



Dunedin Methodist Parish

Finding Good in everyone Finding God in everyone

www.dunedinmethodist.org.nz

Presbyters:	Rev. Siosifa Pole	455 2923
	Rev. Dr. Rod Mitchell	477 3700
Parish Stewards:	Mrs Hilda Hughson	487 6226
	Mrs Earlene Owens	489 8146
	Joy Clark	455 9534
Tongan Steward:	Mr Kaufusi Pole	455 0096
Parish Office:	Siosifa: parish@dmm.org.nz	466 4600
	Katrina: admin@dmm.org.nz	
Parish Prayer Convenor	Elaine Merrett	489 7663
Pastoral Convenor	Beryl Neutze	476 7447
Mornington:		

PARISH BULLETIN

26th July 2015

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 2nd August

9.30 am	Mornington	D Phillipps
9.30 am	Mosgiel	S Pole
11.00 am	Glenaven	D Phillipps
11.00 am	Wesley	S Pole
1.00 pm	St Kilda	TBA

EXPLORERS GROUP: We meet today, Sunday 26 July, at 4.30 p.m. at Mornington.

ROD MITCHELL will be on holiday from Sunday 26th July and back on Wednesday 5th August. He will not be able to be contacted during this time as he will be out of the country.

OUR LOVE AND PRAYERS to the Salkeld family from the members of the Mosgiel Methodist Church at the passing of their much loved mother and a member of our church for the past 9 years. We will all miss her very much.

PF&R COMMITTEE - The PF&R Committee will meet at the Mission building at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 29 July.



You are warmly invited to our meeting.

Invite others to join us to create a stronger community.

Help us make a difference. Get involved.

Date: 29 July 2015 (Wednesday)

Time: 6.30pm

Venue: Dunedin Community House (Opposite Countdown)

Speakers: Karyn Chalk from Changing Ways will talk about responding when times are tough, tricky teens, building resilience in families and better communication skills. Her popular book "Responding to Tricky Teens" is available for purchase.

Time is available after the talk to meet up over a cup of tea in a supportive environment.

Everyone welcome. Fantastic supper provided.

Email: lifemattersotago@gmail.com

<https://www.facebook.com/LifeMattersOtago>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/718945024850905/>

<http://lifematters.org.nz/>

WELCOME TO OUR SPEAKER TODAY AT MORNINGTON AND GLENAVEN - A warm welcome to Mr Moana McNeil this morning. Kia ora Moana! Moana began his studies at Otago University in 2010. He lived in St Margaret's College in 2010 and sang in their choir. (Which is how he first came across Greg Hughson, University Chaplain) Moana has completed his studies in both Public Health and Management. He recently attended an International Anglican Indigenous Network (AIN) Conference at Stony Point, New York. Moana represented Te Hahi Mihinare ki Aotearoa ki Niu Tirenī, ki Nga Moutere o Te Moana Nui a Kiwa (The Anglican Church in NZ and the Pacific). We greatly value your presence with us today Moana and we look forward to what you have to share with us out of your own faith and experience. We value also the NZ Anglican-Methodist Covenant signed in 2008. One of the signatories to this covenant was Bishop [Te Kitohi Pikaahu](#), a relative of Moana, who trained for ordination at St Johns/Trinity College with Greg Hughson in the mid-1980's.

MĀORI LANGUAGE WEEK 27 JULY - 2 AUGUST

Every year since 1975 New Zealand has marked Māori Language Week. This is a time for all New Zealanders to celebrate te reo Māori (the Māori language) and to use more Māori phrases in everyday life. In 2015 Māori Language Week is from **27 July-2 August**; the theme is 'Whāngaihia te reo Māori ki ngā mātua': helping parents to pass te reo on to their children. This is part of the underlying theme of Māori Language Week, 'Arohatia te Reo – cherish the language'. Te reo Māori is undergoing a resurgence and more people speak the language. There are Māori-language schools, Māori radio stations, and a Māori television channel. There was a time when some people objected to hearing Māori greetings such as 'Kia ora'. The campaign to revive the language has been a long one.

The Anglican Church was the first to send missionaries to New Zealand in 1814. Its Māori name, Te Hahi Mihinare, means 'the missionary church'. Anglican missionaries used Māori converts to spread their

message. The first Māori priest, Rota Waitoa, was ordained in 1860. Methodist missionaries arrived in New Zealand in 1822. Māori ministers were very important in the church's growth. In 1984, The Methodist Church of NZ, Te Haahi Weteriana o Aoteaora formally began its bicultural journey. Our NZ Methodist Mission statement includes reference to the fact that our mission in this land will be guided by The Treaty of Waitangi.

For a list of 100 Māori words that every New Zealander should know, see <http://www.nzhistory.net.nz/culture/maori-language-week/100-maori-words> You can also try the Māori Language Week Quiz via this site.

NZ GRIEF AND LOSS AWARENESS WEEK 27 JULY – 2 AUGUST - This coming week is also Grief and Loss Awareness Week. Please see <http://www.grief.org.nz/> for helpful resources.

NEW HEALTHY CAMPUS WEBSITE AND ADVISORY GROUP - The University of Otago has recently created a new Healthy Campus website based on *Te Whare Tapa Wha*. Check it out via www.otago.ac.nz/healthy-campus Greg Hughson has been appointed to the Advisory Group, led by Dr John Adams. Health, in a holistic sense, includes spiritual health. See the website for some spiritual, mental, physical and family health resources.

STORY FROM THE MISSION...

From Support & Advocacy

Sally began working with a client under the service Parenting to support them with the Strengthening Families process. The SF process was new to the client so it was an opportunity to learning about the structure and effectiveness of the process for the parent and the children. The client made a list of topics that they wanted to make sure were covered at the meeting. She felt empowered by this process and was able to take



her client plan and use it as a reminder for the things that were important for her to ensure were addressed at the meeting. Having a number of service providers in the same room can be overwhelming for anyone, even if they are all working towards the common purpose of supporting the client to achieve their goals. When the client asked a question that they had already formulated and put on their client plan, they felt confident and assured that they were in control – the client received feedback from the others in the room around how good her preparation and thoughtful questions were. This reinforced the client's confidence and they are now looking forward to taking onboard the feedback at the SF meeting and planning the next step.



While most of us pay lip service to the best ideals of a democratic society, including the freedom of the media to investigate and reveal the truth without fear or favour, when it comes to our own interests and secrets, or those of our family, we quickly become more protective.

The discomfort of the British royal family at the publication by the *Sun* newspaper of pictures from a grainy old 17-sec 1933/34 movie showing the late queen mother, her son Edward, and the two royal princesses, doing Heil Hitler salutes on the lawn at Balmoral, is fully understandable. The origins of the offending piece of memorabilia is a mystery, but it is assumed it was stolen from, or leaked from, a royal archive - most likely that of the abdicated, then exiled, Edward.

There has been a rush to defend the Queen, to protest the unwavering patriotism of the late King and Queen Mother, and to condemn the *Sun*. But hang on. An analysis of the text accompanying the pictures makes it clear that no reflection is cast on the Queen, or her loyalties. These have never been in doubt, and anyway, who would point the finger at an six yr old girl indulging in a playful parody of the

phenomenon preoccupying Europe at the time. Thousands of other British kids were doubtless playing the same parodies, fed by the daily newsreels played out in countless cinemas across the land.

No, what was irresistible to the *Sun* was a further sliver of evidence that Edward, the immensely popular (at the time) uncle of Elizabeth, was seen in the clip leading the royal trio in a Hitler game. For historians here is an immensely significant context, that the Windsors had strong active German connections, and that of all the royals, Edward, eight years later to be King, was exhibiting a fascination and admiration for Hitler and his rapidly rising regime. Other stuff on public record provides further evidence of Edward's German flirtation, including the damning picture of Edward and Mrs Simpson fawning at the dictator at a face to face meeting soon after the abdication. This, and this alone, claims the *Sun*, is the context of its decision to release the film - not to embarrass the Queen. People are forming their own conclusions about that.

Much more may follow as the British press does its work on the issue. But while there will continue to be huge sympathy for the Queen and her stoic "disappointment" at the outcome, there is another side. Legitimate researchers have tried unsuccessfully to gain access to the royal archives, only to be denied. At a time when other aspects of British public life have, for better or worse, been subjected to rigorous scrutiny, the role of the Windsors, particularly in the pre-war years, has been a closed shop. In particular, at what point did the family part company with their nazi-leaning German cousins and see Hitler in his true light? The current controversy over an apparently harmless piece of family play on the royal lawn, has exactly that context. And of course, a more pressing question goes unanswered - why should any family, especially one so public, expect to harbour its secrets from legitimate enquiry while at the same time enjoying a taxpayer funded privileged lifestyle? Apparently HMQ, noble lady that she is, has been an obdurate gatekeeper to that archive, and doubtless will continue to

be so until her dying day. But then what? Only the certainty that sooner or later, younger editions of the same family will not have the same incentive to keep the books closed,

But apart from their eminent public standing, are the royals much different from the rest of us? We speak euphemistically of an open society, and have occasional fuzzies about what a good thing it is. But all too often attention focuses on the opposite. Is there ever a day when an important application under the Freedom of Information Act is not declined for what can only be described as a desire by officialdom to keep unpalatable info from the knowledge of those who are, so we might think, equally entitled to it. Likewise, it's a fact that an extraordinary amount of court time is taken up by the machinations of lawyers chasing every possible means of sheltering their rich clients' reputations and secrets - a privilege seldom available to the less well heeled.

I often think of my (much) earlier involvement with a certain 1980's member of Parliament, always on the national stage for his outspoken and uncompromising views, a sheep & goats politician who built his reputation and his following on taking no prisoners. I confess to a certain amount of satisfaction some thirty years later to see the same man dancing on the head of a pin on the question of whether he rightly declared two hefty donations for his mayoral campaign. It was pure semantics, of course, and after exhaustive litigation that cost this country millions, his legal team prevailed over that of the Crown. You'll remember his repeated assertion "I've done nothing wrong," and with his jubilation at his exoneration his scorn of those who dared to bring charges.

Exonerated or not, my estimate of that man had nothing to do with the transparency or otherwise of his political donations. The real man, as I remember him, was of vociferous and irrational opposition to those in Whangarei protesting the 1981 Springbok tour. I have never in my

time heard such invective hurled at such a range of good people simply exercising their democratic rights. Later he turned the same invective on gays and lesbians. Yet to my knowledge this man, so vociferous in pleading his own blamelessness, apparently makes no connection to, or feels no embarrassment for, the excesses that so characterised his earlier career.

So what is all this about? You tell me, but is it not time in this all too superficial society with its increasingly unfair distribution of precious resources that we learn to plumb the depth of life experience of those with less protective instincts. It's my observation that among the poor and the disadvantaged there is a refreshing readiness to tell their stories and share their experience, warts and all. Among such people is not the vested interest to hide or disguise the truth, but to let it all hang out - the good, the bad and the ugly. And on the national scene, how potentially transformative in this young nation of ours if we could resist the impulse to imitate foreign models of wealth and privilege, and delight in a truly cosmopolitan community where our country's history is embraced, unencumbered by colonial spin. It will, of course, require a social revolution, a giant turnabout in our estimations of true worth.

And of course, no more "I have done nothing wrong." Quite the reverse. Let our collective pasts become redemptive. I don't quote scripture as much these days, but St Paul had his finger on an elusive truth when he said in 1 Corinthians 1 *Brothers and sisters, think of what you were. . . Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. God chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are. Amen to that.*

Ken Russell