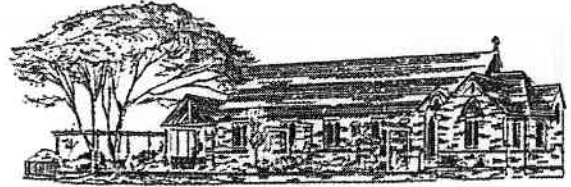


IN TOUCH

Nurses' Memorial Chapel Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2009



PO Box 29 323 • CHRISTCHURCH

Greetings to all our supporters

*The year has gone by very quickly
and it seems no time since our last
newsletter.*

April 25 ANZAC Day

Despite the many ANZAC services around the city once again the chapel service was well attended. This was in no small measure due to Val Averill's organisation. Val's husband Colin was the guest speaker, his topic "World War One – 90 years on."

At the service, thanks to Lorraine Shannon's persistence, the chapel was at last presented with the New Zealand Army Nursing Corps flag which has pride of place near the front of the chapel. Major Ian Barrett made the presentation and described the design of the flag. The colours of grey and scarlet are those of the original dress uniform of the British Army Nursing Service and it is also thought to represent the grey dresses of Florence Nightingale's nursing sisters which were worn with a scarlet woollen scarf allegedly to keep out the Crimean cold. In the centre of the flag is the corps cap badge the basis of which is the star with a heraldic lamp in the centre. These provide the link with the five pointed star of the New Zealand nurses' registration medal and the lamp carried by Florence Nightingale. The star is enclosed in a laurel wreath and surmounted by a crown.

Hospital chaplain, Hilary Barlow, again took the service and we were again supported by the Health Support Group of the Canterbury Regiment and Army Cadets. Unfortunately we were told after the service that people at the back could not hear.

A new and we hope, effective, sound system is now in place.

Committee (elected in May)

President: Lorraine Shannon
338 1657

Vice-President: Ray Wootton
384 4275

Secretary: Bern Brunton
342 4439

Treasurer: Ann Morrison
338 8800

Dorothy Ainsworth
389 3153

Val Averill
355 7354

Robin Bisset
358 2802

Joan Herring
981 7870

Bookings: Helen Cummack
389 3318

Supervisors: Fay Sim
372 9272

Trust Chairperson: Mark Holdsworth

Lorraine's update on the Marquette

On October 23 1915 the transport ship Marquette was sunk by a new heavy weight German submarine No. 35. Those on board included 95 crew, 449 from a British Division, 197 from No.1 New Zealand stationary hospital which included 36 nurses. Of the 167 who died 10 were New Zealand nurses, one from the North Island and nine from the South Island. In May 2009 a Greek dive team located and identified the Marquette. She rests in 87 metres of water of the Thermaikos Gulf in the North Aegean Sea. The British Embassy in Greece has issued a protection order for the wreck.

Morning Tea

November 20 at 10am

In appreciation of the sterling service provided each week by the chapel supervisors and flower arrangers, the morning tea will be at the Papanui RSA, 55 Bellevue Ave.

Events

October 08 to September 09

- 23 Weddings, including a combined christening and wedding
- 19 Christenings, including triplets
- 4 Funerals
- 7 Other Services including reunions

Condolences

The chapel friends send their condolences to the family of Stephen Ballinger-Taylor who designed and made the war memorial window.

Speakers

A donation would be appreciated from groups requesting a speaker from the Chapel. This contributes to chapel funds for maintenance and speakers' travel costs.

Chapel Supervisors

The chapel is open 1 to 4pm Monday to Saturday. We receive great support from our band of supervisors and are pleased to receive offers of help with this work. "Training" is provided. At the moment supervisors are required for the first Tuesday of the month or on an "on call" basis. Please ring Fay Sim - 372 9272 if you are interested.

Use of the Chapel Car Park

Unless you are on arranged chapel business please contact Fay on 372 9272 for permission to use the car park. Fay will know whether the park will be available.

Flowers

Throughout the year the chapel is adorned with beautiful floral arrangements, the work of an expert team of volunteers. Alison McGuire, flower roster organiser, would be happy to hear from anyone interested in joining the team. Telephone: 359 5434

Centennial Rose

This red hybrid, repeat flower, highly fragrant rose was developed to commemorate the centennial of the Canterbury region of the New Zealand Nurses' Organisation. It is available for \$25, \$9 of which will go towards purchase of a stained glass window for the chapel.

Contact: Janine Randle 03 332 4940
or jrandle@xtra.co.nz

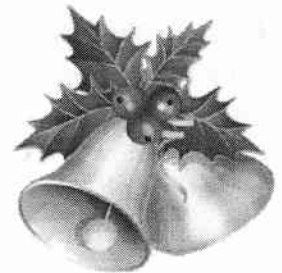
The committee thanks Canterbury NZNO for their generosity in donating one of these roses for the garden of the chapel.

Development of Christchurch Hospital

We wait with interest to hear more about the proposed building plans (including the demolition of the nurses' hostel) and how these will affect the day to day operations of the chapel.

*Seasons Greetings
and best wishes for
a happy and safe*

Christmas and New Year.



From the Friends of the
Chapel Committee