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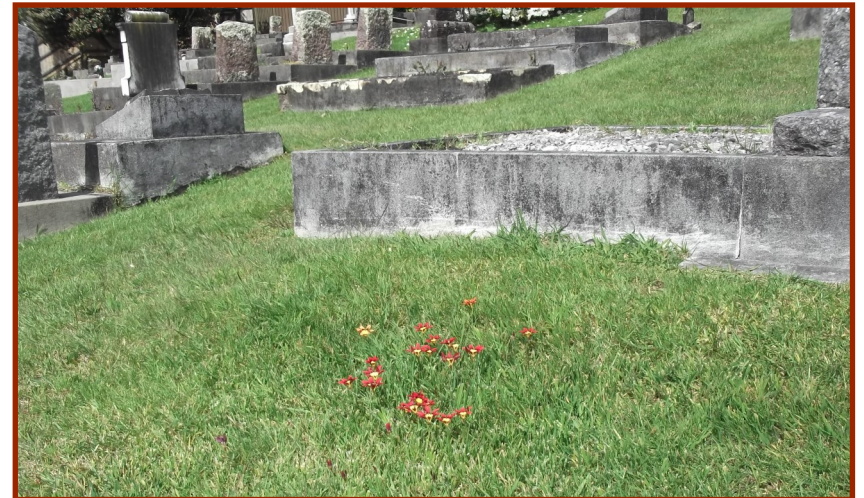
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**Ph 07 873 7200/ 027 289 0515****ST DAVID'S PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH OTOROHANGA****NOVEMBER 2024**Ranfurly St  
Otorohanga**OUR MISSION STATEMENT**Linked together as disciples of Christ to share our faith with  
and give loving service to the community.

These valiant little flowers survive despite constant persecution.

They are mown down every year when the Oto cemetery gets its number 2  
haircut, yet despite their size, they blossom bravely every year.

What an example!

**CHURCH & Parish Life contacts****TREASURER Claire Sherrington (07) 873 7670****SESSION CLERK Dawn Phillips (07) 873 8735****ROOM BOOKINGS Nina Mark (07) 873 6963 / 027 237 2382**

**REPORT FROM THE BOARD OF MANAGERS OF ST  
DAVID'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**FOR YEAR ENDED 30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2024**

**Committee Members:** On the Board of Managers for 2024 were Monty Graham, Trevor Coley, Gwen Kramer, Eleanor Gibson, Claire Sherrington (Secretary/Treasurer), Nina Mark, Jane McIlroy, Janice Davis, Kathy Harnett, and Session members, Keith Budge, Dawn Phillips, and Sol Nelson.

I want to thank everyone for helping to keep the church running smoothly over the past year.

The complex has been maintained to a high standard with no issues when obtaining our yearly WOF from the Otorohanga District Council. The complex was given a complete wash and spider spray in May 2024.

In November 2023, a 98-inch Television screen was installed on the south wall of the Community Hall giving much better visibility to the screen. We must thank the donor for this great new asset.

Tidy Gardens Ltd has tidied our gardens and sprayed the weeds with GMS regularly mowing our lawns.

The Manse rental is going well under the management of Michelle from Harcourts. Net curtains have been replaced in the bedrooms plus a new curtain has been hung in the Office.

Our website [www.saintdavids.org.nz](http://www.saintdavids.org.nz) has been kept up to date with the help of K S Design and our Session Clerk Dawn Phillips.

Keep Safe and be kind to one another.\

Claire Sherrington  
Treasurer/Secretary

On behalf of the Board of Managers.

Preaching Roster	
Nov 3	Terry Cowland
Nov 10	Keith Budge
Nov 17	Dawn Phillips
Nov 24	Terry Cowland
Dec 1	Terry Cowland

If you want to read the response of the PCANZ to the report of the Royal Commission into Abuse in Care, see <https://www.presbyterian.org.nz/about-us/contact-us/historic-abuse>

**Saint David's closes**

On Sunday 29 September 2024 Rev Murray Lambert led a public closing service of thanksgiving for the small church, following the January 2023 earthquake damage which rendered it unsafe for public use.

From Sunday 25 October 1925, Saint David's was an absolute hive of activity. Over the years 38 weddings and 220 baptisms were held at St David's; however, there were few funerals.

The annual Christmas event from 1992 onwards drew scores of visitors each year.

From around 1990, services were held bi-monthly; however, in 2011 they were increased to monthly. In May 2021 services increased to weekly. The final service was held on 18 December 2022, just weeks before the earthquake that badly damaged the building. To bring the building to required standards would have cost over \$200,000, and with natural attrition seeing the congregation shrink to a handful and the building no longer fit for purpose, the decision was made to close.

In giving thanks through prayer for all that St David's had meant to the wider community for close to a century—the opportunity to spread the gospel, prayers offered on behalf of others, the love and fellowship, memories made and the work of many in keeping the church operating—Rev Murray sought the Lord's continued blessing on the gospel being proclaimed in Waharoa.

**We do thank our sponsors, who make our newsletter possible.  
Please support them!**

**And we thank the volunteers who have been serving on our  
rosters, one on the cleaning roster for 32 years!**

### Annual Report for Session 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024

In July 2023, we took part in the Church Life survey, then in June 2024, we filled in the survey for our parish Re-View with Kaimai Presbytery. The latter turned out to be more useful because the results were analysed, and helpful guidance provided to us by our facilitator, the very Rev Ray Coster.

Cuppa & Chat has continued to meet once a month on a Friday morning, and have generously invited members of the congregation to join them on at least two occasions when they had interesting speakers coming: once it was the police speaking on keeping ourselves safe, and once it was an expo of the mobility scooters available.

Ann Roberts and Rev Nigel Crocombe celebrated their wedding on 22 July 2023 in Raglan.

The church made a donation to help flood victims in Wairoa after cyclone Gabrielle.

We had one unpleasant incident to deal with when some people arrived after church one Sunday when most of the congregation had departed, asking for monetary assistance. They became aggressive. The police have since helped us work out a policy for dealing safely with such happenings.

A midwinter Christmas lunch was held on 1 July; this was very much enjoyed by the small group of attendees. The entertainment by singers from Waitomo that followed was also much appreciated.

We sent a commissioner to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand from 27 September to 1 October. Unlike the formal occasions weighted heavily towards business that were the Assemblies of the past, this was a friendly, warm, worshipful occasion, illuminated by flashes of

brilliant humour. The necessary business was still done, but in a respectful way and largely through consensus.

Disappointingly, the combined churches' Light Party was cancelled because of adverse weather.

A Spring Fair cum garage sale on November 18 failed to empty our shed of much that is surplus to our requirements; we will be making another effort and seeing that it is better advertised.

We had a Picnic Service on 11 February at the home of Trevor and Glenys Coley. What a privilege it was to be at their home. Despite small numbers at our Harvest Thanksgiving service, the produce donated was considerable. It was distributed to the Support House and to Beattie Home.

Session would like to express their gratitude to the Board of Managers who have been consistently on the ball with maintaining the buildings and grounds of St David's. Our thanks to our very able treasurer, Claire Sherrington, for the hours and hours of work she has put in. All those who have taken turns cleaning the church, freshening the floral arrangements, and providing morning teas, we thank you sincerely for your work. We do thank Nina Mark for handling hall bookings and organising helpers for the serving of refreshments after funerals. Our single musician, Jane McIlroy, we acknowledge with deep gratitude: thank you for your dedicated contribution to services, funerals, and social occasions.

Our most heart-felt thanks to God our Father who has allowed us the privilege of serving him through Jesus Christ, our Saviour. To him be all glory and praise.

Dawn Phillips

Session Clerk.

God answers knee-mail.

### Calendar for November 2024

Fri 1	10.00am	Cuppa & Chat
Sun 3	10.00am	Morning Worship
Sat 9	9.00am	Garage Sale
Sun 10	10.00am	Morning Worship
Wed 13	2.00pm	Managers
Sun 17	10.00am	Morning Worship
Wed 20	9.30am	Session
Sat 23	4.00pm	Beattie Home service
Sun 24	10.00am	Morning Worship
Sat 30	4.00pm	Beattie Home service

Copy for the December newsletter is requested by Monday 25 November.

The Editor

Church bank account number:

02 0392 0018524 00

Website:

[saintdavid's.org.nz](http://saintdavid's.org.nz)

### Financial report 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024

For those who did not manage to attend the annual meeting, where we received the full financial report, you can obtain a copy from our treasurer, Claire Sherrington, if you would like.

2 Timothy 3:12

In fact, everyone who wants to lead a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.

2 Timoti 3:12

Ā, e whakatoia anō te hunga katoa e hiahia ana kia noho i runga i te karakia i roto i a Karaiti Ihū.