

**Presbyterian Parish  
of  
St Andrew & St Philip Birkenhead/Birkdale  
- A Profile**

**As a church, we aspire to be**

- Christ-centered
- Community Embracing
- Growing and active church
- Open and welcoming, embracing diversity and all ages while actively engaging with our community
- Encouraging to all our church family in their spiritual development while providing an environment that challenges participation and greater service to God
- A provider of worship and spiritual experience marked by inspirational and scriptural teaching, joyful music, and congregational participation
- Willing to embrace the future by adapting to change so we remain relevant and can cater to the needs of those seeking answers in our world and community
- Reaching out to children, youth and families in our community and meeting their needs by building on the present Mainly Music ministry and through our worship and social activities
- Pastorally caring for all our congregational family regardless of age or vocation

**Among the attributes of the minister we are seeking a:**

- Builder who can help us regenerate our membership with a particular focus on families
- Pastoral and Mission leader who will encourage congregational participation and action to build our church family experience and witness in the community
- Biblical Teacher who with charisma and a love of music will be able to inspire and feed our people in worship and develop their spiritual growth
- Wise Leader who can work with the different people in our church and community to bring out the best that they can offer while embracing diversity and multiculturalism
- Courageous Visionary who can communicate our vision that will carry us together into this new century in a vigorous, exciting and positive way
- Resourceful person who can use the resources available from our buildings, land, finances and people to improve what we can provide to our congregation and community

	<b>The Church</b>	<b>The District</b>
<b>General nature</b>	<p>The parish was established in 1914 when Birkenhead was a comparatively rural area with ferry links to Auckland city.</p> <p>It is now a small but viable city parish with inherent stability and tolerant attitudes. It has a close relationship with local Anglicans and Methodists. Recently there has been more contact with St Aidans Presbyterian Church in Northcote with a view to sharing ideas, working together and combining resources.</p> <p>There are two churches but only one worship centre and congregation which meet at Birkenhead. St Andrews Birkenhead and St Philips Birkdale are located in communities with distinct characteristics. There have been close personal and historical links in the past and only one set of committees. The comfortable 1970s Manse, a short walk from St Andrews, was recently enlarged and refurbished.</p> <p>It has been a one-minister parish except for a 20-year period when St Philips was part of the Birkdale Union Parish with its own minister. St Andrews has a modern office. A part-time youth worker was employed for two periods during the 1980s and 90s.</p> <p>St Philips services were discontinued in January 2011 and a review will need to be completed as to whether to re-start services or put the church up for sale or use it for other purposes. In the meantime a Tuvaluan Reformed Church is renting the church and there is an occasional relationship with them. A Cook Islands church group also uses the facilities on a Sunday afternoon.</p> <p>Music forms an important part of worship, where there are several musicians and an active choir.</p>	<p>Birkenhead is situated on the western side of North Shore City, with an extensive harbour coastline and lies close to the Auckland Harbour Bridge and Auckland CBD.</p> <p>Birkenhead was still semi-rural in the 1950s, but has since become totally urbanised. It became a city a few years before the reorganisation of local government incorporated it into the new North Shore City. It now shares a Community Board with Northcote.</p> <p>Birkenhead is a predominantly dormitory suburb with a little light industry, a few small shopping centres and an increasingly commercialised centre at Highbury, near St Andrews, in Birkenhead central. The increasing numbers of cafes are typical of the "café culture" developing in the community.</p> <p>Many of its working-age residents commute to other parts of the North Shore and the Auckland isthmus, as well as further afield. It is served educationally by 7 primary schools, 2 intermediates and 2 secondary schools. Tertiary students travel the short distance to Albany, Northcote and Auckland city.</p> <p>In the first decade of the new century there has been a significant influx of new immigrants from Asian countries and South Africa.</p> <p>Birkenhead is well-provided with parks, reserves and sporting facilities.</p>
	<b>The Church</b>	<b>The District</b>
<b>Socio-economic composition</b>	<p>The congregation comprises mainly retired, academic and professional people, as well as a few who own their own small businesses.</p> <p>Recently we have seen interest from professional younger couples who have been new arrivals to the Birkenhead area.</p>	<p>A former working-class suburb based around the Chelsea sugar refinery and market gardening, Birkenhead now has a predominant mix of professional, manager and administrative occupations. Birkenhead Point, Chatswood and coastal Birkdale / Beachhaven contain mainly upper-decile families with housing in the medium-high value bracket. Birkdale contains more middle to low decile rated families living in medium-low value homes.</p>
<b>Ethnic mix</b>	<p>The congregation is predominantly European New Zealanders, a Polynesian family and several Asians. Over the past five years there has been increasing interest from Chinese and other Asian people to join the congregation.</p> <p>In the last 2 years a Korean Presbyterian Church "the Good Neighbour" church has established itself using our church for their services and taking an office for their minister. This church has now joined the PCNZ and we have shared 2 combined services which have been enjoyed by both</p>	<p>Birkenhead is predominantly European with 70% of the population followed by Asian with 16%, are concentrated mainly, but not exclusively, in Birkdale.</p> <p>A wide range of other nationalities is present in small numbers. During the 1950s a significant number of Dutch, Scottish and English families settled in the district.</p> <p>Latterly significant numbers of Asian immigrants, predominantly Chinese and Korean, have settled mainly in Chatswood and Birkenhead Point.</p>

	<p>congregations. There is a growing relationship and we are encouraging them to join with us as one church with 2 ministries and 2 ministers one to Korean people and one to all others.</p> <p>Worship patterns and attitudes are basically still those of an orthodox nature although there is openness for enthusiastic musical expression with 3-4 musicians taking part each Sunday and a desire for thoughtful and challenging worship experience.</p>																															
<b>Age profile</b>	A high proportion of members are retired. Most others are in the 50+ range with a handful below the age of 50. There is no Sunday School or organized childrens worship group or activity outside of the Mainly Music group.	The district has a much more typical spread of ages than the church, and the number of schools indicates a school-age population of approximately 5000 out of about 30000 total population (including about 500 attending schools outside the district.)																														
<b>Population and membership</b>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Members</td> <td>94</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Associate Members</td> <td><u>47</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total roll</td> <td><u>141</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Males: 34</td> <td>Females: 107</td> </tr> </table> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Ages:</td> <td>-25</td> <td>26-45</td> <td>46-65</td> <td>65+</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>6</td> <td>13</td> <td>55</td> <td>67</td> </tr> </table>	Members	94	Associate Members	<u>47</u>	Total roll	<u>141</u>	Males: 34	Females: 107	Ages:	-25	26-45	46-65	65+		6	13	55	67	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Beach Haven</td> <td>9831</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Birkdale</td> <td>10575</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Birkenhead</td> <td>7839</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>28245</td> </tr> </table> <p>(2006 census)</p>	Beach Haven	9831	Birkdale	10575	Birkenhead	7839	Total	28245				
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<b>Finance</b>	<p>The parish is financially secure but depends on its church shop to ensure this security. The shop provides an outreach and pastoral function as well as a financial one.</p> <p>Special giving from the congregation for one off projects is very good and we have no trouble raising funds when necessary.</p> <p>There are several special purpose funds and bequests that can be used for special purposes.</p>	<p>Ethnic Groups in North Shore City, 2006 Census</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Male (%)</th> <th>Female (%)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>European</td> <td>66.5</td> <td>68.3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Māori</td> <td>6.7</td> <td>6.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pacific peoples</td> <td>3.5</td> <td>3.2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Asian</td> <td>18.1</td> <td>18.8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Middle Eastern/Latin American/African</td> <td>1.9</td> <td>1.7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other ethnicity</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>New Zealander</td> <td>10.6</td> <td>9.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other ethnicity-other</td> <td>0.1</td> <td>0.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>10.6</td> <td>9.1</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Male (%)	Female (%)	European	66.5	68.3	Māori	6.7	6.1	Pacific peoples	3.5	3.2	Asian	18.1	18.8	Middle Eastern/Latin American/African	1.9	1.7	Other ethnicity			New Zealander	10.6	9.1	Other ethnicity-other	0.1	0.1	Total	10.6	9.1
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<b>Committees</b>	<p>Church Council is made up of 9 individuals including the minister, the Korean minister an appointee from Presbytery &amp; 6 elders. The current minister attends each committee except Resource and chairs the Worship committee.</p> <p>There are 4 reporting committees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pastoral - very supportive of our aged</li> <li>- Outreach - two wings one looking after youth &amp; family with Mainly Music their biggest responsibility and the Beyond Our Doors committee seeking ways of doing outreach in our community &amp; enabling our people to maintain their witness</li> <li>- Worship - meet regularly with the minister to help enhance Sunday worship experience</li> <li>- Resource (= Board of Managers) - meet monthly &amp; currently working on big project of revamping front entrance of church</li> </ul>	<p><b>Church Council Vision &amp; Planning</b></p> <p>Church Council conducts an annual day away Strategic Planning meeting. Our current plan has the aim of doubling church membership by 2013 or the equivalent of adding 10 new people attending regularly each year.</p> <p>We wish to improve the physical facilities of the church so that we can offer a versatile place that can operate as a 7 day a week facility and resource.</p> <p>Finally, we seek to lift our public profile so that we can be a stronger influence for good and the delivery of the Gospel by improving what we currently do through the Church shop STACS and the foodbank and seeking new community projects and activities like the rock concerts we have started.</p>																														

<p><b>Activities</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Choir - sings every Sunday &amp; is capable of further development as it is ably lead and supported by several good musicians.</li> <li>• Foodbank - active each month delivering several food parcels &amp; maintaining a well stocked bank of food to meet emergencies.</li> <li>• Hospital and rest-home services - regular &amp; now the only church performing in this area.</li> <li>• Mainly Music - very well lead &amp; supported with keen response from mothers with young children.</li> <li>• The Beyond Our Doors committee is very active and organized a Beatles "Yellow Submarine" concert which was attended by nearly 200 people. A follow up rock concert which will be part of a series will be held in late August 2011.</li> <li>• Prayer Chain - capably run by Pastoral committee and regularly revised.</li> <li>• Regular Movie Nights are organized partly for fundraising but also as a way of involving our friends and family with us.</li> </ul>	
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