



Anglican Parish of  
Cabersham Saint Peter,  
Dunedin, New Zealand

# THE ROCK

August 2013—Trinity—Ordinary Time



## Making the Hearts of the People Wise

By The Vicar



Most nights I turn the television on at six to watch the news. I am hoping to find out what has happened in the nation that day, what is happening in the wider world, and what is going on underneath the surface of things. Usually the first aspiration is more or less satisfied—the other two hardly ever.

It is worth reflecting on how things used to be. In the early 1980's a magazine section on foreign news followed the main bulletin. This format gave a reasonable amount of time to the outside world, with the possibility of some background explanation. But that was swept away to make room for the Holmes show. I was part of the Anglican Social Responsibility Commission at the time, and wrote to Television New Zealand to point out the resulting deficit. A Vicar's son was appointed to

write back to me. The gist of his reply was that it was hoped to include some overseas news in the new format. In my reply to him I pointed out that in the following week the only overseas news item had been about a New Zealand woman who was living a nudist life style with her daughters in an Australian forest.

There was another source of enlightenment available back then. The BBC world news was broadcast each night at 11p.m on National Radio, followed by a superb commentary from experienced journalists on what was really going on behind the scenes in a particular news story. Somehow one felt it was possible to relax into sleep having had the world's troubles and turmoils summed up in the mellifluous tones of the BBC. But eventually that programme was pulled too.

Meanwhile other changes were going on in the way television news was presented. Human-interest stories became a permanent feature of each evening's line up. People were interviewed in the throes of extreme emotion so we could share in their exultant triumph or tear jerker circumstances. Our

rage and pity were provoked so we could share in an experience of collective catharsis, rather than being invited into considered and informed reflection on why this particular situation had come about, and what might be done about it.

Celebrity news became a fixed part of the new formula. A recent example of this would be the Angelina Jolie double mastectomy story, which was given eight minutes of prime time, and drove off all other possible major stories from the line up. A personal decision to take a drastic precautionary step in the light of a particular family cancer history profile was turned into an inspiring example to other women to go and do likewise in similar circumstances. Praise and gratitude were heaped on the star by the fourth estate.

The cult of personality entered journalism also. Not only was news mediated through the personality of someone like Paul Holmes, but the lives of these celebrity presenters became news stories also. Journalist celebrities did not shrink from telling the public about what they perceived to be their fascinating life developments, and sometimes these life incidents were less than uplifting. We had also returned to an old journalist tradition of the rant, as shock jocks like Michael Laws

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Spring Bus Trip



SEE BACK PAGE FOR DETAILS

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# Making the Hearts of the People Wise

(Continued from page 1)

presented extreme versions of our national story in highly opinionated mode.

Newsrooms were different places now. Waves of staff cuts meant major news organisations had fewer journalists, with the major casualties being investigative journalists, since their patient and thorough research was perceived to be an expensive luxury. With time and resources now limited, ambulance chaser and court news stories moved front and centre, since they were easy sources to mine. When political, business or bureaucracy scandals broke it tended to be because of an embittered insider leak, or more likely an internal implosion, which could no longer be contained. Even that was less likely because these organisations now routinely employed spin-doctors and journalists in poacher turned gamekeeper roles to keep the lid on things.

Of course, there are a few investigative journalists left who don't work for major news organisations, and have their own independent means of reaching the public, but they are few, and tend to be of the axe grinding, conspiracy theorist genre. And they do not have the resources which a large newspaper or television station can command, to support their research.

Ed Murrow was a famous investigative journalist and television news presenter who broke the power of McCarthyism in 1950's America by digging into the lies and unfair bullying of the witch hunting Senator, and by bringing these truths to the attention of the public. He predicted all that has happened. Television in general, and its news programmes in particular, would become means of anaesthetising the public, deadening its responses, and sending its conscience to sleep with triviality, banality and vulgarity. It's wonderful potential to inform, to educate, and to explain what is really going on beneath the surface of things would be lost. Escapism would be preferred to reality. One of his most telling quotes was, "If we were to do the Second Coming of Christ in colour for a full hour, there would be a considerable number of stations which would decline to carry it on the grounds that a Western or a Quiz show would be more profitable".

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Why am I writing about this in the parish magazine? There is a prayer I sometimes use at Services for writers, artists and broadcasters which goes like this:

Almighty God, who hast proclaimed thine eternal truth by the voice of prophets and evangelists: Direct and bless, we beseech thee, those who in this generation speak where many listen and write what many read; that they may do their part in making the heart of the people wise, its mind sound, and its will righteous, to the honour of Jesus Christ our Lord. ☩

## Letters

The Rock welcomes letters to the Editor. Letters should be no more than 150 words in length and are subject to selection and, if selected, to editing for length and house style. Letters may be:

Posted to: The Editor of The Rock,  
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Caversham,  
Dunedin, N.Z. 9012

Emailed to:

[TheRockEditor@stpeterscaversham.org.nz](mailto:TheRockEditor@stpeterscaversham.org.nz)

## Ask The Vicar

For answers to questions doctrinal, spiritual and liturgical.

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# Cruising again

By Ian Condie

The cruising liner was about to depart from a certain port. The junior officer manning the bridge telephones received confirmation the last gangway had been raised. A minute later he received another call from the gangway officer saying a passenger had just arrived at the wharf and asking if he should lower the gangway again.

The junior went at once to the wing of the bridge where the Captain and the Pilot were leaning over the rail and repeated the message. He also took the opportunity to look down and view the latecomer who was an attractive young woman wearing a smart frock with a stiffened skirt ending just below the knees and an anxious look. A sight to bring out the knight in shining armour in any man—except the Captain who merely turned to the junior and said, “no” and then, “let go forward, let go aft.”

As the ship was pulled slowly away from the wharf it was too far to see whether tears were running down the cheeks of the castaway, but the ship’s agent standing beside her was shouting frantically that he would send her out on a tug. The offer left the Captain unmoved. He was a very senior and decorated man who had a reputation for disliking passengers in general and being impervious to the wiles of young female

ones.

The tugs in that port at that time were coal-burners. That meant sooty black smoke trailing permanently out of the funnel accompanied by large sticky smuts. The sort of thing that was commented on bitterly and blasphemously by Chief Officers thinking about their paint work and by females passengers thinking about their clothes.

Nevertheless, one of the tugs was recalled and the castaway was put aboard and sent off after the ship. The gangway officer, being a chivalrous man, and safely out of the Captain’s sight, asked whether he should lower the gangway again. The junior once again relayed the question to the Captain who, in an interval in his conversation with the Pilot, replied. “No. tell him to give her the pilot ladder.” That order was relayed, without comment, to the gangway officer.

Now, the pilot ladder is what is usually called a rope ladder. It is perfectly safe but, to say the least, not easy to use unless one has a certain amount of practise. Nowadays it would be unthinkable to expect a novice to use one to climb from the deck of a moving



tug some twenty feet (6 metres) up the side of a large ship under way—even if they were not wearing a fashionable dress and high heels.

The pilot ladder was duly lowered, as was a length of rope. There was much competition among the tug’s crew for the privilege of tying the rope round the young lady and of assisting her to clamber onto the bulwark in order to grasp the ladder. From above about a thousand pairs of eyes watched as she started to climb and the entire crew of the tug, including the engine room crew and the helmsman, clustered round the foot of the ladder, presumably to hold it steady while gazing upwards at the ascending girl.

She reached the welcoming arms of the ship’s gangway staff to cheers from the passengers who threw their loose change down to the tug’s deck, thus causing a dangerous situation as the entire crew abandoned their duties in order to recover as much money as they could.

The junior officer duly reported the castaway’s safe arrival to the Captain who merely turned to the pilot and remarked, “maybe that’ll teach her not to be late.”

## Fellowship luncheon

By Gwen Hudson

In a very pleasant Tuesday, 23 July, 18 members, partners and parishioners enjoyed a convivial lunch of soup and bread rolls with Louise cake to follow.

The \$32 raised from donations was used to purchase groceries which were added to the Anglican Family Care basket.

After lunch David Horne gave an interesting overview of his latest overseas trip, to Iraq. David has now visited well over 200 countries, and holds the New Zealand record for the most countries visited. His slide presentation informed us of present day to day life, some of their customs and the problems facing this war torn country. He also showed us the beauty of the countryside and gave insights into some of the friendly people whom he encountered. Atmosphere was added by accompanying music.

David was thanked by parishioner Ron McLeod, an old school friend.

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*“Buildings are only brick and mortar;  
it’s our people who provide such quality  
service to families”*

Alan Gillion



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# Nutritious

## Water important



By Alex Chisholm

**W**ater is mentioned in the Bible narratives over 700 times. Given the geographical setting it would have been a very valuable commodity, especially with the limited sources of fresh water and the often very hot climate. Thus Jesus' use of water and the Water of Life in parables (viz John 4:14) would have resonated with listeners used to the difficult local situation.

However we too possibly need to give more thought to water as a vital commodity.



Water comes in many foods

PHOTO: ALEX CHISHOLM

One thing which quickly becomes apparent when you are travelling is the importance of adequate supplies of suitable liquids. Especially in hot environments or situations where the air tends to be particularly dry—as in long distance air travel. Airlines have become much better in recent years at having

water or juice readily available even during the night, and it is important to drink regularly.

Consuming enough fluid is important for everyone—

And as we get older there is a reduction in our thirst perception, so it is important to

make sure we drink enough even when we may not feel particularly thirsty, in order to keep our bodies in water balance. The loss of even small amounts of body water can produce quite unpleasant symptoms.

Adequate intakes of water for healthy people, under conditions of moderate temperature and activity,

are around 3.4L per day for men and 2.8L per day for women. However some people will need more and some less. This comes from both fluids and food.

On average drinking water provides half of the water we consume daily, with other beverages and solid foods making up the

“As we get older... it is important to make sure we drink enough even when we may not feel ... thirsty.”

rest. Tea and coffee provide 98% water, milk 88%, fruit & vegetables 75%, soup 80% and even rice and pasta 65%.

Nuts, though, are very low in moisture—



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hazelnuts containing around 5%. Thus when out walking or travelling, a packet of nuts, possibly together with raisins or other dried fruits, some fresh fruit and a bottle of chilled water, are useful, easy to carry provisions. ☒

## Small incident, comforting note

By Alex Chisholm

**D**uring my 39 hour journey from Christchurch to Dubrovnik (Croatia) to attend the Diabetes and Nutrition Study Group

(DNSG) Symposium, I had six hours to spend in Kloten Airport, Zurich.

The Singapore Airlines flight landed at around 8am and as the plane was one of the new wide-bodied ones (A380) I'd been able to get several hours sleep—even in tourist class.

We were well catered for on the aircraft, but there was an amazing selection of food available at the airport and not just the famous Swiss chocolate!



Swiss chocolate ...

PHOTO: ALEX CHISHOLM.



... but not only chocolate.



Zurich airport breakfast.

Breakfast had been early and by 10am I was ready for coffee and a *Brezel*, so headed to one of the airport cafes and sat at one of the small tables in the middle (see photo., next page).

The coffee and *Brezel* arrived, but meantime the proprietor was enquiring of the couple at the next table if the rucksack lying under the unoccupied table in front of me belonged to them. It didn't and they left. After another 10 minutes or so the proprietor called the police. Two

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## Small incident, comforting note

(Continued from page 4)

members of the "Kantonalpolizei", complete with automatic weapons, turned up to inspect the "object". They looked long and



hard but didn't touch, appearing fairly unconcerned. No one was asked to clear the area. After a brief consultation with the proprietor and more chat on their communication headsets—there was a result. A very flustered Englishman with an approximately 11 year old boy trailing along behind appeared at speed. The father's comment as they passed my table: "never mind that you might have lost your mobile phone, look at the trouble you've caused.....!!!" A conversation with the police, presumably in English and I suspect with a warning about what happens to unattended luggage (if not claimed it is removed and destroyed)—all parties left and I finished my coffee. I would have dearly liked to take photos during the incident, but assumed that it would not have been appreciated.

So everything turned out well. Thinking of things in general that may not turn out well for people in the airport it was comforting to note that Zurich Airport has a Chaplaincy Service (listed under Emergency Services—along with the medical and dental services, eye clinic and police)—the only airport where I have seen this. In others there have been prayer rooms, and in Frankfurt Airport a Chapel / Synagogue / Mosque but not so far as I could see any personnel to go with them.

When Claudio Cimaschi, co-founder and joint head of the chaplaincy at Zurich Airport, was asked about his relationship with flying, why pastoral care at the airport is important and how he makes a difference he replied—

"To offer pastoral care to everyone. Employees of all the businesses at Zurich Airport, passengers, asylum-seekers and visitors come to us if they are having personal problems, are struggling with life or are simply seeking advice and words of comfort.

## Joce Malcolmson RIP

By Coral Paris

Joce was a loyal member of our congregation all her life. She was involved in all aspects of parish life, from making lamingtons and cheese rolls for church funds to helping at fairs and being on rosters for morning tea and sides persons' duties.

She was also a valued member of Mothers Union, A.A.W. and our Fellowship.

Not one for being in the limelight she went about these duties in a quiet and uncomplaining way.

It was after my Allan died and Joce offered to be my partner on the door that we became good friends. She was my "pew pal" and it's hard not having her company Sunday by Sunday. Why it happened I don't know, but quite often as we took up the offertory we would find we were wearing the same colour scheme which caused a few giggles. I told her it was just a case of great minds thinking alike!

There will be many in our parish who have a lot to thank Joce for, from those she brought to church week after week to all of us she visited when we were sick.

A lovely caring, unassuming lady was our Joce and she is greatly missed.

### Paraphrase of Philippians 1

Tears are for the washing away of grief.

Hope is for the building of dreams.

Love is the tender life-force that conquers death.

Hold fast to dreams, for if dreams die,

Life is a broken winged bird that cannot fly.

Hold fast to dreams, for when dreams go,

Life is a barren field frozen with snow.

It is not surprising that we cling so tenaciously to this earthly life,

For it is all that our senses can comprehend.

Nevertheless,

if only we knew what God has in store for us,

we would be able to face death completely unafraid.

For the moment, however,

our responsibilities lie here on earth.

Let us then, with courage and joy,

live that life for others, which is our high calling,

in Jesus Christ our Lord.

With my love Joce,  
Coral.

Joce Malcolmson was the featured parishioner in our *Saint Peter's People* feature of the March 2013 issue, available at

[http://www.stpeterscaversham.org.nz/The\\_Rock/1303.pdf](http://www.stpeterscaversham.org.nz/The_Rock/1303.pdf)

We also hold regular religious services and, on Wednesdays, midday prayers that are open to all. The airport chaplains also coordinate the 100-strong team which makes up the Airport Care Organisation, which is trained to offer emotional support to victims and their relatives in the event of a major disaster".

I thought maybe the Airport Chaplaincy Service was a uniquely Swiss entity, however on investigating further an article [http://www.flughafenpfarramt.ch/history/view?set\\_language=en](http://www.flughafenpfarramt.ch/history/view?set_language=en) about the history of the Zurich Airport Chaplaincy revealed that there are now 148 airport chaplaincies in 39 countries around the world. 🌍

# Saint Peter's People

## Gwen Hudson's story

As told to Michael Forrest

**G**wen was born in Temuka 75 years ago into a very

supportive and loving family, which she feels has greatly benefited her in her life. She and her three siblings (two older sisters and a younger brother) lived in the idyllic setting of Winchester, also in South Canterbury, where their father was a wool-classer at the local wool-scour. The family were ordinary people but with an extended family background. Her grand-

parents were the first couple to be married at St John's, Winchester, and as her father was a devout Anglican this was her family church. Father John Teal was the Vicar of both St Peter's, Temuka, where Gwen was confirmed, and St John's. When the congregation shrank to the point where it couldn't sustain the church, the building was moved to the nearby Waihi Boys' Preparatory School to be used as the school chapel and Gwen continued worshipping there. Indeed Gwen's family had a lot to do with Waihi School, which was located in a very English-style settlement where Major-General Barker and his lady wife were the local gentry and supported St John's greatly.

Gwen went to Winchester Primary and Temuka District High School. Her sisters trained, one as a nurse and the other as a teacher, so Gwen, wanting to do something different, went to Wellington to train as a dental nurse. Her first job was at Gore Main School, followed by a sole-charge position at Woodlands where there was a huge roll to care for. Then she came up to Dunedin to look after the children of Riselaw Road and Concord Schools, another huge area in terms of the number of children. At Riselaw Road she met her future husband, John, who was a teacher there. They were married at St John's, Winchester, half-way through Gwen's ten years (including training) as a dental nurse, until she left to have their only child, daughter Jan. In those days teaching and dental nursing were considered to "fit girls for



Gwen Hudson at the Festival of Flowers in 2012.

PHOTO: SUPPLIED.

marriage" and it was not usual to continue in such a career after marrying.

Unfortunately John suffered from ill health, which changed the course of Gwen's life; at this time Fathers John Teal and Bernard Wilkinson—who were both ministering in this parish—helped her to cope. She had to resume dental nursing which she did until 1986, when she was appointed supervisor of the school dental service in Otago, effectively the operations-manager of the service at a time of great

change in the delivery of health-care. This meant leading the therapists (they were no longer dental nurses) through restructuring and major redundancies, as the service now came under the hospital-board (it had been run from Wellington), plus developing and implementing standards. During these years mobile dental clinics were set up and the training of dental therapists was moved to the Dental School in Dunedin. Gwen enjoyed practical dental nursing, loved working with children and really valued her time in the office where she learnt so much about how organisations - and the country - are run.

At the age of 58 Gwen embarked on a complete change of career and went to Otago Polytechnic to study for a Bachelor of Fashion Design degree, a solid three-year course. This was followed by an eight-year career creating garments, working from home. Then she obtained a graduate diploma in fine arts after two years of part-time

study. Gwen also studied French for five years at Queen's High School and took herself off to France for a month to practise it. She still enjoys the weekly French conversation-sessions at the Alliance Française. Currently she is in the fourth year of a course in New Zealand art history.

While training in Wellington Gwen worshipped at Old St Paul's, then in Gore and Woodlands she worshipped locally before attending Saint Peter the Less in Dunedin. Here she joined the Young Wives' Club, which was a Christianity-based support group for young mothers, but she and other slightly-older young mothers were urged by Father Teal to move on to the AAW (which had until recently been the Mothers' Union), a totally different organisation. Today she is on the sides persons' roster for Saint Peter's 8 o'clock Sunday services and is a regular and much-valued assistant with "bed-pushing" for the Dunedin Hospital chapel.

For four years Gwen has been the official care-giver for husband John, so she doesn't go out of the house for long. He used to be a great gardener, with the Rudolf Steiner philosophy of replacing what you take out of the soil, but now Gwen helps in the garden, mows the lawns and so on at their St Clair home where they have lived for 43 years. She doesn't belong to any clubs as such, having had so many meetings in her job, but is a member of the Dunedin Sinfonia as she loves classical music, and reads a lot. Gwen helps with the flowers at church and does the Parish's annual Festival "Flowers in Praise" display with Faye-Noel Brown.

Gwen is one very accomplished lady who has made a lasting impact in many fields and is another gem from the pews of Saint Peter's. 📷

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*please consult The Pebble or our website for variations*

All services are held at Saint Peter's unless noted otherwise

SUNDAY:	8am	Holy Communion according to the Book of Common Prayer
	10.30am	Solemn Eucharist
TUESDAY:	11am	Eucharist in the Chapel of St Barnabas' Home, Ings Avenue
THURSDAY:	10am	Eucharist
FIRST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH:	11am	Eucharist in the lounge of Frances Hodgkins Retirement Village, Fenton Crescent



## August Vestry Meeting:

By David Scoular



Saint Peter's Vestry met on 21 August. **The Vicar reported** the first Horizon Group season finished successfully with a regular attendance of 12-14 and opened new pastoral opportunities. The Vicar has been invited to give a theology paper to The Greek Orthodox Seminary in Sydney in September.

**Finances** again featured. Any further withdrawals from the Maze account this year would eat into the capital, which is contrary to the terms of the bequest, so it is even more important to live within our income for the rest of this year. A stewardship programme will be initiated in October/November this year to encourage parishioners to assist. A report was received which provides a starting point for this initiative. It highlights the importance of increasing our income from regular giving, and points out that an individual's giving to the church can double after approximately six years simply by returning tax rebates to the parish, while holding the weekly or monthly amount unchanged.

Further consideration was given to the **church lighting system**, with the decision to purchase long-life bulbs and fit them ourselves, thus saving on call-out fees for an electrician.

Discussion of Diocesan affairs and Saint Peter's role in the Diocese will be summarised by the Vicar as the foundation for a list of topics to be covered when the Bishop meets the Vestry in September.

Various ideas for **new growth initiatives** were discussed. This topic will be the subject of continuing attention as we try to increase the number on the parish roll.

## The Rock

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## For your diary

**Tuesday, 10 September:** Friendship Group meets at 2 pm for 'a cuppa and chat'. All welcome.

**Thursday, 12 September:** The Bishop visits Saint Peter's Vestry.

**Saturday, 5 October:** Proposed spring colours coach trip to Central. For further details see page 8.

**Sunday, 6 October:** Harvest Festival.

**Sunday 3 November:** Hospital Chapel assistance (bed moving).

**Tuesday, 12 November:** The Caversham Lectures at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre—David Hoskins, Director of Music.

**Tuesday, 19 November:** The Caversham Lectures at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre—Professor John Stenhouse, University of Otago.

**Tuesday, 26 November:** The Caversham Lectures at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre—David Howard, poet, 2013 Burns fellow.

**Sunday 19 January:** Hospital Chapel assistance (bed moving).



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## Itinerary

- 8.30am Depart Saint Peter's, Hillside Road.
- 9.45am Arrive Middlemarch (morning tea)
- 10.15am Depart Middlemarch
- 11.15am Arrive Naseby (lunch)
- 12.30pm Depart Naseby
- 1.30pm Arrive Clyde Dam lookout
- 1.45pm Depart Clyde Dam lookout
- 1.50pm Arrive Clyde Town Centre
- 2.30pm Depart Clyde
- 2.40pm Arrive Alexandra
- 3.30pm Depart Alexandra for Dunedin via Roxburgh/Milton
- 6pm Arrive Saint Peter's

