



Volume 3 Issue 1  
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Morialta Uniting Church

# MORIALTA VISION



## From the Minister

Dear Friends

Have you received your invitation to participate in the Lent Event yet? And have you considered how you will be involved?

This program, as did the Lenten Appeal in previous years, encourages our generosity through our donations to various projects conducted by our partner churches in some of the poorest areas in Asia, the Pacific and Africa. It also invites us to think more deeply about the causes of poverty and to consider how we, who enjoy relative affluence, can respond in the light of the gospel.

I think there are some great options for growing in faith offered by the Lent Event. In the resource book, *Lent Event 2011 Journey Guide*, are notes for discussion groups, a daily reading guide for Lent and some ideas for actions designed to deepen our spiritual journey.

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This year's theme, *Sacred Friendships*, is about growing in relationship with God and with all God's people, including those living in poverty.

I hope that everyone at Morialta will at least be able to commit to the daily readings during Lent and that most of us will be able to engage with the discussion material, either in a small group or with a conversation partner. Please consider this seriously.

There will be other opportunities for growing faith during 2011.

Some people have expressed an interest in confirming or re-affirming their faith, or exploring what it means to take a more progressive approach in their faith. During the weeks after Easter a discussion group will meet and consider the Marcus Borg study, *Embracing an Adult Faith*. If you are interested in being part of this

group, please talk to me.

Our library offers many excellent resources relating to spirituality and faith and I would encourage you to have a look at what is available. The Morialta Book Bank offers sets of books suitable for a small group to read and discuss together. Perhaps you can think of some friends – from Morialta or beyond – who might enjoy the chance to converse together around a good book. If you would like to know more, talk to me or one of the Book Bank Committee.

The internet is another way people access resources but if the internet is a mystery to you, why not enrol in our Broadband for Seniors.

You may have ideas for other groups or other resource and I would be very happy to talk with you about them.

Grace and peace

Diane

## From the Chairperson

January is traditionally a quieter time in the church's life. Although, that isn't necessarily the case for all, as can be seen from other articles in this issue of Vision. However, for many of us the last Sunday in January marks the commencement of 'business' for the new year. As is our practice, we take the opportunity to recognize the many members of the congregation who help in our Mission. Whether through prayer or action, all efforts contribute to a vibrant place where the community might experience the Divine.

This year we incorporated a Covenant Service. Morialta has a strong history of Social Justice and Denise Champion, Interim Covenanting Officer with Synod, and member of the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress (UAICC), reminded and challenged us to continue our work in this area. Heaven knows there is a huge amount of work to be done in all areas of Mission.



As we move back into the activity that characterizes our Worship and Community Centre, I hope you will all reflect on the messages we receive each week. The words of encouragement and challenge can give us life.

I hope 2011 will be a year filled with light and life and that through your involvement with Morialta you are able to experience it well!

Bruce

## David Purling writes ...



"Come and look out of the window.!"

That was Judith calling out for me to look to the Western sky. She knows how much I love scenes like this. So here it is – the setting sun viewed from the front of our place.

It's not always like this, of course. But then it's because it's not always like this that makes it all the more spectacular and wonderful when it is!

What happens to the sun when it has set? I don't mean the scientific explanation, but rather the poetic, or even theological reason.

Remember the hymn; "The day you gave us, Lord is ended...".

And the fourth stanza;

"The sun that bids us rest is waking  
Our friends beneath the western sky.."

I remember singing that in our Church in Aylesbury, and thinking of Australia as "our friends beneath the western sky".

Even when the sun has disappeared from our view – it is still there.

I'm sure you know the following, but it is worth quoting again.

Words scratched on the walls of a cellar in Cologne, Germany, by a Jew hiding from Nazi persecution.

"I believe in the sun,  
even when it is not shining.  
I believe in love,  
even when I don't feel it.  
I believe in God,  
even when there is silence."

Recently I had to "recover" some deleted photos from an SD (Secure Digital) Card using a special Computer software programme. I thought how this is like my amazement at the beautiful sunset. I'm also amazed at how photos can be stored on an SD Card, be deleted, and yet be "redeemed", or "recovered". It seems as if the photo images, which were inadvertently deleted, were actually still there. It did take, however, a rather clever and sophisticated programme on the computer to save them!

And then I thought of God's love...

There is a song that goes...

"I believe in love  
I believe in the sun  
even when it's not shining  
I believe in love  
even when I don't feel it  
And I believe in God  
even when He is silent  
And I, I believe  
No dark can consume Light  
No death greater than this life  
We are not forgotten  
Hope is found when we say  
even when He is silent  
I believe in the sun  
even when it's not shining  
I believe in love  
even when I don't feel it  
And I believe in God  
even when He is silent  
And I, I believe.

## OCD in the MUC

Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD) in the Morialta Uniting Church (MUC) is too much for an eye-catching title so I have used easy to remember abbreviations.

One of my staff members was diagnosed with OCD. For no real reason he would compulsively wash his hands again and again. Now, you can't be a research agronomist without getting your hands dirty. Fortunately he overcame his affliction with the aid of a psychotherapist.

I have heard of a woman who was unable to stop cleaning her home, room after room, again and again and then all over again. She rarely left the house.

How often do we see fashionable young people sipping water from a bottle again and again? As far as I can see, that form of OCD only frustrates their bodies which can signal 'thirst' when water is needed.

OCD is astonishingly common and according to medical experts it has many facets some of which are in fact helpful. We, at Morialta, suffer some degree of OCD just trying to be good Christians. But it is worth knowing it for what it is because extreme forms with embedded compulsion can destroy our good intentions.

With thoughtful compulsion we shake hands as we leave the service having sat in

the same pews Sunday after Sunday.

We stand to sing and, let us admit it, we often allow distracting thoughts to intrude. "Who is that sitting over there?" Even as we pray together we have compulsive thoughts (At least I do). Which run through our minds, not without substance. Again and again we serve the Wednesday lunch, process the newspapers on Monday and open our doors to the market in November. All of which are mini-OCDs which help to satisfy our urge to excel and be creative. Without mild OCD our church would be a dull place indeed.

A Tideman

# Community Centre News

## Broadband for Seniors



Have you seen the two computers in the north-eastern corner of the hall, or have you wondered what is behind the screens in that corner of the hall?

The October issue of Vision explained that the computers are part of a national Government program called Broadband for Seniors which aims to increase the number of senior people who have the ability to use computers. I can report to you that we have been fulfilling that goal. A number of people from our congregation have begun lessons with the new computers and a few others have observed the lessons taking place. Two people from beyond our congregation picked up an advertising flyer at Morialta's November Market and they have begun lessons. More people are invited to join. This is your chance to learn about the wonderful world of internet. Come and join, bringing your friends and neighbours along with you.

Adam Begg has been tutoring the keen students while at the same time fulfilling requirements for his Queen's Scout award. As Adam will be back at study I am keen to find other people who may be able to tutor. One does not need to be a skilled teacher to offer for tutoring. There is a tutorial package on the computers and with just a little knowledge about every day computer usage one can be quite able to

tutor those who are very new beginners. If you wish to join a class or if you can offer to help tutor please speak to Helena Begg or Christine Ostle.

Christine Ostle

### From John Maschmedt

Do you find it tiresome and somewhat frustrating when reading or listening to a media information program, the content of which you would very much like to know more about, only to be told: "Full information can be accessed at www.blah-blah...?"

These days it seems almost mandatory to have access to a computer to keep up with "should know" information. Perhaps you, like me, think: "I am too old to restart my learning process", or "You can't teach old dogs new tricks!"

Well! Can I commend to you Morialta's Over 50s Computer Learning Program? Our Community Centre has been successful in accessing a place in the Government's free computer learning program, or "Broadband for Seniors". This initiative involves the supply of two computers plus tutorial visual programs to enable you to send and receive mail, type letters and documents professional in appearance, and all the way to unlimited access to the internet which opens up a whole world of

information – all for free!!

Plus, the tutorials are at a pace that you are comfortable with. Our own Adam Begg is my patient helper, answering my many queries with understanding. My 87 years of age must be quite a challenge for him (and me!).

*Go for it!*

**We also invited other participants to comment on their experiences so far:**

### Merv Boundy

I think this is a great help for seniors who wish to investigate the possibilities which young people are enjoying. It was very well explained at the first meeting.

### Aileen James

I'm happy with progress but need individual help to remind me of information given – early days yet!



## Fanyu Kang

I am Fanyu Kang and I come from southwest China which is the hometown of giant pandas. I have been in Australia for two and half years leaving behind my son, husband and my parents who I miss very much.

I had been working as a registered nurse in a public hospital in China for thirteen years before I came to study in Australia. I have graduated in a nurse training course in UniSA, but I need to increase my knowledge of community services and improve my English language skills. Hence I am currently studying for a Diploma in Community Health and Services in TAFE. I am enjoying my TAFE course, especially my previous placements which provided a number of opportunities to get to know the Australian people and their community.

Previously my placements were in aged care and I gained a variety of skills and knowledge in that area. More importantly, my communication skills have been improved through those placements. Typically I have got to know the people with dementia and how to have a good conversation with them.

I am extremely grateful that Christine Ostle and Morialta have accepted me to do my placements regarding community development. Indeed, this is a marvellous place, not only in the wonderful facilities here, but also nice people around me. Furthermore, I can get to know a wide age range of people from young babies at Playgroup to older people in the Morialta Uniting Church Community Centre.

In addition, I am really learning about things that happen in the community that I have never known before.



## Support in Ministry

*No need to "Go it alone"*

Morialta folk are engaged in a breadth of ministries in the congregation and the community. In addition to our personal resources, skills and experience, we are fortunate to have available to us ongoing stimulation, information and expertise to support our work. You may be interested to know of some of the ways in which these will be provided in the early stages of 2011.

The Presbytery-Synod Meeting in March will be a resourcing occasion focussing on Worship, with presentations by two overseas visitors, Tom and King Long. Eleven Morialta people have responded to Council's invitation to participate in three seminars running across Friday and Saturday, 11 and 12 March.

The Urban Mission Network of which Christine Secombe is the Coordinator, will provide sessions to enable our work, including

- Seminar for Chairs and Secretaries of Church Councils
- The Gathering with focus on "Fresh Expressions"
- Workshop on Heritage Properties

On 5 March around twenty of our folk engaged in programs with children and other vulnerable people will spend the day in Child Safe Environments Training, previously termed Mandatory Notification Training.

Later in April members of Church Council will participate in a Focus Day, a Saturday, to enable and support their roles of leadership in this congregation.

We are grateful, indeed, for these opportunities and also for the willingness of our people to engage in them.



## Evening Fellowship

*Retrospective 2010*

Ruth Pitt's President's Report 2010 gave a resume of the year's varied and interesting activities. If you have wondered about joining Evening Fellowship, these may whet your appetite!

Activities included a presentation of Northern Lights pictures by Brian Corrigan, exploring Magill's history, UCA Packing Day, reminiscing over wedding dresses, introductions to patchwork, card making and other crafts, necklace-making and beaded jewellery.

Entertainment was provided by the ARPA Tapliners. Christine Garner shared her life story, and our ministers' wives members reminisced on their roles. In collaboration with the Social Justice MMT guest speakers informed and challenged thinking on human rights.

Good fellowship was also pursued in bonus nights and celebrations including a pancake supper, dinner to Villi's, movies at the Trak and, inevitably, the Christmas feast.

Giving was high on Fellowship's agenda with donations made to Uniting Care Adelaide East, the Christmas hampers, Church funds, UCA Adult Fellowship project and Uniting World Mission, Uniting Care Wesley Blanket appeal and our Church Hall blinds.

Ruth commended 2010 office bearers and thanked those who would serve in 2011. All of these folk would be pleased to introduce others to Evening Fellowship.

President: Arlene Lomman

Secretary: Beverley Tredrea

Treasurer: Margaret Clogg

Committee members:

Jenny Barabas  
Dale Corrigan  
Joy Machin  
Joan Wagner  
Margaret Whibley

## Full House ... s

You may have been wondering! Both houses, at Chapel Street and College Drive, are fully tenanted as we begin the academic year. Four new residents are joining our continuing five, and all will be in residence by the time of Vision's publication.

Conversations and house visits in the process of applications and acceptances continue to underline the value of this part of Morialta's mission. It has not changed! Young people and their parents are concerned to have secure and happy places to live as they make the move to tertiary studies and living away from home. It is our privilege as a congregation to share in

providing these possibilities and we look forward to supporting them as they settle in.

Our all-female residents this year will be studying in a range of courses including sciences, education, writing, lab technology, and classics, and across UniSA, Adelaide University and TAFE. They come from the South East and places in between, Mid and Upper North, and as far as Roxby Downs. Members of the Property Team have once again served the program well, shuffling furniture within and between the houses, working on maintenance and attending to routine and urgent needs.

You may have seen Morialta's advertising in *New Times* in 2010 and we have also used UC E-News, the weekly electronic news bulletin. These advertisements, supported by word-of-mouth, have brought the inquiries which have led to tenancies. In addition we had four we could not accommodate. This is interesting because the need continues, although we see high rise student apartments in the city and other offerings in colleges.

In whatever way you can, keep these young people in your hearts.

## UP ... UP and AWAY!

Do you recognise the pilot in this sleek flying machine?

Yes – it's Adam Begg!



## Exploring Open Christianity

Exploring Open Christianity is the title of a series of DVDs produced by the Progressive Christian Network of Victoria and available for borrowing from the Morialta Book Bank. These DVDs are suitable for study groups and individual reflection. They encourage the exploration of Christianity in the light of contemporary scholarship and provide new ways of understanding Christianity in our time.

In these interviews skilfully and sensitively led by Rev Dr Christopher Page, we are challenged to have open hands, open hearts and open minds.

The titles of the DVDs and the themes they cover are

### Exploring doubt and faith with Dr. Val Webb

Embracing doubt  
Thinking theologically  
Rethinking the Bible

### Exploring the future of religion with Sir Lloyd Geering

A progressive awakening  
Religion in a process of change  
Some signs of hope

### Exploring Jesus and Paul with John Dominic Crossan

Touching the ancient world  
Non-violence and justice bring peace  
A vision for saving the world  
An alternative for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

### Exploring the future of a faith community with Peter Kennedy

From prison to table fellowship:  
The cry for justice  
From action to contemplation:  
Towards the mystic path  
From duality to oneness:  
The shape of the new consciousness

### Exploring the future of the Bible with Dr Greg Jenks

This final title in the series is still being produced.

If you are interested in borrowing any of these DVDs contact Jennie Hosking (phone 8336 6010)

L Tideman

Adam has gained the Recreational Aviation Australia Pilot Certificate with cross-country and radio endorsements. He is licensed to fly any propeller aircraft which weighs less than 600 kgs and to carry only one passenger. Adam achieved this certificate when assessed at the conclusion of a 50 hour training course. Congratulations, Adam!

He said that he wanted to learn to fly for a very, very long time. He hopes to build up more hours and convert it into a Private Pilot's Licence.

In the future what does Adam want to do?

*"Start my own bush flying service in Alaska."*

The plane with Adam at the controls is an EVEKTOR "Sportstar".



Some people don't like Mondays. I have decided that I don't like summers. Just because the temperature is going to be over 32°C Bruce won't take me with him when he goes out. I get really worried when that happens. He isn't much, but he is all I've got. You know, he is a bit careless sometimes. What happens if I'm not there to stop him from crossing the road safely? How will I tell Guide Dogs?

And what am I supposed to do while he is off enjoying himself? He won't let me watch TV and he has banned me from the internet unless he is there.

When he comes home he is bright and cheerful. He expects me to greet him enthusiastically as if I've missed him! And then there is my figure. With all the hot weather I don't get the exercise I need to keep me 'trim, taut and terrific'.

What's a girl supposed to do? I guess I'll just wait patiently for autumn and hope that Anne will take us to the beach every now and again for a bit of a run.

Alright, I'll make out I'm glad to see him when he comes home; anything for a quiet life.

Your Pup Repawter

Keely

## PROJECTS GALORE

A winning finish for 2010 and a great start to 2011!

### FORECOURT GARDEN



We have all gotten used to workmen and things happening around the church property in recent months. The forecourt, including the installation of the lights, significantly enhanced the streetscape. However, other things have happened too. Pam Hailstone, Pauline Norman's sister, was asked to assist us to design a suitable planting to compliment the other works. Pam Ayles worked with her and, together with Chris, took charge from the church's side and around 20 volunteers helped on two occasions. First, to plant the foliage, and second, to spread nearly 10 tonne of mulch. We have been fortunate that Roger Whibley has been able to fit this essential task and the installation of some supports, into his other duties. Passers by in the community have engaged with a number of our people, congratulating us for the improvements made. We should be proud of the result and also the involvement of so many in its completion!

### HIGH RISE PAINTING MORIALTA STYLE

The view out of the clerestory windows at the northern end of the hall, with Rob and Merv wielding paint brushes against a clear blue sky, was almost surreal! Rob cut a colourful figure in his orange boiler suit and Merv starred, as usual, in his baseball cap. But that's enough of the working men's fashions!



There was more to the painting story: Kevin and Kingsley were painting the upper reaches of the woodwork on the courtyard side of the building, mounted on ladders and supporting each other. ...and delivering the usual "wisdom" to passers by. All together, a series of good sights! With the painting not completed on Wednesday, Rob pursued it further on Thursday and Friday. Some folk commented that if this was the level of activity in January what might it mean for the rest of the year!

### KLEANING KAPERS

On Wednesday 19 January the activity in the kitchen with happily zealous cleaners, working almost hip-to-hip, was a stunning sight.

Cupboards were emptied, items counted, cleaned, culled and reallocated, and all with comfortable precision. Oven slides and trays were made shiny bright and shelves were cured of their accumulated oddments.

Alison, in true-to-form good humour, which understates her exceptional management efficiency, was the kitchen cleaning mistress extraordinaire. Nothing seemed to phase her; she encouraged, acknowledged and thanked people for their efforts, answered questions and gave instant advice, almost without taking breath, except to laugh.

Several people, participants and observers, in retrospect wished that the team was open to being contracted for private jobs! Perhaps we should consider a "business plan"!

### STORAGE AND CUPBOARDS

If that isn't enough, we can all see the marvelous result of the installation of a walk-in storage and modern cupboarding in the 'Blue Room', made possible by a generous donation. In the first few days of 2011, when many of us were still recovering from the rigors of Christmas and New Year, a small band of volunteers assisted Roger Dennis, who has already done work in the rear building, to construct and install the

storage that will help keep our hall tidy and even more useable. Peter Thornley and Roger Whibley, with a cameo from David Purling, did this job.



### PLAY GROUP PREPARATION

The week before Play Group commenced saw Carole, Jill and Jacki surrounded with many toys, large and small, larger play equipment and window-washing accoutrements. In the interests of health and safety every item was checked, washed and sorted – a large task on a hot day! The well organised storage cupboards were then unloaded, items checked and re-stored. Managing a large number of small children and enabling parents and care-givers on Play Group mornings requires good preparation and supportive organization. Another job well done!



# Morialta Magpie

## MAGPIE MILESTONE BIRTHDAYS



### 'Big O' Congratulations!

Who is achieving the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> decade marks?

Try these in this current couple of months!

And add Margaret Webbe and Pam Ayles

*Happy Birthdays!*

### And more projects ...

#### KUCA WET AREA

Tiling in the female toilet, almost complete, is a vast improvement - Thanks to Peter Thornley's long and persistent attention to this, amongst diversions to other jobs. With this, new cisterns and other fittings, paintwork and new glass to replace a cracked window, those who have done and organised the project - Peter, Roger and Rob have served us well.

#### BLINDS IN THE HALL

While the weather up until the last week in January was not too extreme, we all benefited from the installation of the blinds in the hall, just before the end of the year. The hall is noticeably cooler with the blinds down and the remote operation makes it easy to increase the amount of light when needed. In the past, in January and at other times, the windows were adorned with black plastic sheeting. The aesthetic improvement is quantum! The congregation has benefitted significantly from the generosity of some of its members. The hall is the envy of many organizations, to be sure



And - if you want your coat hangers sorted, Bev Tredrea has much experience.

#### Summer Fruits & Money for Jam

We have several renowned jam makers, whose products are in high demand and are sold to boost Library funds.

It is clear that the purposeful tread and hopeful expressions of folk who head towards the library are prompted by their intention to purchase. Even book selection can be secondary!

ALL jam makers are highly valued, but credible sources say that Margaret Martin is deserving of particular applause.

Margaret has made over 60 kilos of jam for sale this summer!

**Jammy Congratulations, Margaret!**



## Website UNDER CONSTRUCTION!



**Sunday 27 February**

Morialta's brand new website will be launched!

Work will continue to progress.

Many have drafted, discussed, developed and begun dropping text and pages into place for this 2011 upgraded Morialta information site. Many deserve gold stars, particularly Neville Pope and Andrew Mackenzie, and very importantly, convenor of the group, Lorraine Powers.

More information to come!

[www.morialta.unitingchurch.org.au](http://www.morialta.unitingchurch.org.au)



*2011 will be a fantastic year for Morialta. Here's hoping that it will be just as productive for you!*

## We all at Morialta know the Golden Rule

# Do unto others as you would have them do unto you

MATTHEW 7:12

It is a hard rule to follow, but we try. It is basic within our Christian belief and, surprisingly, to many other religions.

That so many millions of people on this planet are also trying to live the mercy rule, should give us great hope.

The following table provided by the Rev Allan Shephard lists the equivalent rules and their holy references.

Arthur Tideman

Hinduism	"Never do to others what would pain you"	Panchatantra
Buddhism	"Hurt not others with that which hurts you"	Udana 5. 18
Zoroastrianism	"Do not to others what is not well for oneself"	Shayast-na-shayast 13.29
Jainism	"One who neglects existence disregards their own existence"	Mahavira
Confucianism	"Do not impose on others what you do not yourself desire:	Analects 12.2
Taoism	"Regard your neighbour's loss or gain as your own loss or gain"	Tai Shang Kan Ying Plen
Baha'i	"Desire not for anyone the things you would not desire for yourself"	Baha'Ullah 6
Judaism	"What is hateful to you do not do to your neighbour"	Talmud, Shabbat. 31a
Christianity	"Do unto others as you would have them do unto you"	Matthew 7:12
Islam	Do unto all people as you would they should do to you"	Mishkat-el-Masabih
Sikhism	"Treat others as you would be treated yourself"	Adi Granth

## Brave Little Huntress



Coco is our Siamese Cat - with personality. She occasionally brings in a small lizard, without tail, in her mouth, which we sweep into a dustpan and take outside and throw over the fence, to grow another tail.

On Wednesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> December, 2010, she came inside with something in her mouth. It was quickly obvious that this was no lizard but a smallish snake, held by the tail and with the head wriggling towards her. Panic! Get the dustpan! But the snake disappeared behind the wall unit, with us and Coco dashing around after it.

Jill said, "Get the fly-spray!", which Fay dutifully did. Useless!

"Get the hatchet!", which Fay did - and we

used it to block the end of the cabinet.

Fay said, "Get the snake catcher!", and was referred to one who was close by.

He said, "\$80 call-out!" to which Fay agreed, and when he discovered the snake was inside the house, he said "I'll be there!", and he was.

All the contents of the wall unit were hastily removed and Mark appeared at our house with his gear, his wife, and three lovely young children who wanted to see the action.

The heavy cabinet was pulled out from the wall, with help from his wife and Fay, and Mark went behind it and emerged with a juvenile (last year's baby) Eastern Brown Snake with it's head between his fingers and the body wrapped around his hand and wrist, and explained that although it was only eighteen inches long, it was extremely poisonous. After a couple of photos, into the bag it went, to be taken to be released beyond Kangaroo Creek Dam.

Mark checked Coco, who during this activity had been shut in the sunroom, for any frothing at the mouth, glazed eyes or bleeding. She seemed OK but "Rush her to the vet if there are any signs!" The children made a great fuss of her with much nursing.

Now Coco is our Heroine, deserves a medal, risked her life to protect ours, a brave little Huntress who possibly saved us from a dreadful fate, as the snake must have been in or around our garden. She is revered now for her ability to catch and bring this venomous creature in to show us, where we then enabled it to be caught and returned to the bush, and our china and wall unit is sparkling clean with all the cobwebs and dust gone. A satisfying outcome all around!

As we waved the children goodbye, Fay was even able to find a bag of lollies for them - Jelly Snakes!





# The Wedding of the year...

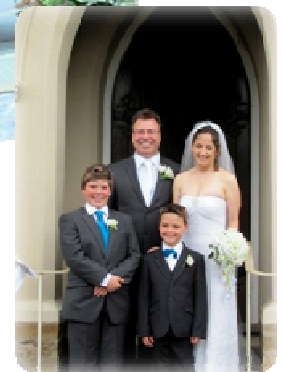


The party poppers and fireworks had hardly gone quiet when many of the Morialta family gathered, along with a large number of family and friends, to celebrate the happy event of Tiffany and Adam's wedding. The building was full and many people were seated in the church foyer and spilling over into the hall foyer.

While Adam, his Best Man and Groomsmen, of whom Jesse was one, waited patiently at the front of the church, the congregation was a hum of expectation. They weren't disappointed! The bride arrived amid a flurry of white and rich, beautiful blue, with her four attendants making sure of Tiffany's safe arrival. Jordan, charged with the important task of pageboy, strode determinedly down the aisle. The ceremony was lovely, gracious and personal, presided over by Diane and Elizabeth Vreugdenhil, a family friend, and included a covenant between parents and children.

After the marriage had been solemnized and the cameras were clicking the congregation adjourned to the hall for Afternoon Tea. Later a reception, at Golding Winery, near Lenswood, was the venue for much fun and further celebration. Speeches and toasts were accompanied by good fellowship and some of the number enjoyed a good time on the dance floor with music provided by Diddichwy, a folk-inspired band.

All at Morialta are pleased that their life's journeys have led Adam, Tiffany, Jesse and Jordan to this point. We all wish them well for the future and will enjoy travelling with them.



## Myths and legends of the Kurna people - The Milky Way

The people of the Adelaide Plains, the Kurna, see the band of the Milky Way as a river in the sky world. They called it Wodliparri (Wodli = hut, Parri = river) and believed that along the river are a number of dwellings. In addition, the dark patches mark the dwelling place of a dangerous creature known as a 'Yura'. The Kurna people call these patches 'Yurakauwe' which literally means 'Monster Water'. The Aranda people of central Australia also see the Milky Way as a river - in this case dividing the Aranda and Lurija peoples.

From Bill Matheson



**Pancake Day Breakfast  
At Morialta**

**Sunday 6 March 8.45 am**

**Come for a delicious breakfast  
before or after the services.**

## Valencia Dorothy Chandler 1926–2011

Val Chandler worshipped in our 8.15 community, and participated in the Meditation group, Coffee Corner and Friendship until health problems necessitated a move to a care facility. She had a strong heart for social justice, and a lively sense of humour. Her story, based on that told by her daughter, Christine, reveals a life lived with purpose and love.

Born 25<sup>th</sup> September 1926, in Fremantle, Western Australia, Val was the second child of Bertha and Reginald Baster. Her father fought proudly in the trenches of France during WWI.

After attending a 2002 Anzac Memorial Service she wrote:

“My father spent his life trying to fit into society as a totally and permanently incapacitated returned soldier. He was treated in Paris, after suffering severe shrapnel wounds in the trenches, in the battle of The Somme, after a stint at Gallipoli. Dad, and no doubt many other patients, developed pneumonia, and with no antibiotics for treatment, he came home with the life long legacy of tuberculosis. This is the physical price a young man paid and only God and Dad know the mental hangover from these memories, for Dad never shared them – although he sometimes tried to drown them out. When I cry on Anzac Day, I remember also my only brother who was in the navy at 18. Laurie suffered, after his convoy was attacked on its way to Malta in WWII. My husband was also a returned soldier. As I recall their emotional suffering – I do not know how any sane person can morally vindicate modern warfare.”

Val became a peace activist throughout her adult life, participating in peace vigils and marches, in particular the Vietnam War protests of the 70s, and in the 90s she marched against our involvement in Iraq with members of the Hesed Christian Community and the Quaker movement.

In her teens Val experienced her first life altering occurrence: her entrance to a boarding school near Kalgoorlie run by the Mercy nuns. Two years after her graduation, on 8<sup>th</sup> December 1944, at the age of 18, she converted to Catholicism and in 1945 became a member of the Young Catholic Workers Association.

In 1946, she journeyed to Melbourne for a year and worked as a stenographer. On her return to Perth Val studied accountancy and on 2<sup>nd</sup> August 1948 she obtained third place in the state for the course. Being of adventurous spirit and in keeping with her career mindedness she then journeyed to Adelaide, applied, and was accepted into the Federal Institute of Accountants.

Not long after her arrival in Adelaide she met a dashing young man from Laura, George Handforth Chandler, and on 26<sup>th</sup> May 1951 they were married in the Church of the Holy Name, the church in which her life was celebrated with the Eucharist on 14 January 2011

In 1952 Val gave birth to her first child, Annmarie, and the births of Christine and brother Paul followed. She was conscientious and determined regarding her children’s education, enrolling them in elocution, dance and drama classes and later supporting their development within the Catholic school system.

In 1958 Val resumed her career as a secretary and In 1978, after many years of saving, she ventured overseas to Europe, one of her life long ambitions.

Val’s husband passed away In 1979.

She enrolled in studies for an Arts degree and later sold the family home to join a Christian community at Payneham, the Hesed community, run by the Mercy nuns as a live-in community for people in need of support. Val helped as a house mother and bookkeeper. She gained the degree of Bachelor of Arts from Flinders University in May 1987.

On 19<sup>th</sup> September 1992 she reaffirmed her commitment to the Catholic faith, when she became an Associate member of the Sisters of Mercy, taking as her motto, “Feed my lambs, feed my sheep”. She took this step in deep appreciation for the blessings she had received over her lifetime through the loving care and friendship from the Sisters of Mercy.

In 1993 Val journeyed to the mountains of Tasmania where, with her family members, she helped establish a perma-culture community. Returning to Hesed in 1998, Val remained there till a year before her death.



In concluding her mother’s story Christine said:

I loved mum’s appreciation of the arts and music

I loved mum’s tenacity and ability to bounce back from illness.

I loved the way she whistled when other motorists swore at her.

I loved her for giving me a good education.

I loved her being a great nan to my children.

I loved her honest moments, her dislike of conflict and her need to reconcile differences.

I loved the way she bore her last year with courage, still asking God for a few more reprieves – maybe a trip to Melbourne or even China.

She tried to live the spirit of one of her favorite and often quoted biblical lines,

*“I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”*

Christine spoke with Morialta folk of the value Val found in the friendship and support she received in this church community.



## Library Page



### WEBSITE LAUNCH

A New Year! New Beginnings! New Resolutions! And ...

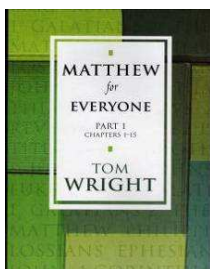
#### A NEW LOOK TO OUR WEBSITE

Morialta's new look website will be launched on the 27<sup>th</sup> February.

Have a look and let us know what you think. Lorraine, Jill Pope, Helena and Sharon are happy to hear from you.

Morialta Uniting Church Community Library has added a page and this will inform you and the wider world about the location, hours, borrowing system and there will also be lots of book reviews.

### THE YEAR OF MATTHEW

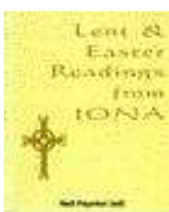


The Lectionary Readings this year use the Gospel of Matthew as a focus.

Tom Wright the author of "Matthew for Everyone Part 1 and Part 2" explains in his introduction

that from the day of Pentecost Jesus' followers are encouraged by Peter that the good news about Jesus is "a promise for you" "for your children" and "for everyone who is far away".

Tom Wright does his best to make his books readable for everyone.



### LENT AND EASTER READINGS FROM IONA

This book of readings aims to help us reappraise our lives during the period leading up to Easter. It offers an opportunity to see the world afresh, with

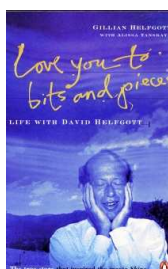
a new sense of wonder.

It encourages us not only to accept responsibility for our shortcomings but also to look at the many signs of renewal and hope, both within us and all around us in our world.

### BOOKS JUST IN.....

LOVE YOU TO BITS AND PIECES – *Life with David Helfgott*

by Gillian Helfgott with Alissa Tanskaya

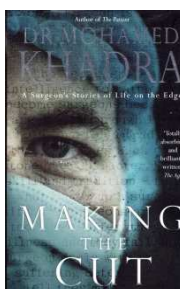


An incredible story about Australian pianist David Helfgott, who overcame adversity with the love and help of his wife Gillian, who believed in him.

MAKING THE CUT – *A Surgeon's Stories of Life on the Edge*

by Dr Mohamed Khadra

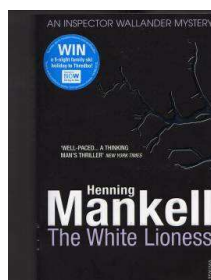
In this compelling and beautifully written memoir, Mohamed Khadra recounts stories from his life as a surgeon, from the gruelling years of training to the debilitating sleepless nights on call.



THE WHITE LIONESS – *An Inspector Wallander Mystery*

by Henning Mankell

Set in South Africa, Nelson Mandela has made his long walk to freedom, setting in train the country's painful journey towards the end of apartheid. Wallander and his

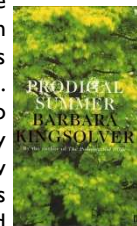


colleagues find themselves caught up in a complex web involving renegade members of South Africa's secret service and a former KGB agent, all of whom are set upon halting Mandela's rise to power.

### PRODIGAL SUMMER

by Barbara Kingsolver

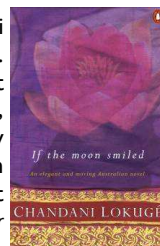
"Her body moved with the frankness that comes from solitary habits. But solitude is only a human presumption. Every quiet step is thunder to beetle life underfoot; every choice is a world made new for the chosen. All secrets are witnessed." Borrow and read on.....



### IF THE MOON SMILED

by Chandani Lokuge

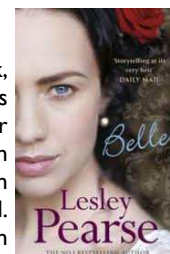
Chandani Lokuge is a Sri Lankan living in Australia. She completed a PhD at Flinders University, Adelaide, where she now teaches in the English Department. Her first book, *Moth and Other Stories*, was published in 1993. Her short fiction has been widely anthologised, including in *The Penguin Book of Modern Sri Lankan Stories*. She is currently editing for Oxford University Press a series of autobiographies and fiction written in English by Indian women. *If the Moon Smiled* is her first novel. She is married and has two daughters.



### BELLE

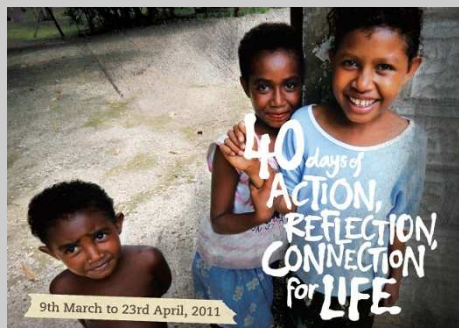
by Lesley Pearse

With her new work, **Belle**, Lesley Pearse has created a heroine for our times: a strong woman who stands up for right in a world turned bad. London 1910 and fifteen year-old Belle has lived in a brothel in Seven Dials all her life, with no understanding of what happens in the rooms upstairs. Her innocence is shattered when she witnesses the murder of one of the girls and is subsequently snatched from the streets by the killer.



Morialta is hosting

## Learn About Lent Event SA 2011



Open to folk from other churches

**Come along and learn about using the resources  
provided by Lent Event – 40 days of  
ACTION, REFLECTION, CONNECTION for LIFE**

**Speaker:** Mavis Duncanson from Sydney

An excellent presenter with a passion for Lent Event.

**When:** Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> February at 2pm

**Where:** Here! Morialta Uniting Church

## DIARY DATES

Sat 5 March	Child Safe Environments Training	9.00 am – 5.00 pm
Sun 6 March	Pancake Breakfast	8.45 am
Wed 9 March	Ash Wednesday	
Fri, Sat 11, 12 March	Presbytery/Synod Meeting and Resourcing Seminars	6.30 pm (Fri) 9.15 am (Sat)
Sat, 26 March	Logies Night	7.30 pm
Sat, Sun 26, 27 March	Kids Camp Out	
Sun 27 March	Combined Service & Annual General Meeting of Congregation	9.30 am
Sun 10 April	Working Bee	After worship Barbecue Lunch
Thurs 21 April	Maundy Thursday	
Fri – Sun 22 – 24 April	Good Friday & Easter Sunday	
Mon 25 April	Anzac Day	

### Deadline for April Edition

**1st April 2011**

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](mailto: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.

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