



National Newsletter May 2021

TE RŌPŪ WĀHINE KATORIKA O AOTEAROA.

Kia Kaha Courage – Take Heart

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Diocesan Presidents: Auckland:

Fleur de Farias

Hamilton: Margaret Brownsey

Wellington Archdiocese: Susan

Lloyd

Christchurch: Sylvia Mellish

Dunedin: Anne McRandle

National Board Chaplain: Clare

Murphy RNDM

Kia ora

Thank you and blessings to Colleen Petricevich and welcome to Fleur de Farias, incoming Auckland Diocesan President. We wish you well Fleur in your new role.

2021, The Year of Covid II. The suffering in other parts of the world is heart-breaking. We must be thankful that the very isolation and distance that we often bemoan has allowed our government to manage our borders. We pray for those who are sick and losing loved ones. We also pray for all those who have lost their jobs and who now face an uncertain future. *Tear Fund* reports that 100 million migrant workers are trapped in lockdowns in India alone. The pandemic appears out of control in India. At home round 200,000 New Zealanders needed special covid assistance during 2020. The negative impact on women and children will not be fully realised for some time.

This is also the Year of National Conference. We want this conference to be a positive and inspiring experience for everyone. CWLANZ has been facing difficult challenges for some years but we are not going to let these turn us down and out. There are so many wonderful things happening within our organisation. The aim is to share these, celebrate who we are and what we do. We will also profile, honour and celebrate some of our past and present members. I have been again humbled during my round of diocesan conferences by the amazing women within our branches. Read on, diocesan presidents share some of these stories in the newsletter. Susan



A Prayer for today: *O most loving and gracious Father*

Intimacy, change, pruning, conversion, are such difficult processes to enter that we often shy away from them.

Grant us the courage to enter into the necessary steps required for human relationships and growth.

Help us to realise once again that while things for us at times, seem almost impossible, with you all things are possible.

Send forth upon us your Spirit of courage, wisdom, and power, and may your Spirit guide us in the difficult paths we find *hard to walk*.

We ask this through your Son, Jesus, and in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen

[Prayer Time Cycle B Faith-Sharing Reflections on the Sunday Gospels](#), RENEW International

Another Great Christchurch Conference

The 84th Diocesan Conference of the CWL Christchurch, has been successfully completed.

Our theme *Kia Kaha: Courage: take heart* was very much in evidence throughout the two days.

Firstly, Jill Hawkey spoke of the amazing work the Methodist Mission is doing for the homeless in Christchurch by providing homes and accommodation for so many.

Jumaya Jones spoke about her personal experience on the day of the Mosque shootings which epitomised our theme. She also told us a little about the Muslim Faith which explains how they can forgive the shooter and his horrendous crime.

Our third guest speaker Clare Tatterson from the Champion Centre, spoke about her work with Down Syndrome children and how they and their parents, too, show their outstanding courage, whilst standing strong and taking heart. NZDSA is our 'at home' appeal this year.

It was also very interesting to hear from Matt O'Connell re the Adoration Roster - we take heart that this will continue - and Triona Doocey spoke on the work she has done so far on the archives of our Diocesan League in Christchurch. A big thank you to all those who have already spoken to Triona regarding the history of the League and their own personal experiences within the League. There is nothing like a successful conference to encourage members to move forward with enthusiasm and this was certainly apparent during the two days. Some wonderful memories were recalled, and some lovely stories told. May you continue to forge ahead in your faith and service filled with joy, Sylvia Christchurch Diocesan President



Auckland Diocesan Council News

Auckland Diocesan Council members attended a lovely branch function in Ngatea to celebrate a CWL Life Membership to Colleen Jordon. Colleen has given 60 years' service to CWL and her parish. Of her many roles she was CWL branch president for 15 years and served 8 years as branch secretary.



A successful Diocesan Conference was held in Pukekohe in April. Pukekohe branch is to be congratulated on the wonderful time and effort they put into organising our successful conference.



Dame Colleen Bayer, Director/Founder Family Life International and Saint Ginna's Home for Mother and Babies was guest speaker. She is passionate about mothers with babies who give life and those who are struggling to conceive. Her Mission is to build a vision of

life from conception through life itself. She began the organisation about 30 years ago. The organisation does a variety of work including educating people about life. There is a massive following including young people. Previously Dame Colleen and her family provided accommodation for mums in need in their own home. There are many complexities facing young mums these days - social media, drugs, alcohol, infidelity. Dame Colleen was pleased to publicly announce at our conference that the Diocese of Auckland has assisted in unexpected ways with a long-term home in Pukekohe for pregnant mothers, and mothers and babies. More fundraising is needed but with the assistance of Bishop Pat Dunn and prayers to St Gianna and other supporters this will come. Southern Diocesan Rep Laurel Blakey is seen presenting flowers and a donation to Dame Colleen Bayer on our behalf.

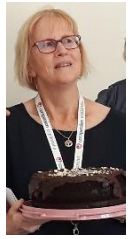
Colleen Petricevich was farewelled as Auckland Diocesan Council President after 4 years in the position and we send her our sincere thanks and best wishes. Diocesan Treasurer and NCW rep July Cronin after giving many years to CWL and NCW in Auckland was also farewelled as she is moving to Nelson. Incoming Diocesan President is Fleur de Farias, and Diocesan Treasurer Estrella Own.



From the Lower North Island

Branch highlights:

Heretaunga held a Garden Party in February and invited members from the other Branches in their Region. They also participated actively in celebrations marking the 70 year milestones of both their Parish and School.



Lower Hutt will celebrate 70 years of service in June. They will be attending a celebration dinner at the Fisherman's Table restaurant. They have been able to get funding for a bus to get them there and safely home again without the worry of transport out of their area.

New Plymouth & Inglewood (as the Taranaki Region) Wellington Archdiocese welcome these Branches. They have willingly put their hands up to host our 2022 Wellington Archdiocesan Conference. We are so looking forward to travelling to their "hometown".

Onslow 25 members gathered in the St Benedict's foyer as Committee member Andrea, shared her 20 years as a Kiwi Tour Guide in Europe, Asia, Africa, Egypt, Gallipoli and Morocco, familiar to some, enabling a re-experience of memories and a touch of the excitement, with photos to help recall.

Otari recently conferred Life Membership on Ethne Wyndham-Smith for her long and dedicated work for the Branch along with her many years on NCW Wellington. Paraparaumu and Levin (as the Kapiti Region) hosted the 2021 Wellington Archdiocesan Conference in March in the new Our Lady of Kapiti Centre in Paraparaumu. In May Levin will host WUCWO celebrations and have invited six other Churches to join them.

Upper Hutt say a final farewell to Teen Parents School for the last time at the end of this term. They have been serving soup and rolls and fruit for 19 years in the winter months! The Government will now be providing lunches for the girls five days a week.

Susan Lloyd, Wellington Archdiocesan President

Special happenings at the Archdiocesan Conference



Susan Dickson and Anne Powell signing the document of cooperation with Talitha Kum

National presentation to a Days for Girls, 2020 Mission at Home Appeal, representative. \$7850.70 was deposited into their bank account. Great effort everyone



Greetings from Dunedin Diocesan Catholic Women League Members,



The important part of our year would have to be the Annual Diocesan Conference, hosted by the Sacred Heart branch, Invercargill. We had 4 branches attend, Queenstown, Gore, St Patrick's, Sacred Heart Invercargill.

Our Quest Speaker was Penny Simmonds, MP, Invercargill and former CEO of Southern Institute Technology. Penny was well received giving us an insight of her life, family, building up SIT and then ongoing into Parliament. Having the strength and the courage to make change.

Input from Susan and Colleen as National representatives was well received, loved the "Margaret Fletcher skit".

With a workshop by Margaret Butler OP it was a very productive and social conference. Bishop Michael Dooley and our Chaplain Fr Jaewoo Lee attending.

Last year we had to cancel our conference because of covid-19.

We were fortunate that Penny was able to speak after having to cancel her last year.

We had to farewell Gore branch at this time, a decision, not taken lightly. A great group of women who have tried to keep going. I know that they will still be interested to stay connected as Associate members. As a Council we need to keep the former members of League connected through information and using electronic means. We have no branches in Otago now.

Plans for WUCWO Day of Prayer this month, with added education of what this group is and does, especially with No 3 Resolution "Eliminate Discrimination and Violence Against Women".

Looking forward to National Conference in Rotorua. The need now is receiving the feedback on information sent last week that has been sent out to branches.

Psalm 31:24 Be strong and let our hearts take courage all you who wait for the Lord.

Kia Kaha Courage - Take Heart
Anne McRandle, Dunedin
Diocesan President.

Around the Conferences





*Dunedin Council, Hamilton Council, Lively discussion at Auckland conference, Dawn Mullins National Social Issues, Christchurch Liturgy for Deceased Members, Dunedin Bishop Michael Dooley, Pat O'Connor New Plymouth, CHCH members partying, Incoming and outgoing Auckland presidents, Susan Lloyd Archdiocesan pres. and Susan Dickson

Retirements, Farewells, Recognitions and Welcomes



Hamilton's Diocesan Conference, 2021 was a momentous occasion a time of "changing of the guard." Two Council members of long standing retired after many, many years of service fulfilling the motto of Faith and Service. Both were past presidents of our Council who had also remained as members to take the roles of Special Officers. Their wisdom and knowledge was of indefinable value to all of Council, and to me.

Maureen Russell, Social Issues convenor, was known for her ability to open our eyes to problems in society which many of us would have overlooked.

Joan Pigou (WUCWO) worked tirelessly to remind all members in the diocese that we were part of an international body of women working to fulfil the aims of our foundress.

For their loyalty and ability to share their broad knowledge of CWLANZ, they were recognised by being awarded Life Membership

A third Life membership was awarded also to Council Treasurer, Val Townley who has served under three Presidents and managed the transition to On-Line banking successfully.

Unfortunately, Val was not present to receive her Certificate and Badge as she was recovering from major heart surgery. Council will present them to her at their next meeting.

The Special Officers' positions have been filled by willing volunteers: Jane Diment has taken the WUCWO role and Bonnie Savage, Social Issues.

These ladies have exceptionally big shoes to fill.

Jane is from Rotorua (HOME OF NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2021) and Bonnie from Whakatane so geographically, the Diocese is well represented on our Council.

We look forward to working with the new team.



The papers are out.

Check out the remits and recommendations that your regional reps will vote on at National Conference. Have your say!

Proposed Membership Levy Increase

Capitation Fee to increase by \$1 to \$13.50

Travel levy, no change remains at \$1.50

Total \$15

To be paid by November 2022

Photo Competition

Win a coffee/tea voucher!

We are creating a new website for CWLANZ

You told me we needed *Happy* images

That is what we are looking for

- Get your thinking caps on, brainstorm, share ideas, what makes a happy image?
- Get clicking – phone photos ok so long as they are landscape
- Photos must be in landscape and uncropped
- Make sure you have the permission of anyone who may feature in your photo
- Winner(s) announced at conference

Send your entries asap to: Photo Competition

cwlanz.nat.president@gmail.com

