



**Welcome to North Pres News.** In here you will find the dates for various Northern Presbytery events. More information can be found at our website at [www.northpres.org.nz](http://www.northpres.org.nz)

### Annual Reports and Accounts 2014/15:

Thank you to those parishes who have sent in two copies of their annual report and accounts for 2014/15. We are almost there! Last week I sent out a reminder email to the last few parishes that we hadn't heard from. Kerry Johnstone from Albany sent back this reply:

*I am very sorry I have not complied,  
though initially I really tried.  
It took a while to get them here  
and then I really, really fear  
I didn't send them straight away  
thinking I'll do it another day.  
That day has come and gone and went  
and still the reports have not been sent.  
I need to get two copies made  
before my memory again does fade  
and then with all due vitesse  
I'll send them to your address.*

Hope that brings you a smile and if you are one of the last few who's "day has come and gone and went" then please post them off before your memory fades. Thank you!

### Diary:

- **Ordination & Induction of Mose Taumaoe – Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December, 4pm at Papatoetoe – St Martin's Presbyterian Church, 22 Wylie Rd, Papatoetoe**
- **Ordination & Induction of Roxy Gahegan – Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December, 7.15pm at St Cuthbert's Chapel, 122 Market Rd, Gate 2**
- **Closure Service for Balmoral Presbyterian Church – Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December, 3pm**
- **Summer Presbytery – Saturday, 27 February 2016**

### Work groups & Council:

- **Presbytery Council** held its last monthly meeting for the year on **Thursday, 3rd December** at 10am. Presbytery Executive Council meets weekly on the other Thursdays usually at 7.30 -9.30am at Papatoetoe –St John's Church.
- **Property & Finance:** When: Next meeting **2016**. Where: Presbytery office, 111 Great South Rd, Greenlane.
- **Ministry:** When: Next meeting **2016** Where: Mt Roskill –St John's Presbyterian Church, 422 Mt Albert Rd.
- **Prayer & Healing:** When: **Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> December** at 12pm. Where: Gathering to meet at Taksin Turkish Kitchen, 373 Manukau Rd. All most welcome.
- **Youth:** When: **TBC** at 10am Where: 111 Great South Rd, Greenlane

Requests to work groups, should be made available to the group a week before the meeting along with any supporting material. Please email these to the Northern Presbytery office. Thank you.

*Northern*  
**PRESBYTERY**  
connecting to grow churches, in Christ

## Elders Commission for 2016:

Your Session needs to commission their Presbytery Elder and Alternative/Substitute Elder for 2016 and other office bearers details need to be updated. You will find the form to complete [here](#)

## Presbyterian Support Northern (PSN) Trustees:

PSN are recruiting for two **voluntary** Trustee positions to be on the Presbyterian Support Northern Board representing the Northern Presbytery – specifically Northland and South Auckland. If you would like to apply please register your interest to [ira.dunlop@psn.org.nz](mailto:ira.dunlop@psn.org.nz) by 5pm 12 December 2015. Registrations of interest will be submitted to the Northern Presbytery Moderator for recommendation to the PSN Board.

For more information about Presbytery Support Northern and the role of a trustee please see [here](#).

## SPANZ Autumn edition:

Angela Singer, Communications Manager of the PCANZ has asked for help with the upcoming autumn edition of SPANZ. One of the stories will be on churches offering **Christmas dinner to the lonely and alone in their communities**. Another will be on how **youth are involved in activities and initiatives for addressing climate change, conservation and environmental issues**.

If your parish would like to be part of either of these stories, please Email Angela [angela@presbyterian.org.nz](mailto:angela@presbyterian.org.nz) by **14 December**. Angela pre-prepares much of the February edition in December as they lose a number of weeks to the Christmas New Year break - the magazine needs to be with the printer end of January 2016.

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A voice calling from the desert,  
'Prepare the way for the Lord,  
make straight paths for him.  
Every valley shall be filled in,  
every mountain and hill made  
low. The crooked roads shall  
become straight, the rough ways  
smooth. And all mankind will see  
God's salvation.

*Luke 3:4-6*

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## Rangihoua Heritage Park:

It is nearly one year since the Governor General opened the Rangihoua Heritage Park and the Churches marked the bicentenary of the arrival of Samuel Marsden and the first missionaries, accompanied by their Maori hosts, including Ruatara, Hongi Hika and other leading rangatira.

The service held on Christmas Day last year was a significant ecumenical event, remembering Marsden's sermon at this place of Christian beginnings, where he preached from the text, "Behold! I bring you tidings of great joy".

Presbyterians nationally, through parishes, and individually, with many others, helped make the Rangihoua Heritage Park possible. The Park is a place that is attracting a steady stream of visitors and pilgrims.

The Marsden Cross Trust Board, which oversaw the development of Rangihoua Heritage Park, is concerned with the Park's continuing maintenance and promotion.

As a Presbyterian member on the Marsden Cross Churches Advisory Board, and one of their representatives on the Trust Board, I would be grateful if the three attachments could be circulated throughout our church. The [first is a brief brochure](#) giving directions to the Park; the [second is a report](#) from John King, the chair of the Trust Board; the [third is an invitation](#) to people to consider becoming Friends of the Park and thereby contribute to its ongoing maintenance and development.

## Job Vacancies for Christian Conference of Asia:

The AES, Wayne Matheson has asked us to let you know of these job vacancies at the CCA. Due to their close off dates not coinciding with Bush Telegraph. There are four positions. More details can be found [here](#).



### Hunua Easter Camp:

Before you know it Easter will be here again. The Northern Presbytery is responsible for overseeing the running of the Hunua Easter Camp at the Hunua Presbyterian Campsite. It is time to start planning to get your youth along this year! The camp is for year 6 -10 kids at school.

The camp provides a fun weekend full of games, activities, food, and Chapel sessions with a speaker, worship band and small groups. It also provides training opportunities for leaders (year 11 and above) to get practical experience learning servant leadership and to deepen their Christian faith.

Hunua is a great way of bonding as a youth group, making new friends and joining both regionally and across domination's with other churches.

Head over to [www.hunuaeastercamp.co.nz](http://www.hunuaeastercamp.co.nz) and find out more about this and how to register.

Read the Moderator of the Northern Presbytery's Christmas Letter [here](#).



“...the stories of the Christ child, tells us that there is **HOPE** that death cannot put out  
and a **PEACE** for the world that will have the last say.

That a time will come when our energies will turn from violence to love  
and when we will hear the angels' song and will see, in the eyes of the child in the manger,  
the one who comes among us.”

(Taken from the Moderator's Letter)