

The Gippsland Anglican

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Richard Treloar elected 13th Bishop of Gippsland

Jan Down

The Rev'd Dr Richard Treloar, currently Vicar of Christ Church South Yarra, has been elected 13th Bishop of Gippsland. He will be consecrated in Melbourne on 21 July and installed later this year.

The move to Gippsland constitutes a return to rural and regional ministry for Fr Richard, who spent his first ten years of ordained ministry in the Ballarat diocese. He said there was "a lovely sense of the wheel turning; of the opportunity to re-engage with that earlier ministry".

Dr Treloar expressed a strong sense of vocation – that in coming to Gippsland he was "responding to a specific call to a specific place", rather than a generic

call to episcopal ministry. In his recent visits to the diocese he had found people warm and hospitable, and had noticed "a lot of creativity and diversity in the way ministry is expressed, and an openness to new ways of doing things". He also had an impression of "a community that had a strong sense of what its hopes and aspirations and needs are".

Born in Sydney in 1965, right on the crossover between the Baby Boomers and Generation X, Fr Richard completed his schooling at Barker College, an Anglican school in Hornsby. He started a degree in medicine, expecting to follow in his father's footsteps and become a doctor, but the further he went with the course, the less comfortable he felt. So he took a year off to go backpacking "with a bunch of rowdy mates and a Kombi van".

Dr Treloar tells the story of a personal awakening during his travels. "Wandering in and out of dusty English cathedrals I experienced a conversion to my own tradition". This was how he came to a new awareness of the breadth of Anglicanism, and from this broader understanding came the call to ministry.



Christ Church South Yarra



The Rev'd Dr Richard Treloar

Photos this page: Jan Down

A move to Melbourne followed, to undertake theological studies at Trinity College, through what was then the United Faculty of Theology. Dr Treloar eventually went on to post-graduate study, being awarded a PhD from Monash University in 2003. His doctoral dissertation, *Esther and the End of*

'Final Solutions': Theodicy and Hebrew Biblical Narrative, was published in 2008. He has also published numerous articles in refereed journals and edited volumes, as well as writing for *Eureka Street*. He was at one time Editor of *The Church Chronicle*, the newspaper of the Ballarat Diocese.

Ordained Deacon in Ballarat by Bishop John Hazelwood in 1990, Dr Treloar was priested in 1992, serving in Ballarat, Warrnambool and the small town of Skipton, before returning to Melbourne in 1997 to commence doctoral studies, with a part-time position as Associate Priest at All Saint's East St Kilda.

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The basis of our credibility

We're into Pentecost season now, with its gospel readings from Mark. But I'm still digesting those late Easter season readings from John's gospel and letters, with their emphasis on "love". I guess the sermon by Bishop Michael Curry at Harry and Meghan's wedding on that same theme, again from John, has kept it all fresh in my consciousness.

It all sounds so wonderful when "love" is preached vibrantly from a pulpit, especially on such a grand occasion as a royal wedding. In the really big issues of life, some of us might well be willing to lay down our lives for our friends as an outcome of our love. In the more everyday aspects of life, however, there are plenty of things that will test our love as brothers and sisters in Christ.

There will be differences,

whether cultural or theological, that tempt us to write off our fellow disciples as being unworthy of our love. It's so disappointing when people in a church feel justified in ignoring or snubbing others because they're "not real Christians" or they're "not truly Anglican" for some reason. Why not rather agree to disagree on

"...there are plenty of things that will test our love as brothers and sisters in Christ."

secondary matters while we try to win each other over with love, compassion and truth? And then there will arise disputes or arguments, when people go running off for legal counsel to try and ensure that they "win". The only people who win in these cases, as it's often said, are the lawyers.

Photo: Carol Monson



Archdeacon Phillip Muston

Have we forgotten the apostle's horror at the prospect of "a believer going to court against a believer, and before unbelievers at that!" In fact, writes Paul, "to have lawsuits at all with one another is already a defeat for you. Why not rather be wronged or defrauded?" And yet such a scenario happens way too often as we allow ourselves to

fall into the patterns of a litigious world.

I've been reading Richard Rohr, who comments on the tendency of the spiritually immature mind to think in purely "binary" terms: good, bad; right, wrong; my way or the highway. If people don't fit into our binary framework it is easy to dismiss them.

Of course there are absolute qualities of good and evil, wrong and right. I'm not suggesting we fall into the secular world's tendency to label everything as merely appropriate or inappropriate. But God's world is complex, and his word can be complex too. There are often perplexing shades of grey to negotiate as we try to work our way through the moral maze to an understanding of God's will.

In the meantime, let's give each other the benefit of any doubt, as we keep loving each other. Jesus says our love for each other is the basis of our credibility as his people (JOHN 17).

Philip Muston

Photo: Christine Morris



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Parish to Parish: praying for each other

"...That we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith..." (ROMANS 1:12)

This diocesan prayer diary features three parishes each month, appearing in alphabetical order. Diocesan organizations are also included. Each parish sends in its own profile and prayer needs.

MAFFRA EASTERN REGION

St John, Maffra
St George, Boisdale
Rector: The Rev'd Janet Wallis

Maffra continues to be a parish with a good heart and positive outlook on ministry and fellowship. We have been discussing our mission focus for the coming year. The following ideas have been put forward. Please pray for us as we continue to pray for God's guidance and leading.

Bible Study: there is a desire to have more regular Bible Study and small group meetings available.

Community Meal: there is a strong commitment to some sort of community meal for Maffra. We seek God's guidance about the type and frequency of such a meal.

Communication: we want to find a way to let people know what we are doing and invite them into the Kingdom.

MIRBOO NORTH SOUTHERN REGION

St Mary, Mirboo North
Rector: The Rev'd Geoff Pittaway

Mirboo North is a town of approximately 1500-2000 people from which St Mary's draws a floating population

of around 60 "members", averaging 30-40 at the 9:00 am service.

Lately we have had new people join with us, but have also lost several long-standing older members, while one or two have moved to farther climes.

St. Mary's is a supportive community of faith, with a broad effect on the surrounding community through the Secondary School Brekky Club, Brick Club (for autistic kids and families), several visiting U3A classes, Craft Groups, Bible Study Groups (Men's, Women's and mixed), funeral catering, student support in Rwanda, a variety of smaller mission funding through our small change Mission Pipe, and involvement in a number of community groups.

We are thinking through new opportunities for ministry, possibly on a Sunday evening with a meal and worship for all ages.

MOE / NEWBOROUGH 2018 WESTERN REGION

St Luke, Moe
St Aidan's, Newborough (with Yallourn North, Erica and Walhalla)
Rector: The Rev'd Sathi Anthony

We would value prayers for our forward journey, arising out of the amalgamation of the two parishes. Thank God for ministry potential within our congregations as we continue to maintain both the Anglo-Catholic and middle-of-the-road/contemporary styles of Anglican worship. Pray that at least the Anglicans in the wider community would desire to re-join our worshipping congregations.

Continued from page 1

From 1998 to 2007, Dr Treloar was Stewart Lecturer in Theology at Trinity College Theological School and a member of the Chaplaincy team for the residential College. He has been Vicar of Christ Church since 2007, and is also President of Christ Church Grammar School.

The experience of rural ministry was formative. Dr Treloar said “It was fantastic. Having grown up in an urban setting, it was a great experience for me to learn about life on the land, and some of the hardships of that, but also of the great joys and rewards people can experience... I came to have the deepest respect and admiration for these incredibly hard-working and resilient people”. He added “I’ve taken that really strong sense of community that can be found in regional and rural Australia into every expression of ministry since”.

While at Skipton, a four centred parish, Dr Treloar “loved getting in the car and driving around” to the different churches – a happy disposition for a Gippsland bishop, who has such distances to travel. He enjoyed visiting farms along the way, appreciating the variety of landscape and people.

Fr Richard is married to Dr Leanne Habeeb, an organizational psychologist. Dr Habeeb is from the USA, and the couple’s two children, Rachel (7) and Nicholas (5) have dual citizenship.

Fr Richard and Leanne enjoy travel and generally manage to go back to the USA every second year to visit family. Dr Treloar also learned to appreciate travel through

Richard Treloar elected 13th Bishop of Gippsland

his work with the World Council of Churches Faith and Order Standing Committee, which took him to some interesting places around the world.

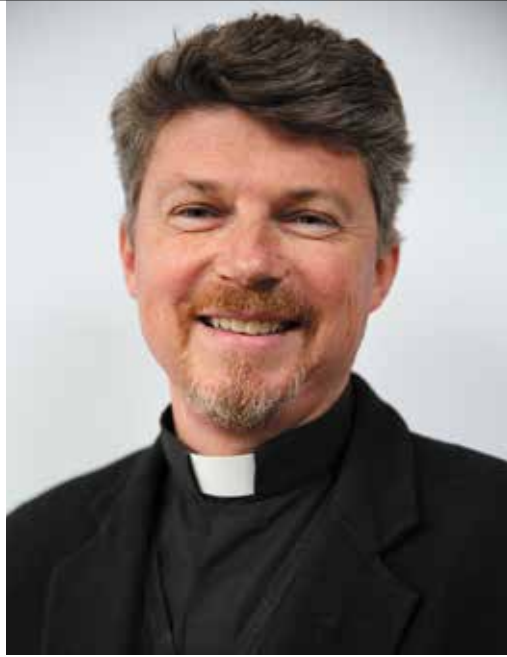
The plan at this stage is for Leanne and the children to continue living in Melbourne until nearer the end of the year, which will allow the children to complete the school year and Leanne to arrange her work.

This will mean a temporary change for Dr Treloar, who describes himself as very much a “hands-on dad”, laughing as he explains his hobbies are “mainly vicarious” at the moment. With the children’s school as part of the Christ Church parish, he values being “on site” to take them to Auskick and music lessons, and takes pleasure in making school lunches (often at 11 o’clock at night). He enjoys sport, being an avid cricket and Aussie Rules fan and a Carlton supporter. He runs and walks to keep fit and enjoys reading fiction and poetry – the Psalms are a mainstay for him spiritually.

Music has always been important. He loves the Anglican choral tradition and says “I have very catholic tastes”; he mainly listens to Triple J and ABC FM, and also has a large vinyl collection. He sees music as “a great point of outreach and mission; it brings beauty into people’s lives and communicates the gospel. It’s a soft point of entry”.

One of the attractions of Gippsland, Dr Treloar said, was that it meant “a chance to listen to our First Peoples and to continue the important and precious ministry of Reconciliation”. He sees so much still to be done in terms of Reconciliation, which is “vital to our national soul”.

Fr Richard looks forward to travelling around, listening to colleagues both clergy and lay, and to “building on the strengths already evident



in the diocese”, following on from Archbishop Kay Goldsworthy and Bishop John McIntyre. His hope is “that we would be galvanized together, find ways of connecting with our communities and that we would steadily rebuild trust in the wake of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse”. He sees it as vital both that survivors receive justice and that “we are able to process our own grief as a church, and acknowledge our share in the brokenness”.

Dr Treloar hopes “that we would continue to grow in Christ together so that the church’s life is its mission; that by being who we are faithfully, and as creatively and strategically as we can be ... we will be engaged in mission”. His desire is that “we will be Anglican and celebrate our Anglican identity in its many wonderful shapes and forms, respecting one another’s ministries and perspectives, and work together in trust.”

And he added as a final comment, “I am acutely conscious of the responsibility that I’ve been entrusted with, and I’ll be doing everything in my power to honour the faith the Electoral Board has placed in me, and to do that as part of a team”.

Jude Benton: Tambo to Croajingolong

The Parish of Tambo recently held a combined service at St Matthew’s Bruthen, to farewell the Rev’d Jude Benton, who has been locum in the parish for the past few months.

Jude has now been appointed as Priest-in-Charge of the Parish of Croajingolong, which covers Mallacoota, Cann River and Genoa. She will be inducted at 7:30 pm on Thursday 14 June at St Peter’s Mallacoota.



The Parish of Tambo farewells the Rev’d Jude Benton

Trinity University Choir comes to Sale



Members of Trinity University Choir joined with Gippsland Grammar students to sing at St Paul’s Cathedral, Sale on 22 April, as part of a whole weekend of musical activities

GIPPSLAND DIOCESE VACANT PARISHES:

EASTERN REGION

- Heyfield
- Orbost
- Tambo

SOUTHERN REGION

- Yarram

WESTERN REGION

- Churchill / Boolarra / Yinnar (Church of Christ appointment)
- Warragul

Around Gippsland –

A selection of the parishes visited by Bishop Manasseh

Neerim South

John Batt

On Saturday night (28 April), twenty-five Neerim South parishioners crammed into a home to meet Bishop Manasseh Gahima and hear him talk about the people of Rwanda and the Diocese of Gahini.

The Bishop told us about his memories of taking Neerim South's minister out to our Link Parish of Gatunda in 2014. It was a long trip of over 3½ hours toward the border with Uganda. Once off the main highway the dirt road deteriorated into a bumpy, windy track negotiated in a very well-travelled Toyota Camry.

The dust came up through the chassis, floor, doors, and dashboard leaving the occupants coated in dust. It became all the more evident when we arrived and took off our glasses to see some white

outlines where the spectacles had been while the rest of our faces were brown.

However, the warm reception made the journey well worth the effort. Hundreds of villagers had lined the streets to welcome us. It must be how royalty feel all the time.

Bishop Manasseh reported that the recent monetary donation from some generous Neerim South parishioners had been well received. It had been used to put a back wall and roof on to the church which previously had enjoyed an unwanted open air feel to the worship services, with the occasional visit of some local animals including stray cows, goats and chickens.

The question time afterwards was vigorous and wide-ranging – from what Rwandans eat to the inevitable question about the genocide and how the nation was recovering.



The Rev'd Dr John Batt presents Bishop Manasseh Gahima with a painting

Bishop Manasseh spoke openly about the devastation of the genocide but also about the forgiveness that many showed towards those who had perpetrated crimes, often against their family members.

The Christian principles of repentance, forgiveness and restoration utilised in the South African model post-apartheid Truth and Reconciliation Commission were once again utilised in the Rwandan setting with great effect. It was found that the Christian Gospel offered a model for forgiveness which was needed across

a nation where so many of the people were guilty of perpetuating atrocities. Where else can forgiveness be found in modern day society except through the gospel?

Coffee and dessert finished off a very moving and inspiring evening. A gift of a painting by a local Neerim South indigenous painter was presented to Bishop Manasseh to take back to Rwanda.

The Rev'd Dr John Batt is Priest-in-Charge, Neerim South.

Bairnsdale



The Rev'd Brenda Burney, Rector of St John's Bairnsdale, Bishop Manasseh and Marie Stripp at a Bring and Share lunch in April. The Bishop spoke eloquently about his country Rwanda, and our link parishes, Nyagatare and Gabeza.

Leongatha



Lynne Beatty, Bishop Manasseh and Margaret Cassar enjoying morning tea after the 8:00 am service at a St Peter's Leongatha on Sunday 15 April. Lynne kindly brought Bishop Manasseh from Mirboo North to Leongatha and explained how delighted she was to spend some time with him as she and her late husband Neville had done so much in the Diocese of Gahini.

Bass / Phillip Island



Photo: Rob McKay

Leading the Anzac Day March are, from left: Bass Coast Mayor; Pamela Rothfield; RSL President Greg Meade; the Rev'd Jo White; and Bishop of the Anglican Diocese of Gahini, Rwanda, the Right Rev'd Manasseh Gahima

Maffra



L-R: Gloria Baker, Brian Wright, Helen Montague, Luke Karemangingo, Bishop Manasseh, Marg Wright, Rector, the Rev'd Janet Wallis

Church joins in the Shakespeare Festival

Gail Wager
Avon

Holy Trinity's Shakespeare Festival Evensong is one event put on by the parish of Avon's parishioners at the beginning of the Shakespeare Festival, held each year in Stratford.

The festival is organized by a committed group of local people and features several of Shakespeare's plays.

The festival runs for a fortnight (April 21 to May 6) with people coming from near and far to participate.

This year the plays on offer were *The Tempest* and *Romeo and Juliet*. Local primary school students take an active part and this year put on a Grade 6 version of *Romeo and Juliet*. This made an entertaining and understandable introduction for Grade 6 students to the world of Shakespeare.

The Rev'd David Perryman organized an Evensong in the tradition of Elizabethan times which would have been very familiar to William Shakespeare. It also took place in a church with the same name as his own parish church – but on the other side of the world!

The local Stratford Singers performed with specially chosen songs and the Reverend Nikolai Blaskow, a noted Shakespeare scholar, was the guest preacher. He took as his theme "There's a tempest, a storm coming", picking up on the New Testament reading of Acts chapter 27 (about the storm and shipwreck experience of St Paul) and Shakespeare's *The Tempest*.

This he related to our modern world with its own set of tempests and storms, saying it was important "that we stay with the ship of our trials, even when everything is breaking up around us. And that we continue to understand that there is faith, hope and love, and that the greatest is love".

The evening was well supported and everyone was invited to an abundant supper in the parish hall afterwards, with a variety of soups, sandwiches and slices.



Medieval Faire Day and Makers Market at the Shakespeare Festival in Stratford

The faith community has decided to hold a "Back to Mallacoota Church" this year on St Peter's Day, Sunday 1 July. They hope that all whose families have had any connection with St Peter's in the past will take this opportunity to return and join in the day of celebration.

The program for the day will include a Service of Celebration at 9:00 am, followed by morning tea, then around 11:30 the group will be able to enjoy a "Bring and Share" lunch, with time to remember and share stories. Please let others know when you see them.

The church in Mallacoota was constructed by the Anglican Church in 1973 as a building for use by all faith communities in the town. The church was consecrated as St Peter's, and from the time of its dedication, has been the main centre of the Co-operating Parish of Croajingolong. The church is also used for worship, each week, by the local Catholic community, who join in the early worship on 5th Sundays in the month.

For enquiries, please ring Parish Secretary Mrs Kate Cowden (5158 8358) or the minister on 5158 0394.

Conversations at a book sale

Kath Kent
Bass / Phillip Island

A book sale at St. Philips, Cowes has been held during school holidays each year since 2012. It is organized by Julie Box and Pricilla Stott and ably supported by Margaret Hancock and other volunteers, to raise funds to support the Parish.

Parish members and friends from the wider community donate books, magazines, vinyl records (which seem to be becoming very popular with young hipsters) and jigsaw puzzles. There are always real treasures to be found on the tables filling the Parish Hall including some early editions and also the latest popular reads. The Books for Children section is always extremely popular with holiday makers.

Volunteers tell us of the great opportunity afforded them to

engage with the community; to share and discuss their love of reading and importantly to have meaningful conversations about all manner of things. One particular young man purchased a book on the ancient philosophers which prompted a great discussion about the role of philosophy in the life of the Christian Church. Another young lady bought a novel in French that provided a great opening to share a story of learning French conversation and the worries of year 12 exams.

The book sale is conducted in the parish hall over the middle weekend of the school holidays, from Friday through to Monday. The prominent position of the parish hall in the main street of Cowes means there is a constant passing trade. Many people pop in to browse and to buy and we all have great fun.



Lily James enjoying the annual book sale at St Philip's, Cowes

Back to St Peter's Mallacoota



St Peter's Mallacoota (parish of Croajingolong)

Kieran Williams on the real St Paul

**Cynthia Grove
Sale**

“Will the real Paul please stand up?” This was the question framing the talk by the Rev’d Dr Kieran Williams of the United Church of Canada when she spoke to about 30 people at St Paul’s Cathedral in Sale.

Dr Kieran preached at the 10 am service on Sunday 18 March, but the afternoon before she had guided us through an exploration of the letters of St Paul. In small

groups we each read and discussed an aspect of Paul as seen in given verses from one of the letters. We explored, through Kieran’s leading, the attribution of the letters over time and how some previously attributed to Paul were now considered to be written by others.

How did the writer of the letters compare with the



Photo: Christine Morris

The Rev'd Dr Kieran Williams at St Paul's Cathedral, Sale

Paul presented by Luke in the Acts of the Apostles? Do we know Paul, or is Luke’s depiction – shall we say – air-brushed? This was challenging but so very interesting. And I believe challenging what we think we know can lead to greater understanding and a deeper knowledge of our God.

Could Paul write? This is a question that occurs to any of us when reading his letters – certainly he used a scribe – and note his words: “See what large letters I use as I write to you with my own hand”

(GALATIANS 6:11 NIV). Kieran identified this and similar verses in the Pauline letters. Perhaps he was not comfortable with writing or perhaps his hand was arthritic or had suffered damage during imprisonment or floggings. We cannot know. Another question raised by Kieran was the precise authorship of the letter: Paul alone, or a team perhaps led by Paul.

So who was this man Paul? We were left with many questions to ponder. It was an intellectually unusual but stirring session.

New Year 3 Classroom at St Anne’s

David Baker, Principal of Gippsland Grammar School, turning the first sod at Saint Anne’s campus of Gippsland grammar school for the new year three classroom, while Dean Susanna Pain and Bill Jones, Chairman of the School Board, look on.



Will you support Alisha and Dave?

Photo: Karena King



Alisha and echidna on Raymond Island

Edie Ashley

Some months ago now, Alisha Jones came to talk with me about an idea she had – one that gave her a strong sense of excitement and that she felt was of God.

In her mind Alisha had been dreaming of and planning a weekend retreat at The Abbey – just for younger adults – a place where they could come together for prayer and nourishment, delicious feasting, exploring the natural environment, live music and campfire conversations.

And now the YOUNG ADULTS WINTER TRIBAL RETREAT is just around the corner!

Please pray for Alisha Jones and David Perryman, as they lead this weekend, for Anthony Hahn who is assisting with

planning, and for all who come along to this weekend. And please pass the word around to any 18–35 yr old adults and encourage them to come and spend time with their tribe.

The Retreat commences after dinner on Friday night and concludes after lunch on Sunday. The cost for all meals and accommodation is \$200 per person, twin share accommodation.

Archdeacon Edie Ashley is Archdeacon of the Eastern Region, Abbey Priest and Priest at Painesville.

For registration or information – The Abbey, 5156 0511 or by email info@theabbey.org.au

RSVP 15 June, Registration by 22 June 2018.

Island pilgrimage

Edie Ashley

You could not have asked for a better day, or a better weekend. When Saturday morning dawned on 5 May the sun was shining and there was a gentle breeze. A day that even in the midst of such a dry environment the green trees shone, and the koalas looked even more delightful.

We gathered in the Chapel and said our prayers using the Franciscan outline that had been prepared by Bishop Kay. Then we moved next door into Illawarra, and spent some time thinking about the history of the environment that surrounds The Abbey, realizing the magnificence of the Red Gums and their vulnerability, as so much land has been cleared.

We looked at the range of indigenous understorey plants, and we shared with each other the story that the earth and the plants told us. We walked in silence, in shared wonder and then in

deep conversation. Although a number of our group had been to The Abbey many times, the very surrounds were still new to be explored for some.

After a very good lunch we were invited to “go on pilgrimage”. The Rev’d Jude Benton, who shared the

leadership of the Pilgrimage, had prepared three walks around the Abbey and the Island. She invited us to choose one and to walk with all our senses alert, to stop along the way, to read scripture, to reflect and to pray.

This most perfect day was

preceded with a cosy Friday night and an “on the beach” church service on the Sunday morning, with plenty of time to stop and reflect, to give praise and wonder, to sit with the environment that seemed to enfold us with the grace and wonder of God.



Pilgrims walking on Raymond Island

Anglican Future Conference 2018

Grace & Truth in uncertain times

A conference to encourage us in a Biblical and Christ centred faith, to consider the future of the Anglican Church in Australia, to encourage us to persevere in the face of opposition and to help us understand better the culture of 21st century Australia.

Ticket Prices

Full Time EARLY BIRD – \$240 (until June 30, 2018)
Full Time (from July 1, 2018) – \$290
Group of 4 (from 1 parish) – \$250 per person
See website for other options

September 6–8 2018

Planetshakers Church
400 City Road, South Melbourne

Main Speakers

Rev Frog Orr-Ewing, Dr Wesley Hill, Dr Justine Toh & Mr Mike Baird

see website for details: anglicanfuture.org.au



Crossover of ages: the Drouin Mothers' Union taught the youth group to make palm crosses

Church learns from CWA

**Dean Spalding
Drouin**

In Drouin, the Country Women's Association and the Anglican Church, celebrate many

collaborations. For instance, the Rotary Australia Day Breakfast is hosted by Christ Church — the breakfast is held in its parish hall and catered for by the local CWA.

Some Anglican women are members of local CWA Branches. Over the past year there has been a collaboration between the Anglican op shop in Drouin and the CWA in the production of the "June Laurel Chemo Bag"—a more glamorous, serviceable and decorative outer cover for long-term portable chemotherapy bags than was previously available. The Drouin Anglican Op Shop donated \$1000 toward the production of these bags, the creation of which was instigated by a Drouin Anglican / CWA member, June Laurel Burrows. The manufacture of these bags has grown to a State CWA Project.

Another recent collaboration was the celebration of CWA Sunday on 6 May at Christ Church. This occasion was used to explore the similar challenges the CWA and the Church face, particularly around attracting

youth to the traditions and history that have served rural communities so well for so long. Inspirational solutions to greater all-ages inclusion were demonstrated in watching excerpts from Heather Ewart's, "Back Roads" episode (ABC) about Mundulla (South Australia), with its vibrant, small-town rural culture combined with incredibly sustainable and healthy attitudes to all-age inclusion.

The CWA Sunday congregation also heard of the inspirational story of a new CWA Branch called 'The Limestone Ladies' (also in SA) whose break-through in attracting younger women has involved communication using Facebook, arranging out-of-work-hours meeting times and occasionally exchanging scones and tea for wine and cheese.

The church could take a leaf out of the book of some

of the more progressive CWA Branches who are facing up to the dilemma of failing to attract younger members, particularly as the church has an imperative to strive for sustainability based on all-aged inclusion in participation. Jesus modelled all-age inclusion, insisting upon the inclusion of children, even in the face of his own disciples' apathy and disinterest.

This year Drouin's Mothers' Union demonstrated the Church's capacity to find solutions when it started a new tradition, coming in the week before Holy Week and teaching the youth group ("OCK") to make palm crosses. It was a hit, with a surprisingly enthusiastic response from the youth. It's this sort of opening-up that is crucial to groups like the CWA and the Church having a growing place in a township's future.

The Rev'd Dr Dean Spalding is Rector at Drouin.

Abbey Winter Feast 2018

The sixth annual Winter Feast will be held at The Abbey on Raymond Island on Saturday 11 August 2018 commencing at 12 noon.

The Feast has become a significant event in the life of the Diocese as we celebrate the culinary skills of our clergy and raise funds in support of the work of The Abbey.

Past Chefs extraordinaire have included Canon Jeff Richardson, Bishop Kay Goldsworthy and last year the Rev'd Nikolai Blaskow. In 2018 the challenge has been taken up by Bishop Jeffrey Driver.

The charge for this event has been contained at \$58



per person, matching wines included, and all proceeds will be committed to The Abbey in its service to the Diocese and outreach to the wider community.

Don't miss this special occasion and please note that booking is essential and places are limited. For further information and bookings please contact Anna at The Abbey, 5156 6580 or info@theabbey.org.au.

NAIDOC Service invitation – 8 July



The Rev'd Phyllis Andy and the Lake Tyers Community invites everyone to mark the commencement of NAIDOC week with celebration and prayer.

The NAIDOC SERVICE will be held at 2:30 pm on Sunday, 8 July at St John's Church, Lake Tyers Aboriginal Trust. All welcome!

Directions: Follow the Princes Highway through Lakes Entrance. Turn right at Rules Road and follow along to the Lake Tyers Aboriginal Community where you will see the spire of the St John's church.



**BECAUSE OF HER,
We Can!**

8-15 JULY 2018

2018 National NAIDOC logo

For more information:
Phyllis Andy 0420 377 539
or Edie Ashley 0423 400 359.

Lang Lang Quilt Show

Colin Oakley

If we thought there weren't many sewcialists in the country, we might be mistaken. The people here might be inclined to call someone materialistic. Maybe.

Those who visited the recent annual Lang Lang Quilt Show were a mixture of wants and desires. There were those who were just locked into reliving seams from the past. Their simple need was a stitch picker. Then there were those whose

materialistic demeanour had reached inspiring proportions. The farm's silo was actually a fabric storage facility.

There might have been a supplier stall that provided ah... receipts with not too accurate purchase figures that had reached national debt proportions. We did counsel the over-excited husbands by reminding them that their wives enjoyed cutting things up into little pieces and then sewing them back together. For fun! They were mostly

pacified by being shown the volumes of fabric that were left behind. And if they were worried about their partners working themselves into an early grave, we pointed out that they believed God put them on this earth to accomplish a number of things. AND the number of their projects was expanding faster than completed ones. So either they would always have the joy of their partners, or be left with a nest egg with the equivalent value of Fort Knox.

For those who didn't get there, all the suppliers had stalls there. Fabrics, tools, bits, expertise, and contacts abounded. The Quilt Show is on the first weekend of

every May. So even if you have enough material (Bahahahaha!), it's the place to go.

There is one bit of advice that needs to be said. That is, that housework comes before quilting... but only in the dictionary.

Our thanks goes to the hard working organizers and helpers. Like many people in our parishes, there are people who spend many hours, or rather days, months, or years raising funds and support for the church.

TGBATG (To God Be All The Glory)

The Rev'd Colin Oakley is Priest-in-Charge, Westernport.



Details of quilts on display at the annual Lang Lang Quilt Show



Swinging on the altar rails

Jan Misiurka, Children's Ministry Coordinator – Moe-Newborough

With the formation of our new parish came the unique opportunity to bring together expertise and experience in different forms, with one exciting area being the Sunday School ministry.

A team of parishioners from all centres in the parish, using the "it takes a village to raise a child" principle, was established, so that the responsibility of teaching would be shared and enthusiastic members of our congregation could become qualified and learn and share skills as they are involved in Sunday sessions and activities based on the lectionary, currently for a cross-aged group, aged 3-10.

On the 1st Sunday of each month we meet as a parish congregation in Newborough and Sunday School will be held here, while on other Sundays we meet at both Moe and Newborough, so Sunday School will be held at Moe on these Sundays, where most of the children worship.

We have a group of bright, energetic children who enjoy being involved in the life of the church and are encouraged to do so. Following the lectionary gives them a connection with the wider church, as they know they have heard the same story as those around them, and they enjoy sharing their experiences. They quite enjoy singing new choruses together as well.

Children's ministry is wider than Sunday School. They are occasionally invited to join the recessional procession at Sunday worship. Upon later reflection one of them gleefully said "Today I walked with God". Sometimes they walk up with the communion elements at the offertory procession. On Palm Sunday they assist in distributing the palm crosses. Some weekdays they are encouraged to enjoy the parish community garden.

Enthusiastic volunteers have been advised that missing the "sermon moment" on Sundays while providing children's ministry is nothing to fret about. It is also an



Children happily helping to give out palm crosses

integral part of Sunday's ministry. On the other hand, the "sermon moment" is not the apex of Anglican worship. The altar is. Therefore, the children and the ministry team are encouraged to roll-up for the "Eucharistic-moment". And what a joy to see them swinging on the

altar rails or reaching out their hands with great expectation that the "body of Christ" will drop into their palms too!

We thank the children's ministry team and the parents/grandparents for their enthusiastic commitments towards this work-in progress.



Children in the parish community garden



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The Anglican Diocese of Gippsland does not tolerate abuse, misconduct and harm in its Christian community.

The Diocese is committed to ensuring all people in contact with the Church can participate in a safe and responsible environment. If you may have been harmed by a church worker, or know someone who has, please come forward.

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A LASTING GIFT: A bequest to the Anglican Diocese of Gippsland or your parish

The Church, over the years, has been blessed with the generosity of Anglicans and others in support of its mission. One way you can support this ideal in a relatively easy way, is to make a gift through your will. In the first instance, of course, you will consider carefully the needs of your immediate family and friends before proceeding with a bequest to the church.

We offer a way of helping you to carry out your wishes. Your gift, through your bequest, will be very much appreciated. You may wish to support the Diocese of Gippsland as a whole, or your own parish, or for a particular purpose.

Making your bequest in your Will is a simple procedure, although in preparing or amending your Will you should always consult a solicitor. The Registrar of the Diocese of Gippsland has information to assist you in making a bequest, including the form of words you and your solicitor might want to use.

Telephone Brian Norris on 03 5144 2044, or go to www.gippsanglican.org.au and search 'bequests'.

School welcomes new Principal



St Paul's Anglican Grammar School recently welcomed a new Principal to the school, Mr Cameron Herbert.

Cameron has come from Western Australia and was previously the Principal of St Mark's Anglican Community School, a large coeducational K-12 school in the northern suburbs of Perth.

Early Learning Centre student "Doctor" Archer talking with the new St Paul's Principal, Cameron Herbert

Anglicare Fare

Jane Anderson leaves Anglicare

Cathrine Muston (Anglicare Community Development Officer)



L-R: Janine Kelly (Jane's EA); Leonie Nethercote (accountant); Jane Anderson; Tim Pedlow (Manager, Regional Development)

After seventeen and a half years at Anglicare, Regional Director Jane Anderson is leaving to take up a role as inaugural Latrobe Health Advocate. The purpose of the role is to be a champion for the Latrobe Valley community on matters relating to health and wellbeing and provide advice to the Health Minister about policy and service improvements.

The role of Latrobe Health Advocate was a recommendation of the Latrobe Valley Fire Enquiry and will involve Jane in listening to the people of the Latrobe Valley on their needs and concerns across the whole range of health and wellbeing areas.

Working from a shop front in Morwell, she will be listening to people in individual and group settings, in offices, community halls and on the streets. Gathering information about the concerns and needs of the community, Jane will then have the task of understanding

and synthesizing this in order to make policy and practice recommendations to the Minister for Health, and work in collaboration with health services organizations on improvements.

Jane began her career as a member of the Victorian Police Service before she joined Anglicare Victoria as a Community Lawyer in the Gippsland Community Legal Service in 2001. Moving on to a role as a Team Leader and then Area Manager, she has been Gippsland's Regional Director for 12 years.

Jane said she was sad to be leaving Anglicare where she has made some terrific and enduring relationships, but that this new role was an exciting opportunity and was quite unique. It is a role that will enable her to use all of her skills and expertise to advocate on behalf of the Latrobe Valley community and all stakeholders. Jane says it is "an opportunity for me to make

a difference in an area I care deeply about".

When asked to reflect on what she has enjoyed most in her time as Regional Director, Jane was quick to identify the commitment of the staff to achieving client outcomes; the pride they take in their work and the pleasure they take in the achievements of their clients. Jane is also of the firm belief that the partnership between the Anglican Diocese of Gippsland and Anglicare Victoria means that we can do more in our region together than is possible individually.

In the interim, Quality Manager Dennis Minster and Regional Development Manager Tim Pedlow will continue to share the acting Regional Director role. Anglicare Victoria staff said farewell to Jane at an afternoon tea on 16 May. Jane will begin her new role in early June.

For young disciples

Families need Jesus

Josh Hasan reflects on the challenges and rewards of his new role as Youth and Family Pastor at Trafalgar.

My new role at St Mary's Trafalgar has been very rewarding but also hard at times, only because of some unfamiliar territory.

I grew up around Warragul and worked for Youth for Christ for 7 years. I have been very blessed to have been under great leadership as an intern and worked in several secondary schools in Neerim South, Warragul and Drouin as a youth worker and currently as a chaplain.

Now I have been blessed with an opportunity to work as a Youth and Family Minister at St Mary's Trafalgar. The things I have learnt in the past are being put to use in the new job. The exception is working with parents. This is an area in which I have been growing the most. Developing healthy relationships with parents on behalf of churches can be tricky as parents often drop off kids at our several kids' ministries and rush off to their busy lives. But I think they appreciate the time and effort that churches make to try to befriend them.

I know now that if you can win the hearts of parents and reassure them that God loves them that you have won the family over. We have had many new families arrive at our churches who feel the vibrancy of the exciting ministries and want to get involved.

In this new role I have also learnt that you need to work with the body of Christ. This is of the utmost importance in working within churches. My passion is seeing kids and parents encounter Jesus and



watching them being transformed. For us to see that, we have to ask the churches to partner with us leaders and pray for this to happen. It's okay to be doing groundwork, but you need people to pray for you daily, and this I have seen to be most fruitful in our St Mary's Trafalgar.

I have had to rely on God heavily as this is all out of my comfort zone. I have always worked with youth but not with primary aged children or parents. It has been challenging but I love what I have been doing. I always thank God's Holy Spirit for guiding and strengthening me.

In my previous organization I have been blessed in travelling the world doing missionary work and making numerous trips around other states of Australia. One key theme that keeps popping up is that families need Jesus. Not just kids but also parents. The Bible tells us God is longing for his people to walk into a relationship with him.

I never thought I would be a pastor at a church. I had always ignored that thought but now I believe the Lord is behind it all and is guiding me, giving me extra strength to be in unfamiliar territory for his glory.



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The look of love

Cathrine Muston

We have two dogs. An old mixed breed dog that we rescued from the Lost Dog's Home, and a young energetic Jack Russell X. Like a growing number of Australian households, our pets are significant members of our family, especially since our daughters have left home.

The thing that we love most about our animals is the connection we share. They look at us with such love, devotion and confidence that we have their best interests at heart that we can't help but respond with love, even when they are naughty.

Their big, dark, eyes seem to look into our very souls as we prepare their dinner while their enthusiasm for a game or a walk or a cuddle never abates. They can lift us out of the doldrums and make us laugh at the silliest things. They bring us joy.

Australian households have the highest rate of pet ownership in the world. Spending on pet products and services in Australia has increased 42% to \$12.2 billion dollars annually in the past 4 years with 2 in 5 households owning a dog. According to statistics provided by Animal Health Alliance Australia, the number one reason for owning a pet is for companionship, with the term "fur baby" now included in both the Oxford English and Macquarie dictionaries.

Perhaps one of the reasons for this is the changing shape of households. Latest statistics show that nearly 40% of marriages end in divorce and the birth rate has dropped to 1.7 per family. With households fractured, it is no surprise that in our search for connection that we turn to our pets.

I wonder though, if increased pet ownership is a symptom of a deeper need in us. A need for loyal companionship, for unconditional love and to be seen for who we really are and loved just the same.

Sometimes we may not be very good at loving others because we don't feel loved ourselves and because we don't fully comprehend the extent of God's love for us. In the changing shape of family, we need to see again that we are okay. That we are both loved and lovable.

Perhaps the place to start is to understand anew the way that God sees us. Really sees us. God who knows all our guilty secrets, yet offers forgiveness and belonging just the same.



If we truly experience the perfect love of God, we are on our way to understanding how to love others, and in loving others, to connect on a deeper level that enables us to make progress on our spiritual journey.

As a teenager I had a poster on my wall with a picture of a cute dog on it that read:

*I'm not loved by God
because I'm valuable,*

*I'm valuable because I'm
loved by God."*

If we see others as loved by God then we will change the way we interact with them. Maybe we will be more able to reflect the great love of God to them and help them to find connection and belonging that heals and restores. Perhaps the real role of our adoring pets is to show us what this looks like.

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EDITORIAL

With God, nothing is wasted

Compost has so much to teach us about God and about ourselves.

Waste is a huge problem world-wide. Suddenly China no longer wants to buy our recyclable waste, and instead of local councils being paid for it, they are now having to pay out to have it recycled here.

But the recycling crisis is just one small part of a much bigger and broader problem, of how we are to live on a finite planet, when globally we are using a whole year's planetary resources in seven months and wreaking havoc on the earth's finely tuned climate systems. And if everyone lived like an Australian, we would need 5.2 Earths (Global Footprint Network 2017). This is no side issue for anyone, including the church.

In a recently published paper¹ Dr Ian Barns (formerly of Murdoch University, WA) argues that "a successful transition to an ecologically sustainable world will require much deeper changes than a technological fix to maintain our addiction to high-energy forms of living. The transition needed is more profound and systemic. It will involve revolutionizing the way we produce, consume and dispose of material goods: moving from our present take-process-consume-dispose systems to what's called a 'circular economy'; all in a way that also addresses problems of inequality and exclusion".

And so to the joys of compost, which at least recycles our organic waste. The Rev'd Greg Colby of the Environmental Task Force in the Newcastle Diocese wants Anglicans to start living like APES: Anglicans using Permaculture to work toward Ecological Sustainability (a website is promised soon). He describes permaculture as a design model "which fits us to carry out the biblical mandate to be stewards of God's creation"². It is a system that mimics nature in the integrated management of plants and animals for the benefit of humans.

One of the twelve permaculture principles is "produce no waste". Ideally, nothing leaves the property; everything produced is consumed, re-purposed, or returned directly to the soil – via compost.

Just as composting turns our organic waste into beautiful rich soil, so God takes all our mess-ups and transforms them. Greg Colby's initiative is one of many signs of hope emerging in the wider church, as we begin to comprehend what we have been doing to the Earth, and how we can change our systems – with generosity, imagination and creativity.

1. In a set of papers: *Eco-transitions: Transforming economy, church and society*, co-published by Melbourne Sustainable Society Institute at the University of Melbourne and RASP (Centre for Research in Religion and Social Policy).
2. *Encounter*, April-May 2018 – see newcastleanglican.org.au

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Safe Ministry – a changing landscape

Richard Connelly, Deputy Director of Professional Standards, explains how a software package can help parishes and the diocese manage Safe Ministry information, saving time and avoiding confusion.

The outcomes of the Royal Commission into Institutional Response to Child Sexual Abuse mean there are new standards to be met to keep children safe in our churches. This has increased the work involved in ensuring our Diocese and Parishes are compliant with Safe Ministry Standards. The Diocese seeks to be an exemplary leader in prioritizing safety for all who attend our churches, especially the most vulnerable; our children.

At the moment, the Diocese has responsibility for providing clearances for certain positions, while parishes have responsibilities for others. These parallel processes have at times led to confusion and errors. One example of this is as follows.

Many Working with Children Checks are held by the Diocese; however, the diocese finds it is difficult to know which parish the person concerned belongs to. Parishes need Working with Children Check information

to approve working in children's ministry – however have no way of knowing whether the WWCC records have been received by the diocesan Registry.

It's no wonder ministry leaders become frustrated – even those willing to help cannot assist as their clearances cannot be processed. The workload of updating the clearance for

ministry information can be onerous as parishes experience yearly changes to Parish Councils and ministry teams.

Another example of causing frustration and risk for the diocese is that sensitive information regarding parish members is held by the Office of the Director of Professional Standards – but parishes are unaware of this when assessing a person for ministry clearance.

“These parallel processes have at times led to confusion and errors.”



Richard Connelly

In the future, the Diocese will also be subject to auditing from General Synod to ensure its compliance with safe ministry. This flows as a response to the Royal Commission through the passing of new Safe Ministry to Children laws at last year's General Synod.

So, how can we fix this, decrease frustration and workload for parishes, and keep our vulnerable members safe?

A solution has become available in the form of a software package that shares

information between parishes and the Diocese. Several parishes (Avon, Churchill and Drouin) have been involved in trialling an on-line software package that has enabled much of the information held by parishes and the Diocese to be combined.

Now that this has been set up for each parish, the on-going maintenance is straightforward. Information that is held by the Diocese will be uploaded to this program in the coming months. Parishes who choose to implement this system will have both access to this data, and assistance in setting the system up in their parish.

Our great thanks are extended to Kerrie Schmidt and the Rev'd David Perryman who have been instrumental in the

early phases of this trial. From here, I will be implementing the system, having been appointed to the position of Deputy Director of Professional Standards, assisting Cheryl Russell in her role. Clergy or key administrative staff are encouraged to contact me for advice as to how to link parishes with the on-line environment via email: deputydps@yahoo.com

Richard Connelly spent his adolescent years in Gippsland, attending Gippsland Grammar from 1983 – 1986. He has worked in social work, Child Protection and Family Law. Richard attends Warragul Anglican Church and has been a member of the Professional Standards Committee since 2012.



Be a part of supporting the Aboriginal Ministry Fund

The AMF exists to resource employment of Aboriginal people in ministry; training of Aboriginal people for ministry; development of Aboriginal ministry in the community; the planting of Aboriginal churches; education of the Diocese about Aboriginal issues.

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Ability or availability

**Pam Pincini
Mirboo North**

Every week my husband asks me the same question, when I tell him I'm off to KYB (Know Your Bible) "Don't you know it by now?" and I usually reply that there is always something new to learn.

A few years ago our family decided to have my husband's life story written down. He is such a character and always has stories to tell about his life experiences, and he tells them in such a way that he has us in stitches; so if you want to know him, you could read his book, *The Colourful Life of a Workaholic*.

Well, that's the way I feel about God – everyday I learn more and more about Him and His love for me, and it's not enough to hear it on Sundays or even just to hear about Him – it's about coming to know Him personally.

I haven't always been a great reader of books – I think I was 17 when I read my first book from cover to cover. When I was a small child I grew up in a children's home with 80 brothers and sisters, and it was a blessing that this home was a Christian home, where every Sunday morning we went to church by bus. Then in the afternoon people from the surrounding community came in as Sunday School teachers.

So I grew up on Bible stories, learning scripture verses and sometimes even whole Psalms, but the best was the singing of hymns and choruses, which were straight from the Bible, and it's amazing how many of them are still stored away in my memory. One member of staff used to bring her children's Bible with fantastic pictures, and each night read to us from it. The thing that stuck in my mind was how faithful God is; He keeps His promises and I know he is always with me.

It hasn't been easy – with family commitments and trials – to commit to Bible reading or study over the years, but after going to Cursillo in 1989 and coming home from the "mountain top" like Moses, I had a real desire to read God's Word regularly and to be drawn closer to Him.



Know Your Bible Group at Mirboo North: L to R: Pam Pincini, Marion Jaworski, Naomi Szalek, Pat Dodson, Chris Birrell

Did you know God has a sense of humour? Well, I was asked to be on a Cursillo team a bit later on and to do a talk on STUDY. "Who, me? Study? God you are funny!" But He led me where I never thought I could go and I discovered it is not your ABILITY but your AVAILABILITY to let God use you.

After that I had a yearning to study God's word, and a lady from our parish invited me to join her KYB group.

It was hard at first finding a quiet place and time of day to be alone with God and delve into his Word. For me what worked was getting up an hour early and spending the time in the bath with no interruptions. KYB is designed to fit into your week, so I do one study day each day, letting it sink into my being.

I have been fortunate to be surrounded by some wonderful Christian ladies in KYB over the years. When our last leader was moving away she asked if I would consider and pray about taking on the leadership. I didn't see myself as qualified but once again that ABILITY or AVAILABILITY issue arose. I didn't want the group to close,

so we all prayed and waited for some direction. God kept saying "I will be with you, trust me". So I accepted God's challenge and the unending support of the group, who share this leadership with me and together we give thanks to God and praise Him for His inspiration, love and encouragement that are shared each week together.

It is such a joy to be supported in this ministry by CWCI who provide wonderful resources for our studies. I love the way the studies are set out, usually alternating between Old and New Testament each term. Units run for nine weeks with such positive and relevant guidelines for each lesson. Sometimes we struggle with questions, but the fact that we all use different translations of the Bible helps when sharing our findings.

The other thing I like about our group is the closeness and personal sharing, where people feel comfortable and assured of confidentiality when asking for prayer and support. We do have challenges sometimes, not just with the questions but with the way our study so often relates to our life issues. I am so thankful for the way God has moved me out of my comfort zone, even to writing this article.

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Diocesan calendar

June

- 13 10:00 am Anglican Mothers Union Australia – June Join In service at Newborough. Speakers from Latrobe Community Health Centres on "Falls Prevention"
- 14 7:30 pm St Peter's Mallacoota: induction of the Rev'd Jude Benton as Priest-in-Charge of Croajingolong
- 16 2:00 – 4:00 pm Afternoon Soiree of Music and Poetry at Delbridge Hall, 149 Cunninghame St Sale. Contact: Dean Susanna Pain: 0418 637 469 or Gippsland Bush Poets Secretary Karena King: 0438 446 488
- 18 – 21 Clergy Conference at The Abbey, Raymond Island
- 23 8:00 am Men's Breakfast at St John's, Nar Nar Goon, with guest speaker Peter Wells, principal of Chairo Christian School, Pakenham
- 29 – 1 July 5:00 pm Friday – 2:00 pm Sunday: YOUNG ADULTS WINTER TRIBAL RETREAT at The Abbey for those aged 18–35. Contact: The Abbey 5156 0511 or info@theabbey.org.au
- 30 9:30 am – 3:00 pm Lay Reader Training Day at St Paul's Cathedral, Sale

July

- 1 9:00 am St Peter's Patronal Festival including a "Back to Mallacoota Church" service followed by a Parish lunch at the Manse. All former clergy and congregational members warmly invited to attend. (see page 5)
- 1 9:30 am Patronal Festival Eucharist. 12 noon community BBQ then the third BUNYIP LECTURE
- 7 9:30 am – 3:00 pm Lay Reader Training Day at Christ Church, Drouin
- 8 2:30 pm NAIDOC Service at St John's Church, Lake Tyers Aboriginal Trust (details page 7)
- 13 5:00 pm Friday – 4:00 pm Saturday 15 July "A Hundred Years of Change – Music, Art, Religion, and Journalism 1650-1750", with presenter June Treadwell. Contact The Abbey: 5156 0511 or info@theabbey.org.au
- 21 Consecration of Gippsland's bishop-elect, the Rev'd Dr Richard Treloar, at St Paul's Cathedral, MELBOURNE

August

- 11 12 noon Saturday: The Abbey Feast with Chef Bishop Jeffrey Driver. Contact The Abbey 5156 0511 or info@theabbey.org.au (see page 7)
- 25 9:30 am – 3:30 pm Anam Cara Community Quiet Day at St Mary's Anglican Church Morwell. Facilitator: the Rev'd David Head



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