

E hoa ma, tena koutou katoa.

Spring/October | 2010

#### PQ Network News

- St Marks Christchurch forum on Alcohol.
- Methodist City Action, Hamilton. AGM

#### PQ Themes

- Welfare Reform
- Environmental Responsibility / Kaitiakitanga
- Development & Aid

#### PQ Resources

- Crime and Punishment: resource for parishes
- Land and Water Report
- Welfare Reform in NZ
- Holistic Development
- 'Home & Housed' Report on Social Housing.

#### Bills, Submissions

- Marine and Coastal (Takutai Moana) Bill. Submissions due 19th Nov.

## Methodist Te Hāhi Weteriana Public Questions



### Commentary: Resourcing Social Issues

#### **PQ Network News** \*(press control click on blue words for embedded documents)

St Marks, Christchurch is hosting a **Forum 'Tackling the Kiwi Drinking Crisis'**, October 10<sup>th</sup>. Email contact: stmarks7@clear.net.nz

Betsan spoke at the **Hamilton Methodist City Action** AGM and visited Te Ara Hou, 28<sup>th</sup> Sept. Te Ara Hou is a village of social services; it is an ecumenical collaboration for social services with a food bank, catering service, a centre for the Anglican diocese, and an extensive community garden. It was great to meet face-to-face with the Hamilton Mission and church community and, at the AGM, introduce the PQ role, hear about local issues such as housing and rivers, and concerns about the big questions of moving to sustainable economies.

The latest [Policy Watch](#) and [Vulnerability Report](#) from NZCCSS are available.

Please send news of parish and community activities related to Public Questions and Social Issues.

Please request PQ resources you may want.

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## PQ Resources for Theme Topics

### Welfare Reform and Social Issues

A resource on [Crime and Punishment](#) has been created by Jolyon White, Anglican Social Justice Enabler Canterbury. These are designed for ecumenical use and have theological themes. See website for more information. To order a copy, email me, [Betsan](#), or [Jolyon](#)

A new report '[Trends in Health and Wellbeing for Māori Households](#)' has just been released. It is by Cindy Kiro et al (ex-Children's Commissioner). The research provides a way for monitoring whānau wellbeing through Census data. The report will contribute to policy development for whānau ora.

[Consultations for Alternative Welfare Working Group](#) are concluded, but contact can be made through the address in the link. This group is a joint initiative from Caritas, Anglican Social Justice Commission and the Benefit Advisory Federation.

The '[Home and Housed: A Vision for Social Housing in New Zealand](#)' Report has received public feedback. A revised report is due in December.

A paper '[Welfare Reform in New Zealand: The Issues](#)', by Paul Dalziel gives a very informative reflection of Social provision and principles of welfare in NZ

Submissions on [Social Assistance](#) & [Housing](#), by Laura Black, Methodist Mission Dunedin provide analysis and perceptive social justice views on these issues.

### Environmental Responsibility and Holistic Development

The [Land and Water Forum Report 'A Fresh Start for Water'](#) is now available. Regional consultations are to be held in October and February.

A resource on 'Holistic Development' a PQ Backgrounder, by Betsan Martin is attached.

An excellent new publication of **Pacific Ecologist** focuses on the need for an 'Economics Revolution' Contact Kay Weir Email: [primeditor@paradise.net.nz](mailto:primeditor@paradise.net.nz)

### Development and Aid

CWS and [Mission & Ecumenical](#) (Oct 2010) report on a meeting of world leaders on the [Millennium Development Goals](#) to alleviate poverty and other pressing needs, have failed to agree on a plan to mobilize action. Although the numbers in extreme poverty in Asia have decreased, population growth will mean more people in extreme poverty in the Asia-Pacific region by 2015A key challenge is to address economic systems that cause poverty.

## Current Submissions. Information on relevant Bills and Legislations

[Marine and Coastal Area \(Takutai Moana\) Bill](#). **Submissions by 19<sup>th</sup> November**. Betsan is preparing a Briefing Paper for the PQ network, to help with submissions. This will be sent to the PQ network by 18<sup>th</sup> October. There is an excellent summary in the [Bills Digest](#) (parliament)

Please contact me if you would like support with a submission. Or you can [make your submission online](#).

There has been a magnificent response from Methodist Mission Christchurch to people and organisations traumatised and displaced by the earthquake and aftershocks. Canterbury Earthquake Response and Recovery Act was passed 14 Sept. 2010, to facilitate further responses, such as rebuilding work to proceed with provision for post-building consents. [Concern has been expressed about the powers granted in this Act](#).

The Social Assistance (New Work Tests, Incentives, and Obligations) Act was passed into law 23<sup>rd</sup> August and implemented from 1<sup>st</sup> October.

[Comment](#) by Laura Black, Methodist Mission, Dunedin can be accessed through this link.