



Morialta Vision



Volume 3 Issue 2

April 2010

From the Minister

Dear Friends,

We are fortunate at Morialta to have many groups who help us pay attention to various aspects of faith and our life together as a community of God's people. One group is the Social Justice Team which tries to keep before us issues of peace and justice to inform and enable us to respond in relevant ways.

Social Justice has always been part of the Uniting Church's identity. In the *Statement to the Nation 1977* the First Assembly set out an understanding of its commitment to social justice as part of the life of all the Uniting Church:

"We affirm our eagerness to uphold basic Christian values and principles, such as the importance of every human being, the need for integrity in public life, the proclamation of truth and justice, the rights for

each citizen to participate in decision-making in the community, religious liberty and personal dignity, and a concern for the welfare of the whole human race.

We pledge ourselves to seek the correction of injustices whenever they occur. We will work for the eradication of poverty and racism ... challenge values which emphasise acquisitiveness and greed in disregard of the needs of others ...

We pledge ourselves to hope and work for a nation whose goals are not guided by self-interest alone but by concern for the welfare of all persons everywhere – the family of the one God – the God made known in Jesus of Nazareth, the One who gave his life for others."

Elenie Poulos, National Director of UnitingJustice, is to preach during worship and speak in two

forums at Morialta this month. UnitingJustice Australia, the National Assembly's voice on issues of social and environmental justice is vital in providing resources for the whole of the Church to help us respond thoughtfully and faithfully to national and international issues of justice. It is also key in helping us locally and individually to live out our faith by engaging in action for social and ecological justice and peace and shaping lives that enable us "to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God." (*Micah 6:8*)

You will find in what Elenie brings us, much to think about. And if something keeps niggling you about an issue of justice why not share it with the Social Justice Team to see what we can do together to respond.

Grace and peace
Diane

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KCO 2010

Three leaders and five children from Morialta took part in Kids Camp Out (KCO) in March. For all the children, Jordan, Erin, Isabella, Lucy and Tara, it was their first KCO experience. And it was also the first time for KCO to be held in the Barossa Valley at Nuriootpa, having traditionally been held at the West Beach Caravan Park. So there were lots of new and exciting experiences for everyone.

The theme was *KCONIA United*. There was singing, devotions, and worship around the themes of learning to live together as a united people, learning how to love others, and how we should treat each other and live as Jesus would have us live.

On Saturday afternoon the children enjoyed carnival, craft and game activities. Clear favourites were the super slide, pet farm and the wet sponge toss in which the children delighted in throwing wet sponges (at ME!). Many craft type activities were attempted such as face painting, cross making, and biscuit decorating.

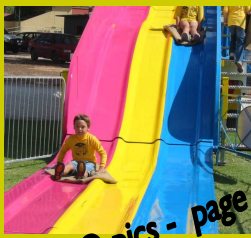
The children were challenged with a quiz where they had to search for answers throughout the camp site including visits to the chaplains and radio station. Evening entertainment included singing and dancing which the children enjoyed.

On Sunday morning there were devotions, worship and communion, and the children enjoyed making their own KCO banner.

I thank the Morialta congregation for their support for KCO, and the leaders. KCO provides an opportunity for children to realise that there are many children in the church family and to experience a sense of community.

Craig Mackenzie

Tiffany and Cheryl, KCO Leaders for Morialta have expressed their deep appreciation of the detailed preparation and work undertaken by Craig to make this experience such a great success. The thanks of the Congregation go to them all – and also to our Morialta members of the Tech team for KCO.



... more KCO pics - page 7



*M*asterpiece of Love Lent & Easter 2010

The wilderness calls come, get away
from it all.
Renew, refresh, prepare, recreate yourself
here
In solitude and peace draw near to God.

Then peace dissolves as torment invades
your mind.
Solitude's lost as the world inhabits
your head.
The closer you seek to come to God
The more strident the questions that occupy
your brain.

But clarity, resolve, assurance do emerge.
The testing has prepared you for the world.

And you've yet to paint your masterpiece
of love.
To live - your masterpiece of love.

He came offering the music of his soul
A composition of care, compassion, love

But the critics raged against his harmony
It demanded a change in their thinking,
their playing, their living.

And Jerusalem is any town, every town,
this town
Will we learn our part and play it
from his lead
or continue in our own cacophony

It's a symphony, his masterpiece of love
Not a solo - this masterpiece of love

Some see a God of justice, retribution
when disaster, loss, misfortune strike at life.

But he shows us a God of caring
and compassion,
A God of mercy, patience, second chances,
Who provides a canopy so wide and lush
It requires in turn, repentance, love, from us.

He is nurturing his masterpiece of love
Come share in his masterpiece of love.
The good life calls
with the promise of life fully lived
But that promise is shallow and hollow
and quickly reneged on.

And the black dog howls while you wallow
in the pit
But it somehow leads you home
to a welcome unimagined

He is laying out his masterpiece of love.
Come feast at his masterpiece of love

His life is a work of art.
Street art, shared with the people.

It could bring new life when it seemed that
all was lost.
It could both generously serve
and receive hospitality.
It could both selflessly love
and accept adoration.
It suggested a different way of seeing
the world.

He is crafting his masterpiece of love
Try your own hand at this masterpiece
of love.

One entered through the west,
All worldly power, politics, pomp and pride.
Another, through the east,
With gentle strength and resolute humility.
An alternative to society's dominant voice.

For which one will you cheer?
For whom will I shout hosanna?

For peace ensured by military might,
Or peace
achieved through neighbourly, Samaritan love
For coveting wealth and riches, looking after
number one.
Or will I share my loaves and fishes
with unstinting generosity

He is living out his masterpiece of love
Do we really comprehend this masterpiece
of love?

And those in power exact their retribution
On anyone their system can't contain.
On one for whom the ultimate is elsewhere;
Who advocates a different social order.
On one who won't resile from truth
and love.

But death cannot contain the universal spirit.
His teaching, doing, being still live now

We've inherited his masterpiece of love
We must become, that masterpiece of love.

Chris Ayles

based on weekly gospel readings



Easter



Jim Wallis says

**"Hope unbelieved is always considered nonsense.
But hope believed is history in the process of being changed"**

From the Chairperson

Well, the AGM has come and gone. We have two re-elected Elders and we heard some good news about our financial position. The Community Centre is shaping up, we are fortunate to have excellence in worship each week and lots of opportunity to enjoy one another's company. Morialta is a fantastic place to be involved with...

How many of you took the opportunity to participate in the Lenten Discussions this year? If you did, you will know that Brueggemann challenges us all, progressive and conservative alike, to live in a new paradigm.

We all know that hospitality is important. He goes further: if Christians concentrate on offering hospitality, generosity and living without vengeance our community would be much better. His thesis is that if churches deal with these things there would be no time for all the negativity that draws us apart. It seems a pretty good argument to me.

I really enjoy participating in these discussions and I'm sure that many others would too! If you haven't been involved in a Lenten Discussion before, or for some time, please do yourself a favour and enroll

next year. We talk often about our *Faith Journey*, not our *Faith Stay*. Any journey needs fuel. While we get fed each Sunday it is also important to get the additives that come from interacting with others.

Next year let's try to have a much bigger Lenten Discussion program than we usually do! You never know, I might come to you before Ash Wednesday 2011 and give you a challenging invitation!

Bruce.

PLAY GROUP - Celebrating Success - "Thank you!"

What a success the Play Group has been! Begun in 2005 with the passion and commitment of Helen Penhall and Faye Barker, and assisted in management by Margaret Dix, this venture has been a shining achievement in Morialta's programs in our community. Babies and toddlers have come, played, developed and moved on to kindergarten, and others have joined. On the way their parents/carers, including grandparents, have found friendships and reassurance in this activity.

The unfailing weekly commitment of our leaders has ensured the loving, caring, welcoming environment. This, along with their skills and wisdom from life experience, has contributed to this success story.

Now it is time for us to say our sincere thanks to Helen, Faye and Margaret and wish them continuing happy times as they move into other life activities.

We continue to hope for and to invite interest in assisting or leading in our Play Group program - a very rewarding activity with young children who are full of life and with carers who respond with warmth and appreciation.



From Christine Ostle

If you have had opportunity to go into the back office recently you will see that it has changed.

Alison has painted a fabulous picture based upon the community centre logo. I have lessened the amount of grey in the room by using magnets to attach colourful pictures to the metal cupboards. I think the room looks a little brighter now, do you?

We have been waiting several months for Job Seeker Volunteers to begin work amongst us. The employment agency that we work with informed us that some well suited volunteers were set to come to us but they found paid work. I suspect this area of ministry will be volatile.

On a more positive note two workers from UnitingCare Wesley Adelaide have begun using our centre to hold lifestyle workshops with people who have an intellectual disability.

On a challenging but interesting front is the emerging plan to submit a proposal to Burnside Council suggesting that a Community Garden be established on the south-west corner of the Chapel St Reserve. Bill Matheson has written more about this project



COMMUNITY GARDEN - PROPOSAL UPDATE

The Project Team is continuing to develop its proposal to be submitted to the Burnside Council and is developing guidelines for use of the garden plots if we are successful with our application.

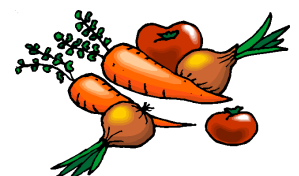
The Project Team recently visited Fern Avenue Community Garden at Fullarton, which has been functioning for the past 12 years and is well established. We were impressed with many of its features, including a straw bale office/meeting room/library, composting toilet and rainwater tanks.



We have also met Burnside Council staff at the reserve opposite the church to discuss our proposal.

We are still asking for expressions of interest and a planned letterbox drop will go ahead in the next few months.

Bill Matheson for the Community Garden Project Team



From Church Council's Worship, April

L

iving with spirit

One spiritual resource that most of us have in abundance is a store of memories. Memory is a rich repository of our experience, the home of our story and a resource from which to create a future. Using imagination, memory can be drawn upon to quicken a sense of meaning and strengthen a conviction of identity and purpose.

Memory contains a collection of treasured images gathered over a lifetime. They can be triggered by a range of senses – feel, smell, sight, and hearing.

The aromas of my fathers shed come streaming back whenever I get out the chainsaw that I inherited after his death. It is wrapped in the same piece of material with the same oily smells that pervaded his garage 40 years ago. And when I think of the home of my childhood there is the vegetable garden. There is nothing like the taste of peas picked and eaten while standing in the garden; the apricot picked from the tree and eaten with the juice running down my chin.

We all need a place in which to retreat, if only in our imagination. Many men retreat to their shed. My father retreated to his vegetable garden and dug over the earth with his long handled spade – now one of my treasured possessions that triggers memories of him when it is used.

Imagination is a rich world, a place where no one can follow, where nothing needs rational justification. Yet we need to imagine the future being different, fuller, more satisfying. Without imagination will tomorrow be any different from today? John Lennon in his song "Imagine" touched on this;

*Imagine all the people living life in peace
You may say that I'm a dreamer
But I'm not the only one
I hope one day you'll join us
And the world will live as one.*

As Thomas Moore suggests in his book "Care of the soul", one reason for feelings of emptiness is that too little of a person's experience has been registered or integrated as part of them. The squirrel gathers nuts not only to eat today but to store in its nest for winter. We understand this concept well in

relation to our material needs, but neglect it in an emotional and spiritual sense.

I was born after the death of both my grandfathers – and it is only in recent years that I have seen photographs of them. Researching and documenting my family tree provided an important opportunity for believing in my own story. I wonder about those antecedents of mine whose engagement with all their struggles gave rise to my life. What were they like? What was the source of their courage and their determination to overcome the odds that beset them? Have some of their characteristics emerged in me, several generations later? I find in myself a sense of gratitude for all their striving, for all they suffered and endured – because their perseverance has given me life. In reviving their story, I am laying the foundation of my own, making it real.

And then I come to understand that I, too, am laying a foundation for all those other lives that are touched by the way I live. Not only my children, but everyone who comes into my orbit feels my influence, for better or worse. They are all enlivened by my generosity or diminished by my lack of care. They all take example from my character, from my communal spirit, my personal engagement, my faith, hope, joy, love and sense of justice. My life furnishes the imagination of my peers and of the next generation. How I choose to live is a matter of significance, for this alone. Pope John Paul II expressed this when he said "Remember, your life may be the only Gospel some people will ever read."

When you review your life, it shouldn't be by your possessions that you estimate your success, but by your personal integrity and by the quality of your relationships. Whatever else may be uncertain in life, these are matters over which you have a great degree of control.

John Powers

Spirit Friend
Let our deeds be filled with faith
Faith is water which flows into dried-out land.

Let our deeds be filled with love
Love sows good seed into good soil

Let our deeds be filled with hope
Hope is the encouraging vision of a great harvest

Let our deeds be filled with faith, love and hope
Then they'll bring You honour,
Then they'll bring good to others,
Then they'll bring us joy

HYMNS & SONGS WE LOVE

A recent survey of church goers in the United Kingdom revealed the hymn, *How Great Thou Art* as the most popular of the ten hymns listed below that were also chosen and now listed in decreasing preference.

How Great Thou Art
Dear Lord and Father of Mankind
The Day Thou Gavest
Be Thou My Vision
Love Divine All Loves Excelling
Be Still for the Presence of the Lord
Make me a Channel of Your Peace
Guide Me O Thou Great Redeemer
In Christ Alone
Shine Jesus Shine

Would you like to list your ten most loved hymns and submit them to our **Hymns and Songs We Love Group** so that our own Morialta list of favourites can be prepared?

An introductory paper with more information, together with a section for your response, is included in this edition of Vision. We hope you will use it and place it in the white box beside the Church Office by 23 May.

Hymns and Songs We Love Group

Arthur Tideman, Jenny Hancock,
Margaret Johnston

C **W**hite

O White represents joy and purity of soul. It is used on Christmas Day, Easter Day and baptismal days, and so we here celebrate new life.

L **The Pulpit:** A candle represents Christ, the Light of the World and the source of true life.

O **The Communion Table:** Exploding with energy and brilliant light, we see that ancient symbol of new life, the egg.

f **The Lectern:** Seeds burst from gum nuts. These are the promise of new life for the gum tree, just as we have the promise on new life in Christ.

W **The Stoles:** Stylised water droplets suggest running water.



o **r** **s** **h** **i** **p**

WHY WE SHOULD ACKNOWLEDGE THE KAURNA PEOPLE

Each Sunday we acknowledge the Kurna people – the traditional custodians of the land we worship on.

Kurna territory extended from Cape Jervis to Port Wakefield to Crystal Brook; essentially the Adelaide Plains. Major camps of the Kurna peoples were along the River Torrens and at Beaumont. Kurna language and culture were almost completely destroyed within a few decades of white settlement in South Australia in 1836. However, extensive documentation, largely by missionaries and others, has enabled a modern revival of both language and culture.

The Kurna people were a hunter-gatherer society – they lacked the means to harvest and store food. There were no grain crops prior to the arrival of Europeans, no way to store meat and no beasts of burden to carry or drag loads.

Tribal life revolved around family groups in defined territories which always had access to the coast and inland. The coastline was essential for access to seafood and the inland territory provided protection during inclement weather. Property ownership was communal. Marriage within individual groups was forbidden – girls became marriageable at puberty but men were not allowed to marry until they were 25.

The population may have been several thousand prior to the 1830s but following a smallpox epidemic originating in the eastern states it was reduced to about 700 in 1836. By 1856 European diseases had reduced the tribe to 180. The last full blood Kurna woman, called Ivantji, died in 1931.

Currently, in March 2010, a Native Title claim is before an Adelaide Federal Court hearing.

Recently the Federal Opposition Leader, Tony Abbott, declared that the practice of acknowledging traditional owners of the land at the start of public events was nothing but 'out of place and tokenism' and a 'genuflection to political correctness'.

There are two ceremonial acts covered with Aboriginal recognition.

First is the formal 'welcome to country' ceremony performed by Aboriginal elders and often seen on television. More common is the acknowledgement of country we makes each Sunday in recognition of the historic custodianship of the land. Tony Abbott's criticisms appear to be directed against this practice.

Why should this be a problem? Some critics suggest we should find more practical measures of making a difference to Aborigines, a view partly supported by some prominent Aboriginal

Australians. Others believe that preoccupation with matters of reconciliation may hinder a policy of redistribution. But can one line of cultural acknowledgement offered in a spirit of respect and reconciliation end up taking recognition too far?

Still others believe that the first step to lasting reconciliation is for all Australians to feel the bond of civic solidarity with Aboriginal Australians. History tells us we can't take this for granted. Is the repetition of rituals falsified?

The philosopher Aristotle believed that moral excellence was cultivated through habit or ethos - 'the virtues we get by first exercising them'. We learn by doing.

If a modest ritual helps us remember that Australia is home to ancient peoples and culture, and prompts us to reflect on the place of Aboriginal Australians in our history, that can only be good. *Bill Matheson*

Sources: <http://eu.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kurna> ; Ask the Philosopher, Weekend Australian, 20-21 March 2010 ; Guns, Germs & Steel, Jared Diamond, 1997



Christine Secombe is the Network Coordinator

From Report presented to Morialta's AGM

What is the Urban Mission Network?

The Urban Mission Network is one of 9 Mission Networks formed in 2005 when the 7 former Presbyteries in the Uniting Church in South Australia were collapsed into the one Presbytery of South Australia.

We, Morialta, are one of the 27 congregations in the Urban Mission Network. The congregations are spread geographically from Victor Harbor to Para Hills, Glenelg to Verdun.

The Urban Mission Network is all about relationships. It links congregations in a mutually supportive relationship that encourages each other's ministry and mission and where resources are shared.

This happens primarily through four gatherings of the congregations during the year and through the monthly Bulletin.

Gatherings are hosted by a Network congregation and you are all welcome. There is an opportunity over a relaxed meal to share conversation, catch up with friends, make new friends, and to explore further our theme: *Spirituality and Justice*.

The Network assists congregations in caring for their minister through a retreat day once a year, a couple of informal bar-b-que lunches, and a two-day seminar series on next year's gospel, the Gospel of Matthew, to be led by a noted Australian theologian.

The Network responded to a suggestion for a gathering of paid Administrators working in the offices in our congregations. Eight Administrators from across the Network met at Enfield in

March and began conversations about how they might support each other and share resources. Helena and Morialta will host the next such gathering on 29th June.

Two specifically targeted workshops are coming up later in the year. One for Chairs and Secretaries of Councils and Congregations in July, and one for congregations with heritage listed buildings in October.

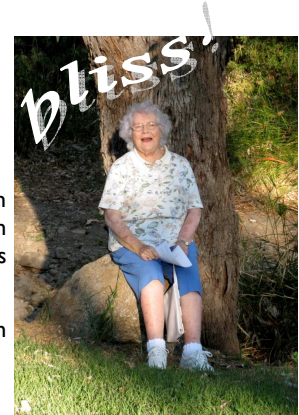
The Urban Mission Network pays me for sixteen hours per week to be the first point of contact for the Network, to oversee its administration and organisation and to ensure its continuing development and effectiveness.

As Coordinator, I work from home and am supported by a Reference Group of eight people. I represent the Network at meetings of the Presbytery, at inductions, at Synod's Pastoral Relations Committee and Placements Committee and I am an elected member of their Executives.

.... continues on page 6 ...



Thou shalt not covet
Ed.



Walking in Fellowship

Evening Fellowship members had their first meeting for 2010 on Wednesday 17 February.

From the Foodland carpark, they walked along Lorne Avenue to UniSA with Ruth Pitt's information sheets highlighting points of interest along the way. There they followed a path taking them through the grounds and while some folk chose to hug trees, others preferred to sit on snappy little scooters or admire racy sports cars.

Across St Bernard's Road they visited the historic Nightingale Reserve before returning to the church for delicious sweet or savoury pancakes prepared by Arlene Lomman, Joy Machin and others.

All agreed it was a very interesting and pleasant evening!

WAIKERIE FRUIT PROJECT



An update on this Project:

Not only has this Project helped the growers in the Waikerie area, but also a project in West Papua. From the initial donation from the Waikerie Fruit Project which was sent to Numfor, West Papua in 2007, a 'medicine shop' (pharmacy) was built. For some time the shop didn't have a lot of medicines, but during



February this year, a group of people from Blackwood and Eden Hills UC accompanied Lyn Leane, International Mission Officer, and visited the shop where they noticed that the shop was very well stocked; a great achievement by the people of this area.

Thank you to the people of Morialta UC who continue to support this Project.

Jennie Hosking



URBAN MISSION NETWORK



...continued from page 5 ...

I visit with congregations in the Network, sharing their worship and their stories. I've been to Victor Harbor a couple of times this year, and in the past few weeks have been with the people of Para Hills and Glengowrie. On Easter Day I'll share worship with the folk at Port Elliot and later in April will work with the Goolwa congregation as they go through the process of filling the placement there.

So, I've given you part of the story of the Urban Mission Network and a glimpse of my role in it. I feel a strong sense of call to the role. I find the work life-giving and energising.

In all that I do I feel firmly grounded here, in the Morialta congregation. Your love and friendship support and sustain me.

When you pray for the Church, please hold me in your prayers too, that I may exercise my gifts and graces here and in the wider church to the glory of God and the extension of God's Kingdom.

CHARITY

Writing in the 'Inquirer' insert in the *Weekend Australian*, 20.2.10, Chistopher Pearson, illustrated his column with a photograph of a person sleeping rough on th footpath at the base of a Christian statue. The caption he gave the photograph read, "Charity is a duty for Christians, but more so is worship". Pearson, who is a Roman Catholic, puts great emphasis on worship, and for him, formal Latin Mass.

And that made me think. For me charity is love and spontaneous. Charity is goodness and our worship should not be first or last, but a part of charitable works.

"Charity begins in the home", my mother said. With life and worship, an expression of God.

Arthur Tideman

KUCA WET AREA – WORK IN PROGRESS!



Following our report to the AGM of the Congregation and receipt of the \$6,000 grant from the Premiers Community Initiative Fund, work is underway to transform the wet areas in the KUCA Building. For a long time there has been one uni-sex toilet and the second area has stored a miscellaneous array of items. Now we look forward to new toilets, basins, plumbing, tiling and fixtures, and both female and male bathrooms.

As a first step the old redundant doorway on the eastern side has been filled in and we have the pictures to prove it! You may recognise the workman!

The next steps will include some internal wall preparation and finding other homes for the stored goods, as well as engaging the plumbers and other services.

This project will complete the internal work on what is an excellent facility, currently enjoyed by Play Group, UnitingCare Wesley Adelaide Life Skills group, occasional volunteer training programs, some from UnitingCare Adelaide East, meeting groups and, of course, Kids on Sunday.

Our thanks go to Rob Webbe and Peter Thornley who are, at this stage, getting the project up and running.

Netball Club Working Bee's outstanding performance!

Skills unlimited!

The Morialta UC Netball Club's Committee, well-trained players (approximately 30) and their families made gardening their Saturday afternoon game plan recently. Instead of cleaning up the opposition, they pruned and cleared the garden beds, cleaned out drains, tidied and vacuumed the shed and prepared equipment ready for the Winter Season which opens on Saturday 24 April.

Brooms and rakes were off-court, stepping with the wheelbarrow was cheered and barbecued sausages were passed around instead of the ball.

Abylly assisted by Rob Webbe on the angle grinder, the cracks were treated so that the courts can be kept in good condition for as long as possible.

An outstanding score for a couple of hours work/play!

Thank you, everyone, for your continuing care of the property!



People ask...



What is the new tall cupboard in the hall beside the door to the photocopying room?

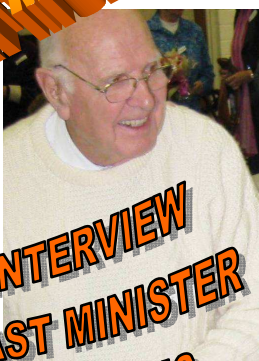
Is it a sleeping area for people who don't have homes to go to? Is it someone's walk-in wardrobe? Is it a storage place for tall poppies/people/implements? What is it?

Answer: It's the new technology cupboard which is housing our sound and projection systems.

It was funded by a wonderful gift (anonymous), built by Peter Thornley and installed with help from our strong stalwarts, and its contents have been rebuilt and upgraded with the expertise of John Secombe.

JOIN WITH US FOR HISTORY WEEK HERE AT MORIALTA

As a prelude to S.A. History Week Morialta's Archives is presenting a conversation with Rev Rob Davis following from morning tea on **Sunday 16 May at 11.00 a.m.**



LIVE INTERVIEW WITH PAST MINISTER REV ROB DAVIS

Rob Davis was Minister at the former Magill Methodist Church from 1973 to 1982. His father, Rev. A M Davis was the minister from 1940 to 1945 and his grand-father, Rev. H Trewren, was minister from 1920 to 1922.

Rob is well known to many at Morialta and has much to relate about our past from his childhood through to his years as Minister here.

John Powers

**From the Eulogy
presented by Dr. John Leditschke
Friday 19 February 2010**



Don was born on June 6th 1929, the first child of Archie and Eileen Bennier. He attended Henley Beach and Grange Primary Schools, riding his bike the 2 km through the sand-hills each day.

Don was fascinated with radio and his bedroom was a mass of valves, condensers, speakers and wires as he experimented with all things to do with wireless. Aerial wires were strung across the ceiling and he spent many happy hours totally absorbed in his hobby.

Don won an open WH Williams scholarship and went to Prince Alfred College. There he was awarded one of only six State bursaries to assist with costs at the University of Adelaide where he did the four year engineering course, majoring in the then new field of electronics.

Whilst at PAC Don was very involved with cadets, he took on rowing in 1943, and was Student Christian Movement president in 1946. Don also studied the piano and was a soloist in school concerts. He began organ lessons with Roland May, and a lifetime of playing in Methodist, Presbyterian, and then Uniting Church parishes.

Following graduation, he began work in 1950 as an engineer at Long Range Weapons Establishment at Salisbury. His work was regarded as secret, and he remembered the early years as very exciting. In 1951, Don was sent to England for six weeks of study, which extended to nine months, and was spent between Farnborough and the range at Aberforth in Wales.

As his finances improved, he graduated from a motor-bike to a motor vehicle. In the early 1950's, he bought a maroon and cream roadster, soft-top two door 1938 Austin 10 sports car. He drove it to Tusmore to show his friend John Cooper, but as he wasn't home, he persuaded John's sister Boronia, who was singing whilst doing the vacuuming, to go for a spin with him. The rest of that story is history.

Don and Boronia were married on 22 October, 1955, in Scots Church and began their life together at Clifton Street, Prospect. Michele, Robin, Jacqueline and Rachel were born there. In 1967 they moved to Fourth Street, Tranmere with the thirteen foot ceilings, thick stone walls and adequate room for the family. Don continued his professional life, becoming

one of three divisional heads in what became WRE, now Defence Science Technology Organisation, until his retirement in 1987.

Whilst at Prospect, Don played for the Presbyterian Church on their Selma electronic organ. One Sunday, the church was asked to have their service broadcast on radio. The organ was having operational problems, and the congregation was appalled to watch Don take it apart bit by bit and distribute it on the floor. Finding the problem Don was able to reassemble it just in time to start the broadcast.

Don and Boronia were a great parenting partnership, loving, caring and just, with unabated commitment to their children's activities and lives. With a family of four the need for a swimming pool was discussed and Don had a giant hole dug but did the rest himself. He cut and welded numerous struts for a self-designed framework. He attached a skin of galvanized iron sheets which he riveted and soldered together, creating endless joins. Some plumbing and gallons of paint completed the job. The pool was the focus of many celebrations of the large youth groups which existed at the time.

Don chose to retire early at 58, but his love of organ playing for the church continued unabated until the end of last year, 2009. As the Methodist Church moved to become the Uniting Church in 1976, the Morialta Church became the centre for the joining of several congregations, including the Presbyterian Church to which the Bennier family belonged. Don had played the organ for worship at Finchley Park Presbyterian Church and when the Magill Methodist Church organist was unavailable Don would play at the 9.30 am Finchley Park service then hurry to Magill to play for the 11.00 am.

With his very significant engineering skills Don worked enthusiastically in the design, construction and implementation of the

amalgamation project, which has resulted in Morialta's wonderful functional community centre. Many will be aware of the planning phase, the physical deconstruction and rearrangement required, as well as all the new construction. Don was in it all! From being an elder, organist and secretary at Finchley Park Don was honoured to be a foundation member and later chairman of the Mt Lofty and Fleurieu Presbytery. This was an important role in the wider church which he fulfilled with tact, dignity and firmness.

In 2009, when interviewed by grandson, Ian Hanan, Don and Boronia's "best piece of advice" was: "do unto others as you would have them do unto you". They both practised this every day. We give thanks for Don's life, and know that he is now at peace and his earthly pain is over. Let us hope that whatever format his new life entails, there will be a chance for Don to play for the heavenly hosts.

From the Homily - Rev Diane Bury

Mostly of course, Don played the songs I had chosen, but during the offering the music was up to Don. How often I was blessed by Don's choice. Sometimes it was the beauty of the music and the playing; and sometimes it was realising the absolute appropriateness of what he was playing. The day I was remembering was one All Saints Day, and I realised the tune Don was playing was the hymn, "I sing a song of the saints of God".

Afterwards when I spoke with him, he was clearly delighted that I had recognised it, and we went on to have one of those wide-ranging conversations it was so easy to have with Don - starting with music, a bit of history, to matters mathematical, perhaps touching on current affairs, and scientific theories. He knew more than I did on most topics - but especially music.

As I was thinking of that All Saints Day, my mind went onto the next line of the hymn, "I'll sing you a song of the saints of God, steadfast and strong and true ...". It seemed such an appropriate description of Don. And I don't mean the sort of plaster saint who stands at the side of the main action, apart from the realities of life, but saint as that term was originally used, as those who seek to learn to love and serve the God we know in Jesus Christ.

Continued on page 9

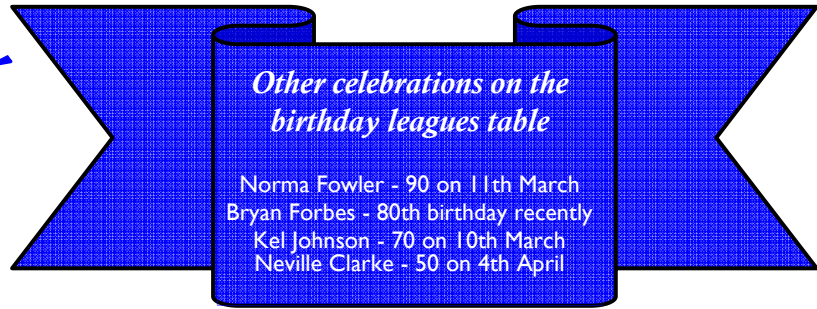
Happy Birthday, Marion!



Marion Beard

celebrated her *mid-sixties* birthday on 1 April.

Together with her friend, Jan Furness and Christine Ostle, she enjoyed a birthday luncheon at Coffee Corner.



Other celebrations on the birthday leagues table

Norma Fowler - 90 on 11th March
 Bryan Forbes - 80th birthday recently
 Kel Johnson - 70 on 10th March
 Neville Clarke - 50 on 4th April



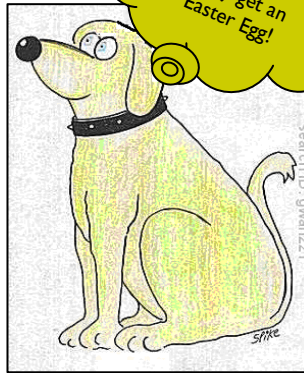
Congratulations and Best Wishes!

Tiffany Winn and Adam Yearsley announced their engagement recently – or being more precise, Jesse announced it to the Congregation on Sunday 14 March when Tiffany was at KCO! We rejoice with them!



Goodbye to Roxy — But - it's hard to say goodbye to a friend who understands!

paws for thought ...



Keely's Easter Wish

It sure is quiet around here now that Roxy has left to go on to further training. For what it's worth, I think she has potential and I hope will be able to help somebody like I help Bruce. Before she left she said she would miss the people at Morialta. You are all very welcoming. By the time you read this Anne and Bruce will have dragged me off on another trip. While it is always good to see some new scenery and experience new smells, it is always good to get home to my own backyard. I guess that many of you feel the same way. I particularly enjoy checking out where the possums have 'gone' during the night! I hope that you had a good Easter, but didn't eat too many eggs; I didn't. Bruce wouldn't let me!
 Keely Ind — Pup Reporter

Pancake Breakfast for Morialta
 \$185 was raised for Uniting Care Adelaide East
 Cooking with finesse requires concentration!



Ron Grant - a long time member - has moved to Resthaven at Bellevue Heights. Our love continues with Ron and his family



Continued from page 8 ...
 Don learnt those lessons about loving and serving well. He learnt about love because he didn't just theorise about it, any more than he just theorised about building swimming pools, or rowing, or playing music; he practised them, he practised love, he practised those things.
 Don knew he wasn't perfect and just got on with the job of being the best he could be. His faith in God was an intelligent faith about the world; but it was also a faith that respected the otherness of God, that knew that didn't stop at asking hard questions, that there were things in this world that as yet can only be seen dimly. It was a faith that knew that whatever he faced, he faced it in the context of knowing the love of God.
 Don built his life on the foundation of God's goodness.

**Be present to us, O God,
 Let us release ourselves
 from a world that is too noisy, too busy,
 too demanding
 into a calm, still space
 where we can rest in the gentleness
 of your Spirit.
 Be present to us, O God
 let our work here be inspired by your wisdom
 in service to you and the people you love.**

Extracts from Eulogy presented by Ian Walton

Olive was always there. A private person, she rarely shared her emotions but lovingly gave of herself to Dad, her children, grandchildren, great grand children, church, school and community. She never complained but took great pride in whatever she did. The family home was her castle.

Syd and Olive were partners; 60 years in all; but different complimentary personalities. Syd the gregarious showman and raconteur; Olive the quiet organiser, and it was easy to miss the strength and resolve that resided within.

A child of the depression, Olive's upbringing gave her a strong sense of duty and a need to care for others. In 1943 she was a junior teacher and began at Mt Damper in 1944. She married Syd, a fellow teaching student in 1948. They moved to Wynflete, Elliston, Port Augusta, Beulah Park and, finally, Magill in 1969.

Olive recommenced full time teaching at St Morris in 1961 and in 1969 joined Wilderness School where she was Mistress in Charge of the Junior School for 11 years before retirement in 1982. She was also archivist for Wilderness.

Olive was active in the Church, at Wesley Methodist Church, Norwood, and then Magill, establishing Cradle Roll, leading Young Worshippers, Ladies Guild, Choir singing, organising Sunday School anniversaries and concerts and establishing the Archives and Library at Magill-Morialta UC. She had a strong faith.

Olive was never one to sit still. No idle TV or reading for leisure. Everything had a purpose.

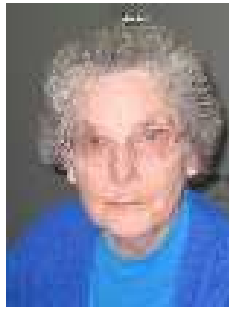
Ian reflected on the hoarding, in orderly stacks, of anything that could be reused. Olive was an environmentalist before the term was invented!

He thought about the way Olive "faked things for so long as she became ill and the dignity with which she approached life."

What will I remember most about you, our mum, grandma and great grandma?

I'll remember your attitude to life; your service to others; loyalty, dignity; unconditional love, your compassion for others and the way you said 'boy'.

Yours was not the flash life of privilege but you were, and always will be, our champion, our protector and we in turn will always love you. You live on in us.



Vignettes

from Di Mason's stories and pictures

Olive Alma Walton, only daughter of George Barnett and Elsie Alma Haseldine was born on 2nd January, 1925 at Denial Bay on the West Coast.

Well, you know how the old saying goes....

"Behind every good man, there's a really great woman"....our mum was that woman. She was dad's rock, his devoted wife, constant friend, sharing in all things. Our mum was the "glue" that stuck the family together – homemaker, nurturer, hard worker, sensible, practical, adviser, comforter and always the teacher.

When I was young we always had beach holidays and mum loved to go walking and exploring over the rocks. I could never keep up with her. She was like a mountain goat and she could keep going for ages.

In summer mum was always doing things with the fruit. The kitchen was always hot with preserving fruit or sticky from the huge pot of bubbling apricot jam or full of spicy aromas from chutney, relish and tomato sauce mixture - everything that mum cooked was yummy!

Mum was very creative. She would never boast or take the limelight – but she was very talented - loved drawing, colouring, and craft activities. She designed and made clothes for herself and us kids. She studied embroidery and her hands were always busy stitching, knitting jumpers and copious baby jackets, booties and bonnets for her grandchildren and in later years crocheting rugs – rugs – rugs and MORE rugs!!!! It is only quite recently when she could not manage anymore because of her shaking hands.

Mum always had time to help and support us – whether it was for our dancing, sport, music or enjoying life! Her motto would be – "Do the very best you can – never give up and to keep trying until you get it right!"

She loved history and facts and being a very organized person it was no surprise that in her retirement she became involved in establishing and organizing the Archives for

both Wilderness Girls School, and for Magill-Morialta Uniting Church where Mum and Dad worshipped for 40 years.

Through her interest in Archival work she wrote two books documenting the history of Magill Methodist Church as well as researching and publishing a book about her own Family History – Oliver and Sarah Haseldine, Pioneers in South Australia.

Mum always rose to a challenge and she directed her energies into establishing and maintaining the Church Library. The Grand Opening was on 14th August 1994 and I know that she immersed herself in her role of Librarian and it was always easy to find Olive if you needed to talk with her – she was always in the library. In later years as she became unwell I believe that it became her safe haven where she felt calm and supported in God's love. As a family we are very proud of the tireless and devoted work that she has always given willingly to others.

Thank you to the Morialta Congregation

From Di Mason and Ian Walton,
and our families

Ian and I wish to thank everyone at Morialta for your support at our mother's recent Funeral. Our heartfelt thanks to all involved in making it a special celebration of Olive's life, acknowledging the many amazing things that she had achieved, in particular establishing the Library and organizing the Church Archives as well as recognizing her quiet yet strong faith.

You have all travelled a long and bumpy journey with Syd and Olive over the past few years and we wish to thank everyone for your kindness and care of them both as they coped with illness, declining health and finally separation, when mum entered into Gleneagles Care Facility. Our parents were wonderful role models, leaving us with strong family values, the skills to achieve a rich and fulfilling life, and wonderful memories. We were truly loved.

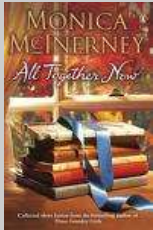
*"Time heals our sorrow
Friends ease our pain
Peace replaces heartache
Our warmest memories remain"*

Thank you.

New Books



A SEASON OF LOVE by Mal Austin
Picture 'psalms', an illustrated meditation
Mal Austin combines his love of gardening, (especially roses) photography and the psalms to present a stunningly beautiful book which transports you to a joyful and restful place.

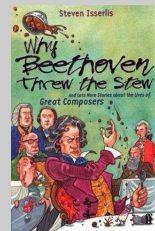


ALL TOGETHER NOW a collection of **Monica McInerney's** short fiction gathered between two covers for the first time. Family relationships, sibling rivalry, love lost and love found – these stories touch on the popular themes of Monica McInerney's hugely successful novels, are brimming with colour, warmth and humour.



From the winner of the 2008 Austral-Asia Literary Award **David Malouf's REMEMBERING BABYLON** is set in the 1840's when thirteen-year-old Gemmy Fairley is cast ashore in the far north of Australia and taken in by Aborigines.

PIANO LESSONS by Anna Goldsworthy
Marvellous. Enlightenment and joy on every page –
Helen Garner
A remarkable memoir where Anna Goldsworthy recalls her first steps towards a life in music, from childhood piano lessons to international success as a concert pianist.



WHY BEETHOVEN THREW THE STEW and Lots More Stories about the Lives of **Great Composers** by **Steven Isserlis**
This book is a unique introduction for children to the world of classical composers and their music. Famous cellist Steven Isserlis brings six of his favourite composers to life in an irresistible manner, painting hilarious biographical portraits of each of them and describing their music in lively detail. Packed with facts, dates, anecdotes and illustrations, "Why Beethoven Threw the Stew" is an attractive and accessible read for children (and their Parents!)



CLE O
How an uppity cat helped heal a family.
by **Helen Brown**

OLIVE WALTON – AN INDOMITABLE LADY

I have many images that come to mind when I think of Olive Walton but as far as what she did for her church, Magill Methodist and later Morialta Uniting Church, there is absolutely no hesitation in my saying that she was tireless in her duty. She achieved much over the years, was meticulous in keeping records, and always did her job to the best of her ability.

She had a heart of gold underneath a tough exterior. There were many times over the years when a young learner librarian Lorraine Powers poured her heart out, whilst cataloguing a load of new books, and Olive truly listened and in a motherly way helped to make that day turn around to be a more positive and happy one.

She worked so hard. We as a congregation were truly blessed the day that Olive Walton took on the responsibilities of the library and the archives. They were never in better hands. I would go as far as to say that out of all of the churches within the Uniting Church, Morialta, thanks to Olive Walton, has the best kept records.

So now we celebrate her life and are indebted, humbled, overawed, at a job well done.

Thanks Olive. We will always remember you.

Achievements

- Shifted the library from the Sunday School to the present position in the foyer
- Set up guidelines for the general running and operation of the library, attending to the cataloguing of books, making of posters for promotion and liturgical use, and keeping the finances.
- Attended every Australian Church Library Association meeting from the association's inception until her retirement including conducting a workshop on the keeping of Archives.
- Received the Margaret Stiller national award for services to the Association
- Cared for the archives of Magill Methodist and following the formation of Morialta Uniting Church, Finchley Park, Newton, Rostrevor and Montacute churches, as well as the current Morialta Uniting.
- Compiled a history of Magill Methodist Church from 1855 – 1990.

I daresay there are many many more things Olive did that each of us will remember in our hearts.

Lorraine Powers
Librarian

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Whoever you are, God says,
welcome home!
Wherever you have been, God says to you,
welcome home!
Whatever you have done, God says to you,
welcome home!
In the midst of temptation, anxiety,
or confusion, God says to you,
welcome home!
Whether you feel you deserve it or not,
God says to you,
welcome home!

Acknowledgements

David Purling for the cover photo
of the waterfall.
Brian Corrigan, Craig Mackenzie,
John Secombe and others
for the numerous photographs
in this edition.

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

Diary Dates

Sun 18 April Social Justice Week
9.30 am Preacher: Rev Elenie Poulos
11.00 am - Forum Economy, work and sustainability for
the common good in a time of
economic crisis
Tues 20 April Gretta Vosper
7.30 pm With or Without God: Why the way
Pilgrim Chuch we Live is more
Important than What We Believe
Wed 21 April Human Rights in Australia
7.45pm - Forum Rev Elenie Poulos &
Dr Laura Grenfell
Sat 8 May Mothers Day Cake Stall
Fri 4, Sat 5 June All at Sea - Morialta Music Hall
6.30 for 7.00 pm

Deadline for June Edition
1st May 2010

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.



Fri 4 and Sat 5 June
6.30 for 7.00 pm

Tickets available from the Church office



Mon 30 August - Mon 6 September

Brochures available from the Church Office



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this publication



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