



Preservation Post

Newsletter of the
Christ Church Preservation Society (Inc.)

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Issue 53 – July 2015

“Looking to the future to preserve our past” **Christ Church Taita** **Part of the Hutt Valley for over 160 years**

Annual General Meeting –

The current committee were re-elected at the AGM held on 15 April. Your committee members are:

John Daysh – President

Secretary – Janice Henson

Treasurer – John Stevens

Committee – Ian McCulloch, Mary Stevens, Elsa Kelly, Bruce Hutton, Greg Hooper, Wendy Routley, Chris Pynenburg.

We are very grateful to these loyal people who give up many hours of their time on a voluntary basis.

Over the past few months we have had a number of issues with water pressure dropping resulting in the alarm going off, necessitating callouts to the church. Wormalds, who manage this for us, have done an overhaul of the system and it is hoped the problem is fixed. Many thanks to

Roy Savage for his dialogue with Wormalds.

We recently had an attempted break in through the front door. The vandals exerted such force that the hinges on the door were bent. Fortunately the alarm prevented entry and, apart from having to bend the hinges back into place, there is no real damage. Grateful thanks to committee member Greg Hooper who fields phone calls at all hours of the night!

Annual Service – Sunday 10 May, 2.00 pm

Members of the Welch family and others filled the church at our Annual Service. Joan Worthington travelled from Wanganui (or should that be Whanganui?) and shared her Welch memories.

Our aim is to share memories at every annual service. If you would like to get together with your family next year, please let us know. It's a good way of having a mini-family reunion.

Grant and Painting

We are delighted to report that the painting of the church is complete. Our painter, Chris Pynenburg and his team have done an amazing job, taking a great deal of pride in completing this job. As they worked, they found a number of areas that needed repair and have attended to these as well: They have replaced the back steps, which were rotten; the louvered section under the spire had been the home of many families of birds for many years. There is now a mesh covering the louvres to stop the birds getting in, much to their dismay. The spire and cross were found to have some rot and this has been repaired.

Chris has pointed out that we will need to undertake ongoing maintenance in order to keep Christ Church in tip top condition; for example, the inside of the windows need stripping and re-varnishing, so we will again be looking to grant providers to see if we can continue to do this work.



It's a long way up there, but the view is awesome

Proposed Heritage Centre

The subcommittee is still working on this project – the purchaser of the adjacent property has permission from the Council for the subdivision of the section. The Society now needs to raise the necessary funds to purchase the section and is working on plans for the proposed building.

St Michael's School Taita visit

We were delighted to welcome a group of students from St Michael's School Taita to Christ Church on Friday 12 June. The children are talking about the history of the area and learning about native trees.



Caretaker

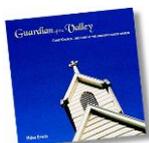
Stan Malcolm, our Caretaker for the past two years has had to resign due to ill health. We have appreciated Stan's dedication to Christ Church.

Visitor from Australia

The Secretary recently met with Lyn Raymond from Australia and gave her a tour of Christ Church. She has been researching her family tree and discovered that in the mid 1850s her great, great, great grandfather Rev William Minchin delivered one or more sermons at Christ Church while living in Lower Hutt before moving on to Christchurch. It is always a pleasure to meet and make connections with

people who share a family history with our little church.

Guardian of the Valley - 2nd Edition



Available to purchase - \$25.00 plus \$6 postage and packing by contacting Mary Stevens (email mhrstevens@gmail.com or phone (04) 476 6247). Check out our Facebook page and website for more information and photos.

Daysh-Rayner family history and records 1811 – 1989

Many Daysh-Rayner descendants have a copy of this book and the Society has been given a copy for its records. There are still copies available for sale from Mrs N G Rayner, 21 Cole Street, Masterton 5810.

Ashes Wall

A niche in our Ashes Wall costs just \$750.00 incl GST. Contact Janice Henson, Secretary, for further details. Janice-klaw@xtra.co.nz



Bequests for Christ Church Taita

Including a bequest for The Christ Church Preservation Society is a wonderful way to honour those who have gone before us and to ensure that we can continue to preserve and develop Christ Church. Our vision is to enhance Christ Church Taita as a heritage centre by establishing a colonial house and shed as a museum to celebrate our pioneers. If you would like to talk about how you may be able to support this vision please contact our President, John Daysh, email john@unicef.org.nz; Ph.04 815 9370 (Wk) or 04 977 2055 (Hm)

Interments

10 May

Margaret Turton-Law
Mary Joy Hardy

The Society is grateful to Brother International (NZ) Limited for printing this newsletter

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