

MILFORD ANGLICAN PARISH NEWS
ST. PAUL'S BY THE SEA
OCTOBER-NOVEMBER 2015

AN INVITATION

**is extended to all parishioners to attend the
Institution of the Reverend Grant Robertson
as the 5th Vicar of St Paul's-by-the-Sea, Milford
Wednesday 2 December 2015 at 7.30pm**



Many readers enjoyed the recent article which introduced members of our Vestry to the wider parish. This month we begin a new feature, a sort of equivalent to TV's 'Good Sorts'. We hope this might continue after our new vicar is instituted but that might depend on someone offering to interview individual parishioners. In this issue we tell the story of two of our older but most regular parishioners, at 8am. Meet John Wilson (left) and Jim Cozens (right).

A FAREWELL MESSAGE FROM OUR PRIEST IN CHARGE

I take this opportunity to write a short message before I complete my ministry at St Paul's. By the time I finish up here early in November I will have completed six months among you. You have been a very easy crowd of people to deal with and I have enjoyed your friendship and cooperation. I have tried to get around the parish by visiting some of you in your homes and that has been a privilege. It has been good to get back into parish ministry. This is where the heart of the church is to be found.

My task in a sense was to fill the gap between two vicars. A short gap like this enables the new vicar to find his feet rather than having to step into shoes left behind by his predecessor. A priest-in-charge has a unique opportunity to pave the way for the new vicar by dealing with some issues that need attention. He can also introduce some new ways of doing things and in a sense loosen things up a bit so that the new vicar can have a smoother entry.

I urge you to give your new vicar all the support and prayerful encouragement you can offer. He comes to a parish that offers some great programmes many of which bridge the gap between church and community. There is good lay leadership and a set of buildings which are flexible. More than a few of you love this parish with all your heart and would do anything to preserve its life and grow it. If I have one disappointment it is that of the numbers who have attended worship. I've commented on this from time to time but haven't said too much about it to 'the converted' who are there on Sunday. Our average numbers have been 16 at 8am, 26 at 9.30 and 6 on Wednesdays. These numbers really should be higher, and especially at 9.30. I would have expected that congregation to number around 50. That in itself would act as an encouragement to those who attend and make it possible to provide quality and exciting services.

With warmest greetings and heartfelt thanks.

Noel Derbyshire

MEET OUR PARISHIONERS: THE FIRST IN A SERIES?

Two Regular Blokes

Jim Cozens, born in 1923 in Wakapuaka near Nelson, was the son of a baker who had to give up his job because of flour entering his lungs. His father worked as a farm labourer as jobs were very scarce during the depression. The family moved around a lot and Jim attended six primary schools. He then went to Nelson College for three years but then worked on farms himself for a while.

However, the Second World War intervened and Jim, at 18½, joined the Navy in 1942. He served in the Pacific on *Monowai* in 1942-43 and went with the ship to the UK where she was taken over by the Ministry of War Transport. The crew were drafted in toto to Devonport naval establishment. He worked on ship maintenance for 3 months before being drafted to the USA to pick up a new ship only to find that she was not ready. When she was 'ready' it could not do a power trial to suit RN requirements. He finally left the USA in November 1944 and returned to the UK via Bermuda (where he celebrated his 21st). Following the end of the war in Europe he was drafted to *Cardigan Bay* commanded by Peter Scott, son of the famous Antarctic explorer, Robert Falcon Scott. They carried out patrols around the British coast before setting sail for the Far East. They stopped at Gibraltar and Malta but halfway to their destination, the Pacific War finished and so it was back to the UK. Eventually they were loaded on to *Atheline* and arrived in Wellington on Christmas Eve 1945 - '1100 of us!' He recalls that many of his NZ shipmates at the end of the war were dissatisfied. They felt that the Navy had failed to provide training opportunities for its men. This was a time of transition from an outpost of the Royal Navy to the navy of an independent nation and there were differences of style and approach. He admired Sir Peter Phipps, the first New Zealander to attain the rank of admiral.

After the war he worked as a scaffolder for 11 years in Auckland. He then worked as a scaffolding inspector with the Department of Labour from 1958 to 1983 but then worked part-time as a safety supervisor until he realised he was over 83 years old!

Jim married Peggy in 1947 who died 17 years ago. They had a family of two and now there are five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Jim still lives in the home he had built in 1950.

He first attended services in the old St Paul's church around 1953 when the Revd G.L.Maffey was the Vicar. The church was then in the Parish of Takapuna. The well-known Navy chaplain, the Revd G.T. Robson ('Padre Robson') assisted at St Paul's. Strangely, Jim has never been on the vestry but has helped in many practical ways. Vicar Bob Mortimore was concerned at the state of the interior of the church hall. Rather than paying for a professional painter he and John Wilson offered to get a team of parishioners to do the job. It worked! A bottle of Glenfiddich covered the cost of the scaffolding. A few Warehouse blue tarps covered the floor. John got the paint and tools to apply it ... where there's as will!

Jim remembers persuading Noel Holmes, the first vicar, to hold a parish fair. Once again Jim's scaffolding background and his good friend Eric Voice's carpentry made it easy to provide trestles and tops. Today, Jim's unique contribution is making and selling marmalade – 'Jim's Jam' - and occasional calling for more 'jars for Jim'! However, Jim's volunteer spirit isn't limited to the church. On one of the walls in his home are a number of certificates of appreciation from groups he has assisted – the Stroke Foundation, stroke club, Neighbourhood Watch, Arthritis Foundation and civic awards from North Shore City for his voluntary work in the community.

John Wilson, who usually gets a lift to church with Jim or else comes on his red mobility scooter, is a young bloke of 85. He was born in Wandsworth in London but the war meant that the family often shifted and so he attended 14 schools. However, he was then fortunate enough to get a place at Wycliffe College in Stonehouse, Gloucestershire. There he passed his Oxford and Cambridge School Certificate. John has an interesting family background. His mother was Belgian and her family was involved in the chemical industry. His father was a pilot with the Royal Flying Corps (forerunner of the RAF)

in the First World War. However, he became disenchanted with war as a means of settling international disputes. His parents' interest in historical architecture and literature had an influence on John.

On leaving school he worked for the Post Office engineering research department in London and passed his City and Guilds exams as a radio technician. His national service deferred until he was taken up by the British Army as a radar technician in the REME (Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers). Most of his two years national service was spent in Gibraltar which meant that he saw something of Spain and appreciated its climate to the extent that a move to a warmer climate appealed. About this time he ran into a NZ technician, Reg Motion, who asked, 'Why don't you move to New Zealand?' He moved here in 1952. Before long he met Ngaire Ingram in Christchurch and they married in 1955. They moved to Auckland about 1957 and in 1959 bought the Brian Avenue property in which John still lives. They were to have a family of two sons and a daughter and five grand-children. Sadly, Ngaire passed away in August 2001.

John worked as a news photographer for twenty years, with the *Christchurch Star*, *NZ Herald*, and *Auckland Star*. Examples of his work point to his artistry. His use of black and white demonstrates his mastery of light and shade. He likes to make the point that the moment captured by the photographer is a unique event that will not be repeated.

John is critical of modern newspapers, the trend towards tabloid journalism, and sloppy grammar. He worked for newspapers when proofreading standards were high, editorials were written to encourage public debate, and when excellence in grammar and punctuation was expected.

John was grateful for the care and compassion shown to Ngaire during her illness and now works as a volunteer for the North Shore Hospice two mornings a week. He checks domestic appliances donated to the opportunity shops making sure that they are suitable for resale. That work and worshipping at 8am each Sunday give an essential routine to his life.

OUR LINK WITH RINGMER

The recent death of Dr Robin Norris, whose life was one of great courage, professional dedication, and strong faith, brought to mind the link parish in England to which he was so strongly committed. Robin was not only a parishioner of St Paul's but also of St Mary's, Ringmer in the Diocese of Chichester. There is a painting of St Mary's at St Paul's. It will be necessary at some stage to review this link as by the end of 2015 both parishes will have new vicars. Beth Woodgate was instituted as Vicar of St Mary's on about 15 June and Grant Robertson is to be instituted here on 2 December. When Robin died one of the first things we did was to advise Ringmer. Messages were exchanged between the two vestries which coincidentally met on the same evening that week. As a tribute to Robin and in recognition of this link we share some information taken from their website.



This photo features the new vicar on the occasion of their Patronal Festival. It was a special event as the new statue of St Mary was consecrated. It replaced the old, very weathered, one which was given an honoured retirement in the Lady Chapel.

In the first parish magazine after her institution, she gave some background material about herself. It's interesting reading as it gives an insight into ministry in the Church of England. She writes:

As a teacher I've taught children throughout the primary age range as well as at GCSE level and in a variety of schools both in England and internationally. Most recently I was responsible for a class of Reception children in a C of E Primary school near Arundel. I enjoy working with children and their families and have rich experience in making church accessible to them today through 'Messy Church' as well as through working closely with schools.

Following a very clear call from God to come back 'home' into the Anglican Church and to offer myself for ordained ministry, I trained, full time, at St. John's Theological College in Nottingham, where I gained a Masters in Theology and specialised in understanding the grief process and so improving our funeral and bereavement care.

Since ordination I served in the Fareham and Gosport deaneries before accepting an invitation to work and live in Kuwait. There I was privileged to be invited to be the first woman to serve as an ordained chaplain in the state, which I did for nearly three years, in the five different congregations within the Anglican Chaplaincy. I taught in International schools during my three and a half years in The Middle East and as well as having some very interesting students (feel free to ask me about them) I learned a lot about myself and others, and about how to 'sing the Lord's song in a foreign land' (Psalm 137).

I have three grown sons, who are all able musicians, and who have all now 'flown the nest', although we enjoy getting together when we can. I have a cat called Moses ...because when I first saw him he was curled up in a basket!

I'm passionate about creating a welcoming and open church, and long to see the church at the heart of community life, with people of all ages and backgrounds feeling welcome and cared for. Good communication is vital and often involves building bridges. That's how I got interested in learning British Sign Language and

making church services accessible for deaf people, which I have been involved with for almost ten years now

I love to find creative ways of realising a vision, and encouraging others to share their strengths and gifts with us all. I enjoy getting to know and value people for who they are; in the congregation and in the community. I'll always look for ways of developing spirituality and I identify easily with the Celtic prayerful tradition. I love the Anglican liturgy with all its depth and variety, but am also thankful for the richness of the varied church traditions I have known over many years.

I am an honorary Officiating Chaplain to the Military and serve, usually one day a month, with the Chaplaincy of HM Naval Base in Portsmouth, where I support serving and retired naval personnel and their families.

When I get time off I value the peace and restoration of tending my garden for colour, variety and fragrance. I enjoy listening to music of different genres and playing piano and guitar - especially with my sons. I enjoy having a creative project on the go and I sew patchwork quilts in celebration of colour, with textures and embroidery. Last summer I learned to mosaic and I've recently reinvested in designing and hand-making liturgical stoles.

I'm really excited by the prospect of becoming the Vicar of St Mary the Virgin, Ringmer. Trusting His timing, I can so clearly see God's guiding hand on this journey and I'm full of hopeful anticipation for the way ahead as we walk together in love and discipleship and in the blessings of His grace.

Beth

FROM THE REGISTERS

Baptism

October 25 Vincent son of Scott and Natasha Rice

Funerals

September 28 Robin Mackenzie Norris

CHRISTMAS APPEAL *Christian World Service*



During Advent our attention slowly turns to the familiar events of the Christmas story. We wait, we prepare, we celebrate. There's a sense of moving forward. Advent is a time of waiting but not a time of doing nothing. Just as we prepare for Christmas we need to find ways to make peace in our world. Making sure refugees have food, shelter and education, small farmers have seeds and water to grow food, and children have medical care when they need it. These are ways to peace.

It's also time for the annual CWS Christmas Appeal, this year celebrating its 70th anniversary.

Appeal envelopes will soon be available. Each week in Advent we will outline the projects to be undertaken in many parts of the world. We will remember the appeal in our Sunday worship.

PARISH DIARY

THIS ISSUE of the monthly magazine includes details of services and other events until the end of January. Because our new Vicar doesn't arrive until early December it may be difficult to produce another magazine before Christmas.

NOVEMBER	
Sunday 1	All Saints' Day. Final Sunday for the Revd Noel Derbyshire 8.00am Holy Communion. 9.30 Holy Communion and J Team.
Tuesday 3	10.00am Holy Communion Park Lane Retirement Village. 9.30am Selwyn Centre. Join us for friendship, fun. Monthly lunch 11.30am. Cost \$5.00.
Wednesday 4	10.00am Holy Communion followed by morning tea.
Thursday 5	10.00am Mainly Music. Cost \$3.00 per family.
Sunday 8	8.00am Holy Communion. 9.30 Holy Communion and J Team
Wednesday 11	10.00am Holy Communion followed by morning tea
Thursday 12	10.00am Mainly Music. Cost \$3.00 per family.
Sunday 15	8.00am Holy Communion. 9.30 Holy Communion and J Team.
Tuesday 17	Selwyn Centre 9.30am-12noon. Warm, friendly and meet new people. Nice morning tea. Cost \$3.00.
Wednesday 18	10.00am Holy Communion followed by morning tea..
Thursday 19	10.00am Mainly Music. Cost \$3.00 per family.
Sunday 22	Christ the King Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion. 9.30 Holy Communion and J Team
Tuesday 24	Selwyn Centre 9.30am -12.00. Join us for sharing, friendship, fun, puzzles and morning tea. Cost \$3.00.
Wednesday 25	10.00am Holy Communion. Morning tea.
Thursday 26	10.00am Mainly Music. Cost \$3.00 per family.
Saturday 28	Diocesan Ordination
Sunday 29	Advent Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion. 9.30 Holy Communion and J Team
DECEMBER	
Tuesday 1	Selwyn Centre 9.30am -11.30am. Christmas lunch.
Wednesday 2	NO Holy Communion today 7.30pm Institution of the Revd Grant Robertson as Vicar
Thursday 3	10.00am Mainly Music. Cost \$3.00 per family.
Sunday 6	Advent 2. 8.00am Holy Communion. 9.30 Holy Communion. Please bring Christmas toys to be given to Anglican Trust for Women and Children to distribute to children.
Tuesday 8	10.00am Holy Communion Park Lane Retirement Village

	(instead of December 1) Selwyn Centre 9.30am to 12.00. Join us for conversation, fun, friendship, and lovely morning tea. Cost \$3.00.
Wednesday 9	10.00am Holy Communion followed by morning tea.
Thursday 10	10.00am Mainly Music. Final for the year.
Sunday 13	Advent 3. 8.00am Holy Communion. 9.30 Holy Communion.
Wednesday 16	10.00am Holy Communion followed by morning tea. No midweek Holy Communion until January 12.
Saturday 19	Op Shop closes until 11th January 2016.
Sunday 20	Advent 4. One service 9.30am. 9 Lessons and Carols. Followed by Christmas morning tea.
Tuesday 22	10.00am Holy Communion Park Lane Retirement Village
Wednesday 23	10.00am Holy Communion followed by morning tea.
Thursday 24	Christmas Eve. Setting up the church for Christingle service. A fun task of getting ready for the symbol making later. 5.00 pm Christingle service. Symbol making, carols and informal communion, An excellent service for families and people wanting an early service. 11.15pm Carols and Midnight Eucharist by candlelight
Friday 24	Christmas Day 8.00am Holy Communion. 9.30 Holy Communion
Sunday 27	1st Sunday after Christmas. 8.00am and 9.30 Holy Communion.
JANUARY	
Sunday 3	Epiphany (transferred from 6 th) 8.00am and 9.30 Holy Communion.
Sunday 10	Baptism of Jesus: 8.00am and 9.30 Holy Communion.
Wednesday 12	10.00am Holy Communion resumes for the year
Sunday 17	Epiphany 2: 8.00am and 9.30 Holy Communion.
Tuesday 18	Parish Office re-opens for year Selwyn Centre resumes: 9.30am -12.00. Join us for sharing, friendship, fun, puzzles and morning tea. Cost \$3.00.
Wednesday 19	10.00am Holy Communion followed by morning tea.
Sunday 24	Epiphany 3: 8.00am and 9.30 Holy Communion.
Tuesday 25	Selwyn Centre 9.30am -12.00. Join us for sharing, friendship, fun, puzzles and morning tea. Cost \$3.00.
Wednesday 26	10.00am Holy Communion followed by morning tea
Sunday 31	Epiphany 4: 8.00am and 9.30 Holy Communion.

St. Paul's 10 Otakau Road, Milford

Office email: stpaulsmilford@xtra.co.nz

Web site: www.stpaulsmilford.co.nz

Worship every Sunday:

8.00 Holy Communion (BCP)

9.30 Eucharist (NZPB)

9.30 J Team – Karen Stubbs – 410 8089

Weekday Holy Communion -10am - Every Wednesday at St. Paul's Park Lane Retirement Village – 10am 1st Tuesday (except December 8)

Baptism, Marriage, Funerals, House blessings and visiting contact

Clergy or Parish Office.

Clergy:

Until 4 November: The Revd Noel Derbyshire 537 3407

noelandjudith@xtra.co.nz

From 2 December: The Revd Grant Robertson 486 1010

grant1.robertson@xtra.co.nz

Parish Directory:

Bishop's Warden Graeme Thomas 445 3670

People's Warden Pam Martin 414 4223

Parish Secretary Mary Griffiths 486 0668

Office hours in the interregnum. Mary will be in the office Tuesday – Wednesday mornings and Friday afternoon.

Parish Treasurer Megan Bowden 410 5117

Parish Recorder Cynthia Row 489 8892

Synod Reps. Mary Griffiths 410 7306

Megan Bowden 410 5117

Vestry members: The Wardens, Treasurer, Synod Reps. Patrick Jackson, (vestry secretary) Gaylene Hotchkiss, Tania Manuel, Priscilla Phillips, Tex Riley, Karen Stubbs, Jack Weir.

Selwyn Centre: Tuesday 9.30–12.00. Mary Griffiths 486 0668

Opportunity Shop: Otakau Road. Parish Office 486 0668

Hall Bookings: Parish Office 486 0668

Magazine Distributors:

Milford East Millie McHattie 489 1441

East Coast Road/Castor Bay Parish Office 486 0668

Milford West Parish Office 486 0668

Outer Parish Parish Office 486 0668

Forrest Hill Joyce Burgess 410 9125