

Beyond 2020 Vision

A Publication of Morialta Uniting Church

May 2024

Morialta Uniting Church—follow us on Facebook or check out our website at www.morialtauca.org.au

Welcome to our May edition

Colin Cargill, Editor and Helena Begg, Publisher

Our front page highlights peace makers in an article by Rob Giannamore sent to me by the late David Purling. Jenny Swanbury has added concerns about how music lyrics are becoming more violent.

There are several articles from Morialta folk for you to enjoy as well as news.

The **deadline for the next Vision will be 31st May**. Either drop a copy in to Nicole at the Office or call/email Colin on 0427 122 106 or snout-n-about@bigpond.com

Go well.

Blessed are the peace makers: Thoughts on nonviolence

Adapted from a post on Patheos by Rob Giannamore
contributed by the late David Purling

We are hearing a lot about violence these days. But has it ever gone away? And will we ever find peace?

Jesus was a nonviolent prophet. He used power carefully. But what is nonviolence?

In Judaism, the Hebrew word for peace is shalom. It suggests a sense of completeness or wellbeing. Peace is the ideal state of affairs with others, your community, your world. This is the heart of what Jesus is saying when he blesses those who are peacemakers.

Judaism's religious texts endorse compassion and peace, and the Bible contains the well-known commandment to "love thy neighbour as thyself." In fact many of the great religious traditions of the world hold to the idea of "Love thy neighbour" – Baha'i, Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, Jainism, Judaism, Sikhism, and Unitarian Universalism. Nonviolent philosophy has roots in Judaism going back to the Jerusalem Talmud of the third century BC. There is strong language that restricts the use of violence and, in life, truth, justice and peace are the three tools one uses for the preservation of the world.

Against this backdrop, Jesus taught and took a stand. Following in his shadow, Martin Luther King (and others) took up these three tools to better the communities of their black brothers and sisters.

The King Center's definition of nonviolence reads, "Nonviolence is a love-centered way of thinking, speaking,

acting, and engaging that leads to personal, cultural and societal transformation."

King was inspired by Jesus but was also influenced as a non-violent activist by the works of Ghandi, who engaged in nonviolent activism to help the Indian people free themselves from British rule.

Nonviolence is a way of life for courageous people. It is active nonviolent resistance to evil. It is aggressive spiritually, mentally, and emotionally. It seeks to win friendship and understanding to defeat injustice, not people, and recognises that evildoers are also victims. The nonviolent resister seeks to defeat evil, not people.

Nonviolence holds that suffering can educate and transform and it accepts suffering without retaliation. It chooses love instead of hate and resists violence of the spirit as well as the body. Nonviolent love is spontaneous, unmotivated, unselfish and creative.

King's nonviolence was not just about not hitting back. It was more about putting oneself in the path of violence and responding with love. His first principle was respect everyone – including yourself.

Cultivation of nonviolence starts with us.

Shalom!

Rob Giannamore is a modern day contemplative. His formal education includes a Bachelors of Arts in Social Work, a Masters of Divinity and a Masters in Mental Health Counseling. He is a member of the Order of Saint Benedict as an Oblate. He is a martial artist, writer, college professor, endurance athlete and adventurer.

Change in song lyrics

Contributed by Rev Jenny Swanbury,
from *The Advertiser*, 30th March 2024

Song lyrics are becoming simpler and more repetitive, according to a new study. They have also become angrier and more self-obsessed over the past 40 years.

A team from the University of Innsbruck analysed more than 12,000 English-language songs across the genres of rap, country, pop, R&B and rock from 1980 to 2020.

Their results also confirmed a decrease in positive, joyful lyrics and a rise of those that expressed anger.

Come and see/Come and Play – Morialta’s audio-visual equipment

Have you ever wondered what goes on in the control room at the back of the worship space? Or what they do with those machines on the right at the back? Or why we have so many video cameras? Or how the words get up on the screen for singing hymns? Well, now is your chance to find out!



On Sunday 19 May after the service, you are invited to come and satisfy your curiosity. Bring your coffee and come and talk with the AV team members. See how the livestream is put together each week, or for a funeral. Watch the equipment in action, ask questions, check out the written instructions and learn a bit about how it all works. If you would like, have a play with one or more pieces, and perhaps you may wish to put your hand up to become a trainee operator in the future? We look forward to welcoming you on May 19th!

Finance—income update

From Carole Lyons, Church Treasurer

GIVING – January to March

	BUDGET	ACTUAL	DIFFERENCE
Giving Envelopes	6,253	3,618	-2,635
Giving Electronic (eGive & EFT)	19,997	17,892	-2,105
Giving Loose Plate	750	1,985	+1,236
TOTAL GIVING	27,000	23,495	-3,504



While loose plate giving has increased, (this could be due to visitors attending services) envelope and electronic giving has decreased substantially over the three month period. Over the twelve months, this could amount to \$14,000.

To maintain our level of giving, Church Council encourages monthly giving through the **UC Invest eGive program**.

The program has been designed to provide regular and reliable income flows to the congregation while remaining very easy and convenient for congregation members to use.

Statistically, congregation members who give to their church electronically tend to give 4.5 times more per month than ad-

hoc givers. This is largely because eGivers make an ‘up-front’ decision about their giving which becomes part of their personal budget rather than being left to relative chance.

The program aims to help the congregation maximise its resources by encouraging the use of eGive as the preferred method of giving, all without fees, so 100% of funds given are contributed to our account.

At the end of each month UC Invest sends a giving report to a designated eGive contact in our church, which details the gifts received from congregation members during the month. This report also provides an annual forecast amount that can be used to assist in the preparation of church budgets.

eGivers can elect to keep their giving completely anonymous. If you choose this option, you will be listed as an ‘anonymous contribution’ on the monthly giving report. No information will ever be disclosed to you or the congregation about anonymous eGivers.

The program has been designed to provide regular and reliable income flows to the congregation, while remaining very easy and convenient for congregation members to use.

If you would like more information, or to know how to become an e-Giver, please contact Carole Lyons at cjlyons6@bigpond.com or 0407 320 856

Friendship Group

From Margaret Clogg



At the Friendship Group meeting in April, some “works of art” were produced under Beverley Tredrea’s artistic direction. There were some very interesting interpretations of “how to paint three trees” !!! It was a fulfilled morning with much laughter as we studied each other’s creations. The morning concluded with more fun and fellowship over lunch.

Our next meeting is on Thursday May 16th at 10.00am, when Joan Wagner will host the morning with “A Trip Down Memory Lane” with witty sayings and greetings from the past, and “Nudges” - to do an act of kindness.

We will share a lunch of soup and crusty bread after the meeting at a cost of \$5.00 each. All are welcome.



Greetings from Mary Watson

Could you please pass on to Bruce and Margaret and anyone else involved, my thanks for all the time they put into live streaming the Sunday services as well as the meeting of the

congregation recently. While my mobility is not what I would like it to be, I am otherwise well and thankful for the social life here at Glen Woodley, and I do enjoy the on-line services I am privileged to participate in on Sunday mornings.

World Bee Day 20th May 2024

Contributed by Rev Jenny Swanbury

World Bee Day celebrates our hard-working little pollinators.

This date was designated by the United Nations (UN) in honour of the birthday of Anton Janša, who pioneered beekeeping in the 18th century.

Bees are important to our livelihood as they help to pollinate most of the crops we eat and many that feed farm animals. Nearly two-thirds of Australia's agricultural production benefits from bee pollination.

But bee populations are under threat. Destruction of their natural habitat, intensive farming practices, and pests and diseases are just some of the complex reasons driving a decline in both the number and diversity of bees. Without bees, our food security is at risk.

There are over 25,000 species of bee that exist globally and Australia is home to around 2,000 species of native bee. Native bees have co-evolved with our unique native flora over thousands of years.

Some species of plant can only be pollinated by a particular species of bee. In the absence of pollination, the plant species cannot reproduce so if that bee species dies, so too will the plant.

Without bees, biodiversity is at risk. Bees are keystone species that play a vital role in preserving ecosystem health. Bees provide essential pollination services for plants.

Maintaining plant diversity supports other essential ecosystem services including helping to regulate climate, purify air and water, build soil and recycle nutrients. Without bees, ecosystems are at risk.

Five World Bee facts you would not 'Bee-Lieve'. Bees are the most important pollinator in the world, and have been for centuries. Here are some interesting facts you may not know about these winged creatures:

- The average honey bee will only make around 1/12th of a teaspoon of honey in its entire lifetime.
- A single bee visits 50 to 100 flowers on each pollination trip.
- Almost 75% of the crops grown in the world rely on honey bee pollination.
- Bees have four wings!
- Many species of bees can't even sting!

Join us in celebrating World Bee Day – 20 May 2024. You (or your group or friends) may like to join in by organizing a local Bee Day activity such as:

- Visiting or hosting a beekeeper to become acquainted with their work;
- Learning about honey and hive products;
- Learning about nectar-bearing plants;
- Setting up a bee hive or native bee hotel in your home garden, yard, terrace, etc;
- Preparing a breakfast that contains honey and other hive products;
- Organising art competitions on the topic of beekeeping and pollinators.



Living, Loving, Life and Loss

Contributed by Jan Thornton

The funeral's over and we've wiped away tears. Tears for ourselves, and our loss. We've sat in silence, reliving memories, relishing moments when laughter rang. We have the photographs but never knew they would one day prove such priceless possessions.

Always, at the back of our consciousness lingers the impossible, vague idea, that we're here, living our lives, and will always endure. Unfortunately, dying is just the natural culmination of living. Life is transitory and even the most exceptional person is unable to stop the ticking sound of time marching relentlessly onwards. To be born is to accept this ordinary, yet extraordinary life, will eventually end.

Look around you. Sit in church and ponder on those who've been there before. The energy and power of their presence

remains. The woodwork thrums with their dynamism and the walls still hold us safe in their authority. But one day, others will sit where we now sit. They'll love and hope as we do now and perhaps, they might wish to have known us better. I hope some of the warmth hiding in the fabric will be mine.

We're hard-wired to fight for what we feel is our right. But what is really ours? We strive to surround ourselves with material gains, that are left behind when we move on. That knowledge can be sad, terrifying, or reassuring. But it's an unassailable fact.

Before our end comes, whatever our beliefs, we need to hold close to a dogma of love, and gentle kindness. While we live, life seems endless. It's hard to believe that all we are, will one day be no longer. So, let's be sure of what really matters and live as we should. When we die, I hope we leave a trace of joy, and will be remembered only for laughter and love – and our kindness.

EID FunFair 1445 @ Morialta UC

Quite a number of Morialta folk joined with the Dawoodi Bohras on Sunday 14th April at the EID FunFair 1445 to raise funds for 'Project Rise' – a Dawoodi Bohra International Charity.

Project Rise is dedicated to uplifting the lives of individuals and communities around the world through helping create a resilient, sustainable, and prospering global society, where no one is neglected or marginalised (see April Vision).

It was a fun afternoon with many tasty food treats to sample, lots of laughter and games, including bingo, and a chance for a henna tattoo. Many of us have not played bingo (or 'housey' for those of us from 'the east') since we were teenagers!

John Thornton proved his gambling skills being runner-up in the Bingo and Margaret Cargill picked the winning photo of the display of African wildlife.

If you wish to make a donation to the project, the bank details are:

Account name: MB Project Rise

BSB: 03507

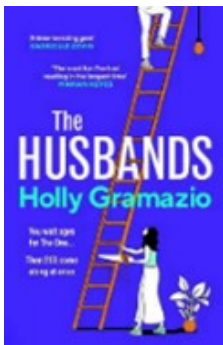
Account number: 428175



What's new in the library!

From Joan Wagner

Miranda, Jill and Joan are delighted to welcome Michelle Bennier to the library team. With her pleasant personality and comprehensive computer skills she is a real blessing!

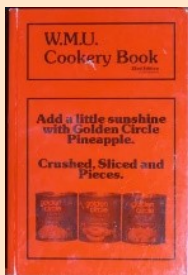


Hot off the press! Doreen Matheson's granddaughter, Holly Gramazio, who lives in England, has just published a novel called *The Husbands*. The book is dedicated to her own husband who is so intriguing that she writes about 'The Husbands' in the plural. Doreen has kindly donated a copy of Holly's book to the library and as soon as it has been catalogued onto our computer, it will be available for borrowing. I am sure, if you ask, Doreen will tell you more about the author and the plot!

A Jewish prayer

Contributed by Rev Dr Brian Phillips

How wonderful, O Lord, are the works of your hands!
 The heavens declare Your glory,
 the arch of the sky displays Your handiwork.
 In your love You have given us the power
 to behold the beauty of Your world
 robed in all its splendour.
 The sun and the stars, valleys and hills,
 the rivers and lakes all disclose Your presence.
 The roaring breakers of the sea tell of Your awesome might,
 the beasts of the field and the birds of the air
 bespeak Your wondrous will.
 In Your goodness You have made us able to hear
 the music of the world. The voices of loved ones
 reveal to us that You are in our midst.
 A divine voice sings through all creation.
 How wonderful, O Lord, are the works of your hands!



The Presbyterian Women's Missionary Union Cookbook

The PWMU cookbook is the oldest continuous cookbook in Australia, and has been in print since 1904. The 2024 edition celebrates 120 years, with royalties funding the mission and ministry of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria and the Uniting Church in Victoria. If you are interested in purchasing a copy of this 'special' cookbook contact pwmu.cookbook7@gmail.com

World Environment Day

Wednesday 5th June in 2024 is World Environment Day. The date was chosen by the United Nations to highlight the protection and health of our environment as a major issue. Churches are encouraged to observe and mark the day as a congregation and resources are available from



World Environment Day

<https://www.worldenvironmentday.global/about/theme-host>

Co-opera

Adapted from the Co-opera website

Many members of MUC are already familiar with Co-opera and have enjoyed some of their performances. In fact it was Co-opera that gave our own Katrina Mackenzie experience in performing opera: soon after her graduation from the Elder Conservatorium she performed with Co-opera in the soprano role of Musetta in La Boheme. Subsequently, in addition to other operatic roles, she was the soprano soloist in the company's performance of Mozart's Requiem in 2018.



Formed in 1990, Co-Opera is Australia's busiest and oldest touring opera company. But it is not just an opera company – it is a community sustained by the love, interest, and generosity of people who are passionate about sharing the operatic experience with others.

Co-opera's aim is to make opera accessible to people from all walks of life, whether you are an avid fan of the genre, or don't know your Brindisi from your Barcarolle. They provide a space where everyone – professionals, students, the audience, and volunteers – can meet and experience making opera together. Anyone can join them on their musical journey.

One of their aims is to foster emerging artists programs, which are vital for South Australia. These programs must continue if we wish to keep opera talent here in this state. Once a student graduates from the Elder Conservatorium they need performance opportunities and a significant amount of experience before they can be considered eligible for roles at a state opera level. This is what Co-opera provides.

However, to maintain these vital programs, Co-opera need donors and financial support. Federal and State grants are increasingly difficult and almost impossible to obtain as their artistic focus rarely covers traditional opera performance. If you would like to know more about ways you can support Co-opera and support young South Australian singers (like Katrina), go to <http://www.co-opera.com.au> or call them on 0404 934 525 or email them on info@co-opera.com.au.

Addendum

In June Katrina will perform with a Sydney company in "Dialogues of the Carmelites" by Francis Poulenc. The venue is Pitt Street Uniting Church which happens to be the church where Katrina and Mitchell worship. Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia, provides highly interesting background reading about "Dialogues of the Carmelites".

A little help gives a free stay

Contributed by Julie Lommon, from the Kimba Community Development Group

Who doesn't love the idea of free accommodation while exploring some of Australia's remote hidden gems? The Kimba Community Development Group offers the Grey Nomad Volunteer Program, where people can volunteer in exchange for a free camp.

Kimba, located on Highway One on SA's Eyre Peninsula, is one of the state's major wheat-producing areas. It is home to The Big Galah, a fantastic nature trail with animal sculptures made with recycled steel, and exquisite murals and mosaic showing the flora, fauna and people of the land. All this makes it a great place to stop by while travelling towards the Nullarbor Plain, or exploring the Eyre Peninsula further.



Program chair, Heather Baldock, said the town actively welcomes grey nomads, whether it is to join the volunteer program, check out the attractions or simply to stay a night or two at the free camping area.

The program, run by the Kimba Community Development Group, was developed about 15 years ago and it's something the locals love as well. "Our community has enjoyed the

company and skills of many people who want a break from the road and learn about our small agricultural community," Heather said.

"Some have come for a few days of volunteering and ended up staying months. Some have returned several times over. Many have formed great friendships with locals. And not all our grey nomad volunteers are grey."

In return for the equivalent of two full days per week of volunteering per person, grey nomads will have access to power in the free camping area for a week and coins for the showers.

Heather said there is plenty to see and do: Workshop26 with its barista coffee and in-house artisans; the awesome silo art is particularly impressive under the solar lights at night; the fun mosaic with local threatened species celebrating the demise of the feral fox and cat; the mighty sculptures atop Whites Knob; and more natural environments such as Secret Rocks, Lake Gilles and the Gawler Ranges.

The program was recognised in the National Grey Nomads Awards as the best grey nomad volunteer program or project in 2019.

Anyone interested can contact the visitor information outlet at the district council office to be put in touch with a local who will welcome them; talk through the program; help them settle into the campgrounds; and introduce them to the locals they will be volunteering alongside. You can also phone Heather on 0428101416 or visit www.kimba.sa.gov.au and search for Grey Nomad Program.

Anniversaries and the church

From Jan Thornton

The years keep coming around, bringing us anniversaries, birthdays, and holidays that we enjoy. The church year progresses in similar fashion. Easter Sunday seems such a short time ago and now we have Pentecost (Ascension Day). The two events are separated by an inclusive count of 50 days, with Pentecost (this year, May 19th) celebrating the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles, and other followers of Jesus. This is also known as Whitsun or Whit Sunday. ‘Whit’, refers to the white colour of the christening clothes of the many who were baptised at this popular time. In the Northern parts of England, where I come from, this time of celebration included new clothes for children, Whit Fairs, and Whit Walks when whole church congregations would walk through the town. It was a joyous time.

Interestingly, Captain Cook, on 4th June in 1770 mistook the day, and when he discovered some islands off the Queensland coast, believed it was Whit Sunday, and that’s why we have the beautiful Whitsundays!

Following Pentecost, a week later, is Trinity Sunday (May 26th), which honours the belief in the Trinity – Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. This is the only major Christian festival that celebrates a doctrine of the church rather than an event in its sacred history, but has been on the church calendar since Pope Gregory instituted it in 828 AD. It serves as a reminder of the mystery of the Holy Trinity and is a time to celebrate this foundational belief of Christianity.

I recently discovered that the shamrock – such an indisputable emblem of Ireland – was used by St Patrick to explain the Trinity to the Irish people. Each leaf represented one of the Persons of God but inevitably became one leaf, as the three combined.

There are many images used to visually represent the three-in-one nature of the Holy Trinity, including the ancient Trinity Knot (Triquetra) consisting of three interlocking arcs. There is also the simple Triangle, one of the earliest symbols, representing the equality and unity of Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, and the Fleur-de-Lys, a stylised lily associated with the French monarchy. There are other symbols too, like the Scutum Fidei (shield of the Trinity) which appeared as early as the thirteenth century, the beautiful Borromean rings, and the Trefoil Triangle which sometimes has a dove depicted within the image.



The symbolism of ‘three-in-one’ is frequently seen in paintings showing a cleric having the thumb and ring finger touching - representing the two natures united in Christ in the Incarnation. Jesus, being both fully divine and fully human, is two natures united in Christ which cannot be separated (hypostatic union). The three remaining fingers then represent the three Persons of the Trinity.

What a wealth of knowledge and history lies within our Christian beliefs. Do you know it all? I’m afraid I don’t. But it’s fascinating to learn.

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

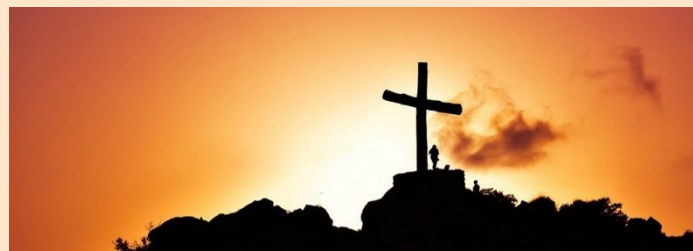
One of the hymns that we tend to sing around Easter is “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross.” It was written by Isaac Watts about 300 years ago.

One story is that when he was a youngster, Watts complained about the deplorable hymns that were sung at church. At the time, only renditions of the Psalms were intoned by a cantor and then repeated by the congregation. His father, the pastor of the church, suggested that “If you might think they are bad I’d like to see you write something better!” Legend has it, Isaac went up to his bedroom and appeared several hours later with his first hymn, and it was enthusiastically received at the Sunday evening service the same night.

Isaac Watts went on to write over 600 hymns, many of them classics like ‘O god our help in ages past’, ‘Jesus shall reign where’er the sun’, ‘Joy to the world’ and probably his crowning achievement ‘When I Survey the Wondrous Cross’. He certainly earned the title, “the father of English hymnody.”

‘When I Survey the Wondrous Cross’ was first published in 1707 and uses the personal pronoun ‘I’, which was not common in Watts’ time. It was originally intended as a communion hymn and is said to be based on Galatians 6:14 “God forbid that I should ever boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.” The hymn starts with contemplation of the cross and the fact that all our worldly achievements and possessions pale in comparison. The last verse shows that the only proper response to this amazing love is complete devotion.

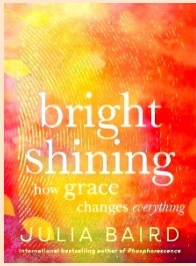
Adapted from a weekly post by (The Venerable) David Fleming



National Reconciliation Week 27th May – 3rd June

A national resource has been developed for the Uniting Church and helps explore this year’s theme *Now More Than Ever*. The resource offers activities and materials for congregations and individuals to use during Reconciliation week.

For more information go to <http://www.reconciliation.org.au/our-work/national-reconciliation-week>



Bright Shining – how grace changes everything

By Julia Baird

Grace is both mysterious and hard to define. It can be found when we create ways to find meaning and dignity in connection with each other, building on our shared humanity, being kinder, bigger, better with each other. If, in its crudest interpretation, karma is getting what you deserve, then grace is the opposite: forgiving the unforgivable, favouring the undeserving, loving the unlovable.

But we live in an era when grace is an increasingly rare currency. The silos in which we consume information dot the media landscape like skyscrapers, and our growing distrust of the media, politicians and public figures has choked our ability to cut each other slack, to allow each other to stumble, to forgive one another.

So what does grace look like in our world, and how do we recognise it, nurture it in ourselves and express it, even in the darkest of times?

“Grace is, in most of its forms, fleeting and often overlooked; it reveals itself in flashes and glimmers. But these are moments that illuminate and transcend. So the fundamental

question must be: how different would our lives be if they were defined, or lit, by grace? What would happen to our hearts, our health? Grace is, arguably, the antithesis of cancel culture. That’s not to say that you should just give racists a cuddle, or forgive dickheads for blind acts of narcissism, thereby creating a culture of impunity and stasis. But every great reform movement, every great movement of justice in history, has been fuelled by a simple gracious belief – that people can change, or be persuaded, that we can appeal to what Abraham Lincoln called ‘the better angels of our nature’. To believe that of everyone you meet is an incredible gift – for you and for them.”

From award-winning journalist Julia Baird, author of the acclaimed national bestseller *Phosphorescence*, comes *Bright Shining*, a luminously beautiful, deeply insightful and most timely exploration of grace.

About the Author

Julia Baird is a Sydney-based author and journalist. She co-hosts *The Drum* on ABC TV and writes columns for the Sydney Morning Herald, *The Age* and *Harper’s Bazaar*. Her first book, *Media Tarts*, was about the portrayal of female politicians. *Victoria*, her biography of Queen Victoria, was published to critical acclaim and was one of the New York Times’ top ten books of 2016. Her third book, *Phosphorescence*, was a multi-award-winning contribution to literature.

Sonder – Everyone has a life vivid and complex as our own.

From ‘Bright Shining’ by Julia Baird

John Koenig, in his *Dictionary of Obscure Sorrows*, describes ‘main character absorption’ as being ‘the star at the centre of your unfolding story’, and defines its antithesis with a word he coined, ‘sonder’.

“Sonder n. the realization that each random passerby is living a life as vivid and complex as your own – populated with their own ambitions, friends, routines, worries and inherited craziness – an epic story that continues invisibly around you like an anthill sprawling deep underground, with elaborate passageways to thousands of other lives that you’ll never know

existed, in which you might appear only once, as an extra sipping coffee in the background, as a blur of traffic passing on the highway, as a lighted window at dusk.”

We so often underestimate the significance of random encounters with strangers, and how even the briefest of exchanges can have an impact on our lives. As we walk through the world, preoccupied with our own trials and dramas, we should keep in mind the concept of ‘sonder’, and remain aware of our myriad everyday interactions with people we don’t, or barely, know. We may be the leading characters in our own shows, in other words, but there are thousands of such shows being aired in the suburbs we live in, every day. Every main character is simultaneously a side character, or extra, in someone else’s show.

Evangelism

“The most powerful evangelistic tool in the world is not a program, a special service, a booklet or a flashy presentation.

It’s a group of people who live what they say they believe.”

(Karl Vaters)

Contributed by Gaynor H

Teaching Indigenous knowledge alongside science

Amanda Black, Jason M. Tylianakis – *Science* Vol 383 Issue 6683

Evidence supports the teaching of Indigenous knowledge alongside sciences in the classroom.

There has been growing acceptance of the value of Indigenous knowledge for promoting ecological resilience, transformational approaches in stewardship, and cultural renewal within global organisations, such as the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

However, despite increasing acceptance in international settings, there is often a lack of wider acceptance, application, and policy protections of Indigenous knowledge transmission in more local settings, including opposition by some scientists. But Indigenous knowledge can complement and enhance science teachings, benefitting students and society in a time of considerable global challenges. However, Indigenous knowledge should not usurp the role of, or be called, science. But to step from “not science” to “therefore not as (or at all) valuable and worthy of learning” is not a scientifically defensible position, but based on personal values.

Congratulations...



... to Casey, who recently celebrated her 21st birthday at Morialta, with family and friends!

Sheep may safely graze

... upon the Communion Table – Sunday 21st April, “Good Shepherd Sunday”.



My sheep listen to my voice, I know them, and they follow me. (John 10, verse 27)



For the quilters in our congregation...!

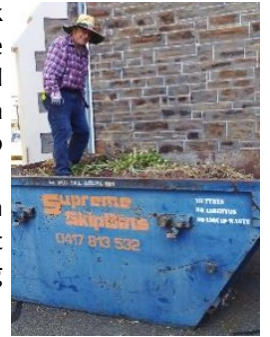


Thank you...

... to all those who helped tidy and clean up the interior and exterior of the church and its surroundings at the recent working bee. Around 20 people helped with window cleaning, weeding, pruning, sweeping and more.



A special thank you to those who provided morning tea and cleaned up afterwards! You are an important part of a working bee!



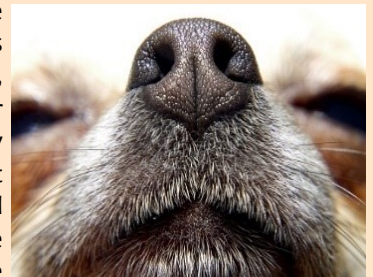
All dog noses are created equal

Adapted from an article by Madeline Reinsal in Science News

Why did Sherlock Holmes employ a bloodhound to sniff out clues, and not a pug? It all boils down to behaviour and training – and not their intrinsic scent-detection skills.

Researchers* have found no evidence that some domestic dog breeds have better senses of smell than others. However, perhaps Holmes should have looked beyond the kennel for assistance as the researchers did find that wolves and coyotes have superior sniffers compared with their domesticated cousins.

The research challenges the long-touted idea that breeds such as German shepherds, bloodhounds, and Labrador retrievers, have especially well-developed scent detection abilities compared with other dogs. Instead, the researchers suggest these dogs' success in scent detection likely stems from generations of breeding for trainability and listening skills.



In the end, our perception that some dogs are better sniffers than others may be a self-perpetuating prophecy. While the comparison between the wild canids versus dogs makes pretty good sense, there are other possibilities at play here. It's not necessarily that some dog's noses are exceptionally good, but that they're interested in using their noses to help us complete something that we want them to do.

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The 7-38-55 Rule

The 7-38-55 rule is a concept concerning the communication of emotions. The rule states that 7 percent of meaning is communicated through spoken word, 38 percent through tone of voice, and 55 percent through body language.