



THE MOORING POST

ANGLICAN PARISH OF FENDALTON – ST BARNABAS AND ST THOMAS
The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand & Polynesia – Diocese of Christchurch

Stones and Timbers Become Sacred Space

During the week I went to see the highly acclaimed, recently released film, 'Lion.' It tells the true story of a young boy growing up in India, who became separated from his family. He managed to survive on the streets of Calcutta for a period, but was eventually adopted by an Australian couple. He spent the next 25 years growing up in Australia, but increasingly sensed a call home to his mother and siblings in rural India. It's one of the most powerful films I've seen exploring the themes of identity, belonging and home coming.

We all recognise the importance of 'home' to human flourishing. There's a clear need for people to be rooted in a family, in a community, in a place. French philosopher and mystic Simone Weil said "To be rooted is perhaps the most important and least recognised need of the human soul."

Of course many people in our modern world don't experience any sense of connection to a particular place. They wander through life without a place to call 'home'. Rootlessness is a well documented feature of our western society and contributes to the anomie that so many experience.

For the ancient people of Israel, a place to call home was supremely important. God promised Abraham a land, a nation and a blessing. As God fulfilled his promise, Abraham went from being a landless nomad, to a landed patriarch in the land of Canaan.

The story of the Old Testament recounts the subsequent loss of Israel's home through Babylonian Exile, regaining and losing it again under Roman occupation. Loss of home was disastrous.

This month, almost exactly six years since the devastating 22 February 2011 earthquake, when we last used St Barnabas for worship, we will return to the sacred space that is so special to many people. The stones and timbers of St Barnabas are not intrinsically sacred, but the space became sacred because of the dynamic interaction between the people at worship and the building. One feeds off the other, reinforcing a powerful sense of identity and belonging. St Barnabas is a spiritual home to many in our community.

Of course for the last six years, four of our traditional congregations have joined with Lifestreams and Antioch and used the hall for worship. Many who were not accustomed to the hall, have enjoyed worshipping there. It has been light, warm and conducive to the building of community. Over time it has become a sacred space for the whole parish.

And because the space itself represents a kind of tangible theology, everyone has been shaped and changed by it. Our expectations of community interaction have increased. The absence of different levels have meant we have developed a more democratic view of the role of clergy and laity. Sitting

'sideways' has enhanced community. The comfort of the chairs, the effective audio-visual systems, and the ease of viewing have offered practical benefits that have informed our expectations for the future. Worshipping in the hall has changed us!

Many others however, have badly missed being in St Barnabas. For many years the church has been their spiritual home. It has carried their memories, aspirations, hopes and faith. So there will be particular things about our home that we will all really enjoy again like the stained glass windows, the simple, strong and elegant architecture, the light, the overall craftsmanship and the organ filling the space with beautiful music. And other aspects it's hard to identify.

So as we prepare ourselves for the reopening of St Barnabas, and the task of re-forming our Christian community, we can expect the dynamic interaction of people and physical space to change us once again. It may feel like returning home, it may be emotional, we may miss aspects of worship in the hall, but let us grow through this next transition together.

Just as the church will shape us, let us pray that Christ our true home will also shape us – and fill St Barnabas with his presence – to make our church a sacred space once again.

Rev. Mark Chamberlain

St Barnabas Reopens After Six Years – Join The Celebrations!

- 14 Feb - Lecture on 'History of Fendalton and St Barnabas' FULL
- 18 Feb - Celebration Dinner – 6pm, Addington Raceway.
- 19 Feb – Reopening and Thanksgiving Service
- 21 Feb – Variety Concert – 7.30pm in the Church

See website for information brochure
 or parish office. Tickets essential.

'The Mooring Post' is a phrase from p479 in A New Zealand Prayer Book/He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa. Christ is described as the single mooring post for many waka – Ko te Karaiti te pou herenga waka. Christ is the one who unites us.



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Interview with Heritage Architect Dave Pearson

The Vicar spoken with Heritage Architect Dave Pearson recently to discuss the repairs and strengthening of St Barnabas.

From a heritage perspective, what is your assessment of the work that has been carried out on the St Barnabas building? I'm very happy with the work that has been done. The stonemasons in particular have done an exemplary job – they have gone the extra mile. The overall contractor Lunds have also done an excellent job – I can't really fault them. All in all I'm really happy with the way things have turned out.

What was the most difficult aspect of the repairs? Technically the repairs were straightforward and were carried out very successfully. Installing the sprinkler system so that it did not detract from the internal appearance of the church was a challenge but it was successfully met. We do need to put a maintenance plan in place however so don't forget some stonework that will have to be done in the future.

Will there be evidence of the repairs and strengthening of the building? Yes – you will be able to see the pattress plates on the gable ends. These plates are bolted through to the trusses and roof structure on the inside so that the whole building acts as one – that was also why we tied the corners together. There will be some other things if you know where to look but most people won't notice. You do see pattress plates on other historic buildings around town and they give people comfort and make them happy to go into an old building.

Have the contractors employed any new repair methods? There's nothing that hasn't been done before but the grouting of the walls using the special Mapei grout is relatively new. Some of the methods have been refined over time but there's nothing brand new.

Why is it so important to preserve old buildings in our city? It gives a sense of history and what's gone before. It makes us aware that people have lived in our city for a long time. People like to be aware that there is a past and that we are part of history and that we have a tangible link to the past.

What is the overall quality and architectural merit of St Barnabas Church? It is good example of a Gothic/Arts and Crafts building which celebrates human workmanship. It's also a good example of a Cecil Wood designed building - he was one of the more significant Canterbury architects.

What is the right balance between heritage values and the contemporary needs of a growing parish? That's a tricky one! The building was originally designed for a parish that had certain needs and so the layout is quite traditional. I don't think anyone has found the answer to that one because there will always be a tension. The church is first and foremost about the people. God can be anywhere. A church is not a monument or fixed in time. It is a challenge but there's probably not a right and wrong answer.

Rev. Mark Chamberlain



Youth Ministry at St. Barnabas

Contact Harry Newton 027 342 2574

Youth Group: Christian youth community! Friday nights in the hall. 7 - 8.40pm for yrs 7 - 9 & 8.20-10pm for yrs 10-13

The Revs: Christian group for high school age young people. Meets on Sundays during Lifestreams at 10.30am.

New Beginnings for a Repaired Church

What will having a repaired and strengthened church mean for our parish after only having the hall for almost six years?

Having left home to go to university as a young man, I didn't visit our family holiday home at Lake Alexandrina for twenty years. But after shifting back to the South Island we went back there again and enjoyed not only the beautiful environment but remembered my happy childhood holidays. It was like coming home. There's something special about familiar buildings. They represent a rich heritage and link us with the people from previous generations who not only constructed the buildings in the first place but who loved and used and developed them in succeeding generations.

That applies even more to churches and holy places because of the spiritual and emotional overlay. Returning to St Barnabas will be like returning to our spiritual home – returning to our roots

– returning to our heritage and being connected down through time to our forebears in the faith.

As a result I would expect those who didn't make the transition to the hall, to come back to St Barnabas once it's opened. Others who enjoy worshipping in a traditional church setting may also join us. We need to be ready to welcome new people with a smile, a warm handshake and an invitation to find out more and to reconnect with our church community.

I myself will really enjoy the singing, with organ and choir. I grew up singing in choirs and love this aspect of our Anglican heritage. It will be wonderful to have Denis Guyan play the organ again and for us to experience the sheer joy of giving our praise and thanks to God in such an inspirational space. To that end we are seeking to reform the morning choir – if anyone would like to join in please see Denis or me.

We will also see the church being used for weddings and funerals once

again. We have already noticed an increase in enquiries from couples who want to be married at St Barnabas. We will have a new sound system, we will prepare the church with flowers and there is no doubt it will once again be an absolutely stunning place for couples to marry. The quiet dignity and beauty of St Barnabas will also again be available for funerals.

I hope that our repaired and strengthened church building can help us develop our outreach and our mission – to follow Jesus Christ, extend God's love and to develop as a compassionate, spiritual centre in our community.

Rev. Mark Chamberlain



St Barnabas Parishioners Granted New Year Honours

John Burrows – Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit:

John is a law lecturer, author, former member of the Law Commission and co-chairman of the Panel which reviewed the New Zealand constitution in 2012 and 2013.

In February 2015 he was appointed the Chair of the New Zealand Flag Consideration Panel. The Panel was charged with designing and leading the public engagement process to consider the New Zealand Flag. The Panel sought alternative flag designs and suggestions from the public, selected the longlist and final shortlist, and carried out a public communications role in the lead-up to the first and second referendums.

John led the Panel throughout the flag consideration project, particularly in promoting the public engagement process, and supporting and participating in media activities. His chairmanship was notable for its professionalism, and for his careful and considered approach and commitment to delivering an inclusive process resulting in significant public engagement.

Richard McElrea – Companion of the Queen's Service Order:

Richard served as a Coroner in Christchurch for 21 years and was instrumental in establishing the Coroners' Council in 1998, working to form relationships with Australian and English Coroners. He served as the Council's Chair until it was disbanded with the establishment of a Chief Coroner under the Coroners' Act 2006. He was instrumental in

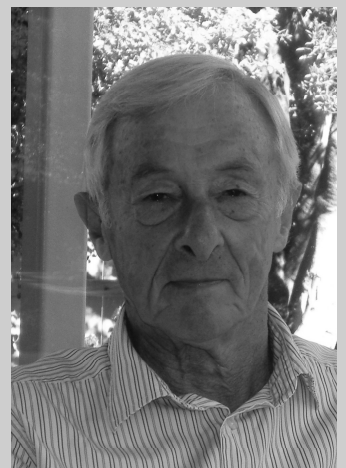
promoting the passage of the Act through Parliament and led the council in its submissions to the Select Committee.

He presided over many significant inquest hearings and was passionate about the need for independent investigations of air crashes and ship sinking. Many of his findings were of national importance, including transport-related deaths and deaths in prisons.

Beyond his work as a coroner, Richard was the Chair of the Antarctic Heritage Trust, responsible for the care of the original explorer bases in the Ross sea region. He has been involved with the production of several books and papers on Antarctic exploration, as co-author, co-publisher, associate editor and researcher.



Richard McElrea



John Burrows



Association of Anglican Women

Aim: To unite in prayer and participate in the mission of the Church. To promote, safeguard and nurture Christian family life.

Daytime Group

Wednesday 1 February at 2pm in the Tui Room.

Speaker is the Rev. Mary Minson.

A sales table will be held.

Leader: Madeleine Price – 021 188 5138

In Betweens

The meeting on February 21, is cancelled due to the exciting activities planned for the long awaited opening of the Church. Please come to the Variety Concert in the Church instead at 7.30pm. Ticket required. Information from parish office or website.

Leader: Trish Carrick-Leslie – 351 5179

Three Adult Students Graduate

Kofe Havea - Parish Ministry Assistant

For the last 4 years, I have been working towards a Bachelor of Ministries through Laidlaw College. I must thank my wonderful family, for allowing me the time and space to focus on my studies!

For the last 9 years, I have thrived in faith, in the warmth and encouragement of the people of this parish. My study has given me a greater depth in my pastoral care, and I have enjoyed using my new-found understanding of scripture and worldviews.

I want to acknowledge the Vicar, clergy and people of St Barnabas for allowing me the time to pursue my studies, all the while offering me unwavering support and the boost I often needed to knuckle down to my assignments!

From here, I will continue in my role at St Barnabas but with a deeper understanding of how to deal with peoples' needs. I will hold on to the disciplines of time management and detail that I was forced to embrace during my 4 years of study, and hopefully these will go some way in making me a better person.

Don Rowlands - Lifestreams

Over the last three years I completed my Post Graduate Diploma in Theology through Laidlaw College. The papers I valued the most had to do with suffering and hope as well as vocation, work and ministry.

I appreciated the small classes at Laidlaw and the intergenerational learning environment. Lectures began and ended with prayer and the focus was very much on my growth in faith and academic development.

My personal faith was strengthened in the core beliefs of Christianity; the incarnation, the Holy Trinity and the resurrection. The possibility of holding beliefs that demythologise the Bible and applying an understanding of the historical Jesus to my faith, led me back to the Body of Christ.

Laidlaw College was open to my faith and theological perspectives as long as it was supported by academic rigor. I felt grateful for all the mentoring and challenges from the tutors. At my graduation I felt a sense of integrity and wholeness from the studies and a strength of commitment as a servant of God. I want to continue my Christian vocation in reaching out to the marginalised in the community.



Ray Stagg - Lifestreams

I have just graduated from the University of Canterbury with a Masters of Social Work (applied) with merit. Overall, my time studying has been a catalyst to seek to be better informed and to develop an understanding of how I can affect positively those things and people who are in my spheres of influence.

The most enriching aspect of my study was the achievement of two degrees: A Bachelor of Theology and a Masters of Social Work (applied). When I was young I had no interest in school and it was strongly suggested that I leave, so to achieve two degrees has been both rewarding and enriching for me as a person.

As a qualified social worker, I can enter many different areas of employment. These include organisations dedicated to social concerns – health, housing, employment, mental health, alcohol and drug addictions and Government organisations such as Corrections, MSD (WINZ), Education and DHB's.

I found that the support and belief my friends had in me was invaluable. Don't underestimate the power of prayer – you will be amazed at how fulfilling this can be. One last and very important thing you can do is to believe in yourself.

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Lent Looms Large

Bishop Brian Carrell reviews the book 'The Twilight of Atheism' by Alister McGrath

January has gone and, hopefully, our annual unwind is complete. Back on the shelf then our Lee Childs, Peter James and Jojo Moyes. Now we need something that will stretch our minds and help explain better our perplexing world. Here's a suggestion (highly commended!): *The Twilight of Atheism – The Rise and Fall of Disbelief in the Modern World*. The author is Alister McGrath, an Anglican historian, former atheist and Oxford don.

McGrath provides an account of atheism as an 'empire of the mind' that rose to its high noon between two pivotal points in European history, exactly two hundred years apart – the fall of the Bastille in 1789 and the fall of the Berlin wall in 1989.

He tells of the origins, successes and attractiveness of atheism to modern minds while also describing its inherent weaknesses, today leading to its decline. But it is still a powerful factor in shaping our Western societies, whether in its milder form as pragmatic atheism (living each day as though there were no God) or in its more strident form as dogmatic atheism (ardently advocating the death of God, eg Richard Dawkins).

This is of vital importance for



Author Alister McGrath

the Christian Church. Whereas our culture was birthed in a strongly religious past, for the last half century it has increasingly nudged religious faith to the side lines of its public life, denying the transcendent and the supernatural to enthrone human reason and resources as the sole arbiters of life.

Traditional style churches and their membership have been the greatest casualties in this wave of popular atheism.

Some of us live uneasily on the margins of faith. This is a book that might help lift the lid on quandaries that unsettle us. The Vicar has a copy that he is willing to lend out.

Bishop Brian Carrell

Muslim Refugees Becoming Christians

A growing number of Muslim refugees in Europe are converting to Christianity, according to churches which have conducted mass baptisms in some places.

Reliable data on conversions is not available but anecdotal evidence suggests a pattern of rising church attendance by Muslims who have fled conflict, repression and economic hardship in countries across the Middle East and Central Asia.

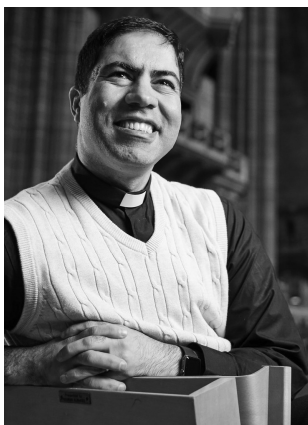
Complex factors behind the trend include heartfelt faith in a new religion, gratitude to Christian groups offering support during perilous and frightening journeys, and an expectation that conversion may aid asylum applications.

At Trinity church in the Berlin suburb of Steglitz, the congregation has grown from 150 two years ago to almost 700, swollen by Muslim converts. Earlier this year, churches in Berlin and Hamburg reportedly held mass conversions for asylum seekers at municipal swimming pools.

Mohammad Eghtedarian, a curate at Liverpool Cathedral and a refugee from Iran who converted to Christianity and was later ordained, said the church was helping people to develop their faith and to apply for refugee status.

His own journey, from the Iranian city of Shiraz to the UK, took him through half a dozen European countries, by truck, train and on foot. Destitute and terrified, he was offered practical and emotional support from Christians along the way.

Before being granted asylum, Eghtedarian spent four months in Tinsley House detention centre, near Gatwick airport. "Every day was challenging and beautiful. Challenging because I didn't know if they would deport me; beautiful because I was in the Lord's hands. I promised the Lord: if you release me, I will serve you."



Rev. Mohammad Eghtedarian

Article from The Guardian, Sunday 5 June, 2016

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Thanks To Trufflers!

Thanks to all those who made and delivered trufflers around the parish in the week before Christmas. What a wonderful way to connect with our community! Over 220 small bags of trufflers were delivered to our immediate neighbours in Fendalton and also to those who were housebound or had suffered the loss of a loved one.

There were many great connections with people who were pleased to receive a tasty treat.

One parishioner who delivered the trufflers said 'I was surprised how responsive most people were when I said I was from St Barnabas.' This visitor also met a young man who was not a church goer and didn't know he was welcome to come to church. The visitor assured him that all are welcome!



Join a Lent Group this March!

We've all heard that you only get out what you put in and it's true for Bible Study Groups. During Lent we offer the chance to put a bit more in so you can get a bit more out!



These studies run from the first week in March through to the week before Easter. In that time you'll get to know other parishioners, learn about taking risks from the book of Acts, share your questions and thoughts and grow in faith. A great formula to put something in to get something out!

The various groups will be printed in the weekly pewsheets so you can see which group you may like to join. Or simply leave your name with Marion in the parish office and we will contact you.

Carol Singing Appreciated

On the Tuesday before Christmas an intrepid band of carol singers met at St Winifred's Hospital to celebrate the joy of Christmas with residents. The group consisted of about 25 parishioners, young and old who joined with parish organist Denis Guyan and the Vicar. There were smiles, laughter and Christmas joy shared along the way.

From St Wins the group headed to Fendalton Retirement Village and ended at Holly Lea for a Romeo and Juliet style balcony performance. Holly Lea kindly offered refreshments at the end – singing carols can be tiring!

It was a privilege connecting with the elderly and sharing the love, joy and peace of Christmas with them. Thanks to all who came to sing!



What's Coming Up?

Hymns of Praise

Join the members of our two AAW groups for the celebration of AAW Sunday at 5pm. We will sing favourite hymns selected by women who will speak about why they have been meaningful to them.

**SUNDAY 5
FEBRUARY**

Classical Sparks

Join the parish group at the annual classical music concert in Hagley Park with the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra. Meet in parish car park at 6pm or outside Girl's High in Matai St East at 6.15pm.

**SATURDAY 11
FEBRUARY**

Confirmation

Come and support our Confirmation Candidates this year. We will be welcoming Bishop Victoria who will preach. The service will be at 7pm in the church.

**SUNDAY 26
FEBRUARY**

Ash Wednesday Service

This year we combine with the Holy Trinity parish at 108 Jeffreys Rd for our annual Ash Wednesday Service. Begins at 7pm. Join us for the Imposition of Ashes at the beginning of Lent.

**WEDNESDAY 1
MARCH**

World Day of Prayer

This year the World Day of Prayer service is to be held in St Barnabas Church at 7pm. All welcome. See Patsy Wardell for details. Ends with a light supper.

**SATURDAY 3
MARCH**

Parish AGM

2017 AGM will be in the Hall beginning @ 7pm. This is an important AGM as we reflect on the repair and strengthening of the church building and plan for our renewed ministry and mission.

**WEDNESDAY 8
MARCH**

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Alex Thomson
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SUNDAY WORSHIP

ST BARNABAS (in the hall)

- 8.00am Eucharist, followed by breakfast (Tui Room)
- 9.00am Sung Eucharist followed by morning tea (Tui Room)
- 10.30am Lifestreams Eucharist with children's & youth programmes followed by morning tea.
For All Age services, check online
- 5.00pm 1st and 3rd Sundays – Evensong
2nd Sunday – Choral Night Prayer
4th Sunday – Eucharist
- 7.00pm Antioch in the hall for students/ young adults but all welcome

MID-WEEK WORSHIP

- 8.30am Tuesday to Friday – Morning Prayer
Wednesday – Eucharist all welcome in the Makora Room or Prayer Room at east end of hall.
- 10.00am Thursdays – Eucharist
1st Thursdays – Prayer and Healing

ALSO OFFERED...

Home Communion:
Each 2nd & 4th Wednesday in the month.

Communion is also provided at Fendalton Retirement Village fortnightly and St Winifred's & Holly Lea monthly.

Vestry News

- **24-7 Youth Work:** Christchurch Boys' High have agreed to a third 24-7 Youth Worker. Our partner church, Riccarton Community Church, will supply and pay for the extra worker. There will be no direct financial implications for the parish – we will still pay for one worker. The parish is however responsible for raising over \$20,000 in community grants – this will take a lot of effort. This is a very important outreach ministry and the third 24-7 Youth Worker will need to be engaged as soon as possible.
- **Reopening Events:** Vestry received a report about the reopening events between 14 and 21 February, 2017. Corinne Haines spoke to the report in her role as overall coordinator. Organisation for all the events is going well although the timeframe is very tight. Ticket booking is very pleasing with the History Lecture being fully subscribed. There is room for more people at the Dinner, the Thanksgiving Service and the Variety Concert.
- **Design Advisory Group:** Don reported that the Design Advisory Group (DAG) of the Diocese had given permission for the new mosaic which is being made for the inside of the west door. This will be created by Victoria Gilmour.
- **Budget for 2017:** A draft budget was tabled by Treasurer Alistair Sheard however it is a deficit budget and is not acceptable as it currently stands. There will be a meeting in the New Year to trim the budget expenses and consider ways of increasing our income.
- **Restoration House and Garden Tour:** Vestry received a report that this fundraiser was extremely successful thanks to the hard work and vision of the organising team. Over \$24,000 was raised with more people wanting to go than there were tickets. It is important that we thank most sincerely the home owners who agreed to open their homes for the tour.

REGISTER

FUNERALS

We offer our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of those who have died:

January

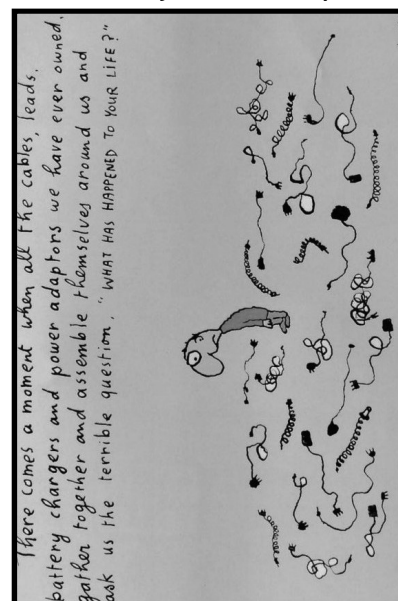
4 Kenneth George Moore
Bunty Penny's memorial service will be on Monday 20 Feb in church.

BAPTISMS

We welcome into the family of God the following who have been baptised:

January

22 Carter James Peter Symes



Contributions to the Mooring Post:

Deadline for March issue:
Friday 10 February



Tribute to the St Barnabas Construction workers



Children's Ministry at St. Barnabas

St Barnabas Playgroup: Creative play for pre-schoolers on Wednesdays from 9.15 – 11.30am in the hall.
Helen Wakefield 351 3595.

Mainly Music: Music and movement for pre-schoolers and their caregivers, Fridays 10 – 10.30am followed by morning tea. Pip Chamberlain 021 085 77640.

Fridayzone: Christian after-school club for Primary School children. With meal. Fridays 3 – 5.30pm.
Angela Brown 027 335 0105.

Kidzone: Creative Sunday School for children 5 – 13 yrs
Sundays 10.30am. Angela Brown 027 335 0105.