

The Gippsland Anglican

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Heather Marten – on the move

by Jan Down

Archdeacon Heather Marten has been appointed as Ministry Development Officer and Sub Dean in the Diocese of Bendigo. Heather's last Sunday at Morwell will be 14th September.

Archdeacon (and Administrator) Philip Muston said "Heather's announcement of her appointment to Bendigo has left many in the diocese with a sense of impending loss. We will be sorry to lose Heather, and always grateful for her long, dedicated and productive ministry among us, but wish her God's blessings in her new role".

As well as serving in the parish of Morwell, Heather has made a very significant contribution at the diocesan level. She has been Vicar General, and has acted as Administrator from time to time. She has been Archdeacon of the Southern Region and has taken a leadership role in clergy Formation and Safe Church Ministry. Heather says she has always believed that "whatever you do for the clergy assists the whole church".

Registrar, Brian Norris said Heather had become "the go-to person and champion of clergy development and well-being in the diocese". He added that Heather had made "a vigorous and strong contribution to the work of Bishop in Council, and other bodies in the diocese".

When asked what she will miss about Heather, the Rev Kathy Dalton said "Everything! Her leadership, her compassion – she is one of a kind. This diocese will miss her. She has been such a faithful person. When she arrived in Morwell, I was doubting my ministry, and she was like a light." Kathy saw in Heather a tremendously inspiring example of a woman in ministry.

Looking back on her time at Morwell, Heather says she has very much enjoyed her 10½ years there, and in the Gippsland Diocese as a whole, and part of her will always be in Gippsland.

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"To set the prisoner free" – prison ministry at Fulham

by Jan Down

The men at Fulham Prison, located just out of Sale, have access to a variety of Christian ministries offered by churches and groups from different denominations or ecumenical bodies.

In Part One of this two part series, TGA reports on the Anglican chaplaincy and Anglicare parenting skills programs.

Things happen in your life, and you can use them in your ministry", says the Rev. Heather Toms, who is the Anglican Chaplain at Fulham Prison (and also at the Central Gippsland Hospital).

After suffering severe back pain caused by four compressed vertebrae, Heather was able to talk with the men about how sometimes you can just accept things that happen, and hand them over to Jesus. She said to them, "You might not be physically healed, but you know that God is with you in your pain".

One day when she came in to take a service, the men saw how unwell she was, gave her a chair, and offered to run

the service themselves, with Heather just taking the parts that she had to. (It is good to hear that her back is now improving.)

Heather also has the role of Regional Liaison Chaplain to Fulham. All prisoners are entitled by the Corrections Victoria Act to support from someone of their own religious belief. So, for example, while there might be personnel available for prisoners who are Anglican, Roman Catholic, Salvation Army, Uniting Church, Greek Orthodox, Jewish, Muslim or Buddhist, there may be a need for her to arrange for someone from the Jehovah's witnesses to come in on a professional visit.

But Heather most enjoys working directly with the men. "My love is chaplaincy, because it's with the guys, the 'men in green' ", as she affectionately calls them. She runs two church services a week – one in the Mainstream section of the prison, and one in Protection. There are regularly about 8 men who attend, but up to 20 at times, and the services are very much appreciated. She also conducts Easter and Christmas services, as well as baptisms, funerals and weddings.

The men can visit Heather in her office for a chat and she sees it as really important for them to have someone to talk to. She often thinks, "This could be one of my sons", and reflects that if she did have a son in prison, she would want to know that someone cared about them. Heather says that pastoral and spiritual care is the most important aspect of this ministry.

When Bishop John McIntyre died, the men, working out who Heather was talking about, described him as "that bloke, the one in the purple shirt, who used to come in with his guitar and sing with us". They had appreciated him very much, and could also see that Heather was sad, so she felt that they cared about her – the caring can be two-way.

The prisoners' families also need care and support. Many of them travel from Melbourne to visit partners. Maintaining relationships while one partner is in prison can be difficult. This is something else that a prison chaplain can help with, not least by being a listening ear.

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Heather Toms



Sarah Gover

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Living for God's empire

Archdeacon
Philip Muston

What was the thing Jesus spoke of more than anything else? Was it love, or salvation?

No, most often he spoke about 'God's Kingdom'.

Trouble is, the phrase 'Kingdom of God' – or in Matthew's gospel Kingdom of Heaven' – sounds fantasy-like to many people today: an ethereal realm to which you might escape for sweetness and light.

It bears very little relation to what Jesus himself had in mind. Some suggest the New Testament Greek word for kingdom, *basileia*, could perhaps better be translated as 'empire', because in English that is an active and politically threatening word.

Whenever Jesus talked about the Empire of God, it would have been heard by his contemporaries as exciting and promising, but at the same time threatening.

He preached it as an alternative to the Empire of Caesar, to which many of his fellow Jews were submitting and capitulating at the time.

The Roman Empire was the equivalent in those days to, say, the British Empire of the 19th and 20th centuries, or the American or Chinese empires of today. These are the empires to which Jesus might nowadays present his message as an alternative.

Jesus spoke about God's Empire as being like yeast

working through a huge amount of dough, corrupting it in order to bring about something new and better. The dough represents the vast ruling system of this world, which the gospel first debases then transforms in the process of bringing about God's imperial rule 'on earth as it (already) is in heaven'.

Preaching God's Kingdom was threatening back then, as it will be now if it's heard as Jesus spoke it. That's why our Lord was crucified rather than stoned to death: the cross was reserved for rebels, traitors to Rome, and revolutionary bandits, rather than for prophets, who suffered the less shameful death.

When Jesus calls us to *take up our cross and follow him* he calls us to follow him into a kind of sedition. As underminers of current world systems (e.g. consumerist economies) and empires, we risk being seen as betrayers or rebels.



candidates, which the Board is now receiving. Please forward suggested candidates through to me at the Registry in Sale or to another Board member. We'll send out another Survey Monkey link for this soon via the clergy.

From October the Board's task will be to sift through a long list of names, considering each against the criteria. Eventually a shortlist of candidates will be examined, interviewed and assessed.

And, yes, if you do nothing else, do keep praying for the person of God's choice as well as ours for the difficult and demanding role of the new bishop. Pray too for the Board of six lay people and six clergy. They are Graham Knott; Greg Magee; Barbara Logan; Heather Marten; Philip Muston (chair); Lyn Williams; David Chambers; John Delzoppo; Marion Dewar; Robert Fordham; Val Jones; and Jo Sestokas.

Bishop John's cause of death

Doctors now believe the most probable cause for Bishop John's unexpected death was Hamman-Rich Syndrome, also known as acute interstitial pneumonitis. It is an uncommon type of pneumonia for which researchers have not yet found a cause (idiopathic). It affects otherwise healthy individuals. I'm told about one person in Victoria is affected annually, and in about 60 per cent of cases it proves fatal.

Philip Muston

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Heather Marten – on the move

Continued from page 1

The joy of her ministry at Morwell has been in seeing the developing sense of community in the congregation. An important part of that has been the Annual Mission Project, which has given members of the congregation the opportunity to work together on a particular task, such as this year's project, which is to raise money to support the Sudan Relief and Development Organisation. Improvements made to the opportunity shop, "The Fossick and Find", have also been quite significant.

Heather feels the parish is stronger than it was ten years ago, and has a future. "There is a lovely group of kids and young teenagers" making up a regular part of the congregation, and she says "they provide a certain kind of lightness and life" on a Sunday morning.

The challenges in the wider community at Morwell stem from the privatisation of the electricity industry back in the 1990s, when 10,000 workers left the Valley in the space of three months. This changed the nature of Morwell as a town, Heather says. After this, there was a much smaller workforce, with work changing from being industry-based to being service-based.

Heather feels glad to have stayed in

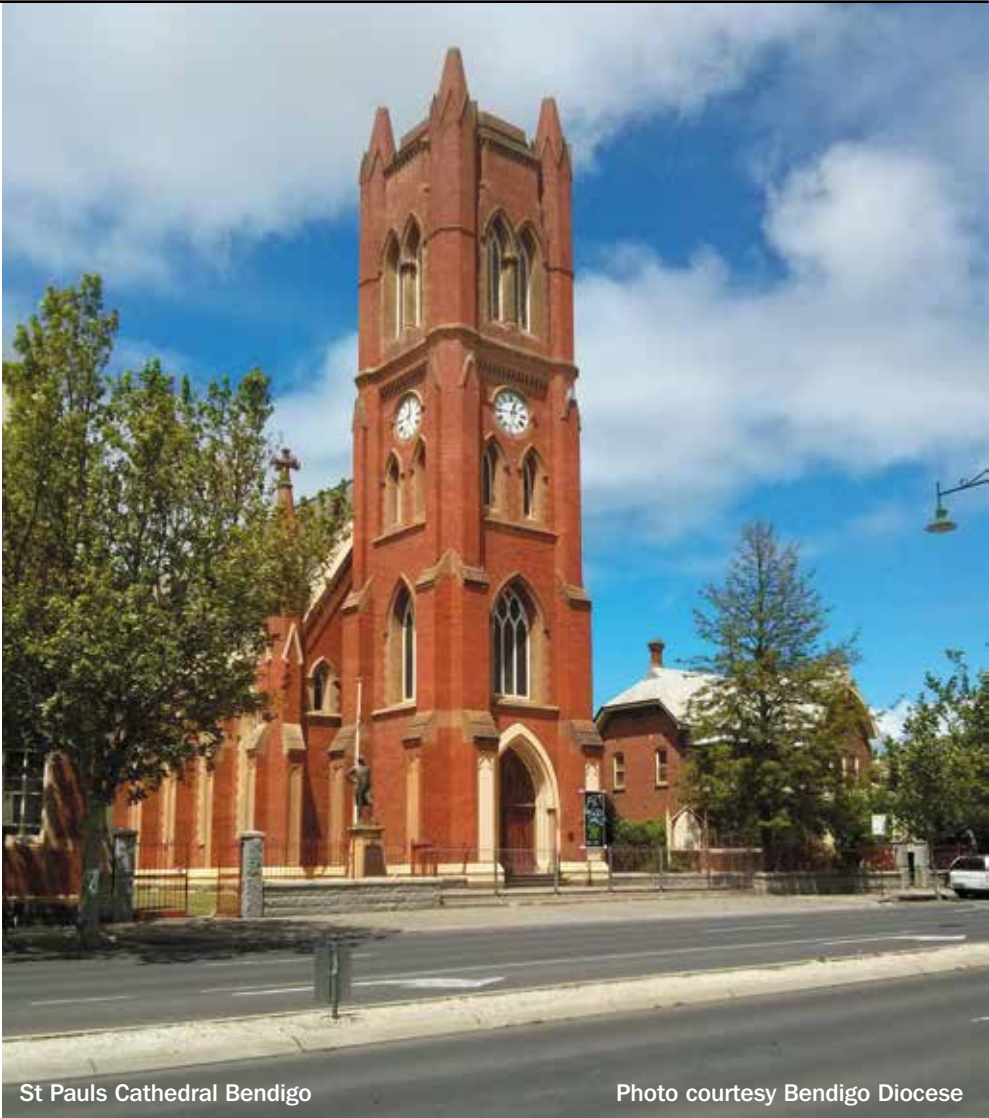
Morwell long enough to really get to know people, and to see the congregation grow into a community where people have a sense of belonging.

Having lived at Shepparton at one time, and enjoyed the northern area of Victoria, Heather is now looking forward to the move to Bendigo. She sees Bendigo as "quite a vibrant city – forward-looking, with a growing community". As Ministry Development Officer, Heather will be involved in Formation – training new clergy and those preparing for ordination – and also the Safe Churches program.

St. Paul's Cathedral, Bendigo, has three Sunday morning services and one evening service, each with its own congregation and style of worship. So there is a need for two or three people to preach each Sunday. The 11:00 am service is particularly aimed at younger people.

Bendigo Cathedral has been out of action for the past six years, awaiting restoration. The building has been unsafe for worship, so the congregation has been meeting in the hall. They hope to be back in the cathedral by Easter next year.

Heather will miss Morwell and the Gippsland Diocese. She once remarked to a friend, "It's going to hurt to leave", and the friend replied, "So it should". Heather readily agreed.



St Pauls Cathedral Bendigo

Photo courtesy Bendigo Diocese

Thanks Heather!

Jenny and Rob Roy, parishioners at Morwell

Heather Marten will be a hard act to follow:

- Her preaching and teaching abilities are almost legendary. Those who undertook the Education for Ministry course can also testify to her sense of humour and vast historical and theological knowledge.
- Heather has broadened the education of St Mary's Parish, Morwell, through the use of inclusive language.
- Heather has been very involved in the Latrobe Valley community. In her role as a VCC Emergencies Ministry chaplain, Heather attended refuge centres and visited homes in Morwell South during and after the Hazelwood Mine fire earlier this year.
- Another initiative was the Wednesday Community lunches.
- By her example Heather has encouraged the members of St Mary's Parish to welcome and embrace those of the Sudanese community who worship with us. In turn the Sudanese children have been encouraged to participate in our Sunday



Heather Marten with Carolyn Raymond at fund raiser for Mission Project

- school and Christmas pageant. Another step forward has been taken recently with the formation of a youth group, which is meeting regularly.
- To round off the list of Heather's accomplishments and skills it must be said that she is an outstanding administrator, enjoys cooking and the company of her beloved dog Maggie. We shall miss them both.

Ministry Formation – generous and skilful

The Rev. Sue Jacka

When I was in my Year of Discernment, our then Bishop, Jeff Driver, arranged for me to complete a year with Heather at the Morwell Parish. I had had a lot of experience leading contemporary worship, and Heather helped me greatly to lead traditional services with more dignity and poise. She encouraged me to slow down both in my speech and in my general manner, which has been invaluable. She allowed me to work alongside her with funeral ministry, and this was exceptionally helpful when I had a huge funeral at Gippsland Grammar, after a mother of some students died.

Heather's mentoring enabled me to lead that service without feeling overwhelmed. Heather was very generous in her support and advice. She also instigated a program that enabled ordinands to complete their formal ministry formation with the support of visiting lecturers from St Mark's Theological College in Canberra. Heather has made a great contribution to the ministry of this diocese as Archdeacon, often with apt comments that sum up a debate; her sharp mind has been very helpful in numerous discussions at Bishop in Council and at Synod.

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Living in good company.



At left: World GFS Chaplain Reverend Isaiah Masida (Papua New Guinea). and Lay Canon Val Gribble (Rock Hampton) newly appointed World president of GFS.

To mention just three projects:

- **South Korea**
Café Grace, established as a takeaway coffee shop and Internet café, to provide management training and employment for female North Korean defectors. A free legal advice service was also provided.
- **South Africa:**
GBFS (Girls/boys) 7,000 members. Ministry includes: HIV-Aids education, life skills programs, support for child-headed households.
- **Japan:**
Recipient of World GFS Emergency Funding following the Tsunami three years ago, and the Fukushima Nuclear disaster Money used to re-establish sewing cottage industry and to minister to the refugees from nuclear fall-out areas. (Those families were often rejected by both their former and new communities as defectors. Social isolation has seen them hiding. GFS has provided opportunity for social interaction and safe activities for children. Three years later many homes have still not been retored.).

This World Council determined that the World Project monies for the coming three years be provided for continued ministry in Japan.

My involvement spans my two roles, as Diocesan Youth Development Officer and also as Assistant Minister – Youth and Families, at the Cathedral.

The 123 Project is a youth enterprise that aims at supporting and engaging young people from all walks of life. Young people who need extra support will be able to access activities that will help them to thrive. The main focus will be on the creative arts and food. Our intention is to see young people's lives changed and for them to reach their God-given potential. In all the activities we run, our aim is to reflect the love and grace of Jesus.

We have had sixty students from Gippsland Grammar School assisting



National dress

Photo: D Wadeson



Australian group

Photo: V Gribble



Swapping Australian gifts

We were privileged and rewarded with some wonderful recreational opportunities. Disappointingly, both Graeme and I failed at our Welsh lessons, but we do have

great admiration for anyone who can either read or speak the language. Fortunately for us, our Welsh hosts were excellent English speakers.

GFS World Council in Wales

By Mary Nicholls

The 21st Girl's Friendly Society (GFS) Conference was held at Swansea University, Wales, from July 25th – August 3rd.

Nearly 200 participants from across the globe attended. Graeme and I were pleased to represent Gippsland.

GFS was founded in 1875. It works predominantly with girls and young women in churches and community projects within 23 countries across the world.

The conference opened with a service at Brecon Cathedral at which the Rt Rev John Davies, Bishop of Swansea and Brecon, preached. He later joined the council as a guest speaker. Other speakers included The Reverend Rose Hudson-Wilkins, Speaker's Chaplain in the House of Commons and Chaplain to the Queen, and Lynne Tembey, World Wide President of Mother's Union.

Our participants also visited the Wales Senedd to meeting and

heard Anne Jones, and Keith Towler, Chair of the Children, Young people and Education Committee, and Children's Commissioner for Wales, respectively. World Chairman of these past three years, the Reverend Glenys Payne presided over the conference.

The last Friday of the conference was an International Day with stalls from each country. National costumes were worn, and activity tables entertained the local GFS children. Aussie Craft gifts constructed and sent by our Moe GFS girls were exchanged with gifts made by members from South Africa, Japan, Korea, Wales and the USA.

The conference forged new friendships, and empowered and encouraged participants to promote international well-being. The International reports drew our attention to the breadth of Ministry occurring through the world-wide GFS Network.

123 Project Report

by Rich Lanham



At the end of last year, the Lord led me to approach a business man who has given us the use of the building at 123 Cunninghame Street, Sale, for the purpose of developing a youth enterprise over the next five years.

The project is a partnership between the Anglican Diocese and local community groups. The Cathedral is one of the lead partners in this project, with the strong support of the Dean, Steve Clarke, who has a wealth of experience in community engagement.



by scraping walls, cleaning up the building and grounds and generally preparing it for the next stage of renovation. The bathroom is currently being installed

and the kitchen is having plumbing put in and a concrete floor poured.

Interest in the project continues to grow in the community, with many offers of support from individuals and groups.

The Anglicare Gippsland Region team leaders and managers recently came to Sale for a meeting and asked me to speak about the project. I was able to take them down to the building and show them what we are planning to do. They were extremely enthusiastic and were keen to show their support.

Overall, our intention is to create a vehicle for Christians to connect with and support the wider community, and so bring in the love of Christ.

by Jan Down

Highly respected and loved Gunai-Kurnai elder, Uncle Albert Mullett, died on 16th July, aged 81. The Rev Phyllis Andy and the Rev Kathy Dalton were honoured to lead the funeral service on 1st August, with the Rev Graeme MacRobb also acting as MC for the day.

The service, held at The Knob Reserve, Stratford, was attended by about 2000 people. This location was chosen particularly for its significance as the site of the handover of Gippsland Native Title, which Uncle Albert received on behalf of the Gippsland Koori. Back in the 1980s, Uncle Albert also led a Cultural Awareness day for the church at Knob Reserve.

Phyllis described Uncle Albert as “a teacher, leader and philosopher”. She said “He led our people in the ways that were right for us. He wanted us to be proud of our culture. He was a leader to guide us back into our culture. He wanted Aboriginal people to have the same recognition as other people”.

The Rev Kathy Dalton said that her father and Uncle Albert were “best mates” and they spent a great deal of time together fighting for Aboriginal rights in the community. She said that Uncle Albert worked hard for reconciliation, “bringing black and white together”.

Kathy deeply appreciated the support Uncle Albert gave to her own ministry, as an elder giving his formal approval for her ordination. She paid tribute also to his wife, Auntie Rachel, saying “Behind a good man is a very wise woman”.

Phyllis remembers Uncle Albert’s help when she was starting out as the first Aboriginal Liaison Officer to work in a TAFE college in Victoria. Whenever she encountered racism at the college, she would go to Uncle Albert and he would speak up for her. She said he was “a great advocate for our people. He fought for housing, for education and for better health”, and he kept going even in the face of opposition. Phyllis said his legacy was “beyond compare”.

The Rev Graeme MacRobb has been a friend for several decades. He said “I got to know Uncle Albert when we were in Cann River, which was our first parish. The Mullett family was part of our congregation in those early days. What we most appreciated about Albert was the role he played in the life of his family, literally shaping their future through both an active concern for their character, the development of a positive self-esteem as Aboriginal Australians, an awareness of their ancient culture, and making a positive contribution to their community. He raised his family to make a difference and that is what they have done.”

“As he got older and progressively became literally an ‘Elder Statesman’ and spokesperson for the Koori



Men form a guard of honour at Knob Reserve
Photo: Jan McIntyre

“Teacher, leader, philosopher” Uncle Albert Mullet

21st February 1933 – 16th July 2014

communities throughout Gippsland we soon realised that he was simply doing for the wider Aboriginal community the same as he had done for his own family. Establishing a strong sense of Aboriginal identity, participation in their community life and an acceptance of responsibility for developing a better life for their peers and the next generation. In that he was not just a role model for Koori fathers but for all of us.”

Uncle Albert was born in Richmond, Melbourne on 21st February, 1933. He was one of six brothers. While he was small child, he and his family were forcibly removed from the Lake Tyers Mission. They would go back at night to visit relatives and friends.

He lived and worked in a variety of places, travelling with his wife Rachel. Phyllis remembers that in earlier years he worked in the bean paddocks, picking alongside people from many different clans, and he helped people of different cultures to get along together. Uncle Albert and his wife Rachel went on to

raise their eight children in Bairnsdale. In more recent years, since his retirement, he and Rachel lived at Bruthen. They had 17 grand children and 15 great grandchildren.

Uncle Albert was inducted into the Victorian Indigenous Honour Roll for 2013, which lists some of his many achievements: “[he] became a fixture on committees promoting Aboriginal interests at all levels of education, from primary to tertiary and TAFE. He was also employed as a community councillor at the Gippsland Institute of Advanced Education... helped establish the first Aboriginal Studies course in Victoria, at Monash University’s Gippsland campus and successfully lobbied for additional university places for Aboriginal students. His work in schools... helped strengthen identity and cultural awareness among young Aboriginal people, and promoted reconciliation



within the whole community... He was among a dedicated group who pushed for legislative changes that allowed local Aboriginal communities to have more involvement in the management of culturally significant sites around Victoria. As a result, hundreds of Aboriginal people have been trained and employed in cultural heritage roles... As an elected councillor to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission, Albert served as chair of the Yangenook Regional Council for three years...

For more than 15 years, Albert led his people’s fight for native title recognition. On 22 October 2010, the Federal Court of Australia recognised the claim of the Gunai-Kurnai people over much of Gippsland. On the same day, the Victorian Government entered into an agreement with the Gunai-Kurnai people under the Victorian Traditional Owner Settlement Act 2010.”

Uncle Albert’s daughter Christine said “Dad was a person who touched people in so many ways – whether story-telling, or having a yarn, or being a good listener. He was a great father and grandfather. He always attended family events – he would drive from one end of the state to the other for a family birthday. Dad was also a traditional craftsman for more than 50 years, making artefacts from local wood in the Gippsland area. His other passion was to go camping with family – the whole mob, fishing, and playing golf, and he also loved his four-footed friends”. Christine added that this year marks the 60th year of her parent’s marriage.



Be a part of supporting the Aboriginal Ministry Fund

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

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The search for a new bishop

The task of finding a new bishop for Gippsland is well under way, and opportunities are being provided for everyone to contribute their thoughts, hopes and ideas.

Three consultations have been held around the diocese, with 50 people attending at Bairnsdale on 10th August, 40 at Warragul on 17th, and 35 at Mirboo North on 24th.

Groups such as Anam Cara and Cursillo have sent in their contributions. For those unable to attend the consultations in person, an on-line survey has been set up via SurveyMonkey, which can be accessed at: www.surveymonkey.com/s/FGHT2HF

The three questions in the survey are:

1. Where are we at as a Diocese currently in relation to our Strategic Directions as expressed in "Jesus Christ: Here and Now for Gippsland" 2013-2017?
2. Which are the strategic emphases we would most like to see embodied in our next Bishop?
3. What are the personal qualities that we would most value in our leader for the next stage of our Diocesan journey?

Clergy have met in the three deaneries to discuss what they are hoping for and the qualities needed in a new bishop.

The second meeting of the Bishop's Appointments' Board will be held on Wednesday 27th August. Drawing on all the feedback received, the Board will develop criteria to assess candidates in the coming months.

During September, the board members, with Chair of the Board, Archdeacon (and Administrator) Philip Muston will receive people's nominations and suggestions of candidates to consider. Then the long process of sifting will begin. At this stage, they are hoping to interview a final short list in early-mid December.



Who Dunit at Orbost?

By Bevil Lunson

Our themed dinner for the Patronal Festival this year was a "Who dunit" Agatha Christie-style evening. 160 patrons enjoyed a night of fun, food and friendship and many took the opportunity to dress in their favourite "who dunit" character. They were provided with a three course dinner together with fantastic entertainment from the Nowa Nowa Mens Choir, St James Players, The Menopausal Sisters, The Three Tenors and Berlie Shassey. A great night for all of us.

The Rev Bevil Lunson is Priest in Charge at Orbost.

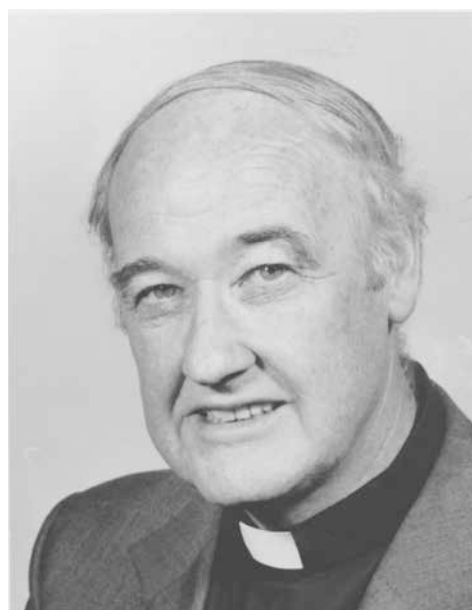
Vale Frank Lowe

Archdeacon Frank Lowe, a well-loved priest of this diocese, died on Friday 15th August, aged 87.

Frank was ordained deacon in the Gippsland Diocese in 1961 and priested in 1963. He served at St. Paul's Cathedral in Sale, and in the parishes of Bruthen, Newborough and Morwell. He also ministered in the UK and Melbourne. He retired in 1991 and lived in Morwell.

Frank was for some years the editor of The Gippsland Anglican and Diocesan press officer, and he enjoyed attending the conferences of the Australasian Religious Press Association each year.

He was President of the Gippsland Crematorium Investigation Committee, strongly presenting to the State Government the need for this facility.



Archdeacon Lowe is survived by his wife Gillian, now living in care in Trentham. The funeral service for Archdeacon Lowe was held at St Mary's, Morwell on Friday 22nd August.

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Mothers Union / Anglicare Book Project

At a meeting in March, the Gippsland Anglicare Leadership team talked about their desire to help all families feel welcome, especially Indigenous families. A number of the staff members commented that it would be good to include some toys and books from other cultures in the waiting areas of each office. Sarah Gover, the Anglicare Community Development Officer, presented the idea to the March Mothers union meeting, asking groups to consider helping Anglicare by purchasing a set of locally written Indigenous children's picture books.

The idea was warmly received, and over the last six months seven sets of books have been purchased and presented to the Anglicare sites and programs in Bairnsdale, Leongatha, Morwell, and Warragul. Each of the books has had a personal message written in it from the Mothers Union groups.

A number of groups took the idea even further, buying books for other Indigenous services in their area, as well as dolls and puzzles to extend the play equipment in the waiting area. The staff were very appreciative of the gifts and have already observed the books being read and appreciated by clients.





Rwanda – land of a thousand hills

by the Rev Dr John Batt

On the 24th of June, seven Gippsland teachers and a chaplain (me) set out on a self-funded working adventure to Rwanda, 'the land of a thousand hills', via South Africa.

The teachers from Gippsland Grammar in Sale (Mrs Julie Jago, Mrs Tracey Grubb, Ms Leah Stoffels, Ms Penny Monger and Ms Annie Crowe) and St Paul's Grammar Warragul (Mr Nick Carter) led by the Deputy Principal of Gippsland Grammar, Ms Jan Henry, were in need of some rest and recreation. My role was primarily as a support person to the teachers; however, when required I also acted as a liaison with the local church. The plan was to have a few days holiday before responding to an invitation by Bishop Alexis to provide some professional development to primary and secondary school teachers at Gahini.

SAFARI – the 'Big 5' (lion, elephant, buffalo, rhino and leopard)

Our first day in South Africa saw us riding in the back of an open caged extended Land Rover. The 'prize' on safari was to catch a glimpse of the coveted 'Big 5' animals. Armed with our cameras, we became 'big game clickers' eager to take the perfect shot as we bounced, rocked and – after the sun set – shivered in our Land Rover bus around the national park.

Over the next three days we spotted all of the 'big 5' in the wild plus others such as zebra, antelope, giraffe, wilder beast, monkeys, chimpanzees, wart hogs, hippos, hippopotamuses, hyenas and an assortment of wild birds and fowls; some so close that we could have reached out and touched them. The leopard was a rare sighting as there are only 19 known to inhabit the park and one happened to run across the road in front of us.



A hot air balloon ride

A highlight was a hot air balloon ride across the national park. The flight showcased the stark and rugged beauty of the landscape, and we were able to snatch secret glimpses of the early stirrings of wild animals (including a close up of a pair of lions) blissfully unaware of our presence.

Rwanda - the work begins

After four days on Safari, we flew back to Kigali, capital of Rwanda. We were met on arrival by Luke Karemangingo the Principal of the Gahini Secondary College, who took us to Gahini. We stayed at Bishop Alexis's private residence beside the lake.

Bishop Alexis and Luke had visited Australian schools last year (including Gippsland and St Paul's Grammar Schools) and were impressed with the 'Student Centred' teaching which they wanted to implement in their schools. The next 12 days were used by the Gippsland team to explore a transition to a 'student centred' approach. For the first week our teachers went to the primary and high schools in the mornings to observe. In the afternoons, they worked in small groups to develop a strategy to help the teachers grasp the philosophy of 'Student Centred' learning.

Some of the challenges:

- The difficulty of transitioning to a different teaching methodology
- Its practical outworking in the local classroom setting
- Very large class sizes
- Classroom conditions
- Effective use of resources
- Language use and comprehension

Perhaps the greatest challenge to emerge was that of 'language use and comprehension' by both teachers and students. The locals spoke English as their third language: the first was the local dialect; then French (the colonising language); and finally English. The teachers had recently swapped from teaching in French to English, which brought with it different challenges for both teachers and students.

In the second week, our teachers introduced the local teachers and students to 'Student Centred' learning through a dual strategy of a practical demonstration in the classroom combined with professional development seminars. Our visit was timely because shortly after our arrival at Gahini, it was announced that 'Student Centred Teaching Methodology' is to be introduced by the Government of Rwanda next year as its preferred teaching methodology.

Lasting impressions

• Rwanda is a land of contrasts. It is a place of stark beauty, subsistent living, generosity of spirit, with masses of people but every person valued and there is a great sense of connection to family and community.

• Whilst living with the challenges of limited financial resources, many Rwandans are spiritually rich, with a strong connection to their church and the diocese. Most churches are growing. There is also an optimistic attitude in the face of great need and a willingness to step out in faith, hope and love.

• My observation was that they are a people who carry with them the memories of genocide, grief, lost family members, and yet in the midst of sadness they have also experienced restoration and hope. Many who had been orphaned and had lost their whole families through genocide 20 years earlier had subsequently been adopted into Christian families. As a result they had been given a new beginning, a place to call home.

The challenge

How can we help our Christian brothers and sisters in Rwanda who have so many needs? As a diocese we have many parishes already helping their Rwandan Link parishes in different ways. On the schools front, an informal commitment was made to send a group of Gippsland teachers annually to Rwanda for the next 5 years to help in the professional development of the Gahini teachers. On a personal level, I felt at times a little overwhelmed – where do I start? I decided I could manage small steps. First of all,

I can pray for the people of Rwanda and the Gahini Diocese. Second, I have decided to encourage the Neerim South Parish to do fundraising to help our link parish of Gatunda to do some much needed building works. The aim is to raise \$1000 over the next 12 months. I am encouraging our youth group to sponsor a child at the Rwandan school for \$200 a year. This will pay for the educational expenses for a child for a year so that they might be able to attend school. Thirdly, I am also offering to come and talk about the trip to Rwanda to any parish groups in Gippsland Diocese.

The Rev Dr John Batt is the Rector of Neerim South Co-operating Parish.



(l t - r) Mrs Julie Jago and Ms Leah Stoffels



Outside Bishop Alexis' Residence. (l-r) Ms Annie Crowe, Mrs Tracey Grubb, Ms Leah Stoffels, Mr Nick Carter, Ms Penny Mongera, Manasseh, Gardener, Ms Jan Henry, Mrs Julie Jago and the cook Alfonse. Absent taking the photo the Rev John Batt



Children of the Parish Priest of the Sale link parish at Buhabwa

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Current students joined Old Scholars and past and present staff members at the School's 90th Church Service at St Paul's Cathedral.

'Old Girls' celebrate on St Anne's Day



*Back Row (l to r): Judy Hiscock (Hobson), Wendy Skewes (Andrew), Noeline Rhode (Andrew)
Front Row (l to r): Gayle McLean (Brown), Judith McAninly (Missen), Dianne Semmens (Rule) and Susan Michell (Kid).*

Over one hundred and forty 'Old Girls' gathered for the 90th anniversary of the School on Saturday 26 July – St Anne's Day, and to remember their old School days. The school archivist, Tim Gibson, provided a fabulous display of memorabilia and photographs, which was a highlight for many.

Following the luncheon, current students and staff escorted their special guests on tours of the campus. The young students were delighted to hear stories from the 'old days', with some in disbelief that the balcony was used as a dormitory, all those years ago.

The following day there was a Service of Holy Communion at

St Paul's Cathedral, Sale, to celebrate 90 Years of Anglican education in East Gippsland. Several members of the School community participated in the Service, including Gippsland Grammar School Chaplain, the Reverend Jon Taylor, former Head of St Anne's Campus, Mr Garry Gray, Old Scholars, Thelma Langshaw (Boucher) and Margret Bampton (Neil), current School Captains, Amelia Vuillermin and Al De Steiger, Year 9 student, Caitlin Baker and the delightful St Anne's Choir.

Old Scholars who wish to contact others, should phone Meredith Lynch at the Development Office on (03) 5143 6315 or email meredith.lynch@gippslandgs.vic.edu.au

Gippsland Grammar School – celebrating 90 Years

Gippsland Grammar's Commemoration Day and 90th anniversary celebration was held on Friday 1 August, at Garnsey Hall. Commemoration Day is celebrated each year to mark the August 1970 decision to amalgamate St Anne's and the Gippsland Grammar School. This year, this special date was chosen to also celebrate 90 years of our School, with students from all three campuses present to witness this auspicious occasion.

The School welcomed many special guests, including former Principals, Mr Jim Beard, Mr Campbell Bairstow and Mr Mike Clapper, as well as former Headmasters of St Anne's, the Reverend Tom Binks and Mr Jim Goode. Old Scholars, Mrs Bev Cook OAM (Hayward – 1943), Mrs Joy Brand (Saxton – 1961) and Mr Les Prout (1972), participated in the ceremony as representatives of the original schools.

The ceremony included readings and musical performances from all three

campuses, a special rendition of Happy Birthday to the School and the lighting of the birthday cake by Old Scholar, Mrs Cook and current ELC student, Luca Keppitipola. The highlight of the ceremony was the Principal's on-stage interview of Mrs Cook, who reminisced about her days at St Anne's in the 1940s and how much the School still means to her. Mrs Cook is one of Victoria's longest serving registered teachers and at the age of 88, still teaches music at Swifts Creek P – 12 School. In 2008, she received the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM), for service to the community of East Gippsland, and to music. Several of her former primary students were thrilled to have the chance to catch up with her again.

Following the Fellowship service, special guests enjoyed a light luncheon in the Chapel of St Anne and all students received a traditional Commemoration Day cupcake.



Luca Keppitipola (ELC) blows out the 90th birthday candles.

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St Paul's celebrates Grandparents' Day

About 300 people attended the St Paul's Grammar School 'Grandparents Day' on Friday 25th of July, which was hosted by Year 9 staff and students.

Students had been learning about their family history and the event was a way for students to portray what they had discovered about their own family history to grandparents/parents.

The day began with video displays of students conducting interviews with their grandparents on what it was like when they grew up, and how they perceived the world to have changed.

Students had created 'Heritage Displays' as a part of their family history learning project. Grandparents looked on proudly as their grandchildren showed them their final family history project pieces that had taken many hours and much effort.

The students served tea and scones to their guests while they showcased the Heritage Display projects.

Yvonne and Graham March with St Paul's student Ebony March





Prison ministry at Fulham



Continued from page 1

Heather describes the prisoners as being mostly people who “have just taken a wrong turn somewhere”. She says “As chaplains, our main mission is social justice. Our God is a God of ‘justice and reconciliation’, while the word justice has come to mean punishment. Chaplains support restorative justice initiatives which are more likely to bring healing than traditional approaches primarily concerned with punishment”.

She quotes Mahatma Ghandi: “An eye for an eye makes the whole world blind”. Heather says many of the men will admit they have done the wrong thing, and ask “Now what do I do, where to from here?” So the need is to give them the skills they don’t have. One part of that is the “Being a Dad” program.

Being a Dad

Both Heather and Sarah Gover (Community Development Officer for Anglicare Victoria) are involved in the “Being a Dad” course in the prison, which is Anglicare’s Parentzone program. Parentzone runs parenting programs all over Gippsland, but this one was specifically designed for prisons, after Sarah approached them with the idea. It is a six session course, which is run three times a year. While the course is run by a trained educator, Heather and Sarah both attend the sessions, with Heather taking care of the follow-up, Sarah offering administrative back-up, and both getting to know the men along the way.

Sarah says that sometimes there will be father and son participants in the same program. The course helps the men to look at how they were parented themselves, and how that affects their own parenting. It gives them skills for parenting their children from a distance while they are in prison, and for when they get out. The course can take up to 15 participants, and there are always 10–15 attending, so it is very much appreciated. One particularly popular session uses Lego to teach communication skills.

Another course that Heather and Sarah would like to see started at Fulham is called “Get Out for Good”. This program is already being successfully run in Warnambool and in Melbourne. This is simply offering friendship to men who have recently been released – for example, having a cup of coffee once a week. The three main needs of those just out of prison are: a place to live, a job and a friend. New friendships can be hard to make, but extremely important in establishing a new life, and preventing a return to prison.

Sarah says that volunteers are needed to enable a similar program to be offered at Fulham. Training is available, and anyone interested can call her. She feels strongly about offering prisoners programs that teach life skills, which she sees as a way of preventing further crimes.

The Reverend Robert Ferguson (Senior Chaplain for Anglican Criminal Justice Ministry), in a Melbourne Synod speech on the Get Out for Good program, spoke about the need to

work in partnership with churches and deaneries: “We have chaplains who are experienced in working with men and women who have been in prison, who can assist churches in thinking about how they can become involved in reaching out with compassion to people as they are released. We need prayer support. We need financial support. We need churches and deaneries that will invite Anglican Criminal Justice Ministry to come and begin to talk with them... We need volunteers: clergy and lay, who will be trained to become the mentors and supporters.”

Both Sarah and Heather clearly have great compassion and empathy for the men and their families. Sarah says “There are gut-wrenching moments when guys talk about the effect [their being in prison is] having on their families”, explaining that some lose their houses, and children can lose their friends or be bullied at school. She says, however, “It means that when they get out, they don’t want to discipline their kids”, because they feel the children have suffered enough. But the Being a Dad program can help them break the cycle of poor parenting.

Sarah finds it a privilege to be involved in prison ministry, “to hear guys talking about their kids and allow them to just be a Dad. That’s what I like”. After being with them on the course for six weeks, Sarah says “They’ve told stories, they’ve been honest”, and they have become friends.

The Rev Heather Toms has recently been nominated for the Anglicare’s Chairman’s Award in the 2014 Program in the Exceptional Service, Individual category.

Letter of thanks

Jan McIntyre

From myself, and on behalf of our family, I would like to thank you all for your cards, letters, emails, texts, published tributes, calls, conversations and considered silences, that expressed unique, personal, honest and thoughtful responses to Mac’s (Bishop John McIntyre) early and sudden death.

We know that these have been made in love, friendship and appreciation, giving us warm assurances of prayer, condolences, stories and offers of help. We have been amazed and pleased by the breadth and variety across geography, time and circumstance in which Mac knew people. This is an ongoing tribute and honour to him.

In early August we received the final medical test results showing that what could not be overcome was a rare, rapidly progressive lung condition called Hamman-Rich syndrome. This nasty syndrome tends to affect generally healthy people like Mac.

Although more often caused by infection or medical drugs, for Mac, the indicators were that it was caused by his rheumatoid arthritis. His rheumatoid factor rose to extreme heights in May. In contrast, when he was first diagnosed with that condition in 2008, it was a very low count and not indicative of what would follow. He worked on overcoming it, with apparent success until perhaps July 2013 when it re-emerged strongly for some months. Perhaps, in hindsight, the chest pain and fever that sent Mac to the doctor at the end of March this year, was the beginning of the Hamman-Rich syndrome. Also, his body reacted either adversely or was unresponsive to some of his treatments.

Inevitably there is speculation about Mac’s medical story, but through our conversations with his doctors during his illness and after his passing, we are certain that he received the best of care; that there was a team of medical staff anxious to discover a cause and cure; and that he touched their heart with his manner and grace.

Underlying everything, and of vital importance, were the prayers of so many throughout the world. We all, including Mac, were aware of this and we thank you for your continued prayerful care.



Jan McIntyre



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’.



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Surprised by Joy

by John Batt

What comes to mind when you hear the word 'Joy'? It could be a person – such as a mother, sister, daughter, wife, friend – or it might be a feeling. You may have experienced joy as a parent or a child, a bride or groom, or with your partner at the birth of a child. It may also describe the feeling after the successful completion of a difficult task, or the enjoyment of seeing a sunset, a rose or a beautiful garden.

The concept of Joy was integral to C S Lewis's contemplations as he grappled with various intellectual challenges to belief in God. In fact it was so meaningful to him that he highlighted it in the title of his autobiography, *Surprised by Joy*.

Lewis defined Joy as an "unsatisfied desire which is itself more desirable than any other satisfaction... I call it Joy, which is here a technical term and must be sharply distinguished both from Happiness and from Pleasure. Joy (in my sense) has indeed one characteristic, and one only, in common with them; the fact that anyone who has experienced it will want it again" (*Surprised by Joy, The Shape of my Early Life* C S Lewis, p.18).

Lewis's first memory of Joy was experienced at home in the company of his mother, father and young brother in Northern Ireland. It was an idyllic childhood cut short when Lewis was 10 years old, by the death of his mother from cancer. He described the experience as 'paralysing and alienating'. Indeed, his father's grief was so severe that he felt

like he had lost both parents. "It divided us from our Father as well as our Mother" (*Surprised by Joy*, p.19).

Lewis reminisced that there were many other periods when it seemed that Joy had deserted him. Banished to boarding school for his early education, he wrote that throughout his boyhood "The authentic 'Joy' (as I tried to describe it in an earlier chapter) had vanished from my life: so completely that not even the memory or the desire of it remained." This experience was like "a long winter" and he used the evocative image of a fast moving "spring" transformation to describe Joy's return and its reawakening in his life. "It was as if the arctic itself, all the deep layers of secular ice, should change not in a week nor in an hour, but instantly, into a landscape of grass and primroses and orchards in bloom, deafened with bird songs and astir with running water" (*Surprised by Joy* p.82).

The Joy Lewis rediscovered was a welcome relief; however, in the longer term it proved transitory and shallow. It showed itself to be a counterfeit joy as a "desire is turned not to itself but to its object ... Joy itself, considered simply as an event in my own mind, turned out to be of no value at all". Lewis persevered in his quest to discover the secret of lasting Joy and came to a final realisation that (Christian) "Joy, as I now understood it, would fit in. We mortals, seen as the sciences see us and as we commonly see one another, are mere 'appearances'. But appearances of the Absolute. In so far as we really are at all... we have, so to speak, a root in the Absolute, which is the utter reality.



C S Lewis's rooms at Magdalen College, Oxford

And that is why we experience Joy: we yearn rightly, for that unity which we can never reach except by ceasing to be the separate phenomenal beings called 'we'" (p.256).

Lewis discovered that the Joy that he had experienced periodically throughout his life had been the shadow of the reality that has its ultimate fulfilment in Christ. Lewis wrote about his final surrender to the loving overtures of a persistent heavenly father – "That which I greatly feared had at last come upon me. In the Trinity Term of 1929 I gave in, and admitted that God was God, and knelt and prayed: perhaps that night the most dejected and reluctant convert in all England" (p. 266).

Lewis had discovered that there is much that is good in the world that brings Joy, but that there is a deeper abiding Joy that issues from being in a living relationship with God that far surpasses all others; a Joy

and peace that passes all understanding. It is a Joy which sustained him throughout his adult life. He experienced ups and downs, disappointments and the loss, through cancer, of his beloved wife – interestingly named Joy. This same Joy is a gift available to all who would partake of it through faith in Christ. It is eternal, everlasting, and its constant companion is a peace that passes all understanding.

Letter to the editor

Members of the Yarram Anglican Parish Council wish to express their appreciation of the "new" Gippsland Anglican: well presented, with the added bonus of *The Melbourne Anglican*, we find parishioners are more willing to take a copy to read.

We congratulate you and the team.

Miriam Stackhouse, honorary secretary,
Jo White, Priest in Charge, Yarram

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Sharing the good news of Jesus in Cambodia and Gippsland

by Sue Jacka

Like many churches, we have CMS link missionaries. Ours are Inpa and Vana Eliezer in Cambodia. A few years ago, we were happy to host them for a weekend in our parish and get to know them better. We were interested that they also are part of a small church and that we shared passions for reaching out into our communities with the Good News of Jesus, encouraging new leaders and seeing people coming to faith. Their regular prayer updates have kept us up-to-date with their work. Ross and I pray several times a week for them. The desire to visit them and see their ministry ‘in situ’ has grown over a time, so it was great when we were able to make the trip to Cambodia in June this year.

As Australia becomes more secular, we are facing some very similar challenges in ministry and it was good to exchange thoughts on how we approached these. They and we use many community development principles in our work. In Cambodia, NaCE (Nummanna Auxiliary for Community Enrichment), the development arm of their Celebrating Church, seeks to integrate entrepreneurship and lifeskills training. In Trafalgar, we reach out to people through community

activities like a garden produce swap, art classes for young people and a men’s breakfast.

It was also good to be present at some of their church prayer times and to experience Cambodian style Bible study and corporate prayer.

We had prayed for their ministry with young people, including a camp and music ministry. It was great to hear that a number of young people had decided to become Christians. Through Skype and email we learned that before being baptised, this group of young people were completing quite a lengthy Bible study series. Vana reported that others had become Christians, been baptised and then fallen away, so they wanted to try something different this time. We were delighted to be present when seven young people were baptised! A local Christian school with a swimming pool was booked and after the service, there was a lunch and free time for some swimming.

We had also been encouraging people from our small congregations in Gippsland to support their work. While parish council makes a contribution to support the Eliezers’ work, this can seem distant to our people, so in our services, we have shown pictures of the different outreaches in operation. We collected \$400 to help

support a music ministry with young people and were able to present this to the church when we visited. It’s good for Cambodians also to realise that some Australian churches are small and that while we share what we have, we are not especially wealthy either!

Another group of young people come together three times a week to cook and share a meal for lunch. Not only do they learn healthy cooking but it provides a time for encouragement and friendship. Some of them live locally but come from poor families, while others live in the very simple boarding school. The meal they cooked the day we were there was delicious!

It was encouraging to see a small school that one member of their congregation has started for children who don’t get to morning school (that’s all that is provided free in that area) such as the flower sellers who need to sell their produce while it is still fresh. Two of the girls gave us small garlands of local jasmine made by their mothers. As well as the usual lessons, the children also learn English and how to look after themselves. Interested children gather on a Sunday to hear more Bible stories and learn specifically about Jesus. In our parish, we are doing a lot of outreach to children and families – *mainly music* and afterschool programs in two of our towns. As in Cambodia, the challenge for us is to connect in meaningful ways with the families as well as the children.

It was lovely to be able to spend time with Inpa and Vana, hearing their challenges and joys and sharing our own. It was also special that their daughter Dhanu was visiting from Australia where she is studying as she had also visited Trafalgar parish in 2010. If you have link missionaries in your church, may I encourage you to email or write to them and find out a bit more about their experiences. It will inform your prayers and encourage a deeper partnership across the world.

The Rev Sue Jacka is rector of the parish of Trafalgar.



The youth practising their music



Presenting the money we raised for their young people’s music ministry

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The song catcher of Korumburra

A conversation with Philip Beggs

by Jan Down

Song writing comes naturally to Philip Beggs. He relates to the concept of the Native American idea of being a “song catcher”, and it seems an apt description of how his songs come to him.

Often they are caught when he is out running in the spectacular landscape of South Gippsland. He is very much inspired by the beauty of the natural world, whether it’s “a frosty morning, a still lake, magnificent mountains, a spider’s web, or a lamb running free through a paddock”.

Philip sees a lot in common between prayer and song writing: “Prayer, and good song writing is allowing yourself to be in the moment... If your heart’s open and your mind’s open – sometimes things just come in.”

Song writing began for Philip when he was about 19, and just starting to learn to play guitar. He would be strumming a few chords and a tune would come to him, and then the words to fit the tune. Or sometimes the other way around. “The good songs always come very quickly,” he says. “They fall in your lap. It’s like prayer really.” What he means by this is, just as a person will pop into your mind, and you feel drawn to pray for them, so will a song simply arrive in your mind.

In 2000, Philip won the Lawson-Patterson song-writing award at the Port Fairy Folk Festival, as well as the Best Song of Tolerance, with his *Birds of Paradise*. This song was inspired by a documentary Philip had seen about soldiers who had fought in Papua New Guinea. One of the Australian men interviewed was an eighty year old who recalled how he had shot and killed a Japanese soldier. Upon searching the dead man, he found a photo of him with his wife and two children. The old man told how he had never forgotten what he had done and never forgiven himself for destroying that family.

Philip had been to PNG himself, and seen and heard the birds of paradise. They had always been there, but the soldiers were too frightened and preoccupied with the war to notice them. Philip says “This is a bit like us and the way we lose sight of God in the business of daily life”.

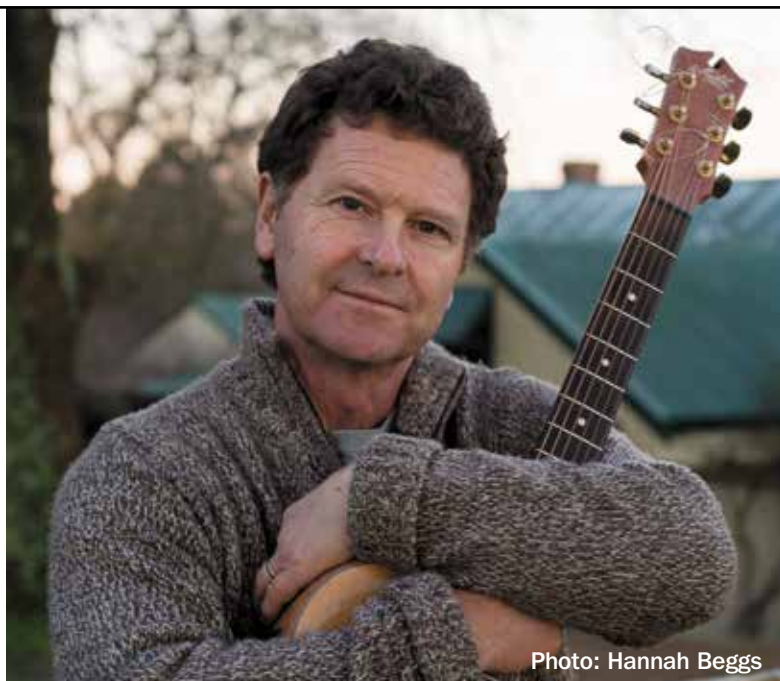


Photo: Hannah Beggs

In 2004, Philip won Best Song of Tolerance again, for *Heartbreak Island*, which he says was “based on the demise of the last Tasmanian Aborigines when they were sent to Wybalena Station on Flinders Island. Apparently they died of heartache when banished from their homeland”.

A friend encouraged Philip, when he was in his 30s, to record his songs, urging him to go and see Hugh McDonald, who was a member of Red Gum, a well-known band in the 70’s and 80’s. Hugh had a recording studio, where Philip was able to put down some songs, playing mandolin, guitar and harmonica himself, while friends added in other instruments such as accordion, flute and bass.

The title track of his first CD, *Boy with Boats and Dreams*, was inspired by his father Jim, who grew up by the Yarra River in Melbourne. As a boy, Jim made paper boats to float on the river, and believed that one day “a big ship would take him to another shore” – he was a man of faith. He worked as a wharfie, became a union leader and eventually President of what was then known as the Waterside Workers Federation. Jim Beggs, who made such a difference to working conditions for other workers on the wharves, also made a deep impression on his son.

For a long time, Philip thought that no one else in his family had been musical. However, he recently discovered that his great grandmother was a music teacher in Korumburra. This came as a surprise, especially as Philip had himself come to live

in Korumburra before he knew about it. He also discovered that his Irish grandfather played accordion. Now, to Philip’s great delight, his daughter is starting to write her own songs, so the music continues.

Philip grew up listening to folk music – he has always appreciated songs that tell a story or have a message. He says that the way he thinks about song writing is influenced by his appreciation of Jesus as great story-teller, whose stories show such an understanding of compassion, forgiveness and love.

Life is very full: Philip is currently Acting Principal at Poowong Consolidated Primary School, which he describes as “a fantastic little school” in a beautiful setting. He also runs

the music program at the school, and each year Hugh McDonald records the songs that the children have written with Philip. They make a CD

and have a launch, which is a wonderful experience for the children.

Philip still finds time for performing at all sorts of events, playing in a band, bee-keeping and photography, as well as singing and playing regularly at his church, St. Paul’s Korumburra. He and his wife Fiona also run ‘Fireside Chats’ – an informal gathering “where people who may not be comfortable with ‘church’ can gather for conversation and support”.

One recent privilege for him was playing his guitar at the memorial service for Bishop John McIntyre, which he says was “a tremendous honour”.



Diocesan calendar

September

- 12–13 Diocesan Retreat at The Abbey, Raymond Island (details page 9)
- 20 10:00 am – 3:00 pm Sustainability Festival at The Abbey: displays, demonstrations and stalls
- 27 1:30 pm Spiritual Directors Peer Supervision Group meeting, Sale. For more information, contact the Rev Barb Logan.
- 28 GFS World Day of Prayer, Ceremony of Light service (contact Lauren Kitwood 0413 754 062)
- 30 9:30 am – 5:00 pm Free Mental Health Training Day, at Mark’s Rosedale, details Sarah Gover

October

- 5 10:00 am Pet Blessings at St. John’s Metung
- 12 10:00 am Pet Blessings at St. Nicholas’, Lakes Entrance
- 13 – 16 Clergy Retreat, Pallotti College Retreat Centre
- 25 9:30 am – 3:30 pm Anam Cara Quiet Day, Christ Church, Drouin
- 26 1:30 pm Annual General GFS Kidsplus+ Network meeting, 4 Daniel Court, Traralgon
- 30 7:30 pm MU Gippsland/St Paul’s evening, with Professor Freda Briggs, expert on child protection, at St Paul’s Traralgon Campus; supper provided. Cost \$10, pay on the night. For registration of interest, phone 5126 2767.

November

- 8 Ordination, St Paul’s Cathedral, Sale, with Archbishop Philip Freier, Primate of the Anglican Church of Australia
- 9 Special commemoration of the Honour Board for WW1 at St John’s, Metung
- 15 9:30 am – 3:30 pm Anam Cara Quiet Day, Christ Church, Drouin
- 15 11:00 am Kids+ Network Diocesan Thanksgiving Service and Lunch at Sale (to be confirmed)
- 23 3:00 pm–5:00 pm Kidsplus+ Diocesan Family Traffic School Afternoon, Morwell
- 29 9:00 am Wonthaggi Inverloch church Fete, St George’s, corner McBride Ave and Hagelthorn Street, Wonthaggi



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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