

The Gippsland Anglican

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New Dean for St Paul's Cathedral, Sale

Philip Muston and Jan Down

The Reverend Canon Susanna Pain will be installed as the new Dean of St Paul's Cathedral, Sale, on 3 September at 11:00 am.

Ms Pain is currently based in Canberra with The Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture, Charles Sturt University, as Associate Director, Liturgy, The Arts and Spiritual Care. Previously she was rector of Holy Covenant parish, Jamison, and Archdeacon of North Canberra.

Susanna said she is excited about moving to Sale and getting to know the town and the diocese. She has a connection with the Diocese in that her great grandfather, Bishop Arthur Pain, was the first Bishop of Gippsland, from 1902–17.

Susanna has also visited Gippsland to lead a retreat, speak at a clergy conference and run creative workshops, including one in Warragul last year. She preached at the ordination of the first woman priest in Gippsland and opened the new deanery in Annie Pain Hall.

Susanna says she enjoys creating space for others to play and to grow through her work as priest, spiritual director, professional supervisor, retreat leader, interplay facilitator, and leader of Christian Meditation and contemplative quiet days.

Her first degrees were in Science and Social Work. After working for six years in social work, she sensed that ordained ministry would give a greater fullness to the work she was doing – “bringing prayer and ritual into the conversation”. She studied Theology in Canberra and was ordained Deacon in Canberra in 1989, and priest in Adelaide in 1992.

Susanna, who is 58, has spent 24 years as a parish priest in rural and suburban Australia, as well as time as industrial chaplain and University chaplain. At Jamison she was active in community development, employing a Holistic Care Nurse, Youth Worker, and Children's Worker, and setting up a Day Hospice.

In her current role she has been responsible for creating public ecumenical and interfaith ritual for significant occasions, as well as organising Arts events, and running creative workshops, meditation and prayer. This, alongside her work in spiritual direction, supervision and leading retreats, helped make her an excellent candidate for the role of Dean.

Susanna has a keen interest in the visual arts as well dance, story-telling and music. She said “The arts can take you beyond words and open you up to life and to God. It opens broader discussions”, including with people of other faiths and beyond and “offers a different language for dialogue.” Among the things she looks forward to about coming to Sale is the possibility of collaborating with the Gippsland Art Gallery.

Susanna says she is passionate about Jesus as the one who said: “I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly”, and that all her work is undergirded by prayer. “I invite inclusiveness, grace, beauty and fun, as well as silence,” she says.

She is married to Nikolai Blaskow, who is also an ordained Anglican Priest, working as Chaplain and Head of Religious and Values Education at Radford College in Canberra where he leads a Philosophy Club and Christian Group, as well as a Film and Theology Discussion.

Nikolai, who is the father of two daughters including singer Sarah Blaskow, has recently embarked on PhD studies through the University of Bangor, Wales, and is also enthusiastic about coming to Sale. His ministry focus is with young people and he looks forward to finding ways to serve in Sale.

In her spare time Susanna loves walking in the bush, reading, sharing meals with friends, theatre, film and dancing, as well as playing with cat Jacque and grandchildren Izzy, Reuben, Isaac and Jerry. Three of the grandchildren are in Canberra, while one is in Sydney.



The Reverend Canon Susanna Pain

CANCER COUNCIL AUSTRALIA BIGGEST AFTERNOON TEA – INVERLOCH

The Inverloch Anglican Church of Ascension Ladies Guild hosted the annual ecumenical Cancer Council Australia fund raising event on Tuesday 31 May.

This year's theme was “Pretty Cups and Silly Hats”. Fifty-five people attended including representatives from the various local churches within Inverloch and Wonthaggi.



Photo: Peter Hudson

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Have you noticed how often the Bible speaks of the power of God's love to totally transform people? The gospel stories of Jesus' teaching, healing, forgiving bring incredible change

New Life is the phrase that's often used, and with good reason. Every person who has a story to tell of their conversion is telling the story of New Life.

New Life in Christ. New Life which we know in and through Jesus Christ. Forgiveness, hope, a future, and all because of the relationship of grace which is ours in the faith of Christ.

Is it any wonder that people like me keep on talking about our place in that mission – helping others to know the Lord's great love and find their home within its embrace?

Mission forms part of every conversation I have with members of parishes, schools, and all those places in which chaplains exercise their ministry. Mission is on our minds. Mission is in our hearts. Every follower of Jesus, every Christian, has a part to play in proclaiming the Good News of God in Jesus Christ.

Mission is our vocation. Telling the good news, sharing how God's love has been poured into our hearts, learning the language of praise and thanksgiving, and living this day by day in word and deed.

The Vision of the Diocesan Mission Plan 2013-2017 is described in this way, "Growing in Christ, into the fullness of human life and inviting others to go with us on the journey".

Last month, the Senior Staff group met over two days and began looking intentionally at how the Diocesan Mission



Bishop Kay Goldsworthy

Mission on our minds

strategy "Jesus Christ here and now for Gippsland" has been lived since 2013. In September and October there will be opportunity for people to meet in Deaneries to both look back on how this plan has been enacted in your parish, as well as focus on what needs more attention and greater emphasis going forward.

Like most plans, this one probably won't need a complete overhaul, but it will need more prayerful consideration, and time for people to reconsider what needs to be let go, what doesn't work anymore, what needs some reshaping, and what hasn't yet been considered.

Of course some will think that they give to Mission financially so that the word of God can be proclaimed by missionaries somewhere overseas. Some will think that they are already doing their bit because they support the Anglican Board of Mission community aid worker in PNG, or the Solomon Islands, or Anglicare's Winter Appeal for people much closer to home who are doing it tough.

Giving money is one part of mission. It keeps local parishes going. It keeps our local churches open to the wider community. It helps us run programs like *mainly music* and other kids' groups.

Money is necessary and important, but real mission

requires more. It asks for changed attitudes and perspectives on our place and role in the life of the local community.

So the matters that Gippsland Anglicans will be invited to reflect on together in the coming months will include questions like – how have you and your community been changed as you have listened to God in prayer? how have you heard God speaking to our times as you have read and studied the scriptures together? what do you hear as you live into your God-given place in creation, attempting to follow where the Spirit seems to be leading you?

There will be time for parish communities to tell their story of how they have adopted new ways to engage with people in their communities, stood with those who are disempowered, worked together for justice, peace and reconciliation, and found ways to provide opportunities for people to respond in faith to Jesus Christ.

We will be able to learn of other's little steps and celebrate them and also big strides as communities and individuals have found new ways to welcome people of all ages and backgrounds; shared their lives in God's love; brought and welcomed new vitality to common worship; been sacrificial and generous in giving and in relationships; and managed resources responsibly and wisely as partners in God's mission.

I hope you are able to take your part in looking back, in giving thanks for all God is doing with us, and coming on the journey as we keep on walking together into the full light of God's new day.

+Kay

The Gippsland Anglican

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Post Hazelwood: after the fire, beyond coal

Jan Down

Community groups and government are working hard to create a flourishing future for Morwell and the whole Latrobe Valley, with improved health and new employment prospects.

The second inquiry into the Hazelwood coal mine fire of February-March 2014, released in April this year, found that it was likely the fire contributed to increased deaths in the Latrobe Valley in 2014. An extensive health study of the region is on-going.

In response, the Victorian government has committed \$27.3 million towards establishing a Latrobe Valley Health Zone, and will also adopt the 32 recommendations of the inquiry.

Area Manager of Anglicare Gippsland, Ms Jane Anderson, commented “The community is in a better place because of the inquiry”. She explained that people feel heard and there has been a rebuilding of trust in the government, in response to the concrete recommendations and the significant investment of funds to establish the Health Zone.

Mr John Guy, a parishioner at St Mary’s Morwell who chairs a community group, Advance Morwell, also said the majority of people are happy with the inquiry findings, and many people now want to move on.

After the fire

The second inquiry into the fire, which came very close to



Photo: John Guy

Morwell Centenary Rose Garden in the centre of the town

Morwell and burned for over a month, spreading smoke and ash over much of the town, was established after strong community protest about the inadequacy of the first inquiry.

At the time of the fire, Archdeacon Heather Marten, then Rector of Morwell, led the Victorian Council of Churches emergency response team. She and the Rev’d Lyn Williams, then assistant priest in the parish, visited many homes to check on parishioners, and assisted at the relief centre in Traralgon.

The Rev’d David Head, Rector of Morwell since August 2015, said that several parishioners had had significant levels of dust and soot in their homes following the fire, and had to have their houses cleaned, but there was no further issue for them.

Since he has moved to Morwell, he has developed breathing problems (a “pre-asthmatic condition”) he has never experienced before, and which his doctor thinks

may be linked to the air quality of the town.

Working hard for a different future

Advance Morwell is one of a number of groups (including CBD traders and Latrobe City Council) currently involved in a project of beautification works for the town, as part of the Future Morwell Urban Design Revitalisation Plan.

The funding for this project came through the former Coalition State Government’s \$1.4 million economic development package. RMIT has been contracted by Council to assist with plans, and a project proposal was due to be presented to Council on 27 June.

Looking to the future, Mr Guy observed that the closure of brown coal power stations is inevitable and that banks and super funds are moving away from investment in coal. “We need to start now to transition away from brown coal power generation to other jobs that can provide employment across the Latrobe Valley.”

Ms Wendy Farmer, President of another community group, Voices of the Valley (established in response to the fire) said the fire finding “brought out the truth”. She added, “The community can now address the issues and move to a just transition to a new economy”. Ms Farmer said that the privatisation of the electricity industry in the 1990s had been very destructive for the community, and that as a result, people are afraid of moving away from coal. “People need to be given hope. Something to move towards, not just away from,” she continued, stressing the need for both hope and jobs.

Voices of the Valley is currently working on a State Energy Innovation Centre, which will encourage people to learn skills related to renewable energies. They have received a \$10 000 grant for this work, through the VicHealth Community Challenge.

The Latrobe City Council’s recently released Economic

Development Strategy includes ways to attract investment in coal related projects. However, the Council’s Manager of Economic Development, Mr Bruce Connelly, also said that “Renewable energy will be a key part of the future in terms of energy production”. He explained that the Council is already working with interested parties who are developing renewable energy projects in the region.

Slow change, but coming

Not everyone will agree on what needs to happen, in order to create new industry and a healthier community. Not everyone will agree on the motivation for change. Change may be slower than many would like, but at least there are many people in different sectors working hard for a physically, socially and economically healthier future.

At the time of the fire, Archdeacon Heather Marten said “This is a pretty resilient community”. This appears evident in the dedicated, persevering work of community groups, churches, church agencies and individuals.



Future vision for Morwell, taken from RMIT film clip on the Morwell Urban Revitalisation Plan



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Cooperation is the word

Moe and Newborough

Following the success of last year's event, St Aidan's Newborough again hosted one of the "Biggest Morning Teas" in support of the Cancer Council. Door prizes, scrumptious food and great fellowship are givens at these events.

Moe children's and youth groups celebrated together at the end of term with a Family Minute To Win It Challenge. Soup and Pies were provided to energise

the challengers. The Friday morning playgroup also hosted a Morning tea in support of the St Aidan's event, without the Kidplus+ playgroup children having to forfeit their usual activity.

Moe and Newborough parishioners and friends recently enjoyed a Twilight Theatre Night in St Luke's Hall, following a soup and finger food tea. The Film, *Brooklyn* was greatly enjoyed.



BAMM Boys (Boy's Anglican Ministry Moe) enjoy an activity in co-operation: Bailey, Cohen, Noah and Jackson

Thankful diners

Jane Peters – Wonthaggi

At a recent Monday night dinner in Wonthaggi, the reflection theme was on Harvest Thanksgiving. The concept was explained and especially the idea that we all have things we can be thankful for and share with others.

Examples like giving time, a smile or lending a hand were explained and it was lovely to see people put these into practice

as we cleaned up the tables and put away the chairs that week.

The next week we were given, by one of our regulars who was moving away, one of his beautifully framed photos to give away to a lucky diner.

Graeme and Anne in their reflections did not neglect to mention Jesus, who gave his life that others might have life in abundance.



Mick congratulates the other Mick on winning his photo



The Reverends Heather Marten, Amy Turner and Peta Sherlock with the photo of Bishop Barbara Darling at St Paul's Cathedral, Melbourne

Heather, Amy and Peta celebrate 30 years

On the 30th anniversary of their deaconing, the Reverends Heather Marten, Amy Turner and Peta Sherlock admired the photo of their good friend and colleague the late Bishop Barbara Darling. They had come to St Paul's Cathedral Melbourne on Sunday 30 May 2016 to celebrate together and inspect the room named in honour of Bishop Barbara.

The four women studied together at Ridley College in the 1970s, and were deaconed in the second group of women for the diocese of Melbourne on Ascension Day, May 30, 1986. The first women deaconed in February 1986* by Archbishop David Penman were all deaconesses but included the Reverend Kate Prowd who had just completed her studies. Kate's ordination was a sign that ordination was becoming as normal for women as for men.

Having waited some years for the possibility of ordination after their studies were completed, Heather, Amy, Peta and Barbara had to wait another six and a half years until December 1992 before ordination to the priesthood with the first group of Melbourne women.

During a long lunch at Young and Jackson's Pub across the road from St Paul's,

Amy, Heather and Peta shared memories, sadnesses and laughter and wondered where the past thirty years had flown. All four women had been in charge of their Melbourne parishes for some time before being priested, and they recalled the need to have a male priest presiding for them each week, the opposition they had faced even from within their congregations, and the sense of being part of history during these early years.

After lunch they made a pilgrimage to the Barbara Darling room to remember their colleague and include her in the celebrations. With two former archdeacons in the group, the new toilets were also carefully inspected. (Many will remember the dreadful old toilets in the basement of the cathedral.)

Sadly, half the group of ten female and two male deacons have died in the past 30 years, though many were relatively old when deaconed because they had waited so long for ordination to become possible. Amy and Peta are now retired but still using their skills with their local dioceses of Gippsland and Bendigo, while Heather continues as Ministry Development Officer for the Diocese of Bendigo.

• Including Kay Goldsworthy, now Bishop of Gippsland

Responding to need

Carolyn Raymond – Morwell

Our St Mary's congregation is aware of many of the needs of the community in which we live and worship. One way to reach out to the community is to support the work of Anglicare. We know there are families who are finding it hard to feed themselves. Our church family regularly bring canned and packaged food items to help people in need.

We have also been supporting the work of the Lentara Asylum Seeker Support Centre in Brunswick. One aspect of the work of this organisation is providing accommodation for asylum seekers who are on Visa E, which does not allow them to work.

Lentara provides accommodation for 55 asylum seekers in 16 residences. The asylum seekers are provided with a benefit of \$100 a month. This does not go far for food and clothing. To augment their meagre benefit, at St Mary's we have been collecting cleaning



The basket of food items for Anglicare to distribute



Some of the cleaning products for Lentara Asylum Seeker Support Centre

products for both personal and household use. The Support Centre then hands them out to the asylum seekers.

SCAMPS scampers into Drouin

SCAMPS is a preschoolers' activity that is commencing at Christ Church Drouin in school term three this year as an alternative to playgroup. It is complementary to playgroups, kindergartens and other preschool activities in the district.

SCAMPS was developed by Kate Spalding and Pauline Doedens, originally for a Christian school, as a session designed to introduce children to a more structured educational setting in order to help prepare them for Prep. This has really exciting application in Drouin where this year there are 250 local children who will enter Prep next year – a number which is trending to increase in the next few years as Drouin is currently in a “baby boom” with 1000 zero to four year olds.

The name SCAMPS is an acronym for Story, Craft and Music for Pre-Schoolers. SCAMPS was used for nine years at Mountain District Christian School.



Kate Spalding

First, to the S in SCAMPS: STORY. Each week the session is theme-based and often the story – usually from a large illustrated storybook – sets the theme. Children sit on a special listening mat to hear the story. The theme explores some concrete parts of the Creation. Listening to stories is a crucial part of pre-literacy.

The C is for CRAFT, which children complete with the assistance of their caregiver. The craft activity helps

develop fine motor skills as well as reinforcing the thematic learning. (The A is for ‘AND’ just because we needed a vowel!)

The M is for MUSIC. Music helps the children explore their world through movement, song and games. Research suggests that music enhances neurological development and memory, and a broad range of other educational outcomes. The movement also helps with gross motor skills.

P and S are of course, for the most important component of SCAMPS – the Pre-Schoolers themselves. Ideally they would be aged between 3 and 5, although even infants enjoy the sessions!

SCAMPS is designed so that the caregivers of the pre-schoolers are present and engaged throughout the program. They model listening during the story, albeit from their circle of chairs rather than the reading mat. They assist the children with their craft as appropriate. And the caregivers participate in the singing of the music, movement, games – again modelling listening and following instructions, essential socialisation skills which aid in transition to Prep.

The presence of the caregivers throughout the session helps the children increase in confidence in a more formal learning environment, and offers them one-to-one support throughout.

Caregivers include dads, mums, grandparents or friends.

SCAMPS provides a fantastic opportunity to connect with a broad range of families and to offer them an activity of great educational value as well as a way of extending hospitality and welcome to new families. Together with a new up-and-running “Kids Church” at the 9:30 service (with a new curriculum called “What’s in the Bible?”) SCAMPS represents a renewed commitment to children at Christ Church.

The SCAMPS session will run from 9:30 am to 10:30 am on Fridays with a fruit and snack time for the children following from 10:30 till 11:00 with a good opportunity for the caregivers to catch-up over morning tea.

SCAMPS is an expression of the church community’s love for their wider community.

Any enquiries about SCAMPS can be directed to Kate Spalding on 5625 3463.



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Diocesan Retreat



A place for contemplation – Pam Schmack at the Diocesan Retreat in 2015

A Diocesan Retreat open to both laity and clergy will be held at The Abbey on Raymond Island in November and Anglicans across the diocese are encouraged to join in this opportunity for spiritual renewal.

The retreat will be led by the Reverend Ken Parker and will commence before dinner on Friday 4 November and conclude on the following afternoon.

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

CHASING ASYLUM

A review by Carolyn Raymond

Academy Award winning film maker, Eva Orner's *Chasing Asylum* is a film about Australia's response to the many people who have attempted to come to Australia by boat, seeking asylum.

For this film she interviewed politicians, activists, and several asylum seekers who have been forced to return to their own countries, some in fear of persecution. Journalists are not allowed to visit or film on Nauru or Manus Island. So the results of Australia's policy have been clothed in secrecy.

Eva interviewed many brave people who had worked on Nauru or Manus Island in the Detention Centres. She shows footage taken in secret in the Detention centres.

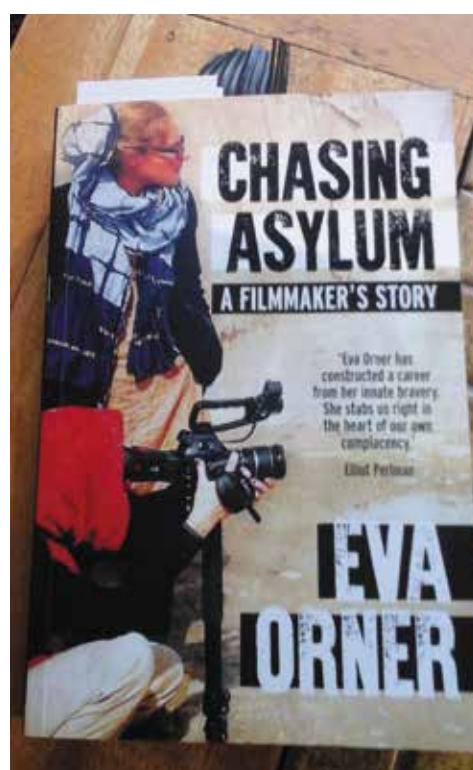
She travelled to Indonesia, Cambodia, Iran and Afghanistan and met people who had spent time in these Detention Camps. She has shown the human cost of Australia's policy of "stopping the boats". The film is revealing; it is also extremely confronting. It has been showing at Cinema Nova in Melbourne.

Eva Orner has also written a book of the same title, telling of her own personal travels in the making of the film. She travelled to conflict zones, to desperately poor countries and to places where she felt very much at risk.

She saw and experienced what it is like to live at personal risk. She met families who have a loved one in detention and families who had lost a loved one. She met people caught in limbo in another country, not able to return to their country or come to Australia.

This is a very personal story about how the film was made. It is a personal story about reaching out to those who have attempted to come to Australia seeking safety and security and have suffered terribly as a result. Together with the film it shows the human cost of Australia's Border Protection Policy. This book is available in book shops now.

Both the film and the book tell the stories of what has been done and continues to be done in the name of Australia.



Winter Feast 2015

CANCER COUNCIL AUSTRALIA BIGGEST AFTERNOON TEA – INVERLOCH



Jane Hudson, President of the Ladies Guild, displays her antique moustached cup Photos Peter Hudson

(Continued from page 1)

Jane Hudson (President of the Anglican Guild) displayed her antique 1890's moustache cup which belonged to her step-great grandfather, Mr Norman Smith Snr, who was head farrier/blacksmith at the Wonthaggi coal mine during the 1920-30s.

The keynote speaker was Prof Peter Hudson, a resident of Inverloch and currently Director of the Victorian Cancer Biologics Consortium. Peter presented two of his most encouraging research projects that are underway in Melbourne. Firstly, Avipep Pty Ltd's successful clinical trial at the Peter

MacCallum and Austin Health Centres, demonstrating that recurrent prostate cancer metastases can be detected and imaged with a new antibody-like product. This product is now being armed with a cytotoxic drug for targeted treatment of prostate and ovarian cancer. Secondly, CarTherics Pty Ltd at the Monash Medical MHTP precinct extracts and re-targets patients' T-cells, then re-injects the modified T-cells back into the patient to specifically kill cancers. These two products will detect and kill different cancers, although Prof Hudson cautioned that their clinical trials may be several years away.



Carol Thorn wearing My Udder Hat - one of the "silly hats" at the Biggest Afternoon Tea

Winter Feast 2016

The fourth annual Winter Feast will be held at The Abbey, Raymond Island on Saturday 13 August commencing at 12 noon.

A four course menu will be prepared by renowned chef extraordinaire, Canon Jeff Richardson.

The charge is \$55 per person and the proceeds from this event will be committed to the on-going work of The Abbey in its service to the diocese and outreach to the wider community.

Don't miss this special occasion – seats are limited and booking is essential.

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



Ray Walka, Bishop Kay, David Hartmaier, the Rev'd Jo White, Sue O'Laughlin, Mary Bright

Four received into communicant membership

**Glenda Amos
Yarram**

Four Yarram parishioners were received into communicant membership of the Anglican Church on Sunday on 8 May when Bishop Kay visited Yarram for the 10.30 am service.

Christ Church, Tarraville to celebrate 160 years

Christ Church Tarraville will be celebrating 160 years on 20 November this year. A small group of Yarram Parish people are formulating a program for the day. A display of memorabilia will be set up in the Old Tarraville School on Sunday afternoon. Afternoon tea will be served for everyone before concluding the day with a celebration of Evensong at 5:00 pm at Christ Church where Bishop Kay will be guest preacher.

Each of these people were sponsored by Yarram parishioners and supported by family and friends. The hymns for the service were selected by the candidates.

Bishop Kay welcomed them into the Anglican Communion and wished them well as they serve the local parish community. A light luncheon followed in the Parish Hall.

The organising group is looking for any memorabilia that people in Gippsland may have from past years. In particular, we need items related to the church from 1901 – 1950. Any information will be copied, with permission, and returned to owners.

Please contact the Rev'd Jo White at the Rectory, Yarram.

Food, fashion and messy fun

Helpers in the kitchen at the Fashion Parade: Betty Widdis, Peggie Arthur, Yvonne Ward and Merrolyn Wiles



**Linda Davies
Bairnsdale**

organisation by the Committee of Johnno's as well as some co-opted helpers. It is a wonderful example of people working together.

Once again we would like to convey our appreciation to anybody who helped us in anyway at all to make the evening the huge financial and social success that it was. \$4,000 has been donated to our local hospital to buy monitors for the Accident and Emergency ward.

Messy Church

Messy Church has been going at St John's now for a couple of years. It is a way of presenting stories from the Bible to primary school aged children, learning about God in a positive way. The program presents opportunities to make, create and have fun in craft activities, experiencing church in a more informal atmosphere and enjoying an evening meal.

St John's parish Outreach Centre, Johnno's, held their 10th Fashion Parade on 17 May, in the St Mary's Centre. As it has become a popular event in the district with a growing following from year to year, the Committee restricted numbers to 200 which, on reflection, the Committee have agreed was a much more manageable number.

Bishop Kay Goldsworthy attended with her husband Jeri; also present were three of the ladies from the Registry Office in Sale, all of whom had a most enjoyable evening and have assured us of their intention to attend next year!

This event is the culmination of a lot of work and



Having fun creating items along the theme of the day at Messy Church



Youth Representatives from Moe Parish: Abouk Majuk (left) and Noaka Gawar, discovered the South Australian GFS Banner in St Peter's Cathedral. GFS was introduced to Australia in 1879 by the daughter of the SA Governor Lucy Jervois spreading to Gippsland by 1885.

GFS Kidsplus+ Gippslanders inspired at Adelaide conference

Five Gippslanders: Carol Johnstone, Mary and Graeme Nicholls, Noaka Gawar and Abouk Majuk, were delighted to attend the National GFS Midterm Conference, held in Adelaide.

Speakers challenged and supported the diverse ministries GFS provides throughout Australia, and informed us of the projects throughout the 25 member countries. World Chairman Val Gribble (Rockhampton Diocese) had returned in early June from visiting new branches in Mozambique and South Africa, where Archbishops are encouraging the GFS ministry as they offer practical support and faith development opportunities to

thousands in the growing membership. Val reported of attending and speaking at the Youth service attended by 1000 during which 90 baptisms and 120 confirmations were celebrated.

Noaka (16) and Abouk (17) from Moe Parish represented our diocesan young people well. They returned with many ideas and much enthusiasm to participate in further events with the wider GFS family.

Guest speakers Archdeacon Michael Hilliar and wife June led us in reflections on: Attending to God, Noticing Intimacy and Passion for God. They also shared with us their experiences at Ffald-y-Brenin, the Southern Wales

Retreat Centre exploring the Ministry of Blessings.

Archdeacon Prue Donovan of Anglicare and Families South Australia, challenged us to be creative in our evangelism with families and community, citing the challenges of the changing society and many exciting ministry models in local communities.

Workshops on craft ideas, pastoral care, leader training, social media, and sharing the Bible in creative ways, kept us challenged and motivated.

The evening incorporated a chance to learn ribbon weaving as we contributed to the Million Stars Project which draws awareness to victims of abuse. Stars made, and others perhaps created in our local groups will be part of a display planned for the forthcoming Commonwealth games.

Rich Lanham commissioned as new Chaplain

The Gippsland Grammar School community along with representatives of the Anglican Diocese gathered together on Wednesday 15 June to celebrate a new ministry: the commissioning of the Reverend Rich Lanham as Chaplain of Gippsland Grammar.

Mr Lanham was welcomed to the role by the Right Reverend Kay Goldsworthy in front of a large congregation which included parish priests from throughout the Gippsland Diocese.

In Bishop Goldsworthy's address, she suggested the role of chaplain was to be a "window" for the school community to see and experience the love of God.

She said she was pleased Mr Lanham, who is known to the students as Rev Rich, had accepted the call to serve Jesus Christ at the local School. "I gladly commission him for this ministry," she said.

Rich will work across Gippsland Grammar's three campuses supporting all students from the Early Learning Centre to Year 12.

"I feel honoured and humbled," he said after the service, which was held in the School's Garnsey Hall. "I value the opportunity to serve the whole school community. As Bishop Kay suggested, I hope to be a window to the love, grace and mercy that comes from God and then through Jesus."



School Principal, David Baker, welcomes and congratulates the Rev'd Rich Lanham. Also pictured are Bp Kay Goldsworthy; teacher, Leanne Caithness; Deputy Head of Garnsey Campus, Kate Arnup and school captain, Solomon Jones. Behind the principal is Head of Garnsey Campus, Jan Henry.

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The Bishop John McIntyre Centre

The Rev'd Daniel Lowe, chaplain, reporting on St Paul's Grammar School at Synod in June, included mention of the new Bishop John McIntyre Centre at the Warragul Campus.

He explained that it was an environmentally sensitive building, designed to promote collaborative learning, and that some of Bp John's quotes have been put up around the walls where they can continue to inspire students.

The building was officially opened in March by Russell Broadbent MP and dedicated by Bishop Kay Goldsworthy. It includes seven general learning areas, a large multi-purpose space, breakout learning spaces and staff resource areas. It will be mainly used for VCE classes.

"So is there any hope?
Of course there is
and it lies with ordinary
Australians like you and me,
seeing what we need to see
and speaking up
and acting for justice.
Therein lies the challenge.
Thankfully,
many are taking it up.
I'll leave it with you."

Bishop John McIntyre

Quotes from Bp John McIntyre are on display around the walls of the building



The Bishop John McIntyre Centre at St Paul's Grammar School, Warragul Campus

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

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

Depending on God

Rich Lanham

As I write this I have just finished my first term as chaplain at Gippsland Grammar. It has been a very busy term and I have been faced with a very steep learning curve. Thankfully though, I am very pleased to say that I made it through in the Lord's strength and I believe that God has taught me a great lesson in trusting his plan.

I, like most people beginning a new role, wanted to hit the ground running and perform my duties well. What I experienced however was the realisation that even though I thought I knew what was required of me, I had in fact far more to get my head around.

From the beginning I felt myself being stretched as I tried to deliver what was being asked of me, while at the same time discovering that some of the role requirements would take me way outside my comfort zone, in terms of my sense of capacity and competence. I was putting pressure on myself to perform duties that were new to me, as if I had years of experience. Without going into too much detail, I simply felt that I was in way over my head and was struggling to stay afloat. Even though I had people around me who were willing to help, I instead tried to push through and do it on my own.

Two things I have learned from this experience are:

1. God wants us to depend on him for our strength and direction. When we find ourselves struggling



and feeling overwhelmed, we can be tempted to withdraw into ourselves and try to solve the problem on our own. In my experience this leads to feeling more and more overwhelmed.

2. God wants us to grow in our faith and our capacity. This comes through times of challenge and trial. In these times we have the opportunity to move outside our comfort zone and put our trust in God and what he is doing. It's in going through trials and challenges that we grow in perseverance and faith.

"Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything."

James 1 2-4

The experience of this first term has been challenging and also humbling. I have had to ask for help and allow people to give it and I am grateful to them. I have had to trust God's plan and believe in it. I have had to say to Jesus, "I need you and sometimes I forget that I do".

Don't be afraid of new challenges; don't be afraid of where God is taking you. These are the opportunities that will grow you and shape you into the person that God has created you to be. The Lord bless you.

The Rev'd Rich Lanham is Chaplain at Gippsland Grammar School and Missional Priest of 123 in Sale.

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Gippsland Diocese Theology Library

Beth Tatterson
Catherine Smith

The Gippsland Diocese Theology Library in the Chapter House adjacent to St Paul's Cathedral in Sale, was established at the instigation of former bishop, the Rt Rev Jeffrey Driver in 2003.

Over the years it has grown to a collection of about 3000 books, due largely to the generous donations of retired clergy and others.

The collection covers most major disciplines of theological study and the books are catalogued according to the Dewey system, with a card catalogue making it simple to find the books you want.

Access to the library is by enquiring at the Parish Office between 9:00 am and 12 noon, Monday to Friday. Alternatively, phone 5144 3019 to arrange to have the library opened.

For borrowers living some distance from Sale it would be reasonable for them to take out a bulk loan of books and keep them as long as needed, say 4 or 5 months. Details of borrowing need to be entered in the Borrowing Register.



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'.



Meditation: Finding silence in a world of noise

Barb Logan

I rarely go for a walk, or stop for coffee in a café, without seeing someone plugged into their ear buds or tapping on a mobile, even when they are with a friend! We live in a very busy world, constantly bombarded with sensory overload – information, social media, music, news – noise! It is unlikely we can escape noise unless we drive far into the bush or desert, yet silence can be found in the noise.

“But I have calmed and quieted my soul like a weaned child upon its mother’s breast; like a child on its mother’s breast is my soul within me”

(PSALM 131.2)

Meditation is practiced by many faiths. For Christians it is a form of prayer, but one without many words or conscious thoughts. In verbal or quiet prayer, we use words – we ask, we speak – meditation sits in the stillness in the central hub of the wheel of prayer. In Christian meditation we calm the constant flow of the thoughts of our minds – thoughts which have been likened to a tree full of monkeys all chattering to one another!

Jesus often went by himself to a quiet place. “In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed.” (Mark 1.35) We too need time apart. Deep within each one of us the spiritual life continues unbroken, yet we are not often aware of it. Meditation brings body, mind and spirit back into alignment and balance. I quietly open myself to God’s touch.

Meditation is extraordinarily easy to do and available to everyone. No one needs to be a master, to read many books on it or make it a study. It can even be done in the midst of noise, simply by finding a place where we

are least likely to be interrupted. We sit comfortably, gently close our eyes and slow our breathing. We listen to the slow breath in and the slow breath out. Some meditate by simply listening to their breath and perhaps quietly breathing the name “Jesus” when they feel themselves distracted. Others say a mantra – such as “Come Lord Jesus”, or the Aramaic “Maranatha”, “Our Lord, come!” (from 1 Corinthians 16.22b) – silently saying half on the slow breath in and half on the slow breath out.

It is suggested twenty minutes’ meditation night and morning is ideal, but it is easier to start with smaller portions of time and find what suits. Assorted thoughts will drift through the mind but as soon as we are aware of them, or noisy distractions, we come back to our mantra or centring word and focus on it. We let the distractions go. This is not the time to work out what we might need to do tomorrow! Afterwards, there is no need to give a score on how well we’ve done. It really doesn’t matter as this has been time given freely to God.

Fr Lawrence Freeman (from The World Community for Christian Meditation) says there are three simple rules:

1. Have no expectations or demands on what will happen and if something does happen just ignore it
2. Do not compare your experience with anyone else – we are all unique
3. See meditation as interwoven with your whole life and not separate from it – the fruits will be found in daily living.

And the benefits? I have found many blessings flow, not least of all a deep sense of peace.

The Rev’d Barb Logan is Rector of Lakes Entrance and Metung.

EDITORIAL

All Anglicans can act on climate

We live in a time of major transition. We have benefited enormously from coal, oil and gas, but it is time now to say thanks, admit that we did not realise the damage they were doing to creation, and move on to renewable energy and a new economy. Fast!

For this to happen, climate change as an issue must be de-politicized, both theologically and in terms of political allegiances. We need to abandon the dualism that says climate change is not a gospel issue – it is the whole world that God is redeeming, not just humans.

And we need to say this is not a left or right wing concern – this is about avoiding the collapse of agriculture around the world, it’s about justice for the poor. A future population of nine billion people could become only one billion by 2100 – a tragedy of unprecedented global proportion. (See the Climate Action Centre report, *4 Degrees Hotter*.)

The Anglican church is in a position to play a significant role in helping to depoliticize climate change. But it needs to wake up to the urgency, it needs to be well-informed; it needs lay people who can do the reading and summarise it for others. It needs theologians to unpack a theology of creation and redemption.

It needs people of faith across the political spectrum to act on climate change in their homes, churches and communities, to help create a future that works for everyone and brings glory to God, whether people recognise that or not.

We proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ in the context of a creation in peril. We need to raise a prophetic voice.

CORRESPONDENCE

Dear members of the Anglican Diocese of Gippsland

My name is Arielle Eagan and I am an American, currently live in Rwanda.

One of my Rwandan friends here, Sam Kambali, used to work for your parishioner, Neville Beaty, during high school. Sam was reflecting on how much of an impact Neville had on his life. Beyond giving Sam his first job, Neville did much more than that. Sam told me that Neville saw something in him – that he believed in him and was truly a father-like role model whom Sam looked up to.

Sam told me how he had lost touch with Neville a few years ago, after his phone was stolen and he couldn’t re-access his email. At the time, he had been in touch with Neville’s wife, Lynne, who had told Sam that Neville was ill. Sam said that he returned to his grandmother’s town here in Rwanda where he and Neville had worked together, to ask if anyone had Neville’s contact info, but was unsuccessful.

Sam and I looked for Neville online, hoping to find a way to contact him so that he and Sam could re-connect and Sam could share with him how much of an impact Neville had on helping Sam become the man he is today. When we found your newspaper (TGA), which shared a beautiful letter written about Neville’s passing last June and the imprint he had left on the church community, and communities beyond such as in Rwanda, Sam broke down in grief. “I wouldn’t be where I am today if it weren’t for him,” Sam said.

I humbly would like to ask if you can please echo this story to your parish [diocese] so that there may be one more story, building upon many others, for them to hear about Neville and understand the incredible impact he had on Sam and certainly so many others in the community. So many of us come abroad to help in some way but often we often struggle to be our best selves in this difficult work. From the way Sam describes Neville, he was genuine, patient, and driven and, beyond this, always sought to give a deeply-sincere dignity and empowerment to his community – perhaps the two most important aims any of us can strive for in mission or aid-related work.

Arielle Eagan, MSW, LCSW, Research Fellow to Dr. Agnes Binagwaho, Minister of Health of the Republic of Rwanda; Rwanda Research Fellow, the Dartmouth Institute of Health Policy and Clinical Practice, Dartmouth College



Archdeacon Edie Ashley and the Rev'd Dr Dean Spalding at the Clergy Retreat on Raymond Island

Diocesan Clergy Conference

The Abbey, Raymond Island 6-9 June

Greg Magee

On the afternoon of June 6, twenty-eight attendees arrived at the Abbey site for the annual Clergy Conference. Thankfully, the extreme weather which had played havoc with the east coast and Tasmania around that time did not make any appearance while we were there. Temperatures were cool to mild.

The undergirding theme of “Mission” influenced the entire conversation that we shared in through the three days we were together. Central to the input were the Rev'd Dr Dean Spalding's morning Bible studies which bore the title “Mission in the Book of Acts”.

Dean identified six different missional episodes from Luke's second work. He said that, “the many varied locations throughout the Book of Acts offer a great variety of missional situations or scenarios”. In short “one size does not fit all...are we as adept (as the missionaries in Acts) at being flexible missionaries as we seek to be Christ's witnesses to the ends of the earth?”

We shared together in a packed program. The Rev'd Rich Lanham led us through a session of new strategies for mission drawing from experiences with the 123 Ministry in Sale. Peter

Wearn gave a confronting and lively presentation focussed on coping with drug affected people. Everyone was deeply impressed with Peter's approach which fuelled ongoing discussion.

Our Registrar, Brian Norris spoke to us about recent developments on a legal and administrative level which will influence the conduct of ministry on both a parish and diocesan level. Cheryl Russell brought before us matters which bear on self-care and wellness as well as other insights relating to profession standards within the diocese and beyond.

“Music in Worship” was the theme for a session led by Fay Magee which took participants through a wide range of ideas about worship as well as music from a variety of experts. As well as new songs to sing there was interesting discussion about how lyrics and music actually work.

The catering by David and Deb Chambers was of the usual high standard supplemented by dinner at The Boathouse in Paynesville on our last evening.

We enjoyed a high degree of friendship and fellowship throughout the conference. Bishop Kay led our time together cheerfully and pastorally.

The Rev'd Greg Magee is Rector of Bass / Phillip Island.

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A singlet style cloth shopping bag is comfortable, practical and quiet - no rustling of plastic. It will also fit onto the bag hooks at the supermarket checkout. These bags can be made quickly and simply from a strong natural fibre fabric or from old clothing with enough wear in it. You or the kids could have fun decorating them too. (You can find some instructions for making the bags at craftster.org)

Plastic bags are made from oil - a finite resource. They often end up in creeks and oceans, causing huge problems for wildlife, and they contribute to greenhouse gases in landfill. Even biodegradable plastics are a problem because they need light to break down, and often become litter first.

CORRESPONDENCE

Will we heed God's Word?

“Of course we will”, I hear you say... “we're Christians; we follow Jesus; we're God's people - it would be illogical for us to claim that and ignore what he says”. We all spend time trying to hear God and work out what he is saying to us. But how can we actually know what he is saying?

Recently, Synod debated a motion about the definition of marriage. One side argued that God's design for marriage was an exclusive, life-long relationship between a male and a female only. The other side argued that space should be allowed in the definition to permit same-sex marriage. One side cited Bible passages from Genesis to explain God's original purpose for marriage, and Matthew showing that Jesus affirmed this definition and purpose. The other side spoke with a desire to act lovingly and demonstrate God's love for all and cited observations of the world around us and personal and pastoral knowledge. I'm sure each speaker believes they are seeking God's will in this matter, but the positions are contradictory so they can't all be hearing God rightly.

The founding principles of the Anglican Church can help us. The 39 Articles of the Anglican Church* are the base line of beliefs and conduct that define us as Anglicans. In terms of hearing God, the Bible holds a prominent position. The books of the Bible that we hold to be authoritative are defined and it is stated that the Bible holds all that is necessary for salvation (Article vi). So if we want to know what God says about Salvation in Jesus Christ then the Bible is the place to go and we shouldn't be swayed by so called “long lost texts that throw doubt on orthodox understanding”.

But that doesn't help with many issues that either aren't directly regarding salvation, or that the Bible is simply silent about, which may be the case in a modern world with different culture, knowledge and technology to that of ancient times. In many cases we have to exercise our God-given minds to determine how to live and love in our current situation. So at this point, we still struggle to determine what God says in the marriage debate. But the Articles do have other guiding principles. In Article xx we find that “it is not lawful for the Church to ordain anything that is contrary to God's Word written”. If the Bible does have something to say on a matter, we are beholden to hear it and act accordingly. So, if one side of the marriage debate argues a position that is contrary to the teaching of the Bible, then it cannot be heard as God speaking.

Yet, it is still possible be unsure. Contrary sides of an argument may both present a case from the Bible. Theologians and learned people can present convincing arguments with the credibility of expertise and status. The Anglican Church rejects certain “Romish doctrine[s]” as “fond thing[s] vainly invented, and grounded upon no warrant of Scripture” (Article xxii) and acknowledges that church councils (of learned people) get it wrong at times (Article xxi), so is no stranger to the failings of humans who too often miss what God says. In each case the Bible, understood as a whole, is held as the authority in controversy (Article xx).

It all points to one thing - the best way to hear God is to read the Bible. Again the founding principles of the Anglican Church point to this. Church services, including reading of the Bible, should be in a language understood by all people (Article xxiv), the Book of Common Prayer is largely an organisation of portions of the Bible, and the Lectionary intends that the whole Bible is read and heard by all, even if they can't read themselves. We all have the privilege of having a Bible to read and we can be confident that the Holy Spirit will teach us as we do. Prayer, silent retreats, walking in nature, sacraments may all be useful in our relationship with God, but none will help us truly hear God if we leave our Bible unread.

If you are out of practice in reading the Bible, a good place to start is with Luke's two volume set (Luke and Acts), which follows the story of Jesus and the early church. Just read a chapter a day. If you feel more adventurous, John Stott's book *Through the Bible Through the Year* follows the Church year with portions of Scripture from Genesis to Revelation. It starts in September so it's just the right time to find a copy.

Our world will continue to throw up difficult and complex issues, like the definition of marriage, and we will continue struggle to hear and act on what God says. But God hasn't changed and none of our struggles are a surprise to him. He still speaks through his written word, the Bible, as we read it and the Holy Spirit opens our mind to better know Jesus and be changed to become more like him.

Gordon Dowthwaite
Leongatha

* The 39 Articles of Religion are the set of defining doctrines of the Anglican Church. They remain legally binding. A copy may be found at the back of the Prayer Book.

Faith at work



Chris Hannah

Warragul (Buln Buln)

Jan Down

The children on the mat are gathered around a “mystery” box, tapping on it and singing “What’s in the box?” and the anticipation grows.

This game is a regular activity at a playgroup coordinated by occupational therapist, Chris Hannah. Some of the treasures in the mystery box have been bubbles, frogs, scarves and toy farm animals. For those children who feel overwhelmed joining in with the group there is a look-alike mini mystery box, so that everyone can be involved.

Chris says “Sometimes we create a bit of chaos, with children choosing to sit in the mystery box. It is always a fun time with adults and children playing together”.

Chris works part-time in early childhood intervention – that is, working with very young children with special needs. Some may have a diagnosis such as cerebral palsy or Down syndrome or autism, while others have developmental concerns with delays in learning to walk, or talk.

One aspect of Chris’s job is to run the playgroup for about eight families where, as well as helping the children with their developmental needs, she provides coaching and support for parents. The families also support each other at the playgroup, sharing experiences unique to their circumstances,

“I feel quite strongly that God calls us to love and care for each other and to show compassion”

developing friendships and finding a sense of belonging.

Chris enjoys the work very much. She said “It feels like a real privilege to be supporting families that you see go way beyond what you might expect a family do”. She delights in seeing the development of the children and celebrating achievements with the families.

It is work that Chris sees as serving God. She explains, “I feel quite strongly that God calls us to love and care for each other and to show compassion. God loves each one of us; each person is loved and cared for by God and is unique and valued by God”. She feels that God has given her “a serving heart”. And she believes that it is through the fruit of the Spirit – such as kindness, goodness, self-control, gentleness and patience – that she serves God in her work.

Chris’s faith has also informed her values, such as showing respect, listening and being non-judgemental, all of which are very important in her work environment.

Being part of the church community, both at Warragul and at Buln Buln where she and her family have lived, has helped Chris to grow in her faith. She says this has given her a sense of being “grounded” that is very helpful in her job.

As well as her OT work, Chris has spent much time in voluntary positions, including being chair of the chaplaincy committee at Warragul Regional College, the local state secondary school which her four children attended. Joining the chaplaincy committee offered Chris the opportunity she was seeking, to contribute and have a positive influence on the school environment.

Chris has appreciated the way the church has very faithfully supported the chaplaincy program. She recently retired from the committee as she is now a grandmother and also has aging parents, and she felt the time was right.

One of the tasks that fell to Chris in the chaplaincy work was catering to fundraise, something she did not feel naturally suited to, but she says that God enabled and blessed her in this work. This experience gave Chris sufficient confidence in God’s provision to accept another voluntary role, of leading the cooking team for the Scripture Union Family Mission at Tidal River every summer for five years.

This involved catering for 80 people for two weeks, with no electricity – just a cook’s caravan with four gas stoves. It was hot and cramped. Chris says “I had never worked so hard in my life”, but she felt called by God, and “so blessed and upheld”– supported by the prayer of the church. There was a huge amount of preparation. The church helped by having a cook-up session in December that produced three of the main meals, frozen ready for the camp.

Chris is married to Murray, who is a biometrician working at the National Centre for Dairy Research and Development at Ellinbank. They are regular worshippers at the fortnightly service at St James Buln Buln, and at Warragul Anglican church on other weeks.

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

July discount days at the Abbey: 25% discount for bookings of two nights or more

- 3 2:30pm NAIDOC Church Service at St John’s Church, Lake Tyers Aboriginal Trust
- 3–10 NAIDOC Week activities at Morwell, including Family Fun Day, Banner Making and more – details: 5136 5100
- 17 2:00 pm The Big Hymn Sing at Holy Trinity Anglican Church, 95 Commercial Rd Yarram: singing favourite hymns of praise, introduced by the Rev’d Jo White. Sharing the keyboard: Warren Peart and Ken White. Gold coin donation, afternoon tea provided

August

- 13 12 noon The Abbey Feast, with Jeff Richardson, chef extraordinaire: Four course meal with wine. Inquiries: 5156 6580

September

- 3 11:00 am The Rev’d Susanna Pain’s installation as Dean of St Paul’s Cathedral, Sale



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