

The Gippsland Anglican

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Beryl Brien of the Moe Parish presents Josie Stubbe, Anglicare Manager, with one of the dolls

Koori Dolls Project

In consultation with a number of Aboriginal Anglicare staff, Sarah Gover invited local Mothers Union groups and parishes to provide Koori dolls for office toy boxes to be presented during NAIDOC week.

The parishes and Mothers Unions took up the invitation and participated in the project. Six dolls were purchased and two were presented at an afternoon tea in July from the Moe and Newborough parishes.

Both dolls had handmade clothes knitted in traditional Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders colours.

Three dolls were presented at an Avon Parish Council meeting, by the Parishes of Avon and Maffra. The sixth doll was donated by the Leongatha Mothers Unions Group.

The Anglicare Staff wish to thank the parishes and Mothers Union Groups for this wonderful initiative. Dolls can be purchased from: yarnstrongsista.com.



Newborough MU representatives with some of the dolls donated to Anglicare. L-R Helen David, Jeanette Ringin, Jan Misiurka.

Photo: Myles De Keersmaeker



The Rev Rich Lanham at the restaurant night

Pop-up restaurant night at 123 gives a taste of things to come

Jan Down

A pop-up restaurant night at the 123 community space in Sale on Monday 17 August gave prospective community partners a taste of what this innovative social enterprise expects to offer.

The Rev Rich Lanham, Missional Priest of the 123 Project and Diocesan Youth Officer, was thrilled with the success of the evening, which he said had fulfilled its purpose. "It was about experiencing the kind of food we might produce; gathering people who provide services and support to the community; communicating the vision for 123; and essentially explaining the opportunity for them to be involved", Mr Lanham explained.

He said that there is a reciprocal element, as the 123 space will be a support to service providers in the area, through the opportunities it offers young people.

Guests included local Shire Councillors, health service professionals, directors of local NGOs and community

services, local business people, representatives from Anglicare, the Salvation Army, Uniting Care, the Department of Human Services, Ministers of Parliament, Youth Justice, police, principals from the local schools and young people. Bishop Kay was away at the time, but her husband Jeri James also attended.

On the menu that night were potato and leek soup with garlic croutons followed by a gourmet burger in a brioche bun with caramelised onions and finishing with orange/macadamia or choc/almond cake and coffee.

Julie Lanham was chief caterer, Rich Lanham chief organiser and they were assisted by about half a dozen young people as well as several adults.

The evening included videos, group activities and live music. Mr Lanham began the meal by saying grace, and also spoke about the project as a natural outworking of his faith.

He said that people were inspired and enthusiastic about the vision for the 123 space. One man said to him "It will change the face of Sale".

Mr Lanham describes 123 as "a missional social enterprise and a Fresh Expression of Church". The aim is "to provide opportunities and environments that enable people to discover their purpose, develop their abilities, live into their God-given potential and to experience the love of Jesus".

Funding has come from many sources. The building has been provided free of charge by a local Christian couple. Following an article in the *Gippsland Times* in March, a retired builder offered his services, and has completely revamped the building.

A local electrician has rewired the building at no cost. Paint and timber have been donated and grants have been received from Anglicare (\$7500), the RACV (\$5000) and the local Rotary Club (\$1000).

Mr Lanham's role is supported through a partnership between the Gippsland Anglican Diocese and the Bush Church Aid Society.

See also: open.abc.net.au/explore/101285

Index

From the Bishop	2
Community leads church through Stormy Waters	3
Around the Parishes	4-7
From the schools	8
Barb Logan: A time for spiritual renewal	9
What comes after playgroup?	9
Sathi Anthony Are Anglicans charismatic?	10
Editorial: Peacemaking is not passive	10
Correspondence	11
Earth Care Card	11
Faith at work: Kath Grandy	12
Diocesan Calendar	12

The Gippsland Anglican

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As Betty Williams drove into her street in Belfast in late August 1976, one of her children in the car with her, she heard gunshots. As she rounded the corner a car careened across the road and hit three young children. The driver of the car was a member of the IRA. The children were Betty's neighbours. Betty was a Catholic, her neighbours Protestant.

Two days later Betty had collected 6000 signatures on a petition pleading for peace. "The troubles" had been tearing apart families, homes, communities for too long and witnessing the deaths of children moved Betty to action. A few days later 10,000 women, Catholic and Protestant, marched together to the children's graves. A week later 35,000 people marched for peace.

Betty Williams wasn't driving home that day planning how she could confront the injustices and the culture of fear alive in her community. By going door to door, by daring to speak to those who had been labelled as enemies, by standing alongside other parents, other families, she showed people that it was possible to live beyond the categories defined for them which kept the gunfire going.

Betty Williams showed people what it can mean in the lives of little, local, ordinary folk to be part of redefining old patterns and terrible pathways, by giving voice to our deepest yearnings and desire for good.

Betty Williams grew the Community for Peace People and helped change the hearts and minds of those in power



Waging peace

in her country. She encouraged them to "turn their swords into ploughshares".

Recently a group of women in Israel – both Jewish and Palestinian – have been camping outside the home of the Israeli president, Benjamin Netanyahu. The women take it in turns to fast. They spend time witnessing to the hope of peace, as part of what is now a movement of thousands of women across the religious, cultural and political divide of Jewish-Palestinian relationships.

This movement, known as Women Waging Peace, was also born out of conflict in response to the recurring cycle of conflict in Gaza. In August last year more than 2000 people were killed, thousands were made homeless and fear and violence visited upon people

once more. A group of women have gathered to say "enough".

Perhaps this group of women, their demonstrations, their prayers and their voices will not be loud enough to be heard over the sound of gunshots, bomb blasts and the stones thrown amidst the debris of the land that many of us still call holy.

Commentators don't seem to be very positive about the impact they will make on

the people who lead both the Jewish and the Palestinian peoples of the region.

It's not always easy to see how we might contribute to something as daunting as changing "unjust structures" of society. It sounds huge. And most of us don't feel up to the task. For Christians it is the words, the actions, the life and the death of Jesus which can help us see how it might be that our eyes will be opened to injustice, to those things which do not lead God's people to peace and flourishing. Scripture and prayer; listening and looking; not being content with the ways things are; talking to others and taking small steps can all be ways in which to take action, for those of us who are unsure of just what we can do.

St Paul wrote to the church in Rome, "Be transformed by the renewing of your minds". He was exhorting them not to be conformed to this world. Being part of the community of Christ means being open to the possibility that we have been colonised by some structures from which we need to be released. Against which we need to stand – in the name of Christ.

+Kau



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.

Be a part of achieving these aims.

Contact the Diocese of Gippsland
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So, here is your opportunity to learn the art of Saving and Serving at the same time. Give us a call on (03) 5144 2044 or write to The Registrar at PO Box 928, Sale, 3850, or you can drop in to the Diocesan Registry at 453 Raymond Street, Sale for an Application Form to open an account with the ADF.

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Tanya Jackson and Phil Beggs singing with feeling in *Stormy Waters*

Community leads church through Stormy Waters

Jan Down

Sometimes it is the wider community that shows churches the way.

Stormy Waters, a locally produced play depicting 200 years of Australians' changing attitudes to asylum seekers, has had a big impact on viewers in the five Gippsland churches where it has been performed.

The Rev Jenny Ramage, Rector of St Paul's Anglican Church in Korumburra, said the play has led some people to change their minds on asylum seekers.

The play has been performed in Anglican and Uniting churches in five towns: the Anglican churches in Wonthaggi, Korumburra and Warragul; and the Uniting churches in Foster and Leongatha.

Stormy Waters consists of a dramatic reading by four actors using minimal props. The reading is enhanced by overhead projection images and interspersed with songs accompanied by guitar.

After the performances, almost 500 people signed a petition calling on the Government to affirm its commitment to the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and to the humane treatment of those who seek Australia's protection. Russell Broadbent MP then presented the petition in Parliament.

The play has now been made into a DVD and there are plans to create a short animated version for use in schools.

Gill Heale, the playwright and director, tells the story of how *Stormy Waters* came to be written:

"A group of friends sitting round a dinner table, shocked by the death of Reza Barati* and, thinking

that we had to do something rather than just feel helpless, decided to approach our MP, Russell Broadbent (well known for his pro-refugee stance) for advice. Russell felt that little could be done to change the direction the Coalition was embarked upon but made the comment that it was a shame the churches couldn't speak with one voice.

"Days after, we decided to write a play to take to churches across his electorate that would invite audiences across the different denominations to speak with one voice."

A small group of actors and singers who had worked with the director on other projects was gathered together.

Ms Heale says about the songs in the play, "What they bring to the production is incalculable. The songs create a conduit to a place where the

emotions and intellect meet".

Phil Beggs, well-known singer and songwriter, and a parishioner at St Paul's Korumburra, wrote and sang three of the songs for the play.

Ms Heale said that South Gippsland clergy had been very welcoming to the team of players.

But finding churches to host the performances was not entirely straightforward. The Rev Katie Peken, Assistant Priest at Warragul Anglican

Church, said that when the ministers' network in Warragul was approached about hosting the play, some ministers, while being very supportive themselves, felt there would be people in their congregations who would be quite against it – even antagonistic.

Ms Peken was confident that the Warragul congregation would be willing to see the play, and there would be strong support from some. (The Rector, Philip Muston was away at the time.) She explained "Philip and his wife Cathrine have been vocal over a long period of time about the need to live out our faith by caring for people without a voice" – such as asylum seekers.

About 60 people attended the Warragul performance on a Sunday afternoon in November last year. Ms Peken thought the play was very well done and said "I would encourage churches to get hold of the DVD and show it in whatever forum is available".

The final performance was given at Wesley Church in Melbourne on Palm Sunday this year. It was this performance that was filmed and turned into the DVD by SWAG Media – the Stormy Waters Asylum-seeker Goodwill group. This small group is committed to taking the message of the play to wider audiences.

Jennie Deane, former South Gippsland Shire Mayor, is an original member of SWAG and has been a driving force.

In the 1970s she was a senior executive in the Immigration Department, and coordinated the on-arrival settlement of Vietnamese people. She had seen what it can be like, when there are good policies and services, and is deeply concerned about the current situation. She says "the key thing is the humane treatment of asylum seekers who try to come to Australia, or who are already here. That also includes Manus Island and Nauru. I'm just appalled about the way asylum seekers are treated."

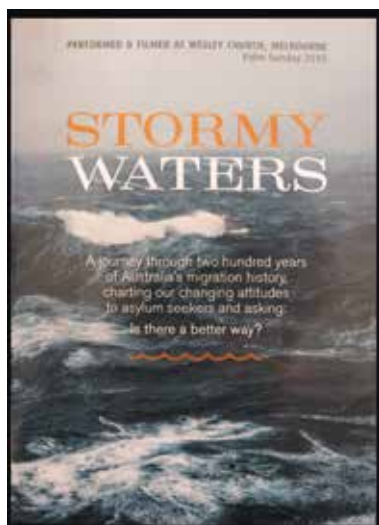
What Ms Deane says is needed in Australia is not just changes to government policy, but a change in the hearts and minds of Australian people.

The Victorian Council of Churches hosted the launch of the DVD (by Russell Broadbent MP) in Melbourne and is distributing it to member churches. The National Council of Churches has also invited Ms Deane to host screenings in Hobart and Launceston.

SWAG has sold over 150 DVDs so far, which, as well as getting the message out, will help fund the next two projects – creating the animated version for schools and a full length feature film.

The DVD is available from Mary Mutsaers for \$15 + \$5 postage. Email: marymutsaers@hotmail.com

* Reza Barati was an asylum seeker who died during a riot on Manus Island.

A scene from *Stormy Waters*

Images from DVD courtesy SWAG Media

Trafalgar high tea

Sue Jacka

On Saturday 18th July a lovely afternoon was held at St Mary's Trafalgar. Local musicians Faye Harkess and Norman Cottrell provided the live music on keyboard and sax. The food was delicious and we are very grateful to those who cooked or prepared dainty sandwiches.

It was excellent to have the catering expertise of Jacquie McGill (formerly manager of Parnasus) as well as some

young waiters from the youth group – Haylea Porter and Alyssa Neale – who did a great job.

There were rather a lot of children present and the new facility allowed them to enjoy themselves with activities inside organised by Lydia Jacka, or outside they could play in the playground. Their parents could relax and enjoy some adult conversation without constantly being interrupted.

This event raised a little over \$800 for our emergency relief fund which has had a number of calls on its resources this very cold winter.



Enjoying High Tea at Trafalgar

Photo: Ross Jacka



Sandra Wagner presents the Rev Lyn Williams with gifts from the parish, during the farewell lunch.

Farewell for Lyn Williams

Carolyn Raymond – Morwell

We have been so blessed at St Mary's to have the Rev Lyn Williams as our locum since the Rev Heather Marten left last year.

She has shared her spiritual gifts with us Sunday by Sunday. She has supported so many of us who have been unwell and reached out with practical help to many in need. She has encouraged and nurtured our precious young people, making sure they met together regularly and that all members of the congregation could be involved in worship together. She has been a great support to the outreach work of Fossick and Find, our op shop.

We are looking forward to welcoming the Rev David Head as our new priest, believing his ministry will bring us much growth and encouragement.

We are also sad to say goodbye to Lyn. She has been with us for a long time and all of us will recall times when her ministry inspired and encouraged us.

To farewell Lyn, we held a special service followed by a lunch in the church hall. The parish gave her gifts, and a card with many personal messages. The youth group presented her with a trophy for The Best Priest. The young people had planned and bought it themselves. All members of our church family made sure they could come to the farewell lunch. Community members also came to acknowledge her ministry.

We give thanks for her ministry and wish her well for the future.

Continued prayers needed for our South Sudanese friends

*In April this year a delegation from the South Sudan Council of Churches met with a WCC delegation and a representative from the All Africa Conference of Churches to discuss peace in South Sudan. The SSCC has new leadership and has announced its determination to take a leading role in bringing peace to South Sudan.**

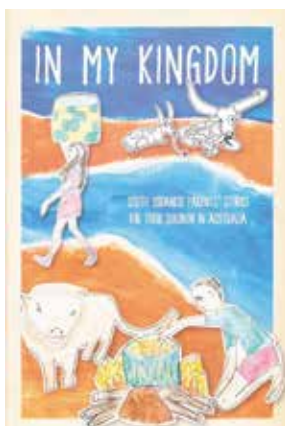
The war in South Sudan, the world's youngest country, began in December 2013 with forces loyal to President Salva Kiir (from the Dinka community) fighting rebels allied with his former deputy, Riek Machar (from the Nuer community).

Prayers and fundraising in Gippsland churches

Mary Nicholls

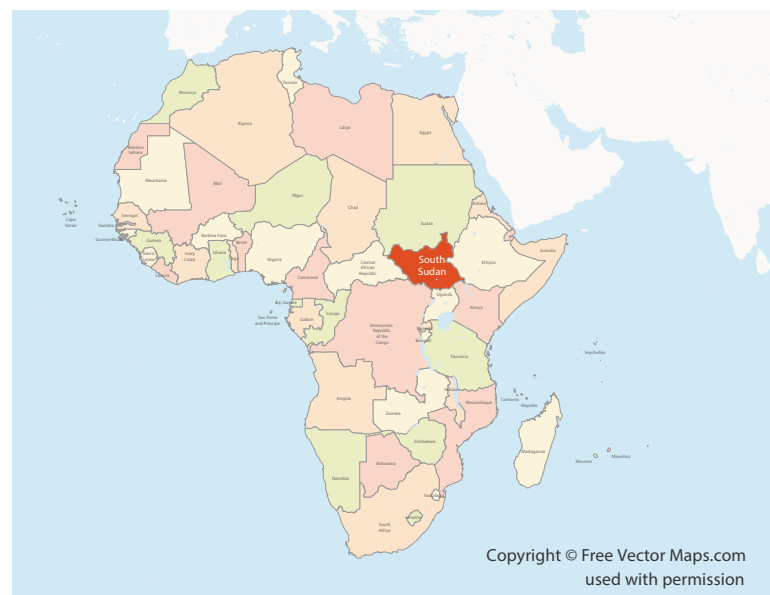
Many of our Gippsland parishes now have members from this war-torn country worshipping amongst us. Cultural crisis in South

Sudan continues to grieve the relatives here, representing both sides of the conflict. Whilst praying and encouraging those in their homeland to find settlement and peace, the practical projects of fundraising in support of the widowed, orphaned and maimed also weighs heavily on our Gippsland South Sudanese families. The BOCEP project heralded first through Abraham Maluk and Abraham Malual works consistently with their committee to raise funds for the BOR Orphanage and Community Education Project. Currently three booklets are available for purchase at \$20.00 each:



Kids' Own Publishing have worked closely with BOCEP in the production of our first book – *Donkeys Can't Fly on Planes* – a collection of real stories written and illustrated by children from the South Sudanese community, detailing their thoughts and feelings as South Sudanese refugee children living in Australia.

In 2014 KO and BOCEP released a second book, *In My Kingdom*, a collection of stories from the adults. These stories, written by the parents, are the stories they want their children to hear.



A third book containing the more sensitive stories of initiation, child birth and cultural practices has recently been released.

Books are available in some parishes where we have South Sudanese families or through the BOCEP Bor Orphanage Website: bocep.org.au.

• [From the Anglican Board of Missions website]

David Head inducted at Morwell

Jan Down

The Rev David Head was inducted and installed as Rector at St Mary's, Morwell, at a well-attended service on Friday 14 August.

Clergy and lay people from Melbourne joined those from across Gippsland travelling considerable distances to join with Morwell parishioners in welcoming their new rector.

Fr David comes to Morwell from the parish of Heyfield, where he has been ministering for the past four years.

Parishioners from Heyfield as well as Hampton and Armadale – parishes earlier in Fr David's ministry – also attended and the church was filled.

Mr David Chambers from Heyfield, commenting on Fr David's time in the parish, said "What I enjoyed most about David's ministry was his openness and friendliness; he always made time to listen to others and provide 'wise counsel'".

The service of induction began with a Welcome to Country from the Rev Kathy Dalton, Associate Priest, Koori Ministry, in the Morwell Parish.

Bishop Kay Goldsworthy inducted and installed Fr David as well as preaching. The

Bishop spoke about the history of Morwell and some of the challenges the community has faced, particularly as industry in the area has changed over time. She said that St Mary's new priest "comes with a wealth of experience", and encouraged the church to be a place of welcome that is "alive with prayer; a community in which God's Word is living and active, where sorrows are allowed and joys celebrated".

In a speech immediately following the service, Mr Russell North MP welcomed Fr David to Morwell on behalf of various levels of government. He said of the

community of Morwell "We are a resilient lot", adding that it is a very diverse community, and that the church plays a vital role.

Sandra Wagner welcomed Fr David on behalf of the parish of Morwell.

Fr David, in his acceptance speech, honoured the past ministries of Archdeacon Heather Marten, who was the previous Rector of Morwell, and the Rev Lyn Williams, who was Senior Associate Priest in the parish and Locum after Heather Marten moved to Bendigo.

Included in Fr David's speech was an acrostic for St Mary's, expressing his hopes for the life of the parish:

M Merriment ("Let's have fun, and enjoy worship and ministry.")

A Ardour

R Rejoicing

Y Youthful vigour ("You can have it without being physically young – by being open to challenge and change")

'S Spiritual growth.

There was hearty applause and the congregation then enjoyed fellowship together over supper.



Photo: Jan Down

The Rev David Head, newly inducted Rector of St Mary's Morwell



L-R Rector's warden, David Chambers, the Rev David Head and Bp Kay Goldsworthy

Hello and goodbye at Heyfield

David Chambers

Sunday 26 July saw a service of welcome and farewell at St James' Heyfield. The parish warmly welcomed Bishop Kay into our midst and at the same time gave thanks for the Rev David Head and his time with us. David came to Heyfield in late 2012 and was tasked by Bp John not only to minister to the folk of Heyfield and Tinamba but also to explore how the Parishes of Maffra, Avon, Rosedale, Sale and Heyfield

could work more closely together.

David's ministry was a careful blend of Heyfield/Tinamba traditions and David's ideas on how things are done. He willingly joined all the activities of the Parish, especially helping with the BBQ at our monthly Community Market. David will be missed by the people of Heyfield and Tinamba and we wish him well in his new role as Rector of Morwell.

Celebrating Sydney Carter

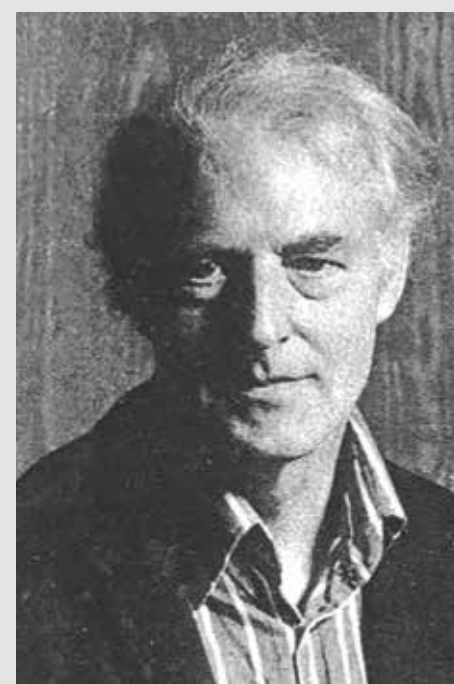
Sunday 27th September at 5pm
Christ Church, Drouin

Ken Parker

Sydney Carter was an amazing writer of folk songs and it is 100 years since he was born. Christ Church Drouin is holding a feast of music and song with a variety of singing and musicians.

You'll know Sydney Carter from some of his songs, like "Lord of the Dance" and "One More Step". In the celebration on 27 September we shall reflect on his life and theology. We shall listen to some of the multitude of songs he wrote and we shall sing others.

He also produced some provocative poetry, so we shall hear a few of his poems as well.



The Rev Ken Parker

The program will last for about an hour and will be followed by refreshments.

The Rev Ken Parker is currently Locum in the Parish of Drouin.

Two Lay Canons installed

David Chambers of Heyfield and Marion Dewar from Leongatha were installed as Lay Canons at St Paul's Cathedral, Sale, on Sunday 19 July.

About 50 people attended the service held at 4.30 in the afternoon. As the Bishop was away, seeing

family in Echuca following the death of her mother, the Dean, the Very Rev Steve Clarke, installed the two new canons. The Rev Canon Amy Turner preached and the Registrar, Brian Norris, was Lay Reader. Ms Turner was also recognised as a Canon Emeritus during the service.

Lay Canons are members of the Greater Chapter of the Cathedral, which looks after the diocesan aspects of the Cathedral's work. The Cathedral Lay Canons belong to the local Chapter which manages parish aspects of Cathedral ministry.

Photo: Trevor Balm



New Lay Canons David Chambers, far left and Marion Dewar, far right, with the Dean of St Paul's Cathedral, the Venerable Steve Clarke and the Rev Canon Amy Turner

Registry Office news



In July we farewelled Bronwyn Barbetti, PA to the Bishop since 2013, and Bishop Kay welcomed Kellie Harris as her new PA and Administrative Assistant. Kellie has come to Sale from Shepparton where she worked in an office of a similar size to the Registry. She has settled in very quickly to her new role and is currently working three days a week. Please make yourself known to her and welcome her to the Diocese when you are next calling or coming in to the office.

Autism Awareness Day
sharing, learning, belonging
@ St John's Ph: 5152 3133 f: SJF
Saturday October 10th, 2015



Autism Expo of resources and services from 10 am – 5 pm

Workshops, PD-certified, led by autism specialists from Scope:

Workshop 1 Using and designing visual aids for people with ASD 10:30–1pm.

Workshop 2 Self-regulation for children with ASD 2pm – 3pm.

Workshop 3 Social skills training for teens and adults with ASD 3:30 – 4:30 pm.

More details available from St John's, Bairnsdale: 5152 3133.

A-frame turns 50:

Grand Celebration
High Tea
14 November

In honour of the A-frame at The Abbey on Raymond Island turning 50, a special Celebration High Tea will be held at 2:00 pm on Saturday 14 November.

This will be a time of remembering the last 50 years and looking forward to the future.

We are calling on all people who have been involved to come along and celebrate together.

RSVP to: 5156 6850 or info@theabbey.org.au



Colouring calm

Finding Parish Council meetings stressful?! You could try taking a box of coloured pencils and an adult colouring book along. People who have tried colouring at meetings say it aids concentration while keeping you calm.

Adult colouring books have taken off around the world, following the popularity of Johanna Basford's *Secret Garden*. Now there are books on many themes, such as plants or animals, cities or Celtic designs.

Book sellers say that both men and women are colouring, though they sell more books to women. One psychologist buys the books for her waiting room instead of magazines.

Now a book of Bible verses and illustrations is about to come out. Lorien Atwood, who created *Meditations*, says the book came about because of a friend's suggestion that she take what she had been doing in her devotional journal for years and add colouring designs around the edge.

Her Facebook group, "Colouring In Truth" grew from 20 members to over 3000 in about two months.

Meditations, published by Firewheel Press will be available from Christian bookstores from 1 October, or from the website: www.lorien-illustrations.com/.

And yes, you can colour the heading above! Maybe you could take it to your next meeting?



OFFICE OF THE | Director of
Professional Standards

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.

The Director of Professional Standards, Cheryl Russell, is available, and will maintain confidentiality, on telephone 03 5633 1573, on mobile 0407 563313, or email cherylrussell1@bigpond.com



The youth group at Korumburra enjoyed making and flying paper planes

Youth group flying

Lyn Gilbert
Korumburra

The youth group at St. Paul's, Korumburra Parish, recently had a paper plane competition after watching the movie *Paper Planes*.

Peter, one of the men from our congregation, came along as the "American judge", dressed for the occasion in sunglasses and flamboyant bow tie.

The winner was to be the best of five fly-offs, launching the planes the length of the parish hall. In the last heat

the challenge was to make the paper plane in 90 seconds and then fly it.

The whole event was a lot of fun for everyone involved, with some good aerodynamic planes constructed.



The youth group was also overjoyed to receive a gift of a pool table on 12th August. It was the centre of activity for that night. There was a lot of peer teaching as they formed teams and enjoyed the challenge of potting balls.

Finally a Facelift!

Tom Killingbeck
Tambo

St Mary's Church in Buchan is finally getting a facelift!

For the past two years, the congregation at St Mary's, a combined Uniting and Anglican congregation in the Parish of Tambo, has been campaigning simply to get the small church building repainted.

Whilst the church itself has grown stronger, with a change to a Café Church service every two months, and a Uniting Church service on the alternate months, the building has sat peeling and sad for that time.

The first obstacle was raising the funds which, thanks to the efforts of the community, happened at the start of 2014 with a Cattle Cutting event held at the Buchan Rodeo grounds. This event raised over \$9,000 for painting the church. Combined with funds held in trust with the Diocese, this was sufficient to pay whoever came to undertake the work.

This, however, led to the second problem: who would actually undertake the work? After several setbacks, lasting over a year, including one prospective painter retiring from painting after surviving a heart-attack, finally a painter was found. Exciting times!

Once the painting quote was accepted by the Parish Council, it was full steam ahead, with the lovely building getting a beautiful new shine inside and out.

Additionally, a new organ was 'discovered' by a member of the congregation.



With these two amazing tidings, the congregation would like to thoroughly thank the community at Buchan for their support of the church. It's been a long road, and we're so glad we're able to finally show off the wonderful work the support has accomplished.



St Mary's Anglican Church, Buchan

The Buchan community has been through a number of trials, including bush fires and the loss of its beloved and historical pub.

For 15 November this year, the congregation has started planning a service that will celebrate God's provision, through the community's involvement, of this new chapter in the life of the church in Buchan. All are welcome for a lunch and for the service afterwards!

God is doing marvellous things at St Mary's, the least of which is a fresh coat of paint and a facelift. Come and join them on the third Sunday of the month.

The Rev Tom Killingbeck is Rector in the Parish of Tambo.

Host a Voices for Justice Prayer Vigil

"Advocacy can be defined as speaking to the powerful on behalf of the powerless. Never is this more true than when we speak to our powerful God who hears and invites us to bring our requests to Him. Prayer as advocacy is an invitation to pray that His will be done." (micahchallenge.org.au)

Micah Challenge is calling on churches to host prayer vigils on 12 October, to join with participants at the *Voices for Justice* advocacy event in Canberra as they hold a night-time prayer vigil on Parliament House lawns.

All registered groups participating in the prayer vigil will receive resources for the event, which include set readings and prayers for the church, our nation, our leaders and our world, put together by various agencies within the Micah Challenge Coalition.

Voices for Justice is an annual Micah Challenge event providing teaching and training in advocacy as well as the opportunity to meet MPs. For more information or to register a prayer vigil, go to: micahchallenge.org.au

For 10 years, Micah Challenge has been a global movement of aid and development agencies, churches, schools, groups and individual Christians who support the Millennium Development Goals to halve global poverty by 2015.



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St Paul's students and Traralgon campus teacher Ms Kirsten Enders with East Timorese children



It was a truly amazing opportunity to be taken to a country that is so different from my day to day experience. Being immersed in a culture that is so friendly and welcoming allowed me to reflect on my own life.

JOSH MONAGHAN, YEAR 10,
TRARALGON CAMPUS.

Being able to visit East Timor has allowed me to see a world with such beautiful people that I didn't even know existed. Everyone was so grateful for even the simplest things.

MAGGIE HAMILTON, YEAR 10
WARRAGUL CAMPUS.

I now appreciate education a lot more since going to East Timor, as well as my family. The trip has really put in perspective what is important.

SALLY McLEAN, YEAR 11
WARRAGUL CAMPUS.

The message I took away from this trip is that money doesn't necessarily equal happiness. I think that as Australians we need to focus on the good things in life and acknowledge the bad but not let it take over our lives

ANNA NOWOTNY, YEAR 10
WARRAGUL CAMPUS.

It has meant everything. It has changed my perspective on life and given me great insight into the lives of others. I've also made some of the best friendships and memories of a lifetime.

CAITLIN L'HOTELLIER, YEAR 10
WARRAGUL CAMPUS.

I have gained so much from this trip. I feel like even though I was very appreciative of the things I have, this experience has, in a way, intensified my appreciation.

GRACE METSELAAR, YEAR 11
WARRAGUL CAMPUS.

East Timor trip develops new appreciation

A group of St Paul's Anglican Grammar students has recently returned from a service tour of the Ermera district of East Timor.

The students spent time visiting community centres and schools, helping in classrooms and playing sports such as soccer, frisbee and AFL football with local children.

They had the opportunity to visit a Secondary School in Ponilala which the Friends of Ermera

group had donated funds to for construction. They also met a group of university students from Ponilala who are now studying at universities in Dili with support from St Paul's.

The students visited Balibo where five journalists were killed in 1975 and also shopped for goods from locals. These goods will be used for a fair trade stall to raise further funds for the Ermera region.

Some comments from the students:

Having the opportunity to visit East Timor has been incredible for me. It is a lifetime experience that has meant so much. I have really been encouraged to think about my lifestyle and I have been challenged in many ways. I have learnt to prioritise happiness, selflessness and love in my life.

ROCHELLE RAJASINGHAM, YEAR 11,
WARRAGUL CAMPUS.

Students pay tribute to Hiroshima victims

As tens of thousands of people gathered in Hiroshima, Japan, to mark 70 years since the city was destroyed by the world's first atomic bomb, Gippsland Grammar students also paused to pay tribute to the victims and survivors.

On August 6, 1945, during World War Two, an American bomber dropped an atomic bomb over Hiroshima, immediately killing 70,000 people and destroying 90 percent of the city's buildings. It is estimated at least another 70,000 died later of radiation exposure.

In Japan on Thursday 6th August this year, the city fell silent to remember and doves were released into the skies.

Gippsland Grammar teacher of Japanese, Jan Chalmer, explained that the local school has a strong relationship with Japan and studied Japanese from pre-prep at its junior campuses and as one of the languages offered throughout senior years.

"Gippsland Grammar boasts an amazing relationship with Japan through our sister-school Hikarigaoka Girls' High School and students feel a strong connection with

these students and their country. Learning and appreciating the country's history is important", she said.

"In most of our classes this week we have taken time to reflect, remembering the enormity of what happened 70 years ago in Hiroshima and discussing how the city now focusses on peace."

Students made white paper doves and some learned how to fold origami cranes. The paper cranes will be sent to Japan, and placed in the Hiroshima Peace Park as a sign of peace.

Each year Gippsland Grammar hosts a class of Year 11 students from Hikarigaoka Girls' High School. Eighteen Japanese students have been living with Gippsland Grammar school families for nearly three weeks now, totally immersing themselves in our Australian culture.



Gippsland Grammar Year 6 students Charlie Caddy and Elana Krcevinac with their paper cranes, a symbol of peace, which will be placed in Japan's Hiroshima Peace Park.

A time for spiritual renewal

Barb Logan

There is a contemplative in all of us, almost strangled but still alive, who craves quiet enjoyment of the Now, and longs to touch the seamless garment of silence which makes whole." Alan P. Tory

Our world is full of noise and distraction. Radio and television bombard us with information and entertainment, the internet, social media and mobile devices ensure we are never alone or uncontactable. This can be great but as we are always listening, talking, writing, sharing – rarely are we fully alive to this present moment. We are constantly thinking ahead to what is next or chewing over what has been.

"And when he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray." (Matt 14.23)

Jesus was surrounded by the crowds, eager to hear his words, struggling to get close enough to bring him their sick – even breaking through the roof to get to him! Often Jesus and his disciples were so beset they didn't even have time to eat. Jesus knew "busyness" but he also knew he needed time alone, to sit with God in silence, and to pray. No matter how important his ministry was, he needed these times of nourishment and the recovery of balance in body, mind and spirit.

We need this too! To go on Retreat is to step outside the "busyness". To go on Retreat is to become aware of being in this present moment – of creation all

around us, the wind in the trees, the lapping of waves on the beach – of the beating of our own hearts and our very breath. Aware our very existence and the existence of all creation are held in God's hands. In the silence we find ourselves enveloped in God's love. Our spirits renewed!

Retreat helps us to reset our perspectives and hear the quiet voice of God in our lives, calling each one of us by name. This time away helps us to recover our balance.

Our Diocesan Retreat will be held from 23-24 October. I invite you to come and take some time away.

It is a difficult lesson to learn today, to leave one's friends and family and deliberately practise the art of solitude for an hour or a day or a week. For me, the break is most difficult...

And yet, once it is done, I find there is a quality to being alone that is incredibly precious.

Life rushes back into the void, richer, more vivid, fuller than before!

ANNE MORROW LINDBERGH

The Rev Barb Logan is Rector at Lakes Entrance and Metung



"And when he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray."



Weather wasn't going to stop the Traffic School fun (lending a hand).

Kidsplus+

What comes after playgroup?

Many of our diocesan parishes are enjoying most successful playgroup ministries through MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers), Kidsplus+, mainly music and other models. No doubt, come December, as the group parties are held, many of us will hear the question, "Can I come back to playgroup next year?" "Sorry young five year-old, you have great things in store for you at school, not playgroup." Are our parishes prepared and able to do better than that to nurture that enthusiasm?

If your parish is currently without a primary aged children's ministry, let's plan now. Can we have a vision to provide a ministry to continue supporting these children within our church family? Yes, leaders will need to be found, but many parents were prepared to support the pre-school ministries; they may well help out as their children move through the age brackets. A guide or mentor is possibly all they need.

Resources are available to help, encourage or discuss issues of establishing ministries. GFS Kidsplus+ can be at your door step. Please feel free to contact us, as possible providers of support. Our advice would be for those starting out, be prepared to start small, perhaps with that one child who asked the question.

Offer programs that your team can easily cope with until experience, confidence in some cases, ability and local

knowledge, makes expansion possible. After all, our pre-school graduates don't need to be overwhelmed by grade four or five children yet. A small group of preps and grade ones would be wonderful, if your teams are small.

Ministry models across the diocese are diverse, and so they should be, as we minister to unique local needs. We still have three to four months to determine how we might answer those enthusiastic playgroup graduates. Let's be ready!

Diocesan Family Traffic School Day

The Kidsplus+ Network will again be sponsoring a family afternoon at Morwell's Community Traffic School on Sunday 22nd November from 3.00 pm to 5.00 pm. A sausage sizzle tea is provided along with some extra games equipment.

These afternoons in the past have been well attended by families from existing church children's ministries, Kidsplus+, mainly music and playgroups. The excellent facilities enable participants to bring their own wheeled vehicles while the Kidsplus+ equipment trailer can offer some spare bikes for those travelling greater distances.

Do consider joining us this year with families or grandchildren. Flyers will be in parishes soon. RSVPs are not essential; however numbers from larger groups will help our planning for catering.

Why not consider the afternoon as a special end of year group activity? The Kidsplus+ Network uses funds from our affiliated parishes and the diocesan Bishop in Council trust fund allocations for events such as this.

DIOCESAN RETREAT

A time for Spiritual Renewal

Friday evening 23 October to Saturday afternoon 24 October at The Abbey, Raymond Island.

Retreat Conductor Bishop Kay Goldsworthy

For bookings or further information contact Anna at The Abbey, 5156 6580 or info@theabbey.org.au

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Are Anglicans charismatic?

Sathi Anthony

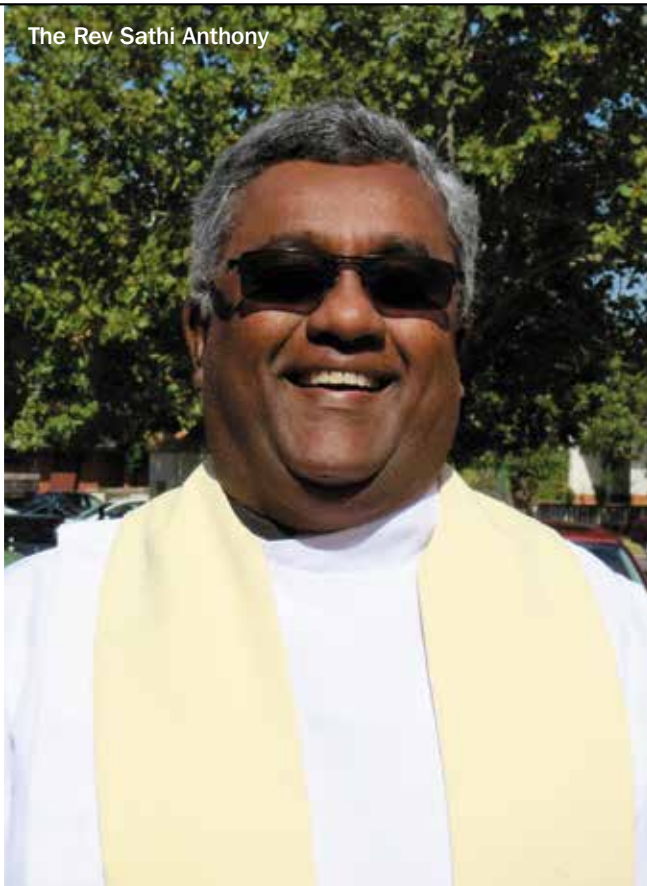
On a particular Sunday in Sri Lanka my sermon presentation was different, without much reference to my usual notes. Though I had my notes it was quite extemporaneous because the subject matter was something close to my heart. I was therefore seen to be more animated than other Sundays, with my arms wigwagging in every possible direction! After the service one comment was, "Oh oh oh, today Fr Sathi spoke by the power of the Holy Spirit!"

It was a wake-up call for me. I was quite furious at the misguided perception people hold about the Holy Spirit! It goes hand-in-hand with the word "charismatic" echoing a similar erroneous understanding. What about the sermon presentations on other Sundays? And why only sermons?

Church leaders too refer to some congregations as "traditional" and some others as "charismatic"! And that some liturgies are "traditional" and some are "charismatic". Or the first service on a Sunday is "more traditional" and the next one is "more charismatic". Why isn't Anglo-Catholic worship appreciated as charismatic?

It seems there is confusion about the terminology. The English language definition of charismatic

The Rev Sathi Anthony



as that of being magnetic, dramatic or effervescent is not the *theological* meaning of the church. An Anglican youth leader in Australia once conveyed that the ritualistic liturgies in some of our cathedrals are "not charismatic"! The assumption is that any form of Christian presentation lacks or is devoid of the Holy Spirit unless it is akin to the post-match euphoria of a winning AFL team. If that be the case, every confirmation candidate should be catapulting from their reverent posture and hopping around soon after the bishop's prayer, "Strengthen, Lord, your servant, with your Holy Spirit".

"Today I felt the presence of the Holy Spirit" is another one liner. Confining the "presence of the Holy Spirit" to a pleasant or ecstatic sensorial emotive experience as either a collective or personal phenomenon is one of the inaccuracies of Christian authentications. A divorce from such validation is urgently needed in order to liberate and value life experiences that are not necessarily pleasant or ecstatic.

Christian theology clearly defines the Holy Spirit as the third person of the God-head. The irrefutable transcendence of the God-head cannot be trivialised as just a *worship experience*. The Spirit that was in the beginning

bringing order from chaos is the same Spirit that used the prophets, and infused and consumed the Jesus story with Spirit language ("born of the Spirit", "sent by the Spirit" etc.) in order to bring order out of chaos outside the perimeters of prayer meetings and liturgies.

"To transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind, and pursue peace and reconciliation" is also the work of the Holy Spirit. But we rarely hear these activities defined as charismatic activities or charismatic ministries!

Holy Spirit language has to be intelligently applied in order to offer the transcendent reverence that God deserves and validate the life-transforming and life-sustaining ministries in the world that the church is called to engage in.

Being charismatic in the biblical sense has less to do with dance and drama alone. But certainly it has more to do with God's mission in an imperfect world.

The Rev Sathi Anthony is Rector of Moe and Newborough parishes.

EDITORIAL

Peacemaking is not passive

Jesus said "Blessed are the peacemakers", but what is a peacemaker?

Elias Chacour is the former Archbishop of Akko, Haifa, Nazareth and All Galilee, in the Melkite Greek Catholic Church, and a Palestinian by birth. He has spent decades working for reconciliation between Palestinians and Israelis. He tells in his first book, *Blood Brothers*, how he came to the realisation that peacemaking is active work. It is not "keeping the peace" by being passive and silent. It is risky. It requires courage. It is often very hard work. It requires skill.

The Dean, Steve Clarke reminded us in last month's TGA that conflict is normal and can be "profoundly productive". Yet we tend to avoid it, because it is risky and frightening. We don't want to hurt or be hurt. And we don't know how to go about it in a constructive way. So we "hold our peace". Which can mean we hold back on peacemaking!

But shoving things under the carpet can lead eventually to volcanic eruptions, or bogs. It can keep relationships and churches stuck.

What is true of relationships in families and churches is true at the national and international levels too. Think Australia's immigration policies, reconciliation with Indigenous people; or Israel and Palestine, South Sudan, Syria, and many others countries.

Roger Fisher writes in the preface to *Difficult Conversations* of how he returned from World War II to discover that a room mate, two of his closest friends and dozens of classmates had been killed in the war. He says "Ever since, I have worked to improve the skills with which we deal with our differences".

The book is written by his younger colleagues at the Harvard Negotiation Project: Douglas Stone, Bruce Patton and Sheila Heen. It is an easy read, though it might take a life-time to learn the art of having the difficult conversations we need to have. But it holds out hope because it does teach skills that can make a difference.

Jesus was a peacemaker who did not avoid conflict. It cost him, and it will cost us. May we find the courage to follow him all the way.



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'.

CORRESPONDENCE

Booing Adam Goodes: Racism or retribution?

The debate surrounding the sustained booing of Adam Goodes is revealing. It has been justified on one or all of the following grounds:

he's a sook; he plays for frees; he bullied a poor innocent 13 year old girl; he overdid the racism lectures as Australian of the Year; if the booing is racist why aren't the other Aboriginal players getting it?

Not one of these justifications stand up to scrutiny.

He's a sook? I watched the booing and I was frightened by it. If I'd been Adam Goodes I would have felt remarkably like the Christian confronting the lions. It was scary. It was irrational and it reminded me of human ugliness at its worst.

Plays for frees? Which footballer doesn't?

Bullied the poor little 13 year old? When he pointed to the source of the abusive racist comment it was immediate and spontaneous. When he found out that she was 13 he pleaded that she be left alone and even went to the trouble of speaking with her about it. Her now indignant and apparently forgetful parent might wonder who is to blame for the language she uses.



He overplayed racism as Australian of the Year? A media commentator suggested that if Adam had been better prepped to take on this role he

would not have overplayed racism. I am astonished. He was given this honour because of his work for reconciliation and now people want him not to mention racism? How many of them have come out in indignation against the wonderful Rosie Batty for speaking up so strongly against domestic violence?

A fellow AFL supporter suggested to me that booing at matches is standard practice and not a demonstration of racism. Standard it might be but hardly commendable.

There is something anonymous and cowardly and less than rational about booing from the safety of a mindless crowd. The booing against Adam Goodes was low, sustained and eerily threatening. Let's just name racism for what it is. Adam Goodes has done so and that's what makes so many people uncomfortable and defensive. As other Aboriginal players take on the mantle of role model as strongly as Adam has done, they too will become victims.

Sue Fordham, Paynesville

Synod motions should reflect diversity

As the person who moved the motion to "move to the next item of business" at the recent Synod I feel I should explain my reasons, which under Synod rules, I could not do at that time.

Kim Easton's motion was, as Gordon Douthwaite noted [TGA July], poorly written and in its original form, unusable. We felt that such drastic rewriting was needed that the limited time prevented that task from being completed.

I deliberately waited until Kim had finished before putting the motion. If I had really wanted to stop all mention of the topic I would have stood up at the beginning.

There is a time and place for all sorts of topics in and out of Synod. Many difficult topics have been raised; indeed I first attended Synod in the days of debate about women's ordination.

We are a diocese in which you will

find quite a range of churchmanship (sorry, I don't know a gender neutral term) and equally diverse opinion on the full gambit of issues. Motions that come before Synod should be written in such a way as to reflect our diversity and not just push one or another extreme.

If anyone wishes to bring a motion to be debated at Synod they can be submitted any time after the Synod reps have been elected. I, personally, believe that it is disrespectful to only submit controversial items whilst Synod is in session. It prevents reps from asking their congregations what they think about the item. (We are representing our parishes, aren't we?)

Finally I would encourage all of us to discuss all topics, in Synod, church or elsewhere, with love as our overriding foundation. We are an Agape people are we not?

David Miller, Yarram

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Saturday 5:00 pm – repeated: Wednesday 1:00 pm

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The Spirit of Things

Sunday 6:00 pm – repeated: Tuesday 1:00 pm

www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/spiritofthings

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Kath Grandy

Jan Down

Kath Grandy had always loved books, so when an opportunity came up to work in the library at the Lakes Entrance Secondary college, she jumped at it. Kath then worked as a Library Technician for the next 20 years.

"I loved the library work, because it was always a place of communication", Kath says.

Most people at the school knew she was a Christian and went to church. Staff and students would come in and talk to her, and she would keep the library open during lunch times. The students found it a welcoming place to sit, and Kath enjoyed recommending books for them to read. Staff found a listening ear in Kath, when they needed someone to talk things over with. She was Union Rep at the school too.

As well as books, Kath loved technology and was always learning about the latest developments, as there were many changes in the time she was there. She liked to tape programs from TV that might be suitable for English and humanities classes, and give the video tapes to teachers to use in lessons. She especially enjoyed assisting students and staff with any difficulties they had with new technology.

With a team of students, Kath produced the school magazine, using different programs and techniques over the years. She says "It was very rewarding working with the students and getting to know them individually. It was a real team effort which gave a great sense of achievement when they had the published magazine in their hands".

Early in her employment Kath helped organise Christian seminars at the school, which were held during school hours and led by the local minister. As Kath points out, such a thing would not be possible today.

Kath also started a lunch-time youth group at the school, assisted by the minister. There would be a very brief message, but it was mainly about games and activities. However, the students knew that it came out of a Christian context.

Outreach was, and is, important to Kath. She feels that in churches, it sometimes gets forgotten. "Work was my 'outside'", she says; a place of outreach. "I've always felt that



God gave me a gift of being able to communicate with others", and this gift was used in many ways in her library work. "When people know you're a Christian, they do come to you". She had a strong sense of being where she was meant to be.

"I loved the library work, because it was always a place of communication"

As a child, Kath was taken to the Catholic Church and attended a Catholic school in Bairnsdale, though her parents were not practising Catholics themselves. Her grandparents were more of an influence in terms of faith development; however her parents were always supportive.

From childhood, Kath had a strong sense of God's presence – hers is what she calls "a feeling faith". It is not so much a set of beliefs or religious practice as an awareness of God, and denomination is not the important thing for her.

Kath's husband Ken was a Methodist, so before they were married, they tried alternating between their churches, but this did not work so well. They were living in Melbourne at the time, when a friend suggested trying the Church of England (as it was then) and this proved a good solution. They were married at the Anglican Church of St. Nicholas in Lakes Entrance and have worshipped there for over 40 years.

An important influence on both of them was the Cursillo movement. Kath says for her "It really confirmed my faith and taught me a lot about apostolic action – putting your faith to work". This meant having compassion, and being aware of what's

happening in the world, such as what is going on with refugees, and then doing what you can to improve things.

Having retired three years ago, Kath is still involved in a book club and a sewing group that both meet at the school. From the middle of last year, she has also been coordinating a *mainly music* group at the church, which she really loves. "Just seeing the kids change. It's just such a joy".

Parents come along with their children aged from babies to pre-schoolers and the actual music side of the program is run by the music teacher from the secondary college. Kath fills in when the teacher is unavailable and is supported by a number of parishioners.

After the music program, there is morning tea and a chat with the parents while the children play. Kath sees it as outreach, as the families who come along to *mainly music* are not church people. She feels quite strongly it is important to be involved in the community – to be part of the community in fact – not just part of the church.

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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.

September

- 10, 11, 12 10:00 am – 4:00 pm Daffodil Festival, St Peter's Anglican Church, Leongatha
- 12 9.30 am – 4 pm Safe Church Workshop at the Anglican Church, Traralgon
- 12 Kidsplus+ Fundraising BBQ at Morwell Bunnings
- 15 10:00 am Mothers Union AGM at Traralgon
- 20 Proposed Adult Friends of GFS Kidsplus+ visit to Coal Creek Korumburra. Enquiries to Lauren Kitwood.
- 28 – 1 Oct MU Annual Family Retreat at The Abbey on Raymond Island

October

- 10 8.30 am – 1 pm Clifton Waters Village Annual Fair, Clifton Waters Village, Bairnsdale (please note corrected date) Enquiries 5152 4905
- 10 10.30 am Order of St Luke Rally at "Allansfield", Rhyll, Phillip Island: Celebrating 25 years and Dedication of Indoor Chapel
- 31 11.00 am GFS Kidsplus+ Thanksgiving Service, St James' Traralgon, followed by lunch at the Italian Club, Morwell at 12 noon. RSVP Carol Johnstone 5174 8445 by Oct 20.

November

- 5 11.00 am – 3:00 pm Gippsland MU Quiet Day at Bishops court
- 7 9.30 am – 3 pm Bunyip Flower Show, Bunyip Public Hall, Main Street Bunyip. Stalls and refreshments available.
- 14 2:00 pm Grand Celebration High Tea in honour of The Abbey turning 50. RSVP: 5156 6850 or info@theabbey.org.au
- 14 3:00 pm GFS Kidsplus+ Annual Meeting: 4 Daniel Crt Traralgon. Bring and share tea to follow.
- 22 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm Diocesan Kidsplus+ Family Traffic School afternoon, Morwell

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.

Barry & Annette Lett
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