



# The ANGLICAN PACIFIST of Aotearoa/New Zealand

Newsletter of the New Zealand Branch of the Anglican Pacifist Fellowship

## Message from the Chairman

*Don't use violence to resist evil. Matthew 5.*

**O**ur annual study day, and the first Dorothy Brown Lecture the evening before, address issues that are of vital importance for our survival.

I have been careful not to say 'for the survival of our way of life', because I believe that our present way of life is majoring on self destruction. How else to regard US\$4.6 billion a day given to global military expenditure? The task of dismantling that juggernaut and redirecting its owners and attendants to something constructive and life affirming seems all but impossible. However we do have God on our side in the business of peacemaking; so we must keep on trying.

The September meetings, organized by our society in conjunction with The NZ Christian Network, Pax Christi and The National Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies, will, I am sure, make valuable contributions towards global peacemaking. The civil war in Syria, which is hell bent on destroying that nation and many of its people, provides a sad and terrifying backdrop to the day's discussions.

To love our enemies as well as our friends and neighbours means that Christians do have a responsibility to protect the vulnerable, defuse conflicts, and guide people into the way of peace. But when the violence has escalated beyond a certain point, as has happened in Syria, and may happen in Egypt, will only the threat or use of greater violence restore a sullen peace? This is a problem we have all tussled with since we became pacifists. It is our responsibility for others that makes the question especially difficult. I may be willing to turn the other cheek when confronted by a gun toting psychopath in my school but is my cheekiness irresponsible and wrong when there are others in the same building who are not of my persuasion?

Conflict in society also brings up the problem of what we mean by that unsatisfactory term non violence. It does not mean being passive as Jesus told us to resist evil with love. But how 'violent' can non violence be? Does it mean that a pacifist policeman who has done all the spade work on an offender has to hand over to a 'violent' policewoman when the offender has to be rugby tackled and handcuffed? Can we still be pacifists if we accept vigorous coercion but will never intentionally kill?

I pose these simple questions as starters to tickle your palates so that you will attend the lectures and learn a great deal about both the Christian responsibility to

**INSIDE:**

**DOROTHY BROWN**

INAUGURAL MEMORIAL

**LECTURE**

and

**ECUMENICAL STUDY DAY**

on THE CHRISTIAN RESPONSIBILITY TO  
PROTECT

**September 13 & 14**

protect, and the urgent necessity of a non violent approach to the world's conflicts.

I am very pleased to record our thanks to Chris Barfoot and his committee for putting this study day together. It has required a lot of hard work and creative thinking. Please attend if you can, and please also 'forward' the programme both to people who will be interested and also to some who aren't, but could be. The more people present the safer our world becomes.

Shalom  
Jonathan.

## **DOROTHY BROWN INAUGURAL MEMORIAL LECTURE**

**Friday September 13, 7.30 pm**

**St Columba Centre, 40 Vermont St, Ponsonby, Auckland**

(Free parking available behind and above the Centre)

**Professor Kevin Clements**, Director of National Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies, Otago University:

**"Non Violence is an Imperative, not an optional Extra"**

It is fitting that the inaugural memorial lecture be given by Professor Kevin Clements, founding Director of the Centre, a close friend of Dorothy and an enthusiastic supporter in her vision.

*Arranged by Aotearoa New Zealand Peace and Conflict Study Centre Trust.*



## **ECUMENICAL STUDY DAY on THE CHRISTIAN RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT**

**Saturday September 14:**

**St Columba Centre, 40 Vermont St, Ponsonby, Auckland**

(Free parking available behind and above the Centre)

8.30 am Registration

9 am Opening prayers by Bob Hawke, Kaumatua at Ngati Whatua Orakei Marae

9.05 am The Reverend Dr Anthony Dancer, former Anglican Social Justice Commissioner:  
"The Theological Case for Peace."

9.45 am Professor Richard Jackson, Deputy Director, National Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies: "Analysis and Critique of the Responsibility to Protect".

10.30 am Morning tea

11 am Professor Kevin Clements, Director of National Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies, Otago University: "The Ethics of Development and Peace Building: Doing no Harm while doing Good."

11.45 am Dr Katarina Standish, Lecturer, National Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies: "Human Security as Transcending National Security".

12.30 pm Lunch

1.30 pm Dr Charles Butcher, Postdoctoral Fellow, National Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies: "Can we predict genocide? The role of economic risk factors."



- 2.15 pm Major Josh Wineera and Colonel Martin Dransfield of the NZ Defence Force: "Experiences of Peacekeeping Operations in Bougainville, Iraq, Timor Leste and Afghanistan".
- 3 pm Afternoon tea
- 3.30 pm Dr Kennedy Graham, Green List M.P, former New Zealand Foreign Service and Senior lecturer in School of Law, Canterbury University: Peacekeeping and International Law: the future direction of New Zealand's foreign policy."
- 4.15 Panel of speakers with prepared questions.
- 5 pm Close

*Arranged by NZ Christian Network, Pax Christi and Anglican Pacifist Fellowship.*

Cost \$20 including lunch, to be paid on the day.

**Registration by 11 September: [barfoots@xtra.co.nz](mailto:barfoots@xtra.co.nz) or phone (09) 575 6142**

APF members:

1. Please use the attached/enclosed flyers to publicise these two events.
2. Please indicate whether you can come to the AGM (see below).

## APFNZ AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the NZ branch of the Anglican Pacifist Fellowship will be held at the home of Chris and Pat Barfoot, **332 West Tamaki Road, Glendowie, Auckland 1072**, on **Sunday 15 September** 2013. Come for lunch at 12.30, and we'll have the meeting after that.

**Ecumenical Study Day On "Christian Responsibility To Protect"**

## APF BACKGROUND PAPER

*The paper summarised here, written by Chris Barfoot, takes up points raised at the Study Day on **Church, State and War** held April 28, 2012, at St Aidan's Church, Remuera, arranged by New Zealand Christian Network and the Anglican Pacifist Fellowship (APF). It draws also on material from APF Conferences from 2000 to 2011.*

The paper focuses on several aspects of the relationship between the Church, State and war in the present age:

1. It makes the theological claim that the nature of humankind as made in the image of God is the most secure and universal foundation of the dignity of humankind and the call to live in right relationship both with God and with one's fellow humans. It shows how evil has affected both these relationships, and how through Christ's death and resurrection and the coming of the Holy Spirit the power of evil is broken and these relationships restored.
2. The paper then deals with the context of today focusing on war and war preparation and its relationship to the present world needs and the purpose of God for humankind. It examines theologically the imbalance of priorities here evident and discovers a preponderance of irrational motivations.
3. The history of the Church's attitude towards war demonstrates the inadequacy of the theology which underpins both the just war and the re-emergence of the Crusade in our time.
4. The present emphasis on the responsibility to protect is explored, in particular the growth of international law and the opportunities opening up for a new approach which does not rely on military intervention.

Finally the paper makes a suggestion of a way forward for the APF:

The commemoration of the centenary of the start of World War 1 is on July 28, 2014, and the centenary of Gallipoli is on April 25, 2015. The planning for both these commemorations

provides a focus for assessing the significance of these events for New Zealand as a whole. Incidentally and perhaps fortuitously, all of the Christian churches of New Zealand celebrate the 200th anniversary of the first Christian service in New Zealand on Christmas Day 1814.

What is the appropriate response by the Church to the commemoration of the Great War and Gallipoli?

First and foremost, the Church, now as then, has the obligation and the pastoral responsibility to mourn the dead and to comfort those who survive. No tragedy can compare with this tragedy which has affected so many families in New Zealand and nothing should take away from the solemnity of this commemoration.

Secondly, as with any other major tragedy

(though none can compare with this), there is a responsibility to identify its causes and to take measures to prevent its recurrence. In so doing it is necessary to face honestly those actions and attitudes of the church which may have stimulated this conflict or prolonged the suffering.

Thirdly, we need to mourn with those who were then our enemies in recognition that they suffered as we did. Such joint commemoration opens up the vital dimension of our shared humanity, our shared regret at what we did and our joint determination to prevent its recurrence.

It may be that solemn yet honest reflection on the past may help us to face in faith the context of today.

Copies of the paper are available from  
<barfoots@xtra.co.nz>

### REFLECTION ON MATTHEW 5:40

I can say  
( without false pride of course )  
that I am an honest man.  
I pay what is due  
as many here do  
We are all honourable men.

But you  
Miserable crawling creature  
Are not.  
You owe me, YOU OWE ME  
and you do not pay –  
no money, you say.

SO –  
I take your coat  
a pittance, against your debt,  
but when you shiver  
you may regret.....

This I cannot believe –  
my eyes deceiving me ?  
taking off your cloak ?  
then turning to hand it to me !  
Standing stark naked !  
Gasps of horror fill the court  
I, all here,  
Flooded with deep, hot shame,  
averting our eyes,  
And you, head erect  
Smilingly  
( could it be lovingly ?)  
walk free.

Who then the honourable man ?

Meg Hartfield

August 2013-08-17

### ANGLICAN PACIFIST FELLOWSHIP NEW ZEALAND BRANCH

[www.converge.org.nz/pma/apf](http://www.converge.org.nz/pma/apf) or [www.anglicanpeacemaker.org.uk](http://www.anglicanpeacemaker.org.uk)

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*Members are invited to submit copy for publication in our newsletter. Please email it to one of the editors.*