

## The Story of Wez, the Bear – (writer *anon*).

Wez was donated to the Tauranga Parish by a member. Think in terms of the story of the widow's mite. Bearing in mind the similarity of his name to a famous forebear in the church, the Parish in its wisdom has decided that Wez should become a travelling bear. So he is available to go on holiday with various members of the congregation. In exchange for this privilege, the parish receives a donation from the parish member towards the parish organ fund. Thus Wez fulfils the instruction of John Wesley to 'earn all you can'.



Here Wez is seen during a visit to the Waikato-Waiariki Synod where he was given his own papers to study. He assures all his friends that he received the usual warm welcome that all visitors to the Synod receive.

On the next page, read Wez's story, **as told by Wez**.

“Wez is short for Wesley. I think he was some kind of forebear of mine, who used to ride a horse and have adventures. I am still a little bear but I have had some amazing adventures, too!

You see – I am a travelling bear. I don’t stay still for very long. Each week, someone from our church take me home to their place to spend the week with them, and I get to do all kinds of neat things! I have been on picnics, visited museums, flown in a plane and even visited Parliament. My diary is so full that people have booked up weeks in advance, just to invite me to their place for the week.

Not long ago I even went to a Synod meeting and met lots of people from other churches. I didn’t understand much of what was happening, but the food was good! (I found the jar of honey...)

I didn’t realize that so many grown-ups just can’t wait to take a bear home for a holiday! People actually put money in the organ fund so that they can invite me. They tell me that the organ fund is growing fast. I wonder if the organist will play a special tune for me one day. Maybe *The Teddy Bears’ Picnic*?. I’ll ask the webmaster to put a “surprise” on the web page for the organist’s benefit!”

*Wez*