a gardening session in October 1981. A caption attached to this archive photo. identifies the ladies as:
 Back row: E. Lydiate, R. Read, Mrs Phillips, D. Molloy, B. Heazlewood.
 Middle row: J. Knowles, Mrs Ashby. Front row: E. Pedofsky, M. Warrington, M. Palmer, Miss Shadwell.

PHOTO.: SUPPLIED.

The Frolicsome Friar



"No, you go ahead. I'm lactose intolerant."

SOURCE: WWW.HOWTOGEEK.COM.

The Articles of Religion

ISSUED BY THE CONVOCATION OF CLERGY OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND IN 1571

XXVII. Of Baptism.

Baptism is not only a sign of profession, and mark of difference, whereby Christian men are discerned from others that be not christened, but it is also a sign of Regeneration or New-Birth, whereby, as by an instrument, they that receive Baptism rightly are grafted into the Church; the promises of the forgiveness of sin, and of our adoption to be the sons of God by the Holy Ghost, are visibly signed and sealed, Faith is confirmed, and Grace increased by virtue of prayer unto God.

The Baptism of young Children is in any wise to be retained in the Church, as most agreeable with the institution of Christ.

Organ recital

Saturday, 23 November 2019 at 2pm

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Nutritious



Back to the future?

By Alex Chisholm

Dr Muriel Emma Bell was born in Murchison in 1898 and died in Dunedin in 1974. After high school in Nelson she won a junior scholarship in 1916 to study at Victoria University, Wellington. However, in 1917 she transferred to Otago Medical School and in 1926 was awarded an MD degree (Doctor of Medicine—a PhD in Medicine). Dr Bell's thesis related to metabolism in goitre and resulted in the introduction of iodised salt as her research demonstrated that increased dietary iodine could protect against goitre.

Her career was dedicated to nutrition and its effects on New Zealanders' health, working from a standpoint of social concern especially for women and children. The impetus to study medicine came from her medical student elder brother, who was invalided back from Gallipoli to New Zealand. Thus in 1917 she enrolled together with seven other women in a class of thirty.

Muriel Bell subsequently pursued a career in research and after spending time overseas researching vitamins and minerals—an exciting new possibility to cure deficiency diseases—she returned to Dunedin in 1935. From 1938 to 1964 she was Director of Nutrition Research at Otago Medical School. From this position Dr Bell campaigned for improvements to the food

Dr Muriel Bell (pictured below) was a nutrition pioneer in New Zealand with a (still) very familiar but important message.



supply and initiated various health promoting public health measures, always trying to find effective ways to communicate the results to the public. The nutritional value of flour and bread were improved; ensuring the quality and safety of milk to encourage milk drinking as part of the daily diet was an important goal and she worked to have milk pasteurised and delivered in covered trucks.

Muriel Bell was appointed as the first Nutrition Officer in the Department of Health in 1940 and held this position until retiring in 1964. During that time she took a leading role in founding a recognised training course and subsequently the registration of dietitians. When the Medical Research Council was set up in 1937 she was a foundation member, serving on its Nutrition Committee, and was the sole woman on the Board of Health. Further pioneering research on vitamins and minerals helped to prevent deficiency diseases and later to optimise public health interventions. She organised the use of rosehips for Rosehip syrup as a source of vitamin C during WWII (she describes this in the podcast noted in the references below) when she also advised the New



(Continued on page 6)



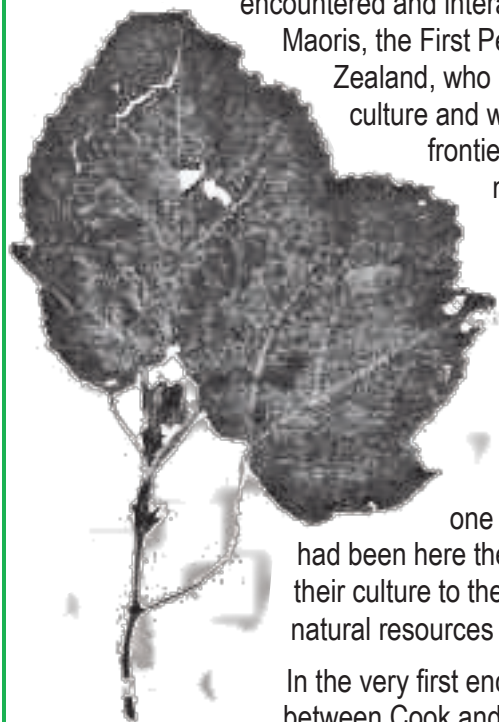
In Saint Peter's Garden



By Warwick Harris

From Paper to Print

This year, 2019, is the 250th anniversary of the English navigator and explorer James Cook's voyage in 1769 when his ship, HM Bark *Endeavour*, circumnavigated and mapped the land now known internationally as New Zealand. In the course of this voyage Cook and his crew



Paper mulberry (aute) herbarium specimen collected during Cook's First Voyage to New Zealand in 1769.

IMAGE: SUPPLIED.

encountered and interacted with Maoris, the First People of New Zealand, who had a Neolithic culture and were at the frontier of human migrations. In their migration through the Pacific Ocean they had left the making of pottery behind them but in the one millennium they had been here they had adapted their culture to the climate and natural resources of New Zealand.

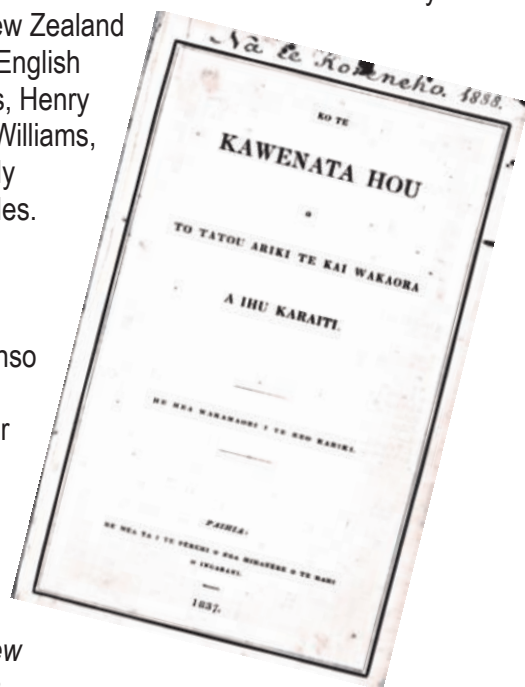
In the very first encounters between Cook and the Maoris, of the materials offered paper was of most interest to the locals. Six plant species survived introduction to New Zealand by Polynesian voyagers. Of these kumara, as a food plant, was of most importance to the livelihood of Maori inhabitants. But it was aute, paper

mulberry, from which tapa is made, which was of most cultural and sacred significance to them. Not only was the introduced aute difficult to grow in New Zealand, it also required special skill to make tapa (beaten bark)

from it. Those with the skill to do this were highly esteemed.

In a matter of days after Cook's first contact with the Maoris their keen interest in paper shifted to articles made from iron and other goods made from materials they were not familiar with. This can be likened to an abrupt shift of culture from the Neolithic Age to the Iron and later Ages.

Cook and other literate members of *Endeavour's* complement wrote records of what they observed in the course of the ship's three voyages. The Journals kept by Cook are foundation documents of modern New Zealand. But it was several years after Cook's voyages that Te Reo Maori became a written language, a very significant achievement of the Christian Missionary Society in New Zealand in which the English born brothers, Henry and William Williams, had especially significant roles. Also in this process the Cornishman William Colenso had a pivotal role as printer of the first documents written in Maori, notably *A Complete New Testament in Maori* published in 1837.



Title page of the first publication of the Complete New Testament in Te Reo Maori.

IMAGE: SUPPLIED.



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By Deirdre Harris,
Vicar's Warden

The road between Blenheim and Kaikoura has changed dramatically since the Kaikoura earthquake of 2016. Having travelled up and down this highway for over seventy years I have seen many alterations and improvements to sections which were unsealed and single-lane with passing bays and bridges shared by trains and cars. However in the last two years the changes have been amazing. Whole new sections of the road have been reconstructed on areas uplifted by the earthquake and the result is impressive.

Those who have assessed the damage, redesigned the road and implemented and supervised the reconstruction of the new highway have excelled themselves. For years



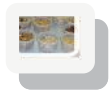
Left: Road reconstruction on the Kaikoura coast.



Right: Seals resting and at play.

PHOTO'S: DEIRDRE HARRIS.

people have stopped at Ohau Point to view the seal colony there. The parking was limited and hazardous. Now a large off-road area with parking, seating and landscaping has been provided. There is a good safety fence from which to view the seal colony which appears to have increased in size. This year we saw dozens of seal pups playing on the rocks below. 📷



Nutritious Back to the future?

(Continued from page 4)

Zealand Red Cross on the vitamin value of food parcels sent to soldiers serving abroad. Immediately after the



war she was responsible for writing guidelines and scales for food rationing.

Her early research into fats and cholesterol tackled the nutrition-related aspects of coronary heart disease. Long

before the phrase became popular she was committed to the understanding that "we are what we eat" and she saw nutrition as a cornerstone of individual and public health. She researched the vitamin content of New Zealand-grown vegetables, fruit, fish and cereals and encouraged New Zealanders to eat more fruit and vegetables. This advice to eat more fruit, vegetables, whole grains and milk products and to cut down on sugar, fat and meat was revolutionary at the time. Investigating the causes of increasing tooth decay, she spent a sabbatical in Harvard where she researched the effects of fluoridated water, returning to New Zealand to campaign for fluoridation. As Professor Barbara Brookes states in *Corpus* 'That we no longer worry about suffering from goitre and that many children now have filling-free teeth is, in no small part, due to Muriel Bell's sustained efforts.' 📷

REFERENCES:

BARBARA BROOKES RIGHT EATING: DR MURIEL BELL : 'CORPUS' MARCH 4, 2019 : [HTTPS://CORPUS.NZ/RIGHT-EATING-DR-MURIEL-BELL/](https://corpus.nz/right-eating-dr-muriel-bell/)

[HTTPS://WWW.OTAGO.AC.NZ/150/ALUMNI/PODCASTS/INDEX.HTML](https://www.otago.ac.nz/150/alumni/podcasts/index.html) (A SHORT PODCAST INTERVIEW WITH DR MURIEL BELL)

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[HTTPS://TEPUNA.ON.WORLDCAT.ORG/OCLC/1048446792](https://tepuna.on.worldcat.org/oclc/1048446792)

Regular Services

(for variations consult *The Pebble* or our website)
All services are held in Saint Peter's unless noted otherwise

SUNDAY:

8am: Holy Communion according to the Book of Common Prayer
10.30am: Solemn Sung Eucharist
5pm: 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month: Evensong and Benediction followed by a social gathering in the lounge.

THURSDAY:

10am: Eucharist

FIRST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH:

11am: Eucharist in the lounge of Frances Hodgkins Retirement Village, Fenton Crescent

Special Services

Contact The Vicar to arrange baptisms, weddings, house blessings, burials, confessions and other special services.

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Vestry Notes

By Alex Chisholm

Vestry Secretary

Vestry meetings are generally held every two months. Highlights of the September meeting included:

- ◆ Father Brian will investigate alternatives for defibrillator and CPR training in the hope of avoiding the substantial fee quoted
- ◆ Pukehiki church visit and lunch at Portobello hotel was a well-attended success
- ◆ The Vicar is on the track of a map showing the location of the Caversham Stream, said to have been piped under the Vicarage in the 19th century
- ◆ Stronger (LED) lights have been installed in the hall and lounge
- ◆ St Kilda Brass concert was a sell-out success
- ◆ Work has been done to correct drainage issues in the south-western corner of the Church. Now we must wait for the area to dry out before knowing how big a success it has been
- ◆ A protruding piece of metal on a flag carrier slot at the Hillside Road gate has caused injury and clothing damage. The Vicar will consult with Adams Flags about eliminating this safety risk. 🚫

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FUNERAL SERVICES

For your diary

Saturday, 5 October : Visit to St Mary, Star of the Sea, Port Chalmers Catholic Church to celebrate the feast of St Francis of Assisi

Sunday 20 October : Deadline for copy for the October edition of *The Rock*

Tuesday, 5 November : 7.30pm : *Caversham Lecture*
'New Zealand Dairying: Blessing or Curse' – Richard Kyte

Tuesday, 12 November : 7.30pm : *Caversham Lecture*
'Aftermath: the political landscape left by the winding down of the wars in Syria and Iraq' – Dr Bill Harris

Tuesday, 19 November : 7.30pm : *Caversham Lecture*—Father James Harding examines the historicity or otherwise of the escape of the children of Israel from Pharaoh's Egypt and the meeting between Moses and God on Mount Sinai

Saturday, 23 November : Organ recital in Saint Peter's by Kemp English

Tuesday, 26 November : 7.30pm : *Caversham Lecture*
'Church Romanesque architecture' – Rod Hamel

Sunday, 22 December : 10.30am : Festival of Brass and Carols with the ensemble of the St Kilda Brass Band

The Saints at Saint Peter's



The St Kilda Brass Band, also known as *The Saints*, presented a wide-ranging programme of musical fare in Saint Peter's on Saturday, 7 September 2019. After the concert the band joined the audience for afternoon tea. Alex Chisholm was there and took these photo's for us. Pick of the collection is conductor Shane Foster receiving a reward for a job well done from his granddaughter.



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Justin Welby
The Archbishop of Canterbury

Archbishop of Canterbury's sermon at Kottayam Cathedral, 1 September, 2019, on the first day of his 10-day visit to India.

“The question that we struggle with in the United Kingdom is the purpose of education. It has always been seen as civilising as a way of opening people's eyes to a broader horizon than the one they can see in the place where they live. In the later decades of the twentieth century it became functional, to equip the country to be effective in coping with new technologies and to be competitive on the world stage.

Yet when we go back to the Bible, we see that teaching is for the purpose of wisdom, and wisdom is for the purpose of knowing how we should live in a way that pleases God through Jesus Christ.”



More online :

Read the complete sermon at:

<https://www.archbishopofcanterbury.org/speaking-writing/sermons/archbishop-canterburys-sermon-kottayam-cathedral>

