

115th
Annual Report
2019 – 2020



Contents

BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS AND FUNERALS.....	1
SESSION REPORT.....	2
MINISTER’S REPORT	4
MINUTES OF THE 2019 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING	6
MINUTES OF THE CONGREGATIONAL MEETING – 1 SEPTEMBER 2019.....	7
LIFE AND MISSION COMMITTEE.....	8
PASTORAL/SOCIAL COMMITTEE	8
SOMERVELL SUNDAY SCHOOL TRIPLE S REPORT.....	9
SOM YOUTH (Year 7-13 Youth Programme).....	10
ISLAND CHILD CHARITABLE TRUST	11
PRAYER CHAIN.....	12
OPp ARt.....	12
PRESENTATION BY PROFESSOR RON WHITE	13
OPPORTUNITY SHOP REPORT.....	14
SOMERVELL WALKING GROUP	14
INDOOR BOWLING CLUB.....	15
PLAYGROUP REPORT.....	15
PRESBYTERIAN SUPPORT NORTHERN.....	16
UPLANDS KINDERGARTEN	17
ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE.....	19
FINANCE COMMITTEE.....	21

BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS AND FUNERALS

Baptisms, weddings and funerals conducted at Somervell or taken by the minister at other venues since the last Annual Report

Baptisms

None

Weddings

Tile Start-and Jordache Tolomaki 21 September 2019

Funerals

Rosemary Eagles 26 July 2019

Bryan Cammell 1 September 2019

Roger Williams 12 January 2020

Fiona Denekamp 26 January 2020

Donald Ellison 19 February 2020

Elizabeth (Betty) Brown died during Covid-19 lockdown

Maryanne Waldin died during Covid-19 lockdown



Floral arrangement by Christine Carter

SESSION REPORT

2020 has been a watershed year for the church in many ways, the appointment of a new minister, the church spire utilised as a giant canvass for the op art exhibit, Covid lock-down and venturing into services on line.

The appointment of Rev Ivan Martinez as full-time Minister to Somervell Memorial Presbyterian Church was unanimously support by MSB, Session, Congregational meeting, and Auckland Presbytery. Ivan, Amanda, Ezra, Elias and Noa joined us in January 2020 with Ivan's induction service at the end of January.

Thank you to those who served on the Ministry Settlement Board for their efforts and conduct in the search for a minister. Dorothy Laing Bhanabhai, Jordan Grimmer, Jean Robinson, Tim Watkin, Ricky Waters, Heather Laxon, and myself all served as Somervell representatives under the oversight of Ian Dittmer as convenor and Rev Glynn Cardy as interim moderator for Somervell.

1 ½ months after Ivan started, we were going into lock-down and it was certainly no longer business as normal. The office staff relocated to work from home. Throughout lockdown, Ivan with the help of the office staff and other members of the congregation faced up to the technical challenges of delivering services on line, and how to continue the care and support to members of our Congregation when we could no longer physically convene together.

Special thanks to Christine Clark, and the Kindergarten teachers for their efforts to ensure all members of the congregation and Kindergarten were cared for and supported. Quaranteams, organised by Christine Clark, linked people into a support network to keep contact and support one another. At the same time the Kindergarten teachers posted various daily activities, crafts, songs and books onto their Storypark online platform for the Kindergarten families to access. The teachers also contacted each child and their family 1:1 at least once a week so that they stayed connected.

We were fortunate to have the services of Rev Lorraine Francis on a part-time basis during the first half of the year through to the end of January. We appreciated Lorraine's thoughtful input, guidance, inspiration and pastoral care.

The year has not been without sadness as we lost a number of our long-standing members. Bryan Cammell passed away in September, Betty Brown in February and MaryAnn Waldin in May. These members are all sadly missed.

John Carter retired from the church organist role, a post which he held for the last 12 years. John and Christine continue to be in contact and John is reveling in being able to attend services and hear organs being played at churches near and far around the city.

The Manse was in dire need of an overhaul, the bathrooms in particular had fallen into a state of disrepair. As well as upgrading the bathrooms the manse was reinsulated, an air filtration system put in and double-glazing installed. Substantial parts of the manse were repainted and the curtains replaced. All of these changes have upgraded the property and made it a much more pleasant place in which to house Ivan and his family. Thank you to the Kernohans and Wards for their organisation and oversight of the Manse refurbishment and to John especially for the many hours he has put in to tame the manse wilderness.

A highlight for many during the year was the OPpARt weekend. The weekend was both inspirational and challenging. The weekend was a culmination of many months of effort by Dorothy, Janet Rowley and others on the organising committee. The exhibition was partly funded by a grant from Auckland City Council, and also costs were defrayed by proceeds from the Saturday night market and donations from members of the congregation. Valuable contacts were established with local iwi and artists which I hope can further strengthened in coming years.

Thank you to all members of Somervell: to those who have prayed; preached; taught; cared; volunteered; entertained; organised; and served in us in the many varied ways that contribute to us growing as a worshipful community.

Blessings

Brian Rowley
Session Clerk



Laying on of hands at the Induction Service for Rev Ivan Martinez, 29 January 2020

MINISTER'S REPORT

As I write this, we have now been through two lockdowns and are restricted from meeting together in the church building. If I'm honest, I have to confess that this is not what I expected I'd find as I contemplated a move from busy Tokyo life to my imagined new home in Auckland. Since our arrival we have set up our Quaranteams, online church, and begun a process of thinking about the future. All this in the midst of the greatest public health crisis in modern times.

As we look at the work of the church over the last year, I'd like to give a special thanks to two groups of people. The first is the settlement board who guided the process of me coming to Somervell in the first place. At all times they were warm and caring, concerned with our families' wellbeing, and looking to give me the best sense of the church they could provide.

When we initially visited, we knew that the Manse would be the ideal location for us. After commuting two hours round trip per day, the prospect of walking to work, school, and the shops seemed ideal. The Manse had good bones but was in dire need of a redo. I was so happy to hear that the session had decided to get as much done as possible. My thanks go to the Wards and the Kernohans for their tireless work and for keeping us in the loop at all times. It has turned out to be quite a gem after all that polish! We are very happy here, and again we thank you for the big investment.

Though things might be difficult and a bit up in the air I am convinced that the future is worth looking to with confidence and hope. Already we have new visitors and some prospects for membership. The session had a good retreat just before the second lockdown and has started a much-needed project clarifying our vision and core values.

In every way, I have encountered the people of Somervell to be thoughtful, open, and charitable people. I hope that in the time to come that will increase and overflow into the surrounding communities we inhabit on a daily basis. As we move forward, I want to say that I have the best of the past firmly in my mind. There are many great traditions at Somervell that have lasted the test of time and need to be taken into the future. As with all things, the shape and form of those traditions may need updating, but the important thing is to hold on to what is best about Somervell as we move forward.

This week I came across a Māori whakataukī (proverb) that sums this up perfectly. "Ka Mua, Ka Muri," which translates to "Walking backward into the future". The idea here is that we should look to the best of the past to inform our path to the future. If I could sum up my wish for Somervell in the months to come it would be that we take up a process by which we do some dreaming and hoping in conversation with our past.

Finally, my thanks goes out to all of our staff, both Tsana and Sharon in the church office and at Uplands. We are truly blessed with a talented and passionate group that ensure that we run well and that our outreach to the community is centered on care. For all the various teams of people that assist in these endeavors like the pastoral care team, Christine Clark, Elliott Kernohan and the Kindy committee, my hat goes off to you.

Grace and Peace,

Ivan Martinez

SOMERVELL STATISTICS JUNE 2020

	2020	2019	2018	2017
Members:		101	99	93
Associate members		42	34	49
Worship attendance:		58	59	81
Children and Youth		25	22	22



*Andrew Palace Evolution Artificial Intelligence Spaceship (2019) brass, copper and glass.
Projected on to the spire during OPpARt*

MINUTES OF THE 2019 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEEING OF SOMERVELL MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHRUCH HOLD ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2019 AT 11.10AM, FOLLOWING THE MORNING SERVICE

The meeting was constituted with prayer by the Moderator of the meeting, Rev Glynn Cardy.

Apologies: Annette Oliver, Jan and Rick Tyro, Gillian Brown, Christine Clark. Moved Sharon Sweeney Lauder, Seconded Tim Watkin.

Minutes of the AGM 30 September 2018. Moved by John Kernohan that the minutes be accepted as a fair and reasonable account of the meeting, Seconded Heather Laxon. Motion was agreed.

Financial Report. Moved John Kernohan, seconded Brian Rowley that the annual accounts be accepted subject to completion of the audit review. Motion agreed.

Budget. The budget was presented by John Kernohan and Brian Rowley. John Kernohan moved that the Budget be accepted, seconded Martin Lauder. Motion agreed.

Other Reports

- Eleanor Savage asked what the status was of representation on the Remuera Christian Trust Board. Moved Eleanor Savage that Sharon Sweeney Lauder be appointed Somervell representative. Seconded Pam Pacey. Motion Agreed.
- Moved by Martin Lauder, seconded Sharon Sweeney Lauder that the thanks be recorded to the Kindy Committee and staff for their contribution. Motion agreed.

General Business

- Rev Glynn Cardy passed his thanks to MSB for their efforts and the way they have conducted the search for a new minister. He also complimented the Congregation generally for the contribution all have made in keeping the Church running during the ministerial vacancy
- John Kernohan proposed a vote of thanks to Rev Glynn Cardy and other ministers who have assisted us in the inter-regnum. Seconded Philippa Francis-Greenman

Meeting concluded at 11.40am with saying of the Grace.

Moderator: _____ Date: _____

MINUTES OF THE CONGREGATIONAL MEETING – 1 SEPTEMBER 2019

MINUTES OF A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING HELD ON SEPTEMBER 1, 2019 AT 11.10AM FOLLOWING THE MORNING SERVICE TO CONSIDER A MINISTRY CALL

- 1) The meeting was constituted with prayer by the Moderator of the meeting, Rev G Cardy.
- 2) Present: Rev Glynn Cardy, Interim Moderator, Dr Ian Dittmer, Convenor of the Ministry Settlement Board, 47 Members and 23 Associate Members.
- 3) Apologies: M & A Lauder, S Lauder, A Wood, F Crummey, C Clark, T Kingham. The apologies were sustained.
- 4) It was moved (B Rowley, Session Clerk, and Rev G Pettigrove) that the ballot on the substantial motion (regarding Rev Martinez) be secret, and that Barbara Weir and Julia Garland be scrutineers. AGREED.
- 5) It was moved (B Rowley, Session Clerk, and Mr T Watkin) that the Rev Ivan Martinez be called as the full time Nationally Ordained Minister of Somervell Memorial Presbyterian Church.
- 6) Dr Dittmer explained the process which had been followed reminding the meeting that there had been an extensive period of questions and discussion with Mr Martinez the previous Sunday. He spoke to the motion.
- 7) There were no questions or discussion.
- 8) Voting was then carried out by secret ballot using voting papers previously issued to members and associate members as they entered the worship area for the morning service.
- 9) The meeting was then informed of ‘next steps’ and timing if Rev Martinez was called.

[The meeting retired for coffee, then came back together in the church to hear the results of the ballot]

- 10) There were 47 Members and 23 Associate Members in support of the motion. The Moderator declared the motion to be AGREED.
- 11) The Moderator led the meeting in prayer.
- 12) The meeting concluded with the Benediction at 11.28 am.

Confirmed..... Date.....

LIFE AND MISSION COMMITTEE

The following reports have been written by those most closely involved with each area of our church's life that the committee oversees.

PASTORAL/SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Pastoral Care comes under the umbrella of the Life and Mission committee. Life and Mission committee members during the last year have been Ricky Waters, Sharon Sweeney Lauder, Tim Watkin, Debbie Watkin, Christine Clark, Heather Laxon, Brian Rowley, Joanna Laxon, Rev Lorraine Francis (as Interim minister) and then Rev Ivan Martinez (minister). We have met bi monthly during the year.

During the year we have welcomed a number of new members and associate members to Somervell. Jim Feist, Usha Kumpula, Vivienne Wilson and Elaine Walton/Bartley were received into full membership by transfer from their previous churches. Vivienne and Trevor Kerr and Aisling Lauder were welcomed as associate members.

We lost two long standing members this year. On the 1st September Bryan Cammell died. Bryan had served as an elder and contributed a huge amount to the musical life of the Church. On the 10th April Betty Brown died.

A visitor's book continues to be available on the entry table in the hall way on Sunday mornings and we would like to encourage visitors to write in it.

In December, the volunteers' lunch was held for our volunteers from the OP shop, walking group and bowling group.

In February we were delighted to welcome our new minister and his family to Somervell and after worship we shared a welcoming lunch together.

In March of this year our physical church building doors were closed as NZ went into lockdown in the fight against Covid 19. We are very thankful to Ivan that he was able to continue to lead us in worship at this time through online services. Our thanks go to Tsana, Sharon and everyone that contributed to these services. During lockdown we were able to connect with each other online via zoom chats after the service. The Life and Mission Committee were able to continue to meet online via zoom.

The elders pastoral care groups were revised and new quaranteam groups created in March. Elders and members of the congregation coordinated their quaranteam group to keep in touch, connect and support each other. Since lockdown it has been decided to continue these quaranteam groups and these groups now replace the previous elders pastoral care groups

Meals continue to be available from the church freezer for those in need. If you know there is anyone who would appreciate a meal, please let us know. If you are able to supply meals occasionally for the freezer your help would be gratefully received. If you require containers, please contact Sharon in the office.

Robert Gray has continued to ably coordinate our prayer chain during the year.

Pastoral visits are always available. If there is anyone who you are aware of who is in need or would like a pastoral visit, please let myself or Ivan know.

Christine Clark
Pastoral Care Coordinator

SOMERVELL SUNDAY SCHOOL TRIPLE S REPORT

For the past year, Somervell Sunday School has continued to be led by Debbie Watkin with lessons supported by the group of parents (plus delightful Dorothy) to spread the teaching load.

The numbers of attendees at Triple-S continues to be the stable children of Ashley & Daniel, Delta & Pippa and Micah & Jacob with an occasional visit from the Ben and Melody and now Elijah and Ezra: a delightful and dynamic group of learners. Numbers at each session can be as high as 10, and as low as 2 or even nil. Teachers have again been primarily the coerced parents of the children who attend the lessons; supporting the cause albeit reluctantly it seems. Delightful Dorothy has continued to offer her support.

Lessons continue to be provided to the children during school term-time only (9 to 11 week terms), with school holidays a time for everyone (children and teachers) to take a break, spend time with family or go away.

The past year at Triple-S has seen the continued use of Scripture Union teaching material (for children aged 8-11 years) supplemented by material from other Sunday School sources such as DLTK-Kids. Access to the church wifi has at times been used to allow the children to watch and listen to the allocated bible through a multi-modal learning approach to communicating a message; specifically Youtube.

Christmas 2019, once again, saw the Triple-S children and the Som-Youth teens jointly participate in the annual Nativity Pageant presented early December to the congregation. It used a "Get in Line" Christmas pageant script purchased together with Kohimarama Church, interspersed with traditional carols that congregation joined in with. It involved the usual fight over roles and who would play Mary and Joseph, sorting of costumes, laughter and lots of fun. Jordan was the star.

For three consecutive Sundays during early April, COVID-19 lockdown impacted on Triple-S with no Sunday school sessions being offered. This was ultimately resolved with the use of videoconferencing using Zoom technology. It was cautiously considered successful, with at least an opportunity for the children to reconnect and even up-skill their own (and my) zoom skills.

Claiming of the Sunday School room at the back of the church building: the one with the 'walk-in-wardrobe' has been energising, especially now with the chance to move the teaching material out of the office and into the 'wardrobe'. In addition, the recent consent that Session gave to decorating and claiming this room as a Sunday school room has been energising especially for the children. Their creative list of wishes and wants for the room has actually had some real insight and inspiration: colour, a TV monitor etc, etc. We agreed that a "drinks-bar" might not get the tick of approval 😊.

For the 4th year since Kaila Pettigrove has left Somervell, there has not been any paid leadership for Triple-S. As much as it is a privilege to serve, once again, this year has not always been easy for

me to do this work. Volunteering typically comes on top of full-time employment, I know that. But I have become tired and, if honest, burdened by the load I carry. I am therefore feeling so very grateful for Ivan to firstly see and acknowledge this issue, but also to Amanda to step up into this role. Building a 'we' from a 'me' is a huge relief and I look forward to the support and energy she will provide in the 'we'. Finally, the Police Vetting forms have been sent out again to each Triple-S teacher volunteer and I am happy to actively pursue the processing of these in order to abide my legislation.

Debbie Watkin
Triple S Co-coordinator

SOM YOUTH (Year 7-13 Youth Programme)

The SOM Youth Programme continues strongly, with around 7 and 10 regular attendees.

This year our SOM Youth Leaders have been Heather Laxon, Iona Robinson, Jordan Grimmer, and Craig Brown. This year, Joanna Laxon and Hal Brown have also stepped up to play a role in leadership and planning.

As with all parts of church life, the Covid-19 lockdowns have had big effects on SOM Youth. It resulted in Easter Camp being cancelled. It was particularly disappointing to miss out on this, which is usually a major highlight of our social calendar. It also meant we were unable to start our young adults' Bible study group, which we were planning to run on weeknights.

All that said, the youth continued to meet regularly over the lockdown period using Zoom. Our 1 pm Sunday meetings meant we were able to maintain a sense of community with each other, and were able to support each other through a time of heightened stress and anxiety.

In the coming year, we will be exploring new ways to meet together. You may notice that the youth will be staying in for the entire service more regularly, rather than going out for a separate programme during the Sunday worship services. Sometimes, we may also be meeting for lunch so we can have in depth discussions about the sermon topics.

When Covid-19 is out of the way, SOM Youth will start meeting regularly again for social events.

Jordan Grimmer
Som Youth Coordinator



Members of Som Youth and Triple S participating in the Christmas Pageant 2019

ISLAND CHILD CHARITABLE TRUST

The best thing about Somervell’s long-standing relationship with Island Child is seeing how manager Danielle Bergin has developed her project – from three chalets to 13, and from one property to three. She truly is a wonder, and as she has expressed many times, she really values our support.

The past 12 months have been especially challenging for Island Child, with COVID-19 having the greatest impact on demand for resources. Like every year, we delivered piles of blankets, warm clothing, food, and baby items to Island Child periodically. But two donation drives stood out.

The most impactful was Fill a Bucket. Debbie Watkin bought 13 buckets – one for each family at Island Child – and individuals, families and Som Youth groups took responsibility for filling each of them to the brim with cleaning supplies.

The buckets had been intended as parting gifts for families when they moved into permanent accommodation, but they arrived at Island Child’s emergency shelter as the whole country went into lockdown in late March. The timing was remarkable, and they were very well used in subsequent weeks keeping crowded living spaces immaculately clean, and giving nervous residents a feeling of security.

We also gifted a massive pile of brand new, wrapped Christmas presents to children and mothers (and a couple of fathers) in December. It was our most ambitious Christmas donation to date. Triple S families and Som Youth took the lead on this project, with amazing results.

Similar to the buckets, we filled shoe boxes with toys, games, puzzles, books, art supplies, chocolates, gift cards and other goodies. Then during church one Sunday, Triple S and Som Youth

members sat together and beautifully wrapped every box. These were opened by Island Child families on Christmas Day, when they gathered for a meal. Danielle said it was wonderful to be able to put our gifts aside for this purpose.

Also at Christmastime, several members of the congregation made generous personal donations to Island Child, which were very warmly received. Thank you so much, you special people.

Eleanor Black
Coordinator

PRAYER CHAIN

Once again, the Prayer Chain has been active during the past year.

Currently there are sixteen members of Somervell of the Prayer Chain supporting members of the congregation or their friends in their more serious health issues.

The Prayer Chain members were active in their prayer support of the Somervell Ministry Team's task of selecting a Minister to fill the vacancy created by Rev. Brett Johnstone's resignation early last year.

So often the Prayer Chain members have received sincere thanks for the prayer support received from those for whom we have been praying for the prayer support given.

In his letters to the early Christian community St Paul frequently prayed for and acknowledged with thanks for the prayer support he received.

In Philippians 4: 6&7 St Paul wrote: "The Lord is near; Have no anxiety, but in everything make your requests known to God in prayer and petition WITH thanksgiving. Then the peace of God, which is beyond our utmost understanding, will keep guard over your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus.

If any member of the congregation is willing to support others in prayer the Prayer Chain members would be pleased to welcome you to our group.

Finally, if you have, or know of someone who would appreciate prayer support please contact Christine Clark or myself so that your request can be shared with the members of the Prayer Chain.

Robert Gray
Coordinator

OPp ART

The "OPp ART: from chaos to form" art project successfully went ahead, 18-20th October 2019. The exhibition was projected on to the exterior spire wall at 8:30 pm over the three nights, accompanied by a beautiful sound track compiled by Dorothy Bharanabhai. The purpose of this exhibition was for the church to utilise its unique position, architecture and demographics, to provide a meaningful point of contact with the community, and to acknowledge that as Christians we have a responsibility to care for the planet. On each night, there was an event preceding the showing.

The Friday night was the opening night event, starting with refreshments, followed by a karakia by members of Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei. There were two speakers, - Victoria Martinez Azaro explaining the effect of fast fashion on the environment, and Nick Hawke, from Ngāti Whātua, who spoke on how people at Ōrākei Marae are living in a way that supports the land and minimises waste. The second night was the marketplace, with over a dozen stalls displaying and selling goods that fitted the theme of being environmentally friendly. There were also activities and a café area for refreshments sold by stalls and church members - pulled pork buns (Martin Lauder) and gluten free crepes (Brown family).

The third evening was a thought-provoking reflective service, run by Jordan Grimmer and Heather Laxon. It incorporated a variety of media and activities that gave opportunity for a personal response to the challenge raised by OPp ART.

Ōrākei Local Board kindly donated \$5000 towards projection costs, stall holders paid a fee which went to help cover costs and there were some donations from church members.

Overall, the project appeared to have successfully raised public awareness of Somervell Church, and stimulated interest around art which involves repurposed materials. It was a positive experience for people from outside the church, where they could enjoy church activities which did not require a particular faith response. Somervell Church has made a stand on a very topical issue, and we hope it has planted seeds that will grow into environmentally responsible actions by church and community.

The committee comprised of Dorothy Bharanabhai, Janet Rowley, Martin Lauder, Kathryn Lehman, Jordan Grimmer and Megan Laxon. We would like to express our huge thanks to session for supporting this project, both in concept and financially. We would also like to thank the many church members who gave support through donations of time or money. It was a risk and an unknown, and we could not have done it without your backing. Thank you for believing in us, and sharing the vision.

Janet Rowley
OPp ART co-curator and committee member

PRESENTATION BY PROFESSOR RON WHITE

Somervell folk were privileged to host noted historian, theologian, and Presbyterian Minister Ron White on March 1st 2020 when he was visiting Auckland from the USA with his close friend, former Somervell Interim Minister Jim Symons. Ron led an evening programme on the topic of Faith in Leadership using his detailed knowledge of the leadership qualities of American presidents. While his focus was on Abraham Lincoln and particularly his Second Inaugural address it included observations on others as well. This led to a topical discussion about issues important in this election year for both our countries.

This also gave us a chance to invite folk in beyond Somervell and we were joined by a number from outside the congregation. This was a most thought-provoking occasion and we thank Ron for his contribution to Somervell life in these times. It was great to catch up with Jim as well, along with both of their wives.

John Kernohan

OPPORTUNITY SHOP REPORT

The Somervell Op Shop has continued into its 29th year this year. In 2019 it was the Op of OPp ART, that is, it was part of the inspiration for an exhibition for Auckland Art Week that promoted art that involved an aspect of repurposed materials. Some op shop discard clothing was transformed into brilliant cement sculptures by Som Youth and the shop was part of the market night during OPp ART weekend. It is difficult to say whether there has been any flow on effect for the shop this year, but once again Somervell Op Shop was a forerunner in innovation for op shops in the Auckland area.

The other significant event for the shop has been Covid-19 lockdown. Even before the announcement of level three, the shop was closed for the protection of the volunteers, and it has reopened under level one. It will be interesting to see how popular op shops are in the new economic environment, and so far, takings have remained steady. Surprisingly we didn't get a rise in donations from Covid Cleanouts, and donations continue to gently dwindle. This is not problematic. Likewise there has been a gentle shift in volunteers, but numbers remain steady and Sharon can stretch out the roster and fill it, just. We have school students help out at times to fulfil the voluntary work requirements of Duke of Edinburgh.

Our takings for the financial year July 2019 to end of June 2020 are considerably down, to \$17,700 compared with over \$23,000 previously. This reflects the impact of closing the shop for over two months under lockdown. We do continue to get a stream of new customers through the shop, which is cause for optimism going forward.

The shop continues to run because of the regular commitment and the generosity of its volunteers, and I am very grateful for their ongoing contributions. It is only by being open every week that we can provide some bargain retail therapy, respite, recycling and revenue to support the church and other charities. I am looking forward to 2020 being another successful year with our op shop team.

Janet Rowley
Somervell Op Shop Manager

SOMERVELL WALKING GROUP

The Somervell Walking Group has met every Tuesday morning except during Lockdown Level 4. Several members for health reasons, decided they could no longer walk each week, but continue to keep contact with the group by joining us occasionally for morning coffee at Somervell. During the year we gained two new members. There are currently 14 active walking members and we have undertaken easy walks of around 45 minutes in different locations across our region of Auckland. Most days while walking we see unexpected things. On a recent walk for example in Cornwall Park not only did we see the daffodils in bloom as planned, but also twin calves being born and a couple of pheasants close to us apparently undisturbed by those trekking past their patch. So, walk with our group and experience not only our friendly company, but also nice surprises.

John Kernohan
Leader

INDOOR BOWLING CLUB

The Bowling Club's 2019/2020 season started out reasonably well supported. Membership numbers had not substantially changed over the past 3 years, with new members joining to replace the retirees, although the average age increased.

However, the start of 2020 saw attendance numbers start to decrease, and once the group resumed meeting again after the Covid-19 lockdown, numbers were insufficient to justify the work involved with setting up and packing down the equipment each week, particularly as the age of those doing that job did not decrease as the numbers did!

The difficult decision was made at the end of June to suspend the Club for the time being.

A huge thanks should be extended to Arthur Ellis for his long-term commitment to the Club, as well as to Noreen Henare and Ross Kelly for their continued support.

Tsana Plessius
Church Administrator

PLAYGROUP REPORT

Somervell Playgroup is held each Thursday morning (during term time) from 9.30am-12.00pm in the basement room next to the Op Shop. Numbers in 2019 have remained high with a core group of around 15 families each week. Recently we have enjoyed visits from many new families. The group comprises parents, grandparents and nannies who all come together to enjoy play, music and morning tea. Marketing is through Uplands Kindergarten, word of mouth and social media (Neighbourly/Facebook), and the flag at the top of the driveway. Many children from playgroup are feeding through to the kindergarten.

The teaching team from Uplands (Michele, Jenn, Maggie and Joyce) take turns each week to lead the music session. The room is open and set up for parents to arrive and make themselves at home. Music is at 10am followed by morning tea. Each teacher brings their own unique love and style of music to the group.

We were successfully relicensed by the Ministry of Education. The Education Advisor checked the inevitable pages and pages of paper work as well as the room and equipment.

A huge thanks to Tsana Plessius who comes down to Uplands Kindergarten every Thursday to release a teacher for playgroup duties. She is a valued part of the Uplands teaching team.

Michele Morrissey-Brown
Head Teacher
Uplands Kindergarten
Faith Learning Life

PRESBYTERIAN SUPPORT NORTHERN

Our main contribution to Presbyterian Support Northern (PSN) continues to be in the regular giving of food to the Foodbank. The girls of St Kentigern also give supplies of food at their weekly service at Somervell and arrange for our donations to be delivered to the Foodbank at the same time as theirs. When they are unable to deliver the food to the Foodbank, Sharon Sweeney Lauder makes the delivery, as she has done on occasion for a number of years.

Some of our members took part in June praying for children at risk, using the leaflets provided by Presbyterian Support.

There have been urgent, one-off calls from Anne Overton, Community Relationship Manager at Presbyterian Support for assistance for items such as clothing, household goods, bedding and even a carseat, which the church and particularly the Op Shop whole-heartedly support when they arise.

Tsana Plessius
Church Administrator



*Gary Silipa Inner City Charms (2018) polystyrene off cuts, vinyl, reused plastic chain, spray paint.
Installed on the foyer wall during OPpART*

UPLANDS KINDERGARTEN

Before lockdown, you may remember our children's service on Children's Day, followed by a party to celebrate Uplands' 50th anniversary. There was no social distancing that morning! That milestone came during a year when Uplands continued to build on our run of recent good form. This is surely testament to the commitment made to Uplands by many Somervell folk over many years. In the face of the challenges posed by Covid-19 our Uplands family as a whole rose to the occasion, proving itself resilient, adaptable and creative.

Lockdown

Our team's unanimous approach to Covid-19 was to continue to support our children and their families. The teachers felt confident to manage the reasonable risks of infection, through strong communication with each other and with families, and good practices. Well before lockdown we were sending children home well drilled in teaching their parents good handwashing. Our strict distancing, attendance logging and hygiene measures have been well supported by all families. Some measures were simple adaptations – for example our existing attendance and visitor procedures easily served as a contact tracing register. Others, such as separating and rotating different sets of toys and activities every day to reduce surface contact between bubbles, have in practice improved both the kindy environment and children's engagement.

Through this period the teaching team also took its use of the Storypark online platform to new heights, from the first day of lockdown posting daily songs, stories, crafts and activities for Uplands families to do while isolated at home. Our team quickly had to develop new skills, new ideas and new ways of working, and they succeeded in extending Uplands as an important connection to 'normal' for our children. Isolating with her parents in Thames, Jenn made us all green with envy with the most idyllic valley views as the backdrop to her crafty, fun videos.

Facilities and curriculum

During the year we continued our programme of refreshing specific parts of the learning environment. The front entranceway has been transformed with a new surface and ramp, the outside play area has a new softfall surface, and the storage units that hold the children's blocks and books and other essential activities have been brightened with a lick of Somervell orange.

Our pedagogical focus (as if distance learning wasn't enough) will shift this coming year to improving our tracking of learning plans into outcomes, and on building stronger ties to tangata whenua.

Financial

Enrolments remain at or close to our target of 30 in the morning and 20 in afternoons, and we have a small waiting list. These voluntary caps help us maintain the quality of our teaching environment, the curriculum we can offer, and ratios which optimise both teaching contact and our financial stability. During Level 3 we opened for between 2 and 9 children of essential workers, and waived our fees and charges for those not attending. This did not have a lasting impact, as the ECE sector generally has been well supported both by the continuation of normal ECE funding throughout lockdown, and by the government's wage subsidy. This combination of factors has contributed to an unexpectedly strong financial result for the year to June 2020. We have taken the opportunity to boost wages and thank the teachers for their fantastic efforts.

In the current year we will see a modest increase in government ECE funding, to partly offset increased wage costs, and an additional funding tier for centres such as Uplands, who operate with 100% of teaching staff fully qualified (the previous maximum was at 80%). With our current

management strategies working well, and uncertain economic conditions generally, we will hold our parent charges level for the current financial year.

Team

Our teachers continue to extend themselves year by year, contributing ever more to the improvement and evolution of Uplands. This year Jenn's leadership potential stood out and we will invest in developing that. Joyce has committed to post-graduate study, the benefits of which are already coming into the centre. Maggie, too, is taking her qualifications in a new direction which reflects her interests and our changing community. Pauline Massey, formerly head teacher at St Johns College Kindergarten, has become a regular reliever and a mentor for the team. Tsana's influence on the smooth running of Uplands has also expanded, as she finds new and invaluable ways to take administrative and organisational weight off the teachers and committee. Thank you, Tsana.

Michele's year, as many will know, was filled with personal sadness. We were glad at least that throughout this period Uplands and the prayers and support of Somervell people were a source of strength and purpose for her.

We are all delighted to have Ivan and his family become part of Uplands. The leadership in faith that our Somervell Minister provides is essential to the team and the Uplands community.

Naturally my fellow committee members Anneliese, Caroline, Christine, Michele and Tsana continue to offer guidance and insight to all. Recently we have been joined by Ivan, whose goal to strengthen interactions between Somervell and Kindy is more than welcome. More change is afoot, with Anneliese soon moving with her family to a quieter life involving more horses in Whitford. As a parent rep who stayed on, she has given a huge amount of energy and leadership to Uplands over the course of close to 7 years. Yes, you read that correctly.

Thank you again to all who give so much, and congratulations everyone, on 50 years.

Elliott Kernohan
Chair, Uplands Management Committee
Faith Learning Life



Recognising present and past teachers from Uplands Kindergarten, Uplands 50th Birthday Church Service, 1 March 2020

ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

The Administration Committee of Session is charged with finance matters, supervision of non-ministry staff, all property matters including insurance and compliance, use of buildings and repairs and maintenance, and Health and Safety. Routine property matters are handled by Tsana Plessius, our Church Administrator.

The past year has included an extraordinary period between February and June when the whole of New Zealand society was disrupted including churches. This required a new way of engaging in church activities and responding to the needs of the congregation and the community in which we undertake our mission. Activities of the Committee were focused for a period on the reorientation of church life.

There have been no injuries which required reporting to WorkSafe during the period. During the response to the pandemic, Health and Safety of folk in our buildings required a great deal of attention and careful management including extra cleaning and recording of contact details of people using our building. Staff are trained in the importance of recognising and addressing health and safety matters. Of course, in spite of our efforts, external users of our buildings are not at all times under our control, though we instruct them in the importance of a safe environment.

In terms of property issues, we are pleased to report that in September 2019 we received a building Warrant of Fitness without any serious issues to address. A major \$160,000 refurbishment of the Manse was carried out immediately prior to its occupation by the new Manse family between November and the end of December. This has brought the relatively old building up to a reasonable standard consistent with the local community. The Committee and Manse family are pleased with the outcome. The gardens will be replanted before the coming summer. Thanks are due to all those who helped in the various working bees at the busy time in December.

Weather tightness in our Church has been a problem for us for some years now. The seals around the steeple and portico have been inspected. Because of relatively light rainfall, in the summer and autumn, these and other leaks have been difficult to trace but we have now received a proposal and cost estimates to rectify them. There remains the high roof membrane over the Hall to replace and this is planned for summer 2020/2021. The plan and costings are currently being considered before recommendations are made to the Session and in due course, the Congregation.

Once again, we are especially grateful for those who have given time to weed and tend the buildings and grounds. Our thanks to Jim Feist and Christine Carter and others who have assisted including for removing trailer loads of rubbish to the transfer station.

One of Somervell's important activities is the operation of the Kindy. Financially, Somervell depends very much on annual surpluses from Uplands Kindergarten. While by no means the only benefit of the Kindy, we are delighted that the Kindy surplus this past year was well above budget in spite of further maintenance being undertaken including a resurfacing of the playground and resurfacing of the lower entrance – a benefit both to the Kindy and those entering our building from the lower entrance. It thus continues to make a significant contribution in financial terms as well as being an important part of Somervell's mission activity. Some of the work was done with volunteers. Our thanks go to staff and their leader, Michele. We thank the staff, all of whom continued to provide outstanding learning and caring support to our students throughout the lockdown. We also thank the Committee, the Chairman Elliott, and all those who work so hard to make our Kindy a success.

The Administration Committee notes that the Op Shop has been able to continue due to dedicated folk. Maintaining income is increasingly difficult in spite of great effort to maintain its revenue. We give thanks for the contribution of our Op Shop and recognise that it is not solely a contribution of funding for outreach activity.

The Treasurer's report is included separately but mention must be made of the way this role has continued to be simplified and streamlined in the past year. We are also indebted to Roger Windle and particularly Kylie in so ably undertaking the Treasurer shared responsibility. This area runs very smoothly and competently.

It must also be noted that in spite of the Church being closed for months, we managed to record a financial surplus even while going into the lockdown period with a significant shortfall in revenue. Thanks to the Congregation who responded to our call when services were held by video conference.

The Committee once again expresses its indebtedness to the Church Administrator Tsana Plessius, and Administration Assistant Sharon Sweeney-Lauder who served us so well this year particularly working from home while the Church building was closed and in the extraordinary times before and afterwards when special attention to regulations requiring additional work was needed with people using the building.

The Committee's membership has been augmented late this year by the addition of Elliott Kernohan and of course Ivan Martinez. Elliott has special skills and experience valuable to the Committee but he also is Chairman of the Uplands Kindergarten which is such an important part of Somervell employing the largest portion of our staff and has the biggest share of our revenue.

We give thanks to God for all of those both paid and voluntary who have assisted the Committee in its work during 2019 and 2020.

John Kernohan (Convenor) Brian Rowley, Craig Brown, Roger Windle, David Wards, Ivan Martinez, Elliott Kernohan

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Treasurer's Report for Financial Year Ended 30 June 2020

The Financial Statements (unaudited) are attached as an Appendix to the Churches Annual Report. These detail the activities of the church for financial year up to June 2020 as compared to budget and also include the budget for the year ended June 2021.

FY20 Operating Result

An operating surplus of \$36,677 (Somervell Church and Uplands Kindergarten) has been declared for the year.

- a) Church Operating Result: Net Loss of **\$127,335** vs. Budgeted loss of **\$11,606** and Last Year Surplus of \$59,626

At the time of preparing the June 2020 budget we did not anticipate a new Minister starting in January 2020. This resulted in unbudgeted refurbishment of the manse (\$54k), a reduction in manse rental income (\$49k) and unplanned Minister costs. In addition to this we were recommended by our Auditor to change our accounting policy on depreciating the Church building (\$42K). However, despite Covid-19, our total income exceeded budget by \$16k. Operating expenses were more or less as budgeted.

- b) Uplands Kindergarten result \$164,012 vs. Budget \$75,000 and Last year \$51,699

Uplands rolls have continued to be at capacity for the year ended 30 June 2020 resulting in unbudgeted revenue of approximately \$65k. The budget was prepared conservatively in case of roll decline which didn't eventuate. Total operating costs were under budget.

FY21 Budget

A loss of \$69,145 has been budgeted for the coming year to 30 June 2021.

Kylie Windle
Treasurer

Budget Variance
Somervell Presbyterian Church
1 Jul 2019 to 30 Jun 2020

	30 Jun 20 ACTUAL	30 Jun 20 BUDGET	30 Jun 20 Variance	30 Jun 21 BUDGET
Income				
Offering Income				
Donations	\$2,851	\$0	\$2,851	\$0
Offering - Envelopes	\$9,564	\$19,995	-\$10,431	\$9,000
Offering - Envelopes Direct Credit	\$136,930	\$109,999	\$26,931	\$129,198
Offering - Plate / Other	\$5,518	\$8,004	-\$2,486	\$5,934
Total Offering Income	\$154,863	\$137,998	\$16,865	\$144,132
Outreach Income				
Avalon Donations	\$600	\$0	\$600	\$600
Outreach - Opportunity Shop	\$17,669	\$15,004	\$2,665	\$13,750
Outreach - Playgroup - MOE	\$2,126	\$2,000	\$126	\$2,018
Total Outreach Income	\$20,395	\$17,004	\$3,391	\$16,368
Property Income				
Rental Income	\$69,141	\$85,004	-\$15,863	\$57,000
Total Property Income	\$69,141	\$85,004	-\$15,863	\$57,000
Sundry Income				
Dividend Income	\$0	\$330	-\$330	\$0
Interest Income - Church	\$15,735	\$11,000	\$4,735	\$10,000
Sundry Income	\$7,505	\$0	\$7,505	\$0
Total Sundry Income	\$23,240	\$11,330	\$11,910	\$10,000
Total Income	\$267,640	\$251,336	\$16,304	\$227,500
GROSS PROFIT	\$267,640	\$251,336	\$16,304	\$227,500
Other Income				
MSD Wage Subsidy - Non-Taxable Income	\$21,089	\$0	\$21,089	\$0
Total Other Income	\$21,089	\$0	\$21,089	\$0
Less Operating Expenses				
Church Expenses				
ACC levies - Church	\$174	\$300	-\$126	\$180
Accounting Fees	\$5,256	\$5,004	\$252	\$5,004
Advertising	\$120	\$600	-\$480	\$240
Assembly/Conferences	\$0	\$1,500	-\$1,500	\$0
Bank Fees	\$248	\$504	-\$256	\$249
Catering and Kitchen	\$1,260	\$2,004	-\$744	\$1,151
Christian Education	\$0	\$804	-\$804	\$0
Church - Outreach contribution	-\$12,000	-\$12,000	\$0	-\$12,000
Computer Maintenance	\$1,633	\$600	\$1,033	\$1,757
Freight & Courier	\$91	\$0	\$91	\$141

General Expenses	\$1,302	\$1,800	-\$498	\$1,095
KiwiSaver Employer Contributions - Church	\$2,540	\$2,700	-\$160	\$3,840
Minister Kindergarten Fees	\$1,644	\$0	\$1,644	\$3,800
Office Expenses	\$890	\$996	-\$106	\$1,200
Plant Hire	\$812	\$852	-\$40	\$921
Printing & Stationery	\$2,886	\$2,004	\$882	\$2,922
Salaries - Church Administration	\$37,008	\$50,004	-\$12,996	\$51,408
Salaries - Church Administration - Non-deductible	\$14,059	\$0	\$14,059	\$0
Salaries - Ministry and Worship	\$49,435	\$49,998	-\$563	\$69,216
Salaries - Ministry and Worship Non-Deductible	\$7,030	\$0	\$7,030	\$0
Staff Health Insurance allowance	\$1,355	\$0	\$1,355	\$2,832
Staff Training - Church	\$310	\$504	-\$194	\$600
Superannuation - Beneficiary Fund	\$2,397	\$1,500	\$897	\$2,952
Telephone & Internet - Church	\$3,308	\$3,204	\$104	\$3,346
Telephone & Internet - Manse	\$1,176	\$0	\$1,176	\$2,639
Travel - International	\$1,853	\$0	\$1,853	\$0
Travel - National	\$0	\$500	-\$500	\$0
Worship costs	\$1,401	\$504	\$897	\$600
Total Church Expenses	\$126,189	\$113,882	\$12,307	\$144,093
Outreach and Wider Church Expenses				
National Church Levy	\$14,523	\$14,496	\$27	\$15,000
Op Shop Expenses	\$215	\$156	\$59	\$239
Outreach Contribution to Personnel	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$0	\$12,000
Outreach Contribution to Wider church	\$2,500	\$2,496	\$4	\$2,500
Outreach Expenses	\$11,679	\$504	\$11,175	\$6,000
Outreach Mission Contributions	\$5,000	\$6,000	-\$1,000	\$600
Playgroup Expenses	\$1,929	\$2,000	-\$71	\$500
Presbytery Expenses	\$4,725	\$6,000	-\$1,275	\$4,800
Wider Church - Outreach Contribution	-\$2,500	-\$2,496	-\$4	-\$2,500
Total Outreach and Wider Church Expenses	\$50,072	\$41,156	\$8,916	\$39,139
Property Expenses				
Church Facility				
Cleaning - Church	\$10,003	\$11,004	-\$1,001	\$12,000
Depreciation - Church	\$46,532	\$4,500	\$42,032	\$46,000
Insurance - Church	\$17,254	\$21,996	-\$4,743	\$18,000
Light, Power, Heating - Church	\$6,666	\$8,496	-\$1,830	\$6,660
Rates - Church	\$3,024	\$3,000	\$24	\$3,600
Repairs and Maintenance - Church	\$71,593	\$75,000	-\$3,407	\$75,000
Security - Church	\$4,603	\$4,752	-\$149	\$4,200
Total Church Facility	\$159,674	\$128,748	\$30,926	\$165,460
Manse				
Depreciation - Manse	\$10,290	\$1,104	\$9,186	\$18,000
Housing Allowance	\$13,078	\$22,752	-\$9,674	\$5,904
Insurance - Manse	\$1,649	\$2,004	-\$355	\$1,649
Light, Power, Heating - Manse	\$885	\$0	\$885	\$0
Rates - Manse	\$6,280	\$8,004	-\$1,724	\$6,400
Rent - manse	-\$8,250	-\$57,204	\$48,954	\$0
Repairs and Maintenance - Manse	\$56,197	\$2,496	\$53,701	\$6,000
Total Manse	\$80,129	-\$20,844	\$100,973	\$37,953

Total Property Expenses	\$239,803	\$107,904	\$131,899	\$203,413
Total Operating Expenses	\$416,063	\$262,942	\$153,121	\$386,645
OPERATING PROFIT	-\$127,335	-\$11,606	-\$115,729	-\$159,145
Non-operating Income				
Uplands Kindy Result	\$164,012	\$75,004	\$89,008	\$90,000
Total Non-operating Income	\$164,012	\$75,004	\$89,008	\$90,000
NET PROFIT	\$36,677	\$63,398	-\$26,721	-\$69,145

Balance Sheet
Somervell Presbyterian Church
As at 30 June 2020

	30 Jun 2020	30 Jun 2019
Assets		
Bank		
ANZ - 00	\$29,151	\$24,806
ANZ - 03	\$581	\$1,002
ASB - Uplands	\$9,527	\$29,521
Kindy - 50	\$1	\$21
Total Bank	\$39,260	\$55,351
<hr/>		
Current Assets		
Accounts Receivable - Church	\$212	\$5,838
less Provision for Doubtful Debts	-\$500	-\$500
ECE Funding Due	\$31,835	\$28,763
Fees Due - Kindy	\$24,757	\$23,698
Insurance Pre-paid	\$1,546	\$1,684
Petty Cash	\$88	\$178
Prepayments	\$782	\$356
Total Current Assets	\$58,720	\$60,016
<hr/>		
Fixed Assets		
Buildings - Church	\$2,994,661	\$2,994,661
Less Accum. Dep on Buildings - Church	-\$43,953	\$0
Buildings - Manse	\$151,327	\$63,540
Less Accum. Dep. on Buildings - Manse	-\$10,247	-\$3,300
Computer Equipment - Church	\$20,269	\$15,185
Less Accum. Dep. on Computer Equipment	-\$15,272	-\$15,185
Equipment and Fittings - Manse	\$57,450	\$24,228
Less Accum. Dep. on Equipment and Fittings - Manse	-\$27,570	-\$24,228
Fittings and Equipment - Church	\$99,864	\$97,137
Accum. Dep on Fittings and Equipment - Church	-\$94,994	-\$92,706
Fixed Assets - Kindergarten	\$60,349	\$39,311
Less Accum. Dep. on Fixed Assets - Kindy	-\$25,871	-\$23,125
Organ	\$129,054	\$129,054
Accumulated Depreciation on Organ	-\$127,817	-\$127,612
Total Fixed Assets	\$3,295,066	\$3,204,573
<hr/>		
Non-current Assets		
PIF Kindy	\$245,000	\$245,000
Presbyterian Investment Fund	\$337,876	\$312,172
Total Non-current Assets	\$582,876	\$557,172
<hr/>		
Total Assets	\$3,975,922	\$3,877,112

Liabilities

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable -Church	\$4,942	\$8,297
Accruals	\$8,920	\$12,734
Avalon - Payable	\$56	\$56
Employee Benefits	\$30,550	\$23,386
GST - Church	-\$422	\$3,309
Ministry Fund	\$2,736	\$2,736
PAYE Payable	\$13,224	\$0
Provision for Roof Repairs	\$126,630	\$76,130
Rounding	\$0	\$0
Special Reserves payable	\$5,040	\$7,500
Wages Payable - Payroll	\$6,400	\$0
Total Current Liabilities	\$198,077	\$134,147
<hr/>		
Non-Current Liabilities		
Accumulated Funds - Church	\$2,095,636	\$2,058,959
New Church Pledges	\$1,440,417	\$1,440,417
Reserves - Centennial Fund	\$101,340	\$101,340
Reserves - Outreach	\$11,743	\$13,743
Reserves - Youth Fund	\$518	\$518
Total Non-Current Liabilities	\$3,649,654	\$3,614,977
<hr/>		
Total Liabilities	\$3,847,731	\$3,749,125
<hr/>		
Net Assets	\$128,192	\$127,987
<hr/>		
Equity		
Current Year Earnings	\$36,677	\$111,423
Retained Earnings	-\$36,302	-\$111,048
Total Equity	\$375	\$375
<hr/>		