



e-messenger

The Methodist Church of New Zealand ~ Te Hāhi Weteriana O Aotearoa

"Our Church's Mission in Aotearoa New Zealand is to reflect and proclaim the transforming love of God as revealed in Jesus Christ and declared in the Scriptures. We are empowered by the Holy Spirit to serve God in the world. The Treaty of Waitangi is the covenant establishing our nation on the basis of a power-sharing relationship, and will guide how we undertake mission".

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The colder months
are coming!

MARCH 2006

OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Here we are in March, with the processes of 'settling in' still taking place.

For me, the last month has been a season of further 'beginnings', helping to ensure good planning and a good start for the activities for this year.

The Powhiri and Service of Beginnings at Wesley College was a stirring occasion and a great beginning for the school year. Vice President Mary and I were pleased to be part of it, and I used dance music (as at Conference last year) to help express contemporary 'preaching'. The school continues to be in our thoughts and prayers as the year progresses and students and staff are under the strain of coping with complex relationships, and caring for all members of the school.

Auckland University's Commencement Service provided an opportunity to explore further what it means to be relevant to 'today's world'. Universities now face challenges similar to those facing the church. As for the church, the tertiary education context has changed and is continuing to change, and universities no longer hold such a privileged place. I took the occasion to ask: what is the role of the university in today's world?

The Presidency Review Group set up by Conference to look at processes for selecting President and Vice President, met last month and is sending to Synods and related groups an initial report and request for responses. The Group looks forward to hearing concerns and suggestions about the selection processes.

Later in the month, Vice President Mary and I took part in the meeting of Tauwi Strategy Committee, looking at what is happening around the Tauwi part of Te Haahi Weteriana. Hui Poari met the same weekend, focusing on issues and goals for Te Taha Maori. Then the Budget Task Group met to look at Connexional financial issues. This reflection and planning provides an important foundation for our year's work together.

Best wishes for your reflection during Lent, as a time of preparation for the central Christian celebration of Easter.

John

A MESSAGE FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

Andy Rooney wrote

**"I've learned that the Creator didn't do it all in one day.
What makes me think I can."**

I thought that I knew what it was to be busy, in a) my professional career b) as National President of MWF, but... I am rapidly learning that the responsibilities as Vice President of the Methodist Church of New Zealand are taking me on another steep learning path. Now the days and weeks merge into each other with the different, challenging and either exciting or intimidating situations I find myself addressing.

My life is busy but I am enjoying the many opportunities to participate in areas that are new to me.

February 5th was very special for the congregation of St John's parish Hamilton East. Together with Tumuaki Rev. Diana Tana, I led the worship service, and dedicated a courtyard in memory of Sister Grace Clement and the many other significant members of the parish, now deceased. Invitations to participate in leading Worship, is an area that I am enjoying. I have found that careful service preparation takes time!

Chairing meetings is no problem for me. Now the number of meetings is growing and these have included the Budget Task Group and Wase Wase ko Viti kei Rotuma Nui Siladi AGM. I acknowledge the caring support from the other committee members.

President John and myself are at times made aware of Pastoral concerns within the life of Te Haahi. If you know of special occasions e.g. significant wedding anniversaries, 50 years is an example. If there are people who are experiencing considerable health problems, please let us know so that appropriate contact can be made.

We can then fulfil our responsibilities to be 'Pastor to the whole Church'.

Thank you for the many ways in which Christian love and support is being shown to me. I really appreciate your caring

Mary

A MESSAGE FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY

CHARITIES ACT

Churches are asking what they can do to prepare for registration under the Charities Act. At this stage the regulations are still being prepared and until these are complete we are not in a position to recommend to the Church whether registration should be as one group or whether each individual group should register in its own right. The Administration Division is keeping an ongoing watching brief and as soon as there is a clear direction recommendations will be made and advised to all parts of the Church.

One important thing that all groups who operate under their own constitution can do in preparation is to look carefully at the constitution, to ensure that it is up to date and still clearly states the purpose of the group as it is currently operating. Undertaking this work now will mean that registration should flow with out unnecessary delays.

The Charities Commission has produced a booklet entitled "A Guide to the Charities Act". These can be obtained from the Commission Office PO Box 8072, Wellington

For further information visit the Commission official website at: www.charities.govt.nz or call the Commission on the free phone number: 0508 242 748.

Jill



100
*Centennial celebration of the
Wesley Methodist Church
Building, Hawera*

On Palm Sunday April 9th, 2006 Wesley church will celebrate 100 years of worship in this building, beginning at 10.30am. Lunch and sharing of memories will follow. \$15 for lunch. All friends of the church are warmly invited to be present.

Please register with Jane Edmondson by Monday April 3rd:
email at: kejoed@infogen.net.nz Ph: 06 2784640 or mail to 45 Dixon Ave, Hawera.

Wesley Church Enters the 21st Century

Last year a member of our congregation, Rick Adams, blessed with considerable computer skills, offered to establish a website for us. We accepted his offer, of course, and after several months he has produced a very professional site. He is now coaching a small WEB TEAM in the art of editing the site and keeping it up-to-date.

We invite everyone to visit the site and tell us what you think of it.

You will find it at www.wesley.co.nz

*Excitement is in the air with St Andrew's Centre at Waiuku
re-opening on Saturday 1 April 2006!*

Members and all worshippers are welcome to attend a Thanksgiving & Celebration Service starting at 2 pm followed by Afternoon Tea. The modernised Centre has been expanded to nearly twice its previous size and has several new facilities. If you are interested to attend, kindly email Ron Murgatroyd of the Church Council at rdlam@ps.gen.nz.

Travel & Study Committee

CONNEXIONAL APPEAL

The Travel and Study Committee is looking forward to an exciting year with a Connexional Appeal approved by Conference 2005. The committee will be contacting the Church by various means over the next 2 years through this appeal. The Appeal is to establish an Endowment fund for the purposes of Continuing Education for those in Leadership in the life of the Church. We are asking every part and every person involved in the Church to consider any response to this appeal they may be able to make.

APPLICATIONS - PROPOSALS FOR STUDY 2006

The Travel and Study Committee has limited resources available this year, but is able to make some grants. The closing dates for applications - Proposals for Study are:

15th February
15th May
15th August
15th December

These dates will remain as the closing dates each year (until otherwise advised).

Forms are available from District Superintendants, Mission Resourcing, and shortly from the web-site.



Smethurst reminder

Applications must be received by 20th March for consideration for the April 2006 dispersment. Application forms from your parish or on the MWF web page.

Mary West - Convenor

Email maryw@west.net.nz

The Faith & Order Committee has been encouraged to draw the attention of the church to the readings provided in the lectionary for each day of Holy Week.

These are a rich source for reflection before the celebration of Easter and provide a wealth of wisdom about the way of the cross. Could there be ways in which these readings might be more widely used this year? We have been informed that some parishes have provided opportunities to ponder these readings in groups, or in daily worship.

Terry Wall
Convenor

Communion Books

The **Chartwell Co-operating Parish** has had a clean out of their cupboards and have come across a box of 187, 1982 Order of Communion books, all in very good condition. They would like to offer these books – free to a good home – although a donation would be gratefully accepted. Postage and freight would be at your own cost – however they would be happy to make the arrangements for delivery.

If you are interested you can contact Shelley Ormsby the Chartwell Office Manager by email: office@chartwellchurch.org.nz or phone: (07) 855 7434.

Archives survey

This is just a reminder that Jo Smith our Archivist will be contacting Parishes over the next month to discuss with you details of any historical records that you may hold. Some Parishes have already been contacted.

This is so she can plan for how much storage, and what sort of storage, might be needed in the future, to preserve the archives of the Methodist Church. Currently, the Archives are full, and we have run out of shelves to safely store the collection.

If you can't wait to have a chat, you are welcome to telephone Jo on (03 3666049) or email archives@methodist.org.nz

We have had contact from a retired minister and his wife from England who are interested in doing a house swap with Methodists from the South Island. They have a 3 bedroom house and good sized garden, situated in the middle of the U.K. with very easy access to motor ways going North, or South to London.

They would be interested in swapping for a month or so during 2007. If there is anyone who would be interested in taking this opportunity, contact Hannah at the Connexional Office on (03) 366 6049 or by email hannahf@methodist.org.nz.



There is a warm invitation to attend a memorial service for the late Rev Enid Bennett

On Sunday 26 March at 3pm in the Wesley Hall,
Trinity/St John's Colleges, 202 St Johns Road,
Meadowbank, Auckland 1005.
To be followed by afternoon tea.

For further information please contact:
Lynne Wall (09) 521 2073 or Helen Laurenson (09) 630 3850.

Explorations in Spirituality
Lower North Island School of Theology

2 - 4 May 2006
Stella Maris, Seatoun, Wellington

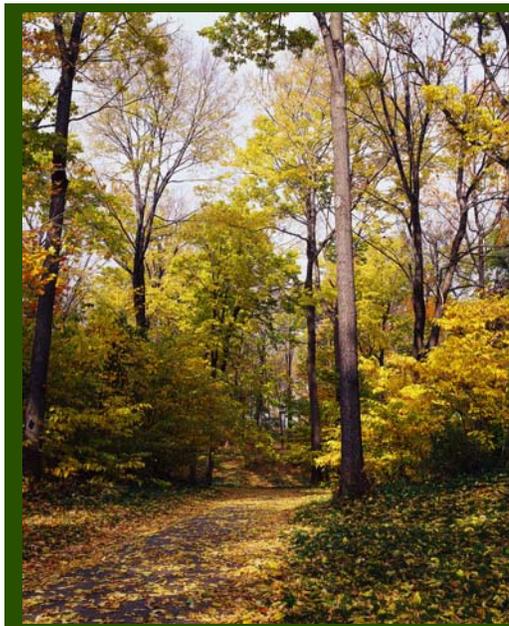
Key speakers:
Spiritual Health – Rev Erice Fairbrother
The Spirituality of C. S. Lewis and the Narnia Chronicles – Prof. Colin Gibson
All welcome.

For further details and registration:
Email secretary@wesleychurch.org.nz or mail "School of Theology",
PO Box 6133, Marion Square, Wellington

REMEMBER
In your Prayers

It is with sadness we advise of **Rev Enid Bennett's** death early in the morning of Tuesday the 21st Of February in Tairua. The service was held at 11.00am on Saturday, February 25th, at St Francis Anglican Church, Main Road, Tairua.

Bernice Le Heron passed away on Wednesday, 1st March, 2006.
Bernice is the wife of Bernie Le Heron, recently retired secretary of the Wesley Historical Society.
Her funeral was held on Saturday 4th March, 11.00 a.m. at Devonport Methodist Church.
Bernie's Address is, 21/5 Brooke St, Milford, North Shore City.



14 Wait on the LORD;
Be of good courage,
And He shall
strengthen your heart;
Wait, I say, on the LORD!
~ Psalm 27 ~

Secretary: John Roberts, 22a Penney Avenue, Mt Roskill, Auckland.
Phone 09-626-3771 Fax: 09-626-6137 E-mail mm-e@clear.net.nz

New Moderator for Solomons Church

The United Church of the Solomon Islands (UCSI) has a new Moderator, the Rev David Barakana Havea, who was inducted into his new office in December 2005.

As a young boy aged three, David was taken by a Tongan Missionary Rev Paula Havea, to Tonga where he was adopted into the Havea family a renowned missionary family of the Pacific Region. Rev Paula Havea was a Tongan Methodist missionary to Solomon Islands for 33 years from 1921 to 1954. David is a native Solomon Islander from the Marovo Lagoon and with his family he returned to Solomon Islands in 1977 to fulfill a long time wish of his Tongan "father" to continue missionary work where his father had left off. David was married to a Tongan wife with 4 children and several grandchildren. Sadly, his wife Lea Havea died on 9th April 2005 after a brief illness and she was buried at David's home village in Patutiva, fulfilling her wish.

After successfully completing his secondary education David entered Teachers College and from 1964 to 1976 he taught Tongan Grammar, Music and History at the Middle Schools of Vaini, Nukua'alofa and Houma where he came to hold the Deputy Principal post. All such schools belonged to the Free Wesleyan Church of Tonga. During his term as a teacher he did his theological training from at the Sia'atoutai Theological College in Tonga, 1972 to 1974.

At the end of 1976 David left Tonga with his family for his home country and was welcomed by the United Church of Solomon Islands. His first appointment was as a probationer minister at Tige, an outlying village, in Marovo Circuit. The following year he was sent to Rarongo Theological College in Papua New Guinea where he studied marriage counselling. In 1979 David returned to the Solomon Islands and was ordained into the ministry and since then has taken up several appointments including Principal to the Seghe Lay Training Centre (now Seghe Theological Seminary) for 5 years, as circuit superintendent minister at the circuits of Sasamunga, Honiara and Gizo for a period of 14 years and, as first Bishop of the Central West Region from 1998 to 2004.

David Havea brings to his new role vast experience from his Tongan and Solomon Islands cultures and missionary background.

Information supplied by UCSI

New directions for Solomon Islands Christian Association

The Solomon Islands Christian Association (SICA) is the national ecumenical body of the churches in the Solomon Islands. Its new Chairperson, the Moderator of the United Church, David Barakana Havea, said he was excited about the work before SICA in this year. At the recent AGM three major areas of work were highlighted for the forthcoming year. Firstly, the Executive is to take a more active role in promoting the work of SICA to the churches in the provinces. It is proposed to undertake an outreach information and exchange mission to promote the ecumenical work of SICA. The Province of Makira has been selected for an ecumenical visit in 2006. The visit will provide an opportunity for the heads of churches to learn more about the issues of local church leaders.

As part of this year's Business Plan, the SICA executive will revitalise the truth and reconciliation process so that establishing a Truth and Reconciliation Commission can be put on the national agenda and pursued with the new Government. The executive also decided to

send the proceeds of its Tsunami Relief fund, in excess of \$55,000, to an ecumenical body in Sri Lanka.

Solomon Star 31 January 2006

Assistance for education in the Solomon Islands

One hundred and sixty-six primary schools in the Solomon Islands will soon see their rundown classroom buildings transformed to new and permanent ones. The shipment of building materials for these schools has begun and will continue for the next three months. The schools are to benefit under the first phase of the New Zealand Government-funded Solomon Islands Primary School Project. SI\$15 million for the first phase.

Thirty primary schools have been identified in Western Province to benefit under the project, twenty-one of these on Choiseul. Guadalcanal Province will see twenty-two of its primary schools rebuilt under the project, Temotu another twenty-two, Makira thirty-three, Central thirteen, and Renbel nine.

The Ministry of Education Undersecretary, Timothy Ngele, said the selection of primary schools for phase one was based on a number of criteria: that the school does not have proper storage facilities; remoteness of the school from Honiara and other provincial education centres; whether the school has been affected by any natural disasters or ethnic conflict in the past; whether the school has never received funding or assistance from any aid donors towards their infrastructure needs. Priority for assistance was based on the "greatest need" prior to the school data and 2003/2004 site survey of the existing school facilities.

Mr Ngele says the project will provide the schools with two types of classroom buildings. The first is a two-storey classroom building with two classroom blocks and storage room at the upper floor. On the ground floor, there will be open area for future classrooms to be built by communities, if required by the school. The second is a combined two-storey building which will consist of a storage room, library and office block at the upper floor. One future classroom space will be provided for on the ground floor.

New Zealand High Commissioner Brian Saunders saw the first shipments of materials off. He expressed satisfaction at seeing the building materials heading to their respective schools. "Yes this primary school project was funded by the New Zealand Government. But I think it is also important to note that the communities are contributing in a significant way towards the project. Without them, the project would not be a success." Mr Saunders says. Whilst the project meets all building materials and transportation cost, communities would contribute skilled and non-skilled labour, gravels and sand and trees for use in the construction of the buildings.

Education Under-Secretary Mr Ngele says at every school where the project plans to work, the support and assistance of the local community will be essential. "Without their help the project will not succeed. The level of community assistance required by the project will vary depending on how much work is being undertaken at each school. However, at all schools where construction work is planned, communities are expected to provide free of charge manpower, a dry and secure place to store the materials, security for the materials and project workers, meals for project workers and locally cut timber at a reasonable price."

A qualified and experienced building supervisor will be nominated by the communities and is responsible for the daily supervision on the site. Provincial works officers will make regular visits and will report to the Planning Coordinator and Research Unit (PCRU) of the Ministry of Education regarding matters affecting the progress of the project. Each school is expected to complete its building with a period of two months. The project is anticipated to improve classroom facilities at schools, improve education of children and improve people's lifestyle.

Solomon Star 6 February 2006

Churches Agency on Social Issues

There is a new person working at CASI (Churches' Agency on Social Issues), Paul Thompson. His contact details are below:

Research and Liaison Officer: Paul Thompson
P.O.Box 9049, Wellington.
(04) 381 8295

Health people horrified

The Public Health Association is horrified to learn that Government invests in tobacco companies. Gaye Keating, Director of the PHA says "This Government has been supportive of tobacco control – it makes no sense that it would pass strong tobacco control measures on the one hand while investing in the tobacco industry on the other." Dr Keating says that now these investments have been exposed, she expects the Government to quickly re-evaluate where it puts its money. (Dec 5 2005)

Bioethics Council Xenotransplantation Report

The Bioethics Council Report on "The Cultural, Ethical and Spiritual Aspects of Animal-to-Human Transplantation" was presented to the minister at a function on 13 December.

For more items of interest and for more information on the above articles, visit the CASI website www.casi.org.nz.

Christian World Service

Video Reminder

"Listen, Learn and Live", a video/DVD examining the work of CWS partner, the Church of Uganda, on HIV/AIDS in rural communities is available now. With accompanying study material, this new resource is especially designed for church groups. Contact CWS now to borrow a copy (\$10 donation). Phone 03

366 9274 or email cws@cws.org.nz. Please specify if you require a video or DVD. Check out the catalogue on the CWS website (www.cws.org.nz) for other studies still available.

MakePovertyHistory

The Make Poverty History campaign is gearing up for activities to coincide with the visit of U2 in March. Lead singer, Bono, is an internationally recognised anti-poverty campaigner and will be raising the concerns of the Make Poverty History Aotearoa coalition, of which CWS is a member, while in New Zealand. It is hoped he will be able to meet with the Prime Minister and other politicians as well as the media to discuss the need for more and better aid, debt cancellation for developing countries, and trade justice. A petition calling for the New Zealand government to act on these issues is available at www.makepovertyhistory.org.nz. As many signatures as possible are needed to show the government that New Zealanders are concerned about global poverty. Contact CWS for more information on the campaign. Worship materials are available on www.cws.org.nz

Christchurch Office Space

With the closure of CCANZ, CWS has 2 interconnected, self-contained offices (32m2 in total) available for rent in its Christchurch National Office, located in the central city. If you are interested or know a group that would be compatible with CWS, please contact Jonathan Fletcher (jonathan.fletcher@cws.org.nz) or Alison Hardie (alison.hardie@cws.org.nz).
Phone: 03 366 9274.

Worship Resources

Shelly and John Watson are a couple from Tauranga who have produced a CD-Rom of Uniquely New Zealand PowerPoint images for use in worship.

For more information about this resource contact John or Shelly by phone on 07 576 3931 or email: shelly@watsonworld.com.

World Council of Churches

Strong impact, lasting memories – WCC’s General Assembly

The Assembly is over! Today, most of the 691 delegates from the WCC’s 348 member churches and other participants have already left Porto Alegre. With them, along with papers and multimedia files, they take memories of an intense period of encounter, prayer, and celebration - in morning and evening worship, 90 Bible study groups, and in the 200 workshops and other events making up the Assembly’s parallel *mutirão*. On another level, the in-depth work done by the Assembly on themes and issues, structures and relationships is likely to impact the WCC fellowship and the wider ecumenical movement for a long time to come.

Plight of children ‘horrendous’ but “ignored” says WCC

The plight and misery of children caught up in a little-known but long-drawn-out war in northern Uganda was the object of a message sent 23 February by World Council of Churches (WCC) general secretary, Rev. Dr Samuel Kobia.

For more news from the World Council of Churches visit their website at - <http://www.oikoumene.org>

SITUATIONS VACANT



Christian Conference of Asia

96, 2nd District, Pak Tin Village, Mei Tin Road, Shatin, N.T., Hong Kong

Tel: (852) 2691 1068

Fax: (852) 2692 4378

e-mail: cca@cca.org.hk

Website: www.cca.org.hk

Re: Invitation for Application for CCA Consultant on Communication

A letter has been received from Prawate Khid-arn, the General Secretary of the Christian Conference of Asia, inviting people from the Methodist Church of New Zealand to apply for the role of CCA Consultant on Communication.

The applications for the position of the CCA General Secretary must include the following:

- A formal Letter of application addressed to CCA General Secretary
- A complete curriculum vitae (CV) of the candidate
- Endorsement from his or her Church, and the National Council of Churches, if any, to which his or her Church belongs.
- Two references to whom the CCA may write directly
- A medical certificate of good health.

The last date for submission of an application is **March 31st, 2006**. The application can be sent by e-mail or fax.

For more information about the Christian Conference of Asia, visit their website at www.cca.org.nz. For a full job description, please contact Hannah at the Connexional Office via email – hannahf@methodist.org.nz.

The Alexandra Clyde Lauder Union Parish became vacant at the end of last year.

We are a Methodist Presbyterian Union Parish based in Alexandra, Central Otago. We are offering a short term, three-six months, stated supply which may suit a retired minister looking to spend some time in one of the most beautiful parts of the country. We have a very supportive network including lay ministry teams, pastoral care and a paid administrator.

Please contact us on 034486539, acluparish@xtra.co.nz or 14 Centennial Ave Alexandra by 31st March 2006.

Our website address is www.aclup.org.nz

WANTED

AN EXPERIENCED MINISTER FOR A RUGGED, CHALLENGING & FULFILLING MINISTRY BEHIND BARS

CHAPLAIN WANGANUI PRISON

Applications are sought from experienced chaplains and other suitably qualified ordained or lay persons for a full time chaplaincy position at Wanganui Prison. The successful applicant will become a member of a team providing spiritual and emotional support and pastoral care to prisoners and staff at the prison. Training and experience are essential

Wanganui Prison is a prison for adult male minimum and medium security prisoners, located 10 kilometers south of Wanganui. The 522-bed facility, accommodating sentenced and remand prisoners, is part of the Midland Region which also includes New Plymouth, Manawatu and Hawkes Bay prisons.

Applications close 18th April 2006

Ideal Applicants will have:

1. Proven pastoral experience i.e. responsibility for a parish or equivalent for five years or more
2. Relevant theological training
3. Accreditation and recommendation by the chaplain's denomination as a person qualified, experienced and suitable for the role of prison chaplain.
4. Cultural awareness and sensitivity to the religious, spiritual and pastoral needs of people in prison
5. Ability to minister in a bi-cultural, cross-cultural and multi-cultural environment
6. Ability to minister sensitively to followers of faiths other than Christian
7. Ability to work as part of an interdenominational team ministry
8. Ability to deliver services in a non-judgmental and impartial manner
9. Ability to act with integrity at all times
10. Good general health – sufficient to work within a secure and rugged prison environment

Appointees who have not already completed a minimum of one CPE Course or equivalent will be required to work towards obtaining accreditation within three years of appointment.

For further details, job description and application forms contact:

The Executive Manager, David Connor

e-mail: david@pcsanz.org.nz

Phone: 09 379 3017

Fax: 09 379 3019

PO Box 109516, Newmarket, Auckland 1031

TO THE YEARBOOK

PINK PAGES – SYNOD SUPERINTENDANTS

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Northland:

Rev Peter Williamson, P O Box 8104, Kensington, Whangarei. Ph [H] (09) 437 2624. Ph/Fax [O] 09 437 1601, [Em] pwilliamson@ihug.co.nz

ECUMENICAL BOARDS & COMMITTEES

ADDRESS – MINISTERS

Green Pages – 35

2002	WA1	Hardy, Marcia C/- Simon Henderson 12 Temple House, Ward Road LONDON, N195EE	Ph (0044) 7971 689897 [Em] marciahardy@email.com
1968	CHP3	Leadley, Alan J, 137 Boundary Rd, Box 12034, Hamilton (Please use P O Box, not street address)	[H] 07 855 2919 [Em] muallleadley@hnpl.net

ADDRESSES – PARISHES

Page 51:

Dargaville Parish:

15 McKay Crescent, Dargaville, 0300
Business Phone: (09) 439 8724 Fax: +64 (09) 439 8724

Stephenson, (Anne) Patricia A, Rev

LAY PREACHERS

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Wellington (6000)

Noel Dowrick	Wellington	2004
Russell Pitt	Wellington	1992

If you have any articles, news or information for next month's e-Messenger,
you can send them in to Hannah Flinn at the Christchurch Connexional Office:
Email: eMessenger@methodist.org.nz
Postal: PO Box 931, Christchurch