

Volume 3 Issue 2

April 2011

Morialta Uniting Church

MORIALTA VISION



From the Minister

Dear Friends,

This is the way I often begin these writings in Vision. At times we use the word friend glibly or lightly but friendship, real friendship, is a great treasure in life. To have a real friend is to have someone to turn to, to trust in and rely on.

Sometimes we think of friendship as being a lesser thing than love. Friendship though implies a choice that takes us beyond the obligations of relationships we are born into or move into because of work or other demands. Real friendship is intentional and requires commitment, even when it comes to being friends with those whom we already love.

John's gospel is full of Jesus' assurance of his love for his disciple and of the reality of divine love for his disciples. Jesus puts that love in the context of friendship.

I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends. (John 15:15)

Jesus calls his disciples friends. He expands the relationship he has with disciples; it's not just teacher-pupil, it's more than master-servant. It's friendship, real friendship with all that that means.

And in Jesus' time and place it was a very serious matter. To choose someone as a friend was to place them in a position of honour, with no less obligations than you had to your family. It meant considering the needs and priorities of the other person alongside your own needs and priorities. Friendship was mutual, with an understanding that when you called someone friend, you were relying on them to return that concern and care.

Jesus calls his disciples friends. And that includes all of his disciples, not just those of 2000 years ago. For Jesus, friendship included sharing with his friends his understanding of God's priorities in this world: the imperative of love, the importance of justice and shaping his living with attitudes of compassion and inclusiveness.

Jesus calls his disciples friends in the hope and expectation that they will share these priorities, live with the same attitudes, that they will be connected through love and friendship to him and also to one another.

One of our strengths at Morialta is the friendship we offer each other. I do not address you as friends lightly, but out of our shared friendship with Jesus, who calls us deeper into relationship with him, with each other and with the world that God loves.

Grace and peace
Diane



Inside this issue:

David Purling Writes	2
Worship Reflection	
From the Chairperson	3
Community Centre News	
KCO	4
Giving Envelopes	
Worship Witness and Word	5
Rockleigh Roundup	6
Paws for Thought	
Morialta Magpie	7
Mission Projects	8
Kaurna Society	
Eulogy—Gwenyth Noble	9
Ode to Max	10
Indigenous Community Volunteers	
Library Page—Autumn	11

KCO 2011

No question is too big

no question is too small, no question is too silly or weird for God to answer.

Eight children: Jessica, Erin, Paige, Juliette, Lucy, Jordan and Andrew, and three leaders: Cheryl, Tiffany and Craig, attended KCO



i wonder
Let's wonder together

KCO 2011: March 26-27 Barossa Valley Tourist Park



More details on page 4!

David Purling writes ...



Have you ever seen the bush after a fire has gone through it? How would you describe it? The trees look lifeless and the branches are black, without a single leaf left on them, black and grey, no green at all. A few years ago, we took some friends from Aylesbury to Kangaroo Island. It was after the bushfires had destroyed so much. There were scenes much like these. As you can see there was not much green showing! However, as we travelled around the Island we could see signs of new growth. Even when they appear dead - because the roots are usually still intact, growth can take place.

Let me introduce Isaiah. Isaiah prophesies the coming of one who will renew people's faith and transform the values by which they live.



Isaiah 11:1-2,5 reads "A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. ...Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins."

Although that text is usually associated with Advent, and particularly with John the Baptist, never-the-less, I think it's worth thinking about during Lent, and particularly at Easter!

In fire-ravaged bush charred, apparently lifeless tree stumps incredibly produce new shoots. Immediately under the bark, many eucalypts have an emergency reserve of leaf buds. The changes made in the bark by the fire send a signal to these hidden buds telling them to shoot quickly - which they do and you have the wonderful picture of new shoots appearing out of the black, charred bark.



Transformation and renewal takes place.

Worship Reflection — Church Council

*'When to the sessions of sweet silent thought
I summon up remembrance of things past ...'*

So begins William Shakespeare's sonnet number thirty.

Ah, memory! In practical terms, of course, our successful negotiation of every day is predicated on us having a good memory. How else would we know where to find our glasses on rising? Or where we might find the coffee jar, or the toaster, or where we left the keys last night....!!

Memories though are a different thing. If I were to tell you a snippet of my childhood memories, and, in a desperate moment of conversational paralysis you then might say that Alison remembers how her family had peripatetic long-drops around the perimeter of their backyard, and that one was by a rabbit hutch, and another near an old tank, and there was another one somewhere — can't remember where, stopped listening! In the re-telling, most of the facts may hold, but the intensity of remembrance that I must necessarily bring to my own story has necessarily gone missing. Because it is my experience, it's my own emotion-soaked remembrance.

Thus, my memory is not just of the little creek that ran between our house and the road. I see it in my mind's eye, hiding its rampant clutter amongst the rows of apple trees. I feel it's overgrown menace, when

the throbbing heat of summer brought sinuous snakes slithering out across the dusty driveway between the deep-blooded climbing roses. I scan greedy eyes for them, hoping for the first summer sighting, to regale my sister and my brothers as to colour and length and speed and surely I saw its venomous fangs, yet at the same time, I'm scared witless lest the snake actually appear. Snakes or not, I loved that boggy ditch: I see the quince trees hugging its crackled edge, their huge, downy, golden skinned fruits destined to become rosy jelly; the giant wigwam of props, clacking dryly against each other; and the well, the well - out of bounds, boarded up, forbidden territory. Of course we came to know every slat and broken nail and gaping crack over that well — it was a magnet full of mystery and danger. That's remembrance! Remembrance is full of re-living, re-experiencing, arcing across time and space, sensing a past that feels like it is today. It is suffused with a deep thread that is the binding up of our identity in the now. It is embracing the story from the inside out.

George MacLeod, who founded the modern Iona community in 1938, had this to say: *'The Bible is the most profound dramatisation of you ... The historic story of Christ, the outside story of Christ, suddenly emerges as the inner story of yourself — and it's this inner story, this inner parallel, that really makes the Bible inspired, so that to your condition it becomes the living Word of God.'*

Christ's story as my inner story, as your inner story? God expressed in full humanity as a mirror, indeed a precursor or template, of our own humanness? This is a powerful lens indeed to begin to reflect on the Gospel telling of the life of Jesus that is in some mysterious yet real way, our life too. Can we be brave enough to travel our road that is this road? To travel it from the inside looking out? Is it possible that we could be so bold as to remember ourselves within the person of Jesus?

In Celtic spirituality, a well is deemed to be a holy place. It requires courage to descend into the depths of the well, yet at its bottom is found the water that is the wellspring of life. We need to experience the depth, the solitude and, yes, the darkness of the well, if we are to know more fully the transformative cleansing wellspring that enlivens and enlightens our daily path.

Now listen to these words, so familiar, so well worn, and consider if we can't hear them again, and always, with the intensity and immediacy of our most precious memories. Hear them - from the inside out:

*'And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying
'This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me.'* (King James Version)

Alison Lockett

From the Chairperson

Lent is the prelude to the most important Christian Festival in our year. The 40 days of Lent this year gave members of Morialta Uniting Church an opportunity to share with each other and others throughout Australia, the material available through Lent Event. *Just as an aside, can I recommend your participation in Lenten Reflections in 2012 if you haven't been part of a group this year!*

I have always appreciated the opportunities that come from being part of discussions that take place as a consequence of the Lenten Reflections. Learning more about

the personal faith of other participants and growing in my own are but two outcomes of the activity.

This year's resource had been prepared to help us engage more closely with communities in need around the world. Morialta is fortunate to have a group of workers who, on our behalf, work to raise funds to support some projects similar to those described in our material.

Even if you haven't been part of a Lenten Reflection group you can still engage with

the Lent Event by contributing some money to it.

Whether, or not, you were one of our number who has foregone something between Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, I hope that you were able to find a space for reflection, not only for the period leading up to Easter, but also now in the time of new life and renewal which follows.

Bruce

Community Centre News

Pass it on

'The proof of the pudding is in the eating' is an old proverb that's been around for more than 700 years. This is born out again and again at Morialta - both metaphorically and literally.

"It's so good to taste some home cooking" is the frequent cry at Coffee Corner. Or again, we hear "I'd heard about the lunch, and thought I'd give it a try. I'll be back. It was all lovely." Yes, Wednesday is a bustling occurrence at Morialta nearly every week of the year, especially on those weeks when we have up to ten extra with either the Urban Mission Network Reference Group or the East Adelaide fellowship members. Before that we often have half a dozen of the morning exercise group staying for a coffee, just to offset the benefit of all that exertion. In April and May, we will host an afternoon meeting of Eastern Region Community Centres SA, and in May a busload of 46 people from Community Centres across Adelaide and beyond will descend in a whoosh for a tour and morning tea. Barely have the lunchtime crumbs been swept from the lap than Friendship begins to whirr. These days you might expect to see the Broadband for

Seniors Kiosk lit up with enthusiastic learners, while once a fortnight Pam, a retired Occupational Therapist brings a lovely craft project that is undertaken by those not so keen on the table games. Luckily the Hall is sufficiently removed from the Workshop, or the screech and whine of electric saws and sanders might play havoc with the concentration of it all. And that's just Wednesday.

At the beginning of Term 2, some members of the Evening Fellowship will provide hospitality at Magill School, as the Christian Pastoral Support workers host a morning tea for new mums. This venture sits naturally alongside our already thriving Tuesday Playgroup, where welcome, acceptance and good connections are regularly played out. We have a stream of people visiting, talking to Christine O, looking at our facilities and getting excited about the possibilities, be they helping people back into the workforce, or assisting young refugees acquire the basic skills for living, or offering an English as a Second Language program or

How can we continue to do so much when it is nearly twenty years since we formally

established our Community Programs. Are not our volunteers getting tired? Where do the people keep coming from to participate in programs which of their nature have a natural attrition?

In the very recent past, we have had three new Wednesday volunteers because one lives next to Barry and Margaret, and one plays tennis with Rob, and one responded to Fay simply asking. Another diner goes bowling with Sharon. It's word of mouth. It's us owning the warm and wonderful welcome that is extended at Morialta, and saying to our friend, or neighbour, or chance acquaintance "Come along - you'll find the proof of the pudding is in the eating!"

Alison Lockett
Leader
Community
Centre MMT



Work on KUCA Building continues

The bricked up wall has been removed and we now have a doorway for direct access to Toilets by sporting groups, workshop users, etc.

Peter Thornley may appear reluctant to be captured on camera but, along with Roger Whibley, he's done the hard work on this job.

The right people for the job

After some time spent in exploring possible ways, means and costs for the task of replacing all the globes in the lights which illuminate the netball/tennis courts, the job was very efficiently done on a recent Saturday by Phil Johnson and Tim Dansie.

The costs will be shared by the Netball Club and the Church.

Our grateful thanks for this job well done!

KCO Report

Explore, Play and Create

KCO began with an opening ceremony, worship and lots of excited singing, followed by three segments of activities **Explore, Play and Create**.

Explore was an opportunity for children to engage in hands-on activities that enabled them to ask questions and wonder about Christianity, the church, prayer, the Bible and mission. Some of these activities included learning about wheel chairs and difficulties people in wheel chairs experience; a visual telling of the parable of the good shepherd. The story telling was done with the use of different coloured felt and shapes and as the story was told, wondering questions were asked to encourage the children to engage and participate in the story. Photographs and maps were used to help the children see that God's family lives around the world. They wrote prayers for people on a map of the world.

Play was fun time. The children enjoyed a super slide, tossing wet sponges, ten pin bowling and patting animals.

Create - During this session the children iced biscuits, made hover crafts, wristbands and many other things.

Communion was held with Burnside City Church – and then it was time for a BBQ tea, followed by devotion time where

different verses of scripture were explored.

The children enjoyed the evening activities: singing and dancing to songs by Sean Smith, and participating in fun group games for kids and some for leaders to look a little bit silly, e.g. removing shaving cream from another leader's face with a spoon whilst blindfolded, and eating donuts off the end of a string without using hands.

Sunday morning's activities were a **Journey of Wonder**, where the children explored the campsite to find questions on posters, which they then tried to answer; talking to the chaplains, and voting for where their offering money should go. Free time was spent mixing with other children particularly Burnside City Church who were camped next to us. Skipping, kicking a football, riding a scooter, and blowing bubbles were all very popular. Then off to closing worship, with more singing, and collection of the offering – which the children had decided that it should be split between helping the victims of the Japanese Tsunami, and to help the fight against child trafficking and abuse of children.

I would like to thank Cheryl and Tiffany for their leadership at KCO; John Powers for his assistance in getting equipment to and from KCO and his help to set up before



pack up at the end of KCO.

I would also like to thank the Morialta Congregation for the support provided to enable our children and their friends to attend KCO.

Craig Mackenzie

KCO Coordinator for Morialta



Giving Envelopes

At the Annual General Meeting of the Congregation John Powers, Leader, Finance Team, sought the advice of members on whether or not to continue to use numbered envelopes within the Planned Giving program. Over many years these have been used, in addition to un-numbered envelopes and E-Giving, allowing amounts given to be recorded against amounts pledged.

Experience has supported the view that Morialta's Givers stay true to their pledges and only in exceptional circumstances vary their giving.

The question was raised: Do we need to use numbered envelopes? If we changed to all envelopes being un-numbered would this be felt as a problem, perhaps as a lessening of commitment?

The use of numbered envelopes has required our very loyal Sunday morning counters to record amounts given against numbers and to achieve a balance in the total recorded and counted – sometimes a tedious and anxious task.

Then, on Monday, there is a further stage at which the Office Coordinator records each numbered giving amount in the administrative system – again a time consuming task.

The process is, of course, confidential through these stages and ultimately only the Leader of the Team and a stewardship leader monitor the giving, simply to assist in any pastoral care should this seem necessary. The sensitivity and confidentiality throughout is highly respected.

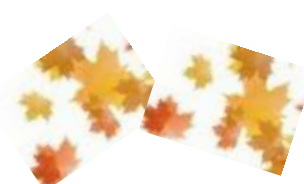
The key points outlined by John in relation to a change to use of all un-numbered envelopes were re-iterated: the counting time would be greatly reduced each Sunday; the Office Administrator would not be required to input details against each unit on a spreadsheet - a significant time saving; nothing would change in terms of Pastoral Care; un-numbered envelopes would be printed with the date to enable members to easily check that their pledge is being maintained.

Members at the AGM were given opportunity for discussion in table groups on the key question, *Do we need to use numbered envelopes?*

Within five minutes of discussion table groups responded with support for the discontinuation of numbered envelopes in the Planned Giving program.

Therefore, when new envelopes are ordered and distributed they will all be un-numbered. The pledging system will continue, but with un-numbered envelopes. And, of course, the E-Giving system will not change.

Church Council appreciates the work done by John Powers and Chris Ayles in this matter, and the care and consideration of the Congregation.



Presbytery & Synod News

Worship, Witness and the Word

On Friday evening 11th and Saturday 12th March a number of us attended the Presbytery-Synod *Worship, Witness and Word* Seminars held at Adelaide West Uniting Church. Tom and Kim Long were guest speakers from the USA and willingly shared their combined expertise and experiences in the area of preaching and worship. On Friday evening we participated in a worship service at which Tom preached and after the service was over, in the following session, he proceeded to dissect his message in order to illustrate his method of exegesis of the text and his presentation techniques. Our own ministers along with many others appreciated his insights and fresh approach to preaching God's word as he continued to present throughout the Saturday sessions.

Kim gave a presentation on the Worshipping Body and she encouraged us to use all of our bodies in the worship experience. She helped us to think of our bodies as being a beautiful gift from God, despite the odd shapes and sizes that we come in.

She suggested that we use the Baptismal Font and the Communion Table in a broader context than we currently use them. Special occasions like Inductions and Confirmations could be held around the Baptismal Font, and the water used to enrich the meaning of the experience. The words for the Sending Out could be said from the Communion Table.

Following on from these ideas she told us of a number of mission activities that people have put into practice. One such concept is

The Food Pantry at St Gregory's Episcopal Church in San Francisco where Sara Miles has taken her faith to a very practical level. People in that congregation connect with the poor in their city by supplying free, fresh fruit, vegetables and bread to around 400 people each week. They do not only receive food, but friendship and encouragement in their daily lives.

Another area of mission is the Foot Clinic at the Central Presbyterian Church in

Atlanta, Georgia where people who spend their days on the streets can come and have basic medical checks by professionals, as well as have their feet bathed and simple foot care given by volunteers who care not only for their feet, but for each guest visiting the Central Night Shelter.

I believe that our worship services are already led very creatively by our ministers, but it would be a fallacy to think that we could not do more to enhance our worship experiences. Kim encouraged us to think broadly and creatively about every aspect of our worship, including the space in which it all takes place, and she gave us the freedom to work with new and interesting ideas.

In her book "The Art of Leading Worship" Kim states, and I quote, "As vital as worship is, we do it **not** primarily for our own sakes but for the sake of the world. To understand worship as an embodied event is to recognise that every act of worship points not only to how we might be more fully blessed, or bettered, or healed, but also to how the whole world might be brought to wholeness and completion." Another valuable segment was the launch of a new book by Andrew Dutney called "Backyard Theology". This book was inspired by the many sessions that Andrew was involved in on Mornings at ABC 891 with Matthew Abraham and David Bevan. Matthew and Andrew have developed a great friendship and Matthew was there to launch the book for Andrew in his own inimitable style.

It was good to be part of the sessions and to have exposure to new ideas, along with meeting up with new and old friends in the wider church community.

Thank you Morialta for the opportunity to attend these meetings.

Dawn Colegrove.



The Jesus Matrix

Matrix is easy to spell but difficult to comprehend because it is used to simplify calculations and observations in so many different ways.

My scientific dictionary says that mathematicians have a matrix when a rectangular array of numbers is considered as a singular mathematical object. That makes it easier for mathematicians, but not for me. Matrix is a word so useful that it is used in architects', physicists', chemists, geologists' and dentists' vocabulary because it gives a sense of all the interactions that have occurred around a point of origin (a tooth, a gem stone).

I have found recently that Bible scholars and theologians have also added the matrix into their vocabulary to help enlighten the ministry of Jesus. And that for me is very helpful because it has strengthened my understanding of that incredible man. Jesus conducted his ministry, not in isolation but in the matrix of the Roman rule and his Jewish culture and history.

The theologian, John Crossan, describes how the Roman rulers believed that peace could only follow if there was victory. Jesus, a peasant in a tiny town on the fringe of the empire, preached that there will only be peace if there is justice. From that matrix was born Christianity and 2000 years later the justice ministry at Morialta.

Arthur Tideman

WINTER SERIES

**Morialta Gateways Group &
Progressive Christianity Network SA**

**Exploring Open Christianity Winter
DVD Series – Monthly on Fridays**

**Commencing May 27
Exploring doubt and faith with
Dr Val Webb**

Where:

Morialta Uniting Church,
26 Chapel Street Magill 5072

When: 7.30 – 9.30 pm

Cost: \$8.00

includes course notes & supper

Bookings:

Morialta UC Office
Phone 8331 9344

Email office@morialtauca.org.au

The Rockleigh Roundup

It was a clear sky with a breeze from the south the day two urban cowboys arrived at the ranch at Rockleigh ready for a hard day's work. As every cowboy knows you should always leave the gate the way you found it – but not these hombres. Through the gate and out into the wooded ranges they went ready for anything that would come their way.

It wasn't long before they rested their steed and dismounted. What's that smell? What's that on the soles of their boots? Surely not – this is not cattle country! But yes, it was. And there through the trees was the culprit, a big shiny black Aberdeen Angus cow. Quickly they mounted their steed and charged toward this unwanted beast. They screeched to a halt. There wasn't just one beast. Suddenly they were surrounded with twenty pairs of big brown eyes looking at them. They were not happy, Jan!

They had to be moved back to their own ranch. The plan was to round them up and herd them through a gate into the next ranch, which our cowboys now opened. This would be easy! Hadn't they seen this many times over the years? Chips Rafferty did it all those years ago with a thousand in the herd, then Ben Cartwright and his sons in Bonanza had no problems with those longhorns. One of the cowboys turned them in the right direction with the other riding on the flank. This was easy, but then after thirty metres the herd stampeded, not through the gate; off they went over the ridge and into the distance! Our cowboys tried to follow them as they had seen so

many times in the Man from Snowy River, but they were no match for this herd. Our cowboys chased the herd and as the dust settled the cattle could be seen in the distance moving through the entrance gate that had been left open on the cowboys' arrival.

The cattle were now in the long paddock in danger from passing motor vehicles. The herd slowed to a walk as they moved along the road. Eventually our cowboys were able to overtake the herd and then, in the wonderful tradition of the Man from Snowy River, were able to turn their heads for home. But the herd wasn't finished yet – off they charged again down the road back in the direction from which they had come. Our cowboys could see a long day ahead.

Fortunately their leader wasn't silly. There wasn't any grass out there on the road and they had just come from cattle heaven. With the open gate looming, the leader took them straight back to the ranch from where they had come. Our cowboys, some distance behind, and taking care where they stepped, breathed a sigh of relief. The cattle were back where they started. The gate was now closed. Someone else would have to round up this herd. Our urban cowboys returned to their life in the big smoke, exhausted but satisfied that in their eyes they had upheld the great outback tradition of taming the runaway stampede and ensuring that the herd was contained in an area that had good feed until the rightful owners could claim their stock.

Who were these cowboys?

Morialta's Quiz Night

Saturday
4 June 7.30 pm

All-age – Fun-filled Event

Celebrity Quiz Master!

Adults \$10.00
Students \$5.00
BYO wine, juice, soft drinks



80 80 80
80 80 80

On Sunday 20th March, with Betty Omond and Kevin Nash, I greatly enjoyed cutting one of three birthday cakes celebrating our 80th birthdays. We were overwhelmed by the good wishes of our church family to which I now reply.

What was I thinking as your greetings flowed? After all, for 52 years of my 80 I have been a member of the congregation at Chapel Street. Does one wonder if I couldn't find a life out there? For the record, I have found wonderful people in the overseas places in which I have worked in my profession. But always I have returned here to find the core of me, supported by a community. A community of loving friends who have been unfailing custodians of the Christian faith. During the time of my membership I have seen our church transformed physically from a rather austere Methodist Church into the more open and inviting place it is today, offering inclusive worship.

As we cut the cakes we enjoyed the modern meeting hall with evidence of many activities so different from my early days when there was only a worn old dark hall with creaking wooden floors. Morialta's custodianship has never failed for more than 160 years.

But even more importantly I have thrived under the uplifting spirit of the custodianship of worship, music, striving for social justice and constant offers to help those in need. In one word, at Morialta we are custodians of 'goodness'.

Thank you all. You have given me a fortunate life indeed.

Arthur Tideman

paws for thought ...

I thought 2011 would be a much better Football Season!

encouragement. Well, that's what he calls it! It wasn't looking pretty, but after half-time the Crows came out and played the type of football that everyone appreciates. They won and the ride home was positive and pretty happy!

I don't really mind Bruce dressing me up in the team's colours because it helps me stay warm. And while I really don't like the attention, I am usually the only Guide Dog at the football. When the Crows win it is pretty good walking back to the car hearing lots of supporters saying how cute I am. However, it isn't much fun walking back to the car when the Crows lose. Apart from the lack of conversation from Bruce, some times I hear supporters complaining about the umpires, and opposition supporters laugh at my attire.

Anyway, the season is still young and there is plenty of hope about the prospects for 2011. I hope the Crows win more games than they lose because it makes Bruce happy. And when Bruce is happy, I'm happy!

If you don't barrack for the Crows I hope your team wins, too; except when they play Adelaide! Otherwise, Bruce won't be really happy!

Keely

Your Pup Repawter





Morialta Magpie

80th Birthday congratulations 20th March



Happy Birthday Rhonda!

Together with Rhonda's family we celebrated her 70th birthday in great style.



Kevin Nash, Betty Omond and Arthur Tideman

A big thank you to the Morialta community for sharing the morning tea and helping us celebrate. The birthday cakes were yummy and were appreciated by all. We feel privileged to be part of such a caring church family. Thank you, Lesley

Special Award OBE



From Wednesday Afternoon Workshop Group commemorating Arthur's 80th milestone



Evening Fellowship

Ruth Pitt gave an illustrated talk on her time as a nurse in Papua New Guinea.



Fellowship

After an interesting visit to Lochend House the group had supper at Rhonda's home.



Logies Night

Jill Thomson aka "Julia" arrived to award the prizes



Gil Sullivan

International Piano virtuoso
In Concerts @ Kent Town
Playing works by Mozart, Tristram Cary, Liszt
Morialta folk thoroughly enjoyed Gil's introductions to the works, and were enthralled with his performance.

Pancake Breakfast



Sarah, Rhonda and Neville cooking up a pancake storm

\$115 was raised for UnitingCare Adelaide East



Who?
Where?
When?
...Why?

Morialta's Mission Projects

Two of the Projects for this year are to help in creating a reliable water source within communities in Nachipo Village in Sudan, and also Muzarabani in Zimbabwe.

Water sources can be situated several hours walk away from a community, leaving women and children with the onerous task of collecting water and carrying it back each day. Water can be contaminated causing illness and disease, especially the children who are particularly vulnerable to water-borne diseases.

With a reliable source of clean water in the community by the construction of boreholes and tanks, women have more time to spend on procuring a livelihood for their families, and children have time to attend school, thus assisting them to overcome poverty and provide for their future.

Community Concern 2011

YOU ARE INVITED -

Morialta Evening Fellowship is hosting a Morning Tea on behalf of the Australian Church Women's organization on Thursday 26th May at 10.00am

This year the Community Concern Project is in aid of *The McGuire Foundation*. It is essentially a volunteer organization which aims to allow people with a stuttering disability to overcome this problem via an intensive course and providing ongoing coaching by volunteer graduates.

All women and men from Morialta are invited to hear the success stories of some of the graduates. People from the other churches in our area will also be attending. Admission is \$4 and there will be a Trading Table in aid of The McGuire Foundation.

P.S. If you have seen the film "The King's Speech" you will have an understanding of the problem some people face.



Kurna Society

Each Sunday we acknowledge the Kurna people, the traditional guardians of this land. Who do we mean? The Kurna people occupied the Adelaide Plains from about Cape Jervis to Port Wakefield and Snowtown. At the time of European settlement it is likely that there were about 700 individuals living in small family groups. Prior to this it is thought that there were many more individuals before they were decimated by introduced diseases such as smallpox, introduced from the eastern states.

The natural environment was carefully managed to provide food and shelter for their needs. In summer they preferred the coastal areas with easy access to food such as kangaroo rats, fish and the gum of various native trees. In winter they retreated to the shelter of the foothills where they hunted possums and collected grubs from the larger trees.

Uniting World here in Australia is working closely with church partners, the Sudan Council of Churches, and the Methodist Development and Relief Agency of Zimbabwe, to identify communities in need, and to educate members on the importance of clean water and hygiene.

The proceeds from our fundraising, like the Logies Night with proceeds of \$640, will go directly to these areas, to continue these and other water projects.

We do appreciate your support during the year.

Avril Nash



Newspaper clipping rediscovered by Dale Corrigan

Restrospective

"ALDRSGATE - - " NEW LIFE IN CHRIST

1963 is *Methodism's Year of Evangelism*. It is the 225th Anniversary of Aldersgate. The Methodist Church defined its purpose to be a call to Methodists under the guidance of the Holy Spirit

- to seek NEW LIFE IN CHRIST and the Church
- to WITNESS out of a heartwarming experience that JESUS CHRIST IS LORD.

His experience on that fateful evening of May 24th, 1738, led John Wesley to become one of the greatest of Englishmen and certainly one of the world's greatest religious leaders, whose influence for good, after 225 years, continues and encircles the world.

May 19th is *Aldersgate Sunday*. Let us again try to recapture an understanding of what that moment meant to John Wesley, that we as Christians and as Methodists can better see the difference that can lead us to being better churchmen.

Activities were gender based: men hunted and provided meat; women collected the plants which were the greater part of their diet because of their reliability and diversity. In winter they wore large skin or seaweed cloaks. Rugs were made from the skins of possums, wallabies or kangaroos. The women wove intricate baskets and round mats of a very high standard from natural fibres such as reeds and rushes.

The Kurna people could be said to have developed a sustainable life style. After all they had been here for as much as 40000 years! Their use of fire as a management tool will be discussed in another issue.

Source: Natural History of the Adelaide Region. Royal Society of SA, 1976.

Bill Matheson

Gwenyth Mary Noble

Celebrating of her Life

18 March 2011 - Gwen's 92nd Birthday

Gwenyth Mary Noble was born at Murray Bridge on the 18th February 1919. Gwen was the second of five children born to her parents, James Roy, affectionately known as "Tiny Noble", and Agnes Iris Noble.

Gwen and her siblings attended Mypolonga Primary school – a walk of two and a half miles, approximately 4 kilometres. There was no school bus!

Gwen was a very keen student and when she completed her Qualifying Certificate at the end of Grade 7 she was awarded a scholarship which encouraged her to attend Murray Bridge High School. This necessitated boarding in Murray Bridge from the age of 13.

Whilst at High School Gwen was a prefect and a model student. Gwen also enjoyed basketball and tennis and Comrades at the Methodist Church. However this was the time of the depression and when an office job became available at Mypolonga Co-operative Society she left High School prior to completing her Leaving Certificate.

After several years Gwen grew restless and accepted a position with the Department of Lands office at Mypolonga. Several years later this job was transferred to Murray Bridge and her parents moved from Mypolonga to live in Murray Bridge.

A friend of Gwen's encouraged her to complete the Leaving Certificate by attending night school. Gwen completed the Certificate in 1951, at the age of 32.

In 1953 Gwen took long service leave from her job and travelled to New Zealand where she worked in Auckland, Wellington and Rotorua. She also walked Milford Sound, in the rain.

On Gwen's return from New Zealand she recommenced with the Department of Lands. However, she found the work rather boring and after one of her friends who was a teacher encouraged her many times she approached the Education Department about becoming a teacher. Gwen was amazed that she was offered a teaching position immediately as a commercial teacher due to her extensive secretarial and bookkeeping experience. Gwen was proficient in Typing, Shorthand and Bookkeeping. This was in 1955 – so a career change at age 36.

Gwen's first posting was to Minlaton on York Peninsula which she loved. After three years Gwen decided that she needed to complete tertiary studies to further her

teaching career. She requested a transfer back to Adelaide so that she could attend Adelaide University. Gwen was appointed to Marion High School, however she found that the pressures of teaching did not allow her to complete University studies. She applied for a year off, working part time with the Department of Labour and Industry and successfully completing her studies. Gwen was then appointed to Woodville High School where she saw out her teaching career.

Gwen then retired and purchased a unit on Norwood Parade at Magill and commenced the next phase of her life – Retirement. However Gwen was not one to be idle in retirement, choosing travel to see family and friends, and correspondence. In fact Gwen was a wonderful correspondent and had pen friends in Italy and Washington with whom she corresponded for decades, plus family in the UK and interstate. One of Gwen's highlights was to visit her pen friend in Italy.

Gwen never owned a car, and was a fan of public transport and taxis. Interestingly none of her family seemed to think that this was odd given her independent spirit!

At the age of 86, following major heart surgery, Gwen decided that it was time to move from Magill and into a retirement home. After some investigation she chose a unit at Leabrook Place, and she enjoyed her time there.

Throughout her life Gwen was a devout Christian who enjoyed her involvement with the Church and the many friends that she made through the Church. When Gwen moved from Mile End to Norwood she joined the Magill Methodist Church, now the Morialta Uniting Church, and she remained a member of that parish to her death although she was not a regular attendee in her latter years. Gwen was also a regular volunteer at the Adelaide Central Methodist Mission for many years and she looked forward to her weekly Friday assisting there.

Gwen was a very generous person and she regularly made donations to a range of charities local and abroad, including a generous donation following the recent earthquakes in Christchurch.

Gwen had a very close and loving relationship with her brother and sisters and their families. We can recall the many family Christmas lunches that we shared at Murray Bridge which were truly festive occasions. We, the next generation of cousins, all looked forward to Christmas Day and seeing Aunty Gwen in particular – Gwen always had some stories to share.

Gwen was a kind and loving person. She made welcome to the husbands and wives of her nieces



and nephews and she enjoyed the arrival of her great nieces and nephews, and great-great nieces and nephews.

Gwen was an intelligent person who maintained her mental acuity to her death; she loved completing Sudoku and Crossword puzzles daily. Gwen loved a game of cards, her favourites being Bridge and Rummikins.

Gwen was a stoic, loyal to her friends, and she did enjoy her food. An occasion that stands out in our memories illustrates all of these traits. Gwen had a regular luncheon appointment with one of her close friends and as she stepped from the taxi she stumbled and fell forward head-first onto the footpath. Gwen's head was bruised, lacerated and bloodied! Undeterred she proceeded to meet with her friend and enjoy lunch. It was only after lunch that she went to see her doctor! She spent that evening in hospital!

I believe that Gwen missed her calling – she would have been a great Chartered Accountant! She was still reconciling her bank statements virtually up to her death! I showed her bank manager the last such reconciliation – he was impressed!

Gwen was a woman before her time – she was an enlightened, independent, determined and career oriented person of strong conviction, who was prepared to travel and see the world.

Gwen will be greatly missed by all who knew her and loved her!

**From Eulogy by Stephen Noble,
nephew to Gwen**

Celebration of Life - Max Thornton

Many at Morialta have valued Max and Judy Thornton's friendship. The celebration of Max's life on 18 February included this Ode to Max by his son, David Thornton. Judy graciously agreed to this abridged version being shared.

ODE TO MAX

Man, gentle man, gentleman,
Caring, sharing, loving,
Honest, loyal, generous,
Respected, respectful, forgiving.

Much loved by all who knew him,
A kinder man you would not find,
Without a bad bone in his body,
Giving so freely of his time.

To the church, to work, to Rotary,
One thing we've come to learn, that
He lived his life in the service of others,
Never asking for anything in return.

Not the world's biggest romantic,
How mum landed him is a mystery,
But after much courting, together they got,
And as they say "the rest is history".

He was quite the accomplished athlete,
High jump, tennis and football,
He always said he wasn't much of a scholar,
But I don't believe this at all.

He started out as a messenger boy,
And quickly showed he was no fool,
A general manager by the time he retired,
So he must have learned something
at school.

Devoted to friends and family,
Doing anything for anyone,
No job was too big or too small,
Just ask and it would be done.

To mum he was one in a million,
The provider, the lover, the friend,
Through thick, thin, good times, bad,
Together right up to the end.

To us kids he was the teacher,
The coach, the umpire, the fan,
Not afraid to let us fly, but
Always there to help us land.

His recent sickness was a shock to us all,
As he'd always been in good health,
But his last weeks were spent
with his family and friends,
Which was how he measured his wealth.

I am so very proud of my mum,
Caring and loving, in amounts unmeasured,
Standing by dad until death did them part,
A commitment they made and completed.

We ask you to remember him as we will,
A man who stood proud and tall,
For those that remember him with sadness,
Didn't really know him at all.

One of nature's true gentlemen,
Adored by his grand-children,
children and wife,
We gather here together
as a tribute to Max,
Not to mourn his loss
but to remember his life.

Indigenous Community Volunteers (ICV)

If you have ever wanted a holiday with a difference, then you could consider becoming an Indigenous Community Volunteer!

Indigenous Community Volunteers is a non-government registered charity, which works in partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. ICV works with individuals, families and communities to facilitate community and human development projects. The community nominates the volunteer capabilities they require and select the particular volunteers they need from ICV's list.

ICV hunts and gathers volunteers to work with communities on community-driven projects. They do not hunt and gather projects for volunteers.

ICV transports volunteers from anywhere in the country to wherever the project is operating.

Community development projects create a two-way exchange. The projects provide Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with community development opportunities and access to skilled people and high quality services. And they give volunteers the chance to live and work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and learn first-hand about their issues and culture. ICV provides opportunities for communities and volunteers to share knowledge, culture and understanding. **This is reconciliation in action.**

As a volunteer you will be amazed at how your skills can be used. Imagine yourself writing grant proposals, improving computer systems, working on agricultural and environmental issues, or teaching people to sew. Any and all skills are valuable, whether they come from a profession, trade, or even a hobby. Once you are registered with ICV, Indigenous communities can invite you to live and work with them on short-term projects.

ICV is able to operate through a combination of Federal and State Government funding, corporate sponsorship and private donation. They also receive "in-kind" support from organisations that provide services which reduce day to day operating costs.

Some examples:

The remote community of Santa Teresa asked for help to set up a heart screening program for young children at risk of rheumatic disease and ICV matched them with a paediatric cardiologist who spent two weeks in the community.

Daly River local men wanted to learn a trade to provide income instead of dole payments. ICV volunteers came to train them and now they sell outdoor furniture.

In Papunya high school kids were homesick so ICV matched them with an IT specialist who came and set up internet connections

so the kids can chat with the "mob" back home.

A group of women in Carpentaria wanted to improve their sewing skills and learn how to maintain sewing machines. The group now has better sewing skills, and can sell the extra garments for income. The women also benefited from a chance to yarn on a regular basis.

Palm Island asked for help in improving the health and welfare of animals (dogs) and ICV found a Vet with 30 years' experience in developing countries and as a result Palm Island has a Vet Clinic and regular weekly visits by a Vet.

The list goes on, but I am sure you get the picture. You can contact ICV through the website www.icv.com.au

Colin Cargill, Team Leader SJMMT



You crown the year
with riches,
and all that you
touch comes alive.

Psalm 65

The Library Page - Autumn Edition

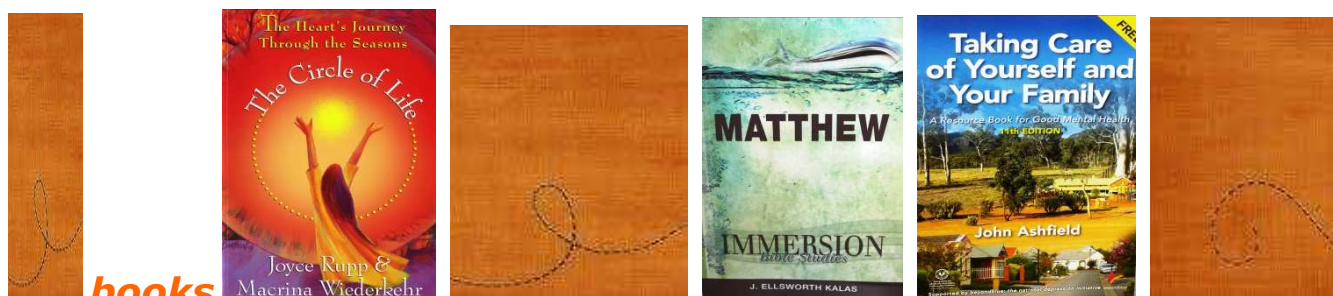
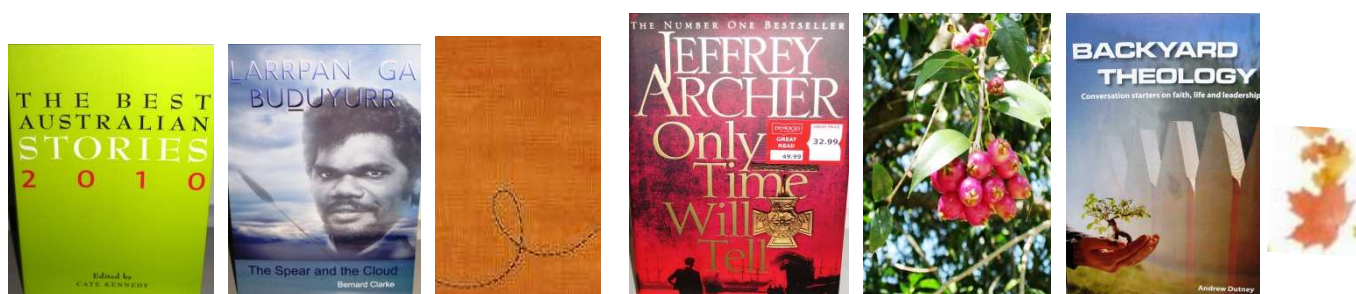


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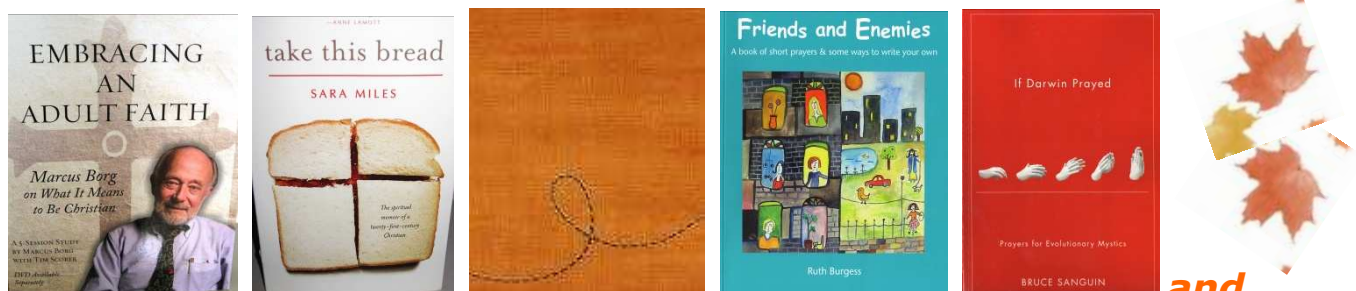


Autumn

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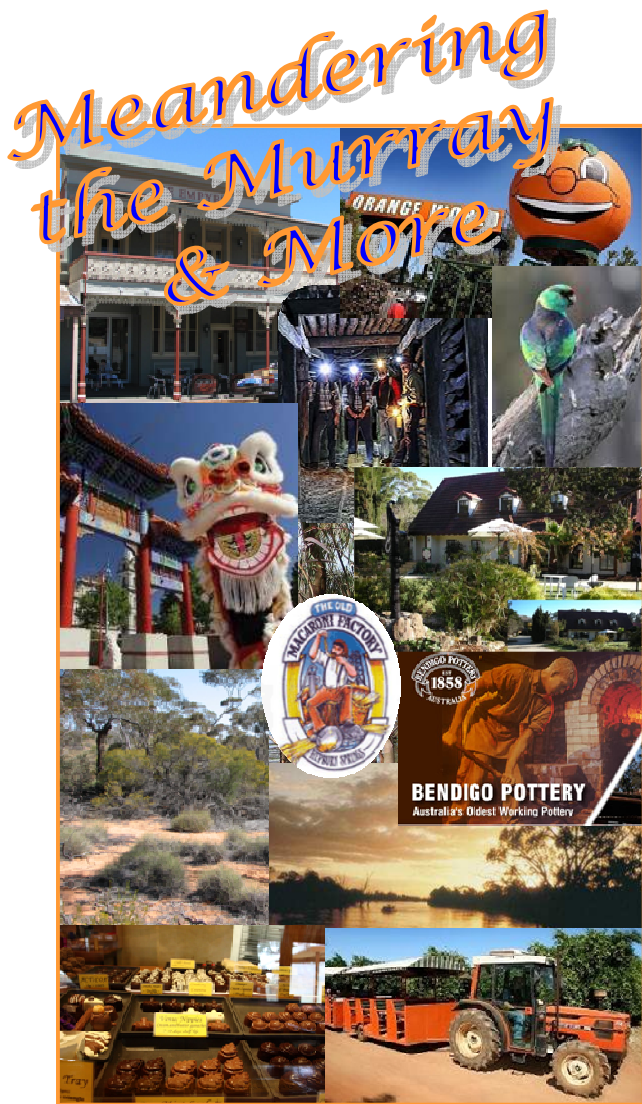
and



some new DVD's

Reviews for the above books may be found in the Library, and also on the Library pages of the website:

www.morialtauca.org.au



22nd to 28th September 2011

DIARY DATES

Tues 10 May	Over 80s Afternoon Tea	2.30 pm
Tues 17 May	Church Council	7.30 pm
Thurs 26 May	Australian Church Women Inc., Community Concern 2011 - Morning Tea	10.00 am
Thurs 26 May	Sorry Day Program Morialta Conservation Park. Meet in car park for each session	10.00am 11.30am 1.00pm
Thurs 26 May	Urban Mission Network Gathering Clayton - Wesley UC	6.00 pm for 6.30 pm start
Sun 29 May	Pot Luck Tea	5.00 pm
Sat 4 June	Youth & Young Adults Quiz Night	7.30 pm
Sun 5 June	Pastoral Partners Seminar	11.30 am

Deadline for June Edition

1st June 2011

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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