



The Illustration at the top of the page is "The Arts Centre" Christchurch. From a Print by New Zealand Artist, Lawrence Leitch.

## WELCOME TO THE THIRD NEWSLETTER FOR 2023

Following an excellent series of lectures on the Past, Present and Future of the Pacific the next series focuses on five non-profit institutions in Christchurch.

In June, 2016 Statistics NZ estimated there are over 115,000 non-profit institutions in New Zealand contributing in excess of \$6 billion to the New Zealand economy. In the next series of lectures we will focus on 5 of those organisations operating in Christchurch.

### Calendar for Series Three – Non-profit Institutions in Christchurch

<b>2 June</b>	Greta Bond – "Age Concern Canterbury".
<b>9 June</b>	Wendy Gallagher – "Lifeline".
<b>16 June</b>	John Milligan – "Foodbank".
<b>23 June</b>	Michael Toothill – "Kilmarnock – Business for Good".
<b>30 June</b>	Corinne Haines – "Christchurch City Mission".

As always lectures commence at **10:30 am** at **St Mark's Church (150 Withells Road)** and are preceded by morning tea.

### Notes on Lectures and Speakers' backgrounds

#### Greta Bond – "Age Concern Canterbury"

Age Concern Canterbury has been providing services that uplift and support the dignity and wellbeing of older people in Canterbury for over 70 years. Currently they have 23 staff and over 400 volunteers, who provide a number of services from social outings and a visitor service to safer driving courses, companion walking, elder abuse response services, and community social work.

In this talk Greta Bond will give a brief history of Age Concern, and a description of their services, what they aim to achieve and future challenges. Greta will also be happy to take questions about issues impacting older people and the services that may be available to assist with these (including those outside the organisation).

**Greta Bond** is CEO of Age Concern Canterbury. She is relatively new to the role, coming from seven years at the (then) Canterbury District Health Board in the Planning and Funding team, concentrating on health services for older people. Greta has a PhD in Theatre and Film Studies, and previously taught at the University of Canterbury, making a move to health planning after that department closed in 2015. She has lived her whole life in Christchurch, currently residing over the hill at Charteris Bay.

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## **Wendy Gallagher – “Lifeline”.**

Lifeline was founded in Sydney, Australia in 1963 by the late Reverend Dr. Sir Alan Walker. He had received a call from a distressed man who later took his own life. Determined not to let isolation and lack of support be the cause of more deaths, Sir Alan Walker launched a crisis support line after two years of planning and preparation.

On 1st July, 1964 **Lifeline Christchurch** was officially launched to provide personal and telephone counselling to those in need and services the Mid and North Canterbury regions, Kaikoura, Christchurch city, and the West Coast.

**Wendy Gallagher** was born and educated in England. Following her graduation as a teacher, and a two year stint teaching in Surrey, she decided it was time for an adventure, an OE in reverse. New Zealand House in London persuaded her that Invercargill with its balmy breezes would suit her, so she set off to sail half way around the world and a teaching position in Invercargill. Wendy arrived in NZ in May, 1971 and spent the next 40 years teaching at schools from Invercargill (gale force winds) to the Bay of Islands. She returned to England in 2003 and taught in both the UK and China. Wendy returned to witness her home devastated in the 2011 earthquakes and the Christchurch Rebuild. She finished her teaching career in Christchurch in 2015 at Avonside Girls' High School.

On retirement she decided to join the Port Hills U3A, where she is still a member, meet people by running an Airbnb, volunteer for Age Concern and finally volunteer with Lifeline. This kept her involved and busy until the lockdown. Now she volunteers for Lifeline 3 hours each week and is a recent member of Arts Centre U3A in addition to still participating in Port Hills U3A.

## **John Milligan – “Foodbank”.**

New Zealanders throw away **122,547 tonnes of food** including **20 million loaves of bread** a year! And yet across New Zealand, **270,000 kids** go to school every morning without breakfast or go to bed each night without dinner

Foodbank Canterbury puts surplus food to good use in a sustainable way. We get surplus food safely to the hungry. While hundreds of Cantabrians go hungry each day, safe, healthy and usable food is being disposed of as waste. Foodbank Canterbury collects this nutritious surplus food from all segments of the food industry including restaurants, grocers, supermarkets, wholesalers, hotels and caterers.

The food they deliver helps organisations serve thousands of healthy meals each week and reduce clients' annual grocer bills - freeing up funds that can be reinvested in other vital support services like medical care and counselling. The food rescued is diverted from going to landfill where it would release gases toxic to the environment. They distribute food that nourishes both body and soul.

**John Milligan** is a former high flier with IBM. He is currently CEO of Foodbank Aotearoa in Christchurch and Thought Leader CEO Visionary at LeaderWorks New Zealand, CEO/Trustee at City Harvest Food Rescue and Managing Partner and Co-Owner of Tumbling Walls Fashion as well as a number of other organisations. He is also an award-winning poet, author and opera singer who has performed around the world and shared the stage with Dame Malvina Major.

## **Michael Toothill – “Kilmarnock – Business for Good”.**

Michael’s presentation will cover an introduction to Kilmarnock, its history, purpose and most importantly its people.

After spending 18 years working in various management roles across both commercial and not-for-profit sectors in the UK, **Michael Toothill** made the decision to return to his hometown of Christchurch in 2010. One of his most significant roles during his time abroad was at Cancer Research UK. It was there he began his journey to pursue a life of purpose and discovered that by utilising his business skills and passion for inclusivity, he could make a real difference. Upon his return to NZ, his search for ‘business for good’ opportunities led him to the education sector, where he took on operational roles at Lincoln University and Ara Institute of Canterbury. Soon after, he was introduced to Kilmarnock Enterprises. Impressed by the culture and capability of the team, his initial introduction to the social enterprise left a lasting impression, and he was determined to get involved. He leapt at the opportunity to join the Board as a Trustee, and eventually took on a fundraising role. Michael is now the CEO of the Christchurch based charity, thriving in the challenge to further Kilmarnock’s mission of helping people with disabilities reach their potential and lead purposeful lives.

## **Corinne Haines – “Christchurch City Mission”.**

The **Christchurch City Mission** was launched in 1929 when a few caring volunteers handed bowls of stew to unemployed men at the beginning of the Great Depression. Now they are a social service agency that positively impacts on the lives of 60,000 people a year through a wide range of services.

The Mission helps anyone who needs it regardless of their circumstances. They take on the hardest cases with love and optimism. While emergency care is vital they also provide much more than that. Through education and training they help struggling people re-join society and gain the self-esteem and happiness that comes from work, independence and permanent housing.

The presentation will provide an overview of the breadth of activities at the City Mission.

In January 2022 **Corinne Haines** retired as Managing Director of Trimble Navigation New Zealand Ltd and Finance Manager for Trimble in the Asia-Pacific region, after 43 years with that company. She is a Fellow of the Chartered Accountants Australia and NZ and was awarded a Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit for her services to business in the 2016 New Year’s Honours. Corinne chairs the Rau Paenga Limited board (previously known as Otakaro). Rau Paenga is a Government company delivering infrastructure projects for government ministries initially in Christchurch but latterly the company has been repurposed to deliver projects through New Zealand. Upon retirement Corinne was asked to take a role as the 11th Christchurch City Missioner, a role which she has held for the last 12 months.

Lectures in this series have been organised by Merv Altmants, Wendy Gallagher, Wallace Woodley, and Peter Williams