



# Dunedin Methodist Parish

*Finding Good in everyone Finding God in everyone*

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

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## PARISH BULLETIN

31<sup>st</sup> July 2011

### WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 7<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2011

9.30am	Mornington	K Russell
9.30 am	Mosgiel	S Pole
11.00 am	Glenaven	K Russell
11.00 am	Wesley	S Pole
1.00pm	St Kilda	Comb. Wesley
4.00pm	Broad Bay	S Pole

#### **MORNINGTON MIDWINTER MUSEUM MEANDER, SUNDAY 31 JULY 2.00PM**

Mary and Sue invite Mornington folk to join us to meander around the various exhibits at the Otago Museum, followed by soup and buns at our place, 197 Balmacewen Road. Please let us know if you intend to come and if you need us to organise transport for you. We are meeting in the museum foyer at 2.00pm. Phone 464 0787.

**The Broad Bay SERVICE OF MANAAKITANGA / HOSPITALITY** that was postponed from 24 July because of snow will now happen TODAY Sunday 31 July at 4pm. (Note new winter time for Broad Bay services). Today's service is based on the 10 July service at Mornington and Glenaven, with additions. All welcome at 4pm and afterwards for a light shared meal - optional bring-a-plate. There will be vegetarian and vegan food and something hot. Bring a friend! Inquiries: Helen Watson White 467 2936

## **BROAD BAY CHANGE OF SERVICE TIME**

Please note the Broad Bay services will now be held at 4.00pm.

## **EXPLORERS GROUP**

Meets 4-30pm on Sunday July 31st at the home of Trish and David Patrick, 17 Skerries St Outram. Thank you, Trish and David, for offering your home as the venue for this meeting.

## **MWF MOSGIEL**

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> August 1:30pm In the church Daphne & Lorraine "The Travel Twins" are speaking to us all other Mosgiel Ladies groups have been invited. All welcome Ladies a plate Please. enquires 489 7663.

**Otago-Southland District Synod** meeting on Saturday the 6<sup>th</sup> of August at the Methodist Mission meeting room. Will start at 9am in the morning. Everyone in the parish is welcome to join this Synod meeting. The Ministerial Synod will be held at Methodist Mission as well on Friday the 5th of August at 3.30-5pm. All ministers are expecting to attend this meeting.

## **HEAVENLY CHOIRS FOR HOSPITAL CHAPLAINCY**

Knox Church, Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> August, 2.00 – 3.30pm. Followed by afternoon tea. \$10.00. All proceeds to Dunedin Hospital Chaplaincy Otago Healthcare Chaplaincy Support Trust.

Dunedin Harmony Chorus of Sweet Adelines, Knox Church Choir, Otago Girls & Otago Boys Choirs, Southern Consort of Voices, Sunny Side Up.

## **MORNINGTON WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP**

The next Meeting for Women's Fellowship will take place on the 8th August, at 2p.m., in the Church Lounge. The Speaker will be Mrs Liz Brooke-Carr. The subject - "Pigtails in the Inkwell" - (learning to write). See you there.

## MINISTRY TRAINING SEMINAR

The parish will run a ministry training seminar for all the lay people of the parish on Friday the 2<sup>nd</sup> and Saturday the 3<sup>rd</sup> of September 2011. The time and the venue for this training are still yet to finalise. Val Nicholls from Trinity College will lead this training seminar with assistance from the leaders of the parish. This is obviously an opportunity for those in the wider parish who would like to involve in a more active role in leading worship to attend. This notice will continue to appear in the bulletin to encourage our people to turn up to this seminar as we are looking toward the future with hope.



### The Ark Down-under?

Blueskin Bay is a long way from Mt Ararat. But further up the hillside from the bay, under the guardianship of Te Korowai o Mihiwaka (The Cloak of Mihiwaka), rests an amazing structure that could easily be mistaken for Noah's Ark. Built not from 'gopher' wood but from shipping containers, recycled rimu, sustainably grown plantation trees, and locally milled macrocarpa the visitor's centre and organisational hub of the Orokonui Ecosanctuary perches above a forested valley, perhaps like Noah's Ark once did on the slopes of Mt Ararat after the Great Flood. In the biblical story God is said to have instructed Noah on how to create a seaworthy Ark capable of protecting him, his family, and a breeding pair of every kind of live animal from the deluge that would cleanse the earth of its corruption. From a distance the ecofriendly visitor's centre at Orokonui melds with the landscape but close up, when crossing its threshold, there is a powerful sense of passing under the prow of a great ship. Or the Ark, maybe?

Original plans for the Orokonui Ecosanctuary were probably not directly driven by divine intervention but they were no less visionary in scope. An early proposal in 1983 for an Ecosanctuary near Dunedin lapsed. But in 1995 Ralph Allen, a member of the inaugural Otago Natural History Trust, (which had also disbanded for a time) revived the proposal. With renewed impetus he set out to follow his dream – to save doomed species in southern New Zealand. Eventually, in December 2006, work started on a predator proof fence. Ongoing restoration of the natural forest,

successful eradication of predators, and the managed reintroduction of threatened species have seen that dream become reality.

But for that to happen one man chose to make a huge leap of faith. Others with similar commitment joined him and today the Orokonui Ecosanctuary is a unique mainland environment where native birds, animals and insects are safe from predators, and free to live just as they would in the wild. It is almost impossible to describe the dedication of the individuals and teams working to save some of our most endangered birds and plants from extinction. The Tieke or South Island Saddleback is one among many conservation success stories that celebrate the slender connection between faith and survival.

In pre-European times many thousands of these birds, with bright reddish wattles and clearly demarcated chestnut-brown plumage on their backs, resembling a saddle, lived on the mainland. But with the arrival of settlers, came predators and loss of bush habitat and that population was decimated. Now, with a few breeding pairs translocated from Ulva Island where the saddleback has survived, there is a new community being established at Orokonui.

And there is the Kaka couple, known as Mr and Mrs Roto, who have been the main breeding pair and 'call birds' at the Ecosanctuary aviary since being transferred there from the Dunedin Botanic Garden in 2008. Mr Roto, about 17 years old, who had been in captivity at the Garden since he was a youngster and Mrs Roto, who was unwell when first discovered in a pigeon loft at Maori Hill, eventually became an item and were released earlier this year into the wild at the sanctuary. But life is sweet in their aviary and, as yet, they have been reluctant to move far from their captive bliss.

If you're lucky you might also catch a glimpse of a rainbow in the firmament over Te Korowai o Mihiwaka. But the bird of blessing is far more likely to be Mr or Mrs Roto, than a soaring dove. The Kaka couple are symbols of hope in a world so often besieged by natural and human disaster. Go and spend some time with them at the Ecosanctuary, where visitors are welcome. As you step onto their home turf, look up to the Ark on the mountainside, take in the sight of the regenerating forest down in the valley, breath in Nature's balm (it's pure Godzone) and feel your spirits lift. And if the Rotos aren't home when you call you might get to meet Sirocco, the celebrity Kakapo who will be in residence at Orokonui over the rugby world cup period.

***Elizabeth Brooke-Carr***