

AAW Report for General Synod 2026

I have pleasure in presenting my Association of Anglican Women's report to General Synod 2026.

Over the past three years of my Presidency for NZAAW I have had responsibility for AAW members in New Zealand and Polynesia.

Aims of the Association

1. To unite in prayer and participate in the mission of the Church
2. To promote, safeguard, and nurture Christian Family Life

The former highlights missions both overseas and locally, while the latter emphasises advocacy (women and children). The Executive meets twice a year (April/October). I chose to meet in Wellington at St Paul's Cathedral. The Executive comprises seven Diocesan Presidents from seven Dioceses in New Zealand. These Presidents report on activities within their groups and issues for discussion. There are also reports from Polynesia. Amongst the group are two Convenors: Overseas & Outreach and Social concerns. They support the Association's aims. There have been four mission projects during my Presidency, eg a canteen for an Anglican school in Fiji, the Rwenzori project in Uganda. Closer to Home, a container of essential tools and equipment to use in Climate Change situations in the Pacific. The Social Concerns convenor highlights Issues impacting families.

Circle Magazine

A published copy is sent out twice a year (March /September) supported by an Editorial team.

Previously four copies a year were published. The two publications are supported by two newsletters (June/ December). Circle Magazine allows AAW members to write (with photos) about activities and monthly meetings. I write an article based on one of the themes I chose for my three years as President: Prayer Praise and Purpose. Guest writers also contribute. The AAW website offers important reading for members.

AAW Triennial Conference 2024

Every three years a conference is held halfway through the Presidency. This was held in Havelock North at Woodford House an Anglican Secondary School for girls, April 14-19, 2024. The theme was Peace. Highlights included an opening address by the Deputy Mayor of Hastings. She shared childhood memories of her parents taking on the role of Parents at the Anglican Abbotsford Children's Home in Waipawa. She also shared how Christian values influence her Council Role. Some of the workshops included, Bible Studies can be fun, Missions, and Growing through Grief. One of my lasting memories was the beautiful singing by the Polynesian attendees.

Membership

Membership continues to be a challenge. This a reflection of the ageing population and the ability to attract younger members. A, S. W. A. T. Survey has recently been sent out to AAW members in New Zealand and Polynesia. Results will be collated soon and distributed to members. However members continue to enjoy Christian fellowship.

May God bless your General Synod

Dr Cynthia Prince

AAW Executive Committee