



Anglican Parish of
Cabersham Saint Peter,
Dunedin, New Zealand

THE ROCK

November 2013—Advent



Two good ideas

By The Vicar

Shortly after the conclusion of our recent Stewardship Programme the group involved in its planning and execution met to assess how things had gone. Two good ideas from that meeting have now been implemented.

The two St Peter the Less bequests which were recently transferred to the Diocesan Trust Board Growth Fund have been amalgamated and renamed the Saint Peter's Renovation Fund, to make it clear that its purpose is to eventually fund the earthquake strengthening and roof replacement of the Church. With its compounding interest and higher rate of return this should give us the resources we need, providing we leave it undisturbed for the next six or seven years, thus relieving the parish of a considerable anxiety about its future. Already the Renovation Fund has received a \$1,000 top up from a recent parishioner bequest, and it is hoped that the renamed fund will attract other

gifts from parishioner wills, as parishioner feed back has indicated that this financial instrument has already attracted favourable interest and attention as a way of securing the future of the parish.

The other idea has been the creation by Vestry resolution of a Financial Advisory Group to further enhance the efficient business-like management of parish financial affairs. The

of the forward looking projected budget for each year, to monitor the budget as it progresses through each annual cycle and to make recommendations as to the more effective management of parish financial affairs, reporting back to vestry through either David Scouler or the Vicar."

Responses from parishioner visits during the Stewardship

Programme indicated parishioners appreciate the new business-like approach to running parish financial affairs, and the transparency of regular reports back to parishioners keeping them informed about what is

going on. This makes them more inclined to give as they feel their giving won't be wasted. The bringing into being of the Financial Advisory Group is a way of addressing this issue, and of developing and expanding gains already made in this area.

The Rock will carry reports from time to time of the group's ideas and recommendations.



terms of reference for this group are as follows:

"The Financial Advisory Group shall have a membership of the Vicar, David Scouler, Bruce Moore and Ross McComish, and shall meet from time to time as convened by the Vicar to advise on the development

Website re-vamped

Saint Peter's website has recently been upgraded to make room for additional menu entries when required.

The gradual addition of entries meant the old menu list at the left of the screen was becoming overloaded, especially in cases when it expanded for local

details—such as on the *News and Opinion* page.

The new menus appear along the top of the screen, with sub-menus dropping down when needed—as in the example at right.

On pages like *News and Opinion*, local details appear to the left, over the stained glass window graphic—also shown above.



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Visiting Lecturers strike common themes

Visiting lecturers took the podium when the 2013 Caversham Lectures resumed and ended this month.

On 12 November, David Hoskins, director of Music at Saint Peter's, discussed the place of the performing arts in the history of our parish and South Dunedin.

Then on the 19th, Associate Professor John Stenhouse looked at the connections between church history and social development in New Zealand and particularly in South Dunedin.

David Hoskins says his lecture led to a number of contacts about historical detail and archival material. "I would be most grateful if those with photographs, anecdotes or written material could contact me as this would be helpful in

THE CAVERSHAM LECTURES 2013



John Stenhouse (left) and David Hoskins presenting their Caversham Lectures.

PHOTO'S: INFORMATION SERVICES OTAGO LTD.

assembling material for a wider local history project." he said. 📧

[The final lecture in the 2013 series was scheduled for 26 November, after the deadline for this edition of *The Rock*. It will be covered in the December edition.—Ed.]



More online at www.stpeterscaversham.org.nz

Select The Caversham Lectures from the Theology menu for video and audio recordings of these and other lectures.

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*,
c/- The Vicarage, 57 Baker Street,
Caversham,
Dunedin, N.Z. 9012

Emailed to:

TheRockEditor@stpeterscaversham.org.nz

Ask The Vicar

For answers to questions doctrinal, spiritual and liturgical.

Write to: Ask The Vicar,
57 Baker Street,
Caversham,
Dunedin, N.Z. 9012

Or email:

AskTheVicar@stpeterscaversham.org.nz

ASK THE VESTRY

Questions about the secular life and fabric of the parish may be:

Posted to : Ask The Vestry,
c/- The Vicarage, 57 Baker Street,
Caversham,
Dunedin, N.Z. 9012

Emailed to:

AskTheVestry@stpeterscaversham.org.nz

1531 his name heads the list of choristers at St. George's Chapel, Windsor. He was appointed Organist of St. George's in 1541. The Protestantism creeping through Europe was making its way into England at that time, and Merbecke was drawn into it, even though he was serving at the King's Royal Chapel. That was a strange time—King Henry had broken with Rome, but in many ways he remained conservative in his religion, and in those circumstances, Merbecke's Protestant sympathies forced him into a double life. Of course, it couldn't last forever, and by 1543 his Protestantism was revealed. He was accused of owning and writing heretical documents—something that was, in fact, true. Along with two other colleagues at St. George's, Merbecke was arrested. Charged with being a heretic, he was condemned to death. Stephen Gardiner, the Bishop of Winchester, pleaded Merbecke's case before the King, and he was given a reprieve. Released from his imprisonment, Merbecke returned to his post of Organist at St. George's, where he stayed until his death in c.1585. 📧

Christmas and Beyond

Rock

music



By David Hoskins, Director of Music

The church's year concluded on Sunday, 24 November with the Feast of Christ the King. At the Solemn Sung Eucharist Arnold Bachop sang Ralph Vaughan Williams' *The Call* from the *Five Mystical Songs*. A remarkable composition, *The Call* is a mere three verses by George Herbert set to deeply moving music. Arnold sang superbly as ever and we intend to repeat it in 2014.

The Nine Lessons and Carols is always a highlight of the Saint Peter's liturgical calendar. This year's service is on Sunday, 22 December at 7pm and features soloists, congregational carols, readings and organ music. Not to be missed! The Midnight Mass of the Nativity will also feature special music.

Merbecke in Lent

Over the years the much-loved setting of the Eucharist by John Merbecke has been sung at Saint Peter's, particularly during penitential seasons. Lent 2014 marks the return of this

music at the 10.30am Solemn Sung Eucharist in a version arranged for contemporary texts. Previous attempts have been less than successful, but a new edition shows it can be done with grace and musical value. While we all think we remember the music, a series of congregational practices will take place in early 2014 just to make sure we do! Watch *The Rock* and the Pebble for times and dates.

Father Christopher Philips writes about Merbecke's life...

'The roots of this little setting couldn't be more Anglican. In 1550, Archbishop Thomas Cranmer had asked Merbecke to provide service music "containing so much of the Order of Common Prayer as is to be sung in Churches.". It was to be simple and able to be sung by everyone, and the requirement was "for every syllable a note."

We don't know anything about Merbecke's musical education, but apparently he was an accomplished singer and organist. Born c.1505, by

Whither & Whence?

By Ian Condie

There was a junior officer on a ship that carried about a hundred first class passengers who were loftily described as self-stowing cargo. One of his multifarious duties was, when the ship's noon position had been calculated, to go down to the Promenade Deck and mark the ship's position on a large map of the world on which the course line had been drawn.



On the third day of the passage the young man found a passenger lying in a deck chair beside the chart. He knew the passenger was an elderly and distinguished gentleman who had, in his time, held a very senior position in a certain part of the British Empire but they had, of course, not been introduced.

When the junior had finished his task he was a little surprised to be addressed by the titled occupant of the deck chair who asked, "are we winning?"

Assuming the remark to be jocular, the lad answered cautiously that he thought that they were holding their own and prepared to

depart.

The elderly enquirer had not, however, finished and since he was entitled to the crew's attentions on the grounds that he was elderly, that he was titled, that he had held high office and that he had paid his fare, the young man waited. "Where," he was asked, "are we going to?"

Startled and unsure whether the question was to be taken seriously, the officer replied baldly that the next port was Capetown and this satisfied the enquirer for perhaps five seconds.

His next question, however, did make the young officer check to see that his escape route was clear. "Where have we come from?"

Trying to keep a firm grip on reality the officer answered, "Melbourne, sir."

The elderly gentleman seemed puzzled but

Dedicated and
compassionate
professionals

*"Buildings are only brick and mortar;
it's our people who provide such quality
service to families"*

Alan Gillion



Gillions
Funeral Services

resigned and the officer was just about to depart when he was asked one more question. The passenger started to lever himself out of the chair and asked, "where is the bar?"

This was easily answered and the two parted but the officer was not to know that their paths were to cross again. ☒

Busy time for CWS

By Joan Dutton, Parish CWS contact

Christmas Appeal 2013 "Water for All"

This year marks the 68th Christmas Appeal for Christian World Service. Your Appeal leaflet provides information on just how important water is in the lives of everyone, but especially in countries ravaged by drought, hurricanes, war etc. Please give generously this year and bring much needed help to the people in need in countries like Tonga, Palestine, Nicaragua, Sri Lanka and Uganda.

Sometimes gift-giving can be a difficult decision. If this is the case for you, then CWS just may have the answer.

Have you seen the leaflet at the back of the church or in the Link entitled, 'Gifted...giving that works'? In this leaflet there are 'gifts' you can select and send a sum that meets your

budget or needs to the address on the form.

The leaflet explains how the gift works: 'Select your Gift from the options—pick the country, gift or value that suits you best—CWS will send you a magnet inside a card



Devastation in the Philippines

PHOTO: SUPPLIED.

with details of what your gift will achieve. You send the card and magnet to your recipient. Your purchase becomes a donation, helping people in a developing country build better lives.'

Why not think about doing something different this Christmas and bring joy to your recipient and to the person receiving the help sorely needed in their country.

Philippines Typhoon Appeal

CWS has launched an appeal for the Philippines after the vicious Typhoon Haiyan.

People need food, water, shelter, medical care and help cleaning up the debris. Over 11 million have been affected and the UN reports 673,042 people have been forced from their homes. ☒



More online at

<http://www.cws.org.nz/>

<http://christmasappeal.org.nz/>

<http://cws.org.nz/what-can-i-do/emergencies/philippines-typhoon-appeal>



Nutritious

Variety important; nuts still good

By Alex Chisholm



The saying “variety is the spice of life” has been around for some time and in the case of food choice is certainly true. In order to get all the nutrients we need it is important to have a selection of foods from the various ‘groups’. Too much of any one type—as has recently been advocated in some of the more sensational diets—supporting high intakes of fatty foods will leave us missing out on the macronutrients (protein, carbohydrate and fats) and micronutrients (vitamins and minerals and other health promoting compounds present in very small amounts) distributed throughout a huge range of foods.

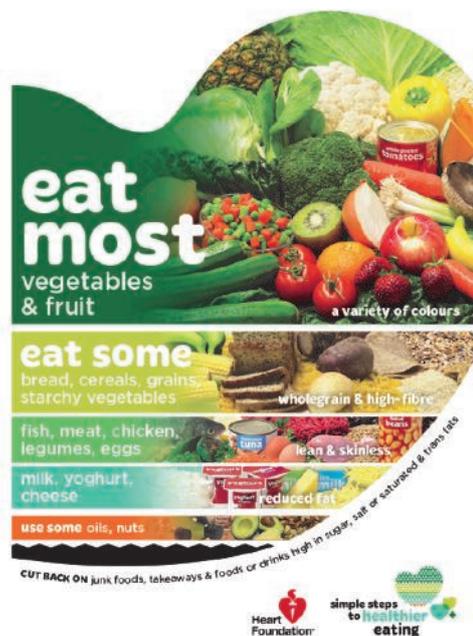
To make this choice easier and to assist with getting the proportions right the Heart Foundation has recently launched a new ‘Heart Healthy visual food guide’ model. It comes with information on how to use this ‘tool’, including a meal planning app and free recipes and cookery books (web addresses at the foot of this page).

The ‘Heart Healthy visual food guide’ replaces the old food pyramid and emphasises the foods we should eat more of by putting them at the top of the model. It is also shaped quite differently, representing the rounded shape of a heart rather than an angular pyramid—a shape not found much in our everyday lives. The new model has been in the planning and testing stage for some time and if you are interested you can read all about that on the Heart Foundation website.

More good news about nuts

Meantime while all the work with the visual food guide has been going on in NZ in the wider world of nutrition research there is more good news on the nut front.

Two major medical journals have published more results from the very large Nurses Health Study (USA) with 76,464 women, and the Health Professionals Follow-up Study with 42,498 men. These two observational studies follow the participants over many years and look at, among other indices, the type of diets and foods the men and women are eating. Very simply put, the studies found there were fewer deaths due to cancer, heart disease and respiratory disease among those who ate nuts frequently.



‘Heart Healthy visual food guide’

SOURCE: WWW.HEARTFOUNDATION.ORG.NZ/



Order on-line @ www.unclejoes.co.nz

Christmas Orders

Alex is taking Christmas orders for hazelnuts & walnuts (nuts, nut meal, oil & spreads) for those who do not have internet access. Just see Alex at Church, give her a ring or email alex@dietdesign.co.nz

If you have already ordered please confirm your order with Alex—there is still time to make changes .

(N Engl J Med 2013;369:2001-11. DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa1307352). There is also a “Quick Take” animation available at NEJM.org—see the link below.

A second paper in another journal looked at nut consumption and risk of pancreatic cancer (Br J Cancer. 2013 Oct 22. doi: 10.1038/bjc.2013.665.) and in a third article walnut consumption is associated with a lower risk of type 2 diabetes in women (J Nutr. 2013 Apr;143(4):512-8. doi: 10.3945/jn.112.172171.)



More online :

New England Journal of Medicine “Quick Take” animation—follow the link then click on the <http://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMoa1307352>

All about the Heart Healthy visual food guide

<http://www.heartfoundation.org.nz/healthy-living/healthy-eating/healthy-heart-visual-food-guide>

Healthy eating food choice-how to make choices easier

<http://www.heartfoundation.org.nz/healthy-living/healthy-eating>

a Heart Healthy Meal Planner app

<http://www.heartfoundation.org.nz/healthy-living/healthy-eating/healthy-heart-visual-food-guide/your-healthy-heart-meal-planner>

Recipes-free cookery books

<http://www.heartfoundation.org.nz/healthy-living/healthy-eating/free-healthy-food-cookbooks>

which includes cheaper options at

<http://www.heartfoundation.org.nz/healthy-living/healthy-eating/cheap-eats>



graphic

St Mary Redcliffe, Bristol : part 2

By Alex Chisholm

A wonderful collection of stained glass windows is one of the fascinating features of St Mary Redcliffe parish church. The windows of St John's Chapel are made up of fragments of the Medieval stained glass which, though scattered throughout the church after the windows were smashed, never the less survived the destruction of the Civil War. The West window depicts Mary surrounded by scenes from the childhood of Jesus and Jesus enthroned amongst the

angels. The stunning stained glass window in the Lady Chapel was designed and crafted in the 1960s by Harry Stammers of York. Although much of the Victorian glass was badly damaged in the Second World War, the modern replacements contain the original dedication to those windows. One small but interesting window is associated with the musical tradition at St Mary Redcliffe. It was erected to the memory of George Frideric Handel, who under the European influence of the Hanovarian kings of Britain helped to

restore music to the churches after the effects of the civil war and the post war period. Handel was a friend of the vicar Thomas Broughton, and almost certainly played the Harris and Byfield organ built to replace the one lost in the civil war. Parts of this organ are preserved in the present organ originally built by Harrison and Harrison in 1911-1912. However the restoration of the choir did not take place until the mid 19th century, when it then became renowned for its quality and dedication to the music of the church. 

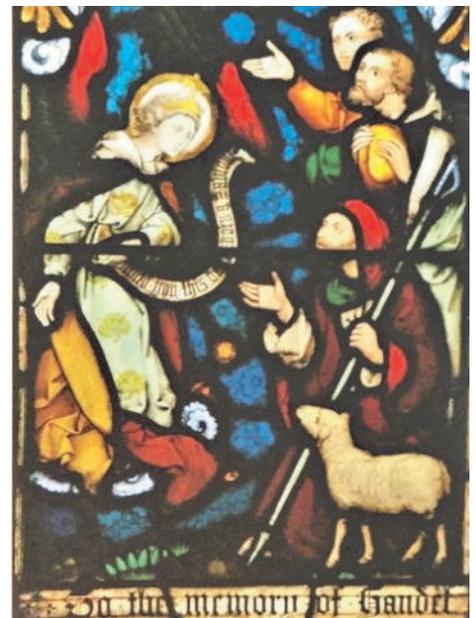
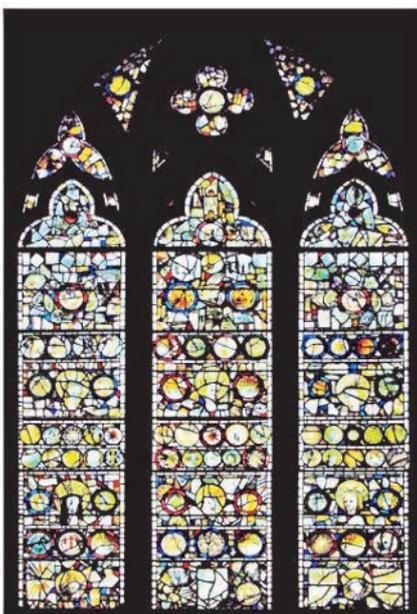


Clockwise from top: The Choir of St Mary Redcliffe; the Lady Chapel East window; the Handel window; the West window; a window composed of Mediaeval glass.

PHOTO'S: ALEX CHISHOLM ; [HTTP://STMARYREDCLIFFE.CO.UK/YOUR-VISIT/PICTURE-GALLERY/STAINED-GLASS-GALLERY](http://stmaryredcliffe.co.uk/your-visit/picture-gallery/stained-glass-gallery) ; JOHN PICKARD AND SIMON SMITH.

SOURCES: THE GUIDEBOOK "ST MARY REDCLIFFE BRISTOL"
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PHOTOGRAPHS BY JOHN PICKARD AND SIMON SMITH.
PRINTED BY BURLEIGH, BRISTOL

Next: Glasgow—St Brides, Belahouston Park and more.



Saint Peter's People

Jennifer Hopkinson's story

As told to Michael Forrest

Jennifer was born on her mother's kitchen floor during a Second World War air-raid. Her parents were subsequently bombed out of their London home and relocated to Harefield, a little village west-north-west of the City, now part of Greater London. Her half-sister from her mother's first marriage, fourteen-and-a-half-years older, sat her matriculation exams in an air-raid shelter. She became a teacher in Jamaica and married the celebrated Jamaican novelist, journalist and teacher John E C Hearne.

Jennifer has two full siblings, a brother who went into the Navy and a sister who now lives in Brighton, Sussex. Growing up in post-war Britain was not easy, with a shortage of food and toys; in her adult life Jennifer found this experience helpful. The family moved from Harefield to Chichester in West Sussex, a delightful though conservative cathedral city, but it was not a happy home so she left home at an early age and moved back up to London then, almost on a whim, went to Germany in 1970. She settled in Hamburg, learning German from scratch as she went, and lived there for ten very good years. Her first job, which she got on account of her English-language skills, was with an agency of Lloyds of London where she dealt with claims on imported New Zealand sheepskins, her first contact with this country. Later she worked with disaffected youth for the Hamburg State Government and found this hard but fulfilling work.



At The Caversham Lecture on
19 November.

PHOTO: INFORMATION SERVICES OTAGO LTD.

Through New Zealand friends she made in Germany Jennifer decided to move here and was met by them in Auckland. She quickly grew to love the country, met and married Ian and settled down. They had one daughter who now lives in St Clair and whom Jennifer loves dearly. After nine years, by way of a holiday, the family swapped houses for five weeks with a family in Michie Street, Belleknowes, who wanted a holiday in Auckland. Dunedin so charmed them that they moved here, something which Jennifer has never regretted. Having lived in England and Germany she finds this to be the most European of New Zealand cities, especially in its architecture.

Jennifer has lived in several parts of Dunedin including St Clair, Waitati for eleven years and (for a year now) Maryhill, though she still misses her garden at Doctors Point. She is busy running two businesses, the Moray Gallery in Princes Street (which she is trying to sell) and Art Valuation Services, and likes dealing with artists and encouraging people to buy art. She sings in the Dunedin City Choir, enjoys travel and has a lady dog, Ruby, to keep her in line. Jennifer very much enjoys the university life where she feels people are accepted on the basis of their knowledge and ability; in particular she relishes research. She has a B.A., begun in Auckland and completed at Otago, and a post-graduate Diploma in Fine Arts from Otago, and has taken courses in Art History under Peter Stupples and the Phenomenology of Religion (now known as "Religious Studies") under Albert Moore.

Jennifer's parents were Anglican and she was confirmed in Chichester, in which city her family worshipped at St Peter's. She has never had an epiphany or felt a calling but has a strong basic faith. On arriving in Dunedin she attended the Cathedral, where she liked the space and felt God's presence, but found that St Barnabas', Warrington, was more welcoming. Her faith was strengthened and developed there, especially with the support she received from Father Roger Barker and his wife Trish. Back in Dunedin proper now, she has become a Saint Peter's Person, and a most interesting and cultured member of our parish. ☑

Snippets

New linoleum is to be laid in the Parish Centre kitchen, thanks to a donation by Peter Rodgers.

After many years' of valiant service, the existing floor covering was looking decidedly tatty. Thanks to Peter's generosity, the kitchen floor will soon be holding its own with the rest of the recently-redecorated Parish Centre.

Parishioners have noticed recently the improvement in the state of the grounds around Saint Peter's and the vicarage.

During the interregnum, Averil (and Tubby!) Hopkins put in many hours working on the grounds and buildings, and the current improvement is mostly a result of this having become a more entrenched habit. Largely this came about because Averil decided, after 5 years as a volunteer at Presbyterian Support Op Shops, that it made sense for her to channel her efforts into the grounds at Saint Peter's instead. She has appointed

herself as the unofficial "gardener" but would welcome any offers of assistance.

Other parishioners have also weighed in with help and plants. To join in, just talk to The Vicar or one of the Churchwardens. Our unofficial grounds staff would be only too pleased.

It's nearly time for our Christmas edition. If you would like to publish a seasonal notice next month, let The Editors know—contact details appear on the following page in The

Rock box. ☑

Regular Services

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 Sung 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



Vestry Notes:

By Ian Condie,
Vestry Secretary

- ◆ At the Vestry meeting on 20 November, we had a full agenda and managed to get through it in good time. As we met at 2pm, it was not a case of “hurry up, they close at six”—or am I living in the past?
- ◆ It was noted that the Caversham Lectures are attracting increasing audiences, and bringing interest from other churches. David Hoskins is doing more research into our parish and neighbourhood
- ◆ The harsh financial facts of life are being faced by a generous and welcome increase in giving. Even so, it was decided to improve the Stewardship Programme by investigating further improvement of our bequest arrangements and by appointing a small advisory group to keep an eye on budget matters
- ◆ Finally, a warning to all able bodied parishioners including husbands whether able or not. A skip is to be hired to remove debris from outside the kitchen and one of our very able Wardens has been selected from a multitude of volunteers to tidy up the cleared space outside the hall. Working bees will be instituted. You have been warned! 📧

The Rock

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Special Services

Contact The Vicar to arrange baptisms, weddings, house blessings, burials, confessions and other special services.

For your diary

Wednesday, 18 December: 6.30 pm Ecumenical Carol Service in the “new” park beside St Patrick's basilica in Macandrew Road.

Sunday, 15 December : Last day for copy for the December edition of *The Rock*. Deadlines for printing and distribution are very tight this month, so early submission will be even more helpful than usual.

Sunday, 22 December : 7pm Nine Lessons and Carols Service.

Christmas Eve: 11pm Midnight Mass of the Nativity.

Christmas Day: 8am Holy Communion.

10.30am Sung Eucharist with Carols.

Tuesday, 31 December: 10pm New Years Eve Watchnight Service.

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

Dunedin Reflections

By The Vicar

At night-time from the second floor of the Vicarage I can hear the trains rumbling south. There is a surprising number of freight movements through the night hours. It is a comforting sound reminding me of my childhood in Rangiora when, as sleep came, you could hear the trains passing on the main trunk line. I also often hear the medivac choppers coming in from the south as they drop into the valley on the final approach run to the hospital. I have always been interested in aviation, so this too is a comforting sound.

It is nearly two years now since I came to Dunedin so I thought I would offer a few reflections on how I have found the city.

I notice how friendly people are on the buses—usually saying thank you as they get off—and bus drivers can be extremely helpful, in one case leaping off the bus to negotiate my final homeward journey with the driver idling in front of him, rather than leaving me to leg it from the depot.

I have also found refreshing the absence of vandalism, tagging and graffiti. In most churches I have served in there has been a constant battle with tagged church noticeboards, petty destructive acts, and local shop front windows and bus windows have been scratched with knives. That doesn't happen nearly as much in South Dunedin, and churches are comparatively left alone, despite the high incidence of youth unemployment.

What does concern are the young people I



have met in the Church porch, or wandering into the Church when I am saying the Offices, who are stoned on legal highs, or more powerful pharmacology. There seems to be a tendency to cope with lives in disarray or limited circumstances by going off into lotus land.

The air pollution in the winter is a local hazard I notice. Old model log burners chugging away on low settings, perhaps with the flu not cleaned each year, mean that hanging your clothes on the line, or going for a night walk, is probably not a good idea. In most New Zealand cities now councils are taking vigorous steps to address clean air issues because of the proven connection with respiratory illness, but that doesn't appear to be a priority here.

The Regent has been a delight to discover. It is better than the Isaac Theatre Royal, its Christchurch equivalent, and will probably still be so even after the deluxe reconstruction currently underway at the Christchurch site. Taken together with the romantic interior decoration of the Rialto, these are wonderful venues for the annual film festival.

And these two entertainment venues are of a piece with the success that the city centre is. It was an inspired move to relocate the art gallery in the Octagon, and together with some other iconic buildings, it means that Dunedin has an alive heart and attracting centre, something Christchurch never managed to make happen for itself in recent years.

It is extraordinary the power the university has in the affairs of the city. It seems as though every time I walk through north or central Dunedin the university has acquired another piece of property. Often the university has done excellent renovation jobs on the buildings concerned—one thinks of the conversion of "The Gardies" at the end of Castle street into the Marsh Study Centre—but there is an underlying concern associated with this trend. As these buildings change their use and come under University control they cease to be rateable properties, thus diminishing the revenue base of a Council already struggling with financial management issues.

This touches on perhaps my biggest concern about Dunedin—its economic stagnation. The city seems to find it hard



"... a comforting sound reminding me of my childhood in Rangiora"

PHOTO: EN.WIKIPEDIA.ORG/WIKI/NEW_ZEALAND_DF_CLASS_LOCOMOTIVE_(1979); 24 Nov. 2013

to discover a unique drawing point and selling point that will attract new interest, investment and population growth. Other small cities such as Nelson and Tauranga have done this in their own particular way, and Oamaru's redevelopment of its historic harbour side Victorian warehouse precinct shows what can be done. Dunedin is caught up in a bigger trend across the region—wealth and population are draining out of the south, the areas of 19th century coastal settlement around Dunedin harbour are stagnant, while the area around Queenstown and Upper Clutha are seeing an increase in wealth and population. This of course has implications for the diocese.

The other side of a city a little short of entrepreneurial drive is a more laid back approach to life, and this relaxed pace of life has its attractions as life proceeds in a gentler, kinder way. People have more time for each other; there isn't the drivenness that was such a pastoral concern to me in my years in Wellington, and this certainly adds to the quality of life. Taken together with the intellectual stimulation the university provides, and the rich cultural life of the city, this is quite a winning combination.

One final point—Dunedin's weather reputation simply isn't true. Watching the early evening weather report I notice how often Dunedin avoids major weather incidents affecting other parts of the country. During my time here there have only been two light falls of snow, and rain tends to be of the gentle Scottish mist variety, rather than raining stair rods as in Auckland. Despite my reputation for imperviousness to cold, I would still say that this is by no means the coldest part of the country. ☹️

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