

# St John the Baptist Anglican Church

## Newsletter September 2019

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### A note from Stan...

My contribution this month concerns Mia Griffiths, a young Maori woman who was abused while serving customers at a Viaduct restaurant last week. I bring this up as an issue I can identify with. 'Soft' racial abuse, as I call it has happened to me from a very early age. I have learned to laugh it off, keeping those small pangs of pain suppressed at a very deep level. When I read the article about young Mia, it resonated with me. Because she was Maori, the customer felt he could pass a comment about her eating habits and ability to afford to eat at the establishment she was working in.

I have the amazing privilege of working in an environment of people from Asia, Europe the Middle East and Pacifica. Our facilities echo every day with songs, language, even dance from around the globe. May we never entertain, permit, or allow the stain of racial abuse to enter our wonderful space...

#### **Abused waitress Mia is our future**

***Mia Griffiths has shown herself to be capable, strong, resilient and articulate - and is the future of our workforce, writes Kirk Sargent***

Leadership is most important in times of crisis. Public reaction to the news of the young Māori waitress racially abused by a table of senior execs from a publicly-listed ASX company in a popular in Auckland restaurant last week suggests it's time for somebody at James Hardie to stand up and lead.

There is a choice about the direction, too: this incident could be the canary in the coal mine for an out-of-touch company, or it could mark the turning point it needs to guarantee its relevance and place in their community well into the future.

The person casting the abuse on Sunday happened to be a partner of a senior employee, but the fact that no one at the table, no one in the leadership team, felt compelled or courageous enough to speak up paints a very bleak picture about the culture at James Hardie. As a shareholder of an ASX-listed company I would be very concerned about the long-term prospects - with good reason.

I think that reason is best illustrated in a letter from BlackRock's Larry Fink that created a stir in 2017. The CEO of the largest money management firm in the world with more than \$6 trillion in assets under management, told the CEOs of the firms it invested in that unless they are reflective of the communities they serve, those communities will hold them back. He elaborated:

"Our clients - who are your company's owners - are asking you to demonstrate the leadership and clarity that will drive not only their own investment returns, but also the prosperity and security of their fellow citizens."

Society is demanding that companies, both public and private, serve a social purpose - creating value that goes beyond financial return and that gives them social licence to operate in their communities. A better framework for serving all their stakeholders - including shareholders, employees, customers, and the communities in which they operate.

In practical terms this means using your resources to serve a social purpose alongside making a profit. And what is the most important resource for any company? Embracing workforce diversity, creating and enabling an inclusive workplace culture that reflects New Zealand culture, has got to be the best, and easiest, way to achieve this. The parents of the waitress - Mia Griffiths - live in my community so on Sunday I wrote them a short note to tell them they should be very proud of their daughter, the modern face of New Zealand. I chose to focus on the seemingly few positives to be taken from an incredibly sad incident.

Amidst ongoing demographic disruption, European-staffed businesses servicing New Zealand European customers is not what our future looks like. By 2038 over 50 percent of New Zealand's population will be Māori, Asian and Pacific. To retain market share, businesses need to win more diverse customers. They will evolve or die.

As well as this, with our population rapidly ageing, who's able and willing to do the work? By 2038, our

population will have a median age of 42 and the number of young people entering the labour force will be the slim end of the wedge.

In contrast, Māori and Pacific people have a much younger age structure than the general New Zealand population. In 2038, half the New Zealand Māori population will be younger than 28, and half the Pasifika population will be younger than 26.

New Zealand's economy therefore has much to gain by investing in increased skills and opportunities for young Māori and Pasifika. The cost of failing to harness their potential economic contributions would be extremely high.

Mia Griffiths is our future. Through this process she has shown herself to be capable, strong, resilient and articulate - employers would be extremely lucky to have her in their workforce.

Companies paying attention to the economic environment already have plans in place to attract people like Mia, because while her efforts as a waitress are to be commended - there's no doubt her future holds other aspirations.

*Kirk is CEO of First Foundation, a non-profit brokers partnerships between organisations committed to better social outcomes in NZ and academically talented students who need financial assistance to achieve their potential through tertiary education.*

Kindly,  
Stan



Deliveries to the City Mission. Thank you!!

### FROM VESTRY

- Vestry would like to report that we pay a Living Wage to our employees.
- Garage Sale: Saturday 12 October 2019, last weekend of the Term 3 school holidays.

- Synod Rep update: Pam Patterson, who volunteered to be one of our Synod reps has resigned. At the Vestry meeting in August, Doug Dempster volunteered to be the new representative until our next AGM.

### PASTORAL CARE REPORT

On Wednesday 07<sup>th</sup> August the 10.00 a.m. Morning Prayer took a break when I was one of 72 SPCA Members privileged to attend a morning tea function at Government House in Epsom. It was hosted by Her Excellency The Governor-General of New Zealand, The Rt Hon Dame Patsy Reddy, as Patron of the organisation. The accompanying photograph shows Dame Patsy, Ann Rand (from Manurewa) and myself.

At the Wednesday Services we offer thanksgivings and intercessions. The needs of the day are noted under headings; world, country, city, community, church, parish, people. People includes those on the Pew Sheet but adds others who choose to keep private their prayer request.

Services were at Shoal Bay Villa on Thursday 08<sup>th</sup> and Regency on Friday 16<sup>th</sup>.

In between there has been one home communion, several visits to folks at home and at the North Shore Hospital. The young gentleman on Reception there knows me rather well from my frequent requests for a Ward number.

Sunday's 04<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> I served as Locum Priest while Stan was attending a Conference in Korea.

The Auckland Inter-Faith Council held its AGM on Thursday 08<sup>th</sup> August. The two of us (Allan White – Bahai, and myself) who are developing the North Shore Network attended to report progress.

Vivienne Hill (The Reverend)



### In and around St John

**Sunday Services:** 8am, 9.30am, Eucharist.

**Fourth-Sunday School:** 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month at 9.30am

**Evening Women's Fellowship:** 7.30pm 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month

**Men's Supper & Bible Group:** 7.30-9pm twice a month on a Wednesday. Check the weekly service sheet for each venue.

**Next Garage Sale:** Saturday 12th October

### Hall and St Jude's Room Users

**Sarah's OSCAR After School Care-** Monday – Friday, 1.30pm-6pm (all rooms).

**Sarah's OSCAR Holiday Programme** –Monday – Friday, 7.30am-6pm during school holidays only (all rooms).

**Babysitting Club** – one Saturday per month – 4pm-9.30pm (hall and kitchen).

**The Korean Yewon Church:** Sunday, 9.30am-5pm (hall), 9am-11am (St Jude's Room).

**Target Training** – Wednesday, 4pm-9.30pm (St Jude's Room).

**Positive Balance Yoga** - Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, 6pm-8.30pm, in term time (hall and kitchen).

**Weight Watchers** – Thursday, 5.30pm-7.30pm (foyer).

**Jumping Beans** – Wednesday, 8.30am-1pm in term time (hall and kitchen).

**St Thomas – Syrian Church** – Sunday, 1pm–4pm (Chapel, foyer and St Jude's Room).

**Al Anon family support group** – Sunday, 3pm-5pm (St Jude's Room).

**Scottish Country Dance** - Wednesday 7.30pm – 10pm throughout the year (hall and kitchen).

**English Folk Dance** - 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of each month, 7.30pm-10pm (hall and kitchen).

**Early English Dance** – 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of each month, 7pm–10pm (hall and kitchen).

**Soccer for Tots** – Saturday, 8.30am-10.30am during term time (hall and kitchen).

**Northcote Steps** – Friday, 7pm-10pm throughout the year (St Jude's Room).

**Kaipatiki Community Facilities Trust** – Preschool Play – Tuesday, 9am-1.30pm from 14th May (hall and kitchen).

**Book Club** – Wednesday, 7pm-9pm (foyer and small kitchen).

**Essentrics Breast Cancer Support/rehab exercise Class** – Thursday, 10am.

If you'd like to book the church, hall or St Jude's room, please email Jansyl Andrews at [sjbanglican@gmail.com](mailto:sjbanglican@gmail.com)

### Readings for the month

#### September 1 22nd Ordinary Sunday

Reading: Jeremiah 18: 1-11

Epistle: Philemon 1-21

Gospel: Luke 14: 1, 7-14

#### September 8 – 23rd Ordinary Sunday

Reading: Jeremiah 18: 1-11

Epistle: Philemon 1-21

Gospel: Luke 14: 25-33

#### September 15 24th Ordinary Sunday

Reading: Jeremiah 4: 11-12, 22-28

Epistle: Timothy 1: 12-17

Gospel: Luke 15: 1-10

#### September 22 25th Ordinary Sunday

Reading: Jeremiah 8: 18-9:1

Epistle: 1 Timothy 2: 1-7

Gospel: Luke 16: 1-13

#### September 29 26th Ordinary Sunday

Reading: Jeremiah 32: 1-3a, 6-15

Epistle: 1 Timothy 6: 6-19

Gospel: Luke 16: 19-31

#### October 6 St Francis of Assisi

Reading: Genesis 1: 20-26

Epistle: Galatians 6: 14-18

Gospel: Matthew 11: 25-30



### EVENING WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The Evening Women's Fellowship meets on Tuesday 10th September in the St Jude's Room at 7.30pm. Our speaker is our vicar, Stan who will talk about his recent visit to Korea and the conference he attended there. This will be fascinating, I am thinking! All welcome. Any enquiries to me, Rosemary Saunders at 4895830.



### FINANCES

Thanks for two extra donations for maintenance. They are very much appreciated.

Vicarage repairs to the back porch and windows about to start.

Stewardship donations still below budget. We need to do better.

Hall/church income above budget and we have a new hall user which is good.

Doug Dempster, Treasurer

### Our Dad

Anonymous

Although the author is unknown, this is a highly regarded Christian poem for Father's Day.

God took the strength of a mountain,  
The majesty of a tree,  
The warmth of a summer sun,  
The calm of a quiet sea,  
The generous soul of nature,  
The comforting arm of night,  
The wisdom of the ages,  
The power of the eagle's flight,  
The joy of a morning in spring,  
The faith of a mustard seed,  
The patience of eternity,  
The depth of a family need,  
Then God combined these qualities,  
When there was nothing more to add,  
He knew his masterpiece was complete,  
And so, he called it Dad

### MEN'S SUPPER & BIBLE READING GROUP

Join us for two meetings in SEPTEMBER – on Wednesdays **11th and 25th Sept. *Put these dates in your diary now.*** These are an evening of chatting, life stories, good discussion over a Bible chapter and a great supper which we all bring and share.

#### Wednesday 11th Sept, 7.30-9pm

Meet at Peter White's home - 2/2 Milton Rd, Northcote Point.

- Gordon is going to tell us about his early life's background. These stories are always interesting. We're looking forward to that!!
- We'll all chat about things that we discover or rediscover in a Bible chapter from John's Gospel.
- And we'll round off the evening with a fabulous supper.

#### Wednesday 25th September, 7.30-9pm

We will meet at Peter White's home - 2/2 Milton Rd, Northcote Point.

- Bryan is going to tell us about something special in his life. Is it an occasion? Is it a place? Is it a person? Is it an event? Come along and hear his story.
- And we'll read another Bible chapter from John's Gospel and chat about it.
- Then we'll enjoy a great supper together. And we'll chat!!

These are real good "Blokes" evenings and a great time is always had by all. So if you haven't been before, you're most welcome. Just bring some delicious, delectable supper to share! Just call, Peter White 419 4380 or Richard Lewis - 4199 026 for any further details.



### FIND ST JOHN'S ON FACEBOOK!

Just go to [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) and search: @AnglicanChurchNorthcotePoint

### My Father's Voice in Prayer

By May Hastings Nottage

Written in 1901 and published by Classic Reprint Series, this work of poetry celebrates the cherished memories of a grown woman tenderly recalling from childhood the voice of her father in prayer.

In the silence that falls on my spirit  
 When the clamour of life loudest seems,  
 Comes a voice that floats in tremulous notes  
 Far over my sea of dreams.  
 I remember the dim old vestry,  
 And my father kneeling there;  
 And the old hymns thrill with the memory still  
 Of my father's voice in prayer.  
 I can see the glance of approval  
 As my part in the hymn I took;  
 I remember the grace of my mother's face  
 And the tenderness of her look;  
 And I knew that a gracious memory  
 Cast its light on that face so fair,  
 As her cheek flushed faint—O mother, my saint!—  
 At my father's voice in prayer.  
 'Neath the stress of that marvellous pleading  
 All childish dissensions died;  
 Each rebellious will sank conquered and still  
 In a passion of love and pride.  
 Ah, the years have held dear voices,  
 And melodies tender and rare;  
 But tenderest seems the voice of my dreams—  
 My father's voice in prayer.



### Contacts

#### Vicar:

Rev Stan Pilbrow 480 7568

#### Wardens

Vicar's Warden: Marc Bos 0274978090

People's Warden: Karen Perrett 418 3715

#### Pastoral Care:

Rev Vivienne Hill 441-4325

#### Synod Representatives

Peter Mundell 418 1443

Doug Dempster 418 1448

#### Fourth Sunday School

Karen Perrett 418 3715

#### Hall Hire

Jansyl Andrews 027 217 2627

#### Recorder

Wendy McPherson 473 3448

#### Women's Fellowship

Rosemary Saunders 489 5830

#### Men's Supper and Bible reading group

Peter White 419 4380

#### Catering Committee

Barbara McIlroy 418 4117

#### Office Admin, Newsletter and Website

Natalie Roffey 0226074376

*Your newsletter is prepared by Natalie. You can contact Natalie by emailing her at [sjbanglican@gmail.com](mailto:sjbanglican@gmail.com). The newsletter is published on the first Sunday of the month and the deadline for submissions is the previous Tuesday.*

*This Newsletter is sent to all email addresses as provided for the Parish Roll. If you do not wish to receive this communication by email, please write to [sjbanglican@gmail.com](mailto:sjbanglican@gmail.com).*