

## THE BEACH

## THE BEACH HAS AN IMPORTANT PLACE IN OUR NATIONAL PSYCHE.

The promise of time at the beach sustains us through the winter. Few places better encapsulate our fun-loving, laid-back approach to life. Time with the whanau at the intersection of sea and land is, for many Kiwis, the idyllic holiday. Long walks into the fading light on empty sands can move even the most rugged Southern man to feelings of romance. The sensation of sand between our toes kindles memories of carefree childhoods building castles, burying siblings and fighting tides. Cricket, picnics, swimming in the surf, fishing, exploring rock pools, boogie boarding - we all have things we love about the beach. The





salt air, the sea spray, the open water and empty space make it a special environment. The beach is a place we can express ourselves and relax away from all the normal markers of status and worries of life. The beach is who we are and where we belong. While this would be true in a number of countries, I think it is particularly apt in Aotearoa because of our place in the world and our history.

New Zealand has one of the longest coastlines in the world. We live in a land shaped by the impact, over time, of sea and wind on land.

### THE BEACH HAS BEEN A PLACE OF LANDINGS.

From the arrival of Kupe to early European settlement, the beach was the frontier. In a heavily forested landscape the beach was a foothold for sea-going craft to make landfall and begin to engage in a new land.

What was true for human settlement was also true for the arrival of the Good News into Aotearoa. At Christmas 2014, Christians in New Zealand celebrated

#### FOR NEARLY 80 YEARS, TSCF HAS SOUGHT TO BE AT THE CUTTING EDGE OF LOOKING FOR LANDING PLACES FOR THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS.

the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the preaching of the Gospel at Oihi Bay in Northland. TSCF, along with Scripture Union and the Church Missionary Society, have produced a special version of Luke to mark this event and give young people, students and others the opportunity to engage with the eye witness accounts of Jesus' life for themselves. These are now available for churches to use. Mark Grace was able to present Sir Jerry Mateparae with a copy at the civic service at Marsden Cross. This commitment to biblical evangelism is part of our DNA as a movement.

For nearly 80 years, TSCF has sought to be at the cutting edge of looking for landing places for the good news of Jesus. This involves us in helping students and graduates understand where the beachheads for the gospel are in our culture and equipping them to share faith. It has been great to see students becoming Christians in every university. At the recent international student Easter weekend on a marae, a third of those present were not Christians

### THE BEACH HAS BEEN A PLACE OF COMMUNITY.

Many early settlements in New Zealand were near or on the beach. There was often little option until land had been cleared. Building community where we are is a key strategy for TSCF on campus. Our staff work to support joined-up living where communities of students, led by students, provide hubs for shared living, community engagement and whole life discipleship.

We believe there is unique value in students from different church backgrounds finding common cause in the gospel on campus. Over the last 80 years, we have also seen relationships forged through TSCF groups and conferences that continue to be a

massive encouragement to graduates in their professional engagement, family life and church involvement.

Our new camp and conference structure, started in 2014 with "Launch" setting students up for the new academic year in February and "Summit" training student leaders in July, have been fantastic experiences of community around Bible teaching. small groups and fun. These have fed into growing communities on campus and ongoing relationships around the country through social media.

We continue to see great value in supporting community living near campus such as the Rongopai house in Wellington, where we partner with Rooftops. We are actively exploring launching more communities like this around the country, which can be centres of hospitality and outreach and environments where faith can be deepened and shared.

#### THE BEACH HAS BEEN A WAY OF TRAVEL.

All beaches are legal roads in NZ, and a number of roads are more explicitly

part of the state highway system. Unlike most countries, speed limits can be set on beaches and traffic laws. enforced by police. It provides some tremendous experiences in places like Ninety Mile Beach. One of our family holiday "highlights" a few years ago was when I got our car stuck in the soft sand trying to drive onto Foxton Beach. Despite some frantic digging from the boys, we were not able to make progress. My wife was not impressed! Fortunately a local came to our rescue. It is not always easy to get where we want to go and we sometimes get bogged down in soft sand.

For TSCF, the soft sand can be financial pressure, staffing issues, competitive attitudes between churches and the growing secularization of society. We need to be clear about the destination. On our journey to reach students for Christ and change students for life, we are very conscious that we cannot get there alone. For us, the extra pull comes from working in partnership with others and the great contribution that comes from churches, friends and supporters in finance and prayer.

This next part of our journey is particularly focused on connecting with school leavers, resourcing graduates and equipping students to engage with the Bible and the challenges of world mission.

It was really good having Ruth and Jose from Ecuador at Summit and to be able to speak at the CECE National Camp near Guavaguil in March. There are many who we journey with in NZ and beyond. In all these adventures there are times of exhilarating speed and times of digging out of trouble. In both seasons we appreciate all who travel with us, and we persevere.

#### THE BEACH HAS BEEN A PLACE OF BATTLE.

While this has been true in NZ. the beach that resonates most in our history lies far from these shores. Anzac Cove in Turkey became a crucible for national identity and an experience that set the tone for our participation in the rest of the Great War – and much of our international relations since. The 100th anniversary celebrations have been poignant. It was a privilege

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to speak at churches either side of Anzac Day, attend the dawn parade at Pukeahu and visit the "Scale of our War" exhibition at Te Papa.

The First World War changed the world more than any other event in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. In NZ, it altered our relationship with the British Empire, saw Maori make a significant contribution at a time when "native troops" were generally viewed with suspicion, and saw women taking an even greater lead in nursing, industry and society. Anzac Cove has become a place of pilgrimage for many Kiwis and Australians as we remember those who were lost, and pray for lasting peace.

In recent days, terrorists gunned down 148 students in Kenya on the Garissa College campus. Many were involved in our sister movement there. It is a reminder of the battles that still wage across the earth and of a bigger spiritual battle that wages in the heavenly realms. Ethiopian Christians have been beheaded on a beach in Libya and others shot.



The response of the friends and family of these brothers and sisters has been extraordinary. They mourn but not as those without hope. They demonstrate grace and forgiveness. They commit to working for justice. They pray for those who persecute them.

We must not be surprised when troubles come. Those Anzac qualities of service, sacrifice and mateship are the same things that Jesus talks to his disciples about in John 15. This passage contains the line often quoted at dawn parades: "greater love has no one than this that they lay down their life for their friends." Paul saw the value of military metaphors in encouraging Timothy to not get involved in civilian affairs but to please his commanding officer and the church at Ephesus, to put on the full armour of God that they may stand firm.

The battles that have helped shape our Kiwi identity are different from the battles that shape our Christian identity but we need to recognize that both are important in understanding who we are.



Leadership is a vital quality in any battle and we are increasing our investment in younger leaders. Last December, Daniel Bourdanné, the General Secretary of IFES, visited NZ. We invited a number of students to meet with him. We are sending eight Kiwi staff and students to the World Assembly in Mexico this July. Ben Johnston, a music student in Auckland, is one of two students

from around the world who will lead an exposition in the plenary sessions. We are also working on a resource to help students appreciate that Christian leadership is more about service than self-actualisation. This is part of the enduring legacy of Anzac in our nation.

The beach is a place of fun, risk and adventure. In the New Testament it is also a place of call and of commissioning. On the beach nearest to where I live there are two markers on the foreshore. The first is two giant oars that welcome all who have come to Aotearoa. The other is a Celtic cross marking the spot where a Presbyterian minister conducted a service for all the colonists in 1840. These celebrations of welcome and the gospel are precious to me in remembering who we are and what we are doing here.

As we take students to the beach, both physically and metaphorically, I pray that they would encounter Jesus and have a renewed sense of call to follow him and a fresh commission to love and serve him. in the world. And yes – we will also play a little cricket and swim in the clear water.

# BEYOND THE BICENTENARY

## MOVING FROM CELEBRATION OF THE GOSPEL'S ARRIVAL TO AN ONGOING COMMITMENT TO UNITY

In the summer of 2013, New Zealand experienced its worst drought for 70 years. From Northland to the west of the South Island, large areas of the country were seriously affected. Farmers will tell you that massive downpours don't break droughts. Heavy rain will run off hard, dry land and cause flooding.

Here in the Manawatu, the memories of that drought are etched in people's memories. There was a real fear this past summer that we were again heading for drought until we had two days of drought-breaking rain. Drought-breaking rain is gentle and continuous. It soaks into the soil, reaching roots and renewing life.





The Treaty relationship, midwifed by early CMS missionaries, is moving out of a season of drought into a season of renewal, restoration and redemption. The Spirit of the living God moved across our islands in a gentle and continuous way in 2014, soaking into our hearts and opening the people of God to greater bicultural possibilities and opportunities.

In 2014 I was seconded from TSCF to the New Zealand Church Missionary Society. My role involved speaking to the Christian community about the centrality of the gospel in our history and the implications of this for our mission today. I spoke at around 30 church services across New Zealand and 10 conferences and events. In almost every one, there was a clear sense of the Spirit inviting his people to see his hand in our history and his leading in our future.

The response to God was heartening. People expressed humbly how challenged and uncomfortable the message had made them feel, that they had not known how central the gospel was to the Treaty. People also shared the sense that God was at work in and

# WE SHOULDN'T ASSUME, IN THE COLD LIGHT OF 2015, THAT THE BICENTENARY WAS "JUST A PHASE."

through the bicentenary and that they wanted to get on board.

It was a privilege to see churches wrestling with how to express not only multi-cultural commitments but also bi-cultural ones. For some, the first step has been to sing the National Anthem in English and Te Reo. For others, prayers and creative readings have been in English and Te Reo.

It was a joy to see local churches and organisations commit to partnering with Maori churches, movements and initiatives within their denomination. For some the bicentenary started the conversation; for others it deepened a long-term relationship.

After a severe drought has broken, there are things farmers shouldn't do and things farmers need to do. And it's the same for us, the people of God who have experienced the gentle rain

of the Spirit of God. We shouldn't assume, in the cold light of 2015, that the bicentenary was "just a phase." We shouldn't think the enthusiasm, patriotism and renewed call to biculturalism was just for then. We mustn't go back to business as usual, or think that this can be left to others

We need to keep our commitments to establish, renew or resource bi-cultural relationships. Those of us who decided to invite neighbours for dinner, learn Te Reo (you know who you are) or to build bridges with Pakeha leaders, we need to follow through.

One of the marks of Kiwis, both during and after a drought, is the ability to do what needs to be done with a minimum of fuss. Now it's time to do what we do, to muck in and make good on our commitments. These may be personal, professional, church-wide or for your small group. It's time to walk them out into reality.

And may he who began a good work in us in 1814 continue to water the work of our hands so that he can bring his purposes to completion. Amen.

# AUCKLAND'S BEACHY

This little isthmus has more beaches than any other city in the country. Some are dramatic, some are restful. Others are full of industry and activity, or look isolated and abandoned. There are favourite places and hidden treasures. There's a similar abundance and variety of stories in TSCF ministry here, too.

#### AUCKLAND'S LANDINGS

Several team members are engaging recent arrivals in the city. Jeff and Jane Pelz head up outreach to international students in partnership with St Paul's Church, Symonds Street, and staff worker



ANDY SHUDALL, AUCKLAND TEAM LEADER



May Lee. The last Nowruz (Persian new year) gave an opportunity for the Iranians who are regulars at the Wednesday outreach lunches to initiate an event.

"We hoped for 80 to come," Jane said, "but the event invites seem to go viral and we stopped counting after 206 people came in. We ran out of food but we had a great time!"

#### **AUCKLAND'S INTERACTION**

For Jesus Week 2014, several TSCF groups at Auckland University worked with other on-campus ministries to reach out to their friends with the truth about Jesus. Their theme was "My Story, Our Story, His Story," and they used short videos at the beginning of lectures to intrigue people and invite them to events.

#### AUCKLAND AS A PLACE OF TRAVEL

Many Aucklanders spend hours a week commuting, and the university campuses often feel more like a stopover than a destination. One student is using his 2-plus hours a day in transit to read the Bible and pray for his campus. Staff also spend a fair amount of time journeying. Auckland is big and we're constantly reminded of that by the time spent moving from one side to the other – to meet students and church leaders and to visit campuses.

#### **AUCKLAND'S BATTLES**

The battle in Auckland is not finding space on campus to meet, but finding space to speak intelligibly about Jesus, to gain a hearing. Students are battling to find ways to engage their friends.



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AUTCF gave out tracts that explained the historical significance of Easter and contained a surprise (chocolate eggs – it was only a small surprise). Auckland University OCF were very successful in inviting their friends to an Easter camp and the Korean Young Adults CF saw a steady trickle of people come to faith.

#### **AUCKLAND'S FUN**

Fun and games are always part of orientation at the start of semester. Auckland Evangelical Union ran a photo scavenger hunt as part of their orientation event. It went really well, enabling new and old members to get to know each other at the start of the year. The numbers attending their

Bible study and teaching meetings has increased through this year – which in itself is a lot of fun!

#### AUCKLAND'S RISK

The international work with Jeff and Jane Pelz, Jeff Lane and May Lee is flourishing. Robyn Drake is working with students in six groups across three campuses. Andy Shudall has concentrated on getting the work at AUT rekindled and supported the work of Catalyst in the City, and there are five associate staff working with another five groups.

A great group of student leaders are forging ahead but things feel fragile. The work on the University of Auckland's campuses sits alongside several other agencies and churches who have new or refreshed initiatives, which have the potential to see the 42,000 students reached in creative ways.

However, it could play out as competition, inadvertently weakening each other's ministry. There is risk, real



risk, to the work here.

We also need many more staff to support and resource student leaders. Across Auckland, tertiary institutions are home to 120,000 students.

#### **AUCKLAND'S PILGRIMAGE**

Students from far and near gather for informal Bible studies, conversations, meeting with staff, worship, prayer and sharing their hope in Jesus. Students have come to know Jesus. Others have grown in their understanding of what it means to live for him. In the fun and the travel, the battles and the

# WE ALSO NEED MANY MORE STAFF TO SUPPORT AND RESOURCE STUDENT LEADERS.

risk, we're seeing the good news of the Kingdom growing in lives that will impact here and further afield.

When these stories are told in the years to come, many will remember the thrills and spills, fun and games, risk and battles as defining moments of their pilgrimage. It's a great time to be involved and a privilege to be a part of it.



Come join us for the annual Celebrate Auckland event on 25 August at 7 pm. Many of the national TSCF staff team will be there as well. See the enclosed invite card for more details, or email andy@tscf.org.nz.

## PALMY'S "FIRSTS" COUNT

#### SIGNIFICANT JOURNEYS START IN THIS SEASON OF NEW BEGINNINGS

Palmerston North is an interesting place. It's not one where most Kiwis would choose to live, but for many who study here it becomes home. Most students haven't grown up here. Many come from nearby regions like Taranaki and Hawkes Bay, some from other parts of New Zealand and a lot from overseas. It's a place where no one knows you when you arrive so, for many, it's a new beginning.

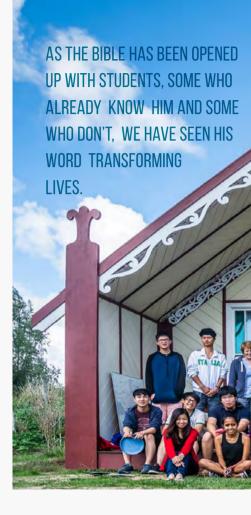
For most students it is a place of firsts. It is often where they get to experience what it is like to be an adult for the first time and a place where they make long-lasting adult relationships. It's the place where they learn how to burn a couch in



the middle of the road or ride a shopping trolley behind a car.

But for us, this presents a great opportunity. What better way to help students coming to be shaped as adults than by opening the Bible with them and exploring who Jesus is? For some, it is the first chance to meet Jesus or, at least, the first time to take him seriously. Seeing these firsts is the joy of being a staff worker. Over this year, as the Bible has been opened up with students, some who already know him and some who don't, we have seen his word transforming lives.

God continues to grow and bless the work in the Manawatu. Each year we see small numbers of students encountering Jesus and responding for the first time to the Gospel. Each year we see students step out in faith and share the good news with their friends or invite them to a place where the good news is explained. Each year we see student leaders take up the challenge to reach their campus with the love of Jesus.





Each year we send graduates to live out their faith in new ways as they start work.

Massey University Christian Fellowship is still small but it's courageous. The student leaders continue to amaze me as they seek to serve Jesus in fresh ways on campus. Rachel Taylor is doing a great job as president and is passionate about connecting students into our campus community. Thursday nights are always a highlight with plenty of dessert, fun and deep discussion (usually in that order).

The Overseas Christian Fellowship continues to love studying the Bible, eating food and having a good time. Nereeta Nydia is also doing a fantastic job as president. The calm way that these students continue to organise their meetings, events and camps, making sure that everyone is looked after, is inspiring. Their Friday night meetings are always a great mixture of food, fun, serious study and then more food.

It's a privilege to serve these students and watch them grow in their faith. Sometimes the firsts are small but the significance of them last a lifetime. What a joy it is to be a part of these young adults' lives.

# HAMILTON'S CREATIVE SPACE

#### A PLACE TO GROW

The Hogan Street flat has been a place for students to feel at home and where the Christian Fellowship meets every Thursday evenings to study the Bible. Many students led Bible studies for the first time and are becoming more confident studying the Bible for themselves.

#### A PLACE OF SUPPORT

HCF organized a cook-off to raise money for IFES projects in India, Fiji and Ecuador. It was also a chance to meet new people. Eight HCFers also took part in Live Below the Line.

#### A PLACE TO HAVE FUN

Charissa, the president, Sam and Queenie organized an Alice in Wonderland party at Zealong Tea to farewell students in 2014. They also made a video about students' search for "muchness."

For Chinese students who could not get home for Chinese New Year, we had steamboat and watched a kung fu movie. It was fun to share food and cultural practices from Taiwan, China, Malaysia, Korea and Singapore.

At orientation we asked students what they would do if they knew they could not fail. We made this into a 50 people/1 question video project. Nicholas said, "We had rejections, awkward pauses, good laughs. But most of all we were inspired, and able to appreciate each and every person's uniqueness." Answers ranged from "fly" to "witness" to "be a water, earth, air and fire bender."

Anna and Nicholas organized a scavenger hunt for native plants at Blue Springs. We learnt heaps about NZ trees. The water was freezing but many

# WE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR OPPORTUNITIES TO SHARE HOW OUR FAITH AFFECTS US

took the challenge to jump in together.

#### A PLACE OF RISK AND DISCOVERY

In 2014, we challenged students to consider their vote carefully and discover the issues facing NZ. Many voted for the first time.

Over summer, through the Word Up group on Facebook, students read five biblical passages slowly and reflectively to inspire a creative piece.

We continue to pray for opportunities to share how our faith affects us, for biblical ideals and values to become foundational for our aspirations, and for people to journey in and towards God.





# CELEBRATING FAITHFULNESS

Zechariah 4:10 talks about those who "despise the day of small things," and there are times when I understand the way we are discouraged by them. It helps to remember that God is in the midst of the "two or three gathered in his name," as well as the many.

Musing about this in the Wellington context, I was reminded of God's work in one individual over the past 8 years. I first met Phil Luey when he was an undergrad student at Victoria University in 2008. We talked about things of real importance, as well as the Leeds Rhinos (the UK's finest Rugby League team). He'd joined the Christian Union through the invitation of a friend





and was coming to the end of his studies. He wasn't on the leadership team, but something clicked and we started to meet to study the Bible and pray.

Phil joined the Minty programme after uni and, for the following two years, TSCF staff discipled him and saw him grow. He also served on the TSCF National Board as a student coordinator and lived in the Rongopai house we operate to help students live as "contagious disciples" in an

intentional Christian community.

Phil then got a job and remained in Wellington, but gave some of his time as a volunteer to the CU and ICF operating at Victoria University. As a Kiwi Asian, Phil was well placed to connect the groups and speak into the lives of students from near and far. When he saw that we would not have any full-time staff solely based on campus in Wellington, Phil increased his commitment, becoming associate staff and giving some of each week

# PHIL SHOWS THE SIGNIFICANCE ONE INDIVIDUAL CAN MAKE IN THE LIVES OF OUR STUDENTS AND GROUPS.

to the students in the newly merged Christian Fellowship and to Rongopai house

Sadly (for us), Phil has moved to Christchurch to pursue post-graduate study. But his commitment and involvement continues as he has joined the CU at Canterbury University. Our loss is their gain.

Phil is just one individual with whom we have spent time, opened God's Word, prayed, "done life" together and seen roots established in Jesus strengthened. He is both a cause for thankfulness and a reminder of what we are about. Phil shows the significance one individual can make in the lives of our students and groups.

Here in Wellington, we need more Phils – students, Minterns, volunteers, associate staff and staff who can give their time and energy to spur others on in their discipleship. We long for people like Phil who can work with the Christian Fellowship and small law school group, to invest in the Rongopai house, to develop a witness at Massey University.

Would you join with us in asking the Lord of the harvest to send out more Phils into the harvest field?



## DUNEDIN REACHES OUT

### SUBJECT-BASED GROUPS GROW AND PARTNERSHIPS MULTIPLY

The shape of the Dunedin staff team changed once again in 2014. Simon Sim finished his year as a Mintern and joined us as a full-time staff worker. Dave Baab continued as associate staff. Jen Allaway resumed work half a day a week following maternity leave, and Mike Summerfield increased to three days a week.

OCF and VCF continued their evening Bible studies. The various subjectbased groups met weekly to hear from speakers and for Bible studies and times of fellowship. In the latter part of



the year we explored starting a group for Christian lawyers – our first subject-based group outside of the health sciences. It started small but, thanks to the support of Christian faculty in the Law department, has continued to meet on a regular basis.

Christianity Explored continued to bear fruit with international students. Those of us involved with Red Frogs served hundreds of pancakes to students in a local hall who invariably asked, "Why are you doing this?" The Christians respond by talking of Jesus.

Vinoth Ramachandra's visit in 2013 has helped developed a good relationship with the Theology department at Otago University. Students have identified a need for training in order to respond to attacks levelled at the Christian faith. So we invited Professor Paul Trebilco to speak on the reliability of the New Testament, Professor Murray Rae to speak on alleged contradiction between science and miracles, and Professor Tim Cooper and PhD student Mal Falloon on whether 200 years of Christianity in New Zealand was good or bad news. Those

Over the years, I have come into contact with lots of Christian uni students who are bright and inquisitive and who want to make their lives count. The few short years they spend at uni are precious ones that can offer them so much – the ideas they encounter, the people they meet and the habits they form can affect them for the rest of their lives. The TSCF small groups are so important in providing these young adults with resources and relationships that point them to Christ and strengthen their faith. I am very grateful for the work being done by TSCF.

Jess Palmer Senior lecturer in law, Otago University

We hope that VCF provides members with a family. For our students who come from outside of Dunedin, we are a family away from home. But for any young person thrown into the impersonal and institutionalised environment of university, it is so important to belong somewhere and to be known. Flowing from this fellowship

we hope to facilitate meaningful discussion of God's Word and challenge the status quo of our daily lives. We want our fellowship to encourage and equip us to be true disciples now as students.

Yunyee Szeto President of Varsity Christian Fellowship

In the past, the Physio Christian
Fellowship has struggled with a lack
of numbers and consistency. This year
we intentionally were more zealous in
our 'recruitment' (i.e. shoulder-tapping
Christians we knew), and then really
solidified the group by having lots of
social and outreach events. Highlights
have been progressive dinners, taking
Easter eggs up to the children's ward and
laser tag. These events have really helped
to strengthen friendships and fellowship,
so that our group now has its own inertia
and the guys are even inviting along their
non-Christian mates.

Caleb Hickling Physiotherapy Students Christian Fellowship



who could attend appreciated them, but we had hoped for greater numbers.

Thanks to a generous grant from a local trust we took 10 student leaders to Summit – the largest delegation from Dunedin in years. Meeting students from around the country and staff from Ecuador gave the students a stronger understanding of their place in a national and global fellowship. The

teaching on "not despising the day of small things" gave them renewed enthusiasm for leading their groups, many of which are small.

A clear priority emerged for 2015: greater interaction across the growing family of groups. Students were keen to make this a priority, beginning with a joint-groups BBQ at the end of orientation week.

# LINCOLN, BRICK BY BRICK

Memorial Hall is a fenced-off building on the Te Waihora campus of Lincoln University. It was built in 1923 to remember those, especially from Lincoln, who fought and died in the Great War. It is central on the campus and, over the years, the Christian Fellowship and International Christian Fellowship have used it for many occasions and events, seeking to introduce friends and peers to Jesus.

That all changed on 4 September 2010 when a 7.0 earthquake caused what may be irreparable damage to the



TIM HODGE, Lincoln Team Leader building. It has been fenced off ever since.

Inside Memorial Hall are many brass plaques honouring those from Lincoln who have died. As a nation, we have commemorated 100 years since the Gallipoli Beach landings. We are grateful for the sacrifice of the many, and we are more grateful still for the sacrifice of the one — of Jesus, whose death, burial and resurrection changed everything.

The work of TSCF at Lincoln University

has changed like sand on the beach, and will continue to do so. But the task remains the same: to reach students for Christ and change students for life. Memorial Hall helped that goal. It was a place of fun, a place of risk, and a place of interaction with others in many, many discussions about Jesus.

That place is no longer in use, so the students have been inventive. Bible studies take place in halls and coffee shops. Each week, they make late night toasties to sober up drunken





students and give them Bible tracts that, we pray, will spark conversation in the morning. The "Women of Grace" group investigates Jesus and the "Sons of Thunder" men's evangelistic group continues to be creative in speaking for Jesus and living for Jesus. The students lead and drive the mission, ably supported by TSCF staff.

In the winter of 2014, Simon Rabbidge transitioned from TSCF staff to TSCF supporter. We're grateful for all of

Simon's work in Lincoln over several years. His legacy is a growing staff team, in large part thanks to his investment into key individuals. In 2015 we welcomed Chris Hay and Kate Street to staff, and Adrianne Mangan to Minty. All three have graduated from Lincoln in the last three years.

Ani Kartikasari works amongst postgrads. She is another highly valued member of the staff team and also a Lincoln graduate, completing her

#### WE'RE GRATEFUL FOR ALL OF SIMON'S WORK IN LINCOLN OVER SEVERAL YEARS. HIS LEGACY IS A GROWING STAFF TEAM, IN LARGE PART THANKS TO HIS INVESTMENT INTO KEY INDIVIDUALS.

PhD a few years ago. The remaining member of the team, Tim Hodge, is not yet a Lincoln graduate, but does greatly enjoy working in Lincoln and across the South Island with TSCF staff, TSCF students and TSCF supporters as together we reach students for Christ and change students for life.

On a sandy beach there are millions of grains of sand, all their own shape and size. Together, they make up the beach. TSCF Lincoln is made up of students, supporters and staff – all different, but all united in the desire to make Jesus known.

It's been a fruitful year in Lincoln and we look forward to the coming 12 months.

# ANSWERING QUESTIONS

Knowing Jesus, equipping students and engaging our campus have been the Christian Union's priorities at the University of Canterbury. Our prayer and greatest desire is to see people come to know Jesus. It has been amazing to see God answering this prayer as students have been equipped to engage the campus and share the good news of Jesus with friends.

#### **KNOWING JESUS**

Every year is exciting. We see people investigating Jesus and putting their trust in him as their Lord and Saviour. Last year we began small discussion groups called Questioning Christianity.



Each week we discuss a different question or "belief blocker." This has had quite a positive response. Around 15 students have investigated Jesus through Christianity Explored, and a number are still part of small groups.

We are seeing more opportunities to reach international students and we pray that this continues to grow – particularly amongst Filipinos and South East Asians, and we're starting to reach some Iranian students. Please keep praying students will come to know Jesus through these groups.

#### **EQUIPPING STUDENTS**

Training continues to be a key part of CU, not because we are a university group, but because discipleship is an ongoing process. Our aim is to be exporting graduates who are missionaries, people who have cut their teeth on the university mission field. It is always sad to say goodbye to friends as they leave university, but it is encouraging to know that these young men and women are better equipped to serve, teach and train others in their

churches as a result of their time on campus.

Please keep praying that students will continue to be equipped to handle God's word, to love their neighbours and to proclaim the good news of Jesus to those who don't yet know him.

#### **ENGAGING OUR CAMPUS**

CU has established a great relationship with the Student Association and have opportunities to serve behind the scenes with university clubs days and orientation activities

We also seek to keep the message of Jesus in the public square. The public talks on "Questioning Christianity" addressed topics such as science, trusting the Bible, suffering, and "is God homophobic"? These created discussion and brought a number of people in, asking good questions. The main gain was the many opportunities students had to talk to their friends

Please keep praying for students as they seek to know Jesus and become equipped to engage their campus.





# 2014 FINANCIAL REPORT

We are thankful to God for an encouraging year. We have been able to resource true witness, encourage undivided life discipleship, promote deep thought, and facilitate global reach on campus.

We were privileged to participate in the Marsden bicentenary and ran two excellent national camps and many local events. We have seen students come to faith and Christians engaging with and applying the Bible, mentored a great cohort of student leaders and produced a number of publications.

Your generous support made this possible. The year ended with a surplus of \$123,200, which is a great result after two years of deficits of \$42,600 and \$45,400. This turnaround is thanks

to the generosity of our donors and the hard work of our staff as they have keep costs to a minimum without compromising the ministry.

The giving to general funds and staff support increased by almost 5% from 2013. Giving to general funds allows TSCF to produce resources and take initiatives that increase our impact across the country. We encourage you to consider supporting the core ministry fund alongside a staff worker or project.

We were pleased to repay the \$50,000 off the building loan, as planned. This will free up an income stream from commercial rental going forward. Thank you to those who lent the funds and to those who made donations to help with the payments on this loan.

Thanks also to the office staff for their work over this year in which we have been without a treasurer. Their work has allowed our auditors to give us a clear audit opinion, indicating that our financial records are complete and in order

Legacies have been significant in 2014.

# THE YEAR ENDED WITH A SURPLUS OF \$123,200, WHICH IS A GREAT RESULT AFTER TWO YEARS OF DEFICITS

We give thanks for this but, sadly, legacies also signal the end of a donor's regular support, creating a need for others to take up the cause. If you would like to explore this method of continuing your support in the coming years, we can provide details.

It's particularly encouraging that TSCF's overall net position has increased from \$63,000 at the end of 2005 to \$654,000 at the end of 2014. Much of this is in fixed assets but it provides a more secure position for TSCF moving forward. We are thankful for God's provision and to all his people who have made this growth over the past nine years possible.

#### Finance Committee

You can request a copy of our full accounts from John Riley at johnr@tscf.org.nz.

#### **INCOME**

Donated income	2014	2013
General Fund Donations	\$ 232,389	\$ 206,062
Staff Support Donations	\$ 1,216,365	\$ 1,171,955
Legacies Donations	\$ 75,000	\$ 14,000
Other Donations	\$ 12,492 \$ 29,130	
Total Donations	\$ 1,536,246	\$ 1,421,147

#### **EXPENDITURE**

For each \$10 given, we use:

Field staff & ministry costs	\$ 8.13
Administration	\$ 0.80
Communications	\$ 0.41
IFES	\$ 0.36
Utilities	\$ 0.30



# THE TSCF

**TEAM LEADERS** 

Andy Shudall Auckland **(until February** 

2016)

Andrew

Waikato

Ian Reid & Li Lian Lim Palmerston North



Ben Carswell Wellington &

National Outreach

Coordinator



Lincoln & Nelson



Mark Santich Canterbury



James Allaway Dunedin

Robyn Drake Auckland



Jeff Lane Auckland (seconded from OMF)



Matthias Loong Canterbury



Canterbury

Geoff Robson



Christina Denmead Canterbury



Canterbury p/t



Renee Santich Canterbury p/t



Simon Sim Dunedin



BOARD

NATIONAL

Chris Clarke

Paul Windsor Frank Scrimgeour Peter Thirkell Jonathan Boston Roger Moses Merrilyn Withers Vice Presidents

STAFF WORKERS



international

students



Jeff Pelz Auckland -

international

students



May Lee Auckland p/t



Kate Street Lincoln



Ani Kartikasari Lincoln Postgrads & Catalyst p/t



Chris Hav Lincoln



Mike Summerfield Dunedin p/t



Jen Allaway Dunedin p/t



Andrew Becroft Chairperson Dennis Fountain Vice Chairperson

Nigel Pollock National Director Bruce Robertson Peter Thirkell Rubee Yee Reuel Baptista Hamish Cartwright Anna Cho Student Coordinators

STAFF ASSOCIATE



Michael Drake Auckland



Annette Lane Auckland



Amos Ling Auckland (until May 2015)



Paul Seo Auckland



Steve Turner Auckland



Dunedin





Adrianne Mangan Lincoln



Rowena Woodhams Dunedin



Hamish Cartwright Dunedin

STAFF

OVERSEAS

STAFF NATIONAL



Nigel Pollock National Director



Esther van Kuyk PA to National



**Financial** Administrator



Vicky Chang Office Administrator



Mark Grace **Head of Ministry** Development



Maryanne Wardlaw Communications Manager



Mike Doragh Systems and **Projects Officer** 



Raewyn Taylor CMF Administrator p/t



Liz Hodge **Catalyst Books** Administrator p/t



Ruth Hicks & Josué Olmedo Ecuador



