

# Opoho Signal

**The newsletter of Opoho Presbyterian Church**

50 Signal Hill Road, Opoho, Dunedin 9010



**May 2023**

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Opinions expressed in the *Opoho Signal* are those of individual authors,  
unless stated otherwise.

## **Editorial**

Another editorial, and I am thinking about writing about archives again. I am told that it makes it easier to identify who wrote the editorial. Now who said that?

The last few years have been eventful. We worked from home during the first lockdown. Do we still remember what that was like? I sat at my computer at home, logged into work and worked on the Archives' online catalogue until teatime. We worked at home again when a wave of Covid went through Knox College. A hundred residents were isolating at its peak.

We had no Covid deaths. Two deaths happened during that time when our former Curator of Photographs died, and then suddenly, our Director of Library and Archives, which was a terrible blow for us. We continued on for a year until the Presbyterian Church advertised the position, and Jay Robinson filled the Director's office again.

Our Digital Curator took a position at Hocken Collections, and we still hope to fill that position. The Kingdom of Heaven is like an archivist who can reveal taonga from a collection; and we have plenty of taonga people see images, identify faces, and see the landmarks of our history. The constraints of people and money on parishes weigh equally on the Church's national offices.

I mustn't keep grumbling because we invite you to do an open day at the Archives on Saturday the 27th of May from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. It is an open day that we wanted to do before Covid caused us to go into the first lockdown. There will be a tour of the Archives, and talks and catering. I will do a talk on "What Happens to Records When They Arrive?", and others will be talking about Presbyterian history in Dunedin, Family History, and Immigrant Stories.

We are spreading the news around local genealogy groups, and I hope to see people from Opoho and other churches visit us for the open day too.

*Andrew Smith*

## **Property and Finance Committee Update**

Another stellar meeting in April with Sanel beaming in from Auckland on Judy's iPad. We enjoy being together.

### Budget:

Our budget is tracking well and the reporting format by our treasurer Judy means we can clearly see our expenditure against budget and compare month to month and year to year. We are progressing with electrical work in minister's office, installing a tap in back garden, continuing to look for the perfect design garden seat and getting some more quotes before we repair the back door in the children's room.

### Grounds:

Plans are underway to waterblast the paths and cut the ivy on the back fence. Miriam has enjoyed 3 pickings of field mushrooms from the back lawn.

### Other:

We are pleased to see our church heating system automatically changing to daylight saving as it comes every Sunday. Our sound system is working well.

### Security:

Please make sure you close the lock box securely and check windows are closed and doors are locked if you are last to leave.

### Fire Safety:

The fire drill at the Sunday 26 March service went well with Megan ringing the alarm (hand bell) and people exiting to our signed assembly points in under 2 minutes with our wardens in visibility vests- well done we say.

### Hall Bookings:

It is pleasing to see regular community bookings- Steady as you Go (strength and balance class run by Age Concern) is every Tuesday afternoon with 16-18 people in attendance. Opoho Church is gifting an extra hour's rental for a cup of tea and thank you to Chris Young who is providing this. A weaving group meets every Wednesday for a full day. We have had a number of one-off bookings for special events.

### Feedback:

Thank you for the feedback about taps in the kitchen - we are monitoring for dripping over the month. Let us know if you have any ideas, report any security or safety concerns.

***Miriam Vollweiler*** (Committee convener)

## **Donations to Opoho Presbyterian Church**

Thank you to all those who participate in the life of our church and help make it possible to support its work. If you are not already an electronic donor through online banking and would like to donate in this way, the details are:

ANZ bank, Opoho Presbyterian Deacons' Court;  
Account Number: 06 0909 0010868 000.

Please put your name and the word Donation in the data fields. It would be helpful if you could let our Treasurer, Judy Rodda, know, so that receipts for charitable donations can be sent to you. Her email is Judith L Rodda [opohopcbusiness@gmail.com](mailto:opohopcbusiness@gmail.com)

As well as regular outgoings there are maintenance items on the building and grounds which we will be seeking to raise funds for over the next few years. If you are interested in supporting these, please be in touch.

We acknowledge that people's circumstances are personal, and that they vary over time and with things that happen in our lives. It is important to know that there will be times when it is appropriate to reduce your giving to the church, and you do not need to apologise for doing that.

The income and expenditure of the church is examined each month by the Property and Finance Committee and reported to the Parish Council. The church's financial year runs to the end of June and an annual budget is presented to the congregation at the Annual Meeting. Thank you.

*Property and Finance Committee*

## **Operation Cover Up**

Thanks to those who keep knitting squares and donating wool. So far seven blankets have been completed since July which is great. Please keep knitting those squares. Donations of wool gratefully accepted too. Contact me if you have any questions at 027 473 6026 or [weavermariane@gamil.com](mailto:weavermariane@gamil.com)



*Marian Weaver*



## **Loaves and Fishes**

**The talented catering crew who provided meal for Southern Presbytery gathering.**

## **Poems Prayers Psalms & Prose – Opoho Writers’ Group**

**Wednesday 17 May, 7 p.m.**  
Marine Science tea room,  
first floor, **310 Castle Street.**

### **Directions:**

310 Castle Street is a square brick building (the old nurses’ home) located almost on the corner of Frederick Street and the one-way south, between Cumberland and Hayward Colleges. You can park in the spots between Cumberland and Marine Science. There is an entry on the south side of the building, facing Cumberland’s front door. A large propellor is stuck to the wall next to it, so you can’t miss it!



I will meet you there at 7 and let you in. Margaret, Andrew and I often run a car-pool from the northern end.

The tea room has cups, plates, tea, coffee-like powder, milk, sugar, and hot water. Maybe bring a small plate of something to share.

You can reach me on 027 606 3552 if there is any problem or question.

***Abby Smith***

## **Synod of Otago and Southland Update**

The Synod of Otago and Southland met at Araiteuru Marae on Shetland Street in Dunedin.

On Friday evening we proceeded onto the Marae to the wharenuī for the powhiri. We practised three songs in Maori beforehand. We would sing two and kept a third song in reserve just in case our hosts on the Marae doubled up!

Afterwards we sat down in the wharekai where retiring moderator Debra Clark installed Murray Rae as the new moderator. After our meal Wayne Te Kaawa addressed the Synod on the history of Christianity in Otago and Southland. He finished with the challenge that while there had been Maori Presbyterian Churches under the Maori Synod in Dunedin and Invercargill in the past there wasn't one at the present.

The allocations for national commitments, and from the Educational and Ecclesiastical Funds were past without contest. The national commitments includes the Knox Centre for Ministry and Leadership, and the Presbyterian Research Centre. We hope to be in a position to advertise for a Digital Curator on staff.

Synod agreed to begin discussions with the Otago Foundation Trust Board over how both bodies operate under the Otago Foundation Trust Board Act 1992. This will take several years and could involve taking a new Act to parliament. Synod discussed the report from the Knox Centre for Ministry and Leadership as it looks like at this stage no new interns will start training for national ordained ministry next year. This will allow KCML more time to work with Local Ordained Ministers during the year, and the situation may change as KCML appoints more staff for teaching at the same time.

After our business John Stenhouse addressed Synod on Christianity in the South. John was advised that he only had 45 minutes to address us. His talk was wide-ranging and Clare gave up making notes and asked a copy of his talk instead! The Rev Ian Hislop of Upper Clutha parish in Wanaka was elected Moderator Designate.

The Synod of Otago and Southland will meet again as a body at the same time next year, 19-20 April 2024.

*Andrew Smith*

## Fellowship Group

Our April meeting was extra special as it was Evelyn's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. It was a drizzly wet day and the 12 of us enjoyed being together and discussing things that had changed in our lifetime:



- the modern washing machine compared to boiling in a copper or using a wringer washer or double tub;
- lamenting the loss of letter writing and receiving now only mail in the post (seems to be a rates bill);
- travel to the moon and watching satellites lying in the grass;
- telephones, party lines, telegrams and cell phone coverage;
- recalling the big snowfalls and trams.

Chris Young provided the most sumptuous afternoon tea and Evelyn spoke about her family celebrations in Christchurch. All are welcome to our monthly get together at 2pm Morrison Lounge.

*Chris Young and Miriam Vollweiler*

## Presbyterian Support Food Bank



You can bring goods (nothing frozen or perishable) to church on any Sunday or you can make a cash donation for the PSO Food Bank via their website [www.psotago.org.nz](http://www.psotago.org.nz)

And non-food items such as toiletries are also acceptable.

## Lectionary for May and June

<b>Sunday 7 May - 5th Sunday of Easter</b>			
Acts 7: 55-60	Ps 31: 1-5, 15-16	1 Peter 2: 2-10	Jn 14: 1-14
<b>Sunday 14 May - 6th Sunday of Easter</b>			
Acts 17: 22-31	Ps 66: 8-20	1 Peter 3: 13-22	Jn 14: 15-21
<b>Thursday 18 May - Ascension</b>			
Acts 1: 1-11	Ps 47 or Ps 93	Eph 1: 15-23	Lk 24: 44-53
<b>Sunday 21 May - 7th Sunday of Easter</b>			
Acts 1: 6-14	Ps 68: 1-10, 32-35	1 Peter 4: 12-14; 5: 6-11	Jn 17: 1-11
<b>The Season of Pentecost</b>			
<b>Sunday 28 May - Pentecost</b>			
Acts 2: 1-21 or Num 11: 24-30	Ps 104: 24-34, 35b	1 Cor 12: 3b-13 <i>or</i> Acts 2: 1-21	Jn 20: 19-23 <i>or</i> Jn 7: 37-39
<b>Sunday 4 June - Trinity Sunday</b>			
Gen 1: 1-2:4a	Ps 8	2 Cor 13: 11-13	Mt 28: 16-20
<b>Sunday 11 June - 2nd Sunday after Pentecost</b>			
Gen 12: 1-9	Ps 33: 1-12	Rom 4: 13-25	Mt 9: 9-13, 18-26
<b>Sunday 18 June – 3rd Sunday after Pentecost</b>			
Gen 18: 1-15 (21: 1-7)	Ps 116: 1-2, 12-19	Rom 5: 1-8	Mt 9: 35-10:8 (9-23)
<b>Sunday 25 June – 4th Sunday after Pentecost</b>			
Gen 21: 8-21	Ps 86: 1-10, 16-17	Rom 6: 1b-11	Mt 10: 24-39



## Coming Events at Opoho Presbyterian Church

6 May ~ Saturday	Coronation of King Charles III
7 May ~ Sunday	10 a.m.: Worship, the Rev. Clare Lind, Communion
7 May ~ Sunday	11.15a.m.: Art-Based Contemplation Series with Mark Ranby.
10 May ~ Wednesday	7.30 p.m.: Property and Finance Committee, Morrison Lounge
11 May ~ Thursday	2 p.m.: Fellowship Group, Morrison Lounge
14 May ~ Sunday	10 a.m.: Worship, Russell Thew
14 May ~ Sunday	11.15a.m.: Art-Based Contemplation Series with Mark Ranby.
17 May ~ Wednesday	7 p.m.: Poems Prayers Psalms and Prose – a friendly writing group, 310 Castle Street
18 May ~ Thursday	7.30 p.m.: Parish Council, Morrison Lounge
20 May ~ Saturday	Material due for June <i>Opoho Signal</i>
21 May ~ Sunday	10 a.m.: Worship, the Rev. Clare Lind
21 May ~ Sunday	11.15a.m.: Art-Based Contemplation Series including a trip to the Art Gallery.
28 May ~ Sunday	10 a.m.: Worship, the Rev. Clare Lind After church: Abby's Jam Palace
4 June ~ Sunday	10 a.m.: Worship, the Rev. Clare Lind, Quarterly Communion
5 June ~ Monday	King's Birthday – public holiday
7 June ~ Wednesday	7.30 p.m.: Property and Finance Committee, Morrison Lounge
8 June ~ Thursday	2 p.m.: Fellowship Group, Morrison Lounge
11 June ~ Sunday	10 a.m.: Worship, the Rev. Paul Ranby
15 June ~ Thursday	7.30 p.m.: Parish Council, Morrison Lounge
18 June ~ Sunday	10 a.m.: Worship, the Rev. Clare Lind
20 June ~ Tuesday	Material due for July <i>Opoho Signal</i>
25 June ~ Sunday	10 a.m.: Worship, the Rev. Olivia Dawson

## Abby's Jam Palace



The Jam Palace will be open for business after church on 28 May.

*Abby Smith* [abigailmarionsmith@gmail.com](mailto:abigailmarionsmith@gmail.com) 027 606 3552

### **Deadline for next *Opoho Signal* – Saturday 20 May**

Gregor Macaulay is away until late May,  
so please send all material for the next *Opoho Signal* to  
Julie Mander at [juliemander@outlook.com](mailto:juliemander@outlook.com)

### **Keeping in Touch at Opoho Church**

Opoho Church has a website, [www.opohochurch.org](http://www.opohochurch.org), where you will find (among other things) links to recent sermons, downloadable copies of the Orders of Service for the two most recent Sundays, downloadable versions of the newsletter, and an on-line version of the Church Calendar.

The church also has a Facebook page (you don't need to belong to Facebook to see the page) [www.facebook.com/OpohoChurch](http://www.facebook.com/OpohoChurch)

This newsletter is emailed to all who have requested to receive it this way. If you are not already on the email list, and would like to be, please send an email to the editor, Gregor Macaulay, at [gregor.macaulay@outlook.com](mailto:gregor.macaulay@outlook.com)