
125th CELEBRATION

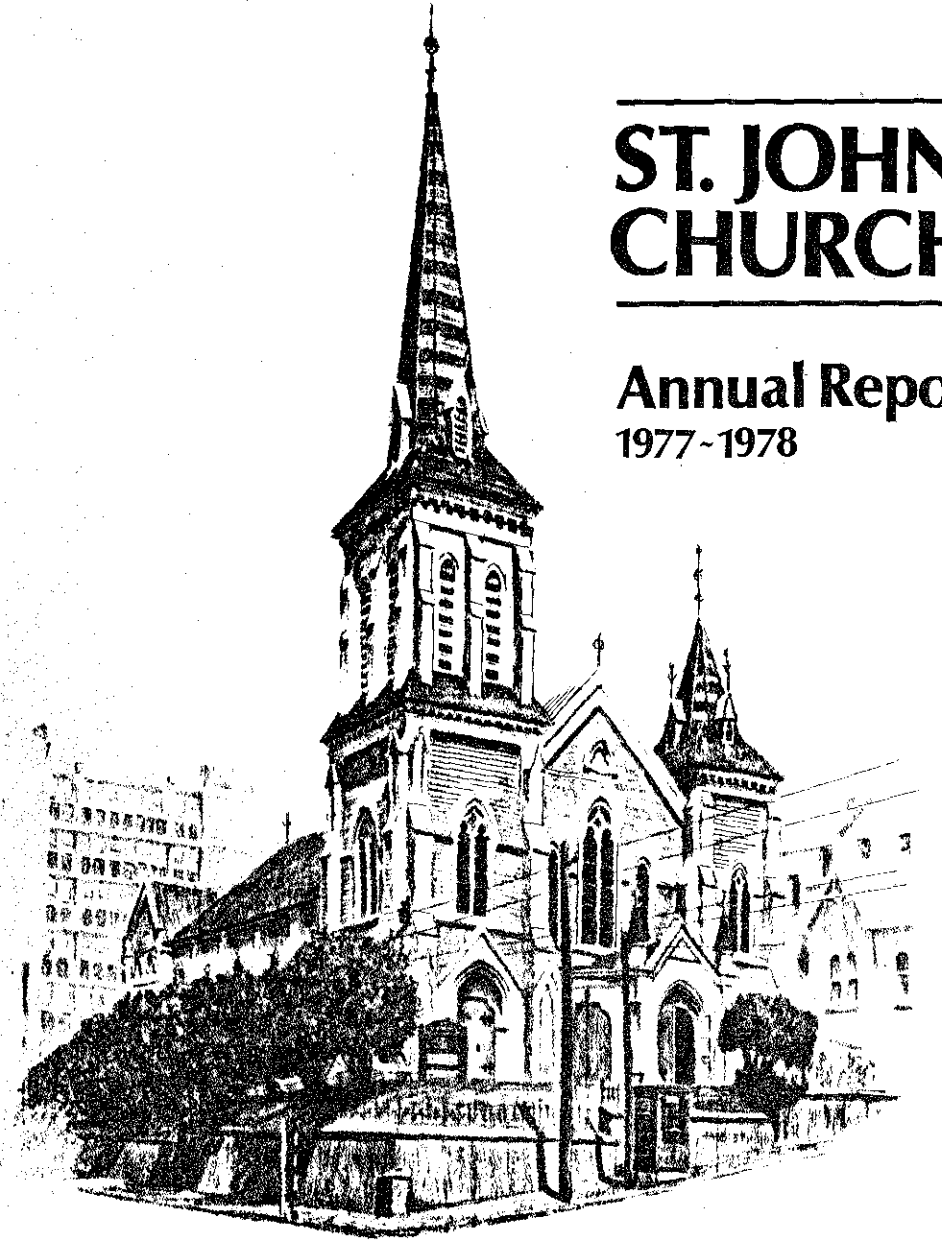
November 11th, 12th
1978

Saturday evening **"Through The Years"**
Entertainment for everyone
Sunday morning **Thanksgiving Service**
Lunch
afternoon **Music**
evening **Communion Service**

WATCH FOR FURTHER DETAILS

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

Annual Report
1977-1978



*Serene she stands amid the City highways,
Her needled spire uplifted to the sky,
A symbol of the faith, though earth be riven,
The love of God for man shall never die.*

— H.D.C.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

<u>Minister:</u>	The Rev. David M. Steedman, M.A. B.D., 2 Kelburn Parade, 5	728-294
<u>Honorary Associate Minister:</u>	The Rev. James A. Veitch, B.A. M.Th. Ph.D., 8 Canterbury Street, 5	769-490
<u>Session Clerk:</u>	Mr N. G. Robertson, 169 Karori Road, 5	768-118
<u>Clerk to the Board of Managers:</u>	Mr John Buchanan, P.O. Box 2229	758-427
<u>Finance Convener:</u>	Mrs M. Mortimer, 55 Madras Street, 4	797-023
<u>Organist & Choirmaster:</u>	Mr Raymond Wilderspin, 11 Armour Ave.	847-325

KIRK SESSION

		Inducted
Fowler, R.B.	48 Homewood Avenue, 5	1933
Smith, H.B.	25 Maida Vale Road, 3	1941
Woods, N.S.	38 Harrison Street, 2	1950
Marshall, Sir John	22 Fitzroy Street, 1	1950
Dornan, Alford	65 Trelissick Crescent, 4	1960
van Zweedden, M.H.	33 Rata Road, 3	1960
Keyes, A.W.	9d Wharenui Apartments, 1	1962
McLellan, D.	20 Apuka Street, 2	1962
Ced, G.W.	89 Wilton Road, 1	1962
Vink, J.W.	25 Mantell Street, 3	1962
Thomson, J.A.	89 Dixon Street Flats, 1	1965
Garratt, F.N. (on leave)	109 Grafton Road, 3	1965
Shiels, A.Y.	19 Fernhill Terrace, 1	1965
Arnold, Dr R.D.	2 Maurice Terrace, 1	1966
Robertson, N.G.	169 Karori Road, 5	1968
Hunt, John	24 Krull Street, 2	1968
Harvie, Dr. A.H.	1 Palm Grove, Belmont	1969
The Rev. R.H. McKenzie	4 Maple Grove, 2	1970
Mrs Owen John	80 Wai-iti Crescent, Lower Hutt	1970
Miss E.M. Brodie	98 Duncan Terrace Flats, 3	1972
Gilmour, R.M.	14 Norwich Street, 1	1972
Malcolm, G.A.	30 Ngatoto Street, 4	1972
Milkop, A.H.	6 Deveron Place, Tawa	1972
Mrs M.W.M. Mortimer	55 Madras Street, 4	1972
Mrs M.M. Piper	31 Bidwill Street, 2	1972
Boyd, Dr John	8 Lower Watt Street, 1	1974
Ferrier, R.J.	57 Wadestown Road, 1	1974
Hough, B.M.	97 Creswick Terrace, 5	1974
Aickin, K.B.	20 Manuka Street, 3	1974
West, John (on leave)	98 Upland Road, 5	1975
Mrs B. Arnold	2 Maurice Terrace, 1	1975
Darroch, Alan	50 Sefton Street, 1	1975
Garratt, Ian (on leave)	170 Cecil Road, 1	1975
Mrs B. Harris	29 Mortimer Terrace, 2	1978
Jaquier, Errol	16A Donald Crescent, 5	1978
Stanley, Major Gordon	14 Glen Alton Avenue, 4	1978

BOARD OF MANAGERS:

Mr Richard Brader	Mr Malcolm Leitch
Mr John Buchanan	Miss Janice McCallum
Dr David Burton	Miss Mary MacKenzie
Mr Bill Clark	Mr Ian McQueen
Mr John Crawshaw	Mr Allan Marshall
Mr Jim Don	Mr John Marshall
Mr Cecil Duff	Mr Neil Parkinson
Mr Jim Espie	Mr William Roberts
Mr Paul Haggett	Miss Ailsa Salt
Mr Brad Imrie	Mrs Kath Sutherland
Miss Jessie Johnston	Mr Charles Thomson
Mrs Marilyn King	Mr Wayne Wallis
Mr William Kraft	Mr John Wilson
Mr Harvey Lade	Mr Sandy Yule
Miss Pat Lees	

COMMITTEES -**FINANCE:**

Mrs M. Mortimer (Convener), R. Brader,
A. Milkop, J. Hunt and Mrs M. King

PROPERTY:

J. Hunt (Convener), J.R. Don,
N.S. Woods and Mrs Piper

NEW BUILDING:

J.L. Marshall (Convener),
N. Prior (Secretary), N.S. Woods,
A.H. Milkop, J. Hunt, Mesdames
Mortimer and Piper

ENVELOPE**SECRETARIES:**

Paul Haggett, 96 Central Park Flats,
Nairn St. 843.783
Neil Parkinson, 13 Greer Street,
Tawa TWA 7.756

ROLLS:

Mrs Betty Robertson,
169 Karori Road, 5 768.118

HISTORICAL**RECORDS:**

Miss Mary MacKenzie,
31 Cooper Street, 5 766.260

LETTING OF ROOMS:

Mrs Carolyn Ferrier,
57 Wadestown Road, 1 721.985

Session Clerk and Clerk of the Board are ex-officio
members of all committees

CHURCH FLOWERS:

Mrs Hazel Poulton, 23 Hurman Street, Karori 768.600
Mrs Noyle Brown, 27 Beerehaven Road, Seatoun 886.180

WEEKLY INTIMATIONS AND DUPLICATING:

Mrs R.B. Fowler, 48 Homewood Ave., Karori 768.777

JUNIOR CHURCH - Superintendent

(Sunday 11 a.m.) Mr M.H. van Zweeden 861.351
33 Rata Road, 3

YOUTH GROUPS

(Sunday 9.45 a.m.)

Bible Class:

Mrs Trixie Milkop,
6 Deveron Place, Tawa TWA.8.627

Good News:

Co-ordinator:
Mr Alan Vink,
189C Melbourne Road, 2

CRADLE ROLL - Convener:

(Sunday Creche)

Mrs Vera Burton, 792.120
20 Motueka Street, 4

BOYS' BRIGADE**Company Section:**

(Meets Thursday
evening)

Mr Robert Gilmour,
14 Norwich Street, 1 720.671

Team Section:

(Meets Monday
evening)

Miss Harriet Johnston,
213 The Terrace 722.774

"LANTERN"

(Meets after evening
service)

Miss Jeanette Daines
66 Pitt Street, 1 739.931

ASSN. OF PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN:**Linking Committee****Secretary:**

Miss J. Williams 846.728
20 Maarama Cresc. 1

Afternoon Guild:**President:**

(Meets 4th Tuesday, 2 p.m.)
Mrs M. Mortimer, 797.023
55 Madras Street, 4

Secretary:

Mrs N. Brown,
27 Beerehaven Road, 3 886.180
(Meets 3rd Monday, 7.30 p.m.)

Evening Guild:**President:**

Mrs M. Mackay,
6 Lynda Ave., 4 786.031

Secretary:

Mrs M. Haggett,
96 Central Park Flats, 1 843.783

"SATURDAY AT TWO"

Miss Diane Fraser,
Flat 2, 31 Oban St., 1 726.120

"MESSENGER"

Miss Jeanne Carr,
62 Dixon Street Flats 726.714

SESSION COMMITTEES:**Troup House:**

The Minister (convener), Sir John
Marshall, Messrs J.W. Vink, N.S. Woods,
John Buchanan (Treasurer), K. Aickin,
Mrs B. Robertson (Sec.) Toby Arcus
(Warden)

Organ:

Mrs Mortimer (Convener), Mrs M. Hunt,
Messrs M. Leitch and R. Wilderspin.

Dear fellow member of St. John's,

Our greetings from the Manse to you all with these annual reports. Thank you for encouragement, understanding and support.

Like you all we have been so glad to have the Veitch family come to share our Church life. To me being able to share in the ministry of St. John's with Jim is a very happy experience. But I have to ask myself - has this meant a better ministry and a stronger commitment to mission in the life of St. John's? The reports show something of the life of the congregation but do they show our mission? In fact what is a successful Church? I came across a suggestion from the great Methodist preacher, Dr W. E. Sangster. He would start by saying that some would say it was a crowded Church every Sunday, but every good preacher knows that a crowd is not an achievement but an opportunity. Some would say any Church which gives large sums to overseas missions; and some a Church rich in prayer meetings. Somehow none of these really says what we want to say. And then he came up with the definition

"A SUCCESSFUL CHURCH IS ANY CHURCH FILLED
WITH THE LOVE WHICH IS THE LIFE OF GOD".

I can accept that.

That's what brings people to the worship of the Church within the fellowship of the people of God.

That's the inspiration to mission overseas and to service in the place where we are.

It's that love which is the life of God which brings us to prayer for a deeper experience of it.

This is what John tells us in 1 John 4:16 -

"God is love, and whoever lives in love lives in union with God and God lives in union with him."

Will you pray for that love and more of it in our Church that God may be in our midst and use us as He desires for the mission of His Church where He has placed us.

God be with you all and bless you and your families and friends.

Yours

David Steedman

Session

125 YEARS - a special birthday year and a time of thanksgiving. There is much to remind us in St. John's of those who have worshipped in the past years. There is a richness in our heritage and the past still speaks, but it beckons us forward by example.

The 125th Annual Report of the congregation records with a spirit of gratitude and praise to our Lord God His goodness to us.

Session records its appreciation of our Minister, David Steedman, who not only in the pulpit, in his study courses, in his concerned involvement with all organisations, but also in personal service, has led us all to see more clearly God's wonderful love. To Elaine Steedman we are also greatly indebted for her musical skills and the gracious hospitality of the Manse which has been shared with so many members and friends, particularly the younger ones who have met regularly each month for an evening meal and fellowship.

We warmly welcome Dr Jim Veitch and Mrs Jan Veitch with their daughters Tanis, Katie and Sarah. Dr Veitch prior to his return to New Zealand was on the overseas mission staff and served in Indonesia and Singapore. Upon his appointment as a lecturer in Religious Studies at Victoria University of Wellington, Session appointed him an Honorary Assistant Minister and this is the beginning of an association which is making a mark on St. John's. We will all be greatly enriched with the team ministry.

Three Session members who together with their wives have made strong and positive contributions to the life of the Church have transferred away from Wellington. We express our thanks to them - to Mr and Mrs Graham McBride now in Hamilton, Mr and Mrs Ray Patterson in Tanzania and Mr and Mrs Paul Rush in Auckland. Such people leave a void. At the end of June arrangements were in train for the ordination and induction of three new elders - Mrs Betty Harris and Messrs Errol Jaquiere and Gordon Stanley. Messrs Frank and Ian Garratt and Mr John West were on leave of absence at the end of June.

Special services held during the year included a Service of Praise with St. David's Petone, Scots and Queen Margaret Colleges, Spring Flower Sunday, Service of Light, Love and Spirit, Students' Welcome Day and Harvest Thanksgiving. Last July Mr Alan Vink of the Good News Group was licensed as a Lay Preacher. The Young Peoples' groups conducted a number of services and visiting preachers included the Very Rev. W.B. Watt, Rt. Rev. N.F. Gilkison, Rev. R.N. Lambie, Drs. K. Carley and F. Nichol and Brother Alexi. The combined Scots Societies in Wellington, the Master Grocers' Federation and the Tertiary Students' Christian Fellowship attended services during the year.

At the request of the staff the name of the Sunday School was changed to JUNIOR CHURCH. We hope that the young people will find this more meaningful.

A wonderful gift was given to St. John's when Miss Millier presented 250 copies of the Good News Bible for use during services. The open Bible is our source book for life, and Session gratefully acknowledges this gift.

A congregational camp was again held at Forest Lakes and a number of suggestions were sent on to Session following the campers' discussions on the theme "Mission '78: our individual and corporate responsibility to Wellington City".

Just before Christmas a very enjoyable barbaque evening was held in the grounds of Queen Margaret College. Father Christmas arrived in a vintage Willys Knight car and distributed presents to the children at the party.

A former minister, the Rev. John Kinloch, has himself been a patient in Tauranga Hospital where he is the Chaplain. We rejoice to learn that he continues to make steady progress to better health.

Throughout the years members of St. John's have often spearheaded and initiated a community project to assist a need. "Friends at Court", a group of women who daily attend the Courts to befriend anyone in need, and a

"Craft and Care" Workshop held in the PSSA Cuba Street Lounge each Monday have recently been established mainly through the efforts of St. John's members and now receive supportive assistance.

The roll of communicant members has been carefully examined and the names of a number of people who appeared not to have attended in recent years were removed from the main roll. While 32 new members were added to the roll, 77 names were removed for non attendance, transfers to other churches and by death. In a highly mobile community, the task of keeping rolls up-to-date, but more particularly to link people together so that there is a sense of caring for each other is dependent on everyone keeping Session informed of comings and goings. The number of members now recorded is 358.

Our warmest sympathy goes out to all members and friends who have suffered bereavement during the year, and we would especially commend them to the comfort and care of our Heavenly Father.

In November we will pause to look back over the past 125 years. We will pause to remember our beginnings and acknowledge our debt to so many then we turn and go into the future together asking God for grace to translate our spoken "Thank You's" into lived out gratitude each day

Give us a pure heart	that we may see Thee
a humble heart	that we may hear Thee
a heart of love	that we may serve Thee
a heart of faith	that we may live Thee.

George Robertson,
Session Clerk.

itor

Board of Managers.

At the last Annual Meeting the Board welcomed the following new Managers: John Buchanan, Alastair Falconer, Brad Imrie, Harvey Lade, Ian McQueen, Andy Marshall and Charles Thompson. During the year resignations were regrettably received from Alastair Falconer, David Ryan and Alastair Sherriff. We sincerely thank them for all their practical assistance and in particular Alastair Sherriff who was Clerk of the Board for a number of years.

Our Finances: The year under review has seen no respite from increasing costs. It seemed for the second year running we would fall short of our budget allocation. However due to the generous response from the congregation to the appeal from the Finance Committee, we were able to meet the allocation. Such was the response that we are able to start the new financial year with a credit of \$656.

<u>Estimated Budget 1978-1979</u>	
Budget Allocation	\$12,300
Salaries, Allowances, Beneficiary Fund etc.	15,335
Property and Admin. expenses (Insurances, rates, Heating etc.)	10,000
Repainting provision	<u>3,000</u>
Total payments estimated 1978/79	\$40,635
Total payments 1977/78	<u>33,688</u>
<u>Increase:</u>	<u>\$6,947</u>

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- (1) Increase your giving by 50c per week
- (2) Become an envelope subscriber

WHAT DO YOU GET?

- 1. Your tax rebate of \$1 for every \$1 up to \$375.00
- 2. The knowledge that by making a sacrifice to give more you are making a total commitment to the work of Jesus Christ in the world today.

Property: A handrail has been installed on one set of front doors to assist people entering the Church.

It is hoped the problems surrounding the inadequate drainage at the Manse have been overcome with the installation of a larger capacity stormwater drain by the City Council. In addition a drain has been installed to improve the drainage of the backyard. To increase the flow of air under the Manse and allow the ground to dry out new ventilation vents have been made. This has resulted in a marked improvement and has largely eliminated the mustiness inside the Manse.

During the year working bees were held to tidy up both the Church grounds and buildings and the Board expresses its thanks to all who assisted during these clean-ups.

Redevelopment: The Property Redevelopment Committee held several meetings during the year including one with all church organisations to ascertain requirements. Plans of two possible designs were presented to the Board in May and currently the committee are investigating another proposal.

Parking: The Board is concerned at the number of vehicles parked in the grounds without authority. At present efforts are directed at resolving certain problems with the tow firm and once these have been settled it is hoped that there will be less of a problem with unauthorised parking.

In the past parking stickers have been issued free. However due to increased costs of printing the stickers the Board has been forced to make a charge of 50c for all new stickers issued.

General: The Board extends its appreciation and thanks to those members of the congregation who -

- Prepare weekly intimations
- Maintain the grounds and buildings
- Record services and distribute tapes to those not able to attend services
- Provide and arrange Church flowers

John H. Buchanan
Clerk of the Board.

Choir

Today when many church choirs are disappearing it is encouraging that this year St. John's Choir is growing in strength and ability. The welcoming of an enthusiastic group of new members has been the highlight of our year. It has meant renewed enthusiasm for older members and a wider range of music undertaken. Our Sunday evening practices, although a little shorter than those on Thursday, would seem to be fairly successful and attendances are generally high.

We have farewelled two of our longest serving active members. Miss Brodie's and Miss Lees' devoted service to the life of the choir and their caring concern for its members are impossible to adequately record.

We visited our 'shut-in' members of the congregation to sing carols, and also sang at the Railway Station. On both occasions it was good to be joined by members of the congregation. There was also an Advent Service in which the choir took a leading part.

We shared this year in the funeral service of Mrs Wall and the Thanksgiving Service of Mrs Hughes, two members of our congregation who had taken so much interest in choir activities over many years. We give thanks for their love and support.

The purchase of the Third Edition of the Hymn Book has added more variety to our singing and we express our appreciation to the Board of Managers for providing these.

There are many people who care for, and support the Choir and we are grateful to them, for their moral and monetary support and for welcoming us to their homes. We would particularly like to thank our President and Mrs Steedman, and Session Clerk and Mrs Robertson for all they have done for us. However our most grateful thanks must go to Ray, our Choirmaster, whose patience and encouragement has continued through all our ups and downs.

It is the role of the Choir to share in the telling of the Good News of our Lord. We look forward with renewed commitment to another year of music and fellowship, helping to spread the Lord's message.

Ailsa Salt, Vice-President.

Cradle Roll

There are 24 children on the Cradle Roll this year, and our main function is to keep in touch with these children. However our most visible function is the creche on Sunday mornings. Although the attendance fluctuates, especially in the winter, there are always two ladies on duty, and we do thank all those on the roster for their help.

I would like to record thanks to Mrs Eileen Rush who has left with her family for Auckland. She has served on our committee for a number of years and was acting convener for 6 months while I was away last year. While we will miss them in St. John's, we pray God's blessing on them as they establish themselves in Auckland.

Vera Burton,
Convener.

The Cottage + Troup House

These residential units continue to provide pleasant living quarters for 11 young men who are either studying at the University or the Polytechnic, or who have recently arrived to work in the City. The boys have all given useful and helpful service to the Church and we thank them for their support.

The cottage exterior is looking very dreary. It is 124 years old and redecorating is urgently needed, but this has been delayed pending recommendations from the Building Committee re redevelopment of the site. However the boys have painted most of the rooms inside and Mr Bert Shiels has kindly used his carpentry skills in maintenance work. One major item of expenditure has been the purchase of mattresses and blankets.

Musical sounds are often heard coming from the buildings, and a visitor would be amazed at the variety of instruments - guitars, set of drums and a grand piano!

Junior Church.

Our new name "JUNIOR CHURCH" indicates that the younger members of our congregation are a part of the total worshipping community of St. John's.

The roll stands at 55 children with an average attendance of 21 children. It is interesting to note that the number of children attending classes do not vary much from year to year. As a church without a "real" parish we, the teachers, depend to a large extent on the co-operation of the parents to take the children to church and we thank them for their continued interest as regular attendance builds the children's understanding of the christian faith and of christian fellowship.

At the end of last year we saw four boys and one girl leaving Sunday School to join the Bible Class and we understand they have settled in well.

We particularly thank Mrs Steedman for her valuable assistance in leading the singing. We have farewelled Mrs Lileen Rush who now lives in Auckland.

The teaching staff is -

- Superintendent: Mr Martin van Zweeden
- Teachers: Mrs B. Arnold, Mrs A.M. van Zweeden
- Mrs J. Veitch, Mrs L. Parkinson,
- Mrs J. Arcus, Mrs G. Maher,
- Misses H. and M. Arnold and R. Jaquiery
- Messrs P. Aranyi and G. Maher

Bible Class.

We have had a year of change, with the loss of two of our leaders. Mr Vink, who has been connected with the Bible Class for many years, shared his love of the Bible and has been a real example of christian life for us to witness. We thank Mr and Mrs Vink for their leadership and hospitality extended to us.

Mr Ray Patterson who with his wife left for Tanzania will be remembered for the active and humorous lessons and leadership he gave us. We wish them all the happiness in their new life in Tanzania.

We thank Mrs Trixie Milkop for her continued leadership and patience, and we have welcomed Mr Chris Arcus as another leader. Together they are enthusiastic leaders and have given us many thoughtful lessons.

Bible Class attendance has varied from week to week, but we have had an average of 12 people each Sunday morning when we have a time of fellowship with the Good News Group before having our own study of God's word.

We had a mini-camp in December at Mr and Mrs Robertson's cottage at Te Horo, which was most enjoyable and enabled us to get to know each other much better.

The main camp was spent at Ngatiawa, and although smaller in numbers, it was a very encouraging camp. The Good News group helped with the singing and group studies; Mr Alan Vink spoke on "Christianity being a way of life". It was refreshing and inspiring and all of us felt ready to start afresh.

Our social activities have included going to Youth for Christ rallies and joining with the senior group.

We thank the leaders, all who have supported the group and our Minister and elders for their interest. The year has been very profitable and we are thankful for it, and we pray that God will be with the Bible Class in the year to come.

Louise Boyd,
Secretary.

Young Adults.

The Young Adults group has once again enjoyed a year of varied activities which have all contributed to an overall appreciation of the tremendous value there is in christian living.

Our emphasis has been on biblical teaching, exhortation, worship and prayer with one main end in mind - that of bringing people to a commitment or deeper commitment to the Lord Jesus Christ. To do this we have been involved in -

- (1) Bible studies led by different speakers of varying backgrounds who communicate well with this age group.
- (2) Home fellowship groups - an opportunity to share problems, discuss social issues, church matters and pray together, follow up particular bible studies
- (3) Praise and Worship - giving people opportunity to extend their hearts in song and spontaneous praise unto their God.
- (4) Camps and Youth Services
- (5) Social Activities

For a few months we have had the theme "Evangelism". 15 members undertook a 12-week course meeting on Thursday evenings and studied this subject more deeply, which have resulted in -

Teams of young people mustering at different places, e.g. coffee bar, street witnessing, prison.

A team of people helping those of our congregation who need practical assistance

There are many things we would like to do and areas to explore, but with the available time we have we can only be thankful to our God for His assistance and guiding hand on our programming.

Alan Vink
Co-ordinator

Lantern.

Lantern's light has glowed brightly during the past year.

We have seen some of our group go overseas and others return, and we have also welcomed new people to our fellowship time.

On Sunday night we have had talks on C.S.S.M., I.S.C.F., Radio Rhema, Nurses Christian Fellowship, Wycliffe Bible Translators and Christians in Politics, and we have extended our fellowship by organising groups to go to various shows and plays and barbaques in the summer.

Lantern lunches have been another important time for us when we have planned activities and had a time of prayer in various peoples' homes.

We thank Mr and Mrs Steedman for their hospitality, particularly the monthly Manse teas where we have had a chance to meet other young people.

As a group we have taken part in some Sunday evening services and at the end of the year took a service of 'Light and Love'.

In the coming year we hope to welcome new people to Lantern and to continue our support for the Sycliffe Bible Translators.

Jeanette Daines
Secretary

125TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

The Committee working under the chairmanship of Sir John Marshall reports that the Rev and Mrs W.P. Temple and the Rev D.T.W. and Mrs Kinloch are going to be with St. John's members and friends at the Celebrations. It is hoped that Mrs Fairbairn will also be able to come. The Committee is anxious to get in touch with everyone who has had passed connections with the life of the Church - please send in addresses