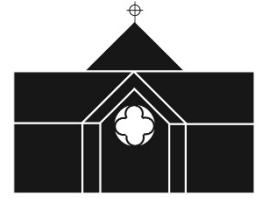


IN TOUCH



Nurses' Memorial Chapel Newsletter
April 2023

Website: www.cnmc.org.nz email: chapelfoc@gmail.com

Facebook : Nurses' Memorial Chapel

AGM

May 6th 2023, 10.00am

Manawa (Ground Floor-The Commons)

276 Antigua Street, Christchurch

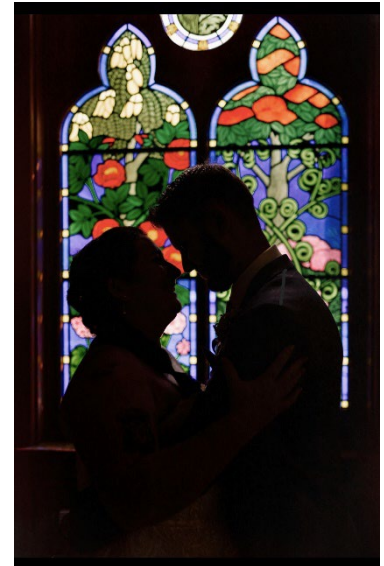
Morning tea will be served at the conclusion of the AGM

Welcome members to 2023 although we are well into the fourth month of the year. Xmas is but a distant memory as we now move towards winter and the colder weather. After a fantastic Canterbury Summer it seems strange having to “fish out” the winter clothes in the realisation that Winter is approaching.

To date 2023 has been busy as we continue to host a variety of different events.

Events at the Chapel

On Friday 3rd February the first wedding for the year was held between Alana Wratt and Lachlan Ellis. The weather was beautiful, and the chapel garden looked stunning. This was a very memorable occasion for the bride and groom and their family and friends.



Angela Drummond from Windsor Care along with 10 elderly residents visited the Chapel for a tour and to hear the history and stories of our beautiful building. They were an interested group of people who thoroughly enjoyed the visit and were very appreciative of the volunteers who gave them a guided tour.

Wendy Maddocks accompanied 12 Masters nursing students from Canterbury University to visit the Chapel to learn about its history and significance to women and the story of the Marquette. The group spent quite some time at the Chapel, asked lots of questions with one student even dressing in the army nurse's uniform. A further group of students will visit the Chapel on the 3rd May.

Memorial Services

Two memorial services have recently been held at the Chapel. The first for a very loved Mum, Grandma and Great Grandma who was a registered nurse. This was a very private small family service conducted by a family member who was also a nurse and a Salvation Army minister.

The second was for Stephen Merrick. Steve trained at Christchurch Hospital graduating in 1987. He spent much of his time in what was the old Ward 8 April 1987 - 1997, then in Orthopaedic Outpatients with Jan Armstrong and latterly at Burwood Hospital orthopaedic theatre with Dianne Daly. It was an honour to meet Steve's wife and family who had travelled from the UK to hold the memorial service at the Chapel at Steve's request. There were a number of people from Burwood and Christchurch Hospital who had worked with Steve before he left for the UK.

ANZAC Day

Jude Turner and Jennie Hamilton will be at the Chapel on ANZAC Day 1-4pm. There is no service at the Chapel this year but plans are underway to host a service at the Chapel on ANZAC Day 2024



Seven new crosses and 3 refurbished crosses have been made by the Men's shed in Duvauchelle, Banks Peninsula. The men donated their time and materials seeing this as a very worthy project and a good service to the community.

An article and photo appeared in the Akaroa Mail on the 6th April, written by Cheryl English and outlining the connections three of the nurses Nona Hildyard, Lorna Rattray and Margaret Rogers had to Banks Peninsula. The crosses will be placed on the lawn of the Chapel on the 21st April until after ANZAC Day.

International Nurses Day 12th May

Wendy Maddocks Senior Lecturer Canterbury University will be speaking at the Chapel on Friday 12th May at 12.30pm. "Rising to the Challenge" tells the story of Blanche Huddleston - NZ nurse Anaesthetist in WW1. Reservations are essential to hear this fascinating story. Please contact Nanette Ainge to secure a seat phone 0212312940 or email Ainge.n@xtra.co.nz.

Website

The Friend's committee is looking into the logistics of extending the website to have a facility for the ordering of resources online. Currently we have the ability to apply for new and re-new membership, ordering the book "Stand for all Time" by Anna Rogers, and booking and paying for Chapel events. Extending this facility to include other resources will make it easier for people to purchase and pay for products on line and would also better promote the variety of resources we have available. Watch this space.

Plaques

The plaque has now been placed in front of the Sam Mahon sculpture "Caring Hands." This plaque alongside the sculpture recognises the dedication and compassion Sister McDonald had for Christchurch Hospital and nursing generally. We acknowledge the wonderful legacy Sister McDonald left to the Friends of the Nurses' Memorial Chapel which has enabled us to remember her in this way.

Three new plaques have been requested for placement on the pews. Two are already in place and one is in the process of being made. These plaques either acknowledge a Christchurch Hospital nurse or commemorate a nursing class reunion.

Jude Turner has done some wonderful work in updating the map of the Chapel Memorial Garden. This has now been completed and will be available once printed. Thanks, Jude, for your great work in keeping the map current.

Museum News

Since Jennie Hamilton joined the museum subgroup, she has been busy on two projects. She has sorted and organized the archives going back to the Saving the Chapel campaign. Documents related to the Friends of the Chapel and the Trust are now in chronological order.

The Chapel now features on a CCC library initiative to tell more Canterbury stories: <https://canterburystories.nz/collections/community/nurses-memorial>. Jennie worked with Simon Daisley and Sarah Tester from CCC and its great to see 48 beautiful photographs already online.

A genealogy group visited the Chapel recently, and afterwards Lorraine Wilmshurst photographed the plaques in the Chapel so future genealogists are aware of these memorials to their relatives.



The mannequin in the Chapel has changed clothes, now wearing a uniform kindly donated by Jane Bryden. Her mother Jenny (née Whitehead) Bryden trained in the late 1950s.

As we hear about an overburden health service, we have been stuck by the many parallels between today's workforce crisis and the workforce shortages that lay behind the emergence of nurse anaesthetists in 1918. In homage to today's nurses, Wendy Maddocks Senior Lecturer Canterbury University will give a fascinating presentation on International Nurses Day.

Volunteers

Our volunteers continue to provide a wonderful service ensuring the Chapel can be open 3 days a week. We are always looking for new volunteers as we do have a shortage of people. The Chapel has had to close on a number of occasions recently due to illness and people not being available at the last minute. If you have a friend or know someone who would be happy to be a volunteer, please contact Stephanie Cook 027 2509624 stephcook@xtra.co.nz Or Andrea Grieve, 027 6944705 andreagrieve@xtra.co.nz

Membership

Thank you to all our members for your continued support. When renewing your subscription please ensure all your details are up to date in order for us to accurately maintain the data base. Remember bank cheques are no longer in circulation. All membership fees are to be paid through the internet banking. Please include your name and subscription amount.

The Friends Bank account number is Westpac - 03 1707 0017417 000

Remember to include your name and "sub" in reference field

Miss/Ms/Mrs/Mr/Dr

First Name(s) _____

Last Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Telephone _____

Email address _____

Membership Subscriptions

Single: \$20

Double/Family \$30

Group \$45

Life member \$150

Donation _____

Total Amount _____

Please tick if you require a donation receipt

Keep warm and safe during the cold winter months, and I look forward to seeing some of you at the AGM on 6th May.

Pip Mason
President