

Columba Library Brochure

Many churches retain a library of sorts, consisting mostly of an accidental collection of books donated after having outlived their usefulness to the donor. This church was no exception.

In June 2015 an extensive private library was gifted to the church from the estate of the late Prue Neild – a respected member and Elder Emerita who died in April of that year. The gift was accepted and a process of classification began.

The Prue Neild Collection forms the basis of Columba Library. Its purpose, as determined by the Church Council, is to establish and maintain a unique local resource which encourages exploration and deeper understanding of Christian heritage, and its contemporary relevance. It is a collection of books which are reflective of contemporary philosophy, scientific thought and theological enquiry.

It is not a suitable repository for old, fragile and possibly valuable books. With the above criteria in mind, further donations of books are welcomed. This may be done through the church office. Each gift will be accepted with gratitude and assessed as to its suitability for inclusion in Columba Library. Should a book be deemed to fall outside the criteria for inclusion it shall firstly be offered back to the donor, and thereafter to other libraries and collections.

Using the Library

The library is in the little chapel, upstairs above the foyer. It is open from 9.00 am to 12 noon (office hours) Monday to Friday, Sunday mornings and at other times by request.

The Library Catalogue

The catalogue is available on line or you can browse the shelves during opening hours.

On line <http://connect.collectorz.com>
log in
name – StColumbas
password – neildcollection
click on – book collection

In the library a list of the main categories, with shelf locations, is on the wall immediately to the left as you go in

Borrowing a Book

Inside each book is a card detailing the title of the book and the shelf number. Record your name, the date borrowed and your phone number and place the card in the box provided. The details will be entered into the data base and the card held in the office until the book is returned. Also in the book is a bookmark, clearly stating that the book belongs to Columba Library. Please keep it with the book and use it as a reminder that the book needs to be returned.

Returning a Book

A book may be returned directly to the office during office hours or placed in the box in the foyer. The book will be reunited with its identifying card and the data base updated to indicate that the book has been returned.

Let fossickers and borrowers enjoy the exploration, the peaceful space and the view.

Donating a Book

Before donating a book(s), please consider the following;

“The book(s) I am offering the St Columba Library:

MUST:

1. be gifted unconditionally. (*St Columba's is given absolute ownership with no 'tags'. You are happy whatever the Library decides to do with it, now and in the future.*)

YES NO

2. not be rare, valuable, or fragile. (*Our facilities can't cope with individual books needing special care. Family Bibles containing genealogical information should be referred to the NZ Society of Genealogists. (www.genealogy.org.nz)*)

YES NO

SHOULD:

3. meet the criteria of encouraging and facilitating a reader's exploration of Christian heritage in all its history, dimensions, and horizons.

YES NO

4. reflect contemporary theology, contemporary philosophy and attitude, and contemporary scientific thought - whilst not excluding essential historical backgrounds.

YES NO

5. have been personally appreciated for its content and quality, and is being gifted in the spirit of sharing because others may appreciate it too. *“I have ‘got things’ from this book. I think others will too. It deserves a home where it will invite a ‘read’ and be comfortable with its shelf mates!”*

YES NO

Assessment:

If you have ticked 'YES' for Box 1 and Box 2, and YES for at least two other Boxes, then do please offer the book to the library! Many thanks.