



Morialta Vision



Volume 2 Issue 4

August 2009

From the Minister

Dear Friends.

I have been wondering ...
why ... how ... if ...

Wonder is a great human capacity, both the sense of awe and of mystery about the things that are, and the ability to imagine new possibilities in the future. Wonder is a powerful emotion that lies at the heart of life, at the heart of what it is to be human.

I find wonder in the sight of the night stars, in the story of the beginning and their unfolding history. I am filled with awe at the rumble of a jet engine passing close overhead, and with the last dwindling note of a piece of music.

How wonderful it is to see love and friendship in the eyes of another person as you meet. How amazing to discover new

depths of connectedness in science and mathematics, and in my relationships with other people.

Wonder is important in our faith. Not just the wonder of awe and mystery but the questioning wonder that invites us to move beyond the surface to new discoveries.

Questions that encourage us to wonder, "I wonder what it felt like to be that little boy who gave his lunch to Jesus?", often provide much greater opportunities for learning and growth than questions that seek a right answer, "How many loaves and fishes did the little boy give to Jesus?"

Those invitations to wonder are invitations to allow the stories of our faith to speak anew into our own lives.

Wondering together is part of our planning, or being ready for our future; wondering what opportunities for mission are waiting for us next week, next month, next year? There are some things we can plan for and there are some that may take us by surprise.

In wondering about the possibilities together we can't have every detail of our next step planned out but hopefully we can have developed a readiness to respond to whatever surprise God leads us into.

I wonder if we will be as ready as that little boy to share what we have so that God can do new and wonderful things among us?

Grace and peace

Diane

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"I wonder what it felt like to be that little boy who gave his lunch to Jesus?"

"How many loaves and fishes did the little boy give ...?"

Winds of the Spirit

Over the next few weeks you'll notice something strange and wonderful happening within Morialta Uniting Church.

Throughout the month of September our congregation will be preparing for a journey – a journey with the Spirit. The journey will happen on many different levels – physically, mentally, spiritually and metaphorically.

On the purely physical level you'll notice something new happening in the church each Sunday.

The first sign will be the appearance of a small red sailing boat which the congregation will be invited to prepare for a voyage.

In subsequent weeks various arrangements will be made. The boat will need a mast – which could be viewed as a symbol of the cross. We'll then have to decide on the essential items we need to pack for our journey, such as a sail to catch the wind; a crew to set sail and a captain to steer; an anchor to hold us fast in

rough weather; and a map and compass to help us navigate the waters.

It will be an exciting and challenging time as we prepare for the voyage – a voyage to sail our church into its future mission.

We'll all be challenged to think anew about giving to the church – giving of our time, our talents and our treasure. For it's only through our generous giving and sound stewardship that we will steer a course for our church into the future.

And so let's renew our pledge and commitment to share our gifts out of love and gratitude to God, our community and each other.

Bon Voyage!



COLOURS OF WORSHIP

Red



After the comments on our colourful paraments in the previous edition of Vision several people have expressed interest in learning more about the

drapes that enhance our worship.

In February 1994, the Elders' Council of Morialta Uniting Church established a Task Group with the brief to 'enhance and integrate' the sanctuary area of the Chapel Street Church. As part of this process, four sets of drapes were designed and constructed in the liturgical colours of purple, white, green and red.

The red set of paraments is the set we see least of, appearing at Pentecost and on other high occasions of the church such as anniversaries ordinations and inductions.

This set combines the images of Pentecost, dove, flame and fire, with kingly overtones.

The Communion Table

A stylised crown includes a central cross flanked by two 'T' crosses, all topped by flame.



The Lectern

Five seeds sit under gum blossoms, all of which are encased in flame. Just as much Australian flora requires fire to crack open seeds for regeneration, so too can we come to our full flowering by the fire of the Spirit.

The Stoles

Falling water droplets represent the living water of Christ that gives new life.



The Pulpit

The Spirit dove descends, overlaid with three flames suggesting the Trinity.

Holy Places

There have been places where I have travelled that have for me been very special and where I have felt a real spiritual presence. Whether this has been because events that have occurred or whether because of the closeness of God's spirit special things have occurred I do not know. However Holy Island off the north coast of Northumbria is one such special place.

Sir Walter Scott describes it beautifully in this poem.

"For with the flow and ebb, its style
Varies from Continent to Isle.
Dry shood o'er sands, twice every day,
The pilgrims to the shrine find way.
Twice every day the waves efface
Of staves and sandelled feet the trace."

In 635 AD King Oswald, who had spent many years on Iona, believed that his land could be healed of its many woes by Christian teaching. At his request Saint Aidan came to Northumbria with some monks and they were given the Island of Lindisfarne to set up their monastery. St Aidan found great blessing on his retreat to the Island but spent days, weeks or sometime months is serving the people, visiting the sick, helping the poor and teaching them about Jesus Christ. Saint Aidan's life took on the lifestyle of retreat and service.

Twice a day people can cross from the mainland either by foot following the Pilgrim's path or as I did crossed the three miles on a raised causeway in a bus. Even using the causeway one must obey the tides or be caught in the fast rising water. Along the causeway are little raised huts where the tardy can shelter for the many hours of high tide.

Bev Tredrea



"THE RESCUE BOX"

If I wait too long to go to my island of solitude,
If I wait too long to cross the tidal flats.
I'll get caught in the terror and chaos of the
Incoming tide. It comes in gently at first,
Barely noticeable. But once I'm caught off guard,
Lingering too long, its final rush is mercilessly
Fierce and fast. Its drowning powers will
Overwhelm and destroy me.
But there is a rescue box – on stilts high above the causeway –
That I can climb to. There in that tiny cubicle with the waters
Surging all around, is God and safety and calm."

David Purling writes...

They are noisy birds, the Mynahs.

Well we call them the noisy Mynahs. We see a lot of them around our way and they do carry on!

But when I saw this one, I was on my way through the Botanic Gardens to visit the RAH. This one, and a few of its mates, were having a lovely feed and were not at all shy. In fact, there was a man there getting quite close with a very large professional looking camera!

So I stepped right up and got my photo as well.

The birds are actually known as the Common Mynah, and my "Birds of Australia" book describes them thus; "voice varied, noisy. Habitat about urban areas. Mainly on ground; 'bouncing' walk; 'arrogant' "

What struck me as I walked to the hospital? Was this the same ordinary bird that I'd seen so often in the trees in the park next to our home?



It looked so striking on the beautiful 'red hot pokers'. Perhaps I needed to see afresh this 'bouncing, arrogant, noisy' bird; so different in the environment of the Botanic gardens, to actually appreciate it!

Perhaps the following story will help to make a point more eloquently. No, it's not about a Mynah, but another fairly common bird.

St Kevin and the blackbird

"At one Lenten season, St Kevin, as was his way, fled from the company of men to a certain solitude, and in a little hut that did but keep out the sun and the rain, gave himself earnestly to reading and to prayer, and his leisure to contemplation alone. And as he knelt in his accustomed fashion, with his hand outstretched through the window and lifted up to heaven, a blackbird settled on it, and busying herself as in her nest, laid in it an egg. And so moved was the saint that in all patience and gentleness he remained, neither closing nor withdrawing his hand: but until the young ones were fully hatched he held it out unwearied, shaping it for the purpose."

Helen Waddell, *Beasts and Saints*

From the Chairperson

Council's recent participation in a Focus Day prompted much in my thinking. The day is described below in Christine's article.

In looking at the book *Christianity for the Rest of Us* we were required to read at least a couple of chapters that were described as Signposts. We shared our insights, in small groups, and had

an opportunity to learn a little more about ourselves and other members of council and team leaders.

This isn't the place to provide a book review, but I would like to encourage members of the congregation to get the book from the Church Library.

A thing that appealed to me and the sense I have of my faith journey was the naming of

the key characteristics of Christian Practices as Signposts

One of the questions I think we need to ask ourselves occasionally is what signpost would we want to point towards Morialta? In other words how do we want to be perceived by the members of the community we seek to serve?

Bruce

Council Focus Day : Leaders at Morialta, a Community of Faith



Church Councillors and leaders from two of our Ministry Teams gathered at The Corner UCA on Saturday 1st August for spiritual development and reflection. Members had read chapters from Diana Butler Bass's book *Christianity for the Rest of Us*. Diana's thesis that 'when

three interconnected spheres of activity – *practice, tradition, and wisdom* – are intentionally engaged they form an *architecture of vitality* upon which congregations build vibrant communities' challenged us to review how these practices are evident in Morialta Congregation and how they might influence our leadership both as individuals and as a Church Council.

Practices are like *signposts* telling us who we are as Christian people who meet fundamental human need. They are underpinned by theological reflection, and are grounded in extending the hospitality we experience in God's transforming love to the world around us.

Tradition is intentionally reflecting on the past, recalling the insights and experiences of God's people over time, and expressing it

appropriately in the context of our own time.

Wisdom is 'actionable knowledge', a meaningful way of life that extends beyond answers to questions. *Wisdom* is 'following Jesus' teaching to love God and love your neighbour".

As leaders, our challenge is to reflect on what God is calling each of us to do and our role in ensuring Morialta is a hospitable community of Christian practice.

Rev Wes Howland outlined to us the continuing journey that brings new life to The Corner. Some of the signposts he alluded to are the discernment processes that brought congregations together, worship that is authentic and meaningful, beauty in art and craft, and hospitality offered at the Cafe.

We experienced that hospitality through use of the fresh and comfortable rooms and the good food served to us through the day.

Our day concluded with a delicious meal at Diane and Kim's.



Christine Secombe

Our Community Centre has a new Logo!



What does it look like to you?

Is it Staid? Contemporary? Fussy? Dull?
Confusing? Pleasing? Lively?
Can you see anything that relates to real life?
Can it possibly relate to welcome, to hospitality?

Each of us will have our own set of responses, but like all good logos, this one has many layers of meaning.

When we first reflected on what elements a new logo might contain, Christine mused that a coffee cup would be a simple symbol of friendship, acceptance and welcome. Can you see it now?

But look further at the 'saucer':

It is also a smile
It is shaped to embrace
It is supporting
It gives the image a sense of dynamic movement

And what's that inside the cup? The 'dots' could be many things.

They could simply be coffee beans
Or strands of activity
Or, variously coloured, represent diversity ... and inclusion
Or how about they represent people, each individually important
Or people together in community

And the cup itself:

Open
Inviting
Upper lines reaching outwards and upwards
The cup and the handle, at a stretch, could be two 'C's standing for Community Centre
And look at the point of intersection of the saucer with the cup – is that not a cross, symbolising our Christian imperative?

We hope you like it,
because you will be seeing lots of it in the months and years to come.

Christine Ostle writes ...



I find that there is no better way to learn about an area than to walk the area. Because of my family arrangements I have sometimes arrived at church early in the morning hence I walk 8:00-8:45. I also sometimes like a lunch time walk. I can now say that I have walked north, south, east and west of the church.

When I was walking in Rostrevor recently, I met a grandmother and her grandson from our playgroup. The three year old was engrossed in the workings of a tractor digging at the side of the road. There was a mutual feeling of delight to run into each other. We walked and talked as they went home to meet the boy's father who had just come home. It gives a feeling of belonging to meet local people in the street.

In my other work I have visited a number of churches and early childhood centres. I have discovered that playgroup ministry is a significant field of outreach in this era. Most progressive churches have three to four playgroups operating.

I have also found that community gardens are a popular field of outreach. Not much space is needed for a vegetable garden. I have seen some where the vegetables are grown in raised boxes.

These are just a few of the many ways that I have seen churches and community centres providing a place for people to come and feel that they are participating in something meaningful.

Our challenge is to discern where God is leading us in Christian outreach. I would love to hear from anyone who has a vision about a creative new ministry or a re-igniting of a previous outreach.

Morialta's Festival of Ideas

Bruce Petty, the renowned Australian cartoonist, author, film producer and artist was invited to the recent Adelaide Festival of Ideas where he played a leading role in a panel directed by Phillip Adams which discussed where great ideas come from.

The panel failed to precisely answer that basic question but gave examples of how important ideas come from a person at the right moment in time which it could be developed and nurtured by others. Rarely are new ideas a singular contribution to humankind. Petty used the windscreen wiper which started as a hand driven aid on the first motor cars and was developed to withstand greater than sound speed forces on the Concord.

Stress, war and dreaming were cited as times which have prompted these ideas.

Bruce Petty was at Morialta on the 7th November 2009 to mourn and celebrate the life of Ian Cox. Over afternoon tea we renewed our acquaintance of each other. In the course of our conversation which followed I recalled the wonderful

mechanistic like cartoons he drew for Ian and Jean's 40th wedding anniversary.

This led to a discussion of the church ideas at Morialta, he being a lapsed Methodist and the inputs to those ideas by Ian in the 1970s and 80s. He praised the service conducted by Diane and listened with interest to the community programs conducted at Morialta. Ideas we had developed over the years. Not ground-breaking ideas like those discussed by the Festival panel but sound, solid, everyday ideas such as our inclusive worship and liturgy, play group, coffee corner, the woodwork shed and "Gateways" which have arisen from individual ideas and been nurtured forward by the faith and hard work of the church family.

I am sure Bruce Petty would acknowledge that Morialta has a festival of ideas worth talking about.

Arthur Tideman.

12th Assembly of the Uniting Church in Australia

A Pilgrim People . . .

It is when you experience a larger gathering of the Uniting Church that you get a real understanding of its strength.

This is expressed so eloquently in our *Basis of Union*:

"The Uniting Church affirms that it belongs to the people of God on the way to the promised end".....and ..."prays that, through the gift of the Spirit, God will constantly correct that which is erroneous in its life, will bring it into deeper unity with other Churches, and will use its worship, witness and service to God's eternal glory through Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen."

The journey in which members from synods, presbyteries, congregations, agencies and all facets of the UCA engage every three years is an ongoing expression of these words in the *Basis of Union*.

This Assembly engaged in discussion and discernment on wide-ranging and significant issues in the life of the Uniting Church and its place in a broader Australian context.

Reports are available on the Assembly website:
www.assembly2009.uca.org.au

The Assembly that cried

Many people cried at the 12th Assembly of the Uniting Church in Australia, meeting at the University of New South Wales in Sydney. Tears of sorrow, regret, grief, anger and frustration. And sometimes tears of joy.

Much was accomplished by the triennial peak decision-making meeting, including several far-reaching reforms. New relationships were forged and old relationships strengthened across the divides of gender, race, geography and faith.

Coming and going

The Assembly welcomed new President the Rev. Alistair Macrae. Guests from all states, other countries, and other denominations and faiths witnessed his installation at the opening service. In his sermon on Living Water Thirsty Land, Mr Macrae called the church to leave behind the

"demonic preoccupation with survival" and "risk everything" to share the sacred water of Jesus Christ.

Tears were shed during the emotional farewell to Mr Henderson, who shared his pride at having led the church through a period of renewal and growth. Mr Henderson honoured those with whom he had served over the past three years. He choked back tears himself as he thanked those who had supported him through the illness of his wife Alison, who died in 2007.

Principal of the Uniting College for Leadership and Theology in Adelaide, the Rev. Dr Andrew Dutney, was chosen as President-elect. The Rev. Terence Corkin was reappointed as General Secretary.

The Assembly noted with sadness the recent closing of Coolamon College, the national training body for lay education in Adelaide. The Assembly recorded appreciation for Dr Lee Levett-Olson and Dr Marelle Harisun for their service through the college.

Congress matters

Many items of Assembly business related to the relationships between the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress and other parts of the church. Most of those discussions were highly emotional.

The first business day began with a moving celebration of the Covenant between Indigenous and non-Indigenous church members, established at the 1994 Assembly. Jill Tabart, Assembly president in 1994, repeated her expressions of sorrow and commitment made to Indigenous church members 15 years ago. Newly-elected Congress Chairperson Ken Sumner and Vice Chairperson Roberta Stanley then reaffirmed the 1994 response of acceptance. Assembly members read together a statement affirming grief over past actions and commitment to restitution and healing. The Rev. Ronang Garruwurra from Elcho Island read a passage from Luke's gospel in his Djamburru language.

The most dramatic moments in the Assembly were experienced in deciding the new preamble to the church's Constitution. Debate had been

anticipated with both excitement and apprehension, partly because of perceptions there was inadequate consultation, and also due to concerns about Christology and Indigenous understandings of God. Although strongly supported by the Congress and others, it had its determined opponents too.

Many members on Sunday evening spoke, argued, asked questions and proposed amendments. Profound distress was expressed by many speakers. At one highly emotional point Congress representatives told the meeting they felt "unsafe" and withdrew from the Assembly. This was followed by expressions of profound hurt, dismay, sorrow and apology by non-Indigenous members. President Alistair Macrae then led the entire Assembly outside the meeting hall where they joined with the Congress representatives before re-entering.

It was agreed late Sunday evening that the preamble proposal would be put to the Assembly again on Monday morning. But without any further discussion. Next morning President Macrae sought passage of the resolution by consensus, that is, without dissent. With seven dissenters, this failed. The Assembly then shifted to formal procedures where a 75 per cent majority is required. A 97 per cent majority supported the proposal. The controversial preamble takes the Uniting Church Covenant between Indigenous and non-Indigenous members to a new level. It places the Aboriginal and Torres Straits Islander people front and centre of the denomination's life and witness.

Later on Monday, the Assembly experienced an equally difficult session. This related to the constitutional amendments which give expression to the changes to the status of Congress reflected in the preamble. Not all proposed amendments were accepted. But most were. They allow for Congress to request the transfer of rights, powers, duties and responsibilities of a synod or presbytery, with an appeal mechanism if a synod does not respond to a request from Congress for such a transfer.

When all deliberations had ended with most proposals passed, there was an overwhelming sense of relief. Many present, Indigenous and non-Indigenous, once again cried for joy or relief. Most felt a profound spirit of reconciliation.

Days for thought...

Because I have to go everywhere with Bruce I recently went to Sydney for the Assembly of the Uniting Church. Bruce behaved himself on the flight over and we arrived in Sydney without any problem. It didn't take me long to find the UCA symbol at the airport and we were soon on the shuttle bus arriving at the place where we were going to stay. Diane came too.

I was lucky. I was given a nice flat to stay in. Bruce was allowed to stay there, too. He had to open the doors to let me out in the morning so I could do

what I needed to do. Although, on the first morning he managed to pick up the wrong ribbon and we were locked out of the flat. I tried to warn him, but sometimes he just doesn't listen!

Most of the time over the next few days I spent waiting around for Bruce. Somebody else will write something about Assembly, but a thing that stood out for me was the election of Andrew Dutney as the next President. There were a lot of people there. I remembered some of them from last time, but I met a few more nice humans as well.

As usual Bruce was a bit of a killjoy. He just

wouldn't let me have any fun at all! One night, when we were walking back to the hall, I saw an annoying cat in the bushes. I tried to get at it, but Bruce wouldn't let go of his lead. I would have come back. Bruce is also getting better at stopping me from reaching the scraps on the floor, which is a real problem.

Anyway, I heard Bruce saying that he felt privileged to have attended Assembly and I am really glad to be with him, so I had a good time too!

Keely Ind



I was very impressed with the amount of effort that had gone into the production. -Will

My first experience of socializing with the Morialta congregation was richly rewarded. I felt like I was once again a 10 year-old child sitting in front of black and white television watching Rolf Harris - only this time it was in brilliant colour.

Well done to every one - caterers and performers! - Christine



We had 17 "outsiders" at the Aussie-Rama. All agreed to their last wrinkle that it was a great show and well worth more for the ticket. Midge and Stan, who have been keen theatre goers around the world, said it was the best church function of its kind they had ever been to. Bevan, the most difficult eater we know, said it was an excellent meal.

What a fabulous night! -
Dinky - Di Aussie!



I was amazed that even some of our guests, born and bred in SA, did not know which way up to put the pie in the soup, which by the way, should be deep green and sludgy and full of iron and zinc. I don't think the soup I had met that standard.

- Arthur

Great compere style (hair, costuming and all!) and wonderful visual backdrops; dramatic readings and presentations of stories and texts; music to tug the Aussie heart-strings and fantastic performances by iconic and local artists. Great grub!



My friends and I really enjoyed the night.

Highlights:

The Entertainment - FANTASTIC!
The Food - DELICIOUS!
And they commented on how everything was so well run ...and how the men in the Congregation helped to make it such a success!
They were so thrilled that they could come and all look forward to the next one!
Many thanks! - June

Wonderful, diverse participation by an extended number of Morialta-ites who shared their own enjoyment in entertaining the 140 strong very-full house!



A superb range of Aussie nostalgia and embellishments, way-back lore and recent hits and writings!

Don't despair - the Drive-way / Drop-off Project is not forgotten!

The application for a Community Benefits SA grant was not successful and we will now move to the previously agreed back-up plan! Acting on the Congregation's agreement, Council will progress the plan to fund the Drive-way/Drop-off project from Morialta's Surplus Property Funds. This will also use the Synod Grant of \$25,000 which we were awarded earlier. Discussions are now underway with Paul Gillett in a step towards calling for tenders.

In the meantime, we encourage drivers transporting those members who find the slope and surface difficult, who use walking frames and other supports, to drive right up to the foyer doors, or to stop at the entrance door on the western transept. We will endeavour to make sure that that door is open for those who want to enter there.

Boy, am I glad that the DriveWay Drop Off is finally going to be done

Bruce, be careful going up the slope. And don't run over Feely's tail



Bruce goes to the last Planning Meeting for the DriveWay Drop Off



Quiz Night ...

Congratulations to our Youth & Young Adults Mission Ministry Team! The annual Quiz Night was a success in every sense – great fun, excellent level of challenge and presentation, well attended by

15 tables groups of 8-10 per table, and achieving some \$1200 in ticket sales and games.

Special merit awards for the evening's presentation to Kim Bury (Quiz Master Supreme), Diane Bury (Computer Scoring Wiz), and Margaret Cargill (Crystal-clear MC). Great work by team: Miranda Clarke, Leonie Brown, Sarah Heatley!



Special thanks to sponsors, the businesses in our community, who supported with prizes:

- | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Price Slashers | Hines Hardware | Magill BBQ Chicken |
| Busy Lizzie Flowers | A Life Abundant | Magill Foodland |
| Magill Fruit & Veg | Cutting Remarks | Hair by Adele |
| Quiltaholics | Magill Bakers Delight | |

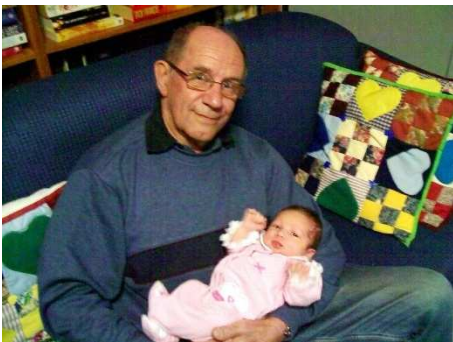


FELLOWSHIP BONUS NIGHT



Baptism

Angus & James,
sons of
Gail & David
Scrymgour,
grandsons of
John Grooms



GRANDPA DAVID AND SOPHIE



Glad Mason and Mary Barrie share a Cuppa and a Joke.



KEELY TRAINING FOR THE CROWS!



Birthdays

Several people have celebrated birthdays recently and we have joined in the good wishes. Others have slipped through the net – but **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to all, even if we haven't got your birthday picture.



Mission Sunday Service - 2 August 2009



Mission Projects Team wish to express their appreciation to everyone for responding to our Mission Sunday Pot of gold. We were pleased that our new way of giving this offering was so well supported with \$503 being received.

Hearing how people can give of their time and talents in a practical way, and being able to support them gives us an insight into what can be done.

Part of this year's project is for the area in Timor in association with Fusoni the Community Development arm of the Protestant Church in East Timor. David plans to return next year as part of a work party to rebuild an airstrip for another airport. We will report on what is being done when plans are made.

Our third Project is for Victoria Hospital operated by the Church of South India in Dichpalli, treating Leprosy patients. Over the years leprosy patients have established villages around the perimeter because they were not able to return to their homes. Even today people living in these villages, although cured or never even having the disease, are rejected by society. There is an extreme level of poverty and many depend on charities to survive.

The project aims to alleviate the poverty of the children of these patients by providing them with vocational training. Children receive training and practical experience in carpentry, brick making, masonry, tailoring, embroidery, electrical repairs and plumbing. This is given over 12 months, enabling them to seek work to support themselves.

As part of Social Education activities, training in preparing nutritious food, poultry keeping, flower bed making, raising kitchen gardens, and healthy living have been provided.

Wednesday's Woodworkers and Saturday's Refurbishers in ACTION!

Not only do the fellas (and others!) enjoy sharing jokes, sorting out the world, and finding someone who will listen to them, they also achieve things close to miracles.



Recently the Kay Grooms memorial garden seat has been refurbished to a beautiful golden brown. This has required patience, careful deliberation on products, and much diligence in achieving the finish. Well done!

This will continue to be enjoyed in memory of Kay.

Another beautiful piece restored and greatly appreciated by its owner is a chest of drawers.

Can you believe that when this piece came to the workshop it had been stained red! With great care the spindles were removed and cleaned on the lathe, drawers were repaired and the knobs were repaired or replaced. Over time it has been lovingly returned to a state worthy of its timber and design.



The Workshop has continued to be a success story for those with skills, those who need them and those who want to congregate for fellowship, lively conversation and a great deal of good humour.

BABIES BLOOMING

Playgroup enjoyed welcoming a group of eight new Mums and their babies in Term II.

It has been exciting and challenging as these young families have settled in. Our playgroup rooms have been restructured to accommodate the increased number.

It is a rewarding experience to see these babies grow and develop.

A big "Thank you!" to the morning tea volunteers for providing extra food and to the faithful team of men who installed pin-up boards on our walls. We have also enjoyed and are grateful for the support from Christine Ostle over the last few weeks.

With the love and grace of God we look forward to Term III.

Faye and Helen.

Kids' Club

Fortnightly activities are enjoyed by kids and adults alike. All enjoy eating together and investigating the night's theme. On this occasion it was musical, with a song, its words and music explored. Instruments, drums in particular, were made for what we understand was a rock-style performance!

Bev Tredrea would be happy to provide more information about the club and they would welcome more participants.



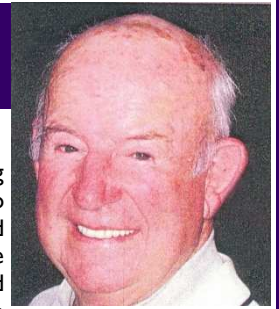
Mission Projects Concert - Myall Ensemble

Last Sunday around 60 people thoroughly enjoyed this well presented musical program of ensemble and solo work. Margaret Ulyett described it in her 'thankyou' as "My style of music and I think, yours!", with warm agreement in audience applause.

Ticket sales, plus the choir's generous return gift of the fee, raised another \$503 for Morialta's Mission Projects.

BARRY BOWMAN-NORTHEAST

Born at Crystal Brook on 24th of November 1936.



Extract from the Eulogy presented for the family by his son, Ian.

At age 13, his parents sold the farm and shifted to the city so Barry could get a good education. He attended Norwood Boys Tech, now known as Marryatville High School.

In these formative years he enjoyed playing sport, particularly footy. Here he developed some very strong relationships with his footy mates which lasted throughout his life.

He was fortunate to have the choice of several apprenticeships and chose the Electricity Trust of South Australia. He worked in the substation department at Marleston, eventually becoming Substation Foreman and over forty years he developed very strong bonds with his mates at ETSA.

Over the years it was apparent in discussion that there was a common theme of respect for his knowledge, his professionalism and for how conscientious he was toward his chosen career, but above all everyone would comment about how he was a top bloke.

Barry and Jan were married on 9 April 1960 and built the family home at Bonython Avenue, Magill, not just a house but a warm and loving home.

His son told of Barry being a very keen fisherman who had a burning desire (almost to the point of distraction) to catch the "big red" snapper. He had a 30 year burning ambition to get that big fish. Every time when out in the boat, he would have his big snapper line out. He managed to accidentally catch sharks, rays and every other type of fish but not that elusive snapper.

In 2000, some 30 years later, his sons organised a fishing trip to Whyalla – the Snapper Capital of the World - with some of the locals and it took an hour after launching the boat to get out to

the snapper grounds.

Within one hour he hooked into a big thumper and it took all his energy to land the dream. As he stood there and the photo was taken, his son could see 30 years of frustrations and determination seep out of his boots, he had finally achieved it. That photo was displayed at the service celebrating his life.

Barry was a blokes' bloke. He loved a cold beer and a BBQ, loved his footy, loved his fishing and certainly loved a loud belly laugh, but above all he loved his family.

From the 90's the arrival of his grandchildren Jake, Emma, Carly, Nick and Zac provided him with another level of pure joy.

Barry loved nature and would often stand staring at a clear blue sky or the night sky filled with stars. His son recalled a time when they took the calliper off of his leg and placed him in the water for a swim on a hot day. He spent ages in the water and he wouldn't get out admitting to Mum several days later that he never thought he would have the opportunity to experience that simple pleasure ever again.

"When I think of Dad certain phrases and words come to mind and in no particular order include: absolutely unselfish, high morals, conscientious, unassuming, high integrity, loving, giving and caring, a true friend, fiercely independent and a real family man. Dad was a lot of things to so many people.

He was one of life's true gentlemen.

To our family, he was a very loving husband, father in law and a doting granddad. Craig and I, are proud to say he was our Dad, our mate and our hero.

We will miss his beaming smile and sparkling eyes and now it's time for him to rest."

Quotation from Worship at Council.

In July Bob Penhall led Council's time of worship with a focus on "Christian Success", drawing upon the book, "Living the Adventure – Faith and "Hidden" Difficulties" by Keith Miller and Bruce Larson.

There was reference to a cloth banner hanging on the wall of a bookstore window:

You Tell on Yourself

*You tell on yourself by the friends you seek,
By the very manner in which you speak,
By the way you employ your leisure time,
By the use you make of dollar and dime.*

*You tell what you are by the things you wear,
By the spirit in which your burdens bear,
By the kind of things at which you laugh,
By the records you play on your phonograph.*

*You tell what you are by the way you walk,
By the things of which you delight to talk,
By the manner in which you bear defeat,
By so simple a thing as how you eat.*

*By the books you choose from a well-filled shelf;
In these ways and more, you tell on yourself;
So there's really no particle of sense
In an effort to keep up false pretense.*

You tell on yourself.

At Morialta Barry was a valued member of the mission Projects committee for over twelve years. He was invariably the cook at barbecues and would always be there to set up for events. He did the many jobs which ensured that all went smoothly. A great and much-loved member of Morialta!

URBAN MISSION NETWORK

**The Network's Third Gathering for 2009**

**Clearview UCA, corner Central Ave and
Barrington Street, Enfield**

6.30 pm, Thursday 27th August.

Theme: Justice in the Local Community.

Meditation by Michel Quoist
“Lord, I have time”

All people complain that they haven't enough time. It's because they look at their lives from too human a point of view. There's always time to do what God wants us to do, but we must put ourselves completely into each moment that God offers us.

“Be careful then how you live, not as unwise, but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil. So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.” (Eph. 5, 15-17)

I went out, Lord.
People were coming out.
They were coming and going,
Walking and running.
Everything was rushing, cars, lorries, the street, the whole town.
People were rushing not to waste time.
They were rushing after time,
To catch up with time,
To gain time.

Goodbye, sir, excuse me, I haven't time.
I'll come back. I can't wait, I haven't time.
I must send this letter – I haven't time.
I'd love to help you, but I haven't time.
I can accept, having no time.
I can't think, I can't read, I'm swamped, I haven't time.
I'd like to pray, but I haven't time.
You understand, Lord, they simply haven't the time.

The child is playing, she hasn't time right now... Later on.
The schoolboy has his homework to do, he hasn't time. Later on
...
The student has her courses, and so much work, she hasn't time
... Later on ...
The young man is at his sports, he hasn't time. Later on ...
The young married couple have their new house, they have to fix
it up, they haven't time ... Later on ...
The grandparents have their grandchildren, they haven't time.
Later on ...
They are ill, they have their treatments, they haven't time. Later
on...
They are dying, they have no...
Too late! ... They have no more time!

And so all people run after time, Lord.
They pass through life running – hurried, jostled, overburdened,
Frantic, and they never get there.
They haven't time.
In spite of all their efforts they're still short of time,
Of a great deal of time.
Lord, you must have made a mistake in your calculations.
There is a big mistake somewhere.
The hours are too short,

And so all people run after time, Lord.
They pass through life running, hurried, jostled, overburdened,
Frantic, and they never get there. They haven't time.
In spite of all their efforts they're still short of time,
Of a great deal of time.
Lord, you must have made a mistake in your calculations.
There is a big mistake somewhere.
The hours are too short,
The days are too short,
Our lives are too short.

You who are beyond time, Lord, you smile to see us fighting it.
And you know what you are doing.
You make no mistakes in your distribution of time to people.
You give each one time to do what you want him to do.

But we must not lose time, waste time, kill time,
For time is a gift that you give us,
But a perishable gift,
A gift that does not keep.

Lord, I have time,
I have plenty of time,
All the time that you give me.

The years of my life,
They days of my years,
The hours of my days,
They are all mine.
Mine to fill, quietly, calmly,
But to fill completely, up to the brim,
To offer them to you, that of their insipid water
You may make a rich wine such as you made once in Cana of
Galilee.

I am not asking you today, Lord, for time to do this and then that.
But your grace to do conscientiously, in the time that you give me,
what you want me to do.

MIGHTY MAGILL

Christmas
2009
MARKET
& EXHIBITION



Saturday 21 November
9.00 am to 3.00 pm
Exhibition continues to 26 November

All the fun of the fair!

Christmas is just around the corner and so is the Market & Exhibition.

Once again, this year with all the usual stalls, we hope it will be a success.

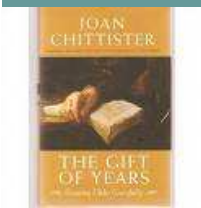
Many people will already have received a request to help in preparation and on the day. More are coming. If you haven't and would like to offer we would be glad to hear from you.

Please mark it on your calendar and tell your friends and family.

Talk with Bruce or Mary if you want to suggest things or know more.

SPIRITUAL NOURISHMENT

The Gift of Years – Growing Older Gracefully by Joan Chittister



Every page of this book is full of wisdom. Joan Chittister “A questioner ... and a teller of the truths she has heard and seen” helps us to look at the challenges of growing older and encourages us to discover the deep spiritual meaning that can come with older age.

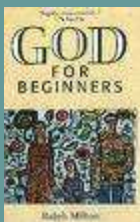
Settling In by Richard L. Morgan



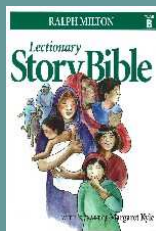
This book looks at the first year of moving into a retirement community. What to expect and how to adjust. It is bible based and could also be used by anyone facing change.

EDUCATION

God for Beginners by Ralph Milton - Helpful for anyone tackling the question of Who is God?

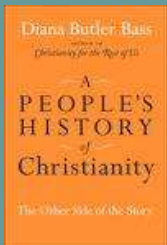


Lectionary Story Bible (Year B) by Ralph Milton – Stories used in our worship service which follow the lectionary readings.



CHURCH HISTORY

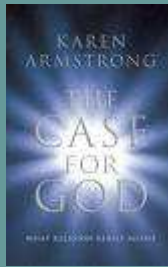
A People’s History of Christianity by Diana Butler Bass



“Intelligent and sassy, honest and redemptive. Butler Bass celebrates a God who is big enough to survive the embarrassing mistakes of Christendom. This book is an invitation to participate in the next beautiful chapter of what it means to be the church in this broken world.”

THEOLOGY – Religion and Beliefs

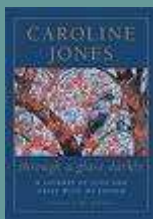
The Case for God - What Religion Really Means by Karen Armstrong



Why has the modern God become incredible? Does God have a future in this age of aggressive scientific rationalism? Karen Armstrong suggests that if we draw creatively on the insights of the past, we can build a faith that speaks directly to the needs of our troubled and dangerously polarised world.

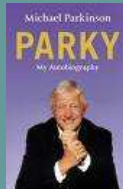
BIOGRAPHY

Through a glass darkly – A Journey of Love and Grief with my father by Caroline Jones

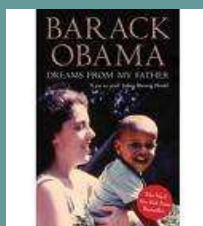


Caroline Jones chronicles her immensely personal journey as she watched her deeply loved father die, and the challenging seven-year chapter of her life since. Through it all she has developed a more profound perspective on life, a new depth of spiritual maturity, and a heightened awareness of the suffering of others.

Parky by Michael Parkinson
Read about Parky and all those people he interviewed.



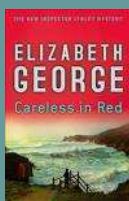
Barack Obama – Dreams from My Father by Barack Obama



Before Barack Obama became a politician he was, among other things, a writer. *Dreams from My Father* is his masterpiece: a refreshing, revealing portrait of a young man asking the big questions about identity and belonging.

FICTION

Careless in Red by Elizabeth George



This marks the welcome return of Scotland Yard’s D.I. Thomas Lynley in a compelling and satisfying crime drama, which is also a moving exploration of grief, and a perceptive look at the complex relationship between parents and children.

Annual Book Sale
16th to 30th August
Books for Sale in the Hall
This is a major fund-raiser for the library so please come along and buy some books.

Library Literary Luncheon
Sunday 20th September
11.30am until 2.00pm
Come to an enjoyable luncheon with guest speaker, Rev John Pfitzner talking on “Being Bookish”
Cost \$6.00
Tickets available from 9th Aug. Soup, rolls, slices and tea and coffee will be served.

Happy 15th Birthday
We celebrate on the 14th August each year the Birthday of the Library, when 15 years ago the library opened in its present location off the foyer.
Join the Australian Church Library Association.
Please think about supporting the establishment of church libraries all over Australia by becoming a friend of the Australian Church Library Association.
Enrolment forms are available from display board near the library.

MORIALTA UNITING
CHURCH

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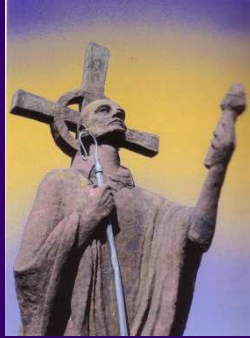
We are on the web!
www.MorialtaUCA.org.au

Editor: Mary Thornley

Graphic Design: Val DiGirolamo



Living Streams ~ Giving Life



A PEACE BLESSING

Peace of the ebbing tide to you,
Peace of the firmest ground to you,
Peace of the gently rising moon to you,
Peace of the night sky to you,
Peace of the morning's hope to you,
The peace of all peace to you.

Diary Dates

Sunday 30 August	9.30am Combined Service & Meeting of the Congregation
Sunday 30 August & 13 September	Stewardship/Giving
Sunday 13 September	12 noon Pastoral Partners
Sunday 20 September	11.30am Library Literary Luncheon
Monday 21 September - Sunday 18 October	Rev Diane Bury - Study & Recreation Leave
Saturday 3 - Monday 5 October	SAYCO

Acknowledgements

David Purling for the cover photo of
the waterfall.

Brian Corrigan, Sarah Heatley and
Christine Secombe for other
photographs in this edition.

Stories and texts from
those identified throughout and all
who have contributed in many ways to
this August edition.

What is
FAIRTRADE coffee?

Fairtrade is a certification and
labelling system that guarantees the
coffee farmer a fair price for their
coffee. It also provides farmers with
the training they need to develop their
businesses in the global economy.

Fairtrade is about making a real
difference in peoples' lives.



Always look
for the
Fairtrade logo
when you buy
your coffee.

*Deadline for October Edition
1st October 2009*

If you would like to contribute an item,
please send *unformatted* as Word documents
either:

by email to the Vision Receiver,
Sharon Mackenzie,
(craig_sharon@picknowl.com.au).

Please do not format or use other software

OR

In hard copy via the Vision pigeon-hole – please
allow more lead time for word processing.

*To discuss ideas for Vision articles
contact the editor.*

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this publication



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