



# AnglicanLife

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## Huge Changes for Anglican Aged Care

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God in Our Business

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Easter Camp Photo Essay

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Reflections on Recovery

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Cracks in School Tradition










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Diocese of Christchurch

ISSUE THIRTEEN – JUN/JUL 2011

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June/July 2011

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**Editor**

Philip Baldwin

**Contributing Writer**

Megan Blakie

**Contributors**

+Victoria Matthews, Spanky Moore, Megan Blakie, Rosalyn Deane, Gillian Southey, Greg Jackson, Sharon Murphy, Nathan Adams, Sarah Brandt, Daniel Chew, Natalie Harbott, Steve Graham

**Advertising Enquiries**

Ivan Hatherley – ihatherley@clear.net.nz

**Editorial Enquiries**

Philip Baldwin – editor@anglicanlife.org.nz

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## EDITORIAL

# Bishop's Address

## To Help and Be Helped

WORDS: +VICTORIA MATTHEWS

*“It was important for us to remember that the faithfulness of our Lord is everlasting and that the gifts of the Cross, Resurrection, and coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost have never failed us.”*



The Clergy Conference, which gathered at the YMCA Camp at Wainui again this May, had the title “Singing the Lord’s Song in a New Land.” Much of the content was about response and recovery from disaster, not just the Canterbury earthquakes, but also the West Coast plane crash, the Pike River Mine disaster, and failure of South Canterbury Finance. Leading up to the conference we realized just how many Scriptural references to earthquakes there are. Instances where Scripture is very clear that God is not in the earthquake (1 Kings 19.11), and other times when a quake appears heaven-sent because locked doors are thrown open (Acts 16.26).

At the Clergy Conference, however, we focused more on the image of Exile in Isaiah 40-55. When all that is familiar seems to be gone forever, how do we sing the Lord’s song? We found we can sing, but we also claimed the right to lament and weep over what we have

lost and will never regain. Together we discerned a need for prayer and “resting in the Lord.”

It was important for us to remember that the faithfulness of our Lord is everlasting and that the gifts of the Cross, Resurrection, and coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost have never failed us. We can and do rest secure in the everlasting arms of God.

Furthermore being secure in God’s love allows us to be gentle with one another and help each other along the road. One of the exercises I find helpful is to ask myself who I have helped each day and who has helped me, in terms of recovery and resilience. One part of that duet alone is not enough. We each need to help and be helped each day. To do only half leads to either isolation or dependency.

Central to the conversation at Clergy Conference was pondering the way

forward. We sought the right question to pose in the circumstances, so we could then set our hearts and minds to prayerfully answer it. We never achieved consensus but that did not matter, because we recognized that we were not yet ready for that step. More prayer and consultation is needed. We agreed that many small conversations are better than one or two big noisy events where only a few speak and many go unheard.

So please do not think you have been overlooked. The Diocese will be visiting every parish to listen to what the needs and desires are where you live. And fear not, for God will go ahead of us to light the path and show us the way (Exodus 13.21-22). ■

+Victoria Christchurch



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**Sundays** - 8.00am Holy Communion - (*alternate Sundays from 12 June*), 11.00 am Choral Eucharist, 5.00pm Choral Evensong. **Weekdays** - Holy Communion at 12.05 pm - Tuesday (*Healing*), Wednesday (*Celtic*), and Friday (NZPB). **Choral Evensong** - Tuesday and Thursday at 5.30 pm.

**CHOIR VISIT TO FENDALTON PARISH - JUNE 12 | 5.00PM | CHORAL EVENSONG SERVICE**

**KIDSFEST SERVICE AT CHRIST'S COLLEGE CHAPEL - JULY 17 | 11.00 AM**

**The Cathedral Event Calendar** has reduced following the February earthquake but activity has not. Services continue and the Cathedral Choir is 'out and about' around the community as far afield as Timaru singing services, recitals and concerts. **We welcome enquiries:** devmanager@christchurchcathedral.co.nz

**More Details on our web site** [www.christchurchcathedral.co.nz](http://www.christchurchcathedral.co.nz)



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# Current events

LOCAL / NATIONAL / WORLD

## 🏠 Healing Comes through Singing the Lord's Song

*Jacqui Paterson reflects on the ability of the church, worship, and particularly a hymn, to offer healing and hope.*

WORDS: PHILIP BALDWIN

It's not easy to identify the after effects of the 22 February earthquake on the residents of towns like Ashburton. "Something tumultuous has happened, but what effect it will have on us, we still don't know," says Jacqui Paterson, the vicar of St Stephen's Ashburton. The community an hour south of Christchurch on SH1 had an initial influx of people that was "quite major", and many local residents offered support through the practical work of the church and service clubs.

Now that the vast majority of people from Christchurch have gone back to their city, Jacqui feels that people in Ashburton have been deeply affected by the earthquakes, supporting family and friends through their trauma, loss, and dislocation: "all the worry that goes with loving people and caring for people", as she puts it.

In addition, the unpredictability of the quakes has had a noticeable effect on local folks, some of whom are left with a vague feeling of "things are different". "It's largely a relational issue," she explains. "People in Canterbury have a great affection for Christchurch. It's our city. Many people here went to school in



*“[We] carry on providing what we always provide, so that people can find worship with a community of faith that will meet them where they are, just as God does.”*

Christchurch or have come from there. And the damaged Cathedral is our Cathedral, an icon in the best sense of the word, to point us to God.”

Some Cantabrians have struggled with a kind of survivor guilt: “Our building is—to all intents and purposes—unscathed,” Jacqui observes. In asking the question, “Are we doing enough to help?” she has been aware of the need to provide a sensitive form of business as usual: “Not uncaring, but to carry on providing what we always provide, so that people can find worship with a community of faith that will meet them where they are, just as God does.”

Jacqui credits the hymn “May Hope Rise out of Tragedy” (see sidebar) with inspiring hope as her parish used it during their worship. She received the lyrics for the song in an email sent around the diocese the first week after the February quake, and St Stephen’s Ashburton began using it every Sunday through Lent at the end of worship: “I got more positive feedback about this hymn than anything else. I believe it was a great source of healing and hope, which I never would have predicted”. Later the hymn was also used at the 18 March Ashburton Earthquake Memorial Service.

John Hayhoe, the vicar at St Mary’s Geraldine, found an earlier version of the words “May Hope Rise Out of Tragedy” through textweek.com, and adapted them slightly for use at an ecumenical service of prayer at St Andrew’s Presbyterian Church in Geraldine. He used the hymn subsequently at St Mary’s.

An intriguing footnote to the hymn is its pairing with the tune MELITA, which John knew from his days as a boy chorister in England. At the naval school John attended, the final stanza of the hymn “Eternal Father, Strong to Save”, also sung to MELITA, was used as a prayer, sung while kneeling at the end of every chapel service.

In response to a suggestion from Susan Baldwin, vicar of the Parish of Malvern, to send in resources, sermons, and prayers that were used on the Sunday after the quake, John distributed his adapted hymn text, with first stanza words altered slightly to fit the earthquake situation, to all clergy in the diocese.

Jacqui Paterson sums her experience of the hymn this way: “I’ve never known a set of lyrics that created such a positive sense of healing. It’s what I’ll always remember about it.” ■

## MAY HOPE RISE OUT OF TRAGEDY

*Eternal Father, strong to save,  
The earthquake’s fury has been grave,  
We’ve seen the pictures, felt the cost,  
Of all those who have so much lost.  
O hear us as we cry to thee  
for those engulfed in tragedy.*

*O Saviour, whose almighty hand  
protects all those in every land.  
Send help and aid of every kind  
grant we a way to serve may find.  
O hear us as we cry to thee  
may hope rise out of tragedy.*

*O Holy Spirit, work your art  
in every place and every heart.  
Stir great compassion, healing, love  
pour down your blessings from above.  
O hear us as we cry to thee  
may hope rise out of tragedy.*

*O Trinity of love and power,  
bless all your servants in this hour.  
To bring relief, to find a way  
to rebuild and to heal today.  
O hear us as we cry to thee  
may hope rise out of tragedy!*



## Youth Leadership in Children’s Ministries

WORDS & PHOTO: SPANKY MOORE

A new phenomenon is sweeping the world in Children’s Ministries. The presence of youth within a group previously populated by parents or grandparents is revolutionising the way ministry to children happens in churches globally. The Christchurch Diocese is part of this growing trend. At the recent Easter camp, Carolyn Robertson, the new Diocesan Children’s Ministry Developer, met a number of enthusiastic teens who serve children in our parishes.

“I think it’s fantastic,” says Carolyn. “It’s so encouraging seeing young people develop their skills and give back to the church.”



Diocesan Children’s Ministry Developer, Carolyn Robertson (bottom left) meets some of the youth children’s ministry leaders at Easter camp.

*“Because popular culture changes so rapidly now, there’s often a disconnect in the ways that adult leaders communicate with children....With youth leaders there are no hurdles to try and overcome.”*

Young people who serve in their churches are far more likely to stay involved in the long term.”

“More than that,” Carolyn observes, “it’s really important for children to interact with young people at church. Studies show that children make up their minds about faith and church at about age 8 or 9. Many children can’t imagine themselves being at church or even being a Christian when they are teenagers, because they don’t regular interact with young people in their weekly programmes. They end up with the idea that church is something grandparents do.”

In the past there have been fears from some quarters that youth couldn’t be as good leaders as older members of the parish. However, churches that make use of young leaders are often finding the opposite. “Youth can automatically relate to children. Because popular culture changes so rapidly now, there’s often a disconnect in the ways that adult leaders communicate with children. What was cool 20 or 30 years ago can be seen as just plain weird by children now. It’s always hard to admit we’re getting older and might be out of touch with the new generation. With youth leaders there are no hurdles to try and overcome.”

Young people often find it easier to commit to children’s ministry on a more regular basis. Adults usually serve on a roster, as they don’t want to regularly miss out on the adult service, whereas young people often have other avenues to help them grow in their faith, such as belonging to a youth group. Serving in a children’s programme, therefore, becomes an ideal place for them to pass on what they are learning in another setting.

“Christianity is primarily caught, not taught,” muses Carolyn. “Youth are naturally enthusiastic, so it’s exciting to see their energy and vitality bringing life to our ministry to children.” ■

## Renewing Our Voice

Equipping Rural Church in 2011, 7-9 July, Lincoln University.

WORDS: SPANKY MOORE

I have a confession to make. Sometimes as a city slicker, in my weaker moments, I have a tendency to presume our diocese is all about the city. It's not an intentional thing of course, but so often when I think about ministry and mission, I forget that not everyone is stuck in the concrete jungle that is (or was) Christchurch. But talking to Andrew Starky, the archdeacon for Rural Anglican Life, he reminds me that many of our churches are more intimately connected to the rhythm of livestock and tractors than to lawyers and traffic jams.

And that's why Andrew thinks the Renewing Our Voice: Equipping the Rural Church conference in July is so important. "We're hoping the conference will bring a renewed excitement about the possibilities the church has in rural communities and a fresh confidence as we renew and reclaim our voice."

"We want to draw together people from across the diocese and beyond, including our ecumenical partners, to share knowledge and experience with the purpose of equipping ourselves for ministry in 2011."

The keynote speaker will be the Revd John Daniels, most recently the National Mission Enabler for the Presbyterian

*"We're hoping the conference will bring a renewed excitement about the possibilities the church has in rural communities."*

Church, and a man well versed in the challenges and potential of ministry in the rural patch. Workshop sessions from a variety of wise heads will also cover nagging issues from a rural perspective, including growth, evangelism, preaching, discipleship, worship, marketing, children's ministry, youth ministry, and young adults.

But this conference isn't just for people in rural ministry situations. Andrew believes anyone wanting to engage with the challenges of context and mission will benefit from this opportunity to rethink the way churches connect effectively with their local communities.

"We've chosen the theme Renewing Our Voice because we recognise that there has been the tendency for many rural churches to get quieter and more involved in internal matters. We hope the conference will reawaken people's confidence in the importance of the gospel message we are to proclaim for rural communities in which we live."

**When:** 7-9 July 2011.

**Where:** Stewart Building, Lincoln University. Accommodation options available.

**Cost:** Standard full conference cost \$180. Day charges also available.

**Registrations:** Due by 17 June 2011.

For registration forms and more information phone the Anglican Centre on (03) 348 6960 or go to [www.anglicanlife.org.nz](http://www.anglicanlife.org.nz) ■

# Epicentre

STORIES OF HOPE FROM THE FAULTLINE

## Cracks in School Tradition

A tongue-in-cheek sign indicates that the grassy quadrangle at the heart of Christ's College is no longer off-limits.

WORDS & PHOTOS: MEGAN BLAKIE



The sign "No Way" ironically lets students know that they are, in fact, allowed on to the grass to attend classes in the temporary school rooms erected on the site.

Seven prefabricated rooms, which can easily accommodate the maximum class size of about 25 students, have been erected on the quadrangle as a way to help keep the school functioning after the February earthquake. A competition was run among staff and students to name the new precinct.

"A staff member brilliantly and economically summed up the incredulity of generations of alumni with 'No Way,'" writes headmaster Simon Leese on the school's website, with a touch of humour.

Not walking on the quad has been a longstanding tradition for students at the iconic Christchurch high school, which has been in its current Rolleston Avenue location for more than 150 years.

"The school is built on the model of a monastery, and at the heart of a monastery is always the empty space; the quad is part of the monastic heritage," says chaplain Bosco Peters. As staff, he has always been entitled to walk on the grass, but he says he very rarely did so.

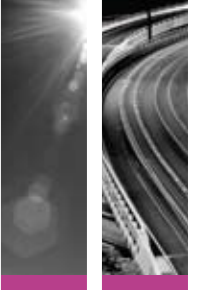
"Having an empty space in the middle of your life is quite a good thing," he says. "We clutter up our lives, fill them all up, and [the quad] is an architectural expression of having an open space in the heart of your life."



On more serious academic matters, Bosco says the school's primary concern has been maintaining a consistent teaching environment. On-line teaching was one of the ways the school tried to keep students motivated during the temporary closure of the school.

Since Easter, chapel services—held on Sundays and three times a week during term—have resumed in the chapel building. Bosco no longer has to run back-to-back services in the gymnasium (which could only accommodate half the school at a time).

Also using the chapel are Cathedral staff, who are now working from the school and holding regular Sunday and mid-week worship services there. ■



## Teddy Bear Takeover

Teddy bears of all shapes and sizes overran Helen Roud's kitchen a few weeks ago.

**WORDS & PHOTOS: MEGAN BLAKIE**

The priest-in-charge at Linwood returned home after hospital visiting to find a multitude of new cuddly toys "bursting to get out" of the box they had arrived in from Lower Hutt. The toys, a gift from St David's parish Naenae in the Hutt Valley, are being distributed to people in the east Christchurch congregation as a way to lift their spirits.

"Many, many hearts will be warmed—of both young and old," says Helen about the furry donations. As well as conveying the loving support of another congregation, Helen says the teddies are bringing a sense of hope to people facing ongoing challenges during the winter.

St Chad's also received about 30 exquisitely handmade quilts from St Peter's in Timaru, which have been distributed to people in the Linwood area. ■



The Revd Lance Kevey of St David's Naenae blessed the teddies before they made their way south to Linwood.

## Post-Quake Chaplaincy at UCan

Tom Innes spoke to Philip Baldwin from his bedroom/office about his role as chaplain at the University of Canterbury.

**WORDS: PHILIP BALDWIN**

Six years of chaplaincy at the University of Canterbury, two earthquakes, and the continuing uncertainty of university life, have taught Tom Innes that his work is all about relationships. Following the 22 February quake, he realized that his role as chaplain and the rapport that he had established with people made it much easier for them to open up to him.

Tom struggled to know what to do and where to go after the 7.1 September quake, but following the more devastating 6.3 tremor in February, he had a clearer sense of where to be and what to do: "Early on there was a circuit, a small number of places to go where I could connect with people and organisations."

He credits the "office" of chaplain with giving him immediate access to locations like the Emergency Response Tent on campus, but follows that up with the observation that "they welcomed me in [to help] because they knew me and my work." His participation in the Daily Office of prayer also gives him an opening to say to people, "I'll pray for you", and they appreciated that.

Three months after the February quake, Tom has noticed that the situation seems much less clear: "Everything's on its head, departments are scattered, nothing is where it usually is." The small circuit of places to visit has changed, as staff get back into buildings, and everyone experiences a very different working environment.

The uncertainties around coping with the earthquakes have exacerbated some of the other unsettling changes that face the university. The restructuring plans for UCan have been delayed by the latest tremors, but the entire institution faces some hard choices with the estimated loss of 1000-1500 students, and the financial implications of a student population that may have shrunk by as much as eight percent.

Students are facing the same stresses as staff, dealing with academic changes, lectures in tents, changing locations for classes. "It's challenging to do chaplaincy in this environment, but this is how it is. Part of you doesn't know what useful thing you are doing, but people tell me, 'Look Tom, we really value your work.' The world is better off for us being there." ■

## Community Fun Day in Avonside

Holy Trinity Avonside will host a Community Fun Day in its car park (Lychgate Close off Stanmore Road) on Monday 6 June from 10.00am – 2.00pm.

**WORDS: ROSALYN DEANE**

*"We just want something fun to happen. We want to do something 'nice' with our families."*

These are the words of many residents from Avonside and Linwood at a recent community leaders meeting, run by the City Council. The people who attended this meeting are natural leaders in their community: people who helped, and are still helping others; organising to drop off chemical toilets, and giving advice of where to find a plumber; organising street BBQs while dealing with the effects of the two earthquakes that have devastated Avonside and much of Christchurch.

Many houses are red stickered and a lot of people have decided to leave the area. Avonside is also facing the deconsecration and deconstruction of Holy Trinity Church, as well as the demolition of the hall that we used for our worship following the September quake.

For many there is uncertainty about their land. It is still not known whether those who want to remain neighbours will have the option to stay close if they cannot rebuild on their present site and are relocated.

A community that wants to remain together and have some fun is what many people have wanted. The idea of a Community Fun Day was met enthusiastically by our vicar, the Revd Hugh Bowron. We have invited many local groups—scouts, guides, schools, playcentres, Enrich Community Chaplaincy Trust, Avonside House, preschools, and some local businesses—to have a stall. The stall holders do not pay anything: this is not a fundraiser for Holy Trinity, but rather an opportunity for the community to come together.

On Monday 6 June (Queen's Birthday weekend) the Holy Trinity Avonside car park (Lychgate Close off Stanmore Road) will be filled from 10.00am – 2.00pm with bouncy castles, give-aways, children's activities, and more. Many of our local businesses have been closed for some time, and are only just starting again in new premises. The stall holders can raise funds for their own needs or to raise awareness of their group. Some will offer advice, resources, and services available through different agencies, and some stalls will provide tasty food or sell toys.

Holy Trinity Avonside will host this fun day that the whole family can enjoy. We are so thankful that we still have St. Francis Hall to worship in, and that we can provide this fun day for a community that has gone through a lot. Together we will rebuild our community. ■



The community day organising group discusses plans for the 6 June community fun day in Avonside.

# Huge Changes for Anglican Aged Care

More than forty percent of Anglican Aged Care residents have relocated as a result of February's quake but director Alison Jephson remains positive about the church's provision of elder care in the future.

WORDS & PHOTOS: MEGAN BLAKIE

"It was horrendous, it really was, but everyone's come through it, everyone's seeing the future," says Alison, summing up the enforced changes of the past couple of months. She is complimentary about her staff's commitment to maintaining high standards of care in challenging circumstances.

Of the three facilities that Anglican Aged Care owns and runs—all of them based in Christchurch—one complex is unfit

for occupancy, and the future of a multi-story apartment block at another complex is uncertain. About 150 elderly people have had to move out of their damaged studios or from hospital, rest home, or dementia care after the September and February earthquakes. Twelve of those people have been able to be rehoused in alternate Anglican Aged Care accommodation and another ten are on a waiting list.

Churchill Retirement Village in the north-eastern suburb of Richmond has been the most affected facility, and the village has had to be closed. Sixty-five of the nearly 80 residents were evacuated by the Canterbury District Health Board in the days following the 6.3 earthquake. The remainder were rehoused by Anglican Aged Care or relatives.

The now vacant Churchill complex includes a hospital, dementia unit, and rest home, as well as cottages for independent living. The rear section of the main building suffers from a terminal slump. Elsewhere there are uneven floors, large gaps between walls connecting some of the residential wings, and dramatic pavement cracks.

"Remember, we had no power, no sewage, no water, and 80 residents in this [main] building," says Alison as she walks down the cracked driveway. "The earthquake was on Tuesday; the first [residents] left at 10 o'clock on Thursday night."

Alison said assessments were done by Canterbury District



Giant cracks and major damage have meant the closure and imminent demolition of the Churchill retirement complex.



Alison talks with Graeme Stanley, a resident and the president of the Harper Gardens Residents Association at the Fitzgerald Retirement Village.

*"...it's the personnel and the religious ethos that make Anglican Aged Care facilities so special. An organisation that actually understands about human respect isn't in it just for the money. Our staff genuinely care, they really do," Alison says proudly.*

Health Board staff, who determined where residents would be relocated. Some of the elderly were flown to facilities in the North Island and Dunedin; others were bused to appropriate care in South Canterbury.

"We didn't actually know where [the residents] were going, so when the family phoned we had to say 'we don't know'," says Alison. "It was diabolical," she admits. Once details became known, Churchill staff contacted relatives, and manager Jane Haughey followed that up with a letter wishing residents well in their new homes.

"People in care are incredibly vulnerable," explains Alison, who worked in the field of aged care for Presbyterian Support prior to



Alison explains the damage to the Bishopspark apartment building.



Harper Gardens

working for nine years as our Diocesan Manager. She speaks with conviction, experience, and enthusiasm about older people and their care.

"Imagine having someone else shower you; you build a huge level of trust with a small number of people," she says of older people in care. "Now you open yourself up to people you've never met in your life. You don't know their routines, you don't know what time they're going to give you breakfast in the morning, much less if they're going to be reliable with your belongings or anything else. It's hugely vulnerable for people living in care," she explains.

The 72 staff employed at the Churchill complex have also been hugely affected: Alison had to make the tough call to make them redundant. A few (including Jane) have been employed at Bishopspark or Fitzgerald, the other two Anglican Aged Care facilities. A farewell social function is being arranged for the staff, and many remain in touch with Alison or Jane, keeping them up-to-date with their new employment opportunities.

The position of Sales and Marketing Manager for Aged Care has also fallen victim to the current circumstances.

Losing valued staff is something that is difficult for Alison, who recognises that it's the personnel and the religious ethos that make Anglican Aged Care facilities so special.

"An organisation that actually understands about human respect isn't in it just for the money. Our staff genuinely care, they really do," Alison says proudly. She gives examples of a staff member who hand-washed a resident's special item of clothing because the resident was anxious about putting it in the commercial-style laundry, and of staff members buying something special for residents' birthdays.

Chaplaincy is also a significant dimension, with regular services and pastoral care the responsibility of the local parish priests. "The loss of Churchill's chapel after the September earthquake ripped the heart out of the place," says Alison bluntly.

The closure and imminent demolition of Churchill is in stark contrast to the Fitzgerald Retirement Village in Avonside. Astonishingly—considering the complex's location on the battered eastern side of the city and its proximity to the Avon River—the rest home and apartments are fully functioning.

Near Hagley Park, on the fringes of the CBD, is Bishopspark Retirement Village. The village—which consists of apartments,

cottages, studios and a rest home—was developed in the 1980s in the grounds of the former residence of diocesan bishops. It incorporates the historic chapel and the bishop's residence (built in 1924 after a fire destroyed the original residence), and which is now apartments and a communal lounge.

These 'category one' historic buildings are closed, awaiting repair. The former residence, now called the Heritage Building, is also within the 25m radius of the village's high rise apartment block that is cordoned off and at some risk of collapse. Engineers are trying to determine if the apartment building is repairable and Alison is working with them to ascertain a safe method of retrieving residents' belongings.

"There's more than one piano in there," she says, pointing to the 28 affected apartments.

Collapsed brick fences next to the rows of one- and two-bedroom cottages are daubed with spray-painted C's, indicating that no-one was found seriously hurt by search and rescue personnel after the quake. Some residents did, however, sustain broken bones and minor injuries when exiting buildings.

Meals for the less independent residents of Bishopspark and Fitzgerald were prepared at the commercial kitchen at Churchill. With its demise, catering is being sourced from a different location.

Alison admits that dealing with the aftermath of the earthquakes has been very trying, but she remains optimistic and focussed on the future. Ideas for rebuilding Churchill—unlikely to be on the existing site—have been floated, and she is keeping an eye out for suitable land on which to build.

"One of [Anglican Aged Care's] strategic directions is to look at how we engage with older people in the community as well [as providing residential homes]...but I need to run that off the expertise that we have within the residential sector, because I believe we've got a wealth of expertise amongst our team and I don't want to lose that," she says.

Financially, Anglican Aged Care is in a reasonably sound position largely because the properties are mortgage-free and well insured. An indemnity insurance payout for Churchill has allowed Anglican Aged Care to offer refund packages to residents who have chosen to move out and find alternative accommodation.

The residents themselves are also learning to adapt to the new situations they are finding themselves in. A couple who are expecting to live offsite for up to a year while their apartment is being fixed, are adamant that Bishopspark is still their home.

Others who have relocated from Churchill to the Fitzgerald complex are making the best of the situation.

"I was talking at a happy hour on Friday to some [residents] who had come from Churchill cottages [to Fitzgerald]," recalls Alison. "They said 'we're really enjoying it; we're getting to know our neighbours'. They're actually seeing the positives; they're actually getting enjoyment out of it."

"Others haven't moved that far yet," she adds, mindful that full recovery for many individuals and Anglican Aged Care as a whole is still a long way off. ■

## Post-Quake Tips for Seniors

*The Revd Anne Russell-Brighty offers the following advice for helping aging relatives or friends:*

Encourage them to be honest about how they are coping. People can be very stoical: they may actually be doing remarkably well (because they've been through tough times before) but some may be reluctant to admit they need help.

Explain that everyone has days when they are weary or feeling down; assure them they won't be rushed off to a rest home for admitting they need a little extra support.

Maintain contact and a supportive listening environment (such as phoning whenever there's an aftershock, so they can talk it over).

Have meals together.

Encourage them to keep warm (they take warnings about conserving electricity seriously).

*Anne teaches certificate courses on the pastoral care of aging people. ■*

# Community Made Real in Action

Responding to New Brighton locals has opened a new ministry for Christian World Services (CWS) youth and schools co-ordinator Katrina Hill.

**WORDS: GILLIAN SOUTHEY & GREG JACKSON PHOTO: SHARON MURPHY**

Working with Katrina's local parish, the typical church hall belonging to St Faith's Anglican church has been transformed into a must-go destination. The New Brighton Recovery Assistance Centre (RAC) is now a place of practical help and magic.

Concern for each individual is paramount, made obvious by the warm greeting from all involved—even the man lighting his cigarette as he quietly leaves the building. The common bond of those living in a disaster zone has made this place a gathering point where service is offered and received by government officials, support services, the parish, and the locals. People come to have their housing and food needs met, as well as for support, welfare grants, and the answers to vital questions about things most basic.

For Katrina the disaster and crisis have also proved to be an opportunity to give practical witness to her beliefs: "After the earthquake we had no power, water or sewerage but what we did have was community.

"I met people that I had seen but did not know personally as we queued for water. As part of running the RAC in our church hall, our community is constantly expanding. Now we in turn are in the business of knowing what is going on, and where people can get what they need. It is not about clients and services, but about us.

"We are building the community of care and concern visible in the book of Acts. People are not disembodied souls, they have a real physical and emotional dimension as well," says Katrina.

"I am exploring what it means to work as a deacon with an organisation that has *diakonia* [the New Testament Greek word that means "service" or "ministry"] at its core in the twenty-first century. My focus is on the humanity of Christ. It was so important that he empowered and energised humanity. Serving people is worshipping God to me. It is a tradition that has become lost in much of the modern church. If we want to worship God, should we not be caring and sharing people?"

No water, as well as failing toilets in the area, presented compost-toilet enthusiasts the opportunity to offer a working example and practical advice at the RAC. Once the City Council started distributing chemical toilets, new problems emerged. For older and less able residents, the toilets (essentially fancy buckets) proved impossible to manage. Research proved that they were the same height as ordinary toilets, but were difficult to manoeuvre. Hearing that chairs cost only \$1 at Bromley's Super Shed, Katrina dispatched



Katrina Hill talks with local parishioner and helper Rona Graham as she takes a break from gardening.

husband Jeff to investigate. He came back with six that he modified to hold the toilet and give people the leverage they needed to get up when they have finished their business. Jeff has also helped with disposal, as not everyone can empty a full bucket into the Council's chest-high disposal containers.

Katrina is enthusiastic about the way everyone is working together. "We were really inclusive from the beginning. The group from the government has been really good. People who haven't worked together before are working to meet people's needs. People really try to help," she says.

Represented at the RAC are: Work and Income's Earthquake Response Team, Inland Revenue, Housing New Zealand, the City Council, Community Law, and Relationship Services. Until recently the Red Cross was also on site, as was Stronger Canterbury. Information, free internet access, and even food are available at the centre. Local residents have joined the parish on the roster of volunteers to welcome and assist people. They are experts on where to get what, and they send out reconnaissance missions to check out changing conditions and available services. Churches and community groups are contributing food, as well as expert assistance with building, electrical work, and plumbing.

Katrina is concerned about more than the practical needs. When people leave, they are asked if they got what they want, and offered a hot drink and a listening ear. The Wednesday community lunch is also growing in importance, as people gather to work out what's next and find ways to make sure the community voice is heard.

The magic is the human encounters which make the New Brighton RAC something more than just a place for hand-outs and filing forms. The strength of this community development is illustrated when a woman ending her time with a counsellor asks if she can play the piano. She sits down to sing her own song about treasuring her heart. As she leaves, she reaches out to the young man who has made the RAC his day-time home while he struggles with his future. "Do you have family?" she says to him. When he breaks down, the counsellor steps in, and Katrina leaves for a break, confident that the community will look after each other. For her this is a new Christchurch-grown model of partnership that parallels the work of many CWS partners in places where the need is so great.

Katrina sums up: "I really feel that the early church was reflected in people gathering and giving to each other and building community. That is a truth of the Christian message. The church needs to make places for people to sit, talk, and listen to each other. The earthquake threw us into that. In the first two weeks when there were no local services, people were traumatised and stressed, but nobody said they felt lonely.

"Before the earthquake people put their security in things, and not each other. Now when we are waiting to see what happens next, it is important the community voice is strengthened and that the church is there to advocate alongside local people." ■

Ad

# Easter Camp

For most youth groups in Canterbury, Easter Camp is the highlight of the year. So when the effects of the earthquake threatened to cancel it, thousands of young people (and parents) breathed a collective sign of relief to learn that it was back on. Almost four thousand people descended on Spencer Park for five days of God-honouring mayhem. This year more than 300 Anglicans packed their tents for the pilgrimage, and shared a common community marquée lovingly referred to as "Anglican Party Central." Here's a snapshot of what went down in April.

PHOTOS: NATHAN ADAMS, SARAH BRANDT, DANIEL CHEW AND NATALIE HARBOTT



# Workplace

FINANCE / CAREER / STEWARDSHIP / ETHICS



## God in Our Business



WORDS & PHOTOS: **MEGAN BLAKIE**

*Chris Hannen is the South Island regional manager for World Vision and has a background in the business sector. Megan Blakie asks him how faith and business merge.*

### What's your business background?

I am a chartered accountant with 15-plus years' experience at Ernst & Young and as a company accountant.

### How do God and business fit together?

The intrinsic value of business—the way we run our businesses, our finance departments, our marketing, the way we produce our products and design products to benefit others—has intrinsic value and can be a model and an extension and a signpost to the Kingdom and the way of life that God intends for us to live. The very core and fabric of our businesses can do that.

### But often money is given a bad rap?

Profit and cash flow are absolutely necessary to business but are not the reason the business exists. The purpose of business is to serve the communities in which they exist.

Sometimes in Christian circles business people are almost embarrassed to be making lots of money. I don't think there's a need for that: we can celebrate success. I think it's a matter of having wisdom along with the success. The wise use of money can be for redemptive purposes. But Jesus was very clear when he talked about money and its dangers; you've always got to be aware of those.

### How can we support and pastorally care for business owners, especially those in Christchurch?

For the ones who've lost their businesses, they really do have to grieve and process through the death of their business. Then, in time, try to help them see new hope: what green shoots there may be, ways to start again or reinvigorate something. They may even be able to learn from the experience as well, and take that forward to whatever they do in future.

If you are in no-man's land a huge amount of stress may be building up—you might be struggling to hold things together, unsure if you can get back in [your building], or if your client base is going to stay with you, or your business interruption insurance may be running out.

Maybe there are accountants or lawyers within the congregation who are prepared to give smaller business owners a bit of time pro bono: to look at the situation, help with their lease or tax obligations, or this or that. Connect people: you may know someone who would make a really good business mentor—it may only be needed for a couple of months.

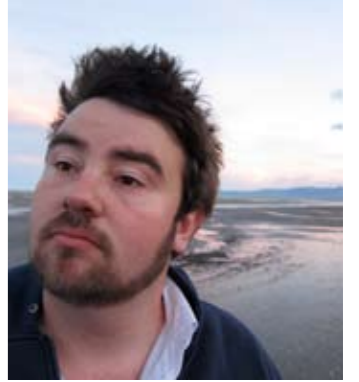
### And those who are doing well?

For those whose businesses are booming, pastoral care is really just making sure they're looking after themselves and still giving time to their family. For a month or two you can run flat out, but at some point you run out of steam.

Celebrate the fact that, from their perspective, there're in a good season—particularly if they've been struggling during the recession. But they've got to plan wisely: this boom may only last a certain amount of time and they've got to structure accordingly. ■

# Dialogue

PHILIP BALDWIN WITH **SPANKY MOORE**



You've probably seen Spanky Moore's name pop up in this magazine a few times before. As the editor of Anglican Life over the past two years, he always seemed to appear in the credit list. But last month he moved on from his role as Communications Officer to spend more time as the Diocesan Young Adults Ministry Leader. Philip Baldwin (Editor 2.0) finds out more.

### "Young Adult" seems to be a buzzword in ministry lately. How exactly do you define one?

There's no cut-and-dried definition, and when I first started talking to people about getting more intentional with our young adults ministry it seemed like everyone was offended if they didn't fall into my definition! One litmus test is this: if they're out of high school, but not obsessed with procreation and property, they're probably a young adult. I like to think of it loosely as any young person who is still finding their place in the world.

### So why are young adults so important?

Young adults are at a crucial stage of life: moving out of home, getting a first job, experiencing new freedoms, studying at uni, and learning exciting new ways to think. It's the time in their life when they begin to shed off their family identity, and start to find their own. Sadly this is also the time when a huge number of our "post youth-group" kids also

*"If we want to see our churches full of families in the future, we need to help young adults own their faith now."*

decide to shed their Christian faith. If we want to see our churches full of families in the future, we need to help young adults own their faith now.

### What will you be doing in your Young Adults Ministry Leader role?

I'll be working on four areas. 'The Kiln', which develops and mentors our young Anglican leaders, will continue to grow. We launched 'The Society of Salt & Light' late last year as a way to help communities of young adults in Canterbury connect, and it's really starting to take off. We're hoping to start working more closely with young Anglicans who are involved in theological study and are interested in exploring full-

time vocational ministry. And lastly, I'd love to provide more support for our students on campus. But that's still at the drawing board stage, so watch this space.

### How can our parishes be more inviting to young adults?

People often ask me where they can get young adults from—at times they seem as illusive as the Fiordland Moose. One suggestion? Recent research done on Kiwi young adults has concluded that a big issue we face in our churches is the 'silo' problem. Young people rarely get to rub shoulders with the older people in a congregation, so the wisdom that comes from living a long faithful life is never communicated. Truth is, both young and old find the idea of talking to each other a bit scary, so we need to work harder on building those relationships. But if anyone has even a handful of keen young adults, please let me know. It's amazing what can come from a little. ■

# Culture

FILM / MUSIC / LITERATURE / WEB / FOOD / EVENTS

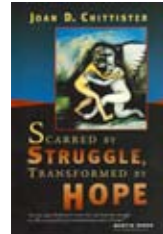


## Grappling with Change

### Scarred by Struggle, Transformed by Hope

By Joan D. Chittister © 2005 (paperback) William Eerdmans Publishing Co, USA/UK

WORDS: MEGAN BLAKIE



As Cantabrians and West Coasters know, when something bad happens to us, it comes out of left field. We don't expect it, and it knocks the stuffing out of us. "Scarred by Struggle, Transformed by Hope" recognises the phenomenon and the process of struggle that occurs as we grapple with our change in circumstances.

This is not a self-help book and Joan certainly doesn't subscribe to the school of spiritual masochism—put suffering in, get a blessing out. Using the biblical story of Jacob wrestling with the angel, Joan describes the spiritual process we go through when we choose to journey from isolation, vulnerability, powerlessness, and exhaustion to conversion, hope, and resurrection of the spirit.

Sister Joan's writing style and honesty makes this book accessible to anyone affected by a life change (health, job, relationship, bereavement, tragedy). "Reality is the only thing we have that can possibly nourish hope...it is grounded in the ability to remember with new understanding an equally difficult past" (pg 104). ■

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## CLOSING ESSAY

# Reflections on Recovery

WORDS: STEVE GRAHAM

As we begin to dream together about what God is calling us to become post-quake, it pays to remember we're not the first to face the challenge of restoration and rebuilding. Steve Graham from Laidlaw College explores the rich threads of recovery found in Scripture.

*"Resurrection is much more like spotting the new shoots of spring."*

Christchurch has suffered a terrible tragedy. Some of us have been overwhelmed and find it hard to see what the way ahead is. We also wonder what God is saying in and through this time. Even if we don't wonder, others are more than happy to tell us what God is saying. Some claim it is an act of God, of His judgment. I actually do want to claim that I know what God is saying...God is saying "recovery."

The Bible contains many stories of recovery, and in fact the whole Bible is a story of recovery for a good but broken creation. Let me briefly survey some of the lessons from these stories that might help us in our journey of recovery.

From Nehemiah 1:4 we learn the

importance of grieving and acknowledging trauma. Nehemiah wept for days when he learned of the fall of Jerusalem. Later he would rebuild the city.

From Elijah we learn the importance of self-care and re-establishing life-giving routines. The angel of the Lord prompted him to eat and sleep, and to eat and sleep again, because the journey was going to be long (1 Kings 19:5-7).

From the spirituality of Genesis 1 we learn the importance of the process—of small steps of restoring order and fullness and "celebrating the partial good." Being able to appreciate each little good thing we put back in place, even while being aware of the chaos that remains.

From the resurrection we learn the



importance of discerning the signs of new life. Maybe for the first time we appreciate this claim that new life can come from a place of death. However we often confuse resurrection life with the kind of raw power associated with the return of Christ. Mary could miss resurrection in her midst (John 20:15). Resurrection is much more like spotting the new shoots of spring.

I have been surprised at the immense fund of resources the Scriptures provide at a time like this to comfort, encourage, and equip God's people to be part of the recovery God wants to bring. As we begin to take these steps, and as a sense of hope is awakened in us by the Holy Spirit, we will find dreams and visions of what could be. ■

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