

CATHEDRAL COMPANIONS' LINK

February 2024



www.wellingtoncathedral.org.nz/companions

Greetings and Happy New Year wishes to everyone.

Our committee is now working toward our 2024 programme, which we know will be interesting to all our members, including those further away from the Wellington region who may not be able to take part in person. This newsletter provides details of what is underway, as well as general Cathedral news of interest.

Anne Phillips, who has held the demanding position of Chair of Companions so well through the past two years of re-invigoration, has stepped down from the role and committee member Judy Berryman is Acting Chair until the AGM. Great thanks are extended to Anne for her very thoughtful work of leading the committee since 2022.



Update on the Belfry Strengthening Project

Crispin Kay and the building team reviewing the work

You will be delighted to know that the construction work in the bell tower has entered the final stages, with the installation of the windows underway. The structural work in the belfry was completed in mid-October. The team at Progressive Engineering did a great job in challenging conditions, and were helpful in suggesting changes that would minimise the risk of damaging the bells, as well as speed up the construction process.

Once the strengthening was finished attention could be turned to the windows. Scaffolding, required for the strengthening but a nuisance for the windows, is being removed and the last design items have been finalised.

CELEBRATING OUR ART

As was mentioned in our last newsletter, a series of floor-talks about the works of the four New Zealand artists is planned for Monday 4-7 March. Each one-hour session, starting at 10:30am, is devoted to one of the artists – John Hutton, Melvin Day, Beverley Shore Bennett and Roy Cowan. Practising artists who worked with each are joined by professional arts curators and specialists whose research in each medium – glass etching, painting, stained glass and ceramics will provide interesting insights into the artist, the artistry, and the wider contribution of the artist in New Zealand and internationally. Promotional material is being prepared now, so you will have further details very shortly.

While the series is a Cathedral-mounted project, The Companions committee is collaborating and will be calling for members to do front-of-house duties at each session. If you are willing to volunteer a couple of hours one day during the series to welcome visitors, please get in touch. If you are willing to make a donation toward the cost of mounting this interesting project, the bank account details are 01-0535-0034741-50

Please put your name and Art Series Donation as a reference. Note that this account number differs from the membership fee account (below).



A series of free talks on the works of

Melvin Day
John Hutton
Beverley Shore Bennett
Roy Cowan

4 - 7 March 2024
11:00-12:00



01 - 472 0286
see website for details
www.wellingtoncathedral.org.nz

SUMMER SALAD FEST

All members are invited to attend Choral Evensong on Sunday 18 February, and then join together for a light summer meal in the Loaves and Fishes garden (or indoors depending on weather). There is a \$10 charge for the meal to cover expenses, so we need members and guests to register by Thursday 15 February (judyb@top.net.nz, 04 479 5384). Bank details below.



NEW CANON PRECENTOR SUE PATON

Reverend Sue Paton was born and raised in South Africa where she attended an Anglican school which laid the foundations for her spirituality. After qualifying as a teacher of Art and English she studied theology at an Anglican Seminary during which time she was ordained as a priest (Dec 2006). She completed a Master's Degree in Theology and Development while working as an Assistant Chaplain at the Anglican Diocesan School for Girls.

In 2019, she accepted a position as Chaplain of Whanganui Collegiate School and St George's School.



She is married to Josh Paton and they have two sons, Roderick and Sebastian, who live in Wellington. Josh trained as a teacher and ran a non-profit outdoor education centre called Hobbiton-on-Hogsback in SA for over 20 years which benefited orphans and vulnerable children. Rev Sue is excited and preparing to join the Cathedral in April.

Your 2024-25 Annual Membership fee (\$30 single, \$50 couple) is due in April (Life Members of Companions are exempt). Bank Account number for payment or to make a deposit by direct deposit: 01-0535-0034741-14 Please put your name and a reference (membership/donation/meal)

DATES FOR THE YEAR AHEAD:

18 February	Summer salad fest after Choral Evensong
4-7 March	Art Tour talks
19 May	AGM and speaker, pre-Choral Evensong
15 September	Cathedral architecture tour, pre-Choral Evensong
1 December	Advent Soirée

Contact us:

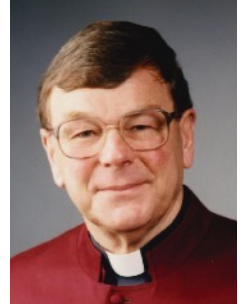
Acting Chair: Judy Berryman (04 479 5384)
Email: companions@wellingtoncathedral.org.nz
Bank account number to pay a membership fee or make a donation by direct deposit: 01 0535 0034741-14
Please put your name and a reference (membership/donation)

REST IN PEACE

We are saddened by the recent passing of two prominent leaders in the life of the Cathedral:

The Very Revd Michael H Brown, Dean Emeritus, CNZM OStJ, ED

Michael Brown was Dean of the Cathedral 1985-2002, and he is remembered both for his leadership in ministry and for his commitment to finishing the Cathedral building. The previous Dean, Jim Thomas, began the process with the redesigning of the Chancel and Sanctuary, and the completion of the Bell Tower.



The project was a powerful statement about the place of the church in the capital city, and Dean Michael's business acumen, persuasive vision and constant hard work saw the project completed with Queen Elizabeth present at the Consecration in 2002. It was during his deanship that The Companions was set up. On retirement, Dean Michael and Anne moved to Christchurch and more recently to Masterton, but they never lost their love of the Cathedral and their sense of accomplishment of a job well done.

Sir Michael Hardie Boys, GNZM, GCMG, QSO, KStJ, PC

Sir Michael was Governor General of New Zealand 1996-2001, after a distinguished legal career. His vice-regal term of office was much admired for the way he led New Zealand after its first MMP election. His clear understanding of the separation of powers of government made for a smooth transition during that period. He was always a quiet champion of all people, whatever their place in the community.



He and his wife Mary retired to the Kapiti coast, but always maintained their interest in the Cathedral, both as friends and supporters of the Cathedral and as members of The Companions.

We offer our condolences to the families of these fine leaders.

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