

## **Youth Synod September 15-16 Dannevirke 2012**

### **Minutes**

**Present:** Kristy Boardman (BOP alt rep), Brendon Bryon-Kay (Eastland Rep), Rebekah Reid (HB), Tessa Le Guern, Tafadzwa Chikono, Kantoa Rimon, Stefan Keogan, Kristy Boardman, Aroha Te Whau, Saachi Kepa, Katie Ferrett, Sarah Crosse, Nathan Read, Simon Holmes-Dawson, Hayden Simmiss

**Apologies:** David Harris

**Visitors:** Kaz Yung (OSS), Phil Trotter (National Youth Advisor), Tessa Reardon (ABM)

### **Saturday**

Attended first part of morning Diocesan Synod including Eucharist, welcome, Bible study and Presidential address.

**11.30a.m.** Youth Synod gathered. Introductions, welcome to visitors.

Explanation of upcoming motions, synod protocol, who has speaking rights, regional reps.

Saachi introduced her motion on 'responsible alcohol use'. See attachment. Discussion on alcohol use in community and group decision to support Saachi's motion.

Promotion/powerpoint on LT4Youth. Workshop preparing presentation/launch on LT4Youth for Diocesan Synod.

Presentation to Diocesan Synod:

- Launch of LT4Youth using powerpoint, Helium balloons, cardboard people connected to 'rocks', representing keeping young people connected to 'Jesus the rock'.
- Introduction to LT4Youth – Jocelyn
- Kaz: spoke on OSS
- Tessa Reardon introduced and spoke on Anglicans @ Parachute
- Phil Trotter: talk on value of being a mentor
- Saachi presented Alcohol motion, seconded and spoken to by Kristy, put by Bishop David and passed.

Review of presentation

**5.30pm** Chat with Bishop David

Phil's talk on Youth Speak

**6.30pm** Attended Synod Dinner

### **Sunday 16th**

- Kaz spoke on OSS
- Discussion on last night's entertainment. It was agreed it was not very appropriate. To be discussed further at Youth Councils who may consider sending a letter to Waiapu Youth and Families Group, via Jocelyn.
- More questions to Phil about Youth Speak
- Elections for Regional Reps as Kristy and Rebekah may be moving on. Those elected were:  
BOP: Tessa Le Guern - Kantoa Rimon as alternate  
Eastland: Brendon Bryon –Kay, Saachi Kepa as alternate  
Hawkes Bay: Sarah Crosse – Rebekah Reid as alternate

**10am** Attended Synod Service

**11am** Healthy Relationships workshop. Led by BOP Youth Council and Simon. Good discussion and questions asked of panel.

**3.30pm** Those remaining did a brief summary presentation to Diocesan Synod about Youth Synod. Saachi sang a farewell song to Synod.

**Motion for Synod 2012**

As our New Zealand Culture Wrestles with the effects of alcoholism, I feel it is important as a praying community to address this unhealthy behaviour in the ways we live out our faith. Growing up with alcoholism has given me a strong opinion in how we drink and I would like to tell you a little story.

One night It was about 11.00pm and I was only about four, my mum was in the kitchen drinking. I did some quick maths in my head and I knew she was past the point of reason so I hid in the closet till the rage passed and she had passed out on the kitchen floor. I then decided to get some help, I put on my best dress over my nighty and made myself look pretty by covering my face with lipstick. (Map) I walked from 167 Stanley road to Makorori beach and I got almost halfway, and for a four year old I was walking for a solid four hours give or take. I was so determined to get to my grans house. The police stopped me Here (map) and they asked me the usual police questions, like "where is your mum" and I said to them something along the lines of "My mum is on the kitchen floor. I'm going to visit my gran, I need to get to my gran so I she can help my mum." I was worried for my mum and I was worried for myself that I wouldn't get to my gran in time.

As a result of alcoholism I think your perception of a person changes and knowing what the effects alcohol can cause, not just on a church level but on a wider community level may have some influence in how we can change that perception. We see the effects it has on people in the media but when you really understand the pain it can cause, when you really understand the terror and unmistakable emotional scars alcoholism can cause, maybe then we then might start being aware in how we drink.

At the 2010 General Synod, Te Hinota Whanui, a resolution was passed regarding "mutual accountability" when and where drinking occurs. This motion was affirmed by our Synod (motion entitled Alcohol Abuse, p. 29 2010 Year Book) which included clauses asking for a alcohol free day at the next clergy school, and that people monitor their drinking at the clergy dinner that night.

I, therefore, ask that this Diocese Synod recommit to the principles embodied in that resolution from 2010 and resolve to hold one another accountable concerning the ways in which we model health and faith. "It's not what we drink, it's how we drink"