

# Beyond 2020 Vision

A publication of Morialta Uniting Church

February 2026

**Morialta Uniting Church – follow us on Facebook or check out our website at [www.morialtauca.org.au](http://www.morialtauca.org.au)**

Welcome to the first edition of Beyond 2020 Vision for 2026. As we move into Lent, Brian McLaren, an American author and public theologian, reflects on Abraham's call and true faith. Also, at a time when many Australians are questioning our direction, Rev Geoff Boyce reflects on multiculturalism in Australia.

Many groups at MUC have a busy program set for 2026 so please use Vision to let others know of your plans.

The deadline for the March Vision will be 27<sup>th</sup> February. Either drop your item in to the church office or call/email Colin on 0427 122 106 or [snout-n-about@bigpond.com](mailto:snout-n-about@bigpond.com)



## Abraham's call

*Brian McLaren, Center for Action and Contemplation*

The story of Abraham and Sarah is a mythic, primeval story, so much so that it became the founding myth of the three monotheistic religions: Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.

According to the ancient stories of Genesis, God is plotting goodness. While we plot ways to use God to get blessings for ourselves, God stays focused on the big picture of blessing the world – which includes blessing us in the process.

You see this pattern unfold when God chooses a man named Abram and a woman named Sarah. They are from a prominent family in an ancient city-state known as Ur, one of the first ancient Middle Eastern civilizations. Like all civilizations, Ur has a dirty little secret: its affluence is built on violence, oppression, and exploitation.

God tells them to leave their life of privilege in this great civilization. He sends them out into the unknown as wanderers and adventurers. No longer will Abram and Sara have the armies and wealth and comforts of Ur at their disposal. All they will have is a promise – that God will be with them and show them a better way. From now on, they will make a new road by walking.

Abraham and Sarah's trust in God's call is a model for our faith. This story also tells us something about true faith. Faith is stepping off the map of what's known and making a new road by walking into the unknown. It's responding to God's call to adventure, stepping out on a quest for goodness, trusting that the status quo isn't as good as it gets, believing a promise that a better life is possible.

True faith isn't a deal where we use God to get the inside track or a special advantage or a secret magic formula for success. It isn't a mark of superiority or exclusion. True faith is about joining God in God's love for everyone. It's about seeking goodness with others, not at the expense of others. True faith is seeing a bigger circle in which we are all connected, all included, all loved, all blessed...

Sadly, for many people, faith has been reduced to a list. For some, it's a list of beliefs: ideas or statements that we have to memorize and assent to if we want to be blessed. For others, it's a list of dos and don'ts: rituals or rules that we have to perform... But Abraham didn't have much in the way of beliefs, rules, or rituals. He had no Bibles, doctrines, temples, commandments, or ceremonies. For him, true faith was simply trusting a promise of being blessed to be a blessing. It wasn't a way of being religious: it was a way of being alive.

*And what does the Lord require of you?*

*To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. Micah 6:8*



## Kimba Connections

For some years the Uniting Church at Kimba has regularly joined Morialta for worship via Live Streaming. These resources have been significant in enabling the Kimba church to offer worship every Sunday without relying on their own lay preachers.

To strengthen our links with this community it is planned that a group from Morialta will visit Kimba on the weekend of 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> March.

We will have an opportunity to share in worship and learn more about this rural community, the home of the Big Galah, half way across Australia.

You are welcome to be part of this excursion. Details will be available soon.

## News from the January Church Council Meeting

- The full agenda of the January meeting is in the Church Council folder in the library, and the minutes will also be there once they are confirmed. In the meantime, here are some highlights! As always, if you have any questions, please talk to one of the members of Church Council.
- We enthusiastically received Rev. Anne's paper on The Next Steps and endorsed action towards prong 1, a weekly Community Day – see the paper below for details.
- Following negotiation with the Kimba congregation, we agreed to a visit there by interested people from Morialta over the weekend of 28-29 March – see more information elsewhere in this issue.
- During Morialta UC's time as a pre-polling station for the state election, i.e. Saturday 14th to Friday 20th March (but not Sunday 15th) we will hold a cake stall in the foyer as a fund-raiser. Rhonda will coordinate a roster, and there will be a sign-up sheet for volunteers in due course.
- With our Dawoodi Bohras friends we will be inviting the local community to a 'Harmony Week Celebration and Eid Family Picnic' in the Chapel St park on Sunday afternoon 22 March 12:00 to 4:00, with a focus on education about Eid, Lent and Easter, plus food and activities demonstrating inter-faith and intercultural collaboration. Funding is being sought from Burnside Council!
- We agreed that this year's AGM will be held on Sunday 3 May, with a Community Lunch to follow – please add to your diary now!

Margaret Cargill, Deputy Council Chairperson

## The Next Steps

*From Rev Anne Butler*

I went to volunteer at the Iona Community in Scotland in 2009, because I was very interested in volunteering as spiritual expression for my Masters in Ministry. I learned many things, but perhaps the most surprising is that the Iona Community *teaches* community. Those volunteering are expected to model good grace and manners sometimes to people not used to sitting at a table and talking to strangers.

I am now part of the Morialta Community. I have heard many talk about the good old days of Coffee Corner and Lunch on Chapel, of working together and not just at funerals!

I believe the church has a number of roles in its local community:-

- Providing regular worship that lifts the community up in prayer
- Providing structure to enable mission and service
- Providing structure to connect with one another
- Becoming indispensable to its community (or at least would be noticed if it stopped).

I understand that we must make use of our gifts and graces, while being aware of a reduction in energy and enthusiasm among our people.

Last year I suggested a three-prong strategy for moving forward.

- 1) Morialta Community Day
- 2) Morialta Community Evening - especially in warmer months
- 3) Morialta Community Saturday once a month.

We are focussing on only the first point. My best wisdom is we open the church up on a Wednesday with a plethora of community building activities. Each week of the month could be different with, for example:-

Morning - various craft options:

- Classes for smocking, tatting or quilting
- Garden connection with cutting/potting
- Conversational English
- U3A involvement?

Afternoon - Worship service for those who can't normally make Sunday morning

- Using the labyrinth
- Christian meditation
- Soul Circle – using Godly Play for grownups
- Yoga/ Tai Chi
- Place to talk about grief/ Death Café/ Coffin Club
- Mosaics/ stained glass/ woodwork or repair café in shed.

In between – cuppa and bickies any time.

Simple lunch - soup, toasties, sandwiches, slice of cake or ice cream.

A team of three or four people to run one Wednesday a month unless people choose more often.

It could break in school holidays, or run all year round if enough need.



## The gate of the New Year

*Adapted from 'Thought for the Week' by Rev. David Fleming, retired Church of England minister, who lives in Littleport, Cambridgeshire*

"I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year, 'Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown'. And he replied, 'Go into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God. That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way.'"

Minnie Louise Haskins – 1908

*Minnie Louise Haskins (1875 – 1957) was a British poet and an academic in the field of sociology, best known for being quoted by King George VI in his Royal Christmas Message of 1939.*

Frances R. Havergal, born 1874, wrote in a similar vein to Haskins. She was a vicar's daughter, who expressed her faith in poetry and hymns. Some of their language might sound a bit ' twee ' to us in 2026, but it expressed their devotion and commitment to their faith. One of Havergal's well known hymns is:

*Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to Thee.  
Take my moments and my days; Let them flow in ceaseless praise.  
Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of Thy love.  
Take my feet, and let them be swift and beautiful for Thee.  
Take my voice, and let me sing, always, only, for my King.  
Take my lips, and let them be filled with messages from Thee.  
Take my silver and my gold; Not a mite would I withhold.  
Take my intellect, and use every power as Thou shalt choose.  
Take my will, and make it Thine; It shall be no longer mine.  
Take my heart, it is Thine own; It shall be Thy royal throne.  
Take my love; my Lord, I pour at Thy feet its treasure-store.  
Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for Thee.*

## Lenten Study

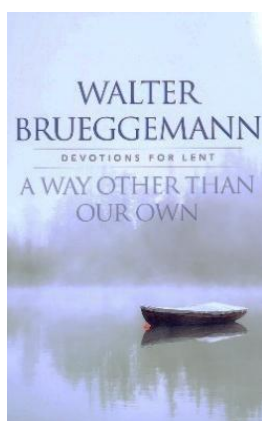
*From Rev Anne Butler and the Worship and Faith Ed Team*

Many people enjoyed the opportunity to join in daily Advent readings, with our groups focussing on the readings together.

Lent is only a couple of weeks away, and the Worship and Faith Education team have chosen daily devotions for Lent from 'A Way Other Than Our Own' by Prof Walter Brueggemann. A separate text for each day of the six weeks of Lent, and a brief reflection for easy reading.

If you would like to purchase a printed copy – second hand prices start at \$6, and \$8 for a Kindle edition. If you need help to purchase, please ask at Morning Tea on Sunday.

This time low tech, but groups both in person and on Zoom. See Anne B for further information.



## Lent Event is coming!

Lent Event in 2026 will introduce us to our partners in Timor-Leste, West Papua, Zimbabwe and many other places around the world where Uniting World is working together with committed, courageous communities to beat poverty in the face of changing climate.

The weekly story and prayer for each Sunday aims to inspire us throughout Lent to be active in caring for 'the creation.'

Week 1 - God at work on the front lines of climate change.

Week 2 – Preparing for the worst – building for the best.

Week 3 – Working with nature in West Papua.

Week 4 – Learning for life – school hubs in Zimbabwe.

Week 5 and 6 TBA



## When is a kangaroo not Australian made?

*Adapted from 'The Pork Journal'*

Have you ever studied the labels on products in your supermarket? If you haven't you may be surprised to know that totally imported food products can have a 'green kangaroo' if packaged in Australia. To see if foods, such as pork or oranges, are grown and packed or processed in Australia – ie totally Australian made – you need to look at the bar below the green kangaroo.

If the bar is white, it means the product contains no Australian grown produce.

If the bar is totally gold, it means that 100% of the product was grown in Australia.

If the bar is only partially filled in, it tells you the percentage of product grown in Australia.

Always go for a 'green kangaroo' sitting on a gold bar!





## Fay Elizabeth Goldsworthy 1936 - 2025



Fay was born in Launceston, Tasmania, the eldest child of Edna and Alfred Goldsworthy. Her sister, Jan, followed four years later. The family lived in the mining town of Gormanston on the West Coast of Tasmania until Fay was 9 years old when they then moved to Launceston. Fay

attended Gormanston Primary School, Charles Street Primary School and Launceston High School. After completing high school Fay studied podiatry and later established her own business. While in Launceston Fay joined the Business and Professional Women's Association serving as state president in 1956.

In 1962 while attending a conference in Melbourne, Fay met Jill Thompson and thus began an enduring friendship - indeed partnership.

As a result of some motor accidents Fay was advised to move to a warmer climate. So in 1964 Fay moved to Queensland to join Jill who was studying in Brisbane, where she worked with the Blue Nurses (a welfare arm of the Methodist Church) as a podiatrist and welfare officer. She loved Brisbane.

Eventually, in 1968 Jill returned home to South Australia to work with the Department of Aboriginal Affairs, based in Port Lincoln. While recuperating from surgery Fay visited Port Lincoln and was encouraged by members of the Aboriginal Community to take over the Save the Children Fund's welfare centre, which she developed into a preschool to help the children access education.

In 1974, Fay initiated Kindy Klub, an after-school program held each Wednesday. She also took the children on camps during the school holidays and brought some of the kindy kids to Adelaide for the Christmas Pageant and the Lord Mayor's Christmas Party. During this period Fay also completed studies in social work. She spent 16 very happy and fruitful years in Port Lincoln and continued to maintain close ties with the Aboriginal community when she moved to Adelaide.

In 1984 Fay was asked to become director of the Warrina Home in Campbelltown where she worked for 7 years before retiring. However, retirement didn't last long as she was asked to work at the Clayton Homes in Norwood where she served for 3 years.

Fay never had to apply for a job; she just seemed to be led from one role to the next.

Fay came from a deeply Christian family and grew up within the Methodist Church becoming a confirmed member in 1954. She wasn't one to talk much about her faith but rather lived it by serving God through serving others. It was important to her to be able to help out whenever a need arose.

Wherever Fay lived she held many leadership roles in the church. In Port Lincoln she helped establish an annual camp for the Eyre Peninsula Women's Fellowship groups. These were fun - sometimes raucously so - times of fellowship and Christian growth. She also served on school councils, government committees and hospital boards - wherever she was needed. She continued her involvement with the Business and Professional Women's Association and inaugurated the Port Lincoln chapter.

On retirement she helped with Meals on Wheels for 20 years and visiting the elderly members of Morialta Uniting Church. Fay loved pottering in the garden and she always had a cat - usually some exotic breed.

For most of her adult life, Fay shared life, work and home with Jill. Theirs was a caring, companionable friendship. When Jill moved into care Fay continued to care for her visiting every day even though she had her own health concerns. Sadly, Jill died in 2023.

Fay enjoyed good health until the last ten years when she developed macular degeneration and lung cancer. She persevered bravely until she finally slipped away quietly at Mary Potter Hospice on Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Fay was loved and cherished by her family and friends and her love and care touched many people as she journeyed through life.

Rest in peace Auntie Fay.

## Friendship Group

*From Margaret Clogg*

To celebrate the end of a very interesting year, 19 members of the Friendship Group met at The Highbury Hotel in mid-December for fun, fellowship and good food.

The first Friendship Group meeting for the year will be a Picnic in the Park at The Gums, Shakespeare Avenue, Tranmere, followed by coffee at the Magill Road McDonalds. Watch the newsletter for details!





## Rethinking multiculturalism in Australia

*Adapted from post by Rev Geoff Boyce in Radical Musings*

A murmur is circulating that multiculturalism is failing Australia and should be abandoned.

But if we discard it, what replaces it?

Australia has always been multicultural. For millennia, this continent was home to hundreds of distinct nations, each defined by language and place. Each nation adapted to its environment, developing sophisticated systems of law and education. This diversity flourished through thousands of years of careful negotiation and coexistence. Social stability emerged from clarity: people understood their identity, their place, their responsibilities, and when consultation with neighbouring nations was required.

The foundation of today's multicultural debate rests on an uncomfortable truth: Australia was colonized by a culture fundamentally at odds with how its original inhabitants had survived for thousands of years. What existed was a balanced ecology of nations.

When the colonizers arrived, they dismantled the infrastructure of these nations. Indigenous peoples were forced to submit to an alien worldview. This subjugation was codified into law when the newly formed federal parliament passed the Immigration Restriction Act in 1901 – the White Australia Policy – as one of its first acts.

How did Aboriginal elders feel? Everything they had built, everything they knew, dismissed in a single act. And now they were declared outsiders in their own land.

They faced an impossible task: starting over, adapting to an entirely foreign way of thinking and living. The scale of what was demanded cannot be overstated.

Meanwhile, the new rulers set about remaking Australia in the only image they knew – that of home, on the other side of the world. That is where I originally came from and I have been grappling with what it means to be a stranger in a strange land ever since.

*Radical Musings is a reader-supported publication. To subscribe <https://geoffboyce.substack.com/>*

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## A little salt goes a long way

*Author Margaret Feinberg writes of the collective impact of using our own “salty” flavour for the healing of the world - Adapted*

Salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is fit neither for the soil nor for the manure pile; it is thrown out.

—Luke 14:34–35

As the salt of the earth, we are agents of human flourishing. Jesus is calling us to be fertilizer in his kingdom. We are created to help others blossom and bud as they pursue the life God intends. Flourishing lives demonstrate evidence of the kingdom of God....

Sometimes the places Christ sends you will be the last places, the last people, the last situations you'd ever want to engage. Like Jonah, you may be tempted to resist the hardship, the discomfort, the awkwardness to stay in your comfort zone. Yet, it's your salty fertilizer that brings salvation to a dysfunctional and dying world.

The kind of salt the disciples used was harvested with its surrounding minerals. Those trace elements gave the salt its uniqueness. In the same way you are unique your specific upbringing and personality and giftings and weaknesses and quirks. Everything from your past wounds to your everyday work as [God] sprinkles you throughout the community and world.

Sometimes it is hard to know where to begin. We can become overwhelmed by the sheer quantity of needs that flood our inbox and mailbox, our social media. I once stumbled on wisdom tucked into some ancient Jewish writings known as the Talmud. There it says that if someone is suffering and in need, and you can take away 1/60 of their pain, then that is goodness, and the call to help is from God. This is a powerful expression of our being the salt – the preservers, the flavourers, the fertilizers – of the earth.

The fraction – 1/60 – liberates us from the pressured thinking that “everything depends on you.” Your one little grain of salt can help with something someone else's grain can't achieve. But when all the grains get mixed and sprinkled together – preserving and flavouring and helping others – flourish occurs everywhere.

None of us are meant to preserve the whole earth, flavour the whole world, flourish the entire planet on our own. Yet you can begin today by simply asking God to bring to mind someone for whom you can ease 1/60 of their pain.





## Recent happenings at Morialta UC and beyond...

### Celebrating Doug's ministry

Doug was ordained over 60 years ago. Shortly after spending some time working in the SA Synod and celebrating his marriage to Jenni, the newly married couple found themselves in Papua New Guinea where they occupied a number of ministry positions.

Upon returning to SA Doug held placements in country and city congregations before taking the opportunity to spend some time in England where he 'sat down', a term used within the Methodist Church in England for retiring.

After their return and becoming members of Morialta UC, Doug undertook around 16 periods of supply and interim ministries.

While ministers are ordained for life, Doug decided that the beginning of 2026 would be his final preaching occasion.

Morialta UC was privileged to share Doug's final service on the 1<sup>st</sup> of February. We wish him well in his second retirement and look forward to seeing him around the congregation more regularly.



Jan Collins was delighted to receive one of Judith's quilts, bringing her greetings from the Morialta congregation.



Congratulations to John and Jan, who celebrated their 55<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary in December.

Congratulations to Sharon and Craig Mackenzie who celebrated their 40<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary (and New Year) on a dinner cruise on the 'Spirit of Hobart' in Launceston.



Nativity scenes on display during the Christmas season.



This tapa turtle presented to the SA Moderator at the President's Conference in Nuku'Alofa (Tonga) and a display of Tongan memorabilia in the church foyer were part of our "Tongan Sunday" in January, when Anne and June shared some of their experiences from their trip to Tonga for the conference.



The Tai Chi group enjoyed a pre-Christmas gathering!



## Gateways news

Gateways Gatherers enjoyed a meal together before Christmas at the Tower Hotel.

The first 2026 meeting of the Gateways group will be from 4:00pm on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February in the foyer for afternoon tea, followed by viewing and discussion of highlights from a panel discussion on the topic 'The Future of Progressive Christianity: Generation Y, Z and Onwards', alongside a paper entitled 'On the Threshold of the New Year', in which Parker J. Palmer uses poetry to spark worthwhile questions for our consideration.

Contact Margaret Cargill if you would like a copy of the paper to read ahead of time.

On 27<sup>th</sup> February, Rob Webbe has kindly offered to present a session for Gateways on "God and the Scout Movement".

Everyone will be most welcome.



## The 'Magnificat'

Reverend Jon Swales, 2025

Found a Bible in the foodbank queue,  
someone left it wedged in the radiator.  
Fell open to Mary's song – The 'Magnificat', they call it.  
Sounds posh. Like prophetic fire packaged in a lullaby.  
She's a girl – young, pregnant, shamed, unseen by priests,  
invisible to Caesar. And still she sings.  
Not soft. Not safe.  
But fierce, like she's seen through the lies of empire  
and lived to tell the tale.  
'He has scattered the proud.'  
Good. Because the proud don't see me.  
Not the bank manager. Not those who hoard wealth.  
Not the judge who fills out the form and moves on.  
'He brings down the mighty from their thrones.'  
I've seen thrones – not gold ones,  
but high-rises full of profit built on broken backs,  
courtrooms where the suits smile while we get time,  
boardrooms where they hoard.  
Mary's not playing. She's preaching.  
Like Hannah before her, like the midwives in Egypt,  
like that woman in Revelation  
screaming against the Beast.  
And here I am, in a cold flat with mould on the ceiling,  
shaking through another night,  
and I wonder – 'Is she singing for me?'  
Because if God lifts the lowly, I qualify.  
If God feeds the hungry, my belly's ready.  
If God remembers mercy,  
I've got a list of things I can't forget.  
They sing this song in cathedrals –  
robed choirs, golden processions.  
But I think she sang it in a whisper, mud on her sandals,  
blood in her veins, a heartbeat like revolution.  
If that's true,  
then maybe this old book ain't a fairy tale after all.  
Maybe it's a manifesto from the margins.  
Maybe God's already here – in the cracks, in the cold,  
in the cry of a girl who dared to hope  
in the shadow of empire.  
And maybe so can I.

*Rev. Jon Swales is an ordained priest in the Church of England and head of Lighthouse, an expression of church for adults battered and bruised by the storms of life. He is a tutor with Leeds School of Theology, St Hild and Niagara School of Missional Leadership.*

## Am I still on the same pilgrimage?

From Cynthia Story

Some time ago, I wrote in a very joyful manner I remember, that I had started an important pilgrimage... I mentioned darkness back then, but I am not surrounded by blackness now. Something to do with it now being summer? I'm not sure.

Mystery remains certainly unchanged by centuries of wisdom thrown at its cloudy walls.

And then of course, confusion, greatly increased by politics and madmen sniping and losing concept of humanity. People, who make up humanity huddle against walls of shadows, trying to hide that they are human. Confusion!

So! What is new now – this late evening?

I believe there are many more pilgrims on their way now. And they are being joined by others, with similar and different strengths... Finding the way through the shadows and the flashes of war ...reaching out to show that caring and compassion, which is love... always in the background relentlessly coming forward – until they surround those hurt and afraid... until all is quiet underneath a night of stars.

Fanciful? It is an image in my mind but it has the strength of steel, of iron, of love. That image also has the power to send arrows of love to their targets, flying through the noisy air to reach those who heal, pray, gather friends to pray - who look up each night for the stars.

In a circle of grass, people gather for food, comfort and music, soft voices rise in thanks, they murmur to one another and then they sleep.



## MUC diary dates for 2026

### February

17<sup>th</sup> February to 18<sup>th</sup> March – Ramadan  
(Dawoodi Bohras using church each evening)

### March

14<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> – Pre-polling station in hall (except Sun 15<sup>th</sup>)  
19<sup>th</sup> – Eid al-Fitr (Dawoodi Bohras using church)  
22<sup>nd</sup> – Harmony Week Celebration and Eid Family Picnic  
(see Church Council report this issue)  
28<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> - Trip to Kimber (see item in this Vision)

### April

3<sup>rd</sup> – Good Friday  
5<sup>th</sup> – Easter Sunday – Daylight Saving ends

### May

3<sup>rd</sup> – AGM followed by lunch  
17<sup>th</sup> – Leigh Newton and Maarten Ryder concert

### June

21<sup>st</sup> – ‘Harp2Harp’ concert

### August

16<sup>th</sup> – Guess who is coming for lunch

### September

6<sup>th</sup> – Lunch and film clip afternoon

### October

4<sup>th</sup> – Kym Purling Trio concert  
4<sup>th</sup> – Daylight Saving begins

### November

1<sup>st</sup> – Illumina Voices concert  
21<sup>st</sup> – Merry Magill Market – 9.00am – noon.

## Things NOT to donate to op shops!

*The Editor and ABC News*

‘Op Shop’ volunteers often sort through donations of mouldy clothing, books, even second-hand sex toys, but finding a live puppy at the shop’s door was a first. Three months ago, a Vinnies volunteer found a chihuahua-cross puppy while on shift at her local op shop. Naturally the volunteer adopted the puppy and named him ‘Vinnie’.



This story on ABC On-line reminded me of a day when I visited Rev Alan Searle (June’s father) in his office next to Centennial Church in Nuku’Alofa, Tonga.

Alan was usually a calm man, but, on this occasion, he was extremely cross and frustrated. While sorting books sent from a ‘Mission Group’ in Adelaide he had found a copy of a SA Railway Timetable plus a supplement for 1955.

Now Nuku’Alofa did have a street named ‘Railway’ but no railway line! So, his frustration was why someone would donate a copy of the local railway timetable to a mission group and why one of the volunteers would think it was worth paying money to send it to people in the South Pacific.

Maybe because we all hate to throw books away and it is easier to donate them to another person than to throw them out!

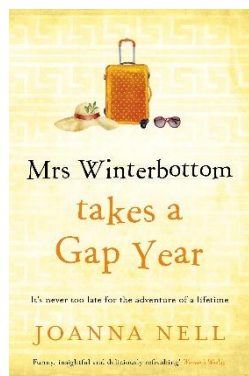
*Can I also suggest that you wait until February to deliver your donations to op shops after Christmas, as most of them get inundated with items that people have cleared out in January!*  
*Helena (volunteer at Goodies Op Shop)*

## Book Reviews

*From Jenny Swanbury*

Over Christmas and New Year I read these two novels from the Morialta UC Library:

### Mrs Winterbottom takes a Gap Year by Joanna Nell



Local couple Doctor Winterbottom and Doctor Winterbottom have successfully worked together in their rural practice for forty years. Now both are retiring albeit a little earlier than planned. It is then they find each has a different vision of retired life.

Heather dreams of exploring the Greek Islands and new great adventures. Alan dreams of growing his own vegetables. So, we are taken on a journey from organic garden

beds in Dorset to the sun-kissed islands of Greece as Heather takes a gap year from her old life and searches for her future. This is an earnest, heartwarming and delightfully funny story and I enjoyed Joanna Nell’s writing style very much.

### What you are looking for is in the library by Michiko Aoyama, translated from Japanese by Alison Watts



A Japanese novel of five short stories with different main characters. Each character has their own struggles and each seemingly by chance encounters enigmatic librarian Sayuri Komachi, her intuition and connection to the power of books.

Significant to the story she is also an avid felting crafter. The novel is described as ‘a believable take on contemporary life in Tokyo, seasoned with a dash of whimsy’ and ‘a heart-warming novel’ (Japan Times). I enjoyed the book and would recommend it.

Thank you, Morialta UC Library for enjoyable holiday reading.

*Book reviews are always welcome for inclusion in Vision – if you have read something you’d like to share with others, please send us your reviews!*