

# The ANGLICAN PACIFIST

## of Aotearoa/New Zealand

Newsletter of the New Zealand Branch of the Anglican Pacifist Fellowship

### FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

Dear Friends,

The highlight of the APF calendar since I last wrote to you has been the pilgrimage and presence at the Lambeth Conference. Chris and Pat Barfoot write about their experience of these below. For me it was a very special opportunity to meet APF members from the United Kingdom and EPF members from the United States and to feel much more a part of a wider movement, even if that movement is smaller and less influential than we would like.

Regarding the Peace Centre at Otago, we hope to hear any day of the appointment of the Centre's first Director. An appointment now will mean that classes can begin in the second half of 2009 and perhaps enrolment in graduate programmes even earlier. There has been considerable interest in the Centre, both from a large field of applicants for the Director's position and from potential students, which is all very encouraging.

I hope you have already noted the date – and change of date – of our New Zealand AGM and Conference Day (details above). The naming of November 8th as the date for the election, just when we had notified all of you who are on email, necessitated the change of our meeting to November 22nd. Because we had very little feedback to our request for comment on the different retreat format adopted last year – and also because of pressure of time on the organisers! – we have this year reverted to the usual format, with an open day on the Saturday. Perhaps we can discuss these alternatives for our annual meeting at our meeting this year.

The day I write this, September 21st, is Peace One Day. This anniversary, inaugurated in 2004 as an initiative of the World Council of Churches and the United

#### **STOP PRESS!** **FROM THE AOTEAROA NEW** **ZEALAND PEACE AND CONFLICT** **STUDIES CENTRE TRUST:**

The trustees are delighted to hear that Professor Kevin Clements has been appointed as the inaugural director of the Peace Centre at Otago University. Kevin Clements, a New Zealander, is currently the Director of the Australian Centre for Peace And Conflict Studies at the University of Brisbane.

### APF Conference 2008

**Friday 21st to Sunday 23rd November**

**All Saints Church Hall, 284 Ponsonby Road,  
Ponsonby, Auckland.**

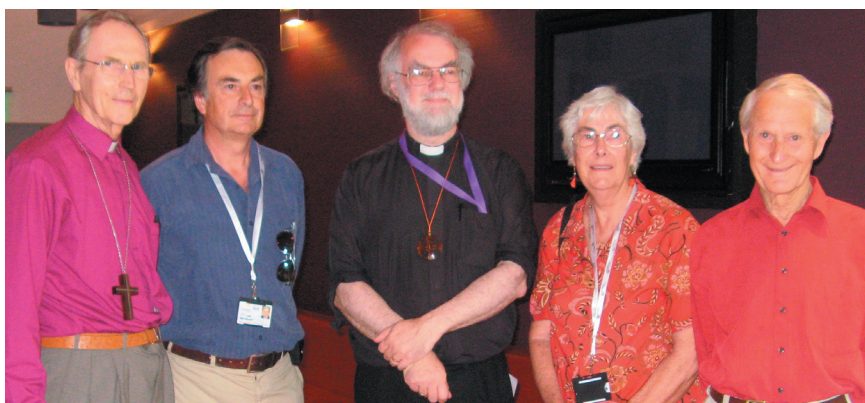
**OPEN DAY: Saturday 22nd November**

We have three speakers for the Open Day.

- Chris Marshall: "The Lord said to Cain, 'Why are you angry?' – Biblical Perspectives on Anger and Violence"
- Father Peter Murnane: "Civil Disobedience and Civil Resistance"
- Nicola Hoggard-Creegan: A theological critique of the Seville (and Unesco-adopted) statement on Violence (that man's human or biological nature is not conditioned for violence).

Auckland members will be delighted to offer billets to all who come from other parts of the country.

**Registration form to follow.**



*APF at Lambeth with Archbishop Rowan Williams (l-r): Bishop Colin Scott, Past Chairperson; Tony Kempster, Secretary; Mary Roe, Chairperson; Chris Barfoot, NZ Secretary.*

Nations, is observed by increasing numbers around the world each year, in all kinds of ways. Let us, on this day, as on every day, indeed pray, and work, for peace, in our hearts and homes, in our nation and our world, the peace of God's will, the peace of our need.

Margaret

St Matthew's Day, 2008

## LAMBETH FROM THE FRINGE

Pat and I were privileged to be 'at' the Lambeth Conference in two roles. As members of the APF we were involved in a submission on "The Gospel and Peacemaking", a service in the crypt of Canterbury Cathedral, two fringe meetings and a stall in the "market place" of the Conference. As a tertiary I attended some of the Franciscan prayer meetings for the Conference joined by members from all over the world.

Bishop Philip Richardson's article in *Taonga* gives an in-depth account of Lambeth, but even from the fringe we sensed both the majesty of the Anglican Communion and its pain as it struggles against the pressures which are pulling it apart. Prayer held the Conference together, and the unique format was designed to create that unity and understanding which the previous model of motions and debate might not have brought.

Here one saw a different picture of the Anglican Communion than that glimpsed from our particular viewpoint. Our stall in the Market Place gave us an opportunity to meet Bishops and their spouses from all over the world – so many different races and cultures – humble, quiet, gentle people, each fully involved in the local life and witness of their church yet all one in the Gospel. Some of them too had suffered persecution and civil war and yet their flocks have grown just as the Early Church did. There were bishops there from the Sudan, from Zimbabwe, Jerusalem, and the Central African Republic. Though saddened that the issue of peacemaking was not overtly discussed, we recognised that the church in these situations was already doing peace.

There was, I believe, a sense of a wider perspective. Our church in the past has helped to spread the Gospel throughout the world, but can it yet be used by God, rooted as it is in so many cultures and races, to find a way forward in the many complex problems which face our world today? Problems such as world hunger and the disproportionate spending on arms – and a hunger for the Gospel whose truth is unchanging regardless of methods used for its communication.

Chris Barfoot



*After the service in the crypt at Canterbury Cathedral APF members gathered to pay a short tribute at the grave of Dick Sheppard in the cloisters. The NZ contingent is pictured above (l-r): Chris Barfoot, Secretary; Margaret Bedggood, Chairperson; Pat Barfoot, newsletter editor; Archbishop David Moxon, Protector.*

***It's that time of year again!***

### Annual Subs/Donations/ Koha

There is no set amount for the APF subscription, but an annual donation of \$20 is suggested. Cheques may be posted to the Treasurer, PO Box 12 091 Rotorua.

### 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 the editor.*