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Photos: June Treadwell



Michael Fox and Eleanor Patterson both spoke at the Refugee Sunday service at Paynesville



Refugee Sunday – advocates speak of persecution and peril

Sue Fordham

reject them on that account. I think that is where it began for me.”

But the most telling were Michael Fox’s stories of flesh and blood persecution, of people in extreme peril who had sought refuge in Australia. For some, the outcome was happy, for others a disaster.

One of the saddest cases was Xuan (not his real name), a Chinese translator on permanent visa in Australia, working for Melbourne’s *China News*. Xuan had sought asylum because his criticism

of China’s treatment of the Falun Gong made him a target of the Chinese government.

His visa was suddenly rescinded by the Australian government and he was incarcerated in the Maribyrnong Detention Centre and later sent back under duress to China. He has not responded to any letters and may well be dead.

Archdeacon Edie Ashley spoke of the way labels like ‘illegals’ are wrongly used to create the impression that refugees lack legitimacy, despite the fact that Australia is a signatory to the United Nations Convention on Refugees.

The readings for the third Sunday after Pentecost seemed specifically designed for the day. The Old Testament reading sees the young David, a simple shepherd boy, sought out and chosen for the role of kingship. The extract from 2 Corinthians 5 reminds us that those who live in Christ are ‘new creation’ and live for Christ rather than self. And the Gospel of Mark uses the mustard seed analogy to show that from small beginnings the Kingdom of God can be realised.

Archdeacon Edie Ashley looked at what the Bible had to say about the Christian response to those seeking asylum. She distinguished the refugee from those seeking migration for lifestyle reasons

and drew on the readings to suggest that Christians needed to show leadership and generosity of heart in order to be ‘new creation’; that ‘new creation’ Christians, in welcoming the threatened and persecuted, are realising the Kingdom of God in community in Australia.

The intercessions at the Eucharist focussed on the needs of the millions of displaced people needing resettlement and the governments, including our own, who can extend a welcoming hand in offering them a place of safety and refuge.

Sue Fordham is a Lay Reader in the parish of Paynesville.

See also Refugee Week report from Cowes, page 9

Michael Fox and Eleanor Patterson, parishioners and refugee advocates, spoke out about refugees at a service to celebrate Refugee Sunday, held on 14 June at St Peter by the Lake at Paynesville.

The service focussed on a Christian response to those seeking refuge from intolerable threat in their homelands.

Michael gave four heart wrenching refugee profiles of people known to him and Eleanor explained why she is so strongly drawn to the refugee cause.

Eleanor attended primary school at the end of World War 2 when the new wave of

European migration began. She saw the language and cultural difficulty for new migrant children and the insensitivity of both adults and children in adjusting to their presence.

She told of a boy from the Ukraine with a particular difficulty in reading who was ridiculed by the teacher in front of the class.

“This ridicule by the teacher gave legitimacy to the bullying of the boy that occurred in the playground. It was terrible and so unjust. He was rejected because he was different. We are doing the same thing today with our refugees. They are different. We are afraid so we

Year 9 students from Gippsland Grammar School learning out about homelessness during a two week stay in Melbourne (story page 8)



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Late last month the Aurora Australis southern lights could be seen from various parts of Tasmania, Southern New South Wales and Victoria, including parts of Gippsland. The lights are caused by a burst of magnetic energy from the sun entering earth's magnetic field through the Poles. The result is a breathtakingly beautiful display of pink, green and red lights across the skies.

These wonderful displays are a reminder of the Psalmist's words, "The heavens declare the glory of God: and the firmament proclaims his handiwork" (Psalm 19:1). Or, as a friend of mine says, "Designer of the year award to the God of heaven and earth, once again!"

The opportunity to see and celebrate this night sky spectacular is rare, but beauty is all around us in God's Creation. Places like those where the sea meets land, announced in the rhythm of waves lapping at the fringes of the earth. On a gentle day its beauty is a melody that can calm the hardest edges of hurt and fear. Or those inland places with incredible depth of ferns, bushland and trees along the mountain ranges. Or those generous wide valleys and the rivers that skirt them.

From mountain peak to sea, from brightly coloured birds to bounding wallabies, from the smallest flower to the greatest tree, the grace and beauty of God's world is all and always a rare and wonderful gift.

In the Exodus story of Moses and the burning bush we hear one of the greatest figures of the Old Testament acknowledging that the very ground on which



Thoolo bunjil boonot njinde-a *Heaven elder be with you*

he stood was sacred. Moses turned his face aside and took off his sandals as he dared stand in the presence of God. The setting of God's revelation and call to Moses comes in a place beyond the wilderness at the mountain of God. "Who shall I

say has sent me?" Moses asks the Lord. And the answer echoes to humanity across millennia and comes to us in the mystery of grace: "I am who I am".

NAIDOC week falls this year in the week 5-12 July. The National NAIDOC theme

for 2015 is, "We all Stand on Sacred Ground: Learn, Respect and Celebrate."

In churches around Gippsland people can join in this week of celebration alongside Australia's First Peoples. Thanks to the Rev'd Kathy Dalton we have both a greeting and the Lord's Prayer translated into the language of the Gunai Kurnai peoples by Dr Doris Paton. Some may decide to use this NAIDOC week to learn how to pray it in Language. Others might learn traditional names and stories in their area of mountains, rivers and regions.

A NAIDOC service will be held at Lake Tyers and the Reverends Phyllis Andy and Kathy Dalton will take their place in leading that service. Others may invite local elders to talk about the sacred spaces and places in your local area, or simply to yarn with you about the meaning of the word sacred in relation to land and place.

The NAIDOC invitation is one of walking together in the journey of learning, growing respect and celebration – a journey which is itself sacred ground upon which to walk.

+Kau



Swans near Raymond Island

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Teaching and nurturing new believers in 21st century churches



Several Gippsland clergy consider the second Mark of Mission: "to teach, baptise and nurture new believers"

Jan Down

How should churches teach and nurture new believers? When a number of clergy across the diocese were asked this question, the responses reflected the great diversity within the Anglican Church, and a number of overlapping themes emerged, as well as a sense that this is currently one of the more challenging Marks of Mission for churches.

The teaching of children was seen by some to be a significant aspect, and is closely related to how we think people learn best – whether children or adults. Perhaps adults as well as children learn better by doing, than by listening?

Another aspect that arises is how much it matters who we are ourselves, when it comes to teaching and nurturing others.

The Rev Jenny Ramage, Rector at Korumburra, said: "Teaching new believers is one of presence. We are Jesus' presence. We often have programs in our minds, but we are called to *be*. We need to be confident and listen to the other person's story, and wait for the God factor to come in. It takes time. You might run an Alpha course, but you still need to wait. It's about a ministry of presence, of listening and finding where the God moment is.

Ms Ramage said that in South Gippsland they are planning to have a conference to provide some relevant training for lay people.

The Rev Brian Turner, locum priest in the parish of Avon, believes that what keeps people in church is "the two Rs: Relationship and Role". So when new people come, whether they be recent converts or people returning to an earlier faith, he aims to see what their gifts are, and give them a role.

He believes it is then very important to train them for that role, both for their sake, and for the quality of worship. His detailed and practical hand-out for people reading the Bible aloud, leading intercessions, being a Eucharist or liturgical assistant, or a sides-person, and so on, is a way of teaching and nurturing people in the life of the church.

The Rev Jo White, Rector at Yarram, is exploring the idea of nurturing children through integrating them into the Sunday service, rather than teaching them separately in Sunday School:

"Sunday School might be a thing of the past because, with a greater recognition of children's spirituality, we might find that nurturing children in the faith is more about real engagement in worship than sending them off to the other room while the 'big people' do church. Being part of worship is a more effective way of developing and growing children as Christians. At Holy Trinity we have discovered that children love to be part of worship. It is a great source

of pride for them and their parents/grandparents to work alongside Liturgical Assistants assisting in the serving of Holy Communion by passing the bread box and cruets; washing the priest's hands; receiving the offering bowl and holding the paten as the priest presents the body of Christ. At home these children have been found 'playing church' in much the same way as they might 'play school' or any other activity with which they have become familiar. Such times have led families to talk about the joy of worshipping together and the significance of Holy Communion. When Sunday comes around these same children are saying; "We want to go too."

The Rev Sue Jacka, Rector at Trafalgar, also sees children's learning as occurring best through being active – for example, through playing games first, then being able to discuss their meaning afterwards. At Trafalgar, the children are in church for most of the service, only going out to their activities for the sermon and prayers.

For adults, Ms Jacka says: "Bible studies or small groups are great – people can talk about their week and pray together. They provide a place where people can feel free to ask questions, and they can

make the link between what the Bible says and how they live – that nexus between faith and life-style. There are great resources available – lots of DVDs that can prompt discussions."

Ms Jacka's examples include: the "Know Your Bible" groups for women; the "Journeys" DVDs which are aimed at people who are interested, but as yet have no Christian framework; the Alpha course; and the Philip Yancey DVDs.

With the recent Clergy Conference talks given by the Rev Canon Professor Dorothy Lee still very much in mind, **Archdeacon Philip Muston** refers to Jesus' Great Commission of Matthew 28:18-20, which ends with: "...teaching them to obey all that I have commanded you to do". Mr Muston said, "Dorothy Lee said we shouldn't be embarrassed about obedience. We need to be teaching people about Jesus – his words and

"It's about a ministry of presence, of listening and finding where the God moment is."

his works, his commands and his example. We need to nurture those who want to follow Jesus no matter what their background. Nurturing happens through Christian communities, where they are not just taught, but experience living in a Christian community of people who are together trying to obey Jesus' teaching."

The Rev Tom Killingbeck, Rector of Tambo parish, said the Alpha course is good for teaching, but also expressed more of the sense of challenge:

"But I think there is a previous question that needs to be asked of the church: do we *want* to teach and nurture new believers? It would be easy to write that one off, with people saying, "Of course we want new believers! We need them!" And that's when I think we get into trouble. Actually it seems that very often, we don't want new believers at all. We'd like them in the sense that they'd swell the numbers in the church, help with all the programs we'd like to run or volunteer at the op shop, and they would be able to help top up the failing offering plate. But it really focuses not on the new believer, but on us. We want us to be looked after, nurtured.

"If we are going to nurture and teach new believers, we need to be able to focus on them and their needs. ... The whole of the church is responsible. We are all called to evangelism and discipleship. It's a fundamental of Christianity, and we have for too long hand-balled it to the clergy or those 'professional' Christians to do, whilst we work hard to keep the church afloat."

Whatever the approach, all agreed on the importance of teaching and nurturing new believers, and the need to be proactive about this second Mark of Mission.



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Ministry to families

Linda Davies – Bairnsdale

Ministry to families has become quite busy for St John's.

The early learning program for children, *mainly music*, continues to have a steady number of pre-school children attending with mums, some dads and grandparents. Some of the grandparents have now offered help in the kitchen and greeting. The growth of this program has been very encouraging and rewarding.

Messy Church, another way of spreading the gospel of Jesus, reaches out to families with school age children. Changing the day to Sunday afternoon is enabling more parents to attend. The July Messy Church will be on Sunday 19th starting at 4:00 pm.

Family Fun Time runs once a month, usually on the fourth Saturday, with a different activity organised each time. A games night with computers, Xboxes and the like, and a movie night were held for the month of June.

A new service on the first Sunday of the month, "in touch" enables families with children who have extra needs, eg: Autism, to experience church in a different way. This service uses all the five senses to explore worshipping God with different abilities. The next service will be held on Sunday 5th July at 3:00 pm.

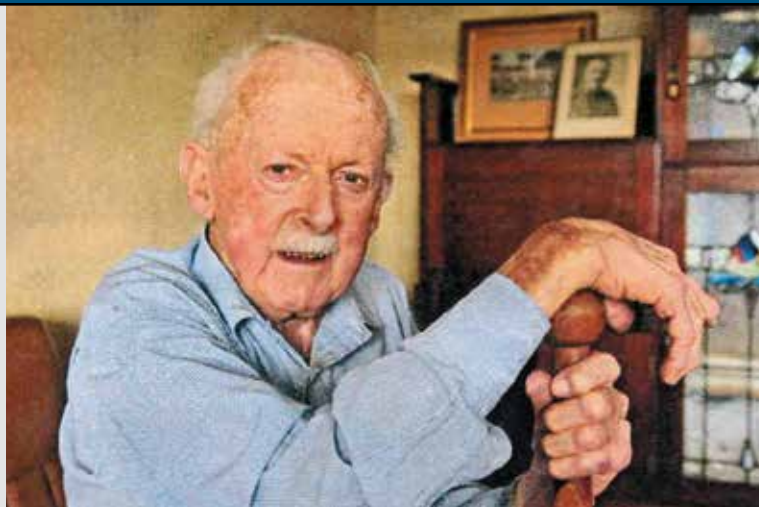
The Rev Tony Wicking was very happy to admit two children to Holy Communion on Pentecost Sunday at St John's. Georgia Roughley and Matthew Lal also received a Bible from Mothers Union representative Merrolyn Wiles to mark the occasion.

The 10:00 am Contemporary service now has some younger members of the congregation coming to the front and helping to lead worship through singing. It is wonderful to see how they want to be a part of this group and we are much the richer for it.

All these things can only be achieved with a dedicated team of people. Without their commitment to these programs and activities, none of them would be happening, and for them we thank and bless our wonderful God.



The Rev Tony Wicking with Georgia Roughley and Matthew Lal, holding their certificates of Admission to Communion.



Keith Chenhall OAM

Compiled by two former Rectors of Traralgon,
Allan Huggins and Clem Watts.

Keith Chenhall (1923 – 2014) was a much loved and very well respected member of the Traralgon community.

He was born in Traralgon in 1923, the second son of Wilfred and Sylvia Chenhall. His parents owned and operated a highly regarded boot making and shoe shop business, which Keith inherited, as the first son died while a POW during WW2.

Keith spent nearly all of his 90 years living in Traralgon. He never married. His involvement and commitment to the church of St. James' Traralgon and to the whole community were manifold. He sang in the choir and was a Synod delegate for many years. He served on the Vestry of the church for forty plus years.

Keith was made a Lay Canon by Bishop John McIntyre. Bishop John and his wife Jan attended Keith's 90th birthday celebrations held in September 2013. Keith regarded this as a huge compliment since the Bishop was quite ill at the time. Sadly Keith lived only a further eight months. The Bishop unexpectedly died just three weeks after Keith's death.

Keith gave considerable monetary donations to the Diocese and its organisations without expecting any acknowledgement. He was also a very generous supporter of ABM.

During WW2 Keith served with a section of the Australian Army Survey Corps, mapping the "Bulldog Track" in PNG and later on, large areas of Northern Australia.

Keith was a foundation member of the Traralgon Apex Club at the age of 26, and worked tirelessly in the club until the compulsory retirement age of 40. He was recognized for his services to the Apex Club by being made a Life Member.

In the 1970s Keith became a member of the Traralgon Cemetery Trust. Keith recognized the desperate need for a crematorium in Gippsland and was instrumental in having one built. He was a member of the Traralgon Water Board for a number of years.

He had a deep love for Traralgon and its surrounding areas, and in the early 2000s, after giving up committee work, he set up the Keith Chenhall Charitable Foundation to continue making a contribution to the community.

Keith was humble, proud and thrilled to be awarded an Order of Australia Medal by the Governor of Victoria on 26th January, 2014.

We conclude Keith Chenhall's story with the lovely prayer written by St. Ignatius Loyola.

Teach us, good Lord, to serve thee as thou deservest; to give and not to count the cost; to fight and not to heed the wounds; to toil and not to seek for rest; to labour and not to ask for any reward, save that of knowing that we do thy will; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Johnno's donates to the Riding for the Disabled Association

Johnno's Outreach Centre had their annual fashion parade in May with a very successful financial outcome. Committee members are very conscious of the assistance that is required by other groups in the community. So recently Johnno's Outreach Centre gave a donation of \$1,500 to the Riding for the Disabled Association which

was greatly appreciated.

RDA enables people with disabilities and volunteers throughout Victoria to experience enjoyment, challenge and a sense of achievement through participation in equestrian activities to improve their quality of life, attain personal goals and develop life skills.



Photo courtesy Bairnsdale Advertiser

Peggie Arthur and John Fraser, from Johnno's Outreach Centre, with members and volunteers for Riding For The Disabled Association

Op Shop Birthday

Di Ferguson – Traralgon

The Traralgon "Seek and You Will Find" Anglican Op Shop recently celebrated their second birthday.

Bishop Kay Goldsworthy, Canon Jeff Richardson, the Reverend Marilyn Obersby, and the Reverend Janet Wallis were joined by over 50 parishioners, volunteers and their families to enjoy an afternoon of fun, fellowship and food.

Amongst the guests were Alan and Doris Eddy (pictured) who have attended St James' for over 60 years and been active in parish life. They were thrilled to meet Bishop Kay and have their photo taken with her.

A good time was had by all and we look forward to another great year ahead.



Alan and Doris Eddy with Bishop Kay

What I like about church

Ruth Place
Churchill / Boollarra / Yinnar

On a Sunday recently, some of the children and young people, one parent and our Sunday School facilitator Sharon were asked "What do you like about Church?" Here are their replies:

Keiron says: "I like the singing. I like Sharon's talks. I like making stuff. I also like the quiet time in church when we pray."

Shallimar says: "I like the songs. I also like helping the Rev Brenda with communion. I like making things."

Amity says: "I like lighting the candles at the beginning of church and doing the coin collection. I like communion. I like Sharon's activities."

Sharon likes the singing and the fellowship. She sees kids' ministry as important. It keeps her busy with preparation, but she is grateful she can do it and use her gifts to help the children learn about God.



Children showing their work to the congregation

Nyree, the parent of a two year old and a three month-old child, says she sees bringing her son to church as giving the kids a sense of purpose and early direction in the Christian faith.

Jeremy says: "I like the songs they sing. Youth Group is great. It is a kids' version of church for all

different ages. It is good to have the different ages as that swells the numbers. I like Sharon's talks and the kids' part of church. It gives me the opportunity to read the Bible readings. I like making the craft stuff and displaying it around the church so it looks more attractive; we can look at it and it is good for the parents to see what we do."



Sunday School facilitator, Sharon Molkentin-Taylor, using a banana to help explain the Trinity!

Another young person says he likes that kids can get involved with what Sharon does and go to the narthex and do church based activities – talking about the story more and doing hands-on activities. "I love Youth Group as I get to hang out with my friends as well as go to church. I like the activities best. I like reading the Bible readings in church."

Bevil Lunson – a colourful ministry

Jan Down

The Rev Bevil Lunson, who recently retired from the parish of Orbost, has had a creative and compassionate ministry in both Melbourne and Gippsland dioceses.

In Orbost Bevil was well known for his annual productions: each year he would write and produce a play, which would draw crowds from around the district.

Bevil thinks the best was his "Spies and Heroes". He said, "It was all about a bumbling British air-force guy, a damsel in distress, a kidnapped professor, a German Count and his mistress and various assorted odds and bods", and featured giant spiders and car crashes. Bevil says, "You've got to have light-hearted things".

Bevil and his wife Barbara also set up a Food Pantry at Orbost and would see many people in need.

Before going into the ministry, Bevil had worked in welfare both in Tasmania, where he grew up, and then in Melbourne, where he went to study theology in his late 40s. Among other things, he was invited to coordinate the Lazarus



The Rev Bevil Lunson and his wife Barbara

Centre for homeless people, and would sit in the street and talk to them. At one time he was Chaplain to the Mission to Seafarers.

In Tasmania Bevil first worked in the local newspaper, and trained in commercial art and layout.

When conscripted into the army in 1965, he remained in Australia and went to catering school in Adelaide. After his time in the army, he ran a bakery with an ex-army friend.

He then went back to TAFE, studied welfare and worked in disability, which he says was all part of God's calling and preparation. At that stage he was not attending church; it was through meeting Barbara that he was drawn into the faith.

Bevil says that what he has most enjoyed about ministry is "meeting all sorts of different people" and looking back, he says, "God's hand has been in all of it".

Last year Bevil was awarded Citizen of the Year for Orbost, in recognition of his service to the local community. The Lunsons are now happily settling into retirement in Orbost, where they feel very much at home.

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Celebrating the ministry of Charles Spencer

Carolyn Raymond – Morwell

St Mary's enthusiastically welcomed Bishop Kay Goldsworthy at a special service on 7 June, to celebrate and honour the ministry of Charles Spencer in the Gippsland Diocese.

Charles has been Lay Reader for an amazing 70 years. He has preached and taken services in many parishes across the Diocese – in Yallourn, Yarram and Boolarra, and more recently in Morwell. Charles has also been a representative on Bishop in Council for many years and represented the Morwell parish on Synod. He was made a Lay Canon several years ago. To mark his many years of ministry he has now been made an Honourary Lay Canon.

Charles has decided to retire as a Lay Reader. At St Mary's we all remember the many sermons we have heard and appreciated. He preached at

this service of celebration, as always bringing all the readings for the day into his sermon; the Bible has been his inspiration. However Charles had to prepare his sermon while in hospital and also had to return to hospital afterwards.

We were especially pleased to have Bishop Kay with us for the service. It was wonderful to gather in prayer with her and all the congregation around Charles, to thank him for his years of ministry and to trust him to God's loving care in the future.

Several of Charles' family, including many of his grandchildren, had travelled to Morwell for the celebrations. Many of the congregation, the family, the Rev Lyn Williams and Bishop Kay all celebrated with a meal together after the service.

Charles with Bishop Kay and the Rev Lyn Williams



Join families, churches, and community in celebrating South Gippsland gardens. Delight in the annual floral display of *Flowers in Praise*. Take part in the *Garden Snapshots* display. Enter a presentation on a card table illustrating your garden, support Anglicare and promote Leongatha and South Gippsland as a garden destination.

To enter, ring Coral Johnston (0409 165 227), Marion Dewar (5662 4432) or Janice at the Church Office (5662 2055) by Wednesday 2 September.

Set up the display 10–4 Wednesday 9 September and join visitors in the church 10–4 Thursday 10, Friday 11 and Saturday 12 September. Collect your display after 4:00 pm on Saturday.

Enjoy refreshments (morning and afternoon teas and light lunches) prepared and served by St Peter's Ladies' Guild. Check out the local library's book sale in the hall on Friday and Saturday. Join with us at worship on Sunday 13 September when we welcome Bishop Kay to the parish.



Daffodil Festival at St Peter's Leongatha

Thursday 10 – Saturday 12 September
"Flowers in Praise" and "Garden Snapshots"



How to prepare your display

You will need a card table, a cloth (or whatever), and at least five of the following items (including all of the first four) – all seven would be great!

- A Bible verse about gardens (ask if you need inspiration)
- A label giving your name and/or address
- Flowers and/or a pot plant from your garden
- A can or packet of edible garden produce (this will be donated to Anglicare)

- A photo and/or drawing of your garden (or part of it)
- Gardening aid (gloves, secateurs, watering can etc)
- Something special (book, gardening book, photo, clothing, vase etc)

Photos will be taken of the card table displays on Wednesday and a 2016 calendar including these photos will be available for sale from Thursday – pre-order from Heather Scott (5622 2175) – net proceeds to Anglicare.

Colin Maxfield – an encourager

Obituary by the Rev Jim Connelly



Colin Maxfield, "Mr Standfast", lived his whole life in Drouin and in the embrace of the Church. Filched from the Presbyterians by his Anglican wife-to-be, Iris, he became a determined Anglican ever thereafter. He had only one job, for forty-eight years – in the office at the Drouin Butter Factory, though he took his turn at the wheel of the milk tankers occasionally.

In the Diocese, he will be remembered as one of the founders of the Lay Readers Association and as one of the "fostering fathers" of the Young Anglicans of the 'eighties and thereabouts. He was an encourager, and many people, clergy and lay, can tell how he set them on a firm pathway of life.

Within the parish, he filled almost every role imaginable, from Treasurer to Lay Reader. He has been at the heart of everything the parish has done, always interested in others and in all the weekly activities. He and Iris have given us a wonderful example of godly living and have raised a fine family. Colin died on 7 June. He was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith.



Photo: The Rev Jo White

Col, Fame, Glenda, Sue and Kit with the altar frontal they created during the Pentecost Day service

Special Celebrations

Glenda Amos – Yarram

Anzac Day, the Blessing of the Fleet and Pentecost Day were all times of special celebration in the Yarram Parish.

Hundreds of people gathered for a short Anzac Day dawn service at the War Memorial in the Park and laid wreaths to remember those who have served in the armed forces over a century of conflicts. The Friends of St John's, Port Albert organised an Anzac Day dance to raise funds for maintenance at St John's and welcomed visitors, including Bishop Kay and Jeri, to an enjoyable social evening.

On Sunday morning, Bishop Kay presided over the Blessing of the Fleet at the Port. A BBQ lunch was provided by the Lions Club of Yarram and the Morwell Pipe Band provided entertainment.

The Rev Jo made Pentecost Sunday at Holy Trinity Yarram a special time of listening and learning from each other by including hands-on activities during the service. Four groups involving all members of the congregation discussed and created music, prayers, Bible readings and an altar frontal. These were then presented in the service.

Gwen Healy turns 100

Wendy Nickson – Lakes Entrance

Members of St Nicholas, Lakes Entrance, were honoured to help Gwen Healy, a member of our congregation since 1989, celebrate her 100th birthday on 5 June at the Lakes Entrance RSL, and later after the service on Sunday 7th at the church.

Gwen has been a faithful member of the Anglican church since her childhood days in Cassilis in the foothills of the Australian Alps below Omeo, where she went to church with her mother and sister, and throughout her long and interesting life. Her family moved about Victoria but Gwen started her career in nursing in Bairnsdale Hospital, and later in Heidelberg Repat.

She was selected to serve in Port Moresby in 1942, where she helped nurse the wounded. Gwen has many good memories of her time in New

Guinea where she made lifelong friends. She found New Guinea a beautiful place, despite the war, and the nurses were well taken care of. Gwen's husband and uncle both saw active service.

Gwen married Colin Healy in 1949 and they had two sons, Peter who cares for his mother in her own unit, and John who calls in regularly. She has seven grandchildren and twelve great grandchildren.

Gwen has served St Nicholas in many ways and has always been on hand to knit, sew and cook. She has been active in Bible study groups and many other activities. She is still a stalwart member of the Prayer Circle and being a woman of unshakable faith, we feel she has a special ministry in this. We thank her for being a "wise woman" and having a ready ear for all who have the pleasure of visiting her.



Kath Grandy celebrating with Gwen Healy

Meeting people where they are

Sally Stannard
Trafalgar

One of the delightful things about joining St Mary's in Trafalgar was the welcome. They didn't ask for my testimony, didn't check that my children had been baptised in a timely manner and didn't seek reference from my "old" church.

Instead, this mum of three found a music program for my toddlers followed by a warm cup of tea and a chat. Now – a year and a half on, the mum who greeted me is my best friend here and *mainly* music is a core part of our week. My two youngest children and I help set up the facility each week, often praying that we're

maintaining the welcoming space I found here, a space for anyone to come and be nurtured.

The love and welcome for young families was so refreshing that we stepped from the toddler program, to the after school program and on to regular Sunday services – a spiritual home at last where we could all come as we are.

Through this journey, a faith which was "present but inactive" has blossomed. With this desire for a deeper relationship and a more active and present faith, I opened my home to a Bible study. We sometimes call it "play and pray", with prayer for each other an important part of each week.

The most exciting part lately has been the questions that come from our dear friend who is "new to church". She probes with such an open heart and asks the sensible questions I've often wondered too. Sometimes the questions are deliberately focused on what someone outside the church will ask her as she boldly steps out,

sharing her new faith with anyone who asks.

The other blessing of my welcome here has been the extended family my children have found here, a long way from our own grandparents, aunts and uncles. Now I am excited to feel like extended family to the young people we've met here.

Through the Jaffas after school program my young children have met many older children. We celebrate their success and comfort their sadness each week when they come from school.

So it was with great joy that my children and I baked and decorated a cake for our wonderful friend Haylea as she took her first communion. A young lady stepping out and into the community that met her where she was and moved with her as she grew.

Our prayer is that we can maintain the welcome in each of our stepping stone programs that open the door to our church family.





St Paul's Year 6 students Tristan Dent (Environmental captain), Saurav Narayan and Kaelan Loomes (Science captains) planting a 'Gallipoli oak' to commemorate the Anzac Centenary at the Warragul campus

Anzacs – remembered with oak

Year 6 students at St Paul's Anglican Grammar School recently planted a Gallipoli Oak at both Warragul and Traralgon campuses as part of the Gallipoli Oaks Project.

The Gallipoli Oaks Project, led by the National Trust and funded by the Victorian Government, provided Victorian primary schools with an oak seedling to plant as a gift of remembrance for the 100-year anniversary of the Anzac Gallipoli landing and WWI.

At St Paul's Traralgon campus, a special commemorative planting ceremony was held. Mr Bryan Kesby of the Traralgon RSL planted

the seedling with students assisting to plant rosemary plants kindly donated by Martin Whysall, parent and gardener of St Paul's.

Year 6 Environmental and Science captains at St Paul's Warragul campus embraced their gardening spirit and also planted a Gallipoli Oak seedling.

The seedlings are direct descendants of acorns from Gallipoli, providing the School with a symbolic connection to the environment the Anzacs endured 100 years ago.

The School will now nurture and care for the oak trees as a reminder of the sacrifice of our Anzac soldiers.

ABC Radio National's Religion Programs

Frequencies: Bairnsdale - 106.3 FM (3ABC RN)
Melbourne - 621 AM (3RN)

Religion and Ethics Report

Wednesday 5:30 pm – repeated: Thursday 5:30 am
www.abc.net.au/radionational/program/religionandethicsreport

Encounter

Saturday 5:00 pm – repeated: Wednesday 1:00 pm
www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/encounter

The Spirit of Things

Sunday 6:00 pm – repeated Tuesday 1:00 pm
www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/spiritofthings

Rhythm Divine (music program)

Sunday 6:00 am – repeated: Monday 1:00 am
www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/rhythmdivine

2015 DAFFODIL FESTIVAL ST PETER'S ANGLICAN CHURCH LEONGATHA

Thursday 10, Friday 11
Saturday 12 September
10 am – 4 pm

Displays:

Flowers in Praise & Garden Snapshots
Calendar for Sale - Proceeds to Anglicare

Refreshments:

Morning & Afternoon Teas & Light Lunches

Classroom moves to the city

Giving young people the skills to better understand themselves, and their capabilities, is important during adolescence. Gippsland Grammar's Year 9 program is doing just that.

For 17 years now Gippsland Grammar has recognised that students taking on Year 9, or tackling adolescence head on, are ready to take on new levels of responsibility and to accept a degree of personal challenge.

The entire Gippsland Grammar Year 9 cohort has just spent two weeks in Melbourne.

The Melbourne Experience is about building the students' independence and responsibility, according to Gippsland Grammar's Head of Year 9 Tim Clemens. "Watching their self-confidence grow as they become familiar with the pace of the city and master the skills of using Melbourne's public transport system, without their parents by their side, is awesome to see," he said.

A highlight of the trip is the 'Homeless Experience' where the students see first-hand what it

would be like to be homeless and live on the streets. They literally walk the streets with guides who, until recently, were homeless.

The experience was designed in partnership between the school and the Council to Homeless Persons. It's now a service provided through the Council to Homeless Persons Peer Education and Support Program to other schools and organisations throughout the state.

Gippsland Grammar Year 9 student James Stephenson, of Newry, recognised that each guide showed 'guts' and that drugs were part of the reason both ended up on the streets.

Fellow student Sidney Churchman, Sarsfield, said it really opened her mind to what it might be like to be homeless: "I used to think people on the streets were hard and dirty. The people we met were normal people who were in a tough situation that they didn't want to be in."

Sidney explained that in most cases it was a couple of silly life choices that pointed these people in the wrong direction and it could happen to anyone.

"When we were sleeping on the floor I just couldn't wait to get home and have a warm shower," she confided, but then she said it dawned on her that homeless people didn't have a shower to go to and that was their life, day in and day out.

Students slept on the floor of St Mark's Church, Fitzroy.

During this unique element of the curriculum Gippsland Grammar students also visited the Magistrates Court, Parliament House, the State Library, Melbourne Cricket Ground, Royal Botanic Gardens, Melbourne Ice House, Victoria Markets, and the Shrine of Remembrance.



During Melbourne camp students took part in a 'scavenger hunt', visiting icons around the city and gathering information. One of the additional challenges was to meet someone 'famous' and get a photo of them. Here a group of Year 9 boys visited the Channel 9 studio and were invited onto the news set for a unique photo opportunity with Peter Hitchener and Livinia Nixon. Left to right are Mitchell Rankin, Charlie Harrison, William Runciman, Aaron Barling and Jeremy Gunther.

Clergy Conference – June 2015 “With courage let us all combine” – Refugee Week at Cowes

Photo courtesy Trinity College



Professor Dorothy Lee

Philip Muston

Celebrated New Testament scholar Professor Dorothy Lee inspired Gippsland clergy to new understanding of ‘Jesus and Mission’ in three Bible studies at the recent Annual Clergy Conference, held at The Abbey, Raymond Island.

Dr Lee spoke on the theme of Mission in Mark, John and Matthew, showing how each of the gospel writers contribute different and complementary additions to our understanding of Christian mission in the world. Clergy of all traditions present responded enthusiastically to Dr Lee’s teaching.

“Jesus proclaims the gospel where he goes. He calls us to mission partly through the challenge to obey everything he has taught us,” she told the group.

Bishop Kay Goldsworthy said: “The studies were very well received and a solid piece of Professional Development for the priests who attended”.

Professor Lee is Dean of the Theological School at Trinity College, the University of Melbourne.

This was Bishop Kay Goldsworthy’s first conference as Bishop of Gippsland, and she led two sessions of sharing and consulting with the clergy, who appreciated her pastoral, open and candid input.

Other speakers at the conference included Canon Barbara Logan, Rector of Lakes Entrance and a trained spiritual director, who encouraged clergy to consider how they might grow in spiritual strength and well-being through having a spiritual director.

Sarah Gover, Community Development Officer for Anglicare in Gippsland, helped clergy in thinking through new approaches to parish involvement in local communities. She challenged clergy afresh through suggesting new ways of connecting with community beyond local congregations.

Music at the conference was led by the Reverends Tom Killingbeck and Graeme Peters.

This year’s conference was a day longer than those in recent years, enabling clergy more space to digest and process challenges brought by the various speakers. The numbers of clergy present were such that only some could stay ‘on the island’, with others staying in Paynesville.

Throughout the week all enjoyed the cooking of David and Deb Chambers from Heyfield parish and their team of helpers. On one evening an informal dinner took place at The Boathouse restaurant in Paynesville.

Archdeacon Philip Muston is Rector of Warragul and Archdeacon of the Western Region.

Lesley Oakly, Secretary, Rural Australians for Refugees

Rural Australians for Refugees on Phillip Island called on the Island community to hear about the challenges Australia puts in the way of asylum seekers and refugees in their search for safety and security. The theme for Refugee Week in 2015 was “with courage let us all combine”, a line from the second verse of the national anthem and ironically at odds with the official response to those fleeing from persecution.

Around forty people met at St Mary’s Catholic Church in Cowes to hear speaker Ruby Pryor from the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre in Footscray. She spoke of those living in the community struggling to survive each day while enduring the interminable wait for advice about their acceptance for a permanent visa. Many of them are not allowed to work. Those given a government allowance receive 89% of the Newstart Allowance, which is 40% of the minimum wage.

The Asylum Seeker Resource Centre provides pro bono services in a range of disciplines, including legal, health, social support and material aid. St Philip’s Anglican and St John’s Uniting churches offer drop-off points for donations of food and material aid. Currently there is a collection drive for honey, “jocks & socks” and toiletries. Local businesses, the local paper and the wider Island community have responded generously.

The reality of their life in our communities flies in the face of the

myths that have been circulating for years, that “they are taking our jobs”, “they receive more payment from Centrelink than pensioners”, “they are all economic refugees”, “they are all terrorists”, etc. The audience shared experiences of arguing (to little avail) with people who promote these views. The question was posed, “How do we achieve change in our own community and more broadly across Australia?” It was agreed that advocacy and education in our schools was critical if change in the general view of the electorate was to be achieved in the longer term.

The secrecy with which the Federal government conducts their dealings with asylum seekers contributes to the ignorance and the apathy of the general population. In addition, there is no voice of advocacy for asylum seekers from either major party, to their shame and ours.

Donations of coats, scarves, blankets and beanies were brought to the meeting, along with honey and donations totalling \$450. These will be taken up to the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre for distribution at this winter time.

To quote a recent research report into the lives of asylum seekers,

“Asylum seekers are being made to live in poverty. A fair go for all is all that is asked, not a punitive, marginalised policy environment.”

(UnitingCare Asylum Seeker Research Report, 2014)

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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’.

Praying with icons – an example

David Head

Icons are regularly used as a focus for meditation and silent prayer. Oftentimes they can lead us into a much deeper understanding of our life and trust in God. One of the most famous icons of all time is this icon of the Holy Trinity painted by the Russian Iconographer Andrei Rublev in 1425 AD.

To live in the world without belonging to it summarizes the essence of the spiritual life. The spiritual life keeps us aware that our true dwelling place is not the world of fear in which the powers of hatred and violence rule, but the house of love, where God resides.

This house of love is most beautifully expressed in this icon of the Holy Trinity by Rublev. It was painted as a means of becoming a holy place of prayer to enter and stay within. As we place ourselves in front of the icon in prayer, we hopefully come to experience a gentle invitation to participate in the intimate conversation that is taking place among the three divine angels and to join them around the table.

The angels are symbolic of the Holy Trinity, since the Trinity itself cannot be literally drawn or painted. The movement from the angelic Father toward the Son and the movement of both the Son and Spirit towards the Father become a circular movement in which the one who prays is transported within and held secure.

This icon, on the most obvious level, depicts the Old testament biblical event in Genesis Chap 18 of the three angels who appeared to Abraham at the oak of Mamre and who ate the meal that Abraham and his wife Sarah had prepared for them. The angels then announced to the 100 year old Abraham and the 90 year old Sarah that they would soon become parents of their firstborn child, a son Isaac.

Here in this divine circle is expressed the mystery of love and hospitality given by both Abraham and Sarah to the angels, and then the hospitality of the angels of the Holy Trinity dwelling in Abraham and Sarah with the gift of their first child.

This angelic appearance is also meant to prefigure the later divine mission by which God sends us his only Son to sacrifice himself for our

sins and so give us new life through the Holy Spirit. Thus, on a second level of perception, the oak of Mamre becomes the tree of life; the house of Abraham becomes the dwelling place of God Incarnate; and the mountain depicted behind, which is where Abraham was in time to offer the sacrifice of his only son Isaac to God, becomes not the mountain of sacrifice but the spiritual heights of prayer and contemplation with God.

The roasted lamb that Abraham offered to feed the angels and also the divinely provided ram that Abraham offered on that mountain in the place of Isaac, becomes Jesus the sacrificial lamb, chosen by God before the creation of the world.

This sacrificial lamb in reality forms the centre of the icon. The hands of the three angels representing the Father, Son and Holy Spirit reveal in different ways the lamb's significance. The Son in the centre points to the lamb with two fingers, indicating his mission to become the sacrificial lamb. The Father on the left encourages the Son with a blessing gesture. And the Spirit, who holds the same sceptre of authority as the Father and the Son, signifies by pointing to the front of the meal table or altar that there is a place reserved on the fourth side of the table for you and I as we gather before this altar. The Spirit points to the rectangular opening in the front side of the altar, and invites us to let our souls enter into this place as the place of our salvation.

Gradually, in time you may also be able to perceive a third level of perception where a cross becomes visible. This cross is formed by the vertical line from the oak of Mamre, now become the tree of life, to the small opening of our inclusion into that tree of life. The horizontal beam of the cross is made by the angelic figures of the Holy Trinity.

There is no entry into the circle of divine love except through the cross. No gaining of life without losing it in the sacrifice of Christ. There is no glory without suffering. In fact Jesus can perhaps be heard saying to us as he points to the sacrificial lamb and the body and blood of Christ in the Chalice, "Are you able to drink the cup that I must drink?" The way of Jesus for us is to be the way of the cross.

*The Rev David Head is
Priest-in-Charge at Heyfield.*

Asylum seekers need hope

An asylum seeker who had been living in the community was recently taken back into a detention centre. He is a Christian man, but on returning to detention, his despair and suffering were so great, he wanted to end his life.

According to the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, there are now approximately 59.5 million refugees and displaced people in the world. In light of this, "stopping the boats" cannot be seen to be a final solution. More questions need to be asked. What next? What else is Australia going to do? And in the meantime, what can we do as individuals? Asylum seekers and refugees so badly need hope.

There are four Rural Australians for Refugees groups around Gippsland, located in Cowes, East Gippsland, South Gippsland and the Latrobe Valley. Go to the RAR website, ruralaustraliansforrefugees.org.au to access contact details for the different groups. These groups aim to raise public awareness, they write letters, and provide practical help to local refugees, among others things. Some people in Gippsland Anglican churches have been involved in one of these groups for many years; others are just making a start.

The Asylum Seeker Resource Centre, Australia's largest asylum seeker organisation, assists and advocates for asylum seekers. Their services include a food and aid network as well as health, legal aid, counselling and casework programs. Over half of their clients have no income at all, and 90% live below the poverty line. The ASRC has a staff of 50, as well as 950 volunteers, including lawyers and doctors. They do an amazing job. Anyone wanting to donate can go to givenow.com.au/asrcwinterappeal.

We can also pray, we can be informed and we can advocate for the fair and compassionate treatment of all people seeking a safe place to call home.



"The Holy Trinity" painted by the Russian Iconographer Andrei Rublev

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Who's listening?

The infant mortality rate in Rwanda in 2013 was 61.2%. That means, for every 1,000 live births, 61.2 infants died before their first birthday.

This is a significant improvement from a few years ago when one in 10 infants died but it remains one of the worst infant mortality rates in the world and still means that 25,400 infants die each year. For comparison, Australia's infant mortality rate is about 4.5 per 1,000 births, with about 1,400 infants not reaching their first birthday. We rightly call out for more aid and education to improve the health of mothers and children and save these precious lives.

In fact another statistic puts this need into even sharper view. About 26% of all pregnancies in Rwanda are not successful. That is, through various causes, the most common being the health of the mother, the unborn child dies before birth. Each year about 153,000 lives are lost before seeing the light of day, most of which could be saved with the health, nutrition and medicine we take for granted.

Unfortunately a comparison with Australia on this statistic is a little disturbing. In Australia, 25% of pregnancies are unsuccessful – in the order of 100,000 lives each year that don't see the light of day. Not in our case due to poor health, nutrition and medical care, but through the deliberate ending of these viable pregnancies. Something we're told that one in three Australian women experience and as a nation we sanction, pay for and try to keep quiet about.

I know it's a difficult and complex issue, but I think God has got something to say about it. Jesus taught that little children are important to him. In Psalm 139 we're reminded that God knows us and knits us together in our mother's womb, so we have to see the unborn as important to God. We regularly affirm that

God calls us to champion the cause of the weak and vulnerable, and condemns the killing of the innocent.

Yet we are strangely silent. Are the unborn not vulnerable? Are they not innocent? Are they of no importance to God?

At the recent Gippsland Synod, Kim Eason of Bairnsdale presented a motion to bring this issue to light and to debate a call to have the Church state that abortion is contrary to God's way. Maybe the motion was poorly written and too complicated but, instead of considering it and maybe amending it as with other motions, in this case all debate was simply stopped.

Two thirds of Synod voted to pass over the motion, with no reason given, and it was treated as if it had not even been put.

We were content to debate a range of issues – ethical investment, asylum seekers, safe ministry, solar power, We heard about wonderful ministry efforts connecting into the community, Eucharistic Living and the fantastic results of the Grammar Schools. But when it came to something uncomfortable we shut down and moved on. Why? Are we afraid that we'll appear moralistic and incur the disfavour of public opinion? Are we afraid that God might actually call us to think differently from the world, change ourselves and take an unpopular stand?

Whenever an infant or child is lost there is rightly great grief and weeping. Some, though it would seem not many, weep at the death of an unborn infant. I weep too for a Church that sticks its fingers in its ears and won't even listen to what God may have to say to it. He is King and will have his way. If we won't listen, he will seek others who will.

Gordon Douthwaite
Leongatha

Letters to the Editor are welcome

– preferably less than 200 words.

Please write to editor@gippsanglican.org.au
by 15th of month prior to publication.

EARTH CARE CARD

– Tips for churches and households –

#10 Save energy – dress for winter

It's become widely accepted that buildings are the same temperature all year round, and people wear the same weight of clothing. What's happened to the overcoat and the thick woolly jumper?

Before you turn the heating up, try adding another layer. Wearing extra layers can make winter much more comfortable, while also saving on gas or electricity, and therefore also on greenhouse gas emissions.

Layers are also flexible. If you are going in and out of over-heated shops or work-places, you can add or subtract an outer layer or two. Wearing something under jeans or long pants makes a huge difference to comfort in really cold weather. And if you're outdoors in the bitter cold, a scarf, beanie, coat and gloves really help keep the heat in.

If you are responsible for a work place, consider keeping the building at a lower temperature, and asking workers to dress for winter – not T-shirts in July!



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David and Caroline Beischer

Jan Down

David Beischer believes that “God created the animals as well as us... and has put us as stewards over them”. David is a veterinarian, one of three partners in a clinic with nine vets and three premises situated in Wonthaggi, Phillip Island and Inverloch.

As this is a country practice, David looks after large farm animals – dairy and beef cattle mainly, some sheep, goats and alpacas – as well as companion animals such as dogs and cats. He believes “God wants us to show compassion for sick and injured animals”.

It is not only the animals that David cares for. He says “Behind every animal is an owner – a person”, explaining that there are some emotional situations at times, where perhaps there is an untreatable condition, or the loss of an animal, and David finds himself involved in counselling the owners. There are emotional times for him too, especially when he has had a long connection with an animal and its owner.

Working with farmers is one aspect of his job that David finds satisfying and interesting, as he says, “Their livelihood depends on the health of their animals”.

His work is quite varied. Sometimes he will visit dairy farms to pregnancy test their cows and heifers, often using an ultrasound for diagnosis. At other times he will be in the clinic seeing cats and dogs with various medical problems, or performing routine surgery. A recent case involved performing a post-mortem examination as part of a disease investigation after a farmer lost about 50% of his herd of beef cattle, from a liver disease.

Caroline says her “heart priority order is God, family, then work”. Trained as a pharmacist, she aims to fit her pharmacy work around her family needs and with three sons, two of whom are still at high school, she finds there is still plenty to do.

Caroline draws inspiration from the Scriptural ideals of the Proverbs 31 woman and the Titus 2 people as well as lots of parenting tips from Proverbs. She explains, “The truly busy wife of Prov 31 is constantly working for the good of her household, teaching her children with wisdom and kindness, reaching out to others and even running some little ‘side’ businesses to augment the family’s resources. Coupled with the Titus 2 exhortation to be a homemaker, devoted to husband



“David says that they aim to be Christ’s ambassadors wherever they go, and that being Christians brings a different quality to the work they do”.

and children, there is plenty of incentive and certainly it is not possible without the grace of God and the power of His Spirit!”

So it is that outside of the home, Caroline works part time (within the school day), in a local community pharmacy with some occasional locum hospital work and some home based consultancy work. She says “Jesus’ compassion towards those he met gives us the model for reaching out to others”, and Caroline finds that those moments can occur in the workplace, from the interactive pharmacy counter or when visiting others in their homes to review medication use and management; it becomes the nature of the work.

Opportunities often arise to mention their local church’s weekly community meal as a helpful contact point for people to connect with community. Caroline points out that Jesus would always meet the physical needs of people as well as their spiritual needs and this inspires her in her care for people.

Mission trips to Mongolia

David and Caroline are actively involved in their local church, St George’s Wonthaggi. They do not see any disconnect between their work and their church life; David says that they aim to be Christ’s ambassadors wherever they go, and that being Christians brings a different quality to the work they do. Caroline also says, “If we are called to worship, then what we do every day – our lives – should be our worship, not just Sunday mornings”. She stresses that this is their aim, perfection will only be reached in glory!

Some years ago, when David was at a conference in the United States, he heard about short-term mission work for vets, and felt that God wanted them to go as a family venture. After returning to Australia, he met with a representative from Interserve, to discuss short-term mission possibilities, but opportunities were limited. It wasn’t until he heard about “Mongolia Vet Net” that the mission trip to Mongolia became a reality.

David and Caroline took their boys – from kindergarten to primary school age – to Mongolia in 2006. David was mainly involved with trips in the countryside with a team of Mongolian veterinarians from Mongolia VET Net, undertaking clinical work and teaching with local veterinarians.

Caroline and the boys went out with the education team to assist with a summer school program in a remote countryside community. Both were involved in discipling the Mongolian Christians on their team, leading daily Bible studies during these programs. The Mongolians would then go out and reach out to their own people.

David says that “It was a great thing to do as a family: an adventure with an eternal perspective”. All the boys still remember the time spent there. It provided the boys with a unique cross cultural experience and an opportunity to be part of a Christian mission organisation sharing the hope of Jesus with remote Mongolian communities.

David and Caroline returned to Mongolia without the boys for a brief trip in 2008. They remain in contact with long-term Mongolia Vet Net missionaries and hope that God may again direct their footsteps to the wide expanses of the Mongolian steppe.

Diocesan calendar

First Saturday of each month: all welcome to walk the labyrinth at the end of Back Beach Road at San Remo, Phillip Island, from 10:30 am.

July

- 5 2:00 pm NAIDOC Service at St John’s Church Lake Tyers Trust
- 11 9:30 am – 3:30 pm Lay Reader Training Day at Sale
- 13 – 31 Half-price days at The Abbey – accommodation and facilities – for details phone 5156 0511
- 18 2:00 – 4:00 pm High Tea at St Mary’s Trafalgar, to raise funds for emergency relief
- 19 9.30 am – 4 pm Safe Church Awareness Workshop, at the Seventh Day Adventist Church, Leongatha

August

- 4–9 WinterFEST: a week of workshops at The Abbey, Raymond Island – for details phone 5156 0511 or email info@theabbey.org.au
- 8 9:30 am – 3:30 pm Lay Reader Training Day at Korumburra
- 15 9:30–3:30 pm Anam Cara Quiet Day, St James Anglican Church, Grey St Traralgon
- 22 9.30 am – 4 pm Safe Church Awareness Workshop, at the Baptist Church, Pakenham

September

- 10, 11, 12 10:00 am to – 4:00 pm Daffodil Festival, St Peter’s Anglican Church, Leongatha – details page 6
- 12 9.30 am – 4 pm Safe Church Awareness Workshop, at the Anglican Church, Traralgon

For all Safe Church Awareness Workshops: BYO lunch. Pre-register on the website (buv.com.au) or through Danielle Matthews at the Diocesan Registry Office: phone 5144 2044.



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