

EASTER OUTCOMES

These are difficult times – wars, tsunamis, earthquakes, shaky markets, billowing debt. It's a recipe for despair. The temptation is to change the channel and think about something else. Hope has become a precious commodity. Yet the Christian claim is that we can live life hopefully and we can do so for a good reason, not just wishful thinking.

Leslie Newbigin once wrote, "I am neither an optimist nor a pessimist, I simply believe that Jesus Christ rose from the dead - and that makes all the difference." This is not just an assertion of romantic optimism in the face of the facts, it is to do with hope grounded upon an event.

That event is the resurrection of Jesus from the dead and the promise of new life that comes with it. This is no "pie in the sky when you die" kind of hope. It is a hope, which enables us to live life anew, starting from now.

When those women first discovered the empty tomb they were not believed – not even by their fellow wannabe disciples of their wannabe messiah.

Yet by the time of Emperor Constantine's death some 300 years later, their simple testimony had subverted an empire and was transforming a civilisation. It is a sign of the sea-change in sensibility that Constantine could write in his 'Oration', "This indeed is heavenly wisdom, to choose to be injured rather than injure, and when it is necessary, to suffer evil rather than do it."

Constantine was far from perfect and certainly some of his behavior is difficult to reconcile with his Christian profession.

Yet, in making such a declaration, he authorised a world without sacrifice to the old gods of sensuality, power, brutality and trickery. Instead he embraced, and called upon others to embrace, a faith in the vulnerable, crucified yet risen Christ, a faith that said there was an end to sacrifice and the beginning of a better way...

Thank You Kelburn!

The **St Michael's and Kelburn Village Fair** made a record return this year, grossing **\$19,000**, expecting to net around \$17k.

The extra cash returned over that which was budgeted, will allow St. Mic's to put more into our target areas for funding: church hall roof repairs, support of HIV AIDS orphans in East Africa and local ministry.

It will also mean St. Mic's will be less dependent upon further fundraising and so be able to give all left over goods to other charities (including The Mary Potter Hospice and The Blue Dragon Children's Foundation), for on-selling.

It was an awesome effort by all involved. Special thanks go to Kelburn residents who donated goods so generously, especially at a time when there are so many other demands on our resources and attention.

Thanks too to local businesses who supported us, especially **Juliette Florist, Kelburn Butchery, Karori Garden Centre, Mediterranean Warehouse and Mode Café.**



...on the first day of the week, at early dawn, the women found the stone rolled away from the tomb. But when they went in they did not find the body. While they were mystified about this, suddenly two men, light cascading over them, stood there. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here but has risen..."

So the women told all this to the eleven and to all the rest... but it seemed to them an idle tale and they did not believe them. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb, stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves. Then he went home, amazed at what had happened...

To find out more about the Easter story, come to one of our services.
Everyone is welcome—especially sceptics...

Easter Services

Maundy Thursday : Foot Washing Service - 21st April, 7:30pm
Readings and re-enactments of Jesus' last supper

Good Friday : Three Hours at the Cross - 22nd April, from 12 noon
Readings from the Gospel of Luke
Time for silent prayer and reflection on Jesus' passion

Easter Eve : Vigil - 23rd April, 11:30pm until the small hours
Readings, silent prayer and reflection

Easter Sunday
- 8am, a simple Communion Service
- 10am, Sung Eucharist (with flowering of the cross)

VILLAGE CHANGES

There are more changes afoot in Kelburn Village. Long time Kelburn Village identities Jacque Holbrook (florist) and Darryl Dreaver (butcher), say goodbye to Kelburn, Edwin and Michele Ramos open the Mediterranean Warehouse Pizzeria.

“After 46 years in business, 23 years in Kelburn, 4,917 weddings, 5,148 early starts and 17,000 bottles of Friday afternoon wine, I’m hanging up the shears and the corkscrew!”

So went the first lines of Jacque Holbrook’s invitation to fellow shopkeepers and friends throughout the community to her send off. With an invitation like that who could refuse?! Apparently none of the 60 people (plus passersby), who took up the offer late March to come and say goodbye to Jacque in style.

The party went with a bang. Spilling out onto the pavement guests were entertained by local ‘reggae soul’ band *Farmer Maori and the Farmer Maoris*. Other shop keepers provided generously for the occasion. There were speeches given, cards signed, old times reminisced and, of course, cocktails downed.

What did Jacque enjoy most about her time in Kelburn? “The people! Working in a village atmosphere allowed me to form real friendships with people from all walks of life, to get involved in their lives through the different seasons. It might have been a birth, a wedding, a funeral or a “just because” gift. People use flowers to say all sorts of things and when they’d come into the shop they’d share – they’d let us become part of it”.

This week we called Jacque at home. So how’s she finding “retirement” in the Wairarapa? “So far I’m just loving it... I loved my work but I don’t miss



Jacque Holbrook says goodbye after 23 years in Kelburn at Juliette Florist

4am starts to get to the flower market!... Flowers are all I’ve known since I was a little girl. I just never thought of doing anything different... It’s great to have the space to think of my next move. I have a few ideas but, really, I’m just enjoying the prospect of an extended break since I’ve never had more than a four week holiday in forty-eight years!”

Darryl Dreaver shared much the same sentiment when announced he had sold the business and was hanging up the

cleaver after Easter. He also has been in the one trade his whole working life (forty-seven years). Starting straight from school he’s run three successful businesses. After twelve years the Kelburn Butchery will be the last.

Won’t he miss it? “Yes, it’s been great working in Kelburn, seeing kids grow up and even come and say hi as adults... It’s the people, the customers that make the job. It’s offering service that makes the business successful

– going that little bit extra to give people what they want creates a loyal customer base and keeps the job interesting”.

Easy to say, a tough way to live at times. Like Jacque, Darryl won’t miss the sixteen hour days, six day weeks. “Tom (Lovatt) will still be here and I have no doubt Cameron Harrison will make a good go of taking the business forward. I wish them well... I really want to get into my golf”, he says.

While Darryl and Jacque move on, Edwin and Michele Ramos have moved in, opening the Mediterranean Warehouse Pizzeria in the middle of the village.

Edwin comes from an IT service background. Having emigrated to New Zealand from the Philippines in 2002, he and Michele thought they would try something new. Working their way from the bottom up they’ve



Darryl Dreaver heads off to the golf course

now branched out on their own.

How are they finding things? A common theme emerges: “We’re really enjoying it here. People are lovely. It’s a good community”, say Edwin.



Edwin Ramos – doing something different



People spilling out onto the street from Juliet Florist

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Fridays - 10am

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Gold Coin Donation

No pre-registration

For more info contact:

Jannah Dennison MA(Mus), PGDipArts, BMus, ATCL

email: windmillsongs@gmail.com

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anglican church, kelburn

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