



# Methodist Parish

*Finding in everyone Finding God in everyone*

[www.dunedinmethodist.org.nz](http://www.dunedinmethodist.org.nz)

<b>Presbyter:</b>	Rev. Siosifa Pole	455 2923
<b>Parish Stewards:</b>	Dr George Davis	453 6540
	Dr Richard Cannon	477 5030
	Mrs Fay Richardson	489 5485
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## PARISH BULLETIN

**8<sup>th</sup> May 2011**

### WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 15<sup>th</sup> May 2011

9.30am	Mornington	S Pole
9.30 am	Mosgiel	G Preston
11.00 am	Glenaven	S Pole
11.00 am	Wesley	G Preston
1.00pm	St Kilda	S Fakava
6.00pm	Broad Bay	S Pole

### MUSICAL SOCIETY CONCERT

Today, 8<sup>th</sup> May, 2.30pm at Mornington Methodist Church. Piano Items. All welcome. Cost \$2.00

### MOSGIEL MID WEEK SERVICES

Starting again on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> May at 2pm. Followed by afternoon tea. Enquiries to Elaine 489 7663.

### MORNINGTON METHODIST WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The next Meeting will take place on the 9th May in the Church Lounge at 7.45 p.m. The Guest Speaker will be Laura Black from the Mission.

### MORNINGTON LEADERS' MEETING

Scheduled meeting for next Tuesday night, 7.30pm in Lounge.

**MORNINGTON METHODIST WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP** - Please remember this year's SPECIAL PROJECT - Habitat for Humanity. Place your donations in the Collection plate or pass to a Fellowship Member. Thank you.

### **HOME GROUP BIBLE STUDY**

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30 pm at the home of Ian & Dot Pearce. (kindly note change of Day for this week only ) Study no. 2 "How can I know what God wants me to do." (Understand His Principles.) Tel ..Ian..453 6312 or Geoff. 473 0193.

### **OPEN EDUCATION: BEETHOVEN'S MUSIC FOR THE CHURCH**

On Wednesday May 18 at 7.30pm in the Mornington Methodist Church, Galloway Street, Colin Gibson will give an illustrated talk on Beethoven's religious music, as part of the Methodist Parish Open Education programme. Beethoven was an astonishing composer in all that he did: his Solemn Mass and Ninth (Choral) Symphony are among the masterpieces of Western music. The charge of \$5 includes a light supper. As usual, a pre-talk meal will be catered by Judy Russell at a charge of \$15; book at the Mornington Church or with Judy (455 3727). This is the fourth in a popular series which has included Vivaldi, Bach, Handel and Mozart.

### **"What does it look like to restore a little piece of God's Earth?"**

Join A Rocha Dunedin on a visit to the Mornington Methodist Kaikorai Stream Millennium Revegetation project, beginning with a pot-luck lunch at the Roslyn Presbyterian Church Hall (the very highest point of Highgate), at 1.00pm on Sunday May 15th.

A Rocha is an international Christian nature conservation organization with a commitment to adopting creation-care and ecological thinking as a biblical, essential and integral part of the Christian life and message. A Rocha Aotearoa New Zealand became a part of the international movement in 2007, and a group of people from a variety of churches in Dunedin are working to establish a Dunedin A Rocha group. Join us for these hands-on, practical projects on the third Sunday of each month.

For more information contact Selwyn Yeoman at [selwyn.yeoman@clear.net.nz](mailto:selwyn.yeoman@clear.net.nz) or 4877 167.



Mostly this column deals with ‘connections’, however obscure or far-fetched the subject may appear to be in relation to such a worthy theme. But thanks to an extraordinary discovery recently made by one of our archival researchers, today’s theme is ‘disconnections’.

Let me hasten to explain.

Over the past weeks, as the saga of Ken Russell’s application for a 2.5 ministry position in the Parish has unfolded (yes, that’s one quarter of a full-time ministry, which leaves little actual time and less money for the recipient) this Parish, which thought it was part of a Church which prided itself on being a ‘connexion’ has discovered a massive *disconnection* between its own local planning and the wishes of the Pastoral Committee, a group of senior Methodist officials whose brief is to deal with those ministers who have retired from a full-time active ministry but who seem to have taken it upon themselves to direct the whole future strategy of the Parish.

This disconnection has not gone unnoticed, it would seem, by at least one local bard who, quill in hand, has penned a sort of laudatory song to the Committee in question.

Rescued from a dustbin in a less than savoury quarter of the city, a tattered manuscript has emerged, penned—it seems—by an anonymous pair of hack writers, since on the back of the manuscript in an almost illegible hand is written, ‘Decomposed by Wally Gilbert and Ed Sullivan, 1 April 2011.’

The document is now reproduced in its entirety, without editorial comment of any kind.

Oh the Pastoral Committee’s a mysterious affair:  
 For it’s mostly made of members who are almost never there,  
 For one is off to China and another’s in Peru,  
 And they can’t make a decision till they meet in Timbuktoo.

*Praise the Pastoral Committee  
In this wise and foolish ditty,  
For their muddlement, befuddlement,  
On quite divine a scale;  
For they leave we foolish simpletons,  
Us wrinklies, dolts and dimpletons,  
Like Jonah—left to wallow  
In the belly of the whale.*

They're the shepherds of the shepherds who have reached  
their use-by date,  
They can leave the pen wide open or decide to shut the gate;  
They're the pastoral committee who can tell what's good for you,  
And the silly sheep left milling in their paddock in a stew.

Now the Pastoral Committee's life is lived behind a cloud,  
Where they cogitate on what is not and what may be allowed;  
All their information's private and may never be divulged,  
Leaving public speculation unrestrainedly indulged.

Well, our Pastoral Committee sits like Solomon the Wise:  
Not a fault or peccadillo can escape their piercing eyes.  
They can tell who's lost their marbles or the plot at sixty-nine,  
They can place the very moment you're in terminal decline.

All their deep deliberations are unhurried (rightly so),  
Since they reach determination in a century or so,  
Then they issue their conclusions in so secretive a way  
Their ineffable directions never reach the light of day.

One can only hope that we are all *reconnected* with the Connexion in an amiable resolution of the Parish's problem, and are permitted to form a ministry team ready and capable of giving our single full-time minister, Siosifa, the support that he needs.