



**ALL SAINTS'
ANGLICAN CHURCH
786 Cumberland St
Dunedin 9016**

Arnold Spencer-Smith newsletter April 2020

This newsletter from All Saints' Dunedin is to give an update on commemoration of Rev. Arnold Spencer-Smith. All Saints' connection with Spencer-Smith is through our 7th vicar Rev. Canon Philip Gaze who was a cousin of Arnold. The chalice and paten Spencer-Smith used in Antarctica were given to Canon Gaze, the Gaze family have graciously allowed the chalice and paten to reside at All Saints where they are used regularly.

Commemoration of Arnold's death, March 9 Arnold Spencer-

Smith died on March 9th 1916, on the 103rd anniversary of his death in 2019 All Saints' Dunedin started an annual commemoration of Arnold.

2019 saw a celebration of the Eucharist at All Saints using Arnold's chalice and paten, followed by a reception, then a public lecture was given by Professor Gary Wilson. A veteran of 30 expeditions to the Ross Sea and Antarctica, Prof. Wilson is Chief Scientist at GNS Science (Institute of Geological and Nuclear Sciences), he is also Vice President - Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research, Chair – NZ Royal Society Committee on Antarctic Sciences and Physical Science Lead – NZ Antarctic Science Platform.

Prof. Wilson's illustrated lecture entitled 'The Ross Sea Party - Shackleton's Forgotten Men' detailed the Ross Sea Party who endured equally if not greater hardship than Shackleton himself as they laid depots across the Ross Ice Shelf for the men who, unbeknownst to them, would never come.

After Gary's presentation the artist Jenna Packer unveiled her design for the Spencer-Smith memorial window. An article about the 2019 commemoration appeared in *The Otago Daily Times* <https://www.odt.co.nz/news/dunedin/shackleton-trans-antarctic-expedition-chaplain-remembered>

2020 also saw a Eucharist with Arnold's chalice and paten, which included some of the hymns mentioned in Arnold's diaries: 'Eternal Father, strong to save', 'Lead, kindly light' and 'Praise to the holiest in the height'. The readings were from the Book of Sirach 'Let us now praise famous men', the Book of Daniel 'Bless the Lord, ice and cold', the Gospel of Matthew 'Blessed are the poor in spirit' and from the sermon of Canon Holmes at the ordination of Arnold Spencer-Smith to the priesthood on 13th September 1914 at All Saints' Edinburgh. The welcome and intercessions for this service were adapted from prayers used at Westminster Abbey, 20th May 2016 at the centenary service of thanksgiving for the courage and endurance of Sir Ernest Shackleton and his men.

Following the service, the 2020 Arnold Spencer-Smith Lecture was given by Richard McElrea QSO. Richard was a New Zealand Antarctic Society hut caretaker in Antarctica in 1971. He is a past president of the New Zealand Antarctic Society and past chairman of the New Zealand Antarctic Heritage Trust. He is associate editor of *Shackleton's Lieutenant, the Nimrod Diary of A.L.A. Macintosh, British Antarctic Expedition 1907-09*, edited by Stanley Newman (Polar Publications 1990). With David Harrowfield, McElrea wrote *Polar Castaways: The Ross Sea Party of Sir Ernest Shackleton (1914-17)*. In 2017 Richard was appointed a Companion of the Queen's Service Order for services as a coroner and to Antarctic heritage.

Church Times article In May 2019 an article about Arnold appeared in *The Church Times*, this article corrected the assertion that the most southerly celebration of a Book of Common Prayer Eucharist had taken place at South Georgia. Arnold's celebrations of the BCP Eucharist in Antarctica took place further south. <https://www.churchtimes.co.uk/articles/2019/31-may/news/world/inspiring-eucharist-held-in-antarctica>

Adding Arnold to the church's Calendar In February 2020 Fr. Michael travelled to Auckland and made a presentation about Arnold to the Liturgical Commission of the Anglican Church in Aotearoa New Zealand and Polynesia. He asked the Commission to add Arnold to the church's calendar. If the Commission agrees, Arnold would appear in the NZ Prayer Book, in the lectionary each year on March 9th and would be commemorated throughout the Anglican Church in Aotearoa New Zealand and Polynesia. If the Commission agrees to add Arnold to the calendar the proposal will be taken to General Synod for a decision.



*Design for Spencer-Smith window
by Jenna Packer*

Window update

In 2019 All Saints' commissioned a stained-glass window to celebrate the life of Spencer-Smith.

Window designer Jenna Packer and window maker Peter McKenzie have continued to work on the window. The window has attracted interest locally and nationally. Several articles about the window have appeared in *The Otago Daily Times* newspaper

<https://www.odt.co.nz/news/dunedin/window-commemorate-spencer-smith>

The Star newspaper

<https://www.thestar.co.nz/news/window-honours-ross-sea-chaplain/>

<http://www.thestar.co.nz/arts/memorial-window-taking-form/?fbclid=IwAR1289gcEQsr7zuNAgs9H8NbO3V85Vw3viSqLJqVkrUyN9syIJZnpeVhE6o>

and an interview on *Radio New Zealand*

<https://www.rnz.co.nz/national/programmes/standing-room-only/audio/2018738539/stained-glass-window-to-honour-reverend-arnold-spencer-smith>

Fundraising update

The window will cost NZ\$70,000 (c £34,300); so far over NZ\$42,000 (c £20,600) has been donated by individuals, by the Dunedin Rotary Club and through the art auction in March. Only \$28,000 (c £13,700) remains to complete the project. Significant donations will be acknowledged on a plaque near the window. If you would like more information about contributing please contact Fr. Michael 03 4778300 vicar@allsaintsdsn.org.nz

Donations for the window can be made by electronic transfer to: Account name: Diocese of Dunedin Parishes Account, Account number: 06-0901-0015680-06, Reference: Spencer-Smith Window. **For international electronic payments:**

Account name: Diocese of Dunedin Parishes Account, Account Number: 001568006

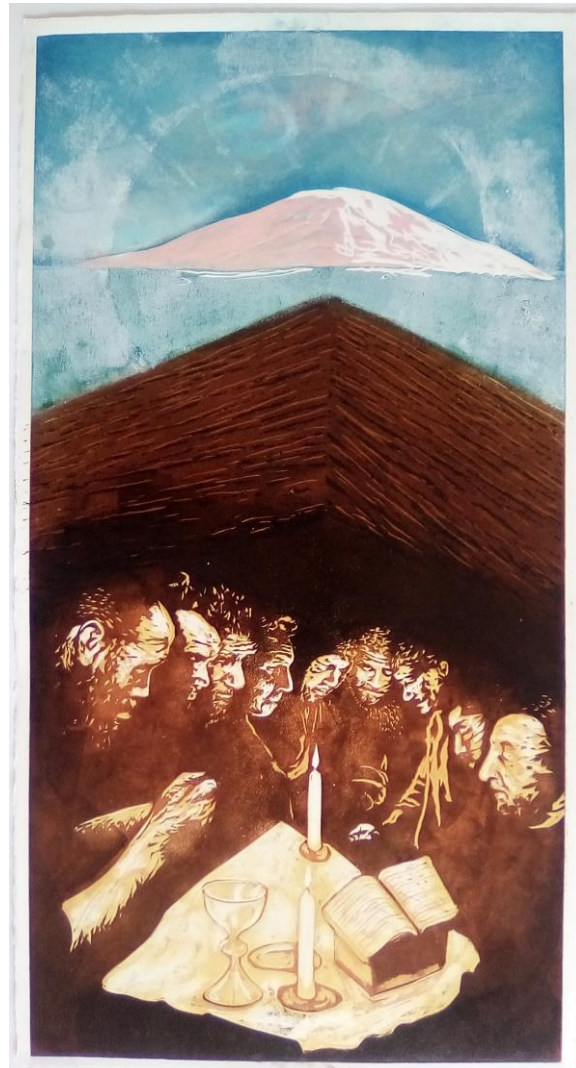
Sort Code/BSB: 060901, Swift Address: ANZBNZ22

Bank Branch: ANZ Dunedin, Bank Address: 71 George Street, Dunedin

Art Auction

On March 12th 2020 at the Community Gallery, Dunedin an auction of works by over 25 New Zealand artists and by one English artist took place to raise funds for the stained-glass window in honour of Arnold Spencer-Smith. The auctioneer was actor, writer and producer Peter Hayden MNZM. The well-attended auction raised over \$12,000. Amongst the works generously donated by artists and parishioners two deserve special mention: **Treecreeper (1899), by Edward Wilson Dr.** Edward Wilson (1872-1912), was an English polar explorer, ornithologist, natural historian, physician and artist who died with Captain Scott and three others on their return from the South Pole in 1912. Wilson's artwork and objects relating to him appear in several collections. The largest collection of his artwork is held at the Scott Polar Research Institute at Cambridge, which cares for over 200 watercolours of British birds by Wilson, as well as a further 150 paintings made in Antarctica. The New Zealand Antarctic Heritage Trust kindly donated a reproduction of Dr. Edward Wilson's watercolour 'Treecreeper' for the auction. For further information about the discovery of Dr. Wilson's watercolour in Antarctica please follow the link:

<https://nzaht.org/118-year-old-painting-found-in-antarctica/>



'The Light' by Manu Berry

The Light 1/3 (2020), by Manu Berry this reduction woodcut print with some monoprint elements was created especially for the auction. 'The work depicts the Eucharist given by Spencer-Smith upon the return of the light after a long winter in Scott's hut, with Mt. Erebus in the background.' Berry has exhibited regularly in galleries around New Zealand, particularly in the South Island, since 2000, in solo and group shows and was a prizewinner in the Mainland Art Awards in 2005. Two prints of 'The Light' are available for purchase, please contact Fr. Michael vicar@allsaintsdn.org.nz for details

Prayer Almighty God we give you thanks for the life and witness of Arnold Spencer-Smith. We thank you that he had the courage to journey south and to care for his companions in extreme conditions. We thank you for his devotion to the sacraments and to pastoral care. May we be inspired by his example to hear your call, to marvel at your Creation, and to care for others even when we are in need of care ourselves. We ask this through Jesus Christ your son who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit one God now and forever. **Amen**

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