

70th
ANNIVERSARY
1953-2023



NAVIGATE

(FOUNDER JOE SIMMONS IN CHRISTCHURCH)

CELEBRATING 70 YEARS!!!

This edition of Navigate marks seventy years of The Navigators work in New Zealand. A work that has expanded through everyday people and staff working together on campuses, amongst 20s30s, in families, neighbourhoods, workplaces, rural settings, with churches, amongst internationals, alongside marginalised people, and into the nations.

My involvement with The Navigators began in 1983. When I first read Matthew 4:19, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people," God's promise ignited my imagination. Soon after, Jesus' commission in Matthew 28:19-20 inspired me to go and make disciples. As a new believer these promises expanded my vision and shaped my convictions about what is most important in life. The motto to *know Christ, make Him known and help others do the same* directed my life. I learned and applied these truths with like-minded friends in the Massey University Navigator student group.

I want to share a few of the many stories that illustrate Jesus' commission to go and make disciples, which inspired the Calling and Vision of The Navigators. It encourages me to know people,

further on in their faith journey, who continue to faithfully follow Jesus, share the gospel, and invest their lives into the lives of others. Well done and thank you for the example you give to me and others. It also encourages me as I see the faith and sacrificial commitment of the next generations as people 'live and disciple among the lost' of their generation.

The need to make disciples is as important today as it was seventy years ago. We continue to need people like Joe and Marie Simmons, who responded to God's calling to come to New Zealand and they faithfully gave their lives for the sake of the Great Commission. We all stand on the shoulders of those who have gone before us as we pass on to the next generation the things God has shown and done for us.

Thanks for labouring with us!

Yours,

Simon Cayzer
National Director



70 YEARS OF STUDENTS MINISTRY

REACHING THE 18-22 YEAR OLD DEMOGRAPHIC HAS BEEN A KEY TO SPIRITUAL GENERATIONS



Tim Simpson, Auckland Navigators student staff, asks students at the beginning of every year, “Have you considered Jesus’ claims now that you’re an adult?”


Regardless of the decade, Navigators student teams challenge students to know Jesus whether they have never read the Bible or are Christians. From the very beginning of The Navigators’ work in New Zealand, there has been a major focus on university students. Joe Simmons came from the UK to Christchurch, full of faith, trusting God to use him in a city he did not know. Not waiting around for people to find him, he got on his bike and went in search of students.

Why university students? Because the age between 18-22 is when students begin to think and behave as independent adults. They ask: will they believe what their parents have taught them about God? Will they consider who Jesus is for the first time? What will they give their lives to?

Jonathan Peacey is a Canterbury University graduate. As he reflects on his time during the 1980s when he was involved with Lynton and Philippa Brocklehurst’s ministry, he says, “I look around and see people who didn’t have the intentional spiritual investment in their lives that I had. They don’t have the foundations built in my life when I was a part of Lynton and Philippa’s ministry.”



Two things stand out about the Brocklehursts’ ministry: Lynton’s strong gift in teaching, and Lynton and Philippa’s life-on-life investment in people. Their emphasis on reading and discussing the Scriptures set the foundation for students’ lives. Lynton and Philippa guided and encouraged them to deepen their roots in Christ, ground their faith in the Scriptures and become committed to the Great Commission. Being taught to study the Bible and memorise Scripture are a crucial part of spiritual growth, but they only go so far in developing lives. To students, it was as much *who the Brocklehursts were and how they related* as to what they taught.

John and Wendy Buchanan were involved with the Canterbury ministry in the 1980s. Wendy’s faith deepened through regular one-on-one meetings with Philippa. She says, “[Philippa] blew on my spark of spiritual life and helped it burn steadily.” Through opening their home, inviting people to live with them, and being open with their struggles and their faith, the Brocklehursts left an indelible impression on former students. Lynton reflects, “It comes down to love and being willing to lay down your life for people. There’s a simplicity to ministry we often miss.” 

Nowadays, hoody-clad Navigators staff and interns head out across Auckland, Canterbury, and Lincoln campuses to meet a new generation of students. While the issues these students face are different to those of other generations, groups of students still gather to read the Bible and discuss the claims of Jesus. They spend time in one-to-one discussions, challenged to apply Scripture to their lives and pray for God to use them to reach their peers.

70 YEARS OF GRASSROOTS FRUITFULNESS

FOSTERING GRASSROOTS MINISTRY FROM THE NZ STUDENTS TO INTERNATIONAL WORKS


Mike and Audrey met The Navigators through people before they heard about The Navigators as an organisation. As a trainee nurse in the late 1960s Audrey met Wanaka Clibborn and a community of believers who were nurses. Audrey introduced Mike to Hamish Horton (Joe Simmons's son in law). Mike had recently come to faith and Audrey could see he was not receiving personal help to grow as she was experiencing. Hamish and Pam, with their young family, welcomed Mike into their home and invested in his spiritual growth.

Mike and Audrey were married in 1973 and were initially involved with working people. After two years they became involved with students at Canterbury university while working fulltime in teaching and nursing. They saw people come to faith in Jesus and helped them personally as they had been helped. One person Audrey helped in her faith was Annette whose daughter Merodie is featured in one of the Neighbourhood stories in this edition. In Annette and Merodie (along with their husbands Peter and Tom), and Merodie and Tom's children, we see our vision for spiritual generations lived out.

A feature of Mike and Audrey's lives has been their willingness to step out in faith and move to new cities and into new roles. Their move from Hamilton to Dunedin in 1979 involved Mike leaving teaching to work with The Navigators in student ministry alongside Audrey who worked as a stay-at-home Mum. Mike and Audrey still hear stories of people who came to faith through their involvement with students in Dunedin, and how the gospel has spread through these people to members of their own families.

During the 1970's there was a lot of sending to other countries including Australia, Taiwan, Singapore, the Philippines, India, Kenya, and Indonesia. Many people served as two-year International Trainees and longer-term missionaries. People in The Navigators grew up praying over world maps, being part of prayer groups for the nations, and hearing missionaries speak. Mike and Audrey said vision and heart for all nations was *part of the air we breathed*.

In the late 1990's Mike and Audrey became missionaries themselves when they responded to an invitation by the then US Director, Alan Andrews, to help Jim Petersen revive grassroots fruitfulness in the US Navigator Ministries. Mike went on to serve on the International Executive Team (IET) and be part of seeing the gospel planted and grow in many different cultures around the world. "The gospel can be planted in any culture if you plant the seed of the gospel without your own cultural wrappings, water this through prayer, and lay good foundations", says Mike. During this time Audrey contributed significantly in palliative care and hospice nursing leadership roles in the US and in NZ.

Mike and Audrey are now living in Auckland, engaged in a variety of ways in serving their community and relating to people who are not followers of Jesus. "As the father has sent me so I send you" motivates them as does the reality that we make visible the invisible love of Christ as we love people. They would love the next generation to know and abide in the love of Christ as the foundation for their lives (Ephesians 3:16-20). 



MIKE & AUDREY SHAMY WITH ASIA PACIFIC LEADERS

70 YEARS OF LIFELONG LABOURERS

LIFELONG SERVANTS OF JESUS CONTINUE TO 'SET THE PACE' FOR GENERATIONS YET TO COME

Allan and Maureen Goulstone certainly fit the description of 'lifelong labourers'. They've served on The Navigators' staff for fifty-two years, and their involvement with The Navigators spans sixty-five years—and counting. Wherever they are and whomever they are among, they seek to bring the good news of Jesus.

After initial contact with The Navigators through Eric Wilson in 1958, The Navigators invited them to join the staff in 1969. Allan gave up a secure and stable teaching position and had a young family. They served first with students and administration, then shifted into the community ministry, taking The Navigators 2:7 church discipleship series across the country and within Asia. Their primary focus was training pastors and leaders to use the material. Because the people they ministered to were living in various parts of New Zealand, they spent considerable time travelling to visit and encourage them in their faith. Even now, having retired from staff, they continue to support the ministry in prayer, and as they are able, to reach out to people in their retirement village.


"True Navigators, Allan and Maureen Goulstone are motivated in their fledgling community ministry by two things – the commands and promises of God and seeing God changing people," is a snippet from a Navigators newsletter from 1978 that highlights their shift to community ministry. Through ongoing faithfulness to the Scriptures, prayer, and people, they have established fruitful followers of God.

One couple they influenced is Ray and Margaret, retired farmers who are now working with Gideons. Ray and Margaret's faith stemmed from Ray's brother, Peter, who became a Christian through The Navigators ministry at Lincoln University in the 1970s. Peter shared Christ with his family shortly before he died in a plane crash just months after participating in a Navigators Summer Conference at which he attended a prayer seminar led by Allan. After this, Allan and others began praying for Ray and Margaret's salvation. Allan and Maureen met Ray and Margaret early in their faith. They began to disciple the couple, travelling to their farm to meet over weekends. They continued these visits and Bible studies for many years.



ALLAN & MAUREEN GOULSTONE

Throughout their lives, Allan and Maureen have had a faithful, ongoing input into the lives of individuals and couples. After decades of investment in people, they say, "Looking back, we discover people from our ministries who have had, and still have, the hand of God on their lives and are discipling in their contexts all over New Zealand."

As he reflects on lifelong labouring, Allan says, "We are all builders in God's Kingdom. I am like a builder who, wielding his hammer on a construction site, finds nails that need attention and gives them a whack. Others are doing the main building work, and I am a helper in the process. We have not been leaders in the work—just part of the team, helping where we can. As long as God gives us strength, we plan to stay with lifelong labouring." 

LIFELONG LABOURING: KEYS TO KEEP GOING


A few Navigators have shared about the practices that have enabled them to persist in lifelong labouring. Unsurprisingly, they are simple *and* reproducible.

BASICS – Maintaining a regular quiet time and time in the Bible, prayer, and Scripture memory is key. Lifelong labourers persevere in these practices.

TEAMING – We've got to do this together. Meeting with others to study the Bible and being with other labourers encourages us to continue.

MENTORING – Lifelong labourers are also lifelong learners. Learning from others ahead of us can show us the way forward. Who are you serving? Who might serve you?

Lynton Brocklehurst summarises it well: "(it's about) life-on-life, getting alongside people, being totally committed to Jesus, willingness to serve, keeping the gospel pure."

BASICS, TEAMING, AND MENTORING... Why not take a moment with the Lord and ask if these areas still mark your life as you walk with and serve Jesus. 

70 YEARS OF FAITHFUL MODELS

FAITHFUL MODELS TO FOLLOW LIKE LIBBY HELP PASS THE TORCH TO THE NEXT GENERATION

Libby Hinton arrived in New Zealand from the UK in the late 1970s to support women in Wellington, particularly at Victoria University. Her motivation stemmed from God's promise to "make streams in the wasteland" and to pass on her faith with future generations in mind.

Libby served as a mentor and spoke into the lives of numerous women and men throughout New Zealand. Her profound compassion, coupled with the ability to offer wisdom, gentleness, and challenge as needed, made a significant impact. A mentee shared, "Libby spent a significant portion of the conference with me, the reason for which I could not fathom, particularly given who she was and the depth of her character. I was a nobody, but she made me feel like I was somebody of value. Her care for me over that time had a deep impact and felt like an encounter with Jesus."

In later years, Libby became a qualified spiritual director and courageously relocated to a new community on the opposite side of Wellington Harbour. Her desire to be close to nature, specifically the bush and sea, was a long-held dream. Additionally, she felt God leading her to be among people closer to her own age after dedicating her life to working with students and graduates.

Facing life struggles as a single woman, Libby extended herself by starting anew to connect meaningfully with those around her. Her strategy involved daily walks on the beach, trusting God to bring the right people into her life. Despite the challenge of building new connections at a stage where many people are settled, God provided, and Libby formed friendships, starting with a couple and their



LIBBY WITH FRANZISKA & STEFI

dog who warmly embraced her. Subsequently, she connected with others, including many single women.

Libby's focus on generations became a reality as she witnessed the children of her spiritual daughters' flourish and saw them embark on fruitful ministries in various contexts, impacting their own and the next generation. A spiritual granddaughter, who once assisted Libby with her computer, reflected, "Libby impacted me more than I realised as a teenager. She modelled how to be a Christian to me by her kindness, dependability and love for God's word. She made me want to learn more about God – in a heart kind of way. I felt deeply loved and cared for by her."

Libby's openness about her faith struggles and wrestling with God created an atmosphere where others felt honoured and invited in. This transparency provided the courage to persevere in their own circumstances, hearing Jesus' invitation to embrace His saving grace. 🙏



LIBBY HINTON WITH STEFI AND PHILIP PLIMMER

70 YEARS OF LABOURING WHERE YOU ARE

YOUNG COUPLES AND FAMILIES CONTINUE TO FAITHFULLY LABOUR RIGHT WHERE THEY ARE


THE MCCALLS

Recently, when Mallory McCall was walking in her neighbourhood with her two pre-school-aged children, a man with mental health issues began shouting at her, “You shine like the light of a thousand suns!”

Five years ago, Uriah and Mallory and their son Hassan moved into a new neighbourhood where Mongrel Mob and Black Power gangs live. Social housing surrounds their property, and their low-income neighbourhood shows the effects of economic poverty. It isn't the first choice for most middle-class, university-educated Christians to consider when buying a home.

Their children play in the nearby playground. They shop locally and frequent the community library, pool, and cafés. Staying close to home is a priority

because of the opportunities it affords to meet people and to become known and trusted. Uriah and Mallory prayer-walk daily around their neighbourhood, which often leads to short interactions or conversations. Initially, the neighbouring children ran off when Uriah or Mallory greeted them. Now, they play in the McCall's yard. Hassan, who's now sixteen, reflects, “Maybe they can feel the light and know that [our home] is a safe place.”

Please pray for Uriah and Mallory, along with their children, as they complete their move to Kailua, Hawaii in the US. They are trusting God to be able to add to their family through adoption. God has already planted them in a wonderful like-minded community there and they are in touch with The Navigators in Hawaii as well. 



THE MCCALL FAMILY

LABOURING WHERE YOU ARE (CON'T)



THE ROSES

Way above Christchurch, and bounded by hills and ocean, is Mt Pleasant, a leafy suburb where Tom and Merodie Rose live with their children. They felt called to live in this community, even though it is hard for outsiders to perceive need in this exceptionally functional, high socio-economic neighbourhood.

Rather than being a separate Christian presence in their community, Team Rose is active in the local community centre. Tom serves on the committee, Merodie and the kids participate in the preschool and Plunket groups, volunteer at the café and go to the weekly farmers' market. Over time, Tom and

Merodie have developed friendships. They say, "People confide in us," as evidenced recently by a challenging situation within the community that people went to Tom to talk about. In a culture where it's hard for people to be vulnerable to their incompetencies, people feel comfortable talking to Tom and Merodie. Light in the darkness.

Team Rose consciously chose to make this community their primary place of belonging. After initially feeling quite lonely, God has helped their attitude shift. "We've made an intentional effort to see these people as our people." To maintain their connection to The Navigators, they attend City-wide functions, Leadership Community, and local gatherings held across the district. 🙏

4 KEYS TO LIVING OUT THE GOOD NEWS TO YOUR NEIGHBOURS

#1 Look - draw a relational map of your neighbourhood and prayerfully reflect on people and relationships. Walk and pray around your neighbourhood.

#2 Prepare - find others for support and accountability e.g., a mentor to pray and talk with, others intentionally reaching their neighbourhoods. Pray for a 'person of peace' in

your neighbourhood. Be prepared to share about Jesus.

#3 Develop rhythms - find routines that build community e.g., walks, dinners, games night. Who can help host?

#4 Clear purpose - consider your purpose and initiatives. Persevere, trust take time. Speak your faith - share your story, pray for others, be intentional. **Romans 10:14-17**

70 YEARS OF FAITHFUL PARTNERSHIPS

PARTNERING TO LAUNCH THE NEXT GENERATION HAS BEEN A HALLMARK OF OUR WORK

From the early Navigators days of Joe Simmons and others ministering from the Christchurch YMCA, The Navigators work has grown over 70 years to cities, towns and rural areas of New Zealand and into the nations. We thank God for the movement of the gospel in people's lives and for the generosity of many faithful partners over the years.

As The Navigators looks forward to the next 70 years, we are trusting God for many of the same things: that God would raise up people who are wholeheartedly following Jesus in all areas of their lives and that they would help others do the same. We want to reach people in this country and the world.

Would you consider partnering with us? The National Leadership Team has identified key areas of focus for the next 5 years to position the work toward greater fruitfulness across our Navigators work. The focus areas include growing our team of mobile alongsiders, supporting gatherings for leaders, staff, and labourers, and enabling national leaders to meet and serve our work. We also need to fund our national administration, and most importantly, raise up a new generation of staff and leaders.

We are trusting God for an additional \$70,000 each year. For 2024, this will launch a new staff couple, increase our



BEN & DEE BURNELL JOINING NAV STAFF

staff fund to assist current staff, and enable us to bring our next generation of leaders together. You can give:

by visiting: navigators.org.nz/donate —or—

by making a transfer to this account:

The Navigators: **06-0805-0039332-03**. Include your name and 'Next70' as the reference or

by emailing: admin@navigators.org.nz

The words of **Psalm 23:6**, 'Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life' are proven true in these moments. 🙏

70 YEARS OF GROWTH IN COMMUNICATIONS

IN 2024 WE WILL TRANSITION TO EMAIL & WEB DELIVERY OF NAVIGATE. EMAIL DEAN SMYTH TO 'OPT-IN' FOR POST

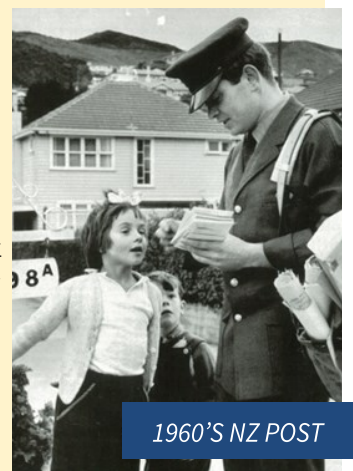
Typewriters, dot matrix printers, fax machines, and the chunky photocopier – each were once found in modern workplaces but now reside in museums. The world keeps changing and so do our methods of communication.

The Navigators are moving more to digital communications due to increasing financial and environmental costs. In 2024 we will begin a monthly national email which will contain the same content as Navigate and replace all previous newsletters, other than staff newsletters and our prayer newsletter. We will also send additional emails about National Leadership Team and board gatherings across the year.

Going forward, the Navigate publication will only contain the content of the monthly emails. They will be compiled and then sent out to a smaller group a few times a year for those who would like to still receive paper.

For those of you who wish to continue to receive the hard copy publication, you will now need to **opt in** to receive Navigate by post. We currently do this for our prayer newsletter and it works really well. To opt in, please email dean@navigators.org.nz or call Dean at the national office (03 351 1377). As we already have your email addresses on file, just let us know if you're opting in for post delivery or to update email.

Thanks taking time to update your preferences and for helping us to adapt! 🙏



1960'S NZ POST



Our calling is to advance the gospel of Jesus and His kingdom into the nations through spiritual generations of labourers living and discipling among the lost