

WAIAPU ARCHIVES REPORT

2012

The work of sorting, filing shelving and computerising archival materials goes on in the Waiapu Archives sited in the Cathedral Tower in Napier. We are grateful to the Diocesan Office for all the support they give us.

Jill King at the Diocesan Office continues to do a great job as contact person for the numerous requests for diocesan and parish, and also community and family information. It is a matter of satisfaction that we have been able to meet a greater proportion of these requests, often as a result of the filing and computerising of items that has taken place in the last 5 years. In the background Bishop Murray has spent many (non-tramping and wet summer) days working on the files. Both of us are happy to show interested people through the Archives on request. That fact that new clergy to the diocese include a visit to Archives in their orientation training is very encouraging.

In the last year, with changes of vicars and of the status of some ministry units, we have been pleased to receive a number of their older parish records. Earlier Waiapu Social Services papers have now have been sorted: the changes of staff and structure in that area of work make this an important task, which is continuing in conjunction with their staff.

Judith Bright, the New Zealand Anglican Archivist has again visited us and helped with computer matters and also given us guidelines in dealing with non-paper records, a growing area of archival interest as technology develops and changes. Bishop Murray has continued to be part of the NZANZP Archives and History Committee which has been helpful as it enables us to keep abreast of issues.

We are still concerned that at the local and ministry unit level all papers and minutes and correspondence should be well cared for and give an accurate account of events. We are still finding some of these are not dated, signed or labelled. With changes in the life of our church life it is important that all clergy and vestries take seriously their responsibility to preserve and house their records safely. Where a ministry unit has any concerns, please contact us. Certainly any records older than 25 years are better held by us. We do urge all clergy and lay leaders relinquishing posts, moving on or retiring to let us have any records they are tempted to throw out – leave it to us!