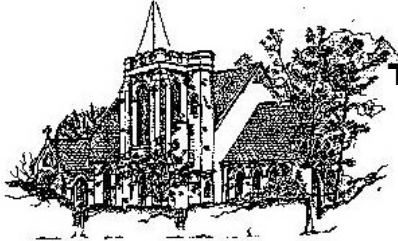




# THE ROCK



**The Anglican/Episcopal Parish of St Peter,  
Caversham, Dunedin, NZ**

## THE VICAR WRITES

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With the feast of St Francis looming (it was on Saturday 4th October) I felt obliged to say something about the Lesser Brethren and their welfare in my sermons on the following day. But I found myself with something of a problem. Normally, however wild my flights of fancy might be, I try to base what I am saying on a very Anglican combination of holy scripture and holy tradition – as they are illuminated by devout and prayerful reason. Of course, I could provide the devout and prayerful reasoning in spades, but holy scripture turned out to be a bit more problematic, and that largely because the holy tradition which interprets it seemed to be somewhat confused and contradictory.

After a while, however, I noticed that some tradition seemed very holy, and some rather less so. And the difference had to do with the division between the mind and the heart, between scholarship and sanctity. Theologians seemed rather indifferent to the lesser orders while saints (Francis, Isaac the Syrian, Cuthbert, Godric, Hugh of Lincoln, Martin de Porres, Seraphim of Sarov and many others) seemed to care a lot.

Now, of course, these two aspects should be entirely compatible, but unfortunately that is all too often

not the case. Witness the support the learned promoters of eugenics gave to Hitler's deliberate sterilisation – and indeed extermination – of people with mental and physical disabilities: life unworthy of life according to National Socialism. It made perfect sense in the Third Reich – if you want to breed people properly, then you should cull them like livestock and prune them like plants. But even though it makes sense (or not!) in the head, how about the heart? Perhaps principles based on academic theory (eugenics in this case) can lead you astray in the most terrible ways.

Thus St Paul claimed (1 Corinthians 9.9) that when the Law of Moses (Deuteronomy 25.4) said, You shall not muzzle an ox when it is treading out the grain, that this had nothing to do with the welfare of animals and asked, Is it for oxen that God is concerned? Does he not speak entirely for our sake? In the context of his letter, it's hard not to believe that

St Paul is trying to make a point at the expense of the plain meaning of the sacred text. Furthermore, I sometimes have the feeling that while St Paul can be subject to powerful emotions, he is occasionally rather better at theory than at reality, especially where other living beings are concerned.



St Paul will have been brought up with the doctrine of man's dominion over the animals as it was given to Adam in the Garden of Eden, and Christians have used it ever since to justify their cruelties. But we should bear in mind the example of dominion which God himself gives us. In the Gospels we find that our divine Lord and Master washes the feet of disciples and dies on a cross for them – not exactly what you might have expected from God Almighty, I think.

The enormously influential St Thomas Aquinas followed St Paul, teaching that animals were created to meet our needs, and therefore had no rights (if that's the word) of their own. Thus, in the nineteenth century, Pope Pius IX, at that time the political as well as the religious ruler of Rome, refused to allow the opening of an office of animal welfare in the eternal city on the grounds that it might give the impression that we owe the Lesser Brethren a little care and consideration.

And it is not just the professional Christians who are to blame. One of the most distinguished (and again influential) philosophers of the modern world, Rene Descartes (who said, I think therefore I am, which tells you something) maintained that animals don't have souls, and therefore don't have feelings either. They are really just automatons. Thus when an animal cries out in pain, it is no different from the squealing noises made by rusty machinery. So, like some of Descartes' contemporary admirers, you should kick your cat just for the fun of hearing him scream – he's only a mechanical toy after all.

Martin Buber was a great master of philosophy and Hasidic Judaism, one of the most important thinkers and writers of the twentieth century. In his best-known work, I and Thou, Buber emphasised that life can be about I and It, or about I and You. If it is about I and It,



then you will see the world and all that is in it merely as things which you can use. But if you see it as I and You, then the world becomes a very different place, one in which relationships, love, and the knowledge of God become possible. And Buber was converted to this understanding of reality by his cat – believe it or not. He suddenly realised (looking his cat in the eye) that someone was actually looking back at him – something a mere It could never do. Despite everything I said about St Paul, I have to (gratefully) acknowledge his insight (Romans 8:18-23) that the whole creation waits for its redemption in the age to come. I certainly hope so, since the idea that so many creatures (like the moon bears of China) have endured the torments of hell without any subsequent recompense I find very difficult to square with one of St Thomas Aquinas' better observations, God loves all existing things. And what God loves he will love for ever – including Martin Buber's cat.

**The Lord of all bless you! Fr CARL**

## VESTRY IN BRIEF

At the September meeting of Vestry, the following items were of note:

- A new vacuum cleaner and microwave oven have been purchased.
- 
- A new outdoor sign with details of services etc. has been approved.
- 
- Information packs from the New Zealand Council of Christian Social Services are available in the link.
- 
- There was considerable discussion as to whether we should charge a bond for people wanting to hire the hall for parties.
- 
- Easily accessible cleaning materials are to be made available for hall users.
- 

**Heather Brooks (Vestry Secretary)**

As editor of the magazine I am very much aware that this is the voice of our family of believers. I am indebted to those who have provided very informative and affirming articles and to those who contribute regular commentaries and reports.

As a committed Christian who professes to a basic understanding of our faith I am still always willing to ask questions. For me questions and the quest for knowledge is the very basis of learning. Learning is discovery, and discovery is a fundamental part of my religious experience.

I invite anyone to write to the editor with questions on almost any topic at all. What I hope is that there are others in our midst that have similar questions to myself.

Have you ever wondered for example as to why is the Aumbry light left on? or have questions such as "Did the Apostles write the Apostles creed?" or "What is the unpardonable sin?", or "Is there a difference between belief and faith"

I should add at this point that only one of the foregoing questions is raised by the Editor! The others are but examples!

Maybe you have learned something interesting in a Bible study group or have some other interesting piece of knowledge which you may wish to share with readers.

Each of us is on a voyage of discovery or we should be. We each, I am sure, have a need to discover our faith, our self and our relationship with those around us. In prayer we seek to establish our understanding of God and the meaning of the message sent to us in Jesus Christ.

We cannot do this in isolation or alone. We are the part of something greater and more important than our pure personal individual need. With robust discussion we can add

## EDITORIAL



to the greater good of our fellowship, and in doing so, perhaps, discover a little something more of ourselves.

Before undertaking this role of Temporary Editor I would have considered myself somewhat of a literary Luddite, but with careful guidance of those around me, I have found a source of enjoyment and internal discovery by undertaking this task.

I encourage you, to consider just a handwritten note of a question that maybe has gone unanswered, or something undiscovered! I will do my best to either answer it and/or raise it for further discussion. At your request your name will be withheld.

Now for something completely different.

With the agreement of Vestry I am establishing a register of those who would like to receive a copy of the weekly Pebble by electronic means. This means that on those Sundays when one is absent one can still keep up to date. It also allows another distribution channel for The Rock.

If you would like to have this service then simply send me an email requesting inclusion and I will attach it to the email-out database. The

database is private and confidential and will never be forwarded to anyone else.

In terms of distribution I am amazed at how distant our magazine ranges. The Saturday following the Sunday publication of the September Rock, a letter addressed to one of the people featured in the biographies, arrived in my letter box with a request to forward it on. The letter was postmarked the Wednesday and was sent from Lower Hutt but a mere three days after the printing of the Rock!

The recipient tells me that the person recognized the name of his mother and sent the letter to establish contact. Just goes to show how wide our audience is.

Talking of things far away, I need to advise you that this editor also is away traveling overseas. Seems to come with the territory! (or the company.) Our sojourn is a little closer being Australia and somewhat a little shorter than the Sisley's.

Thus this edition of the Rock has been put together by Michael and I am grateful for his assistance.

**Yours in Christ  
Dereck Gray**

Saint Peter's Caversham - Dunedin



## Featured Biography

Fr Geoff Hughes - Retired Priest

*Editors Note: I am still experimenting with the format of the biographies. In order to be able to present more of these in the future I am developing a form which will assist and make it easier to decide what information you present. The photographs are larger in this issue in an attempt to overcome copying deficits.*

Born North London eighty-three years ago. Educated Varndean Grammar School for Boys, Brighton and Cockerthorpe County Grammar School, Cumberland. Scholarship Brighton College of Art and Crafts 1942. Royal Navy 1943 (war-time service), Lower Deck (Able Seaman) Atlantic and Pacific Fleets. Demobbed 1946 returned to Art College for next six years. Obtained National Diploma in Design and Art Teachers Diploma.

After this, I messed about in the theatre for a time then went to Nassau in the Bahamas as the first Art Master at Queen's College; this was a Methodist Missionary School and I stayed there for a year. Returned to England and in 1955 became Senior Art Master at Alfred Sutton Secondary School for Boys, Reading, Berkshire. Remained in Reading until 1967. During this time was also involved in Adult Education and part-time teaching at the local Art School. Also married. My son Mark born in Reading. In 1967 we upped and migrated to Gore N.Z., where I had been offered the post of Head of Art Department at the High School (1500 children in those days!). Much involved with Church life from the age of seven when I became a boy soprano in Church choirs until my voice broke at fourteen. Became a tenor for a time. War Service saw an end to that!

After marriage became sidesman then worked my way up the Serving team at our Church (thirteen servers every Sunday morning!). In Gore continued to grow spiritually. Eventually offered myself for the non-

stipendiary ministry. Was Ordained by Bishop Peter Mann in our Cathedral. Became Assistant Priest at "Holy Trinity" Gore. Found "No man can serve two masters" and with the Bishop's Blessing retired from schoolteaching and was put in charge of the (then) down-at heel parish of Port Chalmers/Warrington. They couldn't afford a full stipend so I also became a part-time lecturer at the University of Otago in Art related subjects. After three years of that I became part-time Director of the Interchurch Trade & Industry Mission. Also taught for the Workers Education Association and became their President for some years.

Marriage crashed in 1987, the same year that I had been diagnosed with a benign brain tumour which was removed ....hence my total deafness in one ear and Toby as my Hearing Aid! Eventually retired from Parish Ministry when I became sixty-five (we had to in those days). However, my ministry continues in various ways I'm happy to say. Moved to Kew with my good companion Michael about fourteen years ago and we both have become deeply involved with "St.Peter's". My son lives next door to me and my daughter is up in Mornington with my grandson and granddaughter. I have a great deal to be very thankful for.



## Games Nights

**The Thursday games nights have now resumed. Mark the resumption in your diaries now.....**

## Ray and Joy's Travels

We are back in Dublin and have enjoyed 6 days in a row of SUNSHINE. Autumn has arrived and trees are looking very pretty. We spent a magic time in Aberdeen (Centre of the universe) largely because of the incredible generosity of a number of people but of Peter and Janice Smail in particular. How did Janice get me to clean the cathedral, another entry for my CV. We enjoyed organ concerts, ceileghs (spelt wrongly), pub lunches, and getting out and about. We at last got to visit Dunnottar castle which features large in Scottish history. The Falkirk Wheel is an amazing structure built as a millenium project. It is a structure that replaces locks on a canal by lifting a section of the canal from one level to another using the Archimedes principle (which you will all understand). It is the sort of engineering that one would associate with the Victorians but it is the only one ever built and only uses about the same amount of electricity that it takes to boil a kettle. We took a train to do the round trip from Aberdeen through Inverness, Skye (bus and ferry leg), Mallaig, Glasgow and back to Aberdeen.

The railway follows a path in places well away from any roads so one gets a splendid view of the Western Highlands. It was a nice change to be able to sit and watch the world go by. Driving on motorways one gets to think that a country's landscape consists solely of an endless broad black line with white dots down the centre and blurred green sides. Many cities in Europe hold 'Open Doors' days when the public are invited in to see inside properties that are normally closed to the public. We took advantageous to visit the old Tollbooth (gaol) in Aberdeen as well as the Masonic lodge rooms which are stunningly beautiful. We went back to visit Dundee and in particular the Sailing ship 'Discovery' that was part of Scott's expedition to the Antarctic. Who of you remember it calling in to NZ. A very good visitor centre complements the ship.

The 'Verdant Works' is a Dundee museum of the Jute industry which was for so long the backbone of Dundee's economy but is no more. This is an excellent museum (poorly promoted) that is as much a museum of social history as it is of Jute.

Back in Dublin (the sun is still shining) we have tried to ignore the news reports of bank collapses and instead concentrate on the botanical gardens, Castle-town (a huge georgian mansion), the State Rooms at



the Presidents residence (Beautiful but the carpet is garish) and the docklands redevelopment. We had brunch at the docklands yesterday, as one does, and it is a huge redevelopment incorporating flats, offices, shops and cafes. An 'Expo Down Under' is being held in Dublin at present. It is trying to entice people with appropriate skills to NZ and Australia. Throughout Ireland, UK and Europe it is the Poles that seem to be doing all the work. They are the work horses of Europe and people everywhere love them. The Poles have a great work ethic, do not cause trouble, are well educated and trained and get involved in communities. Goodness knows who is running Poland. Because of the free movement of all people within the EU large numbers of other nationalities are sitting on the streets begging, some with young children.

On Wednesday we travel to Heathrow to catch a plane to Vancouver. We were booked with Zoom but they went belly up. This time we are booked with Air Canada so should be OK. We purchased a return ticket because it was hundreds of pounds cheaper than a one way fare. Worth remembering when arranging travel. After 10 days in Vancouver we fly to Auckland where we touch down on 14 Oct. Before returning to Dunedin we want to take the opportunity to visit family and friends in Auckland, Tauranga, Hamilton, Otorohanga, Palmerston North and Wellington. We have been living out of suitcases for nearly 5 months now and a change back to normality, whatever that is, will be good.

**Best wishes**

**Ray and Joyce**

## Ladies Guild Report

It is with regret that we note the sudden passing of Elvira Steel who was a keen member of the Ladies' Guild for a very long time.

Elvira's committee duties included Birthday Sprays for three years, Vice-President for two years, and President for three years. She was always willing to help at the Fair – who could resist buying a raffle ticket from her? She will be sadly missed for many of her kind acts. May she rest in peace.

At the September meeting Tubby Hopkins told us of his work with the Dunedin Community Policing Service. This involves patrolling South Dunedin by car at night on the look out for trouble spots and informing the police. It was surprising the number of young girls and boys out in Princes Street in the early hours of the morning. Tubby showed two interesting videos. A very good talk.

The results of the Sunday Raffle drawn on 21st September were:

1. **Kath Holmes, ceramic pot.**
2. **Shirley Menzies, makeup bag.** 3. **Helen Dwyer, cup and saucer.**

Our next meeting is on 14th October at 2pm in the Lounge, thence to Glenfalloch Gardens.

**MARY BARTON Secretary**



## AAW Report

The September meeting was well attended with 20 members present. Our guest speaker for the evening was the Great Neice of member Gwen Hudson, Charlotte Dean, who had spent some time earlier this year in Cambodia learning about and assisting with a variety of missionary initiatives in that country. Charlotte endeared herself to the group with her obvious passion and enthusiasm for the work involved and her intention to return when her studies as a physiotherapist are completed. Our AGM will be held on 28th October 2008 after which the meeting will adjourn to "Salt" on the Esplanade for coffee and desert.

**Ronda Tatnell - Co-ordinator.  
Ph 455-8110**

## NOVEMBER PARISH FAIR

**Saturday 8th November 10:00am**

**Volunteers are required to staff stalls**

**BBQ manager needed**

**Catering services - Scone making & serving**

**Garden section helpers**

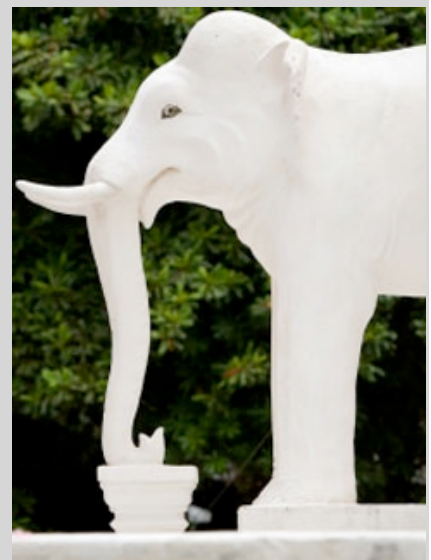
**Bric-a-brac stall**

**Book stall**

**White Elephant stall**

**Raffle Sellers**

**Pleased contact Raylene Ralston - phone 455-9535**



# Biographies

## Faye Noel-Brown - Parishioner

Being baptised, confirmed and married in St Peter's Church I became the third generation to attend this church. In my early days I attended Sunday School on Sunday afternoons and later Club which was for early teens. However this folded and for a few years I went Presbyterian enjoying the social life there but also being a choir member, a Sunday School teacher and then a Bible Class leader.

On moving to Christchurch to train as a Speech -Language Therapist my profession for forty years, I once again became Anglican at St Mary's in the morning and later in the day joined up with the Presbyterian young folk.

In 1957 St Stephen's in Ashburton became my church where I taught and joined Young Wives.

On my return to Dunedin in 1962 I returned to St Peter's. My daughter attended also and was confirmed here and my grandchildren came till they moved from the area. A great grand daughter will soon accompany me. My involvement since then has been on vestry then as Peoples Warden, and Synod Representative for many years. I perform such duties as Reader, Intercessor, Sidesman, have been in the Choir and of course "do the flowers".

Outside my Church life I have always been interested in drama and singing and have tripped the light fantastic for many companies in all the areas I have lived in. My latest show was this year "Salad Days". There's still life in the old girl yet. I took up Floral Designing when I retired and it has given me much pleasure here and overseas. I am the local President. Another presidency is of the Lookout Point Bowling Club and I have an International position as a Fellow of ITC in POWERtalk International that used to be Toastmistress.

Having attended many churches throughout the world I can honestly say very few even begin to compare. There is no Place like "home".



## David Hoskins - Organist

David was born and grew up in Thames. He received his first musical education at the age of 5 from his grandmother, a noted pianist and music teacher. She regarded 5 as 'late-ish' for commencing music studies.

David subsequently studied music in Auckland with Ronald Dellow and Dr. Douglas Mews (Snr). Later, in Australia he continued music studies in improvisation, composition and conducting. He has played concerts in New Zealand, Australia, and the East-

ern United States.

An appointment as Director of Music at Auckland's historic St. Andrew's First Presbyterian Church led to a long association with the "Father" Willis Organ in St Matthew's-in-the City where David played for services and performed regularly in the church's extensive concert programme.

A move to Australia to work for the 'Melbourne Age' newspaper saw David accept church and civic musical appointments around Melbourne. He also concertised throughout Victoria, NSW and QLD. During this time he developed a series of programmes for revitalising music performance in diverse liturgical situations, including a 6-month directorship of a very large Apostolic congregation deciding to take a 'chance' on a rather stuffy 'high church' Anglican. David enjoyed the appointment (to his great surprise) but found the very un-anglican congregations sizes (usually numbering 1800-2000 per service) both daunting and exciting.

In 1988 he returned to New Zealand and worked for central and local government before opting to return to school. He is presently completing a PhD in Film and Media studies at the University of Otago where he is also a tutor. He recently learned that his tutorial students regard him as 'cool' - so time spent with that big youth congregation in Melbourne might just have borne fruit at last.

Having given up organ performance for some years it was a chance comment in Fr. Carl's hearing that 'I play the organ' that saw David join prof. Brian and Vivien Monteith on the music team. No chance to appeal decisions of the Vicar of St Peter's! When the Monteith's moved to Australia David became Director of Music. He oversaw the design and installation of the new *Johannus* organ during the extensive restoration of the church interior.

Apart from things musical, David has been elected to the Diocese of Otago Diocesan Council, appointed to the Diocesan Social Care committee, a parish synod representative, vestry member, a Ministerial Justice of the Peace and is resident support staff for his two cats, Oscar and Buttons.

# THE ANGLICAN/EPISCOPAL PARISH OF ST. PETER, CAVERSHAM, DUNEDIN. NZ.

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Email: [dd.kmgray@ihug.co.nz](mailto:dd.kmgray@ihug.co.nz)

## Worship Services

ALL SUNDAYS: 8am Eucharist

10.30am Solemn Eucharist

SUNDAYS OF THE CALENDAR MONTH AT 7pm:

1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays: Compline and Exposition by candlelight

2nd and 4th Sundays: Sung Evensong and Benediction

FIRST AND THIRD TUESDAYS OF THE MONTH at 11am:

Eucharist at St Barnabas' Home.

ALL THURSDAYS at 10am - Eucharist

PARISH HALL BOOKINGS (03) 479 0754.

PARISH HALL PHONE (03) 455 3851.

## VISIT OUR WEBSITE

[www.stpeterscaversham.org.nz](http://www.stpeterscaversham.org.nz)



**BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS, HOUSE  
BLESSINGS,  
BURIALS AND CONFESSIONS BY  
ARRANGEMENT WITH THE  
VICAR**

## Parish Directory

### PARISH PRIEST:

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Telephone: (03) 455 3961

Email: [paratus@xtra.co.nz](mailto:paratus@xtra.co.nz)

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David Hoskins  
Phone: 455-7537

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Phone: 455-3613  
People's Warden: Joy Henderson  
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Vestry Secretary: Heather Brooks  
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## CALENDAR

Sunday 12	+TRINITY 21 Ordinary 28 Pot Luck Lunch 7pm Compline by Candlelight Monday Club - 10.15am in the Hall
Monday 13	Ladies' Guild - 2pm in the Lounge
Tuesday 14	Vestry - 7.30pm in the Lounge
Thursday 16	Meditation Group - after the Eucharist Games Night - 7pm in the Hall
Saturday 18	LUKE
Sunday 19	+TRINITY 22 Ordinary 29 7pm Evensong & Benediction
Monday 20	Monday Club
Thursday 23	JAMES THE LESS Meditation Group Games Night
Sunday 26	+TRINITY 23 Ordinary 30 7pm Compline by Candlelight
Monday 27	Monday Club
Tuesday 28	SIMON AND JUDE
Thursday 30	Meditation Group Games Night
Sunday 2	+ALL SAINTS 7pm Evensong & Benediction

Material for the November Rock is due today

Monday 3	Monday Club
Thursday 6	Meditation Group Games Night
Saturday 8	NATIVITY OF OUR LADY
Sunday 9	+ALL SOULS Remembrance 7pm Compline by Candlelight Pot Luck Lunch
Monday 10	Monday Club
Thursday 13	Meditation Group
Sunday 16	+TRINITY 15 Ordinary 24 7pm Evensong & Benediction