



Morialta Vision



Volume 2 Issue 5

October 2009

From the Minister

David Purling writes...

A few weeks ago we went to Riverton to attend a family reunion with my Mother's side of the family. My great-great-great grandfather was George Uppill who married Mary Rose Osment in Sherborne Abbey, Dorset in 1836. They migrated to Australia in 1839 and their two little girls died of measles on the voyage.

They settled a farm in the Riverton area in 1854 and went on to have another 11 children only 4 of whom reached adulthood. Only three branches of the family had offspring and they are now scattered around Australia.

Over 100 people went to Riverton for the reunion, and that included the youngest (our Sophie) It was my privilege to conduct a service of thanksgiving in the Riverton U.C. on the Sunday morning.

After the service (and morning tea, of course!) we travelled out to the cemetery where the Uppill graves are. Parts of the old farmhouse, built by George, are still standing. How did they cope in such a dry and barren land after coming from "England's green and pleasant land"? There was the isolation and help was many miles away.

It was great to catch up with relations, some of whom we had not seen since the 150th re-union 20 years ago!

One very moving part of the thanksgiving service was to light a candle for all thirteen children, and to have read something of their lives.



Then weekend made me think about not only the connection we have as families, but of the connection we have within the Church family too. Over the last while there have been a number of deaths in our church family. We have felt the loss along with the members of those human families. We are connected. And in our connectedness we reach out to "our family".

A contemporary hymn (not in our resources) "All Are Welcome" by Marty Haugen, begins, "Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live..."

and the second verse goes on to say,

"Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known. Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face; let us bring an end to fear and danger: all are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place."

Grace and peace, David

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Lord, you have come to the seashore, neither searching for the rich nor the wise, desiring only that I should follow.

O Lord, with your eyes set upon me, gently smiling, you have spoken my name, all I longed for I have found by the water, at your side I will seek other shores.

*Cesareo Gabarian
Translated by Robert Trupia*

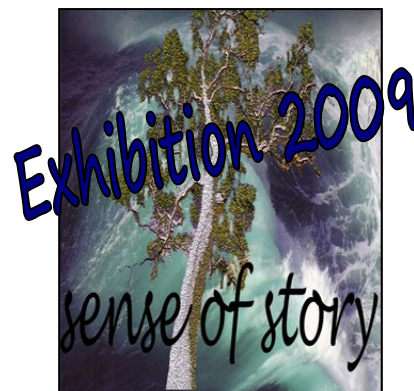
MIGHTY MAGILL

Christmas 2009

MARKET & EXHIBITION

Saturday 21 November
9.00 am to 3.00 pm

Exhibition continues to 26 November



Green

This set of paraments is probably the one we are most familiar with as they appear over four or five months after Pentecost.

Over twenty five members of the congregation were involved in preparing the green, red, white and purple paraments, through their involvement in concept development, design, cutting, stitching, hand-working, appliqué, storage and presentation.

The project was completed in October 1994.

Green represents new life and hope, and is used on the 'ordinary' Sundays of the liturgical year.



All designs in this set use Creation symbols.

The Communion Table:

A stylised waterfall flows around the (Gum) Tree of Life. This strongly links into the imagery inherent in the word 'Morialta'.

The Stoles:

This uses the stylised water elements of the Communion Table design.

The Pulpit:

The traditional dove of peace speaks of God's covenant of love.



The Lectern:

Here are the elements of our communion sacrament.

The bread and wine are represented by wheat and grapes, both of which have figured strongly in South Australia's agricultural and economic base.



Reverent musings of a would be Christian

This is where the secular meets the sacred.

This is where my actions are challenged by the life of Jesus.

This is where the ephemeral meets the eternal.

This is where my thoughts are challenged by the teachings of Jesus.

This is where the mundane meets the magnificent.

This is where my intentions are challenged by the example of Jesus.

This is where the ordinary meets the exceptional.

This is where what I am is challenged by what Jesus is.

This is where the trivial meets the transcendent.

This is where my foolishness is challenged by the wisdom of Jesus.

This is where the traditional meets the transforming.

This is where my cultural comfort is challenged by the universality of Jesus.

This is where the profane meets the profound.

This is where my lapses are challenged by the consistency of Jesus.

This is where the insipid meets the inspirational

This is where my habits are challenged by the creativity of Jesus.

This is where the selfish meets the selfless. This is where my insensitivity is challenged by the compassion of Jesus.

Now if I accept that God is the power of creation, the source of all being, of driving force of life, love and beauty, then God, in some way, must be present in all things. And if there exists some aspect of the divine in all things, then these apparent opposites, secular/sacred, ephemeral/eternal etc, should not really be seen as contradictions, but rather more like converging positions on a continuum.

The difference between the pre-Easter Jesus and us, is more one of degree than kind. He was both fully human and fully divine. And I think that it was his very divinity that made him the complete person. And as for us, we do not suffer from an absence of humanity or divinity, but rather an inability to manifest those characteristics fully and consistently.

Which in turn leads me to wonder if this might be part of why Jesus placed so much importance on community. For in a caring, loving, forgiving community our individual lapses may be offset to some extent by the nett positive effect of those around us. And it is in such a community that we can experience the post-Easter Jesus. For being Christian goes beyond beliefs. It is about relationships; with God, with Jesus, with the Holy Spirit, with each other and with the world. Relationships of respect and love.

Chris Ayles
September 2009

paws for thought ..

I don't know why people think all I do is sleep during the service on Sundays.

Sure, I close my eyes and lie quietly on the floor in front of Bruce, but you would too, if you had to do all the stuff he makes me do.

Anyway, just to prove I do pay attention; I am often surprised at the differences there are at the front of the church sometimes. You know, I've got used of special occasions like Easter and Christmas, but just recently I was amused to see a red thing they call a yacht, I think, on the front of the church. I thought dogs had a vivid imagination, but that was something.

Well, the answer soon became apparent. I was listening and they were talking about our giving. Stewardship, they called it. I thought the messages were worth listening to and I'm sure that others did, too. I get a chance to see a lot of what goes on around Morialta and I know that it is important so I guess that encouraging people to give regularly is too!

Your 'Repawter',
Keely

From the Chairperson

Morialta Uniting is a busy place. There is always something going on. If it's not the Aussie-Rama or Quiz Night, it's something else. We have had regular events like Pot Luck tea and we have special things like the Library Luncheon, the Garden Party, and coming up soon the Market and Exhibition.

While it is busy there is a real buzz around the place as so many of us work together to make the events a success. Of course, the fellowship is always important and the feeling of belonging that comes with involvement is really community building, but the money raised is also useful in supporting the mission and activity that we engage in with the wider community.

Even if you can't do anything else to assist with the Market and Exhibition there is something really important that can support the success. It's this: please tell as many of your family and friends as you can so 2009 will continue the tradition of great success.

Bruce

From Christine Ostle

Networking would definitely be the key word to describe my work in the last two months. Networking is all about meeting new people and discovering how the new relationship can be mutually beneficial and bridges can be built to wider contacts. Some of the networking that I have done has included visiting Aged Care Facilities and Residential Care Facilities, attending a one day seminar for Adult Educators at the WEA, and attending functions at Campbelltown and Burnside councils.



From these opportunities to network I have conversed with people who

- are interested in working with us to present programs
- may be interested in hiring our premises for their programs
- will help us promote our programs
- have exchanged business cards and brochures with me
- have guided me toward resources

I have found that there is a vast range of opportunities to engage with the wider community. All of the possibilities mentioned above are only listed in general terms because no concrete plans are yet in place. Before concrete plans can be formulated the networking needs to be done. Fortunately networking is one of my favourite pursuits. I never cease to be amazed by the wondrous variety of God's people and networking enables me to engage with God's wondrously diverse people.

Friendship Club

Most Wednesdays I spend a bit of time at Friendship Club. If I am lucky I will arrive as a new game of Rummikin is getting underway, hence I can join in. I quite enjoy the challenge of finding a run of three or more numbered tiles of the same colour or sets of three numbers of different colours. If I arrive and games are already under way I often stand alongside each player in a team and assist them to find moves. I enjoy this challenge playing four games at once!

I usually visit the people pondering over a jigsaw puzzle though I seldom place a piece. I can however assist by helping to collect pieces into colour groups. I marvel at the sharp eye of those who do the jigsaws. It is also fun to chat to the people reading magazines and playing carpet bowls.



Volunteering at Friendship Club can be rewarding as well as fun.

More volunteers are needed.

Please contact

Margaret Webbe or Fay Goldsworthy

Grants Galore & Thanks to Lesley.

In July Church Council received the resignation of Lesley Tideman from the role of Grants Coordinator. This was met with regret, but more importantly with a great deal of appreciation for the work Lesley has done over a period spanning sixteen years or so. Lesley has brought to the task her considerable prior knowledge and experience in the area of grants sources, processes of funding bodies, her writing skills, and especially her eye for detail and ability to support others to get the job done. As a congregation we give our sincere thanks to Lesley.

Church Council, in consultation with Community Outreach leadership, is considering the ways in which we can enable the ongoing work in preparing grant applications.

In the last three months there has been significant activity in the preparation of four grant applications. Projects/equipment for which we are seeking funding include extensive storage provisions on the walls of the Blue Room, replacing the older cupboards and make-shift arrangements, upgrading of the wet areas in the KUCA building, trolley and trestle tables, and a portable sound system. Church Council has supported all applications and we now wait in hope for the outcomes which will probably not be known until the new year begins.

Whilst all of this requires considerable work and no assurance of success, we can't but help feel hopeful, particularly when a summary of grants sought since 1997 shows that Morialta has had much success, receiving just over \$100,000 in grant funding.

From Social Justice Sunday - Pentecost 17
27 September 2009

The liturgy for the service included Readings from the National Council of Churches in Australia, each followed by a prayer.
We thought readers may like to revisit them as we are immersed in a context where these are worthy of further deep thought and reflection.

An Economic Storm

This crisis is a consequence of the failure of global financial markets... The needs of the world's most vulnerable people and the future sustainability of the planet were sacrificed for the profit of a relative few.

... In developing countries, rates of hunger and poverty have increased. Finance for development has become scarce as capital markets, donors and official lenders contend with the severe global downturn...It is time to consider the values and the principles we need to guide us to more equitable, peaceful and sustainable ways of living. The Christian gospel calls people to live in harmony with each other and the environment and to prioritise the care of the most vulnerable over the making of profit. Our relationship with the God of life is an invitation to us to understand human progress and wellbeing in other than material ways.

As hopes fail for many people, we must commit ourselves to act, sure of our calling to bring the love of God to all people.

**Lord God, we live in disturbing days:
across the world,
prices rise,
debts increase,
banks collapse,
jobs are taken away, and
fragile security is under threat.
Loving God, meet us in our fear
and hear our prayer:
be a tower of strength amidst the
shifting sands,
and a light in the darkness;
help us receive your gift of peace,
and fix our hearts where true joys
are to be found,
in Jesus Christ our Lord.**

(Church of England)

Sustaining Creation

In 2002, the National Council of Churches issued a statement entitled *Sustaining Creation* which included the following: All of us are aware that our planet's health and vitality are decaying. In the 20th century, the human impact on the earth increased enormously ...Development is not sustainable if it steals from present and future generations.

Poverty and environmental degradation are interwoven, and it is the poor who suffer most from this degradation. Sustainable development cannot be defined in economic terms alone, but must begin in a commitment to care for the poor, the marginalised, and the voiceless.

We seek a sustainable community.

...As people who receive the planet as God's sacred gift to us, we have a particular responsibility to live in harmony with and care for the natural world, ensuring that God's gift will be enjoyed by the generations to come.

**God of life,
Help us understand that your gospel
is not just the proclamation of
individual redemption
and renewal,
but also the renewal of society
under your reign.
Help us act to end injustice
and to restore right relationship
with you,
between human beings and with the
whole of Creation.
For you are with us.
We are not alone.
Thanks be to God.**

(Adapted from the bishops of the Anglican
Communion, Lambeth 2008.)

The Common Purse

In times of crisis, we often turn first to consider our own interests. During a financial crisis, it is almost inevitable that many of us are drawn to think about how much tax we are paying. This is not surprising considering that we rarely hear the word "tax" without the word "burden" attached and that at election times promises of tax cuts are often the first to be made.

However, when most of us are asked, we say that we would prefer better healthcare, education, roads and public transport to a few extra dollars in our pay packets. This response reflects our understanding that taxation is what we use in our society to ensure the equitable distribution of wealth and the raising of public money, our "common wealth", our common purse.

...Christianity teaches us that we have a responsibility to care for each other and share what we have so that the most vulnerable are not left wanting. ...The Australian Council of Social Service has estimated that two million Australians live in poverty (based on a poverty line of 50% of average disposable income).

Some 12% of Australian children live in poverty as do 27% of Australians of retirement age...

**God of justice and compassion,
we long to be a nation where all
people can live a decent life.
Help us work with and through our
governments to affirm our shared
public responsibilities.
Inspire us to create a society where
all people can have financial security
for a reasonable standard of living,
decent and meaningful work,
education, access to adequate
healthcare, secure housing,
appropriate social services,
opportunities for cultural,
technological, social and spiritual
development and lively, safe and
inclusive communities.
Allow your love to prevail.
God of justice and compassion, hear
our prayer.**

Faith and Doubt

"A faith without some doubts is like a human body without antibodies in it. People who blithely go through life too busy or indifferent to ask hard questions about why they believe as they do will find themselves defenseless against either the experience of tragedy or the probing questions of a smart skeptic."

~ *Tim Keller, The Reason for God*

Hope for the Common Good

Work, Dignity and Hope

These are terrible times for many workers. Unemployment has hit double digits in many countries across the globe... In Australia the situation has not been as severe as in other parts of the world, but some economists predict that by 2011 more than one million Australians will be unemployed... The 2009 Wesley Report, Financial Stress: The Hidden Human Cost, shows a large increase (between 2006 and 2008) in the number of households finding it difficult, if not impossible, to pay general household bills on time and highlighted the destructive effects this can have on personal health and family relationships.

As Christians we believe that people come before profits. This is why church organisations like The Salvation Army, UnitingCare, Anglicare and St Vincent de Paul, and their agencies, provide practical and financial assistance for low-income families and individuals struggling to make ends meet...

**Show me the suffering of the most miserable,
so I may know my people's plight.
Free me to pray for others,
for you are present in every person.
Help me to take responsibility for my own life,
so that I can be free at last.
Grant me courage to serve others,
for in service there is true life.
Give me honesty and patience,
so that I can work with other workers.
Bring forth song and celebration,
so that the Spirit will be alive among us.
Let the Spirit flourish and grow,
so that we will never tire of the struggle.
Let us remember those who have died
for justice, for they have given us life.
Help us love even those who hate us,
so we can change the world.**

(National Farm Worker Ministry, USA)

From UC Adult Fellowship Together magazine ...

Pray for the Appeal for the starving children of Mwandia, Zambia, being issued by the Orphans and Vulnerable Children Project. Since the economic crises much international support has dried up, especially from USA, and the price of common but imported goods, such as flour for bread has sky rocketed. Pray earnestly that ways may be found to continue feeding the 300 children who have become used to receiving three meals a day for six days of the week.

This project has been co-ordinated by Fiona Dixon-Thompson originally from Port Lincoln, and other supporters from S.A.

And – closer to home...

Pray for the Waikerie Fruit Project, and the fruit farmers of the Riverland whom we are endeavouring to assist to stay on their blocks. Only 5% of their licensed water entitlements has been promised at present. Pray too for the success of the new ventures the Riverland farmers are exploring, and for the seasonal workers, pickers and packers. With so many fruit trees pulled out or left on their own, there is considerable less work available.

Averil Nash

Life is like this story

Recently, John and I thoroughly enjoyed a holiday in the Grampians. From the highway you could see the stunning backdrop of the shape and colour of the mountain range, sitting on a floor of verdant green pastures. It looked magnificent. But as you drew closer, and came to be within the mountains yourself, it was a different story.



Black, black as the ace of spades for kilometre upon kilometre. Two years ago the Grampian experienced devastating bushfires of great force and power, overtaking and killing much of the native vegetation.

However this is not a story of total destruction. This is the story of survival amongst the destruction. This is the amazing story about how the Grampians Community struggled and overcame great loss of life and loss of possessions. But as one person said "You just have to keep on going, because that is all you can do."

We climbed Mt William and from the top of that mountain we were filled with a sense of awe and wonder. God's world here might have suffered but the backbone of the mountain range was not broken.

The beauty was still there and always will be, although scarred and blemished by bushfires.



Life is like this story. Beautiful on the outside but would not be complete without the struggles and pain we go through within.

Beyond the Smoke is the story told of the Grampians Community's struggle through the bushfires. The photos used in this book I found extraordinary. The book can be borrowed from the library.

Lorraine Powers



CONGRATULATIONS to Dale and Brian Corrigan on their 50th Wedding Anniversary!

They were married in Santa Monica, California, on 3rd October, 1959 and lived there for 5 years, including a 6 month sojourn in Vancouver. From there they went to New Zealand for 3 months before sailing to Australia on the *Himalaya*. Their arrival at Outer Harbour in 105 degree heat on the 5th of January 1964 and their drive up Port Road in a cousin's car made them wonder at their choice of destination and their future. That future of now 45 years residence has become part of our Morialta pleasure. We are honoured to share in their celebrations.



Pam Johnson's 70th Birthday Celebrations were enjoyed by many, including friends: "The Village People", Kiwanis colleagues, family and many long term friends, plus the Morialta church family. Thanks to Pam and Kel's three family members, Meredith, Alison and Brenton, our knowledge of Pam's life and family history was expanded, even embellished (!), all with great good humour and much love. Thank you for sharing with us!



Library Luncheon Event

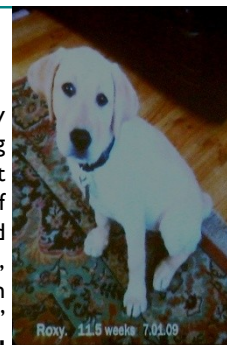
With guest speaker, Rev John Pfitzner, the topic, "Being Bookish", was greatly enjoyed by the forty-plus people who attended. Those who are avid readers were reassured with generous permission to indulge their reading delights. Those who make the time for reading less frequently were tantalisingly encouraged by John's deep enthusiasm, to make the time.

Questions from listeners were keen, thoughtful, and some had the potential to be provocative, in the best sense!

THANKS to Lorraine and all members of the Library Committee for organizing this occasion with good bookish-thoughtfulness and tasty soup.

EVENING FELLOWSHIP
19 August '09

Everyone enjoyed the "Doggy Night" with Margaret Clogg and Bruce Ind. Margaret talked about the joys of Puppy Raising with Roxy, and Bruce togetherwith Keely, revealed rich experiences in "It's a Dog's Life!" Congratulations to all presenters to this captivated, adoring audience.



What a BONUS!

The Evening Fellowship group abounds in "bonus" experiences – this time at the Baan Thai Restaurant at Magill. A good time was had by all.



MORE THAN THE GREAT OCEAN ROAD

21 – 27 September 2009

The tour was clearly a great success and much enjoyed by all!

We sought some comments and evidence and members have responded generously, all with high praise for the program, experiences, care and wonderful coordination by Beverley Tredrea. Congratulations, Bev!



A wonderful holiday with lots of hi-lights. Very well coordinated by Beverly but very relaxed. Great food, company and beautiful scenic views along the coast. Can't wait for next year!
Margaret Dix.

The Great Ocean Road is so spectacular. The trip couldn't have been better – so much to see and do. Looking forward to our next trip!
Arlene.

Great day at Sovereign Hill with access all day at our convenience. Light and sound shows both at Sovereign Hill and Warnambool – excellent!

Safe driving with Bob – his third trip with us! Lots of laughs with good company. A wonderful itinerary arranged by Bev. Another trip for 2010 – BRING IT ON!
Jenny Barabas

The Shipwreck Coast

Other states boast about the significant features of their coastlines – South Australia has its Limestone Coast, noted for its wines, Queensland has its Gold and Sunshine Coasts, famous for their sun and surf.

Victoria on the other hand has its “notorious Shipwreck Coast”. The south west coast of Victoria was often the first port of call for immigrants to Australia. After three months at sea, chiefly on the Great Circle route, sailing with few navigational aids, ships had to “thread the eye of the needle” between Cape Otway and King Island. More than 100 ships were wrecked along 120 km of coastline with many hundreds of lives lost.

We realistically experienced the hazards of the journey in the multi-million dollar world-class sound and laser show, “Shipwrecked”, the story of the Loch Ard tragedy.
Bill and Doreen Matheson.



Brian Hogben wrote with great enthusiasm and detail about the entire trip. Much of this will, no doubt, be shared in the Pot Luck Tea presentation by the group. Brian recalled the great look of the countryside as they headed east and then gave a day-by-day account of the route, activities, and accommodation - relishing it all. Some of the highlights were walking through the tall Mountain Ash trees in the Otway Fly a Tree Top Walk, and the Cape Otway Lighthouse and Telegraph Station, with the view of the coastal scenery “which was beauty within itself”.

A feature of his report was also his frequent reference to the cappuccino indulgences of other group members (!). He reported on many times a day, “cappuccino sculling”, and folk visiting the cappuccino centre “to satisfy their fix”. (Ah, Brian, you don't know what you're missing! Ed.)

In summary Brian said: All of the sites visited were very interesting. The scenery was truly wonderful. The company was a very caring and fun-loving group – plenty of stirrers all keeping up the tradition of Morialta.

What a great time they had! The talk of 2010 is exciting – so look forward to the information. In the meantime, you may like to join the Pot Luck Tea group when more is said and many pictures are shown!

Check the Newsletter for a diary date!

SAYCO Report

SAYCO (South Australian Youth Camp Out) is the Uniting Church youth camp for 12-15 year olds that happens annually. This year SAYCO took place from October 3rd -5th. The theme was “Chosen Generation”.

Over 500 young people attended SAYCO. From Morialta, we had seven youth members and two leaders fortunate enough to go on the camp. Youth members were Emily, Jack, Jesse, Lachlan, Katrina, Sarah and Tom. Youth Leaders were Miranda Clarke and Craig Mackenzie.

Over the weekend there were many exciting things to be part of. We especially enjoyed worshipping with Westbourne Park UC band and hearing from guest speaker, Jason Hoet. As well as the speakers and the band we enjoyed many other things at SAYCO, some of which were: spending time in small groups and getting to know lots of people from different churches, Night Life - that took place on Saturday and Sunday night when we got to participate in activities such as watching movies, playing games, dancing and even SAYCO Idol! We also had ‘Tribal Wars’, numerous sessions of worship and workshops - some of which included things like sport, song writing, making a movie, drama, worship and chilling with the Chaplains.

SAYCO was a great learning experience and also great fun. Although for Katrina it was the last year of SAYCO (because next year I will be too old - K) we definitely recommend it to all who are eligible.

We would like to give a special acknowledgement and thanks to our leaders from Morialta, Miranda Clarke, and Craig Mackenzie, for looking after us and adding to the great weekend! Here are some photos from SAYCO.

Katrina and Lachlan Mackenzie





Vera Brereton (nee Oakley)

Passed away 2 September 2009

In memory of Vera

At times of bereavement the value of being part of a loving, caring, community such as this church comes into its own. Pam and Chris wish to acknowledge the support we have received from so many of you over past few weeks following the death of Pam's mother, Vera Brereton. Having a minister who knows the family, and in particular can speak from personal knowledge at the funeral, makes a huge

difference. We are particularly grateful to Diane for the care she showed throughout this time.

In her teens Vera developed a broad and progressive interest in religion, which became a strong and enduring Christian faith. It was in the Methodist church that this attractive young blonde caught the eye of the Brereton brothers. It was Rex who ultimately won her heart.

Vera and Rex became a strong partnership in every part of their lives. With marriage she joined Rex's family at the growing Methodist church at Newton and became active in Moral Rearmament. Sunday mornings involved Sunday school and the choir for worship. With so many men away at the war Maughan Church in the city was short of Sunday school teachers so they spent Sunday afternoons and evenings there with Vera providing youth leadership. After the war, and for the ongoing decades, her role at Newton expanded to include running youth teas, playing the keyboard for evening hymn services and later, morning worship and conducting the choir. She also played a major role in fundraising concerts and fetes. On Sunday nights their lounge room was regularly full of youth for a singalong with Vera at the piano. Bringing young people to an understanding of the importance Jesus and God could play in their lives was always a primary driving force for Vera.

As well as co-managing Precision Nursery with Rex and bringing up two daughters, Vera nursed her invalid mother for thirty-two years. Through the experience of working with plants and caring for her mother she understood something of both how difficult and how rewarding life could be and how close death could be. She fitted a lot into life, the nursery, her church, travel and family. She worked hard and expected others to do the same. Hers was a long and productive life in many ways. A life that touched many other lives.

She is missed.

Chris & Pam Ayles



Rev Diane Bury conducted the service for the family at Darroch House on 8 September 2009

Selections from the homily which followed the Scripture Readings

1 Peter 1:21-25 and Luke 12:22-32

Vera was more than aware of the impermanence of life, of the small gap there sometimes is between life and death. Not only in the horticultural activities that played such a significant part in her life, but in the animals she cared for, whether for the ability to provide income, or because she just valued the companionship they provided; and of course there were the people whose health she was so aware of and took such responsibility for.

Vera's appreciation of the fact that this life, even one that stretched for well over ninety years, was limited in years, did not lead her to despair or anxiety. Vera seized hold of life and lived it fully and completely, for as long as she was able.

Vera worked hard, and expected others to do the same as many of the young people who started their working life in the nursery would attest.

While Vera could enjoy the finer things of life, she was also aware of what was important in this life. Vera's Christian faith was not just about turning up at church on Sunday, it was lived out in participating in worship, in helping build community, and in service to others.

When Jesus tells us to consider the lilies of the field, the ravens, the birds of the air, and to notice the way they are provided for, he is not suggesting a "don't worry, be happy" approach to life, but encouraging us to trust that God is on our side, that we can afford to move beyond concern for our own welfare to allow our lives to be shaped by God's priorities, of justice and compassion, seen in our love for others.

To the family:

Through the choices Vera has made in her life you have known love and shown love, These are not perishable things – and they will always have meaning and power in your life.

Vera was a much-loved and respected member of the Morialta Congregation.

*May the feet of God walk with you,
and his hand hold you tight.
May the eye of God rest on you,
and his ear hear your cry.
May the smile of God be for you,
and his breath give you life.
May the Child of God grow in you,
and his love bring you home..*



William Leslie Jenkins - (Bill)

30th June 1922 – 22 August 2009

From Eulogy by son, Steve Jenkins

Bill Jenkins was born in London, one of a large family. From an early age he loved to wander with his younger brothers and sisters and his tales of their pranks suggest that the mischievous part of his personality must have been evident at a young age!

He enlisted in the British Army six days after his eighteenth birthday in 1940. In 1944 whilst on active service he was awarded the Military Medal for Bravery.

After the War he considered emigrating to Canada but headed instead for the warmth of Australia. With best friend, Eric, he set about exploring the country. From Darwin they worked in casual jobs down the east coast to Sydney and then, on their fixed wheel bicycles, set off for Canberra and Melbourne, heading eventually for Adelaide via the Coorong. Ignorance was not bliss!

He was one of the original members of the Youth Hostels Association in SA and it was through bushwalking that he met Margaret. They married at Broadview Methodist Church in 1955. Steve was born in 1959 and Kaye a couple of years later.

Bill worked with the PMG (now Australia Post and Telstra) as a radio linesman or rigger. He enjoyed the challenge of being one of the team that built the ABC television tower on Mt Lofty and then the ABC tower in Brisbane.

He was very much an outdoor person, but when forced inside he would often play his favourite music – anything from light classics, opera, old hymns to military marches. He would turn the sound up until the windows rattled and he could hear all the instruments in order to “conduct” the orchestrations.

Bill was a very spiritual person with high ideals and respect for all religions. Although he avoided church attendance he knew more about the Bible than many self-professed Christians – and he lived the Christian values.

He was devoted to his family and they traveled in this country and then overseas, experiencing rather remote lifestyles before the tourist trade spoiled things.

He was very proud of his grandchildren and would play with them for hours, going wherever their collective imaginations led them.

Bill always maintained that he was a loner, but for someone who liked to be on his own he will be remembered by many people for being sociable, fun loving, cracking jokes and telling often unbelievable yarns while working hard and helping wherever he could.

From Tribute by Alison Lockett

Bill - volunteer extraordinaire!

It always seemed the most natural thing in the world for Bill to ‘lend a hand’. When retirement arrived in 1987, it simply marked the beginning of a whole new full time career in helping others, without thought of reward or accolade.

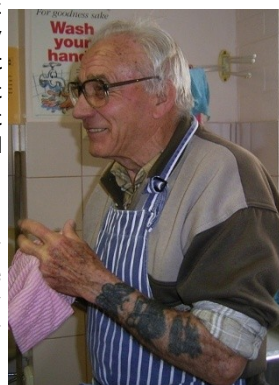
In the early 1970s, Bill became a member of St John Ambulance Australia. Over a period of 15 years, he spent many hours driving clinic cars and attending to field duties, and when clinic cars were phased out, he pushed on for 15 more years with continuing field duties and delivery of First Aid courses. As a St John volunteer, he attended Blue Light Discos and was subsequently awarded a plaque from the South Australian Police for dedicated service to the Campbelltown Blue Light Disco from 1984 – 1996. In 1986, he was presented with another award by the then Governor, Sir Donald Dunstan.

Red Cross also benefited from Bill’s generous community spirit. He became a Red Cross driver, but then decided he could also give a day a week installing baby capsules for Red Cross.

Wyatt Holidays, based at Glynde, were delighted to welcome Bill as a volunteer driver in 1998 and he found himself making two or three trips a week, taking clients to or from holiday departure/return points. His terrific good cheer must have been the best launching point any person could ever have on setting off for a much needed change of scenery.

Many will know Bill best as a volunteer at Morialta’s Coffee Corner. When this low cost weekly lunch started in 1992, Margaret was a committed supporter, and it wasn’t long before Bill became a weekly fixture at the sink, helping to wash-up, clean up and tidy-up.

It was not in Bill’s nature to brag, or ‘big-note’ himself, but when we were preparing a nomination that ultimately saw Bill receive a Federal Volunteer Award in 2000, we were overwhelmed with people wanting to speak of the positive impact that Bill had on so many lives.



At the end of the day, though, it was never about what Bill did that counted for so much; rather, it was the wonderful, fun-loving way in which he undertook whatever task was before him. We could always count on a good laugh, with Bill’s quick wit providing a quip for every occasion. His modesty and his irrepressible good humour made working alongside him fun. Quite unconsciously, Bill not only revelled in being part of the community, he actually helped to build community in whatever setting he happened to find himself in.

Bill had an enormous capacity for helping others, and all this done with care, commitment, thoughtfulness and an infectious sense of enjoyment.

PLEASE REMEMBER!!!



**Saturday 21 November
9.00 am to 3.00 pm
continuing to 26 November**

We need your ideas for exhibits and displays!

What will you put into the exhibition?

The paper introducing the theme included these prompts for your thinking

Stories nurture what we believe and who we are.

Stories inform the way we live the choices we make

Where and how do we encounter stories?

When and how do we build our stories?

Is it through family stories down the generations?

Is it in

- art & artistry
- history
- legends & myth
- bible stories/texts
- sacred writings
- worship
- dreaming
- music
- film
- theatre
- television
- photography
- decorating
- travel
- mentors
- tall poppies
- icons

and

- our life-long explorations
- reflections
- conversations
- letters & other writing

An Invitation

Morialta's Story

**An invitation
to contribute
to a community
art piece**

*The work will be
a collage,
multi-layered,
rich in content
and texture,
worthy of close viewing
which prompts memory
and reflection*

Please join us!

**Within the Exhibition
we will put together a community art work.**

**This is not the whole Exhibition,
but just ONE shared item!**

**Please read the pamphlet ,
Morialta's Story,
for ideas on what you can contribute.**

**For more information
talk with one of the Exhibition Team**

**Mary Thornley
Dawn Colegrove
Sarah Heatley
Elizabeth Trigg
Mary Watson**

LOCAL
AUTHORS
TELL
US
THEIR
STORIES



**“From Saigon to Adelaide”
by Gia-Yen Luong**

What began as a small school project has introduced Gia-Yen Luong to parts of her past she never knew existed.

For her Year 10 assignment to “make something personal”, the Norwood Morialta High School student, of Vietnamese descent, delved into her family history and documented it in a 160-page book.

Launched in front of 80 friends, family members and teachers, the book *From Saigon to Adelaide* depicts her parents’ struggle for freedom as Vietnamese boat people in the late 1980s.

Professionally bound and reprinted more than 100 times, thanks to a loan from her parents, the book shares her family’s heritage, life after the Vietnam War and how they settled in Australia.

“When I was younger my parents used to tell me stories, they still do at dinner time, and I guess that’s what inspired me because I wanted to know more,” the 15 year old says. “The surprising thing I learned was how they fitted into the Vietnamese Catholic community - before this I thought they rocked up to church and started going but they were there from the beginning, when it first formed. Now it’s a really big part of my life too.”

Luong, of Rostrevor, spent two months compiling the book from several drafts, all of which were edited and proof-read by her teachers and peers.

“When I was writing it I saw how my parents’ personalities are reflected in me. When they faced all these struggles they had the strength and determination to get through it.”

“I think that’s in me now because that’s how I was able to plough through this book.”

Copies of *From Saigon to Adelaide* are available from the school for \$15.

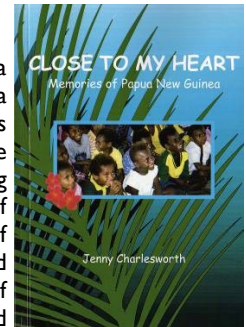
**“Miracle During Pol Pot Regime”
by Sophoap Di Stasio**

Sophoap tells the story of how she and her two children along with thousands of other Phnom Penh residents are driven from their homes by the victorious Khmer Rouge soldiers on 17 April 1975. Sophoap comes to Australia and tells us what it is like to be a refugee in a strange country only able to speak a little English. This story was written in 2005.



**“Close To My Heart”
by Jenny Charlesworth.**

Jenny tells the story of her years as a missionary and teacher in Papua New Guinea, before and after its Independence. Jenny regularly wrote home to a good friend sending pamphlets, cuttings and photos of her expatriate life. After the death of this friend, the letters were returned to Jenny and this treasure trove of memories inspired Jenny to record her extraordinary life in Papua New Guinea. This story was written in 2009.



**Lord as I drift on the waters,
be the resting place of my restless heart,
my life’s companion, my friend and refuge.**

**Singing with the Stars
Sunday 6 December**

This year we will celebrate Advent with a special event about stars. We will consider every aspect of the galaxy, our own Morialta ‘stars’, and ask everyone to make a decorative star shape suitable for hanging on a Christmas tree – these will be judged in the spirit of the night and every entry will receive a prize. Even the food for the evening will have a star theme, and the carols we sing will be particularly about these wondrous signs in our heavens.

Stars have been a source of wonder and delight for thousands of years, and we hope to learn something about them, as well as celebrate the occasion of the birth of Christ, when the most famous and significant of all stars appeared.

Come and relax in the busyness of December, enjoy one another’s company, sing lustily, laugh a little and enjoy festive fare, and greet the Season of Advent for another year. Watch the Newsletter for more information!

Cynthia Story, Worship & FE MMT

PROOF READING CAN BE A CHALLENGE...

Potluck supper Sunday at 5:00 PM - prayer and medication to follow. (Not at Morialta! - Ed.)

This evening at 7 PM there will be a hymn singing in the park across from the Church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.

The pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday.

Attend this event and you will hear an excellent speaker and have a healthy lunch.



MORIALTA UNITING CHURCH

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www.MorialtaUCA.org.au

Editor: Mary Thornley

Graphic Design: Val DiGirolamo



Living Streams ~ Giving Life

*The Spirit is imagination,
and we will dream in the Spirit.
The Spirit is truth,
and we will speak in the Spirit.
The Spirit is action,
and we will act in the Spirit.
The Spirit is life,
and we will soar with the Spirit.*

Diary Dates

Sun 18 October 2.00 – 5.00 pm	Garden Party
Sat 24 October 7.00 pm	Magill Inter-Church Council Quiz Night at Morialta
Sun 25 October	Following Worship Working Bee – Lunch
Thurs 28 – Sat 30 October	Meeting of Synod & Presbytery
Sat 21 November 9.00 am – 3.00 pm	Market & Exhibition
Sun 29 November 9.30 am	Combined Service & Meeting of the Congregation

Acknowledgements

David Purling for the cover photo of the waterfall.

Brian Corrigan
Lorraine and John Powers
Brian Hogben
for the numerous photographs in this edition

Stories and texts from those identified throughout and all who have contributed in many ways to this October edition.

**Magill Inter-Church Council/
QUIZ NITE**

Question 1



COME ALONG FOR A NIGHT OF FUN

Date: **Saturday 24th October**

Time: **7pm**

Cost: **\$10 pp**

Table sizes: **8 per table**

Location: **Morialta Uniting Church**

BYO Nibbles/Drinks – wine, soft drinks, fruit juice

To book a table please contact

Carole Lyons on 8364 3512

Money raised supports the five

MICC Christian Pastoral Support Workers

**Deadline for December Edition
1st December 2009**

If you would like to contribute an item, please send *unformatted* as Word documents either:

by email to the Vision Receiver,
Sharon Mackenzie,
(craig_sharon@picknowl.com.au).

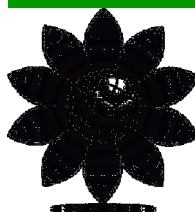
Please do not format or use other software

OR

In hard copy via the Vision pigeon-hole – please allow more lead time for word processing.

*To discuss ideas for Vision articles
contact the editor.*

Remember to Recycle
this publication



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