



St Luke's in the City

150 years - 2009

Celebrating at the Crossroads

13th Sunday after Pentecost

10 August 2008

Dear Friends,

As you will be aware, at the AGM this year we agreed to proceed with the new entrance porch, together with the Memorial Garden and Landscaping. We also agreed to proceed with the necessary conservation work on the Church, especially the guttering and roof repairs.

While it may seem that nothing has yet happened, I am taking this opportunity to update just where we have got to. As the Church, the Vicarage, and the site, are classified with both the Christchurch City Council and the NZ Historic Places Trust, it has been made very clear we cannot proceed without following due process, and must seek approval for any work apart from minor repairs and maintenance.

New Entrance Porch.

Many hours of meetings over the last 12 months between representatives of the CCC, NZHPT, our architect, a heritage consultant architect, CPT, and the Vicar and Wardens, have only this week led to verbal approval of basically the same design as that originally submitted! An extremely frustrating and costly exercise, but one we had to go through before proceeding with final plans and application for the necessary consents. It will now be possible to cost the project and move on with the necessary fundraising.

Before we can begin construction, however, there are other legal requirements such as earthquake strengthening and fire prevention which will need to be looked at, as well as structural work on the south gable.

Conservation.

You may, or may not, have realised that all the church guttering has been taken down, refurbished, and reinstalled. This has stopped a number of leaks (though not all!) coming into the building. While doing this work, the roofers have prepared a condition report on the roof and we are currently working through this with the heritage architects before seeking the necessary consents. Vestry has applied for funding from the NZ Lottery Grants Board and I am very pleased to report we have been granted approx. \$44,000 towards the cost of this work. We still need to cover the additional \$23,000 required.

Fundraising.

Over the next few months, vestry has endorsed a number of proposals for the purpose of raising funds towards these projects. The aim is that we, the existing congregation, look in the first instance at how we ourselves can help, and then look outside the parish. Invite your friends and neighbours to fundraising events,

encourage them to order books from the form Valerie has put out, and when our wine is available, suggest they buy their Christmas supplies through you. Fundraising is a challenge, but it can also be a time of creativity, fun, and community building. We can do it!

Jenny