



Volume 3 Issue 4 August 2011



From the Minister

Dear Friends

I have been part of a number of discussions expressing concern at the direction our country is heading in with its treatment of asylum seekers, especially those who arrive by boat. There are two questions I hear: "What is the Uniting Church doing? What can I do?"

The Australian debate about asylum policy has now degenerated to the point where the central argument seems to be about which inhumane policy will cause the least suffering. Neither indefinite detention in the Pacific nor sending asylum seekers to uncertainty in Malaysia can be presented as a just or credible response to the needs of people seeking refugee protection in Australia.

This is the beginning of a joint statement by Australian non-government organisations, including the Uniting Church, in response to the plans to send asylum seekers to Malaysia. Asylum seekers and refugees in

Malaysia have no legal status, are subject to exploitation and abuse (including torture) and have been sent back to the persecution they fled.

It continues:

While it is clear that travel by boat to Australia is endangering lives and resulting in the serious exploitation of asylum seekers by people smugglers, policy makers must focus on why people take these risks and subject themselves to such exploitation.

The causes lie not only in persecution in countries of origin but also in the lack of effective protection in countries of first asylum. ...

The question Australian and international policy makers should focus on is not how to stop the boats but how refugees in Asia-Pacific can receive effective protection.

The full statement can be read on the Uniting Justice website: <http://www.unitingjustice.org.au>

Colin Cargill tells me that Elenie Poulos of Uniting Justice and Alistair Macrae, Uniting Church President have been vocal about this issue and have met with the Minister for Immigration and his advisors, the shadow minister and the Greens on a number of occasions to raise the issue.

The voice of public opinion is a powerful force in shaping both government policy and alternatives offered by the opposition. The most important thing you can do is help shape that voice by speaking out in public discussion, (particularly to refute those too prevalent myths about asylum seekers) and expressing your dismay in writing (by letter or email) to those with the power to shape policy. If you are particularly wanting to influence the policy of the current government it would be more effective to write to an ALP representative, such as one of the SA senators.

Diane

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When an alien resides with you in your land, you shall not oppress the alien. The alien who resides with you shall be to you as the citizen among you; you shall love the alien as yourself, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God. (Leviticus 19:33-34)

...social cohesion...

did Jesus and his followers have any fun together?

There are two primary functions of any team, committee or work group, such as the many we have in our church.

- **The task** – dealing successfully with the business it has been established to do. And secondly
- **Social cohesion** – to mix a couple of metaphors, the lubricant that helps the group run smoothly (most of the time) – the glue that helps the group stick together.

One of the most powerful contributors to social cohesion is shared fun. The injection of spontaneous mirth into the proceedings of the meeting is one example of this. We are blessed with a number people who can do this effectively without diminishing their contribution to the serious side of our business.

So, moving my thinking sideways, the question came to my mind, did Jesus and his followers have any fun together?

more on page 4 ...



We are fortunate indeed at Morialta! We are reminded about this quite often. Events like 'It's About Time' do that very well. The fact that so many people were involved and responsible for making it the success that it was is testament to the commitment shared throughout our community.

I hope that despite your tiredness upon the conclusion of the performance and the clean up following the catering, you have had time to reflect on the importance of Community Building Events in the life of

our congregation.

We can all be proud of the talent that was on display in front of the footlights and behind the scenes. The opportunity 'It's About Time' provides for Morialta to demonstrate that it is a community of care cannot be overstated. The fact that so many visitors come to share with their family and friends gives witness to this sense.

I'm sure that things didn't always go as smoothly as they might have, but I'm

convinced that the forbearance shown in every part of the event has helped us all to learn a little more about ourselves and others.

Acknowledgements and thanks will, I'm sure, be given in other forums, but I just wanted to say, once again, in the words of 'Young Mr. Grace', "Well done, everyone!"

Bruce

David Purling writes ...

You know I that I love the Morialta Falls, with the walks and the occasional Koala spotting and the Wrens.

I've now added some more Falls to enjoy.

This picture I took in the Litchfield National Park, which is situated near the township of Batchelor, 100 km south-west of Darwin. Litchfield National Park, covers approximately 1500 km².

Although I really loved the walk to view the Falls and the lovely weather (this was in June!), I don't think I'm going to manage another visit!



Similarly with Katherine Gorge. A wonderful experience, seeing such majestic cliffs, but we'll probably not get back there either!



We certainly enjoyed the experience of visiting 'The Top End'.

What a marvellous sunset on Yellow Water Billabong, Kakadu's most famous wetland, which is located at the end of Jim Jim Creek, a tributary of the South Alligator River.

These wonderful scenes we experience and enjoy, are, in many ways transitory. We get on with our everyday life and



sometimes it is hard to recall, "When was it that we went to...?"

I can't help but think of The Australian Version of "All things Bright and Beautiful", a verse of which goes: -

*The wildflowers
in their beauty,
the mountain ranges tall,
the billabongs and rivers,
and friendly birds that call,*

All things bright and beautiful...

THE MORIALTA MEN'S SHED

Secret man's business in the shed was recently featured in the "Australian" Weekend Magazine as a rapidly growing, healthy, mature aged movement.

The men's shed at the Morialta Uniting Church in Magill, an eastern suburb of Adelaide, is an active part of that movement with a history going back 63 years when the first team of elderly churchmen gathered weekly to smooth out individual sheets of newspapers and roll them into 60 cm thick bundles for sale at the Central Market. There, stall owners used the paper for wrapping fruit and vegetables, groceries, nursery plants, fish and chips and anything else that needed wrapping.

Over the years the paper team grew into a 'fix-it' team, keeping the church and its surrounds ship-shape. In 1997 the shed was expanded into the woodworking, metalworking and plastic work centre it is today.

The expansion was made possible by a grant from Veteran Affairs, but since then the centre has been self sustaining, creating considerable funds from recycling the newspaper and the furniture renovations. The money raised is largely used to support the church's outreach program which provides a weekly three course lunch and social activities for those in need.

Largely from the church community, a band-saw, a press drill, planes, power tools, tins and jars of nails and screws and many hundreds of dollars worth of timber have been donated often by widows who have cleared out their late husband's refuge.

Since the shed was expanded, Peter Thornley, a retired senior technical studies teacher, has quietly and caringly led the participants, faithfully attending the three sessions held in the shed each week.

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Community Centre News



Christine Ostle writes

I'm pleased to introduce yet another TAFE student, Jasmin, who will tell more of her story. Jasmin has assisted in Playgroup and engaged with folk at lunchtime on Wednesdays. Utilising her very sound computing skills, she has researched information for our grant applications, and also for the ongoing work on risk management. Once again we are fortunate to have the benefit of individual skills brought by our students.

I think it is timely to reflect on the rich exchange of learning our community has experienced in hosting students, and I'm sure you will be interested to read about where they went on finishing with us.

Sina, our first TAFE student was of Cambodian heritage and came to the TAFE course straight from high school. Sina is now studying Social Work at university. I heard from her recently and she is going well.

Our next student was Jan, a mature age

student who has only been in Australia for two years, having come from England. Jan is now working full time at Community Centres SA as a Training Officer.

Our next mature age student was Zimbabwean widow and mother of four, Edret. After time with us she has now gone on to be an Activities Coordinator at Resthaven Paradise.

Finally, our student from China, Fanyu: Fanyu is now studying Child Studies at TAFE with the main purpose of improving her spoken language skills so that she can be eligible to work as a registered nurse in Australia.

Every student comments of the warm, friendly accepting welcome they receive amongst us. Though the few weeks in our company is a small part of the students' lives, we can be assured that we have helped these students along their journey.

My name is Jasmin. I have been studying certificate IV in Community Services at Gilles Plains TAFE. I am grateful that Christine Ostle has accepted me so that I can complete my course by undertaking this work placement. I also thank the Morialta Church for allowing this great opportunity. I hope, and I feel sure, that I will learn a lot from the time I spend here. Next year I plan to use this knowledge to help towards studying Social Work at University. I was born, raised and still live in the northern suburbs of Adelaide. I am a single mother of a 17 month old boy and an 11 year old girl. I have been raising my daughter alone for almost ten years because my husband passed away. Before I had my son I worked as a Community Care Worker. I assisted the elderly, those who were disabled, and people suffering from mental illness. After four years in the job I decided it was time for a change. Thank you, Morialta!

Jasmin.

Continued from page 2 ...

The Morialta Men's Shed

Peter is constantly available to give one-to-one help to those learning the ropes. He keeps his eye on all the operations, only occasionally raising his eyebrows as another piece of wood is cut too short or too long.

Looking across the shed one can see Peter's supervised work everywhere. An air conditioner made from scratch which has extended the team's work in the shed to 35°C, above which the doors are shut and everyone goes home.

It is usual for six or eight men to attend each session. On Saturday mornings some women have been attracted to renovate their worn furniture but in the main it is a man's domain. At the weekday sessions visiting women have learnt to graciously click-clack their heels on the veranda to warn of their intending presence.

Over the years the shed has cared for a range of disabled men with depression, hearing loss and loneliness. They greatly enjoy the company shared at the morning and afternoon tea breaks with time for memories of years gone by. After two generations the shed at Morialta is still the place for men to meet and yarn about more than the weather and do good works.

A Tideman



Chapel Street Reserve Community Garden

In February 2010 a small enthusiastic group as part of our Morialta Community Centre gathered to formulate a proposal to approach Burnside Council with the idea of developing a community garden in the park opposite the church. Initial submissions to Burnside Council were met with great interest as the Council had sought public interest in such a proposal during 2009 with no reaction.

Our committee then letter dropped 1,500 pamphlets in the area during May 2010 seeking comments and received many positive replies from people interested in the proposal. A formal submission was then prepared and submitted to Burnside Council in July 2010 and was warmly received with anticipated submission to the Council meeting in August for approval. As the Council was encountering a somewhat torrid time during this period, our submission was repeatedly dropped from their agenda. Following Council elections, our submission was finally presented to Council in March 2011 and then a survey of local residents was submitted to the full Council meeting on Tuesday 24th May with the sum of \$80,000 approved to construct the community garden.

Burnside Council will contract a landscape gardener to provide the initial garden layout which will be undertaken with community consultation. It is expected that an initial consultation will be in mid-September with a further consultation in early November. These consultations will be in the form of meetings in the reserve which will enable the public to submit their ideas and comment as necessary. It is then expected that construction of the garden will take place in early 2012 and be open in March.

John Powers





Continued from page 1

'...social cohesion ... did Jesus and his followers have fun together?'

I suspect they must have. It is pretty hard to imagine any group of people that hung together for three years would not.

On the other hand, the Bible, and particularly the gospels, the record of their time together is not renowned for its humour. Nowhere do the gospel writers say something like – *and then Jesus told us the one about the Samaritan, the Roman and the Greek.*

We could dismiss this with the rationale that the Bible is a record of the stuff that really matters, the serious stuff, the main business of group. But then the social cohesion is, in a way, just as important. Without it the group, by definition, simply would not stick together.

Of course humour is just one aspect of social cohesion; respect, courtesy, encouragement, even love, are part of it too.

I suppose though, it's not really surprising that any humour is not overtly recorded in the gospels. They were written a long time after the event, and it was not what the gospel writers were setting out to do. Similarly, we don't record the puns or funny interjections in our own minutes.

Given all that though, I still can't shake off the idea that Jesus, being fully human as he was, must have had a sense of humour. And I think there may be just a hint of it in a few of places, albeit, we may need to stretch our imagination a bit to see it.

Now there are many forms of humour from wit to slapstick, but what I reckon I see in Jesus at times is a dry, droll

perspective on some situations. This is characterised by the type of remark that some will recognise and have a smile or chuckle to themselves over, while others will simply accept it as a perfectly ordinary observation or suggestion.

Of course, seeing something as funny often depends as much on the context as the punch line. And such is the case with these couple of readings I invite you to consider now.

Matthew Ch 5 v 41.

And if one of the occupation troops forces you to carry his pack one kilometre, carry it two kilometres.

Where's the humour in this? I reckon it emerges when you understand the context.

The Roman army had very strict rules about what they could do and not do to the people of the countries they occupied. Soldiers were permitted to co-opt a citizen into carrying their pack for a specific distance, whatever their equivalent to a mile or kilometre was. But only one. If the citizen carried it any further the soldier would be up for very serious punishment. A fact Jesus' listeners would have been well aware of. I think they might have found the idea of putting a Roman soldier in an awkward and potentially risky position through an act of apparent generosity, somewhat amusing.

That's far enough. You can give me that back now.

No, no it's fine really. I'm happy to go further.

No, I can't let you do that.

It's not too heavy. It's not out of my way. It's no trouble at all.

Give it
- back- now!

Mark Ch 12 v 14 – 17

The context

1. We still have the Roman military occupation.
2. We have the Roman taxes, collected by despised locals, as we know.
3. We have Herod's henchmen trying to trap Jesus so they can arrest him.

So first, we have the attempted set up.

Teacher, we know that you tell the truth, without worrying what people think. You pay no attention to a man's status, but teach about God's will for man.

Then the trap question.

Is it against our law to pay taxes to the Roman Emperor? Should we pay them or not?

On the one hand he can incur the wrath of Rome, on the other he can discredit himself in the eyes of the people.

Now it's one thing to see the trap. It's another thing entirely to avoid it. But we know that Jesus did and how he did it. The story ends with: *And they were amazed at Jesus.* I reckon any independent onlooker might have been a bit amused too.

Oh yes, let's pay our taxes to Rome. We all know how much Rome deserves them.

It may be a long shot to try to find any humour in the accounts of Jesus' life, but I believe if it is there it only enhances the relevance of Jesus to the totality of our own lives.

Chris Ayles



Roger Whibley retires?

Roger reaches that golden age, between 64 and 66, and he and Margaret are looking forward to changes in their life style that will enable them to enjoy their caravan even more. Roger completed his tenure with Campbelltown City Council, where he held a number of positions of responsibility for over 30 years, around three years ago. After a stint with Milpara, where he provided Handy Man support, he came to Morialta where he has contributed in a number of ways, well above that which he was required to. His skills have supported the considerable volunteer contingent we know we can rely upon to do the many maintenance jobs that arise in the buildings and grounds for which Morialta has responsibility. We are all pleased to wish Roger all the best for his Retirement! We are also happy that he has indicated a willingness to continue his participation, albeit in a reduced capacity, in work around the property that is kept in such good state by our Property Team.

All the best Roger and Margaret!

Bruce Ind

A PRAYER

Source of our being	In our desperation
God of our whole lives	In our seriousness
In every aspect of our living we are part of your creation.	In our playfulness
	In our sorrow
	In our laughing
In our loving	
In our anger	In every aspect of our living we carry the potential of showing you to the world.
In our sharing	
In our solitude	
In our commitment	

Selamat Pagi

from UnitingWorld's Rob Floyd at Morialta

On Sunday, 14 August the Congregation was greeted by Rob Floyd's Good Morning – Selamat Pagi.

Rob's eleven years' experience as a Mission Co-worker for the Uniting Church in Artha Wacana Christian University in West Timor, Indonesia, and his further work with a Christian Micro Finance Organisation, Tanspba Lais Manekat, developed his passion for relief and development work and ways in which poor people can be assisted to break out of poverty. This commitment eventually led him in 2006 to his current work with UnitingWorld where he oversees all Relief and Development Programs with particular responsibility for Indonesia and Timor Leste.

The possibility to have Rob join us in Worship came with short notice and on a busy Morialta morning, but we were very fortunate to have his visit and to hear directly, in a great and personal presentation, about some of the work of Assembly's UnitingWorld.

UnitingWorld's Mission statement: *Connecting church communities and people worldwide to partner in God's mission* is being realised in action by 36 partner churches in Africa, Asia and the Pacific and by Australian church communities

Rob spoke passionately under the UnitingWorld theme, "Crossing Borders", talking about journeying together being expressed in willingness to cross borders, to give, receive, be challenged and changed; journeying in partnership and with commitment and mutual respect.

A wealth of pictures was shown to inform us of people, their life, projects which are addressing needs on very practical levels. With first-hand knowledge he talked about projects under the Lent Event banner, including:



Southern Highlands – Papua New Guinea. Partner church is the United Church in PNG and the Project is "Peace Building".

We were introduced, with pictures, to Pastor Agilo, working with his tribe and another to address deep seated differences in a lengthy history of fighting and loss of life.

Nilgiri Hills – South India.

Partner church is Church of South India and the project, "Integrated Tribal Development Project."



Zimbabwe – Partner is Methodist Development and Relief Agency and the Project is "Water harvesting and livelihoods". The pictures of housing and food preparation brought, once again, awareness of the demands on women and the contrasts with our everyday experience.

Muzurabani – Project: Rain water harvesting. The pictures brought home to us the wide chasm between our experience and provision of basic necessities and the needs of these people.



Gutsa - Livelihood Projects. Pictures included training in skills for woodworking and, again, a strong message came with the picture of two women working at floor level with sewing machines provided through this project.

The concluding invitation, challenge and assurance:

We are all invited to join in God's Mission in the world.

We are called to cross borders wherever they may be.

Fear not, for God goes before you and is with you.



Thank You!

Thanks from Mission Projects

The Mission Projects Team wish to express our thanks for the support from our Congregation, families and friends for the Lobethal Harmony Club Concert on Sunday 24 July.

The very harmonious program of male voices and several young talented artists on a cold and grey day was very enjoyable and we were pleased so many came who appreciated their music.

The takings after expenses were \$661.00 which will go towards our target to support the construction of water wells and tanks, making it easier for women and children to have access to clean

and more hygienic water supplies, without having to walk long distances carrying water. This is in Nachipo villages on Sudan, and Muzarabani in Zimbabwe.

Our other project is to assist the health needs supported by the Aboriginal and Islander Congress.

Thanks also for the interest of you all in being part of our Pot Luck Teas together, as we share with members the memories of holidays and places they have visited, which also bring back some of our own holiday experiences.

Sunday September 11th will be our Mission Sunday, when we will have Rev Brian Polkinghorne and his wife Jill to speak of their work and experiences in Tanzania. Your donations on that day will also support our Projects.



In November 1911 the first service of Newton Methodist Church was conducted in the hall at the rear of the Campbelltown Council Chambers on Newton Road. To commemorate the centenary of this occasion we will be inviting past members of Newton Church, Netball and Tennis Clubs to join us on 20th November at Morialta as we celebrate this event. Arrangements have been made for Rev John Lawrie to conduct the 8.15 a.m. service and Rev Dr Geoff Scott will preach at the 9.30 a.m. service assisted by Rev John Lawrie.

This is, of course, the week-end of our Mighty Magill Market and Exhibition. The exhibition will include a segment on Newton Church, Netball and Tennis Clubs which, with the various displays on the theme of "sometimes...a season...", will ensure a festive atmosphere for our celebrations. A special morning tea following the 9.30 service will provide an opportunity to renew friendships from bygone years and browse around the exhibition.

Ruth Dunning produced a book entitled "Newton Methodist – Uniting Church of Australia, A Family Album of Memorabilia" in 2003 and we will be reprinting this utilizing the services of a professional printer to obtain an excellent finish to the original text and over 130 photographs therein. The purchase price of \$15 per copy is great value and order forms are now available in the church foyer. You are requested to place your orders during August to enable us to determine the likely numbers of copies to be printed.

If you have something relating to Newton that may be applicable to our celebrations, please contact one of the members of our team – Ruth Dunning, Pam Ayles, David Lockett, Graham Vincent, John Powers and Lorraine Powers. We would welcome your input.

John Powers

MAGILL INTER-CHURCH COUNCIL

The Meeting of the Congregation and Church Council have warmly acknowledged the work of Carole Lyons, Treasurer, Magill Interchurch Council, together with the contribution of Rev Diane Bury and Colin Cargill.

Key matters from Carole's report are recorded here for readers and those unable to attend the meeting.

The Magill Inter-Church Council (MICC) has had a very challenging year as vacancies for the positions of Chairperson and Secretary were not filled at the AGM in February. Members worked hard to fulfil these roles until Rev Allan Shephard offered his services and accepted the position of chairperson. The role of secretary continues to be carried out by members, and Carole has undertaken a significant load in addition to responsibilities in finance.

MICC has given major attention to the responsibilities of employing six Christian Pastoral Support Workers. Sadly, this has been at expense of ecumenical interaction

between the member churches, a problem which the Council hopes to address next year.

The Schools Ministry Group (SMG), the governing body for chaplaincy work in schools, has been approached by several employers suggesting that they (SMG) become the employer of Christian Pastoral Support Workers. This would mean taking over the responsibility of paying salaries, on-costs and reporting requirements. MICC is supportive of this proposal. It would continue to be involved in the employment and reviews of the CPS Workers and the workers would still be required to report to Council, and visit member churches. If accepted this could free up time for ecumenical interaction.

The Federal Government has approved funding for the National Schools Chaplaincy Program (NSCP) for a further three years, commencing 2012. To date, it is not known how much this will be or what it will cover. Employers are hoping for a substantial increase as the annual funding for workers has been static for the three years in which the program has been running. Any increase in rates due to years of service or qualification is met by the MICC. SMG anticipate that the Schools Chaplaincy Program will

grow substantially with up to 1000 new positions being offered as part of the NSCP.

Carole reported on the annual review processes for the CPS Workers at Magill Primary School, undertaken by Peter Skurry, the SMG Regional Manager, Daphne Malcolm, the Principal of Magill Primary School Stephanie Roach (MICC) and Carole. The work of the two CPSWs, Jane Baronaitis and Kieran Smith, was warmly recognised and assurance was given of the continuing support of the school.

At Norwood Morialta High School the Principals or their representatives from both campuses have also praised the work of the CPS Workers, Megan Callan and Samarn Meach. At the Magill Youth Education Centre Nigel Uppill has been appointed as the CPS Worker and his wife Belinda has been the CPS Worker at the Cavan Youth Education Centre since the commencement of the program.

Magill Interchurch Council has expressed its high satisfaction with the ongoing work all six CPS Workers. The view, confirmed in the review processes, is that they are making a difference to the lives of many, many young people with whom they have contact in the schools.



Thank You Andrew

We are indebted to Andrew Mackenzie, who so willingly and skillfully worked on the Book Bank part of our Morialta web site. The Book Bank Working Group is very grateful for his gifts so generously shared.

Jennie, Lorraine and Lesley



Kingsley Stephens demonstrated his model railway for Fellowship visitors at his home.



Fay made a good Auctioneer for the Evening Fellowship.



Morialta Magpie



Happy Birthdays!



Dorothy Adams and Margaret Peckham share birthday good wishes to each other.

Kingsley, Karen and Rhonda Wake, and Ray Clogg shared a combined birthday cake at the Stephens' house.



Adam is another Birthday Boy Celebrating 18 years on 6 September!

Colin had a birthday hug from Margaret.



Brian celebrated a July birthday and won a prize for his hat at a Mad Hatter's Tea Party at the Pepper Street Art Gallery.



The July Pot Luck Tea took us to Israel with Margaret and Fred Martin and to the UK with Brian Hogben



Paws for thought ...

wonder if I'm being taken for granted!

I've noticed that a lot of people seem to smile at me when I'm in harness. Well, at least I don't think it is a grimace! However, sometimes it seems that Bruce does get preferential treatment when I'm around.

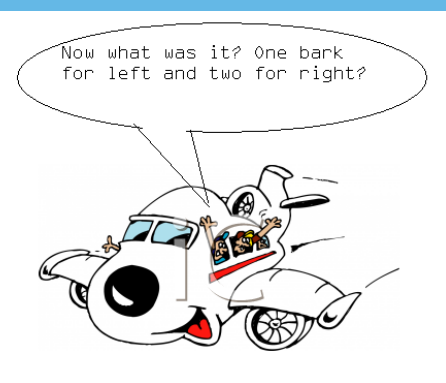
For one thing, he doesn't have to wait in line with everyone else to get on the plane. He has explained that we go on first so that I can get settled. I guess that makes sense. However, we have flown a fair number of times and I know what to expect. Just once in a while I wouldn't mind being given a little slack so that I can have a

I don't mind travelling by air. It isn't too much different than travelling on the bus, There is sometimes a little less room, but sometimes I

look on the floor for some tidbits that weren't found by the cleaning crews, but Bruce doesn't let me off the leash long enough for that.

Anyway, I guess I'm pretty lucky.

There aren't too many dogs that have the opportunities I have so I won't complain any more about the smiles we get. After all, I like to see happy people!



it's about time



High audience expectation brought ticket holders into the foyer as early as 6.00 pm! Such was the anticipation of enjoyment – or perhaps the hope of getting a less squished seat at the table!

The advertised opening time was 6.30 pm!

and recall of the times.

The number of folk who have referred to their time piece, or piece of paper, since the show, says something about our connections in humour and the

presentation by David and Pam. And didn't we hang on every word of the radio play – drama, poisoning, and police work....and the Argonauts music?

War and some of its meanings for families and community were found in the memories of conscription, *I was only nineteen*, the protest banners and later in the poignant, *Keep the Home Fires Burning*

The resilience of societies and the readiness to be lifted in music, especially by groups, appealing to the heart and reminding of the times, were shared in the gems of the Beatles, Peter, Paul and Mary, and World War II songs.

Throughout the program the nostalgia of songs continued, so well known and singable, and embellished by our era-changing, wardrobe conscious, Waiters.

Once seated in the ambience informed by Salvador Dali's melting artworks the buzz of conversation rose – only to be interrupted in some spots by the mood and cognitive challenge of our roving resident Einstein. Watch out for a hairy man in a white coat!

The program throughout captured the imagination and the ability of the cast

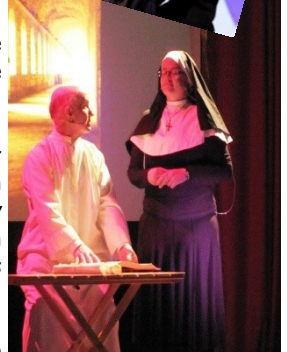
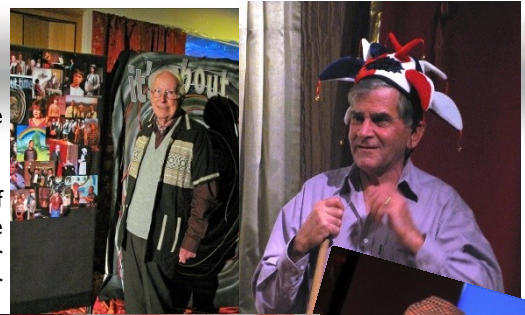
audience to swing around, even to somersault, over a century, in broad time frames and to cherry-pick the nostalgic pieces of the eras. What a capacity we have for entertainment, for the balancing act of reality and recall, and to revel as an audience in nostalgia and appreciation of our talented members!

The introductory *"All Over this World"*, and sound and images recalling population explosion, war and peace, 1956 Olympic Games, Voyager disaster, Berlin Wall, Cyclone Tracey, Gough Whitlam and 1975, and more, right up to the millennium, was an extraordinary cataloguing of events to touch our hearts and our memories.

What a heart-warming first section of intergenerational celebration, younger and talented musicians, memories from the attic, and a wry look at the confusion which abounds in technology, in spite of Help Desks! *Dancing Queen* with dancers, including Erin, Page, Jordan and Jack, delighted to be there and willing to "spoof" was a community treat.

Do you remember? Well, if you had forgotten plucking chooks for Christmas, dealing with giblets, paper for the "lav", working for pocket money, there were reminders.

Younger performers, Lucy, Emily, Kathryn, Jessica and Casey, performed with confidence and presence, reminding us of the value of love, relationships, and the joys of combining skills and creativity. Jesse, well cast as the Paper Boy, heralded events



Saga 3 - Coco



Yes, Coco found her third snake, but this was no baby. It was a three year old Mummy Eastern Brown, capable of having babies and of contributing venom to the Serum Laboratory, which is where it was taken by our now friendly snake catcher. Coco was spotted poking around between our front wall and a big garden pot, just two yards from our front door, on a sunny day in the middle of winter, 14th July to be precise. Something we didn't expect as snakes are supposed to hibernate, but it must have slithered its way up from the creek, along our side garden and round the front of our unit, to warm up.

We do love the brave little soul who has again shown how self-sacrificing she is as she continues to warn us of danger, but she does ask if the good folk at Morialta would please pray that there won't be a Snake 4 as she only has six lives left now.

Jill Thompson.

Flinders Reflection

In July I attended a Bachelor of Arts Winter School in the Flinders Ranges. The week was action packed and sleep was limited!

Our tutor challenged our practices and views of art and our everyday life choices. The focus of the week was 'making do', or improvisation, and learning new techniques. We were taught to make netting, rope and coiling techniques for making baskets and mats. We also spent a considerable time experimenting with bush dyeing practices to dye silk, paper and woollen fabrics. Some nice and surprising results were achieved.

We spent a lot of time working individually and in groups, but realised the importance of silence and reflection in our lives. My favourite time was early morning walks, watching the sunrise and the world wake up.

If you're wondering, it was cold at night but days were sunny and warm. Each evening we shared an evening meal and about four people would present a creative writing piece about an object of the Flinders Ranges that they found inspiring or interesting – mine, the Blood Flower. Such an inspiring challenging experience!



From the Earth – Blood Flower

I come from the desert landscape,
The dry red sands of this arid land,
When the nights are no longer frosty cold,
And the heat of the sun bakes the ground again.
The cool spring rains fall heavily,
The earth like a sponge soaks it up,
With the encouraging warmth of the sun,
I with my many brothers and sisters,
Spring and begin to grow from the desert earth.
My silky grey-green foliage begins to cover the earth,
As a vine I creep across the red sands,
From the runners stand short, thick and erect stalks,
Each proudly holding a spectacular flower,
Worthy, and demanding attention.
I stand proud and tall with my brothers and sisters,
Together we transform the ground in a carpet of colour,

My petals are blood red with a glossy black boss,

And sway gently by the occasional breeze,
I am truly my name Formosa - beautiful.

I am seen through until summer,
When the heat become too stifling hot,
Then we bury our heads under the sand,
Until the heavy spring rains come,
And the sun warms the earth again once more.

My distinctive shape and vibrant colour,
Readily identified by all,
In realistic or stylised form,
I crop up all over the artistic world,
My striking colours demanding attention.

The government named me the floral emblem,
Proudly we stood on the land,
Not knowing our identity had changed,
Now I will never be forgotten,
I have become the face of South Australia.
Thornhill and others painted my portrait,
Nothing special about that,
But in July 1968,
I was the face of the 20cent stamp,

An unimagined adventure began.
I was stuck on letters and postcards,
Travelling all over the country,
I was a part of bringing people's news,
Messages of love between lovers,
Or sad news of loss of another.
So now you see,
I'm more than just a flower,
I'm a part of you all,
A piece of your history,
A piece of the future,
I am the blood flower,
The Sturt Desert Pea.

Sarah Heatley



MORIALTA UNITING CHURCH COMMUNITY LIBRARY



Spring is
on the way
.....



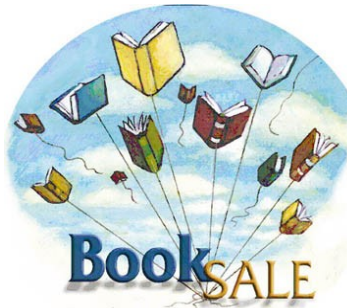
So come
along
and
enjoy.....



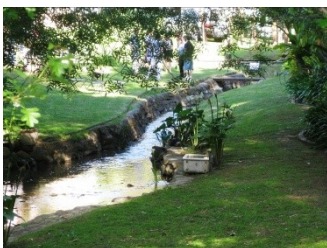
our
Book
Sale



in the foyer
on
September
4



and our
High Tea &
Literary
Delights



in the hall on
September 11
.....



If you are Spring Cleaning the bookshelves at home, think about bringing some books to the church for the Magill Mighty Market.

Look up Morialta's Website (Resources - Library) to see what books are just in....

SOMETIMES... a SEASON



EXHIBITION 2011

Saturday 19 November
9.00 am - 3.00 pm
 &
Week of 21 November
Monday to Friday
9.00 am - 3.00 pm
Entry: Gold Coin



DIARY DATES

Sun 28 Aug	Welcome to Australia Barbecue	11.00 am
Sun 28 Aug	Pot Luck Tea	5.00 pm
Sun 11 Sept	Library Celebration High Tea and Literary Delights	5.00 pm
Tues 20 Sept	Church Council	7.30 pm
Sun 2 Oct	Pot Luck Tea	5.00 pm
Sun 16 Oct	Open Garden Party	2.00 pm
Tues 18 Oct	Church Council	7.30 pm
Thurs-Fri 27-19 Oct	Presbytery & Synod Meeting	
Sun 30 Oct	Pot Luck Tea	5.00 pm
Sat 19 Nov	Mighty Magill Market Exhibition: <i>sometimes..a season</i>	9.00 am – 3.00 pm
Mon 21 – Fri 25 Nov	Exhibition continuing	9.00 am – 3.00 pm
Sun 20 Nov	Newton 100 th Anniversary Worship & Morning Tea	8.15 am & 9.30 am
Thurs 24 Nov	Urban Mission Network Gathering – Pilgrim UC	6.0 pm for 6.30 pm
Sun 27 Nov	Combined Service & Meeting of the Congregation	9.30 am

Deadline for October Edition

1st October 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).

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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David Purling for the cover photo of the waterfall.

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Living Streams ~ Giving Life

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