



# Richmond Parish

## 2017 Annual General Meeting

### 12.00pm Sunday 15 April 2018

Your name must be on the Parish Roll in order to speak and vote at the Annual General Meeting, stand for office, or be appointed as the Vicar's or elected to People's Churchwarden.

(Note the Parish Directory-Phone List is *not* the Parish Roll)

1. Check your details in the *2018 Parish Roll* in the church. Make any changes to the Roll details in the line below your name.
2. If you **are** listed on the roll you **do not** need to re-enrol.
3. If you are **not** on the roll and wish to enrol, complete a blue Declaration form. The declaration must be on file *no later than 12.00pm Wednesday 11 April 2018* Return forms to the *Completed Forms* container at the back of the Church or to the parish office.

The following AGM forms are available from the back of the Church:

***Note new closing dates***

- . **Nomination Form for Vestry**  
*Nominations close 5.00pm Wednesday 11 April 2018*
- . **Nomination Form for People's Warden**  
*Nominations close 5.00pm Wednesday 11 April 2018*
- . **Declaration form**  
*on file by 12.00pm 5.00pm Wednesday 11 April 2018*
- . **AGM Question form**  
*Questions close 12.00pm Thursday 12 April 2018*

**Phone Directory** - Parish Phone Directory is at the back of church for checking. Please make sure your details are correct. Mark any changes in your entry. Thanks

**Preserves** - There are marmalades, plum jam, tomato and onion relish and various chutneys at the back of the church. These are made with donated spray free fruit and for the next few weeks any money made from selling them will go towards Susan's sabbatical and the youth Easter Camp. Please buy your preserves here! If you have any feedback or fruit to donate please contact Shiona Ph. 544 4155.

**Walk for Life** - Walk for Life is a celebration of life from conception to natural death, and a non-judgmental and peaceful statement that life is precious and worth living. It is a family friendly event and all ages are welcome. The 2018 Nelson Walk for Life is on Saturday 21 April at noon, rain or shine. It will start and finish at the top of the Nelson Cathedral steps For more information, register interest or volunteer to help call Marie O'Connor 021 108 5988 / email:walkforlife2018@gmail.com / Facebook: www.facebook.com/Walk-for-Life-Nelson-391420507953780 / or search "Walk For Life Nelson".

**AMB Lenten Appeal 2018** - The three projects of the 2018 Lenten Appeal are with the Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East and the Rwenzori Special Needs Foundation in Uganda. This Appeal has a focus on children and will support: *The Savior Evangelical School in Zarka*, northeast Jordan - This school educates over 300 children from many of the poor and marginalized communities of Zarka-Amman. The staff at the Savior Evangelical School dream of growing students who can live-out their faith in an increasingly technological world, where their creative skills and knowledge will help them find employment in a world-wide market by us providing smart whiteboards in classrooms // *The Rwenzori Special Needs Foundation [RSNF]*, Uganda is a local non-government organisation, which is serving children with disabilities in the Fort Portal region of Uganda since 2010. RSNF's mission includes promoting spiritual growth, self-esteem and positive attitudes towards parents and children with special needs at a community Funds will provide RSNF with a reliable Land Cruiser that can safely transport these precious children and their families. // *The Arab Episcopal School, in Irbid*, a city in the north of Jordan specialises in educating blind and visually-impaired children who don't have any local options for education. Plans are to buy 3 smart cameras that magnifies the words in a way that enables the visually-impaired students to learn to read and a PIAF Tactile Graphics machine, which transforms the print of normal textbooks and reading materials into raised-line reproductions that blind students can use. The machine prints onto special swell paper, and Anglican Missions is keen to assist purchase a number of packs of the swell paper. Any donation to these worthy causes will be greatly appreciated and will make a difference and impact the lives of many children and their families. Please help us to enable these ministries to flourish and to continue to help those in need. Info on Missions Noticeboard at the back of the church. Envelopes in pews.

**Men** - Monday 26 March 2018 starting at 7pm at 20 Elmsdale Close, Richmond. The topic for the March forum will be Euthanasia. An emotional subject but then we don't shy away from controversy. If you know someone who is interested in this subject bring him along. Someone sent me a copy of a recent letter to the editor of the Wellington Dominion-Post. It is worth reading – see below:

**An elder's view**

The debate about euthanasia is of special concern to the very elderly. As I am hoping to be 100 in July, I am assuming the right to speak on their behalf. Most of the public debate has been based on emotion and/or religion and it is time the voice of reason was heard.

It is often claimed that God has given life and only God should take it away. What a specious argument.

When I give a friend a gift, I have no intention of taking it back. If they don't like it or it wears out, I am quite happy for them to dump it in the rubbish.

To claim that life is sacred is ridiculous when you think of all the burnings at the stake and other atrocities that have been committed in the name of God.

There are concerns that some elderly people may be brainwashed by potential beneficiaries into accepting this way out of their unhappy lives. So what? We have no qualms about sending thousands of young men to die in far-off countries so that the rest of us can continue living our comfortable lives.

Surely people should feel proud if their elderly relatives' slightly premature demise had also helped others to end their suffering and find peace at last. Case rests.

**FRED BROOKER**  
Waikanae (abridged)