

Gleanings



Greetings

The National Co-ordinating Group send warmest Christmas Greetings and a Happy New Year to you, your family and friends. At this Advent time, may we be ready to receive *Jesus* the Christ-Child and bring light to a darkened world. As beacons of light may we share the love, hope, peace and joy that Jesus brings and give God the glory - **Heather Tate**

NATIONAL TRIENNIAL BUSINESS & STUDY CONFERENCE

Palmerston North, 1-3 May, 2009

We look forward to seeing many of you there! Information sheets and registration forms should now be in the hands of Regional Co-ordinators/Presbyterial Secretaries for distribution. An **Early Bird Special** of \$10.00 on full registration fee is available if received by **28 February, 2009**.

Voting Representatives: The National Business Meeting has **one voting representative** appointed by each Parish Branch, or an alternate who may be from another Branch. Parishes must send the names of voting representatives to **Regional Co-ordinators/**

Presbyterial Secretaries by 28 February who then forward a list of the voting representatives and the parish branches they represent to the **National Secretary by 31 March 2009**.

Memorial Minutes: The NCG wish to compile Memorial Minutes of APW members who have passed away since April 2006, to be acknowledged at the Conference. Please forward to your Regional Co-ordinator/Presbyterial Secretaries **not later than 28 February**, and send to the National Secretary by 31 March.

Remits for Conference, 2009 will be printed in the March Gleanings.

----- **Appreciation of Study Grants.**

My name is Dellwyn Moylan from St Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Ashburton. I was fortunate to be the recipient of the APW Study Grant of 2007, and I am very grateful. I used the grant to assist with the cost involved in my study with the Ecumenical Institute of Distance Theological Studies and the Distance Education at Otago University as I studied for my final year of a Bachelor of Theology. I am await-
→

ing results which so far this year have been very good, to see if I will graduate this year, and all indications are that I will be. I majored in Pastoral Theology. This year I particularly enjoyed and found interesting the paper "Society and Ministry in the 21st Century." Next year I plan to continue at a post graduate level with the University of Otago's Distance Education. I am majoring in pastoral theology which is a very practical area of study and ministry, and not one many outside the ordained ministry in church are engaged in at post graduate level.

—Regards, Dellwyn

Brenda Marshall of Feilding writes: I am very glad to report that yesterday was my last day at Bible College. After four years I have completed everything required to achieve my Bachelor of Ministry. My last assignment has been handed in and all that remains is one exam. So far my essays have received above average marks. At the moment I am taking a well-earned rest, although it does seem strange not to be surrounded by piles of books, note paper, and lesson folders. I won't miss the looming assignment deadlines, but I will miss the wonderful people I met at College, especially staff and lecturers. I am very grateful for your generous donation towards my studies this year. Financially these three years have been very difficult and without your help I would not have been able to complete my degree. I look forward to the next exciting step on my journey with God wherever that leads me. Once again thank you and bless you.



Happy Christmas

Knox Women's Fellowship in Whakatane recently hosted a highly successful 'Honouring Age' afternoon. Approximately fifty invitations were sent out and the response was enthusiastic. A local singing group performed favourite melodies; a popular local speech and drama teacher gave an excellent rendition of 'Surviving the 20's - 70's'; a fascinating Power Point presentation entitled 'Times of great

change' showed snapshots and highlights of events during the lifetime of our octogenarians, and a short recital by an accomplished concert pianist of the parish comprised the entertainment. A magnificent afternoon tea, complete with lace embroidered tablecloths, English bone china, silver service and beautiful food capped off a very happy occasion. — **Margaret Gurr**.



Global Mission Trip to Vanuatu

At the end of June four students from St Oran's College and four students from Turakina Maori Girls College and their Principals left for Vanuatu on a mission trip. "We travelled to Onesua Presbyterian College. We spent ten days learning about the culture and the way of life. Prior to leaving New Zealand we had spent three months fundraising to buy gifts to donate to a kindergarten, a primary school and

the College. This trip opened our eyes to a different way of life and has hopefully begun a long-standing relationship among the three schools.

The biggest aspect of Vanuatu culture was community. Families, friends and classmates were very respectful and all seemed to have such a love for one another. Respectful "Hello's" and pleasant greetings were given everywhere we went. There were also many gatherings where families and friends all got together and celebrated

just being with one another.

We had been told that Vanuatu is the 'planet's happiest country' and seeing first-hand their genuine smiles, waves and greetings in the markets, downtown or at Onesua College, we believe this is very true. We have made life-long friends in Vanuatu and the memories of them and their kindness will stay with us forever."

APW Knox Centre for Ministry and Leadership Student Support Scheme

Carol Pirie and Elizabeth Peterson have written to all supporters of the Student Support Scheme:

We have delayed writing to you this year as we wanted to see how the new system would work with the Knox Centre for Ministry Leadership. We now report with sadness that it seems that the end has come for the support scheme ... It seems that with the final graduation this year of residential students training in Dunedin it will no longer be possible to find a viable means of continuing. This year has seen the first ordinands studying in home parishes and this will be the future pattern. Some students who live in Dunedin

or who choose to come here will still study until they reach the Ordination Studies Programme when they will move into parishes who agree to train them.

We have this year met with ordinands only once, which has not really been sufficient and it has been difficult contact with distance students and trying to link them with parishes and it seems to us that this will only become more difficult.

We have yet to discuss with Graham Redding, the Principal, but our thinking is that we will give all clothing and bedding to the PSS Opportunity Shop and any money

in the account will be given to the Principal who has a discretionary fund. We will let you know when final decisions are made. Meanwhile please do not send any more clothing or other goods except to ordinands you are supporting.

We want to thank you all for your generous support and wholehearted way you have supported the ministry students over the nearly twenty years we have been privileged to be your representatives..

Indeed as an Association we wish to say thank you to Carol and Elizabeth for their unfailing energy, and sensitive care over these years.

Dates to remember

- **Sunday, 8 March** is International Women's Day.
- **2009** also marks the 500th anniversary of Calvin's birth
- **APW** will be 40 years old.



National Co-ordinating Group: Hon Pres.

Right Rev Graham Redding

National Convener: Heather Tate,
458 Featherston St, Palmerston North.
Ph 06. 3549267

Email: hvtate@clear.net.nz

Secretary: (All Mail) Jill Little,
PO Box 489 Feilding 4740
Ph 06 3238218

E-mail: jlittleapw@orcon.net.nz

Deputy Convener:

Marjorie Empson,
131 Ruamahanga Cres., Palm. Nth.
Ph 06.3567529

E-mail: empsons@inspire.net.nz

Treasurer: Jocelyn Hannay,
1A Regent St, Palmerston North.
Ph 06 3541146

E-mail: jaykayh@hyper.net.nz

Missions Convener: Rae Simpson,
12 Kotanui Ave, Army Bay,
Whangaparoa. Ph 09 4244274
E-mail: lr.simpson@xtra.co.nz

United Nations Convener:
Mary McIntyre, 18 Hall Rd,
Bannockburn R.D.2 Cromwell,
Ph 03 445 4709
E-mail: bbmacs@xtra.co.nz

Resources Convener: Lois Diaper,
7 Wordsworth Place, Stoke, Nelson
Ph 03 547 1456
E-mail: elljayd@clear.net.nz

Communications Convener:
Lafulafu Ekenasio, 93 Yule St,
Lyal Bay, Wellington, 6922
Ph. 04 387 8265,
E-mail: lafulafu@xtra.co.nz