



Morialta Vision

A publication of Morialta Uniting Church

Volume 7 Issue 5
October 2014

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From the Chairperson

The Ten Commandments, Mission Statements and Vision Statements, The Basis of Union and other important documents to our church and congregations are only a collection of words if they don't have some impact on us.

Now, I'm not suggesting for one minute, that we have failed in our expression of Faith if we can't recite these tracts. Obviously, remembering word perfect the paragraphs that comprise them is only proof of good memory.

In my opinion it is far more important to have a sense of the intent of the statements and to try to live within the meaning expressed.

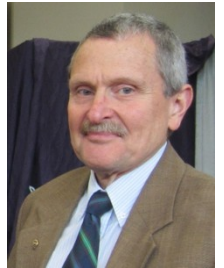
I remember preparing for an English exam once. I decided to memorise a few quotes from some of the novels studied during the year. Upon opening the paper there weren't really any opportunities to use the quotes, however, I contrived to include at least one or two in my answers. I know that my responses were not the best I could do, but I had invested time and effort in remembering the quotes and I was going to use them no

matter what! From this rather long distance and with the benefit of hindsight I wish I had taken the time to prepare properly so that I not only had the right words to use, but the best attitude to successfully accomplish the task.

A few of us have taken the opportunity to share "Pilgrims in an Ever Changing Landscape", a study that challenges us to look at what we are doing and what that might mean for the future church. For me, the important thing to take forward is the essence of the Uniting Church. Those 'Wisdom Words', that come to us through the tracts I mentioned in the first paragraph, should always lead us on without confining us to a particular pathway so that future leaders are not encumbered by expectations that might be even more limiting than we imagine the present situation is to us now.

We need to remember that it is not our church, but God's.

Bruce



Induction of Rev. Nigel Rogers

Last Wednesday night Rev Nigel Rogers was inducted as Chief Executive Officer/General Secretary of the Uniting Church in South Australia. Nigel comes from Pittwater Uniting Church in New South Wales.



Market 2014
Saturday 15 November
9am—3pm

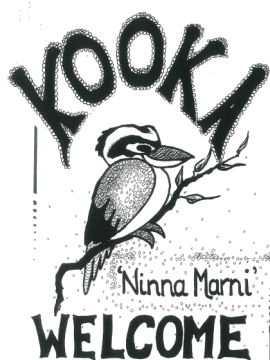
Photographic Exhibition

ENTERPRISE AND STRUGGLE

*Images from the Philippines
and Kites of Hope*



**Saturday 15 November
to Friday 28 November**



Artwork by Alison Lockett



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**David's Musings**

Towards the end of the Musical, *Les Miserables*, Valjean sings to Cossette:

"...On this page
I write my last confession
Read it well
When I, at last, am sleeping

It's a story
Of those who always loved you
Your mother gave her life for you
Then gave you to my keeping.

And remember
The truth that once was spoken
To love another person
Is to see the face of God."

Those words really stir me and send shivers down my spine, and particularly as the Chorus then sing:

"Do you hear the people sing,
A song of angry men.
It is the music of a people
Who will not be slaves again... .."

Now why mention this?

During the week I received, courtesy of *The Royal Mail*, a package I was expecting. I had had an email to say it had been posted, but then I heard nothing. Eventually it arrived, but it was wrapped in a plastic bag!

This is what was printed on the plastic bag:

Our sincere apologies. We are very sorry that this item has reached you in this condition.

If anything is missing or the contents damaged, you can report this to us by completing a 'Lost, Damaged and Delayed Inland Mail Report a Fault and Claim Form', available at any Post Office...

Later it reads "Once again. Please accept our apologies for any inconvenience caused."

Now here's my link to Valjean's "last confession":

I wonder if our last confession would be more like the Royal Mail;

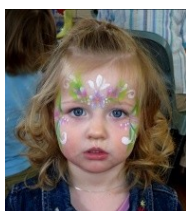
"We are very sorry that this item has reached you in this condition. If anything is missing or the contents damaged..."

Maybe we would then realize

"The truth that once was spoken
To love another person
Is to see the face of God."

David Purling

Playgroup's 10th Birthday Party

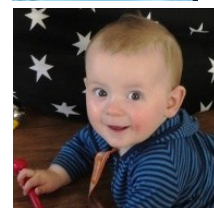


On the 30th September our Community Centre hosted a wonderful celebration for 10 years of Playgroup here at Morialta. Some 30 children, 32 parents, carers, friends and morning tea volunteers made for a very happy, very active and very noisy celebration!

The colourful face painter, the purple-clad wizard who tied balloon animals, and plenty of toys kept most of the children entertained while the mums had a well earned time of friendship and natter.

It was wonderful to have Helen Penhall and Faye Barker as our special guests. Their prayerful consideration, enthusiasm and determination saw their Playgroup dream come to fruition 10 years ago!

Playgroup members thanked Jackie Smith, our Playgroup coordinator, who went on parental leave that day. We presented Jackie with a gift for her baby and wished her and her partner much joy. Jackie has had a baby boy named Phoenix and everyone is delighted.



Community Centre News

Morialta
Community
Centre



Health and Leisure Expo

The Health and Leisure Expo for Seniors held at Morialta on Wednesday 22nd October was a great success. The hall and foyer were a blaze of colour and a buzz of activity, as fifteen exhibitors displayed their material and promoted their programs. There was a positive atmosphere all day.



Coffee Corner went smoothly in the blue room, though space was a little tight. Sincere thanks to Lesley Tideman for coordinating the kitchen, Carole Lyons for organizing morning tea, Mary Thornley for aesthetic details,

Helena Begg for her work on advertising materials and signs, and to all the people who helped to set up and pack up all the furniture on the day!

It was an event well supported by people from within and outside the church, and well worth repeating next year!

A New Baby

Our Playgroup Coordinator, Jackie Smith, has given birth to a gorgeous little baby boy, Phoenix Stephen John Parker. He was born a couple of weeks early on the tenth of October. Jackie was fortunate that she finished work a few weeks earlier than planned. She is very tired but very happy, and plans to return to work at Playgroup next year. We wish her well with her new baby.



English as a Second Language

A Conversational English Group is currently meeting on Sundays at 11:00am. This group consists of 8-10 people some of whom are seeking to fine tune their grammar and others who have limited skills in English and seek to learn more. Margaret Cargill is leading the group at the moment and is recruiting more leaders who can help. It is a growing group that is serving a need. We are registered as an ESL group with TAFE Rundle Mall and have a library card which gives us access to many resources. With a regular group of rostered leaders we hope to split the group into two groups to cater for the different needs.

Christine Ostle

Reflection – Church Council

Our days are full, busy, filled with multitasking and problem solving. When do we unwind? At the end of the day it can be hard as thoughts rev up, spiral down, pull somewhere, this way and that...

What about the world out there .. that is going past!

How do we gain awareness .. and where is our leisure time?

What is this life if, full of care

We have no time to stand and stare

No time to stand beneath the boughs

And stare as long as sheep or cows.

No time to see, where woods we pass,

Where squirrels hide their nuts in grass.

No time to see, in broad daylight,

Streams full of stars, like skies at night.

No time to turn at Beauty's glance,

And watch her feet, how they can dance.

No time to wait till her mouth can

Enrich that smile her eyes began.

A poor life this if, full of care,

We have no time to stand and stare.

Leisure by William Henry Davies 1871-1940

We need to find God, and he cannot be found in noise and restlessness. God is the friend of silence. See how nature – trees, flowers, grass – grows in silence; see how the stars, the moon and sun, how they move in silence... The more we receive in silent prayer, the more we can give in our active life... The essential thing is not what we say, but what God says to us ... words which do not give the light of Christ increase the darkness.

Mother Teresa

Pervade all my being
With your Presence
That in silence I may be
Filled with You.

Trappist Prayer Card

Silent God

This is my prayer – that, though I may not see,
I be aware of the Silent God
Who stands by me.
That, though I may not feel,
I be aware
Of the Mighty Love
Which doggedly follows me.

That, though I may not respond,
I may be aware
That God – my Silent Mighty God,
Waits each day.

Quiet, hopefully, persistently,
Waits each day
And through each night
For me
For me - alone

From Psalms of a Laywoman by Edwina Gately

Bob Penhall

Port Hedland

An invitation to do two months' Supply Ministry in Port Hedland was a real gift. Firstly, to go from early August Adelaide winter to clear blue skies and low 30s temperatures. It was also a gift as previously I had spent three years there working in church and town and detention centre ministry before returning to South Australia for eight years in Frontier Services Sturt Patrol based in Orroroo.



Port Hedland Uniting Church

Port Hedland is a remote 1600 kilometres north of Perth and 600 kilometres south west of Broome and despite its growth still seems to me in some ways to be a frontier town. It is said to now have a population of around

20,000 people and the first changes I noticed when driving from the airport are major new road and bridge constructions. I then discovered that the numbers of wharves in port continue to increase. The town claims to be the largest bulk tonnage port in the world. Iron ore pours into the port by rail and road. Salt and other minerals are also exported. Fly in/Fly out workers come and go to and from large camps in isolated areas in the Pilbara. Detention centre buildings, though empty, still stand.

In all this and more, is the church. The Uniting Church in Port Hedland is a small actively hospitable and inclusive congregation meeting on Sunday mornings for worship and friendship. Some Tongan families attend worship and most Sundays they contributed to worship with a hymn sung in parts in Tongan language. It is so beautiful. Another group comes together on Thursday nights for a shared meal and conversation. The church banners on the wall reflect this as a safe place showing a white ribbon painting which promotes stopping domestic violence and a colourful 'HEAL the soul/LIVE the Spirit/ ENGAGE the mind' painting. A small waterfall on the communion table gives a sense of peace and nurture. Add to this the World Council of Churches' holy land Peace Lamp.



The church has a community garden and it was my delight to help in the watering and conversation with others in the garden as well as receiving freshly picked tomatoes, eggfruit, beetroot, lettuce, spinach, basil, chilli, parsley. While I was in Hedland ABC TV's "Gardening Australia" presenter, Josh Byrne, came to the town through 'Care for Hedland Environmental Group' to promote and encourage gardening in the tough growing conditions of the area. Care for Hedland has a number of projects apart from gardening – including protection and monitoring of flatback turtles coming into the town beach and other beaches to nest and lay eggs each year between October to March. I had been on this committee and with this project when in Hedland previously.

Other Uniting Church ministers are working in the Pilbara. Rev John Dihm previously in Parkin Patrol out of Hawker and now with Frontier Services Pilbara Patrol, is based in Tom Price. Much of John's ministry is connected to the mining industry and camps as well as station people through the Pilbara. Rev Dianna Bartlett is Fly In Fly Out Chaplain on the team for Fortescue Metals Group based in Port Hedland and travels long distances by four wheel drive to mining sites. I was pleased to share meals and collegial conversation and encouragement

with Dianna in Hedland as well as with John and his wife Marilyn in Tom Price. It was good that Colin Sampson came to Tom Price too, when he came to visit for ten days.



Rev John Dihm, Sr Margaret, Jenny S, Marilyn

Frontier Services is also active with community services based in Port Hedland. They have Pilbara Mental Health Services, Mobile Respite Services, and Migrant Services as well as others such as Day Care in the wider Pilbara area at Karratha. I was pleased to share in a BBQ with staff when the Director of Frontier Services came to Port Hedland. All are part of the remote and isolated areas care.

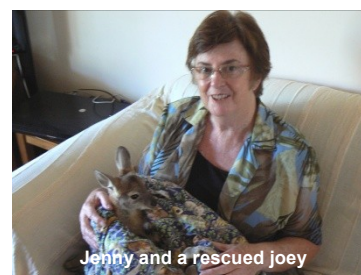
The church is prominent in this huge port in its presence through the Anglican and Catholic churches at the Seafarers' Centre for the many seafarers coming in on the ships. The Centre provides a friendly supportive place of respite, a shop and chapel with chaplains and bus transport for further shopping. Worship services each Sunday afternoon and counselling are provided too. Volunteers help as well as paid staff. Last Christmas they provided 1,200 hampers prepared by volunteers and taken to the ships in port as well as Christmas dinner for those able to be at the Centre. A mammoth task. If you are in Port Hedland go to the Seafarers' Centre for a tour of the port and hear about the work of the church through this openly Christian Centre.

One of the first events I was invited to join was the multicultural and community celebration of the 50th anniversary of the ordination of the Catholic Bishop Justin Bianchini. Justin's official motto is 'In all things Love' and he is much loved by the people for his down to earth respect and care for all. There was singing in various languages, and with other clergy and a representative from the Islamic Association I helped lead the prayers. Then a great feast was enjoyed afterwards.

Another group I again caught up with this time is the Wangka Maya Pilbara Aboriginal Language Centre. Here the local languages are recorded and fostered by linguists working with the old people of the Pilbara. It was here, too, when I first went to Port Hedland that I joined others in a helpful two-day Cultural Awareness programme. This Centre in South Hedland is a good place to visit when in the Pilbara.

Port Hedland is a tough place. It is tough environmentally, work wise and in other ways. It also has a tough beauty. It is a good place for the church to be with the strong love and compassion of God we find in the life and spirit of Jesus Christ. It was good to renew friendships and meet new people. It is a gift that I went there again unexpectedly on behalf of the church.

Jenny Swanbury



Jenny and a rescued joey

Morning tea with the Moderator

The Social Justice Ministry Team met with Rev Dr Deidre Palmer over coffee recently to discuss a number of issues common to the Moderator's and our agendas.

The most significant is the plight of children in detention and we updated her on Morialta's campaign, delivering bears with tags to our local member's office. This is part of a community campaign to urge the whole Parliament (Government and Opposition) to rethink their policy towards children in detention.

Other campaigns and issues include the "Common People, Common Dreams Walk Together", held in Adelaide recently in Elder Park. The Moderator is very passionate about the campaign, which provides an opportunity for all Australians to join together in celebration of our diversity and in recognition that for the sake of our future we need to learn to walk together. This was a celebration of all that is wonderful about cultural diversity in our fair city and was part of the multicultural festival.

One of the key programs being promoted by the Moderator is the "Beyond Violence". This campaign was developed by the Synod Social Justice Office and focuses on reducing both physical and verbal violence in the community. The Morialta community has expressed strong support for the program and we are planning to host a "workshop – training and discussion session" to promote the movement within our community.

The final important issue discussed was the Millennium Development Goals. Deidre advised that Adrian Nippres, the Presbytery/Synod International Mission Officer, has a host of resources and information that he is willing to share with congregations and groups. We have supported Millennium Development Goals in the past and we will seek to work with other groups across the Urban Network and Synod in 2015. World poverty does not just mean that some people have very few resources; it makes a significant contribution to world disharmony, human health and climate change and destruction of the environment. In the long term it affects us all.

Colin Cargill

No child belongs in detention

Morialta congregation and community has made this clear to our federal politicians by signing tags on 70+ teddy bears which have been delivered to Mr Pyne, local member.

Mr Pyne's office has informed us that those bears have been passed to the North East Community Assistance Project (NECAP) for distribution with Christmas parcels to families that are doing it tough.

The seasons of Advent and Christmas are approaching. One of the stories of our faith is of the flight of the family to Egypt – Jesus, as a babe, was an undocumented refugee.

Christmas, the Season of Goodwill, is a good time to once again remind our politicians that every child deserves a childhood. Bears and tags will be available on Sundays 30th November and 7th December for your appeals to our Government, either through your elected representative or our local Federal MP.

Christine Secombe

Why I speak out in support of Islam – another example

On Social Justice Sunday at Morialta I was asked to talk about "why I speak out in support of Islam?"

The day before I had been chatting with a Moslem friend in Indonesia and I told him about what our team had planned for SJ Sunday. The next morning when I checked my phone, I found this image.

It is a cross alongside a *misbaha* which is the Moslem equivalent of a Catholic Rosary. There were no words but they were not needed - the message is clear.

When we walk together we can achieve understanding, and with understanding comes peace and harmony, and a safer world.

For those who wish to know more – from Wikipedia:

Tasbih (Arabic: **تسبيح**) is a form of dhikr that involves the repetitive utterances of short sentences glorifying God, in Islam. To keep track of counting either the phalanges of the right hand or a misbaha is used. The misbaha is similar to the prayer rope of the Eastern Church and the rosary in the Catholic Church **Another example of the connections and similarities of the descendants of Abraham.**

Colin Cargill

Fellowship Happenings



Recent Thursday morning meetings of Fellowship have included a visit to the Chapel Street Community Garden and an informative and heart-warming session with Margaret Maas from Fauna Rescue.



Morning meetings in the winter months have proven popular. Meetings revert to the third Wednesday evening of the month at 7.45pm for the summer months.



PILGRIMS IN AN EVER-CHANGING LANDSCAPE

We recall President of Assembly, Rev Dr Andrew Dutney's sayings:

"If we think and act as if we were the UCA of the 1970s we will just sabotage ourselves....."

He spoke of the grief felt by many - those who have been around for a while. He talked about the church and the society that we remember well being long gone. Then he finished with

"But God has already made us into a new church and is calling us to be Christ's body and witnesses in the new Australia."

The studies were reflections around A Charter for a Pilgrim People.

1. We are the Uniting Church in Australia: "a fellowship of reconciliation," "a pilgrim people always on the way towards a promised goal" and a movement that works for "reconciliation and renewal which is the end in view for the whole creation." (Basis of Union, paragraph 3)

2. We affirm that we are a local and unique expression of the Uniting Church in Australia. The life of Jesus is our guide; the presence and power of God's Spirit sustains and renews us.

3. We commit to being a church that is both an ever-maturing movement and a flexible, responsive institution following the way of Jesus, seeking a world of justice, wholeness and freedom for all.

4. We acknowledge our history and embrace our traditions, both ancient and modern. We know that finding a way forward will require new insights and responses. We commit to exploring our culture, our traditions and ourselves as we seek to understand our present moment and make decisions for our future.

5. We acknowledge that we are the current custodians of the traditions and assets of this expression of the church and we commit ourselves to being guided by our history and our traditions.

6. We recognise that we have received our traditions and these assets in trust from past generations and must, soon enough, hand them over to those who follow.

7. We pledge ourselves to putting our hopes for the future of our church ahead of our comforts in the present and pledge ourselves to being brave, bold and creative in all our decision-making.

Group led by Chris Ayles, David and Judith Purling, with Dawn and Sam Colgrove, Helen and Bob Penhall, Carole Lyons, Joan Wagner.

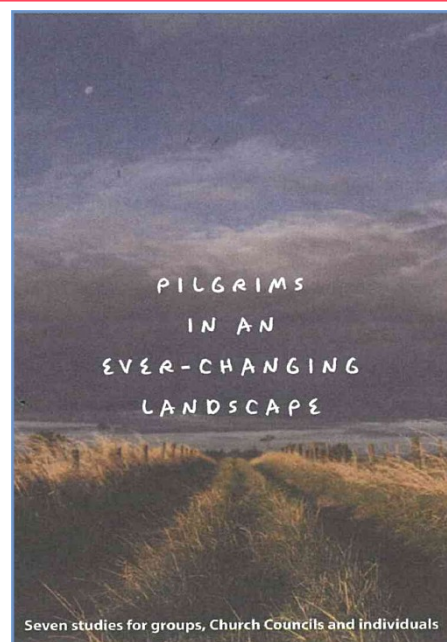
While most of the group have had some input into this reflection, it mainly conveys the thoughts of the author (Chris A).

The main feeling I have about the contents of the study book is ambivalence. As I read each study in advance of our meeting I was concerned about two things. Firstly, the assumptions contained in the study did not seem to match the views or experience of our congregation here at Morialta.

The material spent a lot of time on the importance of our history and traditions, as if we needed coaxing gently out of a backward looking mindset to open ourselves up to the future.

It seemed to assume that we had not considered the needs of our community and taken some action to meet those needs. In response we found ourselves saying what about, Coffee Corner, the Playgroup, The Netball Club, The Community Garden and all the other groups that utilize our facilities.

Secondly, following on from that, I was concerned that the stories and questions would not generate much discussion. Fortunately the group members were prepared to share freely their experience, ideas and hopes. So we did have an honest, open and wide ranging discussion over our four meetings. And I would put the emphasis on wide ranging. Probably more so than the study authors envisaged! The final study, while encouraging us to be creative, was not designed to lead us into any firm recommendations about future plans or actions.



Our final thoughts were along the following lines. That we should continue to be open to any possibilities that may emerge for us to live out the good news that Jesus taught at both a personal and congregational level. The chance of adults who have had nothing to do with the church up to this point in their lives, walking into a worship service is very remote, so we need to find ways to take Jesus to the people.

Despite my criticism of the material, it was scattered with thought provoking quotes. I conclude with one such example, a poem by Jan L Richardson.

God beyond borders,
may I wander
with wanting enough
to unlearn my path,
with wonder enough
to receive the secrets of each
place,
with wisdom enough
to allow them to whisper to me
home a different path.

Chris Ayles

"Preconceived notions are the locks on the door to wisdom."

Mary Browne

Group led by Anne and Bruce Ind, Lorraine and John Powers, with Bryan Forbes, Kathryn Powell, Colin Sampson, Mary Thornley, Beverley Tredrea

As participants of the Study Series we were encouraged to consider the impact on the institution and individuals brought about by changes in society that has seen the strong place of the church diminish. We explored the concept of pilgrimage, rather than a journey to an end, recognizing changes which have impacted on generations – currently technological change with instant world views and less treasuring of things of the past, the earlier hardships and challenges for the 1890s church at Magill, and the depressions which followed.

We looked at the place of traditions and how customs influenced us. While Morialta Uniting Church is still reasonably strong we need to be aware of any behavior that places impediments in the way of future generations as we respond to the changes that pervade local and wider community.

Reflection on our acknowledgement of the Kaurna people prompted the challenge to bring more people from our local area, from a diversity of backgrounds, along in our collective pilgrimage and spiritual journey.

A theme that recurred throughout our discussions was that the church is not the buildings, it is the people who articulate belonging through their attendance and involvement in any of the many activities that occur.

The question posed of being “custodians” or “curators” prompted reflection on the likely responses of “first comers” to church to rituals and traditions. It also brought reflection on sharing our history in a way which would have meaning for our younger members, and projections for Morialta’s 2015 celebrations of anniversaries were raised.

Personal Improvement books give us strategies to deal with Change by helping us to change ourselves. If we truly believe that the Church is not ours, but God’s, we need to be prepared to let go of some, or all of our prejudices, in order to bring about personal change, so that we can be open to a different, but important future.

The sense of Pilgrimage and of finding spiritual sustenance in the midst of change prompted some sharing of Lorraine’s imagining of “Living Streams Giving Life” in new ways: experiencing Morialta Falls as a sacred place for worship and sharing of faith and spirituality; a water feature and quiet place for reflection in the courtyard; more intentional invitation to others to move briefly into our worship space for quiet reflection, perhaps lighting a candle; to engage in activities such as the Netball arena.

The church family is comprised of a number of generations who express their spirituality in different ways. The challenge for Morialta Uniting Church and the wider institution is to maintain a flexibility that helps everyone to experience the Divine in the way that is most meaningful for them.

**From Study 5
Custodians or Curators**

Imagine. If you have people who enjoy using their imaginations, you might have fun playing with some “What if’s”.

What if we were to serve a new group in our community – who would that be?

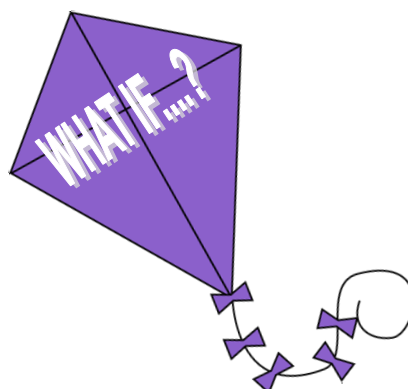
What if we had a chance to share the good news in five minutes – what would we say?

What if we could create a new way to share our story – how would we do it?

What if we didn’t have any property?

What if we worshipped at another time and place?

Pilgrims in an Ever-changing Landscape



GRIEF

Nikki Gemmell, writing in the Weekend Australian Magazine, points out that people find an infinite number of ways to deal with grief. She lights candles, and while I can appreciate that the sudden source of light focuses her emotion, lighting candles for the dead is not my culture.

Instead I have a list of my family and close friends who have gone before me. Since I retired in 1992 there are now 32 names down the page. I deal with the loss which has generated my grief by reading the list when I add another or when I feel the need. I find that this crafts my memories and many smiles as old family and friends linger.

A few of my friends have expected to be reunited with their loved ones waiting amongst the angels. Not for me. To quote D. H. Laurence, who believes, “The dead don’t die. They look on and help.”, I find that to be true as I watch the sun set, walk in the park or remember again their jokes.

At the funeral services I attend I try to turn my mind away from sorrow and death and celebrate the times of my life shared with the deceased.

As Nikki Gemmell say, ‘I become closer to what it means to be alive’.

Arthur Tideman

Eternal God, whose energetic Spirit permeates all things, we thank you for the amazing network of electronic communication that enwraps our world; for the instant sharing of knowledge, information, entertainment and greeting that is at our fingertips today.

Forgive us that so wonderful a gift is abused in ways that degrade human beings or exploit or mislead them; in tawdry entertainment that glorifies acts of violence and vacuous television that wastes precious time.

Grant us a part in the mind of Christ, that we may discern the opportunities that technology affords to celebrate together your gift of life, until the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love.

We ask it for Jesus Christ’s sake. Amen.

*Colin V Smith,
Supernumerary,
Sankey Valley Circuit*

Paws for thought ...

They do it every Friday and sometimes more often. It is really noisy and both of us have really sensitive hearing. We try to get away from it, but they keep on coming to where we are.

One of the reasons they do it so often, or so they say, is because of all the hair we loose. Personally, I can't see a problem. If they brushed us more often and let us stay outside for longer periods there wouldn't be as much of our hair on the floor. Anyway, our hair is beautiful just like the rest of us.

One thing about Spring and Summer is that they leave the sliding door open for us a little more often so we can escape things like the vacuum cleaner.

I still haven't worked out how to get out of having a bath though!

Keely

Look, I've told you before, just be glad we can get outside away from that noise.

I can't hear them. Do you think they have finished?

You worry too much. They don't usually, but if they do, just remember what I told you. Make sure Bruce is within range when you shake!

Yea, I guess so. You don't think they will want to give us a bath next?



Snakes Alive!



On Saturday, 4 October, Fay and Jill were out visiting most of the day and arrived home about 4.00 pm to be met by their very agitated 94 year old neighbour, Connie, who some of you know.

She regaled her listeners with a story of a quite large adult Eastern Brown Snake in her backyard under a bush with its head up in a "Beware, I'll bite you pose." Sneaking up towards it was Coco in an "I'll get you first!" mode.

An alarmed, quick thinking Connie grabbed the resisting Coco and rushed her inside her house and watched through the window as the snake slithered away under the back brush fenced.

When Connie finished her story everyone had a drink to settle their nerves.

So who was the saviour? Was it Coco who alerted Connie to the fact that the snake was there, or the brave Connie who rushed the squirming Coco inside to safety?

KITE MAKING WORKSHOP

Back on Saturday 4 October a group gathered to make kites – not the kites which will go out in the park or the beach and fly if you're lucky, but special kites to hang high in the church above the Photographic Exhibition in November.

Since then the children have added two kites, rich in colour and words.

The Exhibition, *Enterprise and Struggle: Images from the Philippines* shows photographs of daily life for those in the North Luzon area. It presents ways of life and survival which to us would question our experience of hope. People show in harsh settings where survival is a daily challenge and where we would think there is little, even no hope. Yet – we might search the photographs for expressions, some of hope, and more of resilience and engagement with the daily challenges of their lives.

Our kites – Kites of Hope – may say different things to different people. They will "fly" above the exhibition as an expression of hope which is given strength in love, justice, stories of courage, sense of belonging, etc. – those

attitudes and convictions of the heart which enable our living.

The fifteen people who came and made the beautiful kites found joy, satisfaction and achievement in their cutting, crafting, sticking and working together. What good conversations and opportunities for

discovery and affirmation were there in this activity.

The Exhibition photographs came with annotations which warrant our attention. For example:

"Everyday you and I sip from containers, use wallets and purses, ride on or in vehicles, handle electronic gear that the world's poor have helped bring into being.....I now wonder if those "workers" actually carry our world on their shoulders, while we remain so unaware of their struggle..."

"At this sprawling landfill site in Manila, thousands of people live and make whatever money they can by picking through rubbish for recyclables. In the city of Manila alone over 50% of the inhabitants live in slum dwellings."

A Gold Coin Donation will be invited in viewing the Exhibition. Framed photographs will be available for sale at \$50 each. All proceeds will go to projects in the Philippines





Morialta Magpie



Brian and Dale Corrigan celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary



Happy 90th Birthday Margaret Jenkins!



Jennie and Doug Hosking shared photos of the Philippines at a Pot Luck Tea

A Bumper Crop of Birthdays!



Bruce Ind sharing with the children during worship



Boronia Bennier



Elva Prosser



Gaynor Grindlay led children's time in her coat of many colours!



Bob Lloyd



Roger Whibley



Pam Johnson



Margaret Clogg, Mary Watson and Dawn Colegrove

MISSION PROJECTS



Mission Sunday guests on 7 September were Neti and Jill Folauhola, who shared reflections of life in Tonga and the needs of many.

Your generous offering on the day will enable the supply of furniture to kindergartens in Tonga - a total of \$1123.50 plus a donation of \$610.00 from the Netball Club Mother's Day cake stall.





Mining & Art in the Outback

A Tourist reports

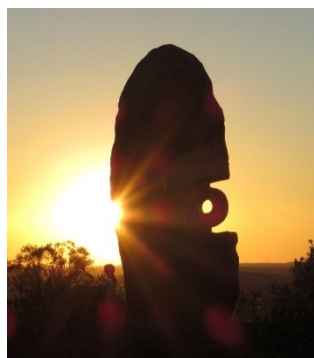
The trip commenced in a large comfortable bus with room to move about and indulge in chitter-chatter, with most noise coming from the front. The "blokes" were outnumbered two to one and had difficulty getting a word in. By day two the volume had diminished somewhat, although some people still managed to retain a constant flow of conversation. Some passengers even headed for the rear where it was much quieter and they could drop off and have a nap!



The good bus only lasted a couple of days! Mechanical/electrical problems that could not be fixed locally resulted in Bob the driver having to drive back towards Adelaide in late afternoon to meet a replacement bus coming up from Kadina. Despite the hazards of goats, kangaroos, emus etc. Bob made it back safely in a smaller bus that was not as comfortable, but we managed.

We visited many interesting places, e.g. School of the Air, Royal Flying Doctor, Jack Absalom's Gallery, and the Silver City Mint and Art Centre where we viewed the world's largest acrylic painting on canvas. The children of the outback are well connected these days with the use of computers.

Most attended Wesley Uniting Church on Sunday morning where we were made very welcome and shared a few stories over a cuppa afterwards. It was impressive to commence the service with the song, "All are welcome". Something, perhaps, we could consider at Morialta as the Minister approaches the front of the Church to commence the service.



Some ladies decided that a night at the movies would be good, so the prime mover (who shall remain nameless) headed off to see what they thought would be entertaining only to be amongst a lot of "youngies" watching a load of rubbish!

A trip out to Silverton after church for a delightful lunch and fossicking in the souvenir shops proved popular, so much so that rushing to spend money caused one of our flock to tumble over and require medical assistance to patch up a skinned knee. We were hoping to see the Royal Flying Doctor in action, but not the case!



Further north was White Cliffs - not much there but a comfortable underground motel which was cleverly designed with various bedrooms under the rock and many passageways around which we had to find our way to get to the ablution block for showers and toilets. Some showered, some didn't, however plenty of nice smellies took the odours away!

The "paparazzi" were kept busy with photos and all will be revealed in time, and no more entertaining than one lady emptying out her handbag at the dinner table one night! We still don't know what she was looking for.

We enjoyed and joked about the Chinese and Australian meals at the motel in Broken Hill where we were looked after very well. Some people indulged more than others which became topics of conversation in due course. The shops in the various attractions did good business from our travelers, which brought to mind the song, "Hey Big Spender".



A good time was had by all, as usual, and we look forward to our esteemed leader finding us somewhere to go in 2015.

Robert Cheel



Ed –

What happens on a tour generally stays on the tour, so we're told! However, Rob thought an exception could be made now and then.

Welcome to the Morialta Uniting Church Community Library

From the Librarian:

I am hoping that you will enjoy the following two new segments that I am adding to the library page.

They are Library Helper's Profile and Stepping through the Archives.

LIBRARY HELPER PROFILE



Margaret Pittman became involved with the Library, years ago, mainly to support Olive Walton when she was attempting to upgrade the Library.

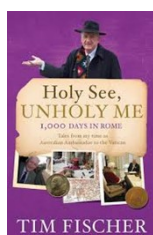
"Olive needed a 'sounding board' so I was it! Apart from the annual grant from Church funds, Olive sold jam, chutneys and marmalade to help Library funds and this is where I am still involved with several others.

Lorraine Powers took over as Librarian and a Committee was formed, each member offering their skills in a variety of ways.

I particularly enjoy attending the meetings of ACLA (Australian Church Library Association) which meets twice a year. Lorraine and I always pick up new ideas and it is good to meet other Librarians, see other Church Libraries, and listen to interesting speakers/authors etc.

Thanks to Lorraine we have a wonderful Church Library at Morialta, full of up to date books. It is always a privilege to read new books and write about them for 'Vision'.

I really enjoyed reading Tim Fischer's 'Holy See - Unholy Me' and also 'Thunder Dog' by Susan Flory."



STEPPING THROUGH THE ARCHIVES

Why do we keep archives?

We keep archives as a living record of the past. We preserve the stories of past congregations, the people and the artifacts of these people.

Archives are not just about the past, they are also about our living present. As pilgrims of the Uniting Church, here at Morialta, we gather and tell our stories, often inspired by God.

Promoting awareness of our stories and our resources through public history events, and making these stories accessible to our own church community and the wider community is what we try to do in keeping archives.

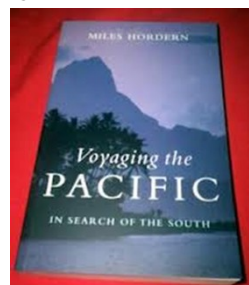
Keep a lookout for this segment in the next issue of Vision. "Stepping through the Archives" will also be found on our website.

BOOK REVIEWS OCTOBER 2014

BIOGRAPHY

VOYAGING THE PACIFIC - IN SEARCH OF THE SOUTH

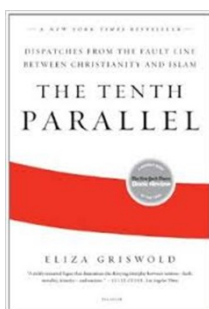
by Miles Horsden



This is an almost poetically-written account of a lone English mariner's experiences while sailing from New Zealand to Chile, returning via Easter Island and Tahiti. He captures the daily difficulties of a solitary sailor and the ever-changing nature of ocean and sky, both entrancing and menacing, in the South Pacific. Although he enjoys some relaxing moments as he briefly breaks the journey in Chile and the Pacific islands, he has to make psychological adjustments to these dramatic changes of environment. This is fascinating reading for a landlubber, including background snippets of maritime history.

Reviewed by Bryan Forbes

THE TENTH PARALLEL Dispatches from the Faultline between Christianity and Islam by Eliza Griswold



This is the fruit of seven years of persistent grass-roots research by an award-winning US journalist, happening to be the daughter of an American Episcopal bishop. The tenth parallel of latitude north of the equator marks a zone of countries with serious troubles relating to religious, political and economic factors: Nigeria, Sudan to Somalia, Malaysia, Indonesia and the Philippines. A major feature is the often violent competition between Christianity and Islam, but there is also severe conflict within the faiths and in claiming economic resources. The complex interaction between these factors is graphically illustrated in the author's account of her travels and intimate discussions among a wide range of people, with a relevant historical background.

Reviewed by Bryan Forbes

MORIALTA UC CREATIVE WRITER'S SHARE THEIR MUSINGS

The latest issue of 'Creative Musings' is just to hand and available for reading. These are the writings of our libraries **Creative Writing Group**, Kathryn Powell, Joan Wagner, Jing Luo, Arthur Tideman and Lorraine Powers.

We hope you will enjoy reading them. If you are interested in joining the group, please talk to the librarian, Lorraine Powers.



For further book reviews go to
<http://www.morialtauca.org.au/resources/library/whats-new/>



Living Streams ~ Giving Life



There is a river of creativity running through all things, all relationships, all beings, all corners and centres of this universe. We are here to join it, to get wet, to jump in, to ride these rapids, wild and sacred as they may be.

Matthew Fox

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Editor: Mary Thornley
Publisher: Helena Begg

Diary Dates

Thurs—Sat 30 Oct – 1 Nov	Annual General Meeting Presbytery and Synod
Sat 15 Nov 9.00 am – 3.00 pm	Mighty Magill Market Exhibition: <i>Enterprise and Struggle, Images from the Philippines & Kites of Hope</i> (continuing to 28 Nov.)
Sun 16 Nov 9.30 am	Worship – Beyond our Walls Recording
Tues 18 Nov 7.30pm	Church Council Meeting
Sun 30 Nov 9.30 am	Combined Service and Meeting of Congregation
Sun 7 Dec 9.30am	Worship with the Children
Sun 7 Dec 4.30pm 5.30pm	Messy Christmas and Advent Celebration
Tues 16 Dec 7.30pm	Blue Christmas
Fri 19 Dec	Church Office Closes
Sun 21 Dec 9.30am	Beyond our Walls Recording
Wed 24 Dec 7.30pm	Christmas Eve Worship
Thurs 25 Dec 9.30am	Christmas Worship
Sundays in January 9.30am	Worship in the hall



a time to celebrate, and a time to reflect

Deadline
for the next Edition
1 December 2014

To discuss ideas for Vision articles contact the editor, Mary Thornley

