



Preservation Post

Newsletter of the
Christ Church Preservation Society (Inc.)

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Issue 55 – February 2016

“Looking to the future to preserve our past”

Christ Church Taita

Upcoming Events:

**Wednesday 20 April, 7.30 pm
Annual General Meeting
At the Church**

**Sunday 15 May, 2.00 pm
162nd Annual Service**

Christmas Service 2015

It was a very happy and special time of celebrating Christmas at Christ Church on 3 December. The choir looked very Christmassy in their red uniforms and our little church was filled with song.

Choir Director David Dell presented a power point presentation of his wonderful experience at the 200th celebrations of the first New Zealand Christmas in 1814 with Samuel Marsden in the beautiful Bay of Islands.

David felt that he must be there, rang a fellow Police Chaplain in Auckland who just happened to be on the

organising committee and the next day they met with the Bishop of Auckland who said their musician had pulled out. So David was recruited and had a memorable and thrilling time leading 1000 worshippers who came from all churches and by car and boat to Rangihou Bay to celebrate around the Marsden Cross.

David had a great time with the Maori Bishop of Northland who jokingly made him an honorary Anglican when David minded his 100 year old crosier!

Also Rev Samuel Marsden the 4 times great grandson from England was another who made this occasion unique and special. We saw pictures of an excellent heritage building and

walkway made at Rangihou to mark this 200th Anniversary.

David tied this NZ Gospel 200th celebration to our Christ Church as the earliest remaining Church building in Wellington. Rev John Daysh mentioned how the Maori people spread the Word throughout NZ and Henry Williams, who, in 1839, chose Octavius Hadfield to lead the work at Kapiti, invited by Te Rauparaha's grandson. Hadfield married one of William's daughters as did Bidolf Hutton the first minister of Christ Church.

Our little Church is now 162 years' old. It is amazing to be able to celebrate both the past and the present in such a beautiful setting. Over Waitangi Weekend the Secretary opened the church for a beautiful wedding on Waitangi Day and on the holiday Monday, met with a descendant of the Fox family who was lovingly tending the family graves – such a contrast.



Bob Fox tending Fox Family graves

Caretaker

We are delighted to advise that we have filled the role of Caretaker. Susan Caulfield who lives very close to the church will commence in March. Susan's son Philip will also be available to assist with the tricky occasional evening callouts.

We must also acknowledge the caretaking assistance of Lou Thompson and Naami Cassidy (Naami and her late husband Tom were caretakers for many years). Lou and Naami, together with a team at the Christie Centre (an IHC unit close to the church) lovingly clean the church prior to every function and have been opening for weddings in the absence of a caretaker.

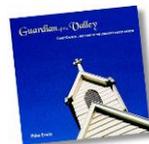
Annual General Meeting –

Wednesday 20 April, 7.30 pm at the Church. Our little committee works extremely hard to maintain the church. Please consider joining the team – many hands make like work.

162nd Annual Service –

Sunday 15 May, 2.00 pm at the Church. This is always an enjoyable time for families to share.

Guardian of the Valley - 2nd Edition



Available to purchase - \$25.00 plus \$6 postage and packing by contacting Mary Stevens (email mhrstevens@gmail.com or phone (04) 476 6247). Check out our Facebook page and website for more information and photos.

Ashes Wall

A niche in our Ashes Wall costs just \$750.00 plus GST. Contact Janice Henson, Secretary, for further details.

Janice-klaw@xtra.co.nz



*The Society is grateful to Brother International
(NZ) Limited for printing this newsletter*

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Bequests for Christ Church Taita

Including a bequest for The Christ Church Preservation Society is a wonderful way to honour those who have gone before us and to ensure that we can continue to preserve and develop Christ Church. Our vision is to enhance Christ Church Taita as a heritage centre by establishing a colonial house and shed as a museum to celebrate our pioneers. If you would like to talk about how you may be able to support this vision please contact our President, John Daysh, email john@unicef.org.nz; Ph.04 815 9370 (Wk) or 04 977 2055 (Hm)

Weddings

14 November

***Ashleigh Armstrong and Quinn
Mannell***

5 December

Joan Fitzgerald and Bruce Crothers

6 February

***Rebecca Edwards and Michael
Lowe***