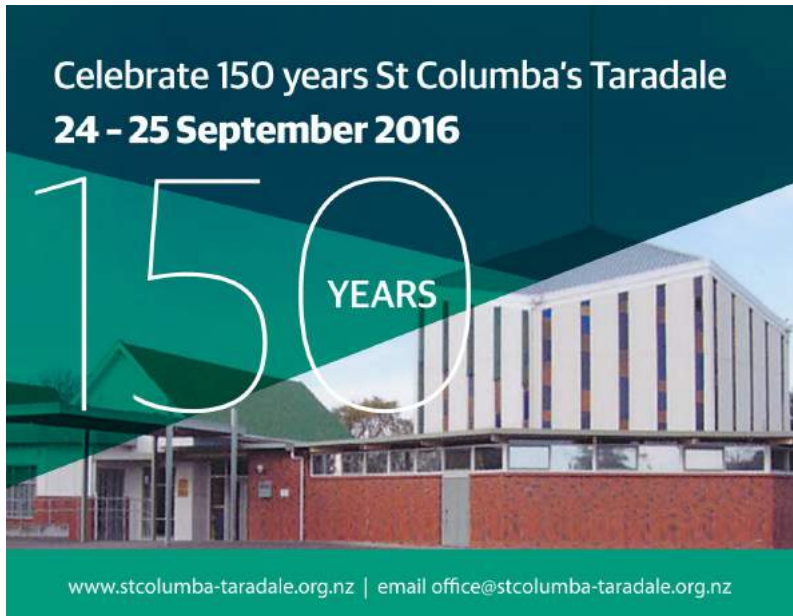


# HALO



## August 2016

**ST COLUMBA'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
TARADALE**

## **From the Minister**

### **17 years at St. Columba**



I have been the minister here for over 17 years. That is only a bit over 1/10<sup>th</sup> of the life of this parish. Compared to Duncan Jamieson's 29 years it is still a drop in the bucket though if I am still here till retirement our two ministries would make up 1/3 of the life of the Parish. Many of the early ministers only stayed a year or two.

When Taradale was just a young congregation it was connected with other congregations such as Ahuriri, Clive, Havelock north, as well as inland farming communities like Sherenden and Patoka and Puketitiri. I must admit I like the simplicity of only having one main service and my once a month visit for a service to Patoka. I recall Nancye Munro telling how every Sunday she and her Parents would go out to a country congregation in the afternoon and then another service in the evening.

My years here have seen the congregation shrink in number and get older. The last 50 years have seen many Churches fail to connect well with a younger generation and seen the church become more marginalised as secularism has become the dominant ideology of

our society. Our failure to capture the hearts and minds of our children and grandchildren's generations with a meaningful message and a sense of community belonging now are being felt.

Maybe the sign of my getting older is I am now also talking about the good old days. Or maybe that is a function of celebrating 150 years of church life. In my time the good old days were not so long ago when leaders of the church included people like Bruce McLeod and Alys Alexander who served the church and community well. With people like Robin Arnold, Yvonne Laing, and Marjory Yelveton (among others) who gave hundreds of hours in visiting the unwell and bereaved. I wasn't here when Des Lanigan and Tony Wilson and others along with Duncan Jamieson led the building of

strong relationships with the Maori Synod (now called Te Aka Puaho) and the congregation at Waimana. But I do recall how they talked fondly about those relationships and their growth through learning Maori language and culture. I admire this ability to move outside of what is familiar and comfortable and think this sense of mission and ministry to those who are not the same as us is vital for the future of our church.

Thinking back also reminds us that we have been determined to try to reach a new generation, to green the congregation rather than be content to let it grow grey. Significant moves have been to employ a youth worker. Our original youth worker was Marty Weeks (about 2001) and I think he only worked for 10 hrs per week and stayed a year, He was followed by Phil Brewster (2003-2007), Wim Slooten (2007 – 2010), Mark Seek (2011-2012), Bruwer Vroon (2013) and now Steve Demetrius (2014 – present) Each brought strengths to the role and have seen the original dozen youth flourish to around 30 and up to highs of 50 per week. Though we have not seen many become an active part of main church life.

The other highlight has been the challenge of connecting with Children. The most outstanding part of this has been the move to be Kids friendly which is not just about the way the Sunday activities work, but a whole ethos where children are valued as full members of the church. Over the years we tried some alternative services on a Sunday afternoon for a while, and two different services on a Sunday morning for a few months (more than 10 years ago now). Neither were able to help us see some of the dozens of mainly music families or our afterschool care and holiday program kids and their families become a more regular part of our church life. Maybe we have to be content that Mainly Music and the Afterschool programs are providing children a valuable service and are making Jesus known in ways that will hopefully lay a foundation for later life. Or maybe it is time to be re energised in the pioneering spirit that inspired John McMichael to come to Taradale from overseas or myself to come from Dunedin. Maybe it is time for a new sense of Mission and not to be overwhelmed with any sense that the best is behind us, but rather look to God

who is the Pioneer and perfecter of our faith so that we will neither grow weary or Lose heart.

Hebrews 12:1-3

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. **And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.** For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, **so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.**

Best wishes,

*Brett*



Friday, 9 September

Starting with a Pot Luck Dinner @ 6pm

Please be there and support the Church

(All reports need to be submitted by 29 August)

## Country Churches of the Past

I was the second child in a family of five living in the country district. We had one of few telephones on a party line and had no electricity for some years.

My earliest memories are of riding a Shetland pony five and half miles to school when I was five. My older sister and I met up with other children on the way, and there were usually five or six of us by the time we got to school. The ponies had to be unsaddled and let go in the school paddock. After school it was a job to catch and saddle them without the help of our father. We did this for three years until a closer school, one and half miles away reopened. There had to be enough eligible children for the roll, and it had reached nine.

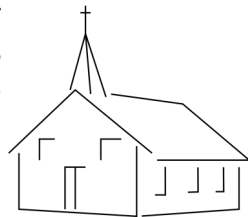
This school was fortunate enough to have the local hall just across the road where all the local functions were held. Women's Division of Federated Farmers and Country Women's Institute were in the afternoon and church services were held once a month. The first Sunday was Presbyterian and Anglican, and a Catholic on the other Sundays. On our service day it was always a roast meal at mid day then dressed in our best clothes to go to church. Locals would turn up for the 2.30pm service and the

minister would arrive from Taradale.

My earliest memories of Sunday School was riding our ponies to the local school where a neighbour gave us lessons—not regular but weather permitting. Years later money was raised in the district and a chapel was built on the side of the hall. This had sliding doors and could be closed off when other social functions were held. When services were held the congregation could watch the sheep grazing among the trees outside—a very peaceful scene.

Sunday was always considered a day off farm work, except of course milking the cows. Other Sundays would be spent visiting district friends or entertaining at home.

In 1943 I went as a boarder to Napier Girl's High School. This was a real transformation leaving a small school with only two of us in form two to a class of 25 and four other third form classes as well. I enjoyed hostel life and made many life-long friends and in our day we only had one exeat per term so it was always good to get back home to the farm life and animals.



During war years the local hall was the venue for many farewells given to the local boys before they ventured overseas. Later the local boys were welcomed home at dances held in the same hall. These were organised by the local Women's clubs—always live music: a piano, a violin and a saxophone, and you could still talk and dance. The supper was provided by local ladies and a specialty milk coffee made by our Dad. He also had the job of lighting all the kerosene lights so we were always the first at any function. Oh what a joy it was when we eventually got electricity in 1947.

The local school teacher boarded with different families in turn and we still have some of these friendships today.

During the war we had petrol rationing so we did not travel far—**not** town one a week! And no rides

to school no matter what the weather.

The roads were all meal and very windy. These roads have all been straightened and tar sealed making the journey to town much shorter and more comfortable.

I do not remember having many toys. Our play toys were our animals. Our father was a keen horseman and liked “breaking in” horses. He had us all riding on a sheepskin on a Shetland pony well before we were school aged.

This stood me in good stead for life later as a farmers wife before the days of motorbikes.

I am still a country girl. “You can take the girl out of the country but you can't take the country out of the girl”.

*Sheila Comrie*

## **Puketapu**

Once a month St. Columba's has a service in Puketapu. It was held in the village hall. I can remember my dear Mum going across to the hall to set it up, with me in hot pursuit to help her. I'm not sure but it must have been 1938-1940. As time passed the service moved to the local St. Michaels Church. On a

small rise before the swing bridge. Don't go looking for the Puketapu Hall—it has long gone.

*Verna  
Gillum*



## **A Slice of Patoka's Church History**

Growing up in Patoka during the 50s and 60s was a wonderful time for us kids. Families were large so we had plenty of mates to explore the creeks and gorges on our farm. Mum didn't know what we were up to half of the time (but she had faith). Bare footed and free we roamed the open spaces.

Dad (Cecil Thomsen or Ces as he was known) drew our farm "Falomai" in 1946, as a Second World War ballot block and by coincidence directly opposite, his first cousin Erlin. The surrounding district had numerous war ballotees, who settled over ten years or so and these new residents were very community spirited. The current community facilities at Patoka at the time were almost non-existent with only a single school room being moved from Hendley Road, to where it is today, in central Patoka. The phone lines were first to be installed, then electric power arrived in 1953. Dad and others organised the building of the Patoka Memorial hall, during the early 50s and then the school baths were built. The school expanded and the roll peaked at around 90 in the late 60s and 70s, when most sheep and beef farmers employed married shepherds with families (the roll has never been as high since). So the new Patoka hall was used by the school and for community events and became the district church service centre. In those days the Anglicans, Catholics and Presbyterian had separate month about Sunday services. We had regular monthly services starting with the Reverend Whitehead from St. Columba's Church in Taradale. To avoid service disruption us kids were mustered into the supper room for some Sunday school therapy, administered by either my mother Elsie Thomsen or Audrey Cushen, the good ladies of the times.

Dad and Bill Hartree were our elders of the time and then Mac Cushen replaced Bill Hartree, after his untimely passing. They were quite involved and used to attend a reasonable number of St. Columbas meetings in Taradale. Attendances were good in those days. We only needed the Alexanders, the Whittles, the Hartree's/Cushen's, the Cockburn's and the Thomsen's. All big families and we had plenty of folk. As family numbers grew (no

television) Mum and Dad moved from a large British car to a very large American model. We had a 1963 Plymouth Belvedere V8, with very large tail fins; very necessary for reversing it into a park Mum reckons. It was so large all us six kids could fit into the boot.

I remember our first Minister, the Reverend Whitehead, a great preacher but very traditional. So when Duncan Jameson arrived there was no nodding off.

Duncan's infectious personality and his story telling using his mini soft toys was riveting for the small and big kids alike. Sometimes using his favourite Hairy McClarey, he had us all in stitches, even though the story always included a very strong message. We enjoyed Duncan's services, he could be very funny, very sincere and very stimulating talking on challenges of those leading the church on into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. Duncan had a lot going on and this could make him a little absent minded so it wasn't uncommon to maybe see his hockey socks, or some recent activity attire, on under his gown.

The Patoka area Presbyterian has

been well served by St. Columba's Taradale over these many years and which still continues. Our numbers have fallen in recent years (a sign of the times) but we have a reasonably regular band of attendees.

Thank you to Brett for his continuing support and for creating stimulating church services, helping us to make sense from Biblical messages for today's world. Thank you also to past Ministers, Lay Preachers and church supporters who have come up to the country to join our church service at Patoka.

*Roger Thomsen*



### **St. Columba's 'Kid's Friendly Care' (KFC)**

The Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand established an initiative to recognise the vital contribution children and families make to healthy congregations. This initiative was called 'Kid's Friendly' and the idea was picked up by the Session of St. Columba's Church. One way to 'put into practice' this initiative was to provide programmes for children within our community, based on our Mission Statement of a "family reaching out in love to God, each other, and the community".

These 'Kid's Friendly' programmes

began in 2003 and provided Holiday Programmes for children aged from five to 10 years of age. Each Holiday Programme was based on a Christian theme and were operated under the expert guidance of Pam Thrupp, with significant help from Belinda Thrupp and Katrina Lee. In addition there were many volunteers from the Churches Youth Group.

The Church was able to apply for funding from the Ministry of Social Development under its OSCAR (Out of School Care and Recreation) banner. This was a significant event as this enabled all staff to be paid for their work and the programmes to be properly resourced.



In 2008 'Kid's Friendly' was able to build a new playground at the back of the Church using its own funds (along with funding from Community based Charitable Trusts) which has provided much entertainment and fun for the children over the years.



The 'Old Church' became the home of Kid's Friendly Care and was renovated by the Board of Managers. This renovation included new toilets, insulation, wallboards, ceilings, and a paint job. The kitchen even got an upgrade. As time went by new paintings/murals were added, a woodwork bench outside, skating ramp, and an air hockey table were welcome additions. This enabled Kids Friendly to provide an environment that was both safe and expected from parents.

The next 'big' development occurred in October 2009 with the continuation of not only Holiday Programmes, but the establishment of Before School and After School Programmes as well. The age limit was also extended to age thirteen. This was in response to Reignier Catholic School closing its programmes earlier that year and resulted in a significant increase in children attending.

With this expansion into term-time, a

van was now required to transport children to the Church. Initially Napier Christian Fellowship provided a van for our use (thank you very much) but as time went by we bought our own van with funding from our own resources, Charitable Trusts, and other donations. This was huge step, as to survive as a programme provider, we could not rely on children from nearby schools (within walking distance). With the van we were able to collect children from the Taradale, Onekawa, and Tamatea areas and this helped to ensure our survival and future growth. In recent years Kids Friendly Care has continued to provide a first class service to parents and children. We have believed that if we are to provide a service to families in the community then we will endeavour to meet this need 'in full'. If we are in a position to provide support then we will if at all possible. At the same time we have been able, and will continue to, spread the Christian message in the work that we do. If we didn't do this then we would become like any other provider.

This is our point of differentiation and one that will not change.



## Two Fold Op Shop

A group of St. Columba's ladies voiced their wish to start up an Op Shop again. There had been an earlier shop based in Symons lane in Taradale.

After a few obstacles and much debate. The Board of Managers gave permission to use the old kitchen and the annex.

In February 1991 the shop opened on a Tuesday and Thursday. It was a little cramped. In its favour was the easy parking. Then we got the clearance to use the Old Church hall but it had to be cleared at the end of each day. Quite a hassle, especially when the Youth group started meeting on Wednesday night. This meant every day the tables were loaded with stock and racks wheeled out. Every night the tables were packed away again. Quite an effort.

As time went by it was decided to

build our own home and the Two Fold Op Shop family were happy. The shop did refold its money spent to build it around 2006 by paying a modest sum for building it.

The name Two Fold was chosen by Betty Munro and it really explained the shop ideals. The dual purpose is to raise funds for the Church and the Community (1/3 of money raised goes to outside causes).

After 22 years I thought the shop needed fresh ideas and a new convenor. We have been very fortunate to have had Cynthia Duncan take over the committee.

I'm very proud of the St. Columba's Op Shop and all the financial help it gives to many groups in the Community.

*Verna Gillum*



Can you remember the good old jumble sales we used to have? These were places to get a bargain and also to give the old clothes to. They made money to keep the church going and to outside charities.

What has changed? As time has gone on, we have seen Op Shops getting more and more competitive. Here at St. Columba the brave decision to build our Op Shop was a good one. We can now

compete with all the other Op Shops around us and still give our customers a bargain and are always thrilled to be given a bag of clothes with a lot of thought, recently we installed a eftpos machine bringing us into the 21st Century. We still are able to support our Church and give too many charities and still follow the Two Fold name.

*Cynthia Duncan*

In the last 12 months the Op Shop has donated to the following organisations:

Cranford House

Assn for the Blind

Alzheimers Assn

Mahana

HB Air Ambulance

Arthritis NZ

SPCA

Surf Lifesaving

Stroke Foundation

Cystic Fibrosis

Heart Foundation

Cancer Society

Mobility Dogs

CCS

Foodbank

Leg Up Trust

St. Johns Ambulance



## **Pam Thrupp serves twelve years**

Being a right hand as the Session Clerk has been a long journey for Pam Thrupp. She has often met once weekly with the minister. The responsibility of the Session Clerk starts with being the lead elder. She has worked tirelessly with Kids Friendly Church, and has a special place in her heart for Kool Kids.



Pam is often the first point of call when the minister is on leave. She arranges for people to fill the pulpit, sometimes even arranging for specific people to do the Bible readings.

Serving as a type of counsellor is another gift that Pam has shared in her role. Her sensitive nature has allowed people who lead in Kool Kids or KFC to come to her when they are distressed. That can mean reflecting on the role of the leader. She may also help resolve issues such as working to a positive end when there may be a problem youth in KFC or Kool Kids. Having been a mother and now also a grandmother, she wants to make sure that the experience for every program participant is a happy one with memories that keep each child coming back.

Pam's presence is seen in so many other ways and demonstrates the extent of her faith. She volunteers every year with the church fair and helps with the monthly morning tea and church service for people who come from local retirement homes. You can find her helping in the kitchen or setting tables for potlucks. She visits members who are struggling with illness. She has assisted in setting up home groups. Pam and her husband Barry hosted a home group at their home for many years. Pam bakes for people whether birthdays, Kool Kids, or just for people who drop by for a cup of tea or coffee. In all these things one can see how she came to be our Session Clerk.

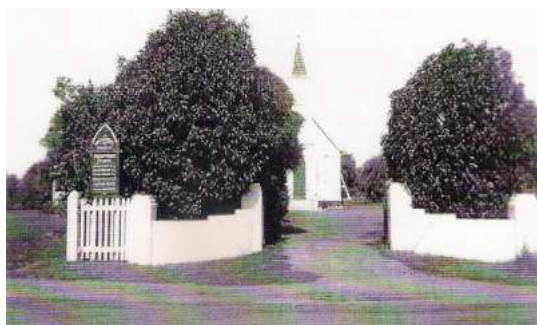
Thanks hardly seems enough for Pam. "Well done good and faithful servant."



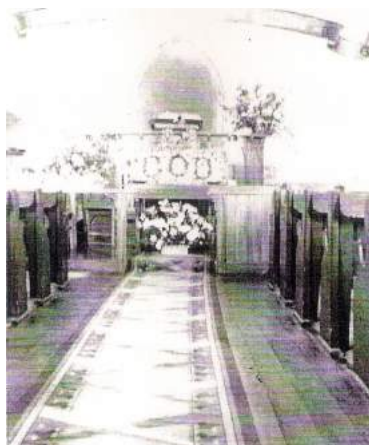
## 150 Years of St. Columba's Church



The Manse, St. Columba's Taradale and the Fish Hall



View of Church from Gloucester Street—1946



Interior of old Church—1952



Opening of the new Church—1969



Inside new Church—1969

## **Kool Kids celebrate ten years of friends and teachers**

Ten years ago the lovely Wilma Ennor was the coordinator of Kool Kids. She was efficient, organised and a wonderful team leader for all the teachers. When she turned 60 plus she decided she was too “old” to continue the job. The children didn't think so as she was well loved.

Throughout the years St. Columba's has been blessed with wonderful committed teachers. It's difficult to name everyone in case I miss someone. However Karen Vickery, a young lady from Zimbabwe, taught for many years and was very much a favourite with the young children. She left at the end of 2014 to live in Perth where she is now a mum of a young son. We are now blessed to have Steve and Cynthia-Louise Demetrius, Michele, Megan, and Tika to teach our kids. We have a rotation system where the teachers take turns so they have time in church as well.

The Christmas plays have become a much anticipated event as Steve writes the script and directs it. It is filled with humour while still telling the wonderful Story of our Saviour's birth. Ten years ago the story was cute and special, but without Steve's humour.

The number of children attending Kool Kids has diminished over the years as the options that face kids these days have grown to such an extent. These days it is the church versus sport, or school and Kindy galas etc. Sad but true! We do, however, have a lovely group of kids numbering about 12 to 14. Sometimes less sometimes more.

Several years ago we worked hard to become a Kids Friendly Church and that has been a real blessing to us. The Congregation have embraced the children into the church family, showing them encouragement and love.

Every 4th Sunday we have a creative family service when the kids are given the opportunity to do



the Bible readings, take part in skits and to do different craft activities in church. The children are encouraged to remain in church during this service. It is great to see the confidence that the kids have developed while taking part in these services.

The lessons used these days often come from the internet where

there is a vast amount of material that can be tapped into at no cost. Ten years ago the lessons used in class came through Scripture Union and cost quite a lot of money. The classrooms were cold, the furniture uncomfortable and old. A fire changed all that in 2014, destroying the Sunday school rooms and furniture. The insurance company covered all the costs and the children now have a bright, colourful room with amazing tables benches and bean bags. God works in ways that we can't foresee!! It

was a stressful, sad time but we now rejoice in the blessings of the changes.

Brett is a big part of the Kool Kids as he is a Kids Friendly Minister and enjoys telling his little stories before the kids go out to their classes. Along with him we continue to pray that the families who bring their children will encourage them in their faith and that many more young families will follow on.

*Pam Thrupp*

---

**St. Columba's Taradale**

**Celebrating 150 years**

## **Taradale Floral Art Group**

*presents*

### **"Offerings"**

An exhibition of floral designs

Saturday, 24 September 2016

10.00am to 4.00pm

Sunday, 25 September 2016

2.00pm to 4.00pm

**Free Entry**

Devonshire Teas available  
Saturday in Fish Hall  
(Gold coin donation)

## **“The History and the Mystery of St. Columba’s” Part 2**

When we last saw our detectives, they were searching for the great treasure and they had uncovered these important facts about St. Columba’s Church:

- James Adams (Nicky) discovered that during Reverend John W. Hayward’s ministry, the Church really was moved from Meanee to here in Taradale (even though the dense narrator did not think it was possible to move a Church building). The Narrator only believed James when he saw a Lego re-enactment of Church building being moved.
- Zac Powers found out that one of the early ministers was “over the hill.” When asked if he was an elderly man, he replied “no, his name was Reverend Sydney E Hill and he helped start the Ladies Guild.” After Reverend Hill left, some came to Church for the Tucker... the next minister was Reverend Frank Tucker.
- Veronica Mars’ investigation showed that the 1950’s saw a new Minister come to the Church from Knox College...Rev. Ian A. Milner. He started up the Boys Brigade at the Church...these boys were being taught about the mysterious treasure contained in the Church!
- Sherlock Holmes and Watson deduced that when the next Minister arrived there was a big shake up...Rev. John W. Martin arrived in February 1931 just before the Hawke’s Bay Earthquake! After Reverend Martin left, there was a new minister coming...the Narrator said that if the old Minister was going, the new one must be coming! Watson told him the new Minister was named Rev. James Cumming
- Batman kept saying “I’m Batman!” and also said that hopefully things would get better...knock on wood... The next minister was named Rev. George Wood. He was the last of the Home Missionaries, after this the Church could begin to call its own minister. Rev. Wood served from 1944-1949. Sadly, he needed to retire early due to health issues aggravated by the injuries he suffered in World War 1. Batman interviewed our very own Nancye Munro and she said he was like a Father to her.
- Agent J (Jayden) had a real fish story...The minister was named R Ferguson Fish as in Fish Hall which was built as a Sunday School Hall in 1917.



- Nancy Drew found a clue that was as clear as the writing on the wall... This is written on the wall of the Church: "Worship the Lord in the Beauty of Holiness." A 19 year old young man named Jim Moir painted it in 1928. The treasure has something to do with Worshipping God and His Holiness.



- Finally, the Super Villain been listening to all the clues and vowed to get the treasure for herself. Plus, she found something seriously wrong with this Church (besides the Youth Pastor!) and that there was a Boys Brigade, but no mention of anything that was there for the girls! Veronica Mars straightened her out by telling her that Marjorie Marshall started the Girls Life Brigade in 1953. They did camping, competitions, crafts, Bible lessons and enjoyed fellowship together.

Stay tuned for part 3 of The History and the Mystery of St. Columba's on 28 August where we will answer the following Questions:

- Just what is the great treasure hidden within St. Columba's Church?
- How did all of the Ministers know about it?
- What did the members of the Church know about this treasure?
- Will there be more bad puns during the next skit?
- Will these young detectives really get a clue?
- Will people remember to register for the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary events?
- All this and more next time on The History and the Mystery of St. Columba's Church!



## Memoirs of a past Session Clerk

Keith Woodcock was appointed Session Clerk when he was 40 years old and served as clerk with the Rev Duncan Jamieson. He remained the clerk until the time when he and his wife Helen, along with their two daughters, went to Vanuatu in 1987 after a devastating cyclone. They went with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Keith went to assist the local community in rebuilding the infrastructure in Vanuatu.

He again was Session Clerk in the vacancy between the Rev Rachael Pauline and the arrival of the Rev Brett Walker.

Being the clerk of a session is not as easy as it all seems; it has many ups and downs. One of the hardest times for Keith was when there was a fair or some other event at the church and there was a group of ladies who were reading Tarot cards. Several of the ladies of the church occupied the choir seats, among them Pat Gordon and Molly Southerland, who prayed until the Tarot readers left. Not sure who that was the most difficult for – the Tarot readers or Keith – but the Tarot readers left and Keith has

remained all these years.

There is the humorous side as well. Ina Skelly tended to write skits for some of the all parish fun nights. There were inevitably some male can-can dancers in their fish lace stockings supplied by Pam Thrupp. With balloons up his bra Keith was fortunate to win the competition and was crowned Miss “Bra”zil in the competition between others; my winning was a set up.



Session 1986

Rewarding occasions for Keith as Clerk included the church picnic at Patoka at Mack and Audrey Cushen's farm. He truly enjoyed the services there. “It was always nice to have fellowship with our farming neighbours.”

Helping to choose a new minister is a humbling experience. The reward for all our efforts was having Rev Brett Walker's acceptance to move

to Taradale and become our new minister. It was a pleasure welcoming Brett and his family into our fold.

There were always meetings with the minister, although they weren't regular. It is the Clerk's responsibility to liaise with the minister; be responsible for all correspondence to do with session; and organise pulpit supply arrangements to the time of vacancy.

All in all, Keith appreciated having the opportunity to serve the church he has been a part of for 71 years. It is the church where he was baptised; where he was taught the faith by wonderful people like Tom

Wares, Jack Marshal, Ron Carad and Anne Riach. It has and always will be a personal walk with Jesus. Living out His teachings is a rewarding experience, helping others where needed. Keith has friends who remain in the congregation today who he'd grown up with. He has always enjoyed welcoming visitors and members.

Being a Session Clerk today has an expanded role, but is no more or less important in His eyes. It is what it is, and it helps to weld the congregation together. It is another way of serving and being a servant as Jesus taught us to be.

*Keith Woodcock*

# Kids Friendly Care



We provide a FUN and safe enviroment for children aged 5-13 years old.

Before School: 7.30am - 8.30am

After School: 3pm - 5.30pm

Holiday Programme: 7.30am - 5.30pm  
**WINZ APPROVED**

Our doors are always open so feel free to come in and meet the team!

176 Gloucester Street, Taradale

Erin Combrinck: 022 643 1691

## New Organ for St. Columba's

In recent months there have been difficulties with the organ that has graced our sanctuary for many years. It has been difficult at best to play through a service, hence we have looked for an option of replacing our beloved instrument – but not the organists or our other musicians.

Sheena Beaton, who has been a church organist for us for at least 60 years investigated options for our organ. There were a number of options which included rebuilt organs and new instruments. She brought the information to the Session and also arranged for members to come hear the instrument most strongly suggested. From there a final agreement was made of which instrument would be purchased.

Well over \$17,000 was donated by people for the purchase of this fine new instrument. Sheena made a very generous donation herself in order that the purchase could be finalised. Now it is up to Sheena, Hanlie and Shona to learn the instrument in order to accompany the church during services.



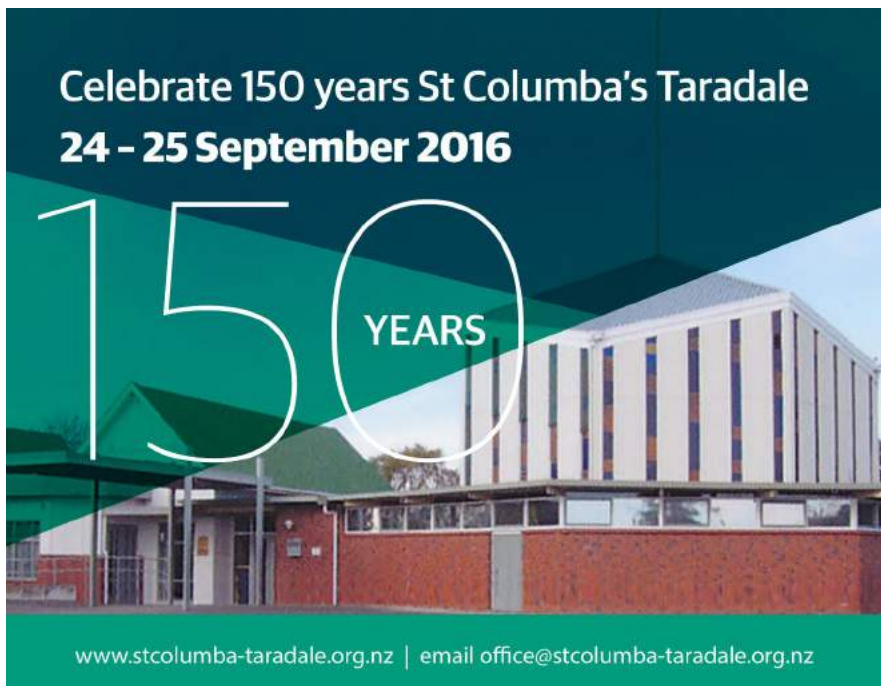
As we contemplated our decision for replacing our organ we considered the following thoughts, offered by Brett:

1. We are a suburban church. We are not a cathedral that needs a pipe organ.
2. We have a music group not a choir, we do not sing 4 part harmonies, we are less formal.
3. We have strong music traditions but we are not traditional – we have had singing groups for many years who sing modern songs but we enjoy singing hymns.
4. The average age of our congregation is high, but we also want to be kids friendly and are wanting to encourage families and younger people generally to be a part of our congregational life. We want to serve and reach the current and future generations but recognise that our current style of worship is attractive to older people

In the end the decision was to purchase an organ. Come join us to sing during the service, hear introits, offertory, and the conclusion of the sermon each Sunday with more instrumental strains. Perhaps you, too, will fall in love with the choice we have made. Also, we will continue with our worship team, learning new songs appropriate for the piano, organ, or keyboard. Come praise the Lord with us "With a Voice of Singing", listening to the word, and enjoying our new organ.

## Notices

### 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations



Please let former Session and Board members, friends who sat beside you in church, sang in the choir, members of youth groups and brigades etc know about our 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. Registration forms can be printed from our website or collected from the Church Office or foyer.

### Prayer Chain

There is now a group of people who are willing to pray on request, specifically for a person in need. These requests are confidential to the person doing the praying. Requests for prayer either for yourself or for someone you know, may be made to Pam Thrupp, Robin Arnold or Anna Neil at the office. You can also use the prayer link on our Church website.



## **What's On in August and September**

Thursday	18 Aug	7.30pm	Board of Managers Meeting
Sunday	21 Aug	9.30am	Church Service
Tuesday	23 Aug	7.30pm	Women's Evening Fellowship
Thursday	25 Aug	7.00pm	Session Meeting
Sunday	28 Aug	9.30am	Family Service
Sunday	04 Sept	9.30am	Church Service
Friday	09 Sept	6.00pm	Annual General Meeting
Sunday	11 Sept	9.30am	Church Service
Sunday	11 Sept	1.30pm	Patoka Church Service
Tuesday	13 Sept	10.30am	Tuesday Church Service
Thursday	15 Sept	7.30pm	Board of Managers Meeting
Sunday	18 Sept	9.30am	Church Service
Thursday	22 Sept	7.00pm	Session Meeting
Sat/Sun	24/25 Sept	150th Anniversary Celebrations	
Sunday	25 Sept	9.30am	Church Service
Tuesday	27 Sept	7.30pm	Women's Evening Fellowship

## Regular events

<b>Mondays</b>	<i>House Group</i> Contact: Bob Wallis 844 5630	7.30pm - 9.00pm
<b>Tuesdays</b>	<i>Op Shop open</i> Contact: Cynthia Duncan 845 3539	10.00am - 4.00pm
	<i>Youth Group Massive Bible Study</i> Contact: Steve Demetrius 844 2734	6.00pm - 7.00pm
	<i>Tuesday Church Service</i> 2nd Tuesday of the month	10.30am - 11.30am
	<i>Women's Fellowship meeting</i> 4th Tuesday of the month	7.30pm
<b>Wednesdays</b>	<i>Mainly Music</i> Contact: Margaret 843 2272	9.30am - 10.30am
	<i>House Group @ Church</i> Contact: Brett Walker 844 2256	7.00pm - 8.30pm
	<i>Op Shop open</i> Contact: Cynthia Duncan 845 3539	10.00am - 4.00pm
	<i>Craft Group meet at the church</i> 1st Wednesday of the month Contact: Sue Walker 844 2256	7.00pm
<b>Thursdays</b>	<i>Mainly Music</i> Contact: Karen Jensen 843 9447	9.30am - 10.30am
	<i>Op Shop open</i> Contact: Cynthia Duncan 845 3539	10.00am - 4.00pm
	<i>Board of Managers meeting</i> 3rd Thursday of the month	7.30pm
	<i>Session meeting</i> 4th Thursday of the month	7.30pm
<b>Fridays</b>	<i>Massive Youth Group</i> Contact: Steve Demetrius 844 2734	7.00pm - 9.00pm
<b>Sundays</b>	<i>6789 Youth Group (fortnightly)</i> Contact: Steve Demetrius 844 2734	6.15pm - 7.30pm





**NEW WORLD**  
**GREENMEADOWS**

**Always more for your  
money**

**Phone 844 6240**



**Gary Berntsen**  
**Accounting & Taxation Services**

**Financial statements**

**Rentals**

**Tax returns**



**Phone 835 5078**



**BETH SHAN**  
**FUNERAL DIRECTORS**

For that caring touch through all aspects  
of bereavement.

\* 24 hour Personal Service

Prearrangement & Prepayment

**Phone 06 835 9925 Fax 06 835 5834**

**157 Georges Drive, Napier**

**email: imackie@bledisloe.co.nz**

**REAL ESTATE**

**HANLIE MARNEWICK**

**Direct: 06 845 9065**

**Mobile: 027 295 9981**

**hanlie.marnewick@tremains.co.nz**

**TEAM**  
**TREMAINS**  
Results through excellence MREINZ



**YOU ARE THE  
SALT OF THE  
EARTH**

**YOU ARE THE  
LIGHT OF THE  
WORLD**

**HAENA &  
ANGELA SEOL**

**SPACE AVAILABLE**

**FOR A NEW AD**