



Diocesan Youth Ministry Facilitator

Report to Waiapu Diocesan Synod 2013 *Jocelyn Czerwonka*

'Reaching Young People One By One' has become our focus for ministry to young people in Waiapu. As most of you already know the old model of vibrant youth groups is difficult to maintain especially when we have a 'market' out there competing for the time and energy of our young people. However, the one thing we commonly misunderstand is the **value of significant adult relationships** in the lives of young people. Waiapu is rich with people of faith and wisdom from years of following God – it is our mission to build relationships with the young people we encounter in our everyday lives and be a living example of Jesus to them.

Youth Synod 2012 – 15 young people attended from all around the diocese. Highlights:

- Official Launch of LT4Youth – see below
- Alcohol Motion: Saachi Kepa, backed by other youth synod reps requested the Diocesan Synod to 'recommit to the principles embodied in that (General Synod) 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"
- Healthy Relationships Workshop

LT4Youth - Leadership Training For Youth

Young people and helium balloons anchored to rocks were the highlight of the official launch of our new LT4Youth programme. This is an exciting opportunity for parishes around Waiapu to build 'significant relationships' with young people. The programme covers 5 Modules based on the 5 Marks of Mission: Telling Our Story, Faith Formation, Serving Others, Social Justice and Care of Creation. Each young person has an approved adult mentor to support them as they work their way through the programme. Camps and workshops are provided by the Waiapu Youth Team throughout the year.

We currently have 16 youth from throughout Waiapu formally enrolled in the programme and several others who have shown interest by attending workshops and camps.

Camps held:	October 2012	Ohope Beach Camp	Introducing LT4Youth
	January 2013	Tolaga Bay Camp	Care of Creation
	May 2013	Puketapu Camp	Telling Our Story
	July 2013	Turangi Winter Camp	Serving Others

Mentoring Workshops – Road Show

In November 2012, Phil Trotter, our National Anglican Youth Advisor and I travelled around the regions holding mentoring workshops. It was exciting to see the number of people who turned up to these and signed up to become mentors to young people. Mentoring is something we want to encourage, not just for young people doing LT4Youth but for children and young families throughout Waiapu. With this as our focus, the Waiapu Youth and Families Committee and Rev Jo Crosse (Children and Families Enabler) and I will continue to develop and encourage mentoring as part of who we are in Waiapu.

'Safe Here' (Child Safe)

An essential element of working with children, youth and families is to ensure that we have safe practices and procedures in all aspects of our ministry in Waiapu. To enable us to do this more effectively we have employed Sandie Speeden (8 hours per week) as our 'Safe Here' Co-ordinator. Previously known to us as 'Child Safe', the 'Safe Here' programme we are working with is especially designed for churches. It is our goal to ensure that all parishes and ministry programmes in Waiapu will become 'Safe Here' places. Sandie can be contacted at: childsafewaiapu.com

Year Long Youth Interns

Our 2012 Youth Interns, Saachi Kepa and Hayden Simmiss were farewelled at the Waiapu Cathedral on 30th November last year. Both had contributed in a variety of ways to the life of their host parishes and to youth ministry in Waiapu. Saachi completed the Music and Worship EIDETS paper and Hayden completed a Certificate in Youth Work through WorkForce Development in Hawkes Bay. Many thanks must go to the host families and many 'significant adults' supporting them through their year.

In February Kristy Boardman from Ngongotaha and Tess Le Guern from Mt Maunganui were welcomed as our 2013 Youth Interns and had their first placements in Taradale and Taupo (respectively) and are now in Eastland and Rotorua. Both are studying the EIDETS New Testament Theology paper, assisting in ministry in both their host parishes, regions and throughout Waiapu.

Anglicans@Parachute 2013

A large contingent of Waiapu people joined the Anglicans @ Parachute Supergroup and assisted at our Anglican Base Camp. Camping for 3 days together under canvas is an ideal way to build relationships and reconnect with people in our Anglican Community. We find this to be a significant start to the year where good friendships are forged and new enthusiasm and vision for the year ahead are seeded. Congratulations to all the adults who came along and 'walked the walk' with our young ones at Parachute. Waiapu continued our ministry as host 'diocese' setting up base camp and providing meals and support.

Top Parish 2013

I would like to congratulate our Waiapu Youth Ministry team (Jo Keogan, Frank Ngatoro and Sandi Hall) who led the way with organising Top Parish 2013 held at Keswick in Rotorua. Top Parish continues to be one of our biggest diocesan events and it is no small task to organise. Feedback this year was how encouraged people were to see more clergy and lay people from all over Waiapu 'getting involved'. Many commented on how Top Parish 'builds community' for the rest of the year.

Three Tikanga Youth Synod

Rev Frank Ngatoro, Tess Le Guern, Kristy Boardman and myself attended the Three Tikanga Youth Synod in Auckland, February this year. Again this is significant in building relationships with our Tikanga partners and finding ways to work together as Anglicans to encourage our young people in faith.

Waiapu Youth and Families Committee

The Waiapu Youth and Families committee meets 4 times a year for oversight of youth, children's and families mission and ministry in Waiapu.

Youth and Children's Leaders Training Weekend

Our annual training event was held in Taradale in May with over 20 leaders involved with children and youth ministry participating. Guest speakers were Julie Hintz, StraNdZ Ministry enabler, Phil Trotter (National Anglican Youth Advisor) and Sandie Speeden (Child Safe Co-ordinator).

Waiapu Anglican Youth Team: As team leader I was sorry to say goodbye to Rev Frank Ngatoro as Regional Youth Ministry Facilitator in Eastland. Frank was a valued member of our team.

Other happenings:

Involved in Waiapu Leadership Group

1 month of Sabbatical during April and will be taking a further 2 months next year.

Alex and I welcomed our second granddaughter to the family in March.

Jocelyn Czerwonka