



Uncertain Future for Clyde Heritage Church

Once again the future of Clyde's Anglican church St Michael's and All Angels is uncertain despite an agreement reached three years ago to form a trust to look after the historic building.

The trust deeds were drawn up and people were approached to become trustees. The process stalled when there was an issue with a clause in the lease agreement. But before that could be resolved the Dunedin diocese indicated it might want to revisit the use of St Michael's. Since then, it is understood the diocese Property Commission will report on its future.

The new Bishop of Dunedin, Rt Rev Steven Benford, says the diocese is working with the Dunstan Parish to look at the future of St Michael's buildings.

"This will take some time and is going to be complex," he says, "and, although some work has already started on the process, it will continue into the New Year."

The property was to have been sold because the Dunstan Parish said it could not afford its upkeep for the few remaining parishioners, and it was decided to focus on St Aiden's Church in Alexandra to provide Anglican services in the area. The sale of the property was called off in 2015 when it was formally handed over at a public ceremony to the Dunedin Diocese then led by the Bishop of Dunedin, the Rt Rev Dr Kelvin Wright. It was intended to turn it into a spiritual retreat centre and was expected to open within a year under the care of the Reverends Lois Hurd-McKee and Helen Metzger.

The Reverend Penny Sinnamon of St Aiden's Church in Alexandra says the arrival of the two ministers was "an answer to a prayer". One of the great difficulties in selling the building was the existence of columbarium – an area where the ashes of former members of the congregation are buried.

"We do not have the desire to see anything happening to the church", she says. "It is one of the nicest churches in the district and is in a beautiful spot. It's built on the site where the first Anglican church in the district once stood."

Revs Lois Hurd-McKee and Helen Metzger have been voluntarily caring and fundraising for the church since 2015 and they helped to draw up the trust deeds. But they have now decided to leave the district.

"After spending almost three and half years here, the formal outcome of the trust has not been confirmed", Rev Hurd-McKee says, "[although] it had been agreed with the diocese under the previous Bishop."

Bishop Steven says the diocese realises there is an interest in Clyde concerning the future of the St Michael's Church buildings.

Promote Dunstan has suggested to Bishop Steven the future of the church buildings could be discussed with representatives from the diocese at a public meeting involving the community and other interested groups.

Talking It Over ... with Russell Garbutt Earnsclough-Clyde Community Board Member

Let us hope that these rather dreary and damp days are coming to an end and once again Central returns to what we normally expect at this time of year.

It has been a very full-on year with a number of difficult issues to deal with, not the least of which has been the recent restructuring of Central Stories museum. The deliberations of the next stage of the future of Clyde Museum will also come before the Vincent Community Board in February and I'm hopeful we will see some progress on that project. As an aside, I'm thrilled this meeting will be held in the old Council Chambers at the Clyde Museum in Blyth Street — a very fitting venue for this particular meeting. I'm also pleased that a wider view is going to be taken of all the district's museums in the New Year which will assist in much better coordinated planning and funding decisions.

I hope you all have a very happy Christmas and a safe and prosperous 2019. Let's look after each other! As always, if you have anything to discuss then call me on 449 2254 or 020 4039 0424.

Holiday Health Care

Need a doctor during the holiday season?

If you are a local, ring your GP regardless of the time of day. If you are not registered with a local GP then ring any GP's number. You will be transferred to Homecare Medical and be advised and/or directed to the appropriate care provider. (Be patient and listen to the message). In an emergency, dial 111.

GPs have walk-in clinics during the day throughout the holiday period – check the local paper for times. Please Note: Dunstan Hospital does NOT have an emergency department.



Former Clyde resident Hazel Grant was back in the village celebrating her 90th birthday in December. Now a resident in Ranui, Hazel felt quite at home in Dunstan House where 30 friends and family gathered for afternoon tea. That was where Hazel and her late husband George lived in Clyde in 1952.

Glass Recycling Bins in Clyde

Three recycling bins for glass have been made available to help Clyde residents and holidaymakers dispose their bottles over the holiday period.

The bins, for brown, green and clear glass are opposite the Dunstan Golf Club in O'Reilly Ave and will remain there until January 21.

The bins have been supplied by the Central Otago District Council in response to a request from locals concerned about the influx of visitors. Bottles only please – put the lids into household mixed recycling bins. The bins are not for commercial use.

See page five for this bit....

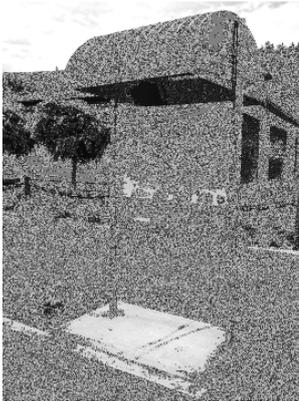
Can you go the Extra Mile?

We need to recharge our list of people who deliver *The Dunstan News*. We need volunteers to help 3 or 4 times a year to cover when others are away. Please call Leanne, 449 2700 or email dam.buster@me.com

New Information Signs for Clyde

New signs commissioned by Promote Dunstan to enhance visitor experience in Clyde have recently appeared.

One is outside the museum in Blyth St showing a map of the township while another, a large 3D map of Clyde, compiled by Rory Butler, has been installed in the kiosk alongside Paulina's in Naylor St.



A sign in the cemetery will be of interest to both visitors and locals. It relates to the top right section of the cemetery which is the earliest part of the cemetery dating back to about 1859. Many people were buried there but their graves today are unmarked. Research of the cemetery's burial book held in Clyde Museum has revealed the names of people who were interred there and what caused their death

— which is fascinating to read.

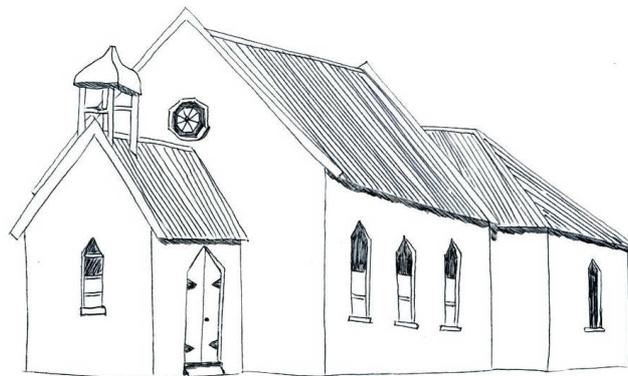
It is hoped the sign will also help people researching their family history.

The museum and cemetery signs were compiled by Rory Butler and Carol Haig and enhanced and installed by graphic artist, Maxine Williams. All are available on the www.promotedunstan.org.nz website.



Christmas Nativity at St. Michael's and All Angels.

A Christmas nativity is planned at St Michael's. The church will be open on Friday, December 21, and through the weekend for people to come to write messages on dove ornaments for the Christmas peace tree. On Christmas eve at 5.30pm there will be carols and other music by Joe Stevens and Carol Randall. Children are invited to place the figures in the nativity scene.



Comings and Goings

The past few months has seen quite a lot of activity in the village with some departures and new businesses.



Kim Johnstone

Kim Johnstone was seeking a business in a small community that she could be part of and found it in Clyde. Kim took over the Clyde Dairy in August, remodeled the interior and renamed it the Clyde Village Store and Café. The former Wanaka resident has considerable business experience including establishing an importing company, a landscaping business and operating a gourmet food truck.

Kim says the café's core function remains take-away food but, she is now offering healthy food and a broader range of options. PS: fish and chips are still on the menu and they have been given the thumbs up from locals who have tried them.

Long-time Clyde resident, **Laurence van der Eb** has taken over the premises in the historic precinct formerly occupied by Purveyors. Laurence, who operates Clutha River Cruises, will use the shop to publicise his business and also intends selling local products. A feature of the shop will be the displays of items and photographs reflecting his great interest in the gold mining days.



Laurence van der Eb

Meredith Kerrisk of Dunstan House has just opened a café which compliments the accommodation business owned by her and husband, Ian. Her early career was in restaurants and bakeries and, with food being her passion, she relishes being back in the kitchen. As a point of difference from other eateries in Clyde, Meredith's café has a strong emphasis on gluten-free food.



Meredith Kerrisk

Ill-health has forced artist **Jan Rasmussen** to leave her home and art gallery-studio in the historic precinct. Jan opened her business in 2014 after building on the tiny section opposite the Dunstan Hotel. She had to comply with many conditions to

build and she made sure her property was in keeping with the historic precinct. We wish her well.



We've Gone Digital! The Dunstan News is now also available by email for those who want to read it on their phone or computer. If you want to be part of this, please send your email address to randcbutler@inspire.net.nz The paper version will be delivered as usual.

Clyde Holiday Market

The popular Clyde Market will be held on Monday, December 31 in the St Mungo's Union Church grounds on Sunderland street (just opposite Four Square).

It starts at 10am and runs until 3pm. If you are interested in having a stall, contact linda.goding19@gmail.com or call 03 4492915.