



# Morialta Vision

A Publication of Morialta Uniting Church

Volume 10 Issue 5: October 2017

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## Directions

*By Rev Bob Hutchinson*

Christianity is about Jesus. It is about the person of Jesus who says, "I am the way", I am the embodiment of God, the one who shows us the way to God, or if you like introduces us to God.

This Jesus, whom we worship, is of God, is the very nature of God, the one who reflects God and is God.

So how do we receive directions, to actually know what way and which way? Usually somebody or something points you in a direction or tells you how to get where you want to go. We ask and we get told.

In sport we listen to the tactics and the experience and the direction of the coach who tells us of the game plan. On holidays we might ask a local for directions, or these days, consult a GPS, or use your smart phone with Google maps. All these things help us with, and give us, directions.

So how do we know the way? Is it enough to know about the way?

Sometimes we can know about someone, but not really know them until we enter in and develop a relationship with them.

Jesus invites us to come into his family, invites us to a relationship with God.

How can Jesus do this? Because Jesus is the very nature of God. He is not only the son but also God. Jesus is the Word of God, the expression of God who becomes flesh and dwells among us. That's the whole message of Christmas – God entering human life in the person of Jesus.

We know the parent by knowing the child. "Show us the Father", says Phillip in the Bible. Jesus said, "Whoever has seen me has seen the Father..."

We therefore can confidently say the same about Jesus. He is the way, the truth and the life, because he is of God, God the son who reflects the image of God.

Other religions may point to God through ways of lifestyle, teachings, insights, revelation, sacred sites. Christianity is faith in a person. The one who says look at me and you'll know the way, for I am the way. I and the Father are one, which the NT teaches is Immanuel - God with us!

Like the other "I am" sayings of Jesus, we notice that it's not so much a text about absolute truth and even to be taken literally, but to see Jesus as the expression, the Word/Logos, the Son, and even God saying....*I am the way, the truth, the life.* It's God who makes it happen and God who chooses to reach out to humanity and to creation and embrace and invite, like a *good shepherd.*

The way of Jesus, God revealed and experienced in and through Jesus, is also about others. It's being there for others, being a servant, of sacrificial love, it's about forgiveness and acceptance, and it's about being something for someone else.

It means that as Christians we have a relationship with God because of Jesus and through and in Jesus, and that in turn means that we have a relationship and a responsibility to the community around us, to follow and express Jesus' way, his truth and his life.

There is always a social responsibility to our Christian walk that calls us to action. Jesus says, do what I do, follow my way, the way of God is through me, I am the way. The way is also my truth, and it is also my life. And that is faith. That's Christian faith!

*John 14:5-7 Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him." (NRSV)*



**2017 Mighty Magill Christmas Market**  
**Saturday 18 November from 9.00am to 3.00pm**

Christmas Gourmet Goodies, Home-made Cakes, Books, Plants, Christmas Gifts and Crafts, Bric-a-Brac, Come-Again Boutique, Gift Boxes of Love, Sausage Sizzle, Morning Tea and Lunch!



## CHAIRPERSON WRITES...

Spring seems to have actually sprung now we are in October, and I'm sure everyone is looking forward to some mild and mellow days with just enough sunshine. Spring feels like a time of new energy and new beginnings, as the earth warms, and the trees and flowers bud and blossom forth – our cliveas were especially lovely this year!



Many of us have recently enjoyed a very special celebration of spring at our Open Garden Party in Jan Schroeder's beautiful garden on 21<sup>st</sup> October, co-ordinated by the skilful Carole Lyons – complete with yummy Devonshire teas and hats of all kinds to add panache to the occasion.

Another occasion with plenty of panache was our very successful Quiz Night in September, run by the enthusiastic Jane and Michael Feast and helpers. We give warmest thanks for all the many people who help build up our community of love and care in Jesus' name!

Another image of new beginnings comes from our Congregational Planning Workshop on 14 October – the one I wrote about in the last *Vision*. I was delighted with the roll up of enthusiastic and thoughtful folk keen to 'think outside the

square' a little in planning for 2018 in the light of both our mission goals and our gifts and capacities. We have notes aplenty on the ideas generated, and you will be hearing more of them at the November congregational meeting – please make sure you have this in your diaries as a priority event - 26<sup>th</sup> November at 10:45, after a combined service!

Our families with primary- and high-school-aged children have been in Council's thoughts, and we hosted an afternoon tea on 22<sup>nd</sup> October to hear their ideas and dreams for what they would like the church to offer them – and, especially, when! It was great fun, and the young people and their parents had lots of ideas for us to discuss. It was a great way to build on the morning service we had shared in that day, celebrating International Children's Day under the leadership of Rev. Christine Garner. We'd love to hear from you if you'd like to help us in building a new suite of activities for our young people in 2018. It has certainly been a busy and productive interlude since I wrote last!

As always, please be in touch if you have questions, concerns or suggestions – or if there is anything Morialta-related that you would like to discuss – I look forward to hearing from you!

Margaret Cargill  
0439 954814

## CHILDREN'S SUNDAY

Thanks to all who shared in this special worship service in their different ways!



On the October long weekend Erin, Casey, Jordan and four of their friends went to SAYCO.

**What is SAYCO?** SAYCO is short for South Australian Youth Camp Out and is an annual Uniting Church camp for young people in high school years 8-12.



Youth camp in tents on the Woodcroft College oval, with supervision and catering provided by their local church group.

### So what happens at SAYCO?

Contemporary worship, small group discussions (on the theme of the worship sessions), workshops, team games, a variety of indoor and outdoor activities that are designed to grow the campers' leadership skills and relationships with each other in an environment which nurtures and encourages faith exploration.



This year, the theme for SAYCO was 'REBELS' - don't Conform, Transform", based on Romans 12:2 ***“Do not be conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may prove what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.”***

The youth were challenged with questions such as:

- How do we speak truth into a culture of post-truth?
- How do we share the good news in a media saturated with fake news?
- How do we stand distinct from our peers in school as followers of Christ, following a narrow path towards him?
- How do we learn what it looks like to be Christ-like in 2017?

The youth participated in worship, small group discussions, fun activities and spent time together. Campers shared their experiences with the congregation on Sunday 22 October, and it is clear they enjoyed SAYCO.

Craig Mackenzie

Many thanks to Craig Mackenzie and Eunice Sullivan for supporting our youth in this event.

## Vision "Postal Poll" Results

Fifty eight questionnaires were returned and the majority were quite positive. However, answers to each question varied and the results are presented below.

### Is Vision worth reading?

A healthy majority of readers (71%) always find Vision worth reading and a large majority (85%) read all of it, either always or mostly (Figure 1).

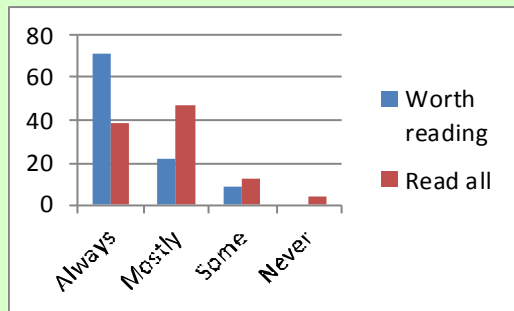


Figure 1: Is Vision worth reading?

### Size, font and photographs

We also seem to have the number of pages right, as well as font size and the number of photographs (Figure 2). However, although just over 80% were happy with the font size, several suggested it was too small for them to read. One solution could be to offer an electronic version of Vision, which can be read on a computer screen or an I-pad with font size increased.

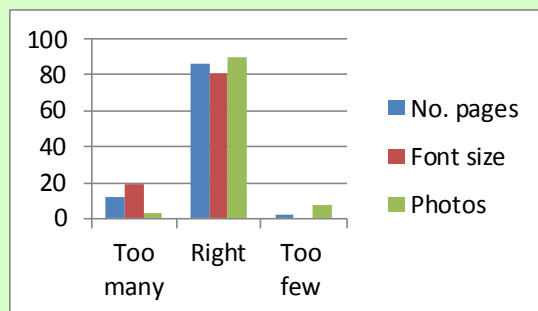


Figure 2: Pages, font size and photos

### The articles you like to read (Table 1)

Local Morialta news	100
Interviews with church folk	96
Humorous articles	89
Social Justice articles	71
Wider Church news	68
History articles	68
Library Page	62
Multi-faith news	59
Environmental articles	57
Ecumenical news	56

Table 1: The articles you like to read (%)

The most popular articles are local Morialta news (100%) and interviews with members of the congregation (96%). There were several suggestions that we should also concentrate on members who have been around longer. As one comic put it "This will save publishing a eulogy later"! However as a result, we plan to make interviews a regular feature and we are recruiting a team of volunteers to be our interviewers.

The next most popular articles were humorous articles (89%) and some even wanted cartoons included. So – are there any budding sketchers, who would like to volunteer and start a new career as a cartoonist?

Ranked midway between top and bottom were Social Justice (71%), wider church news (68%) and local history (68%). The final group were Library News (62%), Multi-faith (59%), Environment (57%) and Ecumenical (56%) (Table 1).

"Paws for thought" and eulogies were not on our list but both received "write in" votes on the "other" line. Two people said they always read "Paws for Thought" before they read anything else - and neither of these was Bruce!

Although approximately 60% would like more Morialta content, only 36% would be happy to prepare and submit articles – and we are still waiting for emails from the 21 people who offered to submit!

Just over 14% of respondents suggested new topics and these included:

- Reports from church leaders and groups;
- Theological/Philosophical thought;
- Poetry;
- Spiritual reflections;
- Theological reflections;
- Uniting World news and projects;
- A list of birthdays and wedding anniversaries.

We also received some comments which we struggled to understand. So, if your comments are missing, please speak to us.

### Some of the negatives were:

- photos too small;
- articles too long and not interesting;
- not all birthday photographs are published.

There was also a reminder that articles need to be more sensitive and not one person's thoughts. However, that is hard to achieve as many of our articles are condensed from material published in other church related publications or social commentaries. But we take the point that we need to be vigilant to make sure the opinions and articles we publish are based on sound evidence.

### Some of the positives were:

- the balance is fine;
- "I love Morialta Magpie";
- "I enjoy it as it is – and I wonder at the depth and knowledge it displays."

**Thanks for your inputs, advice, and encouragement; it was very sobering and informative for us, the editor and publisher.**

## Social Justice Sunday

By the Editor

Our guest preacher was Rev Brian Polkinghorne. Brian trained first as a Minister of Religion before becoming an agriculturalist and, together with his wife Jill, he has spent 28 of the last 47 years in Tanzania. They first went to Tanzania in 1970 to work for 8 years in a church-orientated agricultural training and development program before returning in 1978 to continue their ministry in the SA Synod of the Uniting Church. In 1990, they were called back to Tanzania to direct a large reforestation project and initiate an agricultural training institute. Brian is author of a book entitled "Learning to Listen" in which he quotes an old Kenyan proverb "A listening ear leads to life and a deaf ear leads to death". There is a copy in the library if you are interested to read more.

Brian is also a member of the Environmental Action Group of SA Synod and earlier this year he was awarded one of the prestigious Roseworthy Old Collegians Association (better known as ROCA) Humanitarian Awards for his work on agricultural, environmental and educational projects in Tanzania.

One of the texts for the day was Matthew 20: 1-16 – the story of the vineyard owner who pays his workers the same daily rate irrespective of how long they work. Brian pointed to how Christ's (or God's)

economic policy contrasted with the current approach of business and unions in a secular world.

Brian introduced his main theme by reminding us that while there are myriads of social justice issues needing attention, the one that demands our attention above all others is Creation Care associated with Climate Change.

Brian based his sermon on what he referred to as the biblical foundations for creation-care.

These included the following texts:

- The earth is the Lord's – Ps 24:1,
- ALL parts of the creation are Good – Gen 1 - 31
- What's this about Dominion? Gen. 1: 28
- The Till AND Care principle – Gen. 2: 15
- The Limitation principle – Gen. 2: 17
- The FIRST Covenant is Inclusive not Exclusive - Genesis 9: 9,12,13,15,16,
- All creation is included in the Day of the Lord - Isaiah 11: 6-9,
- The Word – Jesus – is "Co-creator" – John 1:3,
- All things are reconciled by Christ's blood on the cross. Col 1:19-20.

Sometimes churches are criticized for not being biblically based, but the sermon on SJ Sunday left no doubts that the call to care for the creation is based soundly in the Bible.

Brian ended his sermon with quotes from Pope Francis and his encyclical *Laudato Si*. The first was "Living our vocation to be protectors of God's handiwork is essential to a life of virtue; it is not an optional or secondary aspect of our Christian experience".

The second was where Pope Francis quotes his brother, Patriarch Bartholomew of the Eastern Orthodox Church: "**For human beings to destroy the biological diversity of God's creation; for human beings to degrade the integrity of the earth by causing changes in its climate, by stripping the earth of its natural forests or destroying its wetlands; for human beings to contaminate the earth's waters, its land, its air, and its life – these are sins**".

Brian challenged us to listen and consider how we respond as Christians to the Bible's call for creation-care.

***If you would like to read more of Brian's writings, we published an article on his reflections on Creation and Evolution in October 2016 (Volume 9 Issue 5).***

## Morialta Netball Club

Jude Johnson, Chairperson



The summer season started on 10<sup>th</sup> October with a mix of results across the club.

This season we have 20 teams: 3 Open and 17 in various age grades. Netball is played in the summer season across 4 nights (Tuesday to Friday) at our central courts between Goodwood Road and ANZAC Highway and at every timeslot across the week, there is a Morialta team playing.

Over the past few years, one of the main goals of the coaching team was to have a team in Division 1 of every age group and this summer, with the exception of Under 8s, we have achieved this goal. We would also have been in U8 Div 1, if the selection panel had not promoted 4 of our youngest players a season early.

For those that have a long standing relationship with the netball club, we are excited to see our next generation families returning with their children to enjoy playing netball.

Development Squad – Charli Zerner – Parent Karen Zerner (nee Palmer)

U9 - Natalie Wilton – Grandparents Robert and Lorry Wilton

U11 and U15 – Macy and Jamie Woore – Parent Kathryn Woore (nee Symonds)

It is now 15 years since the club started its new phase as a competitive club in the South Australian United Church Netball Association, moving from one team to where we are now.

Don't forget to vote for our netball facility upgrade in the Fund My Neighbourhood program. More information available from the church office.

## Evolving Spirituality: Mysticism

by Michael Morwood

We celebrate our common origin with everything that exists.

We celebrate the Divine Presence, the Ground and Sustainer of everything that exists, in whom we live and move and have our being.

We acknowledge this awesome mystery embodied in every human person, aware that each gives the Divine Presence unique and personal expression.

Here, now, the Divine Energizing Presence is everywhere present, visible in every human person who loves.

Here, now, his Presence comes to visible expression in each of us.

We give thanks for men and women throughout human history who sought to articulate human connectedness with the Divine and with all of creation.

This is our common dignity whatever our race or creed, whatever our place or time.

We long to see our common dignity proclaimed, honored and celebrated by all religions.

We pray that the one Spirit all people share may be given free and generous expression for the betterment of humanity and our world. Amen.

*(Adapted from Praying a New Story. Michael Morwood. Orbis Books. Maryknoll. NY.)*

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR - our very first!

Dear Colin,

Lately I have wanted to write for those of us who, through no fault of our own, have encountered a world of mystery, darkness, pain and fear, leaving us vulnerable in a situation where we have no voice in the wilderness.

I would like to thank Rev Andy Calder for what he has written, the compassionate

words are surely what our Lord would have spoken. (*Vision, August 2017*) Doubtless he would concur with every sentence, and I am wondering what other action he might have taken, if he stood among us now?

There are no differences!

Thank you for publishing this article.

Regards,

Cynthia Story

O for a world where everyone respects each other's ways, where love is lived and all is done with justice and with praise.

*From "O for a World" (1987) by Sister Miriam Therese Winter MMS (1938-) a Roman Catholic Medical Mission Sister, theologian, writer and songwriter.*

## The Meaning of Reconciliation

By David Purling (With permission from the Principal - Westminster School)

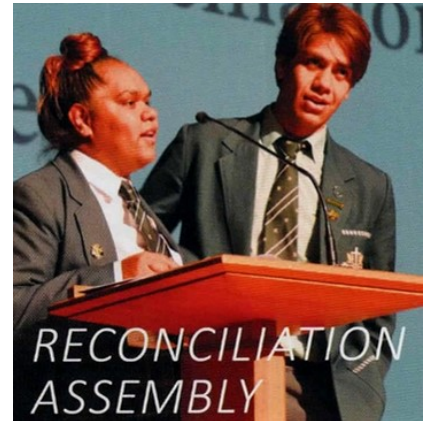
It's just over twenty years since my chaplaincy at Westminster School. During my time at Westminster there was a small number of indigenous students. So you can understand that I was both thrilled and moved to read these items in the latest Westminster News.

The Acting Principal, Grant Brock, wrote "At Senior School Assembly this week, our Indigenous students led the proceedings in the spirit of Reconciliation and the 'We Stand Together' commitment by all students. Indigenous student Maddy Rasmussen (Year 9 Heaslip) and non-Indigenous student Alexandria Walker (Year 9 Heaslip) spoke on behalf of all students as to what Reconciliation means at Westminster:

*"We are here today to talk to you about the meaning of Reconciliation throughout Westminster School and its importance to both indigenous and non-indigenous Australians.*

*Reconciliation means different things to different people. In Australia the term Reconciliation is used to refer to the bringing together of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous Australians.*

*Reconciliation is important to us because we believe that ALL people should be treated equally. By having events like this assembly we will raise awareness about the importance of Reconciliation Week. We, the people of Australia, of many origins as we are, make a commitment to go on together in a spirit of Reconciliation. Through understanding the spiritual relationship between the land and its first peoples, we share our future and live in harmony. Our nation must have the courage to own the truth, to heal the wounds of its past, so that we can move on together at peace with ourselves. Reconciliation must live in the hearts and minds of all Australians. We desire a future where all Australians enjoy their rights, accept their responsibilities, and have the opportunity to achieve their full potential. "*



Indigenous Boarding leaders Elle Wilson (Year 12 Woollacott) and Ronald Fuschtei (Year 12 Heaslip) closed the Assembly by leading staff, students and guests with the following pledge:

*We pledge ourselves to stop injustice  
We pledge ourselves to overcome disadvantage  
We pledge to share our future and live in harmony  
We pledge for a united Australia that respects our values and provides justice and equity for all.*

## Welcome to Australia Rally



Members of Pilgrim UC – including Graeme McIntosh, Chris and Brian Ward (Bob Hutchinson's parents-in-law) and Jenny Swanbury (Moriata), before the march.

The annual "Welcome to Australia Rally" was held around Australia on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> October, but for the first time marches were also held outside Australia on Manus Island and in Alaska.

Several hundred people gathered in Victoria Square to be greeted by the "Welcome to Australia" CEO and the Lord Mayor. Special guests who led the march included the Governor, the Premier, the Leader and Deputy Leader of the State Opposition and Leader of the Greens..

The march proceeded down King William Street to Pennington Gardens where we were entertained with speeches, dancing and musical performances. Along the way we were warmly greeted by Saturday morning shoppers, many of whom stopped to cheer, applaud and video the procession.

We heard from the Lord Mayor, who reminded us that South Australia has had a culture for thousands of years. All that we have added during the last 180 years is "multi" – to make us a multi-cultural society.

The Premier reminded us how South Australia was established as a paradise

for dissidents and without an official religion. Everyone was welcome!

A young woman, whose mother packed her up with her sister in 2010 to escape a country at war, spoke of how she had difficulty conversing in English when she arrived, but after four years has a double degree from Flinders University. She is proud and thankful to be Australian.

A young man told of how he manages a coffee shop in the city, while studying for an engineering degree, but his future is uncertain because, after 5 years, he is still on a bridging visa. He grieves for his friends on Manus Island.

Finally the man who started "Welcome to Australia" in 2012 vowed that "we will march every year until our political leaders stop using division and hate to advance their individual causes". One wonders how many years that will take!

*By the Editor*

## 'Beyond Our Walls': What did the Review Find?

Morialta Uniting Church's video productions 'Beyond our Walls' (BoW) are into their 4th year and a review was held in February. This article communicates the outcomes – it is adapted from the review committee report sent to Church Council.

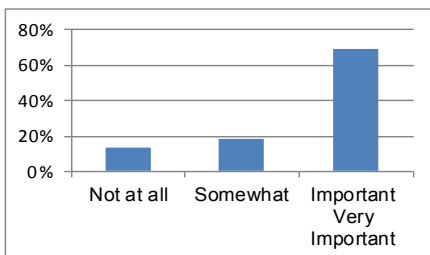
### YouTube data

Data from YouTube shows that between November 2013 and November 2016 the monthly BoW video had generally been viewed 25-55 times, with single videos up to 133 times. The average number of views for 2016 was 46 per video. The weekly sermons and readings (2014-2016) had 1-48 views, with an average for 2016 of 17 views per video. These views are in addition to the uses of the 20 DVDs and flash drives distributed to congregations and others each month.

### Survey responses

Anonymous surveys were distributed to the congregation after a service and sent electronically to volunteers who help record and edit the services. They were also included with the February DVD when it was posted to users, and made available online. The surveys asked for a response to set questions on a scale from 1 (not at all) to 5 (very), and extra comments were requested on each question. Responses were received from 62 congregation members, 19 volunteers and 10 users.

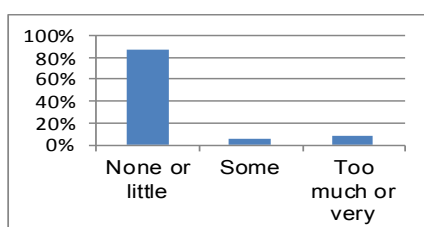
In response to the question "How important to the life of Morialta UCA is the 'Beyond our Walls' program?", 69% of the 62 congregation members selected 'very important' or 'important', with 13% selecting 'not at all important'. These can be seen clearly in Figure 1 below.



**Figure 1:**  
Congregation Response to "How Important to the Life of Morialta UCA is the 'Beyond our Walls' Program?"

Among the volunteers, 84% selected 'very important' or 'important' and 11% 'not at all important'. 74% of volunteers wanted their involvement in BoW to remain the same or increase over the next five years, with only 5% wanting reduced involvement. Taken together, these results indicate strong and widespread support for the BoW program among those who produce it and those whose worship participation is recorded for sharing with others. And lest we fear a stretching of our human resources, we are pleased to note that in the period since the survey we have been delighted to welcome two new volunteers to the team.

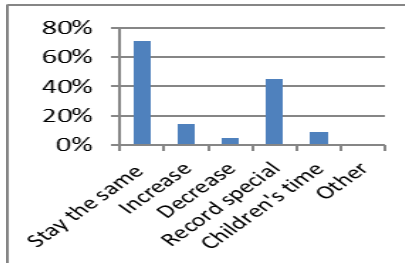
For the question "How intrusive to your worship do you find the recording?", 87% of the 62 congregation members selected 'little' or 'not at all', and 8% selected 'very' (see Figure 2).



**Figure 2:**  
Congregation response to "How intrusive to your worship do you find the recording?"

This finding indicates that a large majority of the congregation are able to participate in recorded worship without hindrance, but that a small number find the recording process intrusive.

In terms of future development, 71% of congregation respondents wanted the BoW program to remain the same, 14% suggested increasing the number and 5% decreasing it. 45% endorsed recording special events and 9% children's segments – although several comments noted particular issues with both these options. The review team concludes that there is sufficient interest indicated (Figure 3) for possible developments to be further investigated.



**Figure 3:** Congregation Response to "Would You Like To See The Morialta Video Program...."

Users of the BoW materials were also generally enthusiastic about the program, although the number of survey responses (9) received was not large. 78% of these users found the videos useful or very useful, with 11% selecting not useful. Overall production was scored as good or very good by 89% of users, with technical quality scored at this level by 56%. These data and associated comments have proved very useful to the production team.

### Conclusions and recommendations to Council

The review team concluded that the level of support reflected in the survey responses overall and the usage indicated by the YouTube data are sufficient to suggest that the BoW program continue. Church Council at its September meeting enthusiastically endorsed the continuation of the BoW program in its present form. Council also agreed to establish a sub-group of the Worship and Faith Education Mission Ministry Team, to oversee, manage and develop the BoW program.

If you would like to know more about anything in this article, or talk about any aspects of BoW that are of concern to you, David Purling would be happy to meet with you at a mutually convenient time.

And hot off the email, we have had a lovely message from the congregation at Woomelang, Victoria, that uses our monthly BoW service – here are some quotes and a picture:

"After the service I asked for some feedback ... and it was all accolades !!! Content 10 out of 10 and they liked Rev Bob's approach!!!!"

"We are all very thrilled with your welcome at the beginning which makes us all feel very united with you folk."



*Margaret Cargill,  
Chair, BoW Review Committee*

## Multicultural and Cross Cultural Ministry

By the Editor

During July we welcomed Sam Chan as our guest preacher and many of us were impressed with his enthusiasm and his message. One of the few growth areas in the Uniting Church is in the ethnic congregations that form part of our family. Sam recently organised the first ever "National Second Gen CALD Conference" in Adelaide. Following is a report by one of the attendees, a young Tongan leader of the wider Tongan Parish UCA in NSW.

## Young Leaders Find Common Ground in Diversity

By Malia Fineone Puna, Tonga Parish UCA, Synod of NSW/ACT



In the heart of Adelaide, about 30 young vibrant leaders of Cultural and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) backgrounds from across the Uniting Church came together for the first time. The National Second Gen CALD

Conference was hosted at City Soul's Experience Café from 25-27 August. The weekend was made possible by the faithful Samuel Chan, Second Gen Pastor of the SA Synod.

We were humbled by the Welcome to Country given by Sean Weetra-Newchurch of the Kaurna People and a young leader in the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress. Sean's welcome set the warm and hospitable tone for the rest of the weekend.

Though we came from diverse cultural contexts, we discovered we had many things in common, as we entered 'The Space for Grace' facilitated by Amelia Koh-Butler, Executive Officer, Mission Resourcing – Uniting Church SA.

The 'Space for Grace' process allowed us to share our life stories and to listen and empathise with one another. We shared how differences are handled within our home context and the significance of identity and one's spiritual life to persevere and endure.

We found common themes surfaced - discovering our inherited faith, balancing tradition, culture and faith, intergenerational issues and experiences of when our voices may not be heard in both the local and wider church.

Leaders from across the country gathered to listen and provide insights on emerging issues, social gospel, challenging identity, and covenanting with First Peoples.

We Second Gen had the pleasure to exchange encouragement, ideas, resources and affirmations with President

Elect Dr Deidre Palmer, Rev Dr Apwee Ting from the National Assembly Resourcing Unit, Moderator of the Synod of SA Rev Sue Ellis, Rev Dr Emanuel Audisho, the Multicultural Ministry Coordinator from the Synod of WA and Next Gen Consultant Synod of NSW/ACT Bradon French.

As a young, Tongan, female lay member from the Kelesi (Grace) Tonga Parish UCA in Sydney's inner west, I know what intergenerational struggles looks like.

Being blessed with my role as the 'Talekita 'oe Potungae Ako-Fakakalisitiane' (Director of the Children and Youth Ministries) in the wider Tonga Parish UCA (the collective Parish of 11 Tongan UCA congregations in the Sydney Presbytery), I gained inspiration from my fellow Second Gen leaders.

The Conference gave me insights into developing a respectful, empowering and inclusive decision-making conversation by allowing space for grace. It is through these conversations that we support each other, care for each other and disciple each other.

I've walked away reflecting about where the UCA is growing and where it is declining, both locally and nationally, and what that calls us as Second Gen people to be.

Whether this calls us to be pioneers, managers, innovators, reformers or revolutionaries, I understand that ultimately, if you want to build a church, you need to build up the people through discipleship.

## Life lessons from the Abuja-Keffi expressway

Adapted from an article by David Ishaya Osu, published in *Eureka Street* -September 2017

David Ishaya Osu was knocked down by a car on the Abuja-Keffi expressway in Mararaba, Nigeria, on 12 May 1996. He was just five years old, and known as a mummy's handbag – because his fingers almost always hung in his mama's hand.

It was immediately after Sunday service; he was standing with his family by the road, waiting to cross. David was impatient and wanted to be the first to cross the road. It was something new to try.

The things that followed were: *boom!* screeches, shouts of *Jesus*, etc.

David was right under the car and nobody understood how he left his mama's hand. Nobody understood why. Nobody understood why an accident will happen on a Sunday. Nobody!

David woke up in the midst of people praying for him at the nearby hospital. Thankfully, there was a hospital nearby – an old hospital close to the famous mosque near the highway in Mararaba.

David was bedridden for over a year. No school, no play; just the smell of hospital,

many surgeries, and prayers and help from people. From this experience David lists some of the lessons that history gifted him:

The driver that knocked me down became a friend of the family. This shows me the possibility of gold coming out of whatever situations we find ourselves — friendship is golden, and it came.

I became famous. Fellow Sunday School members got to know me, friends of mum and dad also became my friends. My name was in the mouth of everyone. It was not gossip – for who gossips about an innocent five-year-old who is not aware of the semantics of adulthood and its puzzles. Only some words of hope for me, for my future.

After leaving the hospital, I was ordered not to play rough games. What deprivation! It's one reason I'm not mechanical today. While it is assumed that every boy is a soccer fan, I fit nowhere in that assumption. It is perhaps one reason they say I am effeminate and carry a body that sings blues and juju and makosa and offbeats. A body that plays girls – from waist shaking to breast beating, to hairs, to hopscotch, to the love of water, to the fear of being called a demon-possessed, to the fear of being labelled a sissy. Nigerians call this woman wrapper.

I was assigned a private tutor who got me initiated into education and deep learning. A very lovely woman but I don't remember her name.

I remember the hands that fed me and supported my body when I wanted to move. The part of the scriptures that says 'love your neighbour as yourself' largely captures every assistance people gave me and my family.

This was the beginning of my *indoor* life sports: fantasy, fantasy, fantasy — should I bother to tell you that this fantasy is what I use today in my reading, writing, understanding poetry, arts in general.

I am grateful for life, grateful to be alive to share this story and to be able to share life and love with people.

David Ishaya Osu is a Nigerian poet. His poems have appeared in: *Atlas Poetica: A Journal of World Tanka*, *Birmingham Arts Journal*, *Tipton Poetry Journal*, *Watershed Review*, *The Missing Slate* and elsewhere. David is a board member of the Babishai Niwe Poetry Foundation, and he is currently polishing his debut poetry book.



## ANTI-POVERTY WEEK

Based on articles from the UN, Australian Council of Social Service and other sources

In October (16<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup>) the United Nations observed, and the members reflected on, Anti-Poverty Week. Although it has passed, the Christmas season is a good time for us all to reflect on people trapped in poverty.

The main aims of Anti-Poverty Week are to:

- Strengthen public understanding of the causes and consequences of poverty and hardship around the world and in Australia; and
- Encourage research, discussion and action to address these problems, including action by individuals, communities, organisations and governments.

Poverty and severe hardship affect more than a million Australians. Around the world, more than a billion people are desperately poor. In Anti-Poverty Week, we are called to help fight poverty and hardship!

There are two main ways to measure inequality.

1. Income inequality – how much income is received by a person or household.
2. Wealth inequality – how much wealth is held by a person or household.

Wealth inequality is higher in Australia than income inequality. When looking at average incomes – someone in the **highest** income group has around **five times** as much income as somebody in the **lowest** income group.

People most likely to be found in the **lowest** income group include older people, sole parents and single people, people without paid work and people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

When looking at average wealth – someone in the **highest** wealth group has around **70 times** as much wealth as someone in the **lowest** wealth group.

People in the highest wealth group are more likely to have their wealth in a combination of property, shares and superannuation, while those in the lowest wealth group are likely to hold their wealth in lower value items like cars and home contents.

### Income and Wealth Trends

The gap between the lowest and highest groups is increasing:

- The share of both income and wealth for the highest group has risen while the share going to the lowest (and in the case of wealth also the middle) group has decreased over the past 20 years.
- The wealth of the highest 20% of people increased by 28% over the period from 2004 to 2012. By comparison the wealth of the lowest increased by just 3%.
- Over the 25 years to 2010, real wages increased by an average of 50%. However the increase was only 14% for those on lower incomes (bottom 10%) compared with 72% for those on higher incomes (top 10%).

### Why is inequality bad for Australia?

Inequality undermines the fairness of our economic system and leads to division within society. Evidence shows that countries with lower inequality tend to have faster and more lasting economic growth; and that countries with high inequality can experience high levels of violence, suicide, obesity, mental illness, imprisonment and shorter life expectancy.

Inequality means that those in the lower groups don't have the same access to opportunities as those in the higher groups. For example, someone in the lowest group would find it more difficult to get a loan to start a business or pay for an advanced university degree than someone in the highest group.

Wealthier people can afford not to rely on shared services, such as public schools and public hospitals, by utilising private services. When this happens, they have less interest in supporting such shared services, leading to a more divided society.

### What can we do about inequality?

So far, government policies have protected Australia from more severe inequality. But according to ACOSS making changes to these policies will mean increasing inequality. For example, when we cut income support, we drag the people who rely on it further down the inequality scale. Another example is tax breaks for people on high incomes, which can mean that they don't have to pay their fair share.

*If you or your group would like more information you can go to [www.acoss.org.au/inequality](http://www.acoss.org.au/inequality) and download the information and videos available.*

### Working and Weaving Together

Adapted from *Crosslight - a publication of the Uniting Church Synod of Victoria and Tasmania*.



*Weaving a New Cloth* is a historical ecumenical agreement between the Uniting and Anglican churches. It is the first document signed between the two churches in 30 years and was signed in Melbourne by the Vic Tas Moderator (Rev Sharon Hollis) and Anglican Archbishop of Melbourne.

It was formally endorsed by Ms Hollis and The Most Rev Dr Philip Freer at an

Evensong service at St Paul's Cathedral in Melbourne.

"We had been disheartened by our failures, but God strengthened our resolve and commitment in our unity of purpose and gave us the vision so that something new could be created in his glory," Ms Hollis said.

The *Weaving a New Cloth* initiative is the result of over 30 years of national dialogue towards a unified and supportive way forward. Its origins were in the 1985 Agreed Statement on Baptism, adopted by both churches.

Further progress was made in Victoria in 1999 when both churches adopted The Trinity Declaration and Code of Practice for local cooperation between our two churches."

A document called *For the Sake of the Gospel* was endorsed by the 11<sup>th</sup> Assembly in 2006, but the Anglican

Church's General Synod did not approve it.

In 2011, then-Uniting Church president Rev Alistair McRae and Anglican Primate Archbishop Phillip Aspinall established a new joint Working Group to produce a national framework for cooperation.

This led to the creation of *Weaving a New Cloth*, which was approved by the Anglican General Synod in 2014 and the Uniting Church Assembly in 2015.

The document specifies areas where Anglican dioceses and Uniting Church presbyteries and congregations can work together ecumenically.

It particularly emphasises ecumenism on a grassroots level through the sharing of resources for mutual benefit and the establishment of joint Uniting-Anglican congregations.



## Fellowship Happenings

Margaret Clogg



At the end of August we visited Haigh's Chocolates for our bonus meeting.



Our September meeting was an outing to the Silver Fleece Factory at Kilburn. It is a South Australian "owned and operated" knitting factory, which uses only South Australian wool to knit a range of garments that include school and sporting uniforms.



Lunch at the Bombay Bicycle Club.



In October we stepped back in time to reminisce about 50 years ago -1967. We could still remember even the tiniest of details and there was much fun and laughter.

**Our meetings are open to everyone.  
Look for details in the church newsletter.**

## Getting to Know Pauline Norman

By John Powers



On 21 February 1938 Pauline disrupted family life by being born at breakfast time at Joslin, causing her mother to miss the most important meal of the day. Pauline had one sister, Pam, and two brothers, Kevin and Jeffrey. Her early years were at the family home in Adelaide Street, Magill. This proved very convenient for her early schooling at Magill Primary School although her first years at school were in a building at the corner of Pepper and Ellis Streets behind the current Pepper Street Gallery (which was the original Magill school). Later the family moved to Cranbrook Avenue, Magill. The family attendance at Magill Methodist Church continued following their move to Rostrevor.

Pauline attended Norwood High School before enrolling at Miss Mann's Business College in Pirie Street where she trained in typing, shorthand and book-keeping. Pauline first worked for Universal Tyre Co in Grenfell Street in Adelaide before moving to Campbelltown Council undertaking secretarial work. Her father was a councillor for the Woodforde Ward at the council.

Pauline attended stage dancing classes at the Magill Institute building in Magill Road for eleven years and particularly enjoyed tap dancing. Tennis and basketball (later known as netball) were sports she enjoyed playing for Magill Methodist Church teams. Many of the sporting teams such as tennis, basketball and cricket had been started by Rev Darcy Dickson while he has Minister at Magill.

One of Pauline's tennis team mates was Fred Smith, whose brother in law Peter Norman, although not a player, came to watch an occasional game. Many of the players were invited to a dance at Uraidla but Peter didn't have a partner. The problem was quickly solved by suggesting that Peter invite Pauline.

Now Peter, being the dashing young man that he was, owned a motorbike and side-car, so this was the mode of transport for Peter and Pauline to Uraidla. It was a late night for the young couple as they sat on a dog's kennel until 3.00 a.m. talking about linotype keyboards etc. - as you do.

Later Peter moved to live with relatives in Kensington Gardens and then attended Magill Methodist Church, obviously there was an attraction to the area. Peter became President of the Youth Club and of course who else but Pauline became Secretary. Pauline later held the positions of President and Secretary of the Young Women's Evening Fellowship

Pauline and Peter were married at Magill Methodist Church by Rev. Reg Medson on 16<sup>th</sup> November 1957. The couple initially lived with Peter's parents at Unley Park before moving to live with Pauline's parents at Cranbrook Avenue. They moved to their own home in Courtabie Avenue, Rostrevor, which was to be their home for the next fifty years and ten days, before moving to their present address in Magill.

Violin was learnt from Betty Nightingale for eighteen months then from Mostyn Brown at the Adelaide College of Music. Pauline was a soloist and also lead violinist in an ensemble that played at the Adelaide Town Hall and also on 5KA when the Pleasant Sunday Afternoon programs were recorded at Maughan Church.

Pauline joined the Magill Methodist Church choir when she was fourteen years old. In those days there was a full row of young sopranos with Septimus Lillywhite as the choirmaster. Pauline continued in the choir and later the Morialta Singers until it was disbanded in 2015.

Pauline and Peter have four daughters, eleven grand-children and eight great grand-children. They have both been heavily involved with Rostrevor/Campbelltown Kiwanis Club, Peter for twenty four years and Pauline for nine years. Pauline was also a driver for the RAH Lavender Lads & Ladies for twenty four years.

Travelling overseas has included trips to U.K., New Zealand and Europe with trips to USA on several occasions as well as Canada and Hawaii to attend Kiwanis conventions. These days sees Pauline continuing to play lawn bowls for Hope Valley Bowling Club, a sport that she commenced playing twenty six years ago. Her involvement with the church at Magill continues - no one else currently at the church can claim attendance here for nearly eighty years.

## Book Review

### **Dorothy, Dementia and Me – Our Seven Year Saga**

@David B. Pill

Reviewed by the Vision Editor

Dementia is something that many of us have experienced in a loved one, a family member or a very dear friend. David opens his story on a day when he took Dorothy a bunch of beautiful roses from a neighbour's garden, but she seemed unaware of the flowers, though she may have sensed the lovely aroma they brought to her room.

This is a sensitive love story, but written with the gloves off. It is all there – the indignities, the harsh realities and the sad interludes. But the love and beauty of a person shines through the sadness and the difficult times. As David writes, "Everybody's experience will be different" but I found many similarities in his story to what I experienced as I watched my good mate fade from life.

David has not only written about dementia and how it empties a life that was full of joy, commitment and achievement, he has also written a short and fascinating history of his and Dorothy's life, before and during the onset of dementia.

Once I began reading I was trapped and had to continue until I came to David's closing thoughts.

"Some may say "Where is God in all this?" He goes on to write "Our faith tells us that in God we live and move and have our being, so God was fully present in love, as in every experience of life. With this knowledge, every evening, before I went to sleep I would recall the opening verse of John Cennick's hymn:

*"Ere I sleep, for every favour*

*This day showed by my God,*

*I will bless my saviour"*

Each evening I would find one favour, one thing for which I was grateful, and I would in time fall asleep content."

**NOTE: A copy of "Dorothy Dementia and Me" is now in the Morialta library if you would like to read this short history of life, love and dementia.**

## **Sandy Creek Uniting Church Wildflower Walk**

by Jenny Swanbury

Thanks to Sandy Creek Uniting Church, Urban Network and our Morialta Uniting Church Newsletter, I joined in the Sandy Creek Wildflowers Walk on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September. It was beautiful. Sandy Creek is in our Urban Network and this was their 40<sup>th</sup> annual Wildflower Walk and fundraiser.

In nearby Para Wirra Conservation Park in small groups with plant savvy leaders pointing out the various plants and flowers, 40 of us ambled along the paths. We saw such a variety in a relatively small area: orchids (Donkey, Pink Sun, Salmon, King Spider, Lemon Scented Sun, Purple Cockatoo); wattles (kangaroo Thorn, Wreath), various heath, various pea bush, grevillea, native violet, hakea, carnivorous plants (Sundew, Climbing Sundew, Scarlet Sundew), Native pine, Yacca, Hop-bush, Mint bush, and more.



Donkey Orchid

As our group emerged from the bush walk someone said, 'I feel spiritually refreshed'. We all agreed. We gathered back at the church for afternoon tea and chat. On offer too, to purchase, was Kersbrook Landcare Group's new book 'Focus on Flora: Native Plants of the Adelaide Hills & Barossa'. It is beautifully presented and was six years in the making as well as a delight in referring to the wildflowers we saw that day. Yes, we felt spiritually refreshed.



Sundew

## Reflections

*A poem written by a very dear friend caring for a husband with dementia*

*How precious our memories  
Of things we have done,  
Of faces and places,  
And songs we have sung;  
All things that have made us  
Who we've become.*

*How vital our memories  
To learn a new skill,  
And for things long since learned  
Doing them still.*

*How sad to lose memories  
And not know the faces  
Of family and friends  
And their relevant places.*

*How demeaning losing memory  
For everyday things  
Like making tea or toast  
Such dependence it brings.*

*How frustrating when words  
Once familiar won't come,  
When sentences begun  
Just won't go on.*

*How annoying when words  
Are not understood  
Isolation increases  
Socially not good.*

*How terrifying treading  
Paths once well known  
Not recognised now  
As the way to get home.*

*How surprising is memory  
Some days locked away  
At times reappearing  
To briefly replay.*

*How bewildering living with memory  
loss.....*

*But birds still sing,  
And so do we  
Flowers unfurl  
Their beauty to free  
The sun still shines,  
and life goes on.*

## Mary Tugwell

Mary Tugwell, a member of Morialta Uniting Church for many years, is now comfortably settled at Seaford. She is living, closer to her relatives, in an Eldercare Aged-Care residence on Seaford Road.

Mary was pleased to receive the quilt from her Morialta friends and expressed her gratitude. Mary says that if you are going past she would love to see you!



## GARDEN PARTY

Our heartfelt thanks to Jan and her family for sharing her delightful garden with us on a balmy spring afternoon. Amid beautiful flowers and some spectacular hats we enjoyed afternoon tea and pleasant company, as well as raising \$875 for church funds. Thank you Carole and your helpers for bringing it all together.



## Paws for thought ... One dog is a whole dog, two dogs are half a dog and three dogs are no dog at all!

Hello again everyone! Don't the weeks go by quickly. It's only a couple of weeks until I turn 14. I don't think Bruce is planning anything special though.

I guess I'm lucky. I've been able to train Bruce and Anne pretty successfully and most of the time Wallace is behaving himself now. It's only when I have visitors that I really need to worry.

Just recently I had to look after Abbey. She's Anne's brother's dog.. She is getting on a bit now, but, she isn't really used to cats.

Of course, this was a bit of a problem initially. Macey had a hissing fit the first time Abbey chased her, but, when she discovered that Abbey couldn't get through the door Macey brightened significantly.

Abbey's home now, so things are back to normal; well, as normal as they can be with an overactive blind person in the house.

Until next time!



Keely

## Uldis Buss 1930 - 2017



Uldis was born in Riga, Latvia, on 21st April in 1930, the oldest child in a family of three. His only daily exercise in the early years was a long walk to the Orthodox Cathedral with his grandfather and no doubt this was where Uldis's love of "good" music began.

His life changed dramatically in the summer of 1940 when Latvia was occupied by the Russian army. Then Germany declared war on Russia and stormed into Latvia in the summer of 1941. Three years later, with the Germans in retreat, gun fire from the Russian army could again be heard. During the German occupation, school buildings were occupied by soldiers and children were forced to go to other schools on a roster system. Uldis's rostered time was from 2 until 5pm, which meant walking home in darkness in the winter. In the summer holidays all school children had to spend their vacation working on farms.

By October 1944, with the Russian army encircling the city, the family had to make the first of many important decisions. To remain would almost certainly have meant deportation to Siberia; to try to escape from Latvia by ship was also very dangerous. They decided to escape and Uldis's last memory of his father was waving goodbye to him as the ship left the wharf.

Before leaving home his mother had torn out all their beloved family photos from their albums and these were a great comfort to Uldis through his life. Uldis, together with his mother and sisters, spent the rest of the war in Thuringen (Germany). During the frantic and final

days of the war, the family spent nights sleeping under the giant fir trees in the forest, as it was safer there than in their house.

One morning, after a very battle-noisy night, they saw a group of American soldiers approaching through the trees. With their hands held high above their heads, they greeted the Americans and were directed back to their village. The war was now over for Uldis. However, as Thuringen was about to become a Russian occupied zone, the family moved deeper into the American zone and over the next 3 years they shifted from one refugee camp to another, finally coming to rest in Pinneberg near Hamburg.

The three years in the camps passed quickly for Uldis who by then had completed school. Now came his second big decision – would he seek refugee status in Canada or Australia. Uldis had seen Chips Rafferty in *The Overlander* and *Bush Christmas*, and decided to try that strange and unknown land. He sailed from the Port of Bremen, across the Atlantic, through the Panama Canal, across the Pacific – missing his 18<sup>th</sup> birthday because of the International Date Line – to arrive in Melbourne. The next morning he boarded a train to an unknown destination, which turned out to be Bonegilla Immigration Camp. There he was well fed and given a £1.00 a week allowance, which allowed him to explore Albury at week-ends and to visit the cinemas and buy delicious tropical fruits.

After a short period in the camp, Uldis was presented with yet another decision – this time between cutting sugar cane in Queensland and working at Woomera on a railway line. Fortunately for us (and Edith) he chose the latter. So after another mammoth trip, this time by train and army truck, Uldis arrived in Philip Ponds Station to a "tent city".

Uldis started work on the Pimba to Woomera railway line extension, hammering dogspikes into the sleepers, but progressed to the Civil Engineering drawing room. His mum and sisters arrived in Australia after 10 months and he moved to Whyalla, as his mother was not well. He joined BHP but later became a projectionist at the local Ozone Picture Theatre and at age 21 obtained his

Projectionist's Licence. This took him to Renmark, Port Pirie and his first car, a second hand Austin A40. The family now decided to move to Adelaide and buy a farm complete with 500 chickens at Magill.

Life seemed to move very quickly for Uldis and soon he was making plans to marry a beautiful and loving Australian girl named Edith. In 1957, Uldis made another decision, this time to travel by train to visit his mother who was now in Melbourne. The trip led to one of Uldis's greatest decisions ever, as he met Edith on the train. Their courtship was mainly by letter, with some visits by Uldis to Kadina, where Edith was a nurse, and some by Edith to Adelaide. Edith and Uldis became engaged on 13th November 1958 (Edith's 27th birthday), and were married in March 1959.

Edith's hours at the hospital fitted well with Uldis's hours in the theatre until their first daughter Mara arrived, and just over two years later their second daughter Ilze was born.

Sadly the advent of TV killed his career as a projectionist as most cinemas turned into Tom the Cheap Grocery Stores.

Uldis used his draughting/drawing skills to get a job with BP and subsequently joined the architectural firm John S. Chappel. He later worked for several large architectural firms, specializing in large office, educational and factory projects until he retired at 65.

Because of his great interest in steam trains, he became a regular volunteer with Steam Ranger and The Cackle Train during retirement and combined this with his other great loves – music, photography and more latterly, caring for Edith.

Uldis and Edith have been faithful and valued members of the Morialta Congregation for many years and we have missed them as they have been less able to worship on Sundays.

Uldis will be remembered for his quiet nature and warm shy welcoming smile, and his beautiful accent.

*The story of a refugee – compiled from a family eulogy based on an article written by Margaret Clogg in 2010.*

## Magill Inter - Church Council

To celebrate 70 years of ecumenism in South Australia, 34 people (including 10 from Morialta) joined an "ecumenical historical walk", sponsored by the MICC on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> October.



We began at the Church of Christ on St Bernard's Rd, where Rev Stephen Schmaal welcomed everyone on behalf of the Church and Carole Lyons

added a welcome on behalf of the MICC. After fruit, cheese and cool drinks we proceeded to St George's Anglican where we had a guided tour of this beautiful historic church and cemetery. St George's Church Magill claims the proud distinction of being the first Anglican Church consecrated in the colony of South Australia. However the first church erected in South Australia was Holy Trinity Anglican Church, erected in the city 1838. Many names such as Kidmans, Penfolds, Mules, Aulds and Moules can be recognised as one wanders among the graves. After leaving St George's we

walked to Pilgrim Lutheran (Edward St, Magill) where we were welcomed by the Chairperson Shirley Schubert for afternoon tea. The "walk" ended with a brief review of

the history of ecumenism in South Australia by Geraldine Hawkes, the Executive Officer and Ecumenical Facilitator of the South Australian Council of Churches. A fitting conclusion to a beautiful spring afternoon combined with ecumenical fellowship and story-telling.



## Churches' Week of Action on Food

*From the World Council of Churches*



A farmer tends to his crops in Thaba Bosiu, Lesotho. © Albin Hillert/WCC

Food is an opportunity for Christians and others around the world to act together for food justice and food sovereignty. It is a special time to raise awareness about farming approaches that help individuals and communities develop resiliency and combat poverty. The Food for Life Campaign places a particular emphasis on sustainable agricultural practices and the situation of smallholder producers and their access to, and control over, natural resources such as land, water and seeds.

The Churches' Week of Action on Food was celebrated worldwide during the week of 15 to 22 October.

Churches were called to take action together to eradicate hunger, promote adequate nutrition, and strive towards just and sustainable food systems!

The **Food for Life Campaign** places a particular emphasis on sustainable agricultural practices and the situation of smallholder producers and their access to, and control over, natural resources such as land, water and seeds.

We can all examine our food choices and call for policy changes that will ensure the right to food for everyone.

The Food Life Campaign also released "Ten Commandments of Food":

- Give thanks for the food you eat.
- Eat food grown as close as possible to where you live.
- Strive for all people to have knowledge about and access to affordable, nutritious food.
- Eat mindfully and in moderation.
- Do not waste food.
- Be grateful to those who grow and prepare food for your table.
- Support fair wages for farmworkers, farmers and food workers.
- Reduce the environmental damage of land, water and air from food production and the food system.
- Protect the biodiversity of seeds, soils, ecosystems and the cultures of food producers
- Rejoice and share the sacred gift of food with all.

**Ten steps to guide us in our reflection and action.**

## Margaret Johnston 1931–2017

Margaret Winifred (also known as Muggs, Mum, Gran, Granny and Nanny) was born on the 16th June 1931, the third daughter and fourth child to Roy and Marjory Middleton. Her family had strong ties to the local Congregational church and Margaret attended Walford School from quite an early age. She excelled both academically and at sports and was an excellent tennis player and cricketer. She made many life-long friends at school, with June Everett among them.

After completing her final year, Margaret was offered a position to train as a physiotherapist, but true to her caring nature, she declined the offer, to remain at home to care for her chronically ill mother. Her father was a state cricketer and chairman of what is now Cricket Australia and Margaret often accompanied him on many of his official activities, including cricket matches and dinners. One of her many treasures was a photo taken at the Adelaide Oval picturing her father, the Queen, Prince Phillip, Sir Victor Richardson, Sir Donald Bradman and Margaret.

Margaret was also a state cricketer in her own right and kept newspaper cuttings (always hidden) about her successes. She was very modest.

Margaret was involved in the Christian Youth Fellowship (CYF) and again, made many lifetime friends. One special activity was to help develop a campsite at Macclesfield in the Adelaide Hills and her daughters have many happy memories of their stays there.

During her CYF days Margaret met a Congregational minister's son named Bob Hawke and was so impressed that she almost considered voting for the Labor party when he entered politics. However her true blue colours won out. In 1953 she travelled to England as a delegate to a conference and this venture also formed part of her fond memories.

In 1956 she met and married a young man called Arthur Johnston who was studying for the ministry at St Lucia College in Brisbane. Christine was born in 1957, Mark in 1960 and Kay in 1962.

Margaret naturally made a great minister's wife and was a huge asset to Arthur throughout his life and ministry. She involved herself in all aspects of church life including singing in the choir, which she loved, and served on many committees.

From Brisbane the family went to Barmera, then to Adelaide, and Margaret continued her support of Arthur and her family, as well as maintaining her own interest in church and community. Among her many contributions at Morialta was her leadership at the Rostrevor church, her participation in the choir and her commitment to social justice.

After Arthur developed MS and his physical condition deteriorated, Margaret became his full time carer. As with all things, Margaret did it with love and commitment and never complained. She was certainly an amazing lady.

The family continued to grow with Melanie, Lachlan and Bryana, then later Michael, Daniel and Ruby. Margaret was so proud of her grandchildren and as with

her own children, supported them in their schooling and sport. Later still her great grand-children Evan, Vivienne and Lily arrived and she surrounded them with the same love. True to form, Margaret always showed as much love and support to her sons and daughter in-law (Roger, Gavin and Jenny) as her own children.

In the last year there were serious health problems to battle, but being Margaret she kept them to herself as much as possible. This really was the Margaret we all knew and loved, never wanting others to worry, and always being more concerned about others.

Margaret's unique lifelong qualities of selflessness, caring, and helping whoever and whenever it was needed, have inspired us all.

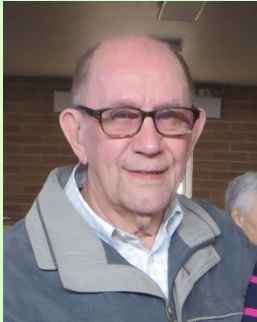
She leaves a huge hole in the lives of her family, as well as her many friends and admirers. Margaret really understood the meaning of unconditional love. Her sincere, selfless loving qualities are part of the gift that Margaret left us all, and she will live on in all of us in the days to come.

*Compiled from notes provided by her family.*





# Morialta Magpie



Happy 80th Birthday  
David!



Happy 70th Birthday  
Margaret!



Happy 60th Birthday  
Helena!



Happy 60th Birthday  
Linda!



Bob Lloyd celebrated  
18 years as a volunteer  
with Campbelltown  
Graffiti Removal Team.



Jordan received his Australian Scout  
Medallion from Harry Long, Chief  
Commissioner of Scouts SA.



Bruce presented Peter Norman with  
a certificate for his generosity and  
inspiration to the Kiwanis Children's  
Fund, George Hixson Fellowship.



Youth members and friends  
enjoyed cooking curry with  
Margaret Cargill.



Barry and Margaret made  
a donation to Morialta UC  
and thanked those who  
had helped transport him  
to his treatment sessions.



Thanks to Jane and Michael for  
organizing a very successful quiz night.



Katrina with her accompanist,  
Damian, and the Governor's wife,  
Mrs Le, at Government House.

## Celebrating Katrina's Achievements!

Katrina Mackenzie has been very busy since returning from her holiday in Europe. She has been rehearsing for a choir concert, a recital at Pilgrim UC, an opera and Eisteddfod participations, where she did very well, including winning first prize for a song in French. She was selected for the finals of the Dawn Wallace Aria Award which led to the 5MBS Young Virtuoso Awards, 2017, SA Final where she won the Vocal Award.

At Government House Open Day in October, Katrina performed with accompanist, Damien Mansfield. The Governor's wife took a great interest in Katrina's singing and the next day, she was asked to sing during pre-dinner drinks for the Shadow Cabinet, again at Government House.

Katrina will be performing as Musetta in La Boheme put on by South Australia's Co-Opera on 2<sup>nd</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> December. More information will be placed on the noticeboard soon.

# Welcome to the Morialta Uniting Church Community Library

## Living Books ~ Giving Life

### From the Librarian

I am grateful to each and every one of you who has helped in the library over this year and all those who still like to come in and borrow books, DVDs or Audio Books. You help to keep the Morialta Church Community Library alive!

If you are interested in writing book reviews for the library page of Vision, please talk to the librarian.

**It's almost time for the Mighty Magill Christmas Market**, a major fundraiser for the church, so if you are culling any books, DVDs, videos, etc., please consider donating them to the book stall

at the market. Please leave them in the library for sorting. (Note that things like sets of encyclopedias do not sell well!).

Any books that do not sell at the market are passed on to the Oxfam second hand book shop, so one way or another they will contribute to a good cause!

Lorraine

### COME IN AND SEE OUR NEW RESOURCES .....



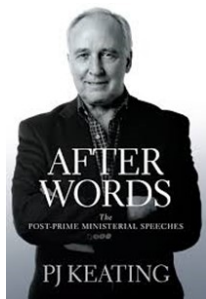
#### Priscilla

by Nicholas Shakespeare

'The Hidden Life of an Englishwoman in Wartime France'

At the death of his aunt Priscilla, the author discovered the papers and photos of an aunt he scarcely knew. After delving through numerous letters and papers kept by friends and relatives of the time of World War II, he discovered a fascinating life while under the Nazi regime in France. A lengthy read, but worthwhile persevering.

Reviewed by Margaret Boundy



#### After Words

by Paul Keating

The Post-Prime Ministerial Speeches

This thick volume of collected speeches covers the period from 1996 to 2012 and is not recommended for reading in bed, but is graced on the cover with a photo of Keating's smooth, smiling face. Perhaps the tenor of Paul Keating's life as some-

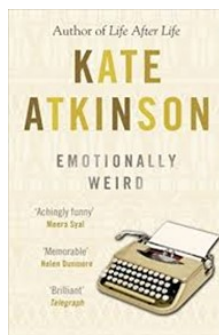
time Australian Federal Treasurer and Prime Minister is indicated in his introduction, where he quotes Friedrich Schiller: "If man is ever to solve the problem of politics in practice, he will have to approach it through the problem of the aesthetic, because it is only through beauty that man makes his way to freedom".

Forty six speeches are grouped under three broad topics: culture, international relations, and economic policy. Their diversity can be indicated by a few subjects: The Sydney Opera House, Meeting the Queen, China and its Challenges, and Vocational Education.

I was impressed by Keating's setting up of an Australian commission to work to achieve a nuclear-free world, an endeavour sadly turned down by the succeeding government.

A useful feature of the collection is a brief summary at the beginning of each speech.

Reviewed by Bryan Forbes



#### Emotionally Weird

by Kate Atkinson

The year is 1972. 21 year old Euphemia Stuart-Murray. (Effie), and her mother are camped out at the crumbling family home on a remote Scottish island. They are telling each other stories, and Effie begins with her adventures at College in Dundee, where she lives in a lethargic relationship with fellow student, Bob.

Intermingled in the midst of stories of many bizarre and hilarious happenings and characters, Nora reluctantly and

gradually reveals to Effie revelations about her mysterious family background, finally resolved at the close of the book. Interspersed with Effie's narration are snatches from a murder mystery she is writing for one of her classes, and also from writings of various other characters in her college life.

It is difficult to explain in a few words how these stories are all cleverly intertwined....suffice to say, if you enjoy something funny, quirky, weird and different, read on!

Reviewed by Jill Kerr



#### Miss Treadway and the Field of Stars

By Miranda Emmerson

This book keeps you guessing right up to the end. This is a fabulous "Who done it". and I enjoyed it. It was a good wholesome read. No blood and guts but a little violence softened by love.

It is set in Soho in 1965, in a tiny two-bed flat above a Turkish café on Neal Street, where Anna Treadway, a young dresser at the Galaxy Theatre, lives.

Anna is the dresser for the American Actress Iolanthe Green, who has disappeared after an evening performance at the Galaxy. No-one seems to know exactly what has happened to her. There is much speculation but no answers.

Anna is terrier-like in her determination to find out what has happened and this takes her to many unknown destinations.

In order to uncover Iolanthe's secrets, Anna is going to have to face up to a few of her own ...

Reviewed by Lorraine Powers

For more book reviews go to [www.morialtauca.org.au/resources/library](http://www.morialtauca.org.au/resources/library)

**"The Sound of History Humming"***A hymn by Andrew E Pratt*

The sound of history humming,  
the origins of time,  
as galaxies are clustered,  
as light and matter rhyme:  
philosophers imagine  
while science gathers facts,  
we reach for understanding,  
yet what we know contracts.

We delve beyond the present  
through interstellar gas;  
we fathom, seek to measure,  
a sub-atomic mass.  
The God that we conceive of,  
a thief within the night:  
we cannot gauge this treasure,  
beyond the scale of light.

As yet the mystery blinds us,  
confined by birth and death,  
but human exploration  
will not discard the quest;  
as yet we live in tension:  
the only earth we know  
is where all skill and science  
must help our love to grow.

*Andrew Pratt was born in Paignton, Devon in 1948. He studied Zoology (B.Sc. Hons., London) before going to the University College of North Wales in Bangor where he obtained a M.Sc. in Marine Biology. During his M.Sc., he began to foster a belief in God and became a member of the Methodist Church in Exeter. After he moved to Wrexham (Gresford) he sensed a call to the ministry and in 1979 began theological training at the Queen's Ecumenical College in Birmingham. It was here that Andrew began to write hymns as a means of exploring theology. He now lectures at Hartley Victoria College (part of the Partnership for Theological Education in Manchester). His latest collection of hymns is More than Hymns (Stainer & Bell Ltd).*

**Diary Dates**

Saturday 4 November 9.00am - 12noon	Church Working Bee
Monday 13 November 8.00pm	Church Council Budget Meeting
Wednesday 15 November 7.45pm	Fellowship AGM
Saturday 18 November 9.00am - 3.00pm	Mighty Magill Christmas Market
Tuesday 21 November 7.30pm	Church Council Meeting
Friday 23 November - Sunday 25 November	Presbytery Synod Meeting
Sunday 26 November 10.45am	Meeting of the Congregation
Tuesday 12 December 7.30pm	Church Council Meeting
Wednesday 13 December 12noon	Christmas Lunch
Tuesday 19 December 7.30pm	Blue Christmas
Wednesday 20 December 6.00pm	Fellowship Christmas Celebration

**Acknowledgements**

Brian Corrigan, Jenny Swanbury,  
John and Christine Secombe,  
and others for photos  
throughout this edition.

Stories and texts from those  
identified throughout.  
Thanks to all who have contributed.

Editor: Colin Cargill  
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**Living Streams ~ Giving Life**

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**Deadline  
for the next Edition**

**1 December**

To discuss ideas for Vision articles  
contact the editor, Colin Cargill