

putting families first

AtWC

Caring

COMMUNITY
MAGAZINE

THE ANGLICAN TRUST
FOR WOMEN & CHILDREN

ISSUE 148 SUMMER 2022

ANNA'S JOURNEY

FRIENDS OF ATWC

HINE'S TEPU

STAFF 10 YEAR CELEBRATION

CEO's Message

"In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

- Acts 20:35

ATWC has been steadily preparing for our busiest time of the year with our annual Christmas Appeal, ensuring that whānau and their tamariki have presents/food and the essentials they need. Our whānau fun day will be returning on the 1st of December when our whole site shuts down and staff all help to provide a carnival themed day with free food and entertainment to whānau and tamariki. Whānau fun days symbolises ATWC's commitment to positively supporting the community and bringing the Christmas spirit to families and their children.

May you all experience a hope-filled Christmas. Take time out to connect with friends and family, to laugh, to cry and to be joyful as you contemplate the year that has passed. May God's grace and love continue to shine on us all.

Mā te Atua tātou e manaaki - God's Blessings,

Judy Matai'a

CEO – Anglican Trust for Women and Children



Impact Partners!

2022 has been a difficult year for many whānau. We continue to see an increase in financial hardship, and this has been especially challenging for whānau with new-born babies and infants.

To further support whānau, ATWC has partnered with Littlemore, a charitable trust that provides whānau living in Tāmaki Makaurau with baby clothing, bedding, and other necessary equipment such as bassinets, cots, and prams. Littlemore was created in response to seeing new-born babies leaving hospitals with little or no baby essential items. This partnership has been invaluable, over the last two months Littlemore has gifted over 400 quality items

Contents

- 3 Impact Partners
- 4 Anna's Story
- 6 Friends of ATWC
- 7 Te Tepu Na Hine (Hine's Table)
- 8 Celebrating our Staff
- 9 Social Work Student's Journey
- 10 Anglicare National Conference 2022
- 11 Te Wiki o te Reo Māori

which has been of huge help to our most vulnerable whānau. ATWC look forward to growing this relationship and working alongside Littlemore to further support the safe and healthy first year journey of tamariki.

ATWC

needs your
SUPPORT

ATWC needs your support to help build happy, healthy futures for our children.
To DONATE, visit www.atwc.org.nz or call 09 276 3729.



Sarb Lester from Littlemore and Nichole from the ATWC collecting donations of bassinets, prams, clothing, and bedding.

Anna's Story:

"If it wasn't for Granger Grove, I don't think I would have Caleb in my care."

Anna is a graduate of the Granger Grove Residential Parenting Program. We sat down with Anna to hear her story and to learn a little about her own parenting journey.

Anna spent the first six years of her life in a Russian orphanage, both she and her younger sister were then adopted and migrated to New Zealand to live. Sadly, Anna shared memories of being mistreated by her adoptive parents and this led to her being placed in statutory and

consequently foster care. From the age of 11 to 21 years she moved from foster home to foster home. Anna recalls this as being a very disruptive time in her life. She was unable to build lasting relationships, make friends or connect with schoolteachers. At the age of 21 a social worker offered Anna a chance to live with his own whānau and this is where Anna experienced the support and love of a real family.

During Anna's first pregnancy, she only found out she was pregnant at five months. Because she hadn't realised she was pregnant, her first son Dominic was diagnosed with fetal alcohol syndrome. Anna developed post-partum depression and remembered saying to her mother holding her child, 'take him', because it was so overwhelming. The first six months of her son's life were the hardest for Anna as she struggled with developing a connection with her son. However, once she took herself off anti-anxiety meds, it made a huge difference, and she started to create a positive bond with her son.



Only two weeks into her second pregnancy, Anna was diagnosed with fetal alcohol syndrome; getting this diagnosis as an adult is incredibly hard to bear, and she had to learn to get through it. Late in her pregnancy Anna was supported into GG by her Social Worker. Anna told us that being at GG helped her in a multitude of ways, particularly the Mellow Parenting Programme helped strengthen her foundation skills such as identifying feelings, coping, talking to people and unpacking and healing past abuse.

Anna's journey with ATWC hasn't been without its challenges, and she is delighted that she did not ring her Social Worker to leave on her lowest day at GG.

Present day Anna has a partner of five years, her eldest son is loved and looked after by her parents, and she is hugely grateful for them. Anna is a caring, compassionate mother and her son Caleb is thriving. Being in the third stage of GG, Anna is waiting to move into one of the cottages ATWC has brought for GG mums.

While no one knows what the future holds, GG has given Anna positive skills, connections, and community. If Anna had the chance, she would redo the programme all over again!



ATWC Friends

High Tea Farewell



From left: Friends Dianne Kenderdine, Sue Zimmerman (ex board member), Robyn Bridgman, Lesley Anderson, Judy Matai'a

In August, we honoured the Friends of ATWC's years of support and contribution to us and to the women, children, and families we are privileged to work with.

The Friends of ATWC were founded decades ago and was based on our Christian values of giving and caring for those in need. These were all hard-working women who gave their time and energy to ATWC because they wanted to make a difference to whānau and their tamariki. They have provided instrumental support, such as working along Granger Grove Mums and fundraising theatre night as well as organising fundraisers at their local parishes, we were genuinely supported by them.

The Friends of ATWC have had to make the difficult decision to bring their group to a close. Friends' members Dianne Kenderdine, Lesley Anderson, Robyn Bridgman, Judith Jones, and Rev Mary Thompson were invited to a High Tea to honour and celebrate their significant contributions.

Jones, and Rev Mary Thompson were invited to a High Tea to honour and celebrate their significant contributions.

With a welcome from our Kaitiaki Māoritanga, Matua Piripi. CEO Judy Matai'a spoke about how invaluable they have been to us and how lucky we were to have their support throughout the years. We will always be grateful for these women that embody our values.

Thank you, Dianne Kenderdine, Lesley Anderson, Robyn Bridgman, Judith Jones, Rev Mary Thompson and the rest of the Friends.

Te Tepu Na Hine (Hine's Table)

Food insecurity is a growing cause of concern in Auckland with the current economic climate making it even harder for families to get by.

After noticing our recently established Hine's Pātaka (food pantry) was in high demand, our team trialled 'Te tepū na Hine,' a dinner program providing free hot kai to individual families on Wednesdays over the month of September, in partnership with KiwiHarvest.

KiwiHarvest is an NGO that collects surplus and donated food and works directly with communities with food security issues, they were not only kind enough to lend the use of their mobile kitchen for the whole month, but their donated food provided a

partnership with Kai. With over 370 meals provided, it was extremely well received. As well as serving our community's physical need for food Te tepū na Hine also provided a chance for connection and awareness of ATWC's services.

A big thank you to KiwiHarvest for partnering with us and to our ATWC team who put in the extra work to make this happen!



Celebrating our Staff

who have been with us for 10 years!

We recently celebrated our long serving staff members.

They are passionate and committed to our mission of providing a better future for tamariki. We sat down and talked with Makarita and Irena to hear about their time in ATWC.

Irena Giles
Awhina Whānau
Kaimahi



Irena started at ATWC in 2012 previously working in Early Childhood, her first role was at Engaging Priority Families (EPF). After being there for several years, she decided to move to Granger Grove for the new job as Cultural Support. This was a new position that evolved through the years to meet the changing needs of the community. Navigating courageously through the constantly changing tides and currents of her new role, Irena began to run community programmes not only at Granger Grove but also ATWC and the wider community such as Talking Matters and Tikanga Mana

Ririki. Now Irena's compassion and dedication is felt throughout ATWC as she continues to run these programs that support strong wahine to help give them the skills they need to make pragmatic decisions.

Outside of ATWC Irena's caring personality is reflected through her being a Rotarian (Rotary club member) for over twenty years, a Marriage Celebrant and a Justice of the Peace.

"I thank ATWC for giving me the opportunity and platform to facilitate positive growth in my community!"
- Irena

Makarita Tominiko
Social Worker in
Schools (SWiS)



Makarita started at ATWC in 2012 after working at Child Youth and Family (now currently Oranga Tamariki) in order to work in her local community. Having worked in Social

Worker in Schools (SWiS) for the last ten years first at Papatoetoe North School for eight years then Mary Mackillop Catholic School and currently Kedgley Intermediate School from 2020. Makarita noted how she observed a lot of growth within ATWC after CEO Phillip Beilby

retired and Judy Matai'a took over as CEO.

Makarita has a huge encompassing love for her community as shown by her years of dedication to SWiS. Her caring attitude and tenacious spirit reflect our mission of striving to support families to nurture their children and give them the happy, healthy futures they deserve. Her story is that of unconditional love and support for whānau. When asked why she has been with ATWC for so long she shared that "ATWC has supported me not only with my SWiS role, but their full support and flexibility around challenging times, let alone the vast knowledge I gained from all my colleagues during this time have all played integral parts in giving me satisfaction to stay."

Makarita is a shining example that if you love what you do nothing can stop you.

"Thank you ATWC for letting me be ME!"
- Makarita

"ATWC is one of the best Social Work agencies around the motu!"
- Makarita

Social Work Students:

Journeys with ATWC

Students are a valuable part of our ATWC community. In their time with us they are exposed to all aspects of Social Work. Such as school communities alongside our Social Workers in Schools, journeying with whānau in-home visits, addressing barriers to education with rangitahi or supporting the facilitation of our many parenting programs.

They are vital to all our services because there is so much learning for both the beginner social worker and the staff. It is great to be able to pass on the vast knowledge we have as social workers but also keep up to date with new theories and practices that are being taught at the universities.

We endeavour to show students the advantage of working with ATWC by having wraparound support throughout their placements, from their placement supervisor who is a social worker with ATWC, to our management and our connection with the universities. For those students who are doing their final placements, which means they are remarkably close to finishing their Social Work degree, we try to ensure that they are placed in a team which suits their passion.

This is Taimania, in our Te Huarahi Ngā Tahi team. She is thriving working with us! Taking every opportunity with fresh enthusiasm and strengthening her knowledge along the way.

Students like Taimania energise and strengthen the Social Work world - we are excited for her future!



ATWC Anglicare Australia National Conference 2022

This year's theme was Replenishing Hope, where various non-profit organisations were able to share stories about how they fared with the impact of COVID-19 over the last two years.

Our presentation was on Hāpaingia kia Ora (A Māori Approach To Hope-Filled Practice) and how Mana Wahine (women of strength), Aroha (all-encompassing love), Whakawhanaungatanga (getting to know each other) and Kaitiakitanga (guardianship) were implemented into practice. The conference was an excellent opportunity for our ATWC team to connect with our Australian counterparts and exchange ideas and strategies that will help ATWC navigate the unknown waters of the future and be proactive.



Our awesome leadership team at Hobart 2022.

Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori 22 Waiata-ā-Ringa Challenge

As part of Te Wiki o te Reo Māori (Māori language week) ATWC held a waiata-ā-ringa challenge. Staff split into five teams and had to get together, practice and perform a waiata-ā-ringa (action song in a Māori song style). The team that won this year gave a beautiful performance of Tōia Mai. Tōia Mai translates as "drag the canoe", this song encapsulates ATWC's stance on biculturalism as it uses metaphors of a canoe and birds to call people to come together and work cooperatively for mutual benefit. It also provided a wonderful team bonding time as staff from diverse backgrounds and cultures came together as one. Ngā mihi to our team who were the inaugural winners of the competition with their wonderful rendition of Tōia Mai and received the taonga Aronui. We look forward to next year's challenge!



Cecelia Taniwha and Aroha Dykes - the organizers of the winning team holding the gifted taonga Aronui.



The winning Ōtāhuhu team.



Ōtāhuhu team performing Tōia Mai.

ATWC Ruth Pretty
Christmas Cakes & puddings

Please select your order: ☐ Boxed Christmas cake \$63

☐ 750g pudding \$39

☐ 450g pudding \$29

Name:

Organisation:

Phone:

E-mail:

☐ I paid via internet banking to 02-0192-0130095-00 and used my surname/organisation "C.Cakes" as the reference.

☐ Please send me an invoice.

☐ Please deliver to me at the above address.

☐ Please deliver as per the enclosed instructions.

To place your order please mail this form with your payment to:
Christmas Cake Orders
Anglican Trust for Women and Children
PO Box 22 363, Otahuhu
Auckland 1640

Any queries, or to pay via credit card please contact Relda Hill at ATWC on 027 567 4209 or email info@atwc.org.nz

Every purchase supports the Anglican Trust for Women & Children.

Thanks for your support!

St. Mary's Preschool Ōtāhuhu

Up to 6 hours a day of free childcare until 31st Jan 2023 at St. Mary's Preschool

✉ preschools@atwc.org.nz

☎ 09 276 3729

📷 @atwcpreschools

📘 @anglicantrustforwomenandchildren



Atwc

Join us in spreading the Christmas spirit
Christmas appeal 2022
Anglican Trust for Women & Children

**HELP US
MAKE A
DIFFERENCE
THIS
CHRISTMAS**

You can help by dropping off new presents for children at the following locations:

10 Beatty St, Otahuhu

Mon-Fri 8am-4:30pm

1288A New North Rd, Avondale

Mon-Fri 8:30am-4:30pm

124 Apirana Avenue, Glen Innes

Mon-Fri 8:30am-4:30pm

Find some gems at our Op-Shops:

We have Op Shops in two locations-

Nearly New:

124 Apirana Avenue, Glen Innes,
Auckland 1072

Rainbow Shop:

1288 New North Road, Avondale,
Auckland 1026

CARING - a subscription-free publication of the Anglican Trust For Women And Children (ATWC)

10 Beatty Street, Ōtāhuhu, Auckland 1062 • Ph: 09 276 3729 • Fax: 09 276 9761

www.atwc.org.nz



Anglicantrustforwomenandchildren



_ATWC