



HAWERA BAPTIST CHURCH MAGAZINE



2013 TERM ONE

# CONNECT



24  
MARCH  
SUNDAY

EST. 1923

## 90<sup>TH</sup> JUBILEE



**YOU ARE INVITED**  
**TO OUR SPECIAL JUBILEE SERVICE**

**10AM SUNDAY 24 MARCH 2013**  
**@ SOUTHERN LOUNGE THE HUB**

**FOLLOWED BY LUNCH**  
**@ HAWERA BAPTIST CHURCH**



**"LIVING FAITH  
FROM THE  
INSIDE OUT"**



**HAWERA  
BAPTIST CHURCH**

## OUR PURPOSE

We exist to:

**H**onour God

**B**uild the Kingdom of God

**C**onnect with our Community



honour | build | connect

## OUR VISION

**“Living Faith  
from the  
Inside Out”**

Living faith in such a way that we see our own spiritual growth result in greater participation in God's work of transformation, through significant Kingdom impact, in our community and beyond.

## OUR FOCUS

Our focus comes out of what we value and forms an important part of the implementation of our vision.

- Prayer & Worship
- Discipleship & Training
- Care & Inclusion
- Local & Global Mission
- Resourcing & Administration



# From David's Desk

## CELEBRATING 90 YEARS IN OUR COMMUNITY!



PASTOR DAVID AUTY

With the tragic loss of our sister May, and with others in our Church family mourning the loss of loved ones, it may not seem like a good time to celebrate. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Wright, Gous, Davies and Bartlett families at this time – may God's comfort and love fill your hearts and your lives!

Yet in the midst of loss and mourning we can often be reminded of what we can celebrate together. On Sunday 24 February we enter into a month of Jubilee – a season for rejoicing. My prayer is that, at that time, we will be able to rejoice! To rejoice in the goodness of God; to rejoice in the hope that we have in Jesus Christ; to rejoice in 90 years in this Hawera community; and to rejoice in a future of community connectedness that we can share together.

The Jubilee will kick off on Sunday 24 February with a Church family service down at the Hub. This will be a service given to celebrating our diversity and challenging us to look into the future as a church seeking community connectedness. Then on Saturday 16 March we will be inviting the Hawera community to join us for "Family fun at the Park". Here we will host a number of great activities down at King Edward Park as we invite the Hawera community to celebrate with us. Finally, we will conclude our month of Jubilee on Sunday 24 March back down at the Hub with a special Jubilee service together with a number of past members, Pastors and community leaders.

We are choosing to host our three Jubilee events in public spaces on purpose. As a Church we want to be a blessing to the whole community, not just a select few! We are not celebrating 90 years as a "club", or 90 years of mere "survival", rather, we are using this milestone in our history to springboard us into our future of community connectedness and being true to our vision of "living faith from the inside out".

Enjoy reading this edition of "Connect", and let's rejoice in a month of Jubilee together.

Pastor David Auty

## CELEBRATING DIVERSITY

Our current preaching series is "Celebrating diversity".

- Celebrating bicultural diversity – the Treaty of Waitangi.
- Living in a multicultural society
- What do we do when we really don't agree?
- Celebrating our diversity

If your interested to hear more come and join us for worship 10am Sundays or listen to our recent sermons online at:

[www.hawerabaptist.org.nz](http://www.hawerabaptist.org.nz)



# CLOSE UP

## In Memory of May Davies

*"The sun shall no longer be your light by day,  
Nor for brightness shall the moon give light to you;  
But the Lord will be to you an everlasting light,  
And your God your glory.  
Your sun shall no longer go down,  
Nor shall your moon withdraw itself;  
For the Lord will be your everlasting light,  
And the days of your mourning shall be ended."*

Isaiah 60:19-20

When May first came to Hawera Baptist church, she explained that she was from Taranaki, but spent many years away in Auckland. She spoke with passion about her Maori cultural heritage and her desire to share this knowledge with others.

As May began to settle into our church and into her life back in Hawera, my husband Matthew & I decided to ask her if she would like to become part of the new Home group that we were starting. May was very keen to come along and learn more about what she believed in and to fellowship with other people at the church.

It didn't take long for May to become a dearly loved member of our home group. She lit up so many lives with her infectious, cheeky chuckle and warm, caring nature. As we came to know each other, May began to share her story with us and told us about some of the painful experiences that she had been through, and how they had influenced many of the life choices she had made. She also shared how, through her daughter's Youth Group diary, she came to know more about Jesus, and how this led on to her eventually deciding to be baptised as a Christian. May used to wake up early in the morning and spend a long time in prayer. She used to weep because she felt such an overwhelming sense of love from the Lord and felt deeply connected to Him during this time.

May's life was marked with pain and many sorrows. She struggled to accept her Cultural Identity and at Home Group one day, she shared how as a child, when she felt full of despair, God gave her a special picture. She explained that, in this picture, she saw two cupped hands holding a little Maori baby and she knew that she was the little baby God was holding. The picture showed her that God loved her just as she was, even though she didn't love who she was. This gave her comfort and hope when she thought of it years later.

May's life did a full circle. She came back to her roots and embraced her Maori identity. She discovered who she was in Jesus and she learned how to walk in her new identity as a Maori Christian.

May was a force of nature. She was delightful, fiercely independent and had an uncontainable, bubbly personality. At times, it seemed, she lived life on the edge, walked where angels feared to tread, but this was May, our May who we got to know through home group and church. May was a precious treasure that God gave to us for what we feel was too short a time. But, we thank the Lord for this time and for the lives that she touched. We look forward to the day, when we will once again hear her laughter. Only this time ringing through the corridors of heaven's halls.

Inge Smythe



### FANTHOMS PEAK CLIMB

Anyone keen to climb Fanthoms Peak, stay overnight and watch the sunset and sunrise?

You need a reasonable level of fitness and the hut cost \$5.

Meet at the Church  
4pm Friday 22 March.  
Will be home Saturday morning.

Contact Brendan Ph 278 7422  
Matthew Ph 278 3009



# MEMORIES

"I remember when the church was built, I was a child in Sunday School. We put things in a time capsule and put it behind the foundation stone in the steps."

**Beres Whyte – 1928**



Baptisms were always special occasions; one such baptism in the middle of winter was for a lady who had poor health. John had assured her the water would be warm. All was prepared on the Saturday but on Sunday morning John arrived to find the baptistery icy cold. Someone had been in and turned the power off at the Mains. Two deacons raced into action. Across the paddock where the Hall now is was the milk treatment station. With a trolley, milk cans, some man power and the good will of the guys at the milk station, hot water was ferried back and forth at speed. It did take the chill off the water but it wasn't warm as promised. Needless to say, all ended in rejoicing.

**Doreen Thomson – 1960-63**

John and Doreen arrived in Hawera as newly weds full of aspirations for their first ministry. The NZ Railways lost their few possessions on route, but these were found two weeks later pushed off on a Wanganui siding. In the meantime Bill Barker, one of the deacons, had just become engaged. He and his fiancé were anxious to make wedding plans with the new minister. They sat on boxes in the manse living room making arrangements together.

**Doreen Thomson – 1960-63**

We enjoyed many happy hours together in our home, running Alpha and other small groups we were able to grow together in our faith. We cherish these times knowing that God was working in us and through us as a faith community, as we laughed, cried and studied together.

**The McKie Family 2000-09**



We remember our time in Hawera with fondness. We feel blessed to have had a fruitful time over the 9 years of pastoral ministry. We had two of our three children in Hawera so they were busy times with three young ones. The church was so supportive and accommodating. I remember after one baptism on a Sunday afternoon when we remained to clean up and empty the pool, the children wanted to hop in while it was still hot. They took turns re-enacting the baptism and baptised one another.

**The McKie Family 2000-09**

"We were a small church, all very good friends and if anything needed doing we just got in and did it. Once at our quarterly church business meetings all the women sat on one side of the church knitting."

**Joyce Crossman**

"Mr Brown was a man of poor health and one Sunday he needed help up the steps into the church when his pants fell down."

**Henk Mansvelt**

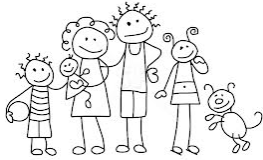
"As Youth Leader I decided to take our small group down to Ohawe Beach one day. But I only had my motorbike so I tiki toured back and forth carrying them one by one down to the beach."

**Henk Mansvelt**





## Home Groups



### Rimu

Tuesday Nights  
5:30 – 7:30pm  
8 Rimu St. Hawera  
Family Friendly  
includes a light meal  
Hosts David & Helen  
Ph 278 7823



### Ngaio

Tuesday Nights  
7:30 – 9:00pm  
11 Ngaio Pl. Hawera  
Hosts Brendan &  
Deanna Ph 278 7422

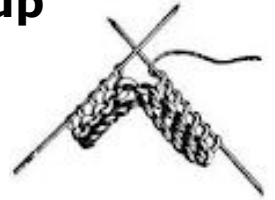


### Puriri

Wednesday Nights  
7:00 – 9:00pm  
6 Puriri St. Hawera  
Hosts Matthew & Inge  
Ph 278 3009

## Community Craft Group

When: Tuesdays 9:30 – 11:30am  
Where: Hawera Baptist Church Hall



### Coming Activities

5 February Group starts for year  
26 February Bus Trip to Pouakai Zoo & Pukeiti Gardens  
23 April Bus Trip to Palmerston North

If you want to explore your crafty side why not come along to our craft group. A typical morning includes morning tea, a thought for the day and women bring a craft along, whatever they enjoy. On the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month there is a visiting teacher in card making. The craft group is a safe place for women to go, to share and support one another in friendship.

Contact Yvonne Evans, Phone 06 278 3388



### Youth Group

6:30pm Friday 15 February  
Meet at Hawera Baptist Church  
Ohawe Beach Raft Building &  
Tractor Tubing down the River.  
For more information contact:  
Matthew Smythe Ph 278 3009  
Andrew Bartlett Ph 278 3681

### Men's Prayer Walk

0600 Sharp, Saturday 23 February  
Meet at 14 Waihi Road, Hawera  
Walk to Waihi Beach and back  
(7km walk good fitness)  
Contact John Ayling Ph 278 7993



There are gods at war within each of us. They battle for the throne of our hearts, and much is at stake. This is why idolatry is the most discussed problem in the entire Bible. Join Kyle Idleman in this new series, as he explores these gods. When the Lord God takes His rightful place on the throne of our hearts we will have victory.

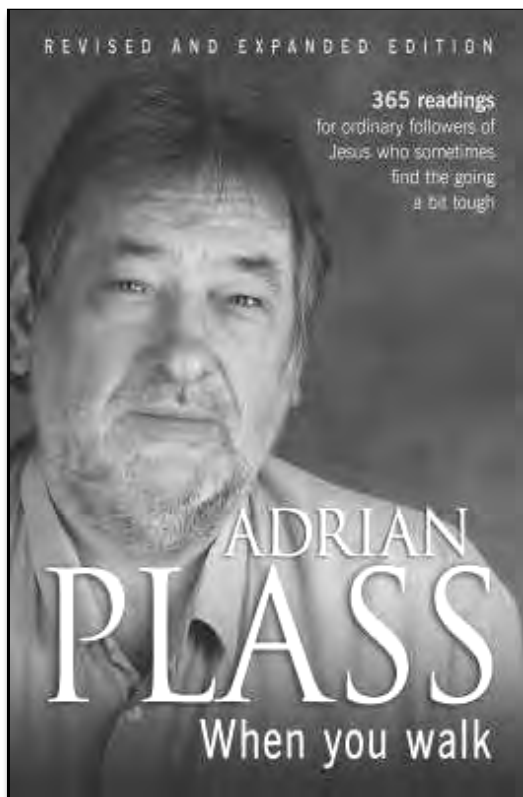
**This course is now running at Puriri and Ngaio Home Groups.**



## Movie Night

Hosts: Gous Family, Okaiawa  
When: TBA

A young boy fighting cancer writes letters to God, touching lives in his neighborhood and community and inspiring hope. A postman, with a troubled life of his own, becomes entangled in the boy's journey and his family by reading the letters. They inspire him to seek a better life for himself.



## Book Review By Inge Smythe

**Title:** When you Walk

**Author:** Adrian Plass

**Genre:** Christian short stories

**Comments:** Coming across this book in the Christian Bookshop was very timely for the point I was at. I grew up with a very dry "theology" of Christianity and to me God was a frightening Deity who spoke in thunder, flung lightning bolts from the skies and kept a record of every wrong that I had done.

I found Adrian Plass's style of writing so humorous and refreshing- unlike anything I'd ever come across. In this book, he shares his own vulnerabilities as a "fellow traveller", many of which I could identify with. Through short stories and personal examples, he explores the meaning of the passages quoted in this book, and this revolutionized the way I saw how the themes and lessons in the Bible are actually relevant to life today. Most importantly though, reading this book was the beginning of the realization that God does have a sense of humour, that actually, He is a lot more approachable than I ever thought He was and that I could dare to dream of knowing Him in a way that I had never known Him before.

## HOPE By Deanna Grant

Sometimes life can be such a struggle, as though I am swimming through sludge, not going anywhere fast. Or feel as though I am stuck in a whirlpool, my inner struggles I think I have beaten, resurface and beat me back to despair.

Is life meant to be so hard? Just to get through some days feel like a victory.

Why does God not just wipe away all my failings and problems, so then I could shimmer brightly like a star for His glory?

Why is it so hard to stay on fire for God in such a passionate way, that everyone I meet would want to know Him?

Why can't it be that when rocks are thrown in my path to trip me up, that in God's strength, I could just gracefully leap over them as though they were nothing?

I don't know why life has to be so hard. But one thing I do know, that my heart and spirit agree, is that God IS there with me through all my struggles, He is there to help us through. We need to have HOPE that better times will come.

To me yellow represents hope. When the yellow sun shines brightly in the sky – this is HOPE, the sun will break through the gloomy clouds. When the cheerful yellow daffodils bloom – this is HOPE, spring does come after winter.

We need to hang on for dear life to God our Father in our tough times, weak times, distant times. We need to cling to our faith in Christ Jesus our saviour that though we may not see the light at the end the tunnel yet, there will come a time when we will. By His grace, by His mercy, by His unfailing love and strength, we WILL get through the battles of this life.

*Do you not know? Have you not heard?*

*The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.*

*He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom.*

*He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.*

*Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall.*

*But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength.*

*They will soar on wings like eagles; They will run and not grow weary,*

*They will walk and not be faint.*

**Isaiah 40: 28-31**





## HAWERA BAPTIST CHURCH

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**Office** Tues 1- 4pm, Thurs 9-12pm  
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 fourgousies@xtra.co.nz  
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**Financial Administrator**  
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### CHAMPIONS

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**Discipleship & Training**  
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 matinge.smythe@sky.com

**Care & Inclusion**  
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 banddgrant@xtra.co.nz

**Local & Global Mission**  
 Olya Bartlett 06 278 3681  
 olyabartlett@gmail.com

**Resourcing & Administration**  
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### OTHER CONTACTS

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 matinge.smythe@sky.com

**Community Craft Group**  
 Yvonne Evans 06 278 3388  
 yvonne@dantec.co.nz



**Hawera Baptist Church**  
 www.hawerabaptist.org.nz

# Term 1 Events

Please feel welcome to join us for any of the following activities.

5

FEB

## god's at war

7:30pm Tuesday Nights Ngaio Home Group  
 7:00pm Wednesday Nights Puriri Home Group  
 A six-week series with Kyle Idleman.

15

FEB

## Youth Group

Meet Friday 6:30pm at the church  
 Ohawe Beach Raft Building &  
 Tractor Tubing down the River

23

FEB

## Men's Prayer Walk

0600 Sharp, 14 Waihi Road, Hawera  
 Walk to Waihi Beach and return (7km)

24

FEB

## Church At The Hub

10:00am Southern Lounge  
 (use Waihi Rd entrance)  
 Beginning the month of Jubilee Celebrations

16

MAR

## Family Fun at the Park

10:00am – 2:00pm  
 King Edward Park, Hawera  
 Invite anyone and Everyone

22

MAR

## Fanthom's Peak

Meet Friday 4pm at the Church  
 Overnight Trip back before lunch Saturday.

24

MAR

## Jubilee Service at the Hub

10:00am Southern Lounge  
 (use Waihi Rd entrance)  
 Followed by lunch at Hawera Baptist Church.

29

MAR

## Easter Weekend

29 March Good Friday  
 31 March Easter Sunday

TBA

## Movie Night

Gous Family Home, Okaiawa  
 Movie - Letters to God

*Jesus said, "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."*

**John 15:5**

**Free Event**



# Family Fun At The Park

## CELEBRATING 90 YEARS IN OUR COMMUNITY

## Come And Celebrate With Us ...

## Saturday 16 March 2013

## King Edward Park Hawera

## 10am - 2pm

## Fun for the whole family!

**[www.hawerabaptist.org.nz](http://www.hawerabaptist.org.nz)**

# Hawera

BAPTIST CHURCH

