



THE ADVOCATE

Inspired by God's love, through worship, prayer and scriptural reflection, we seek to live our Christ-centred values by meeting the needs of our communities through serving and accepting others.

Issue: 095

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July/August 2020

WINTER WELLBEING & LOCKDOWN LOVE

BY REV HELEN MALCOLM

Instead of Winter Woes and Lockdown Loneliness, what good things can we take from the depths of winter and the pandemic restrictions?

For a start it can be seen as a blessing that the majority of the lockdown duration (so far) has been in winter or autumn, when we would normally be spending more time indoors anyway. I feel sorry for those in Britain and other northern hemisphere countries who have had to endure restrictions during their summer. Yes, skiing and ice-skating are off the agenda for many, but family meals, jigsaw puzzles (sales have skyrocketed, especially puzzles for adults - and you can hand them on to a neighbour once finished, or sell them (after sanitising of course!) at the Church Fete once they're allowed again) and doing things together are back on.

Winter is a time when nature gathers her strength for a wondrous spring. It seems as though nothing is happening, but under the soil is a hive of activity, evidenced by the riotous

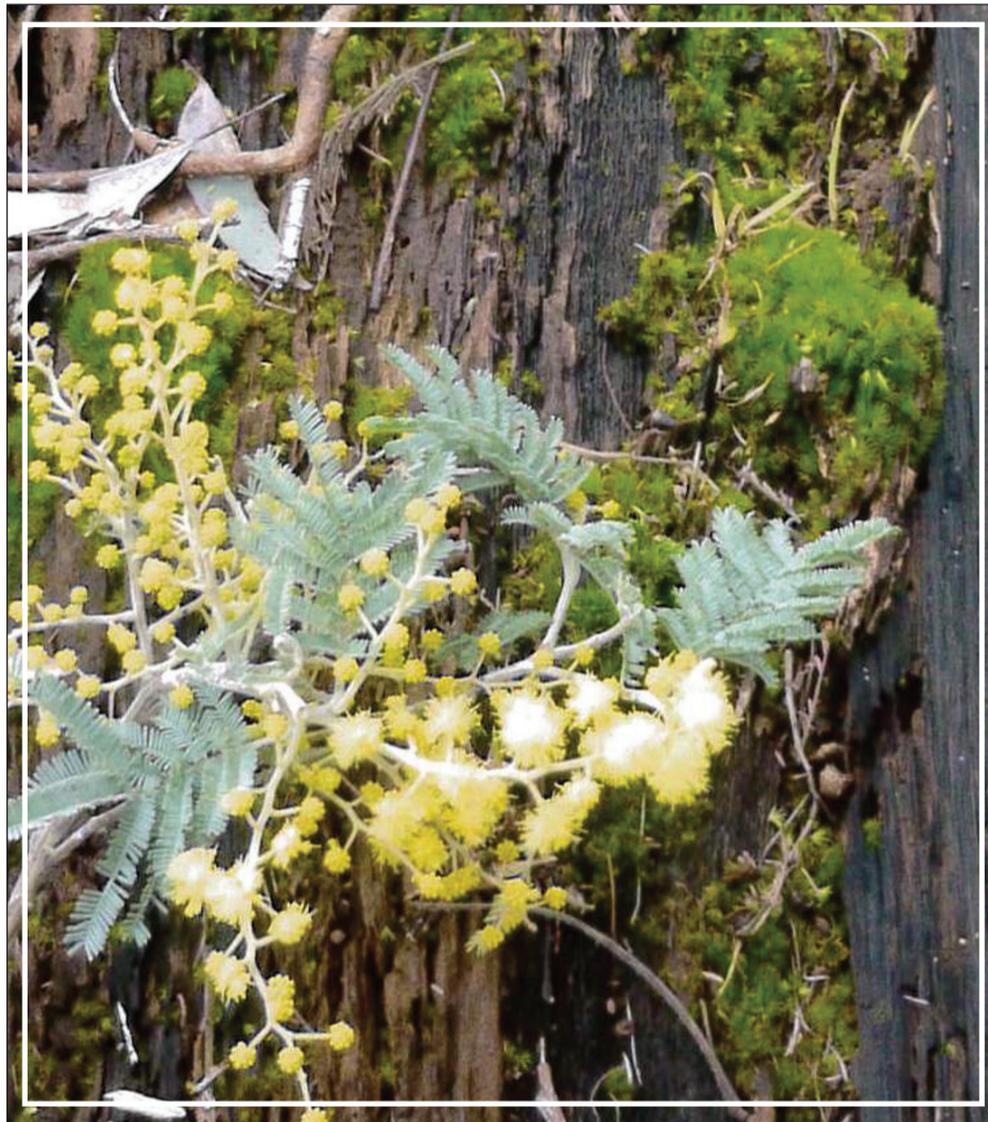
burst of green shoots and colour in spring. I do hope you have access to somewhere where there is a multitude of wattles. The Goulburn River in Shepparton is lined with them and a solid bank of massed wattles is just about to fully bloom. It is like Advent - a sign of what is to come. Similarly, after our restrictions are lifted, we will have new growth, new ways of doing things, more variety in the way we approach Church, relationships, communicating, work and family. There will be more alternatives if we can take forward all the good things we have learned while restrictions are in operation.

At home during winter we prepare for spring and summer. In our gardens we prune and mulch and dream of new possibilities for garden beds. Perhaps in our homes we can do an early spring-clean. In our lives we can also prune those things that aren't necessary and protect and nurture those things that are - relationships, sense of purpose, achievement, gratitude, engagement with people and activities, rediscovering our meaning

and purpose while we have time to ponder..... Rediscovering the essentials of life while many of the 'trappings' aren't available could be important for our future.

None of this negates the reality that some people will not experience any of these positives during lockdown, in fact the opposite. The incidence of domestic violence has risen; there is a higher incidence of mental health problems; some are afraid to visit their doctor for regular health check-ups, so risking their existing illnesses deteriorating. Many will be consumed by anxiety, concerned for themselves or loved ones, grieving the death of someone close, in financial straits. Others will be overworked trying to make the best decisions for communities, churches, states and Australia, responding on the front line. How can we help when we can't visit? Perhaps rediscovering the art of letter-writing would brighten both the sender and receiver - so much more personal and tangible than an email or a phone call.

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"Seven years too long!"

BY SUZIE DON LEONARD

Seven years ago off shore detention was created by the Rudd government in PNG and Nauru to ensure no refugee who arrived by boat got to Australia. Many of those refugees still languish in detention with no hope for their future. Some of them were young and have lost their youth and opportunity to be productive citizens as a consequence of their detention.

Seeking asylum when your life and your family's life is at risk is not a crime. Given that refugees are leaving nations who

are at war, or where dominant regimes have had policies and programs of genocide, torture and subjugation, the manner in which people leave their countries does not provide for planned departure. They are often unable to reach United Nations Refugee processing centres to apply for asylum. Many leave with nothing but the sole purpose of seeking safety and freedom. One only has to look at images of thriving cities in Syria that have been so totally destroyed by civil war; it is clear that Syrian refugees (like many others) have nowhere to live and need to escape or die.

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Inside the Advocate this month

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MU Australia
Part of the World Wide Mothers' Union

News from Mothers' Union

BY MARY MUNTZ

Provincial President Rev'd Anne Kennedy has heard that donations to Mary Sumner House have reached 660,000 pounds. Australia's contribution of \$50,000 came from the twenty three Dioceses, local Branches and individual members. Anne was proud of the support as the staff of Mary Sumner House will hopefully be able return to work organising their planned projects. Due to the current restrictions on the freedoms we have enjoyed in past years, branches have not been able to hold their usual fundraising events for Special Overseas Projects and Northern Outreach funds.

Each year on August 9th Dioceses around the world celebrate Mary Sumner Day in recognition of a lady whose concern for young mothers in her parish ultimately created an organisation that is accepted in many countries. The brochure, printed in 1976 to mark the Centenary Celebrations of Mothers' Union, covers aspects of Mary Sumner's life. "As the young wife and mother Mary realised she needed help with the responsibility of caring for a child. In 1876 she gathered together young and inexperienced women from her husband's parish holding weekly classes in the Rectory. Within ten years branches were spreading locally in the Diocese of Winchester. In 1885 the Bishop of Portsmouth convened a great congress and asked Mary to speak. Dismayed and disturbed by the obvious poverty and ignorance of many women in the audience she said "As wives and mothers we have a great work to do for our husbands, our children and our country. I am convinced if we could start a Mother's Union all classes could unite in faith and prayer to try and do this work for God." It is from this small beginning Mary Sumner's vision of a great union of Christian women setting out to win the homes of the nations for Christ" came into being."

It is not surprising that Mary's relatives and friends in many parts of the country became involved in Mothers' Union and many influential women of that time joined Mary in her vision and need for this growing Christian organisation. Mothers' Union was a popular organisation in Winchester Diocese and the Diocese of Litchfield was the first to have a branch in 1883 or 1884. In 1888 the Bishops of London, Ely, Oxford, Exeter, Hereford, Gloucester, Newcastle and Llandaff permitted the formation of Mothers' Union in their dioceses. Queen Victoria became the first Royal Patron. In 1910 Mary Sumner resigned as Central President after devoting 34 years to Mothers' Union. Mary was 88 when the war ended and passed away in 1921. This was the first year of Wave of Prayer observances.

The first Annual Report and Balance sheets were published in 1888. The income for 1887 was from Subscriptions, donations and sale of leaflets and cards and was 11 pounds 16 shillings and 3 pence. The costs of printing, Mothers' tea rooms, stationary and postage were 10 pounds, 2 shillings and 1 penny. In 1976 the income from leaflets and cards was 36,714 pounds and postage costs were estimated to be 10,500 pounds. Mother's Union has continued to grow and today is a vital and important part of the work of the Anglican Communion in the world."

It is unfortunate that this year Branch members will have to celebrate Mary Sumner Day on August 10th, within the government Covid 19 guidelines that will be in place August. During the days of 27th-29th August we offer our prayers and best wishes for the Wave of Prayer partners of Wangaratta Diocese in Matabeleland in Zimbabwe, Mount Kenya Central in Kenya, Niger West in Nigeria, Clogher in All Ireland and Myanmar.

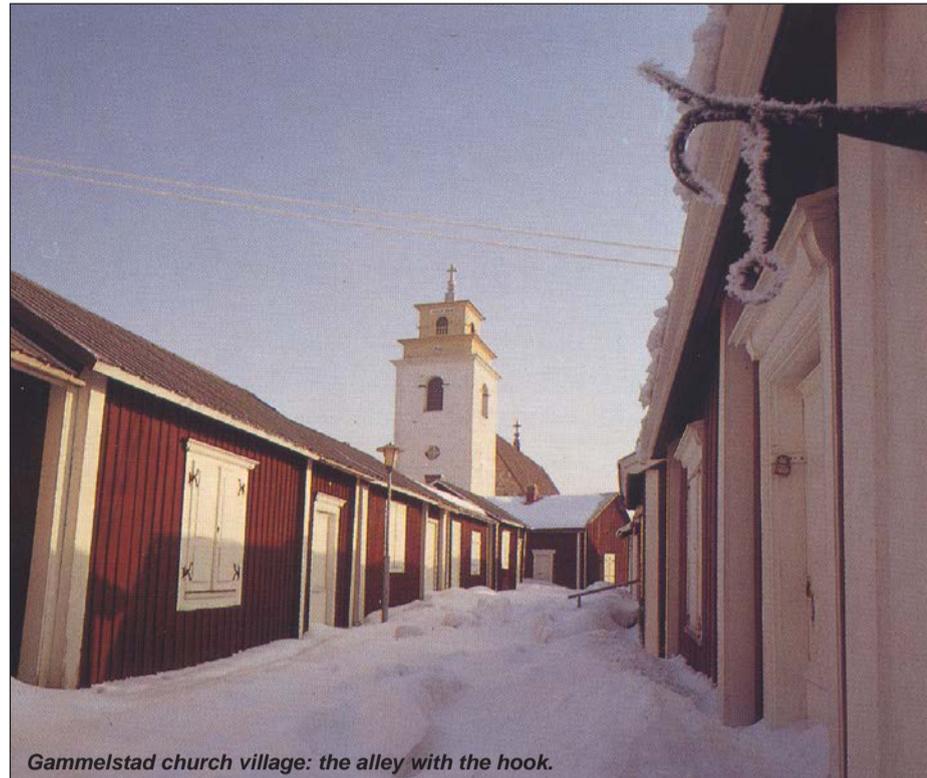
A Very Different Winter in Lulea

BY DIANA CHERRY

Known for its steel and coal, Luleå is a Swedish port at the northern tip of the Gulf of Bothnia. It is also where we experienced a very different winter.

In 1997 Ed lectured at Luleå University for 4 months. We arrived in September, too late for cloudberry but in time to pick lingon and blueberries in the autumn countryside. By the end of the month the first snow had arrived. By the time we left in late December the sun was above the horizon for less than 3 hours, temperatures had been as low as -35°C, and a road across the frozen sea led out to the archipelago. Huge ice-breakers maintained a shipping channel. Regularly, my camera battery froze.

There is a real determination to make life as comfortable as possible in this harsh environment. Domestic and commercial heating in the city is by waste energy from the steel works, and superheated water is piped for miles. Insulation is 40cm thick and triple glazing the norm. Our home was 5 minutes from the centre of Luleå, where heated footpaths melt snow in the mall. Seats in cars and bus shelters are warmed, and even some escalator handrails. We got used to the sound of snow ploughs clearing roads and putting out grit, and trucks carting huge amounts of snow to dumps beyond the town boundary — all working round-the-clock



Gammelstad church village: the alley with the hook.

when necessary. Waste management is another challenge in a winter city.

With so little sunlight, depression is not unusual. Light becomes important. Homes are lit extravagantly and candles are a feature. Lanterns hang in the windows, and special ones are placed by graves at All Saints' and Christmas. A major celebration is Lucia on 13th December — a festival of light.

Roads in northern Sweden are excellent, and signs at regular intervals along major highways indicate both air and ground temperatures. Locally, people most often use bicycles or, in winter, sparks — wooden sled-like carriers propelled by the rider standing on the back

and kicking the ice.

Boden, 39km inland from Luleå, is a centre for Swedish defence. Much of the area is zoned military, but the illuminated trails are available for public walking and skiing, and we enjoyed both. I never got used to the sounds of fighter jets flying overhead 3 times a week.

In this part of the country the land is rising about 1cm/year and the sea receding. Ten kilometres up the Lule Alv is Gammelstad, the old port and Sweden's largest village church. In earlier times there were strict attendance requirements, depending on how far you lived from church. This village includes almost 500 tiny cottages where

the congregation could stay overnight. The winter dryness and frozen wells meant fire was a major concern; the photo shows the hook ready to tear down adjacent buildings if a fire should start. Today more people attend church for concerts than for worship: choral, orchestral, and jazz. The first service we attended was in the Luleå Domkyrka or Cathedral. We could identify with the liturgy but understood almost no words, so Sunday became our day for long walks, even across lakes.

We are grateful to our Swedish friends who shared so much, and we feel blessed in having experienced a very different winter.

Winter Wellbeing & Lockdown Love-continued from front page

Through all this uncertainty and challenge we have one constant on whom we can totally rely. Jesus said to his disciples (Matt. 28:20) 'And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.' As Moses said to Joshua as he gave him the reins of Israel's future (Deut. 31:8), 'It is the LORD who goes before you. He will be

with you; he will not fail you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed.' Finally, in the words of the Lord, speaking through Jeremiah to the exiles in Babylon (and lockdown may feel like exile from 'normality') (Jer.29:11-14) 'For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm,

to give you a future with hope. Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart, I will let you find me, says the LORD, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you,

says the LORD, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile.'

God's love and constancy know no bounds. Call, pray, search - seek God with all your heart and God will hear and be present through winter, through restrictions and forever.

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DETAILS

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Editorial deadline is the 16th of each month (excluding December).

Contributions and photos are welcome (please limit to approximately 300 words) for consideration for publication dependent on space and content with the understanding that they may be edited. Pictures should be provided as a high resolution JPEG (200dpi) or Tiff if possible

SAFE CHURCH

The Anglican Diocese of Wangaratta has zero tolerance for abuse. We are committed to providing a safe, respectful, welcoming and positive environment for children and adults from all backgrounds.

If you have experienced abuse or suspect abuse may be occurring in a church setting or by a member of the church you should report this as soon as possible to the Director of Professional Standards on 1800 377 842 (1800 DPSVIC) or email professionalstandards@wangeratta-anglican.org.au.

For more information on our Safe Church policies and procedures contact the Safe Church and Systems Officer on 03 5721 3484.

“Seven years too long!” - continued from front page

Having made the risky journey to finally get to what they believe is a peaceful country of justice and freedom such as Australia only to be locked up indefinitely for over 7 years, because they arrived by boat, only adds to the trauma and torture that these vulnerable people experienced. Lots more people have come to Australia through other means such as on flights with visas, but they outstay their visas and also become refugees on shore (sometimes in detention).

Seven years to process a person's refugee status and enable them to start a new life is far too long. Australia has had options offered such as through New Zealand, America and Canada to resettle refugees. There are significant numbers of refugees and asylum seekers who could make major contributions to Australian society, they come from professional, academic, business and trade backgrounds and want to make Australia their home. Why is it taking so long? Why is it that people who qualified for Medivac support for ongoing major illnesses are still detained and not treated? Why is it that we were reassured that no children were in detention and yet we know of children on Christmas Island and also young people who came here as children and 7 years later are now adults who are also still in detention?

On Sunday 19 July a number of parishes in the Diocese of Wangaratta joined with Rural Australians for Refugees (RAR) and rang church bells 7 times



very frequently between 11 am and mid day to express sadness and disagreement with this ongoing policy of holding refugees in detention with no hope for freedom or future. Many stood outside with signs expressing disagreement with this unjust practice. This detention must cease. It is wrong to hold people in custody for so long without a resolution. This is not the Australian way and does not reflect Australian values of freedom and a fair go. Decisions need to be made ASAP about Australian Refugees and Asylum Seekers and detainees who have been held for so long both off shore and in Australia must have their cases heard and resolved

so that they get the freedom they seek as a matter of urgent priority.

Churches and faith groups can play a part in this. We can express our concern that the law of freedom is being broken and we are not abiding by the UN conventions of which we signed up to be a part. We can support refugees to settle down in our communities and help them to become contributing Australians as is their desire. For more information contact the Diocesan Social Justice Committee or the Ecumenical Wangaratta Refugee Action Network (WRAN) through the Diocesan Office.

Lockdown Gifts

BY CAROLINE BURGE

With the majority of the church buildings in the Diocese being given permission to open their doors again, it was with joy that the Parish of Kilmore put all government and diocesan requirements in place to reopen for public worship. Sadly it was short-lived for the southern most parish in the Diocese, and within three weeks, the Parish of Kilmore, with Broadford, Pyalong and Tallarook was included in the Governments latest lockdown for Greater Melbourne AND Mitchell Shire.

With great support from fellow clergy, what a huge surprise when Parish



Priest Revd André DuPlooy was delivered a parcel to Kilmore Rectory. Inside were four Hubbard Squash sent through the post from Revd Norman Hart of Euroa. With the Mitchell Shire in lockdown, these couldn't be picked up in person, so they were mailed instead. What a wonderful lockdown story of staying connected even with Hubbard Squash!

Please stay connected with those in isolation by mobile, phone, email or with vegies via the Post Office. Many Thanks Norm. You gave us a laugh and a smile and lots of vitamins.

Blessings and Prayers André and Patty Du Plooy, Kilmore.

from the Bishop



Dear People and Friends of the Diocese

Troubling Times:

These unprecedented times have seen constant changes to our lives, our situations, our present and our future. Even the best of plans will change instantly because we have no idea what will happen next and how it will affect us. We were warned of a possible second wave. We were told to do the right thing by staying at home during the first lockdown, to practice good hygiene and to apply the social distancing rules.

Challenging Times:

We were excited because by June we were allowed to have up to 20 people gather for worship in Victoria and 50 in New South Wales and now borders are closed, stage 3 lockdown has been implemented in quite a few Melbourne shires, including Mitchell Shire where we have the Parish of Kilmore and one of the Churches within the Parochial District of Central Goulburn and we have no idea about 'what next' as there are high numbers of daily cases being reported and we still have a long way to go during winter.

Hopeful Times:

Every winter we are hopeful, knowing that change will come with spring and that this can be facilitated through our own actions, tending to our own gardens, as well as through the rejuvenating cycle of nature ordained by our Creator. Similarly, during this 'winter of our discontent', uncertainty and anxiety, attending to our own actions (following the rules, protecting ourselves and others, nurturing relationships and communities, even if virtually) can contribute to the hoped-for change. I do pray that, as the season moves from winter to spring, we will see that change for our community, our state, Australia and the world. Let us remain vigilant, responsible and prayerful.

Watchful Times:

We will, off course, pay close attention to announcements over the next few weeks and, together with our Leadership Team, make further recommendations as and when things unfold. We are hopeful that Synod will still take place towards the end of November, but we will keep you posted.

Business Unusual:

A lot is being said lately about how we will be operating in all spheres of life if and when we come to a 'post-Covid' situation. There will be a 'new normal' and we should always remain mindful about many things we took for granted in the past. The reality is that we have learnt through this situation that 'things' can be done differently. Amazingly our clergy navigated in various ways to remain connected to the members of their congregations and congregations extended that to one another as the body of Christ. We have seen services with a different flair and excellent creativity. We have also seen members of our church community, who otherwise might have been challenged with their technological abilities, connecting to Zoom Services on mobile phones, through their iPads and computers. There were updates through Websites and live-streamed services of all sorts to prove that the Church has not closed but is doing things differently. Some even tell of people connecting to services in whatever form from places further afield and former worshippers from parishes who later came to a live service in Church, for those who managed to hold them since June.

We do hope that some of these practices will continue and that we, as Parishes and as a Diocese, can reduce our carbon footprint and exercise greater care for the environment.

It is our intention to have a special program organized, through our Social Justice Committee's initiative, on the Environment on Sundays entitled 'Care for Creation'. It is hoped that this will run from Sunday 13 September to St Francis Day, Sunday 4 October.

Every blessing,

Clarence E Bester
Bishop of Wangaratta

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ADVOCATE
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Parish Partnerships

BY CATHY NESBITT



“One step forward, two steps back.” That is how it must feel for many at moment. It is wonderful to see that many are doing the right thing during this time, especially when many are more vulnerable than normal. Please continue to stay safe and look after yourselves, your family and your community.

As you are all aware the Winter Appeal has been an annual event for many years, however during these times it is tough to ask for donations when times have been tough for so many people. One of the things we can do to assist is have the conversation about how many people may be having a difficult time and what is the cause. Raising awareness is just as important as raising funds.

However if you are able to contribute, we are still able to take non-perishable food items and new blankets, beanies, scarves and warm socks. Even spare change can make a change to help assist programs in our community to support those less fortunate.

The coming months are going to be difficult for many families and we will continue to look for ways that we can support, encourage and empower these people.

Anglicare Victoria also has a number of financial counsellors in the regions to assist those in the bushfire affect communities.

Have you been affected by the recent Bushfires?

Are you experiencing issues with your insurance company or trouble paying your bills? Do you need help accessing grants, government payments or concessions? You can access support from a free, confidential and non-judgemental Financial Counsellor.

Financial Counsellors provide information, options and advocacy to support you. To make an appointment to speak to an Anglicare Victoria Bushfire Recovery Financial Counsellor, you can call 1800 244 323 or email financial.counselling@anglicarevic.org.au.

On a good note, a huge congratulations to the Euroa Foodshare on celebrating their 1st Birthday. HAPPY BIRTHDAY EUROA FOODSHARE! A wonderful effort by the volunteers to ensure that this valuable service is available to those in the Euroa area. They will be having a small physical distancing get together to celebrate.

With all that our regions have faced in 2020 I am filled with lots of optimism that the future holds many wonderful things and new beginnings and now is the time to start working on these. I believe we will also see some wonderful opportunities come about that we need to be ready to chase.

Take care. Cathy

Limited numbers and safe distancing success!

BY CAROLINE BURGE

Christ Church Kilmore might be one of the bigger churches in the Diocese, and might be too big to try and heat adequately, but when it comes to safe distancing, and limiting numbers into our church buildings, the size becomes a huge benefit!

For the three weeks in June that our church buildings were open, a few parishioners came out to join in public worship for the first

time since lockdown at the end of March. Parishioners were justifiably cautious at venturing out, particularly the elderly and more vulnerable in our parish. Because of the size of Christ Church, it was a joy to enable some from outside our parish to join us while their own church building continued to be in lock down whilst still limiting numbers. The Davidson family from Beveridge joined those at Christ Church and were very grateful to have the opportunity to worship

with others once again.

Parishioners were presented with a hand-drawn thank you poster by the children in appreciation for being able to worship with us.

Safe distancing was carried out with parishioners sitting one to a pew unless as a family or couple.

PHOTO BELOW: Christ Church with safe distancing allowing 20 parishioners to worship.



Safe Church Awareness Workshop

**Purbrick Hall, Holy Trinity
Cathedral, Wangaratta**

Ovens Street Ave
Wangaratta VIC 3677

9.30am - 4.00pm

Please arrive by 9.00 am to sign in

\$30 per person

BYO lunch

RSVP

Bookings close Friday 14th August

Registration

Register through Eventbrite on the following link or contact the Safe Church Officer, details below:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/safe-church-awareness-workshop-holy-trinity-cathedral-wangaratta-tickets-111095672146>

Payment to be made on the day, or contact Diocese of Wangaratta, 03 5721 3484

Enquiries

Contact David Still through
safechurch@wangaratta-anglican.org.au for more details

Saturday 22 August 2020

Presented by the Baptist Unions of Vic and Tas, the Anglican Dioceses of Bendigo, Gippsland and Wangaratta, Uniting Church (Vic/Tas), Australian Christian Churches (Vic) and the Seventh Day Adventist Church (Vic), this workshop is intended to provide an introduction to Safe Church foundations, policies and procedures.

This introductory workshop is designed for all congregational members, all ministry leaders, children, youth and family leaders.

We will be covering:

- duty of care, codes of conduct, power, transparency and accountability
- protecting vulnerable people, indicators of abuse, responding to abuse and protective behaviours
- training, recruiting and supervising leaders
- how to establish and run safe church ministry programs (risk management)

Endorsed National Council of Churches in Australia Safe Church Training Agreement

Roof is crook at Tallarook!

BY CAROLINE BURGE

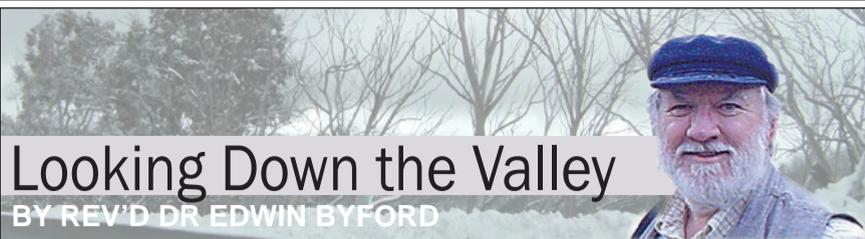
While our communities are isolating, and our church buildings in lockdown, St Stephen's Church in Tallarook took the opportunity to complete some repair work to the church roof and the bell.

Local company Clymac Constructions undertook the work and felt honoured to work on our little church.

The repair work included fixing some loose sheeting on the roof which had caused a hole where daylight could be seen from inside the church, and rain could get in. Whilst we might look 'heavenward', it is not ideal to see daylight through the ceiling from inside.

The weatherboard church was last painted in 2011 for a local wedding, and at the time the

bell was also sprayed with paint. Clymac Constructions have now removed the bell while having the right equipment on site, to restore and polish it. Saint Stephen's was built in 1884 and it is believed that this is the first time the bell has touched the ground since that time. Little has changed about the church, but it is well loved and well cared for by Tallarook parishioners.



Looking Down the Valley

BY REV'D DR EDWIN BYFORD

One of the things that cannot have passed our attention is the way that the various crises of the last six or eight months have been used by political leaders and would-be political leaders to try to gain an advantage over their opponents. "Never let a good crisis go to waste" has been a catch cry since the first bush fires of October last year. Politicians and commentators in all the news and social media have been constantly at it about what is wrong, or right, and how we need to respond or not as the case may be.

What is it about crises that produces such a sense of urgency and calls for dramatic and immediate response? Probably we need to ask, "What is a crisis?" The Greek word that is the root word of our word "crisis" is "krisis" and it means "judgement", a moment of decision. When we experience a crisis we experience a time or occasion of judgement — we need to make decisions. Assessment is forced upon us by some personal, social, political, religious or physical happening.

From the very beginning Christians have known what is the first response to judgement — it is repentance. The first words of Jesus in the oldest of the Gospels are, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near, repent, and believe the good news." (Mark 1:15) In the modern church we have somewhat narrowed the meaning of repentance. We have largely restricted it to saying sorry, usually with some sense of guilt, but repentance is far more complex than this. Once again I go back to the original Greek — the word that is usually translated as "repentance" is "metanoia". It means "a change of mind" often with a sense of conversion and sometimes with an element of remorse. The change of mind means that we see the world in a new light. There may be remorse for the past but there may also be a great sense of "Wow, I never thought of that before". We see both in the experience of Paul after his encounter on the road to Damascus. The sheer excitement of a change of mind is powerfully in Charles Wesley's words, "My chains fell off, my heart was free: I rose, went forth, and followed thee."

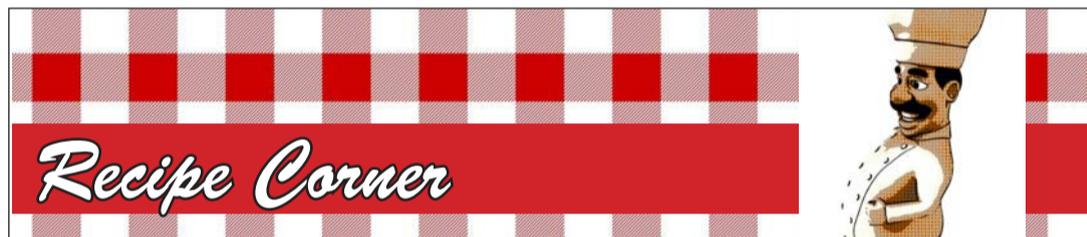
Since the earliest of times of which we have written records we see that the prophets and the preachers have called for self-examination and changes of mind in times of political, social and natural disasters and crises. The crisis becomes an occasion for a reassessment of who we are and what are our priorities. Business cannot continue as usual. We can read in great detail how the eighth century BC prophets (Amos, Hosea, Micah and Isaiah) confronted the people and rulers of Israel and Judah during the crisis of invasion by the Assyrians. They were reminded of who they were and what was fundamental to their very identity. The justice and faithfulness of God brought obligations as well as benefits. As crisis upon crisis came upon God's chosen people the prophets called them back to the fundamentals of their relationship with God. But what emerged from each crisis was something new. New horizons opened up for the people of God and they organised themselves and their thoughts in new ways to remain faithful in the new circumstances. Never was there a simple return to the old ways. We can see how it was that the whole perception of who and what God is was changed forever by the experience of the Babylonian exile in the truly glorious words of the unknown prophet recorded in Isaiah from chapter forty onwards.

The Acts of the Apostles and the Letters of Saint Paul set out the many changes of mind among the early Christians as they faced the various crises of the first century of their being. We could go on in the same way about the succession of crises over the last two thousand years. The faithful people of God are reminded of the fundamentals of being Christian at such times and called to yet more changes of mind.

It is not just the last six or eight months that has brought our communities and our churches to this moment of Crisis. It is time (Kairos) for assessment. (The Greek word Kairos is used for special moments in time, rather like the ALP election slogan in 1972 — "It's Time" and our Lord's opening words, "the time (kairos) is fulfilled".) Crisis and Kairos come together theologically to summon Metanoia.

Because we have had to suspend our normal way of being church for the last several months we have a unique opportunity to reassess our way of being as we prepare to socially interact again as church. It may be that we need to ask ourselves whether or not just starting up again as we were is the appropriate way of resuming our fundamental mission. We can take stock. We can suspend our often piecemeal approach to successive crises and think fundamentally about how we effectively organise ourselves and our thoughts to preach the Gospel and celebrate the sacraments of our redemption. The politicians, the pundits and the prophets are right — Never let a good crisis go to waste!

Continued on page 6



Recipe Corner

Urney Pudding

BY DAWNE TONKS

I am sharing this recipe with you all and the reason why. A couple of years ago a member of our Ladies Group asked us if we knew of or had a recipe called an 'Urney Pudding'. I don't think any of us had

heard of it, but most searched their old recipe books without coming up with anything. Sadly, our friend died last year and just last week I found 'it' in an old Royal Children's Hospital Auxiliary, Diamond Anniversary Cookbook 1982.

I am sad my find didn't come in time for me to give her a copy — but am now sharing it with you all in memory of our dear friend Dorothy.

And yes, I have tried it.

Ingredients:
(Old Fashioned)
2 ozs butter
¼ teaspoon carb.soda
2 ozs sugar
1 tablespoon jam
1 egg
2 tablespoons milk
pinch salt

Method:
Cream butter and sugar. Add beaten egg and beat well. Stir in milk, soda flour and jam. Place in butter basin. Steam 1½ hours. Serve with thin custard sauce.



If you have a recipe you would like to share in the Advocate you can send them into registry@wangeratta-anglican.org.au

35yrs in Service



On Sunday July 12 the Anglican Parish of Northern Albury had a Service of Thanksgiving to celebrate the ministry of the Ven Catie Inches-Ogden.

We gave thanks for 35 years of Ordained Ministry in Churches of Christ and the Anglican Church. Catie celebrated 15 years as a Priest in the Anglican Church of Australia.



Anglican Diocese of Wangaratta

Phil O'Brien is loyal to the Hawks Club he played for years ago

BY DIANE GRANT

HAWTHORN player and coaching great the late John Kennedy Snr was recently named as an AFL Legend, the highest honour of the game. Sadly John passed away last week. He coached and captained the Hawks in the 1950s.

In 1957 he played in the Victorian VFL team (a great honour) against Tasmania.

One other Hawthorn player in that team was Nagambie's very own Phil O'Brien.

The wonderful connection between Phil and his team in the 1950s has stayed with him all his life – barracking and keeping up his connection with Hawthorn into his late 80's.

Phil in his early years was a VFL football player in the Hawthorn team and wore the number 15 Guernsey.

He played over 70 games in the 1950s for the Hawks and was an assistant coach in the early 1960s when they won a premiership. He also played for Victoria, when only the 20 best players in the whole league were selected.

Phil has been a member of St John's church in Nagambie for decades after he moved here from Canberra with wife Anne.

He is now in the Nagambie Lakeview Lodge Hostel and is happy to be receiving printed prayers issued



by our priest Revd Richard per myself and his daughter Leandah.

Phil came along to Nagambie Primary School a few years back when Hawks Captain Luke Hodge visited the school. The two players realised that they both wore the number 15 jumper. Luke ran a footy clinic at the school and Phil enjoyed his day there with one of his club successors.

Phil over many years lived near Nagambie Primary School and helped out on sports days, chatting with the students and giving them advice on bettering their skills.

In 2019 Phil was honoured by Nagambie Primary School children as they have

had years of footy fun with him at the school, and in recent years at the Nagambie Hostel grounds.

"He is greatly admired by the students for his kindness and enthusiasm to talk to them about sport. He has made some special connections over the years with many students, especially the boys," School Principal, Rob French said at the presentation to Phil.

"They are always touched by his friendliness and kindness and are also impressed that he played football for the Hawks. Phil always enjoys their company and makes them feel special. At our school, we learn

about kindness and how important it is for us all".

"We had an idea for a presentation for Phil - a Hawthorn jumper signed by Luke Hodge was in the hallway. We thought it would be good if Phil signed it too.

"Then the school contacted his family and were able to obtain a special pic of Phil when he was a young Hawks player, and a couple of pics of him and Luke Hodge were also in the gift that was framed for Phil's presentation.

"Another highlight was finding and including Phil's footy card from the 1950s."



VICTORIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE. Tasmania. 1957.

Hawthorn Representatives. J. Kennedy (capt), P. O'Brien.

Looking Down the Valley

BY REV'D DR EDWIN BYFORD



My other column that is in this edition of The Advocate was written in very early June when we were just beginning to come out of the strict lockdowns of March, April and May. Up here in the mountains life began to return to about half normal and then Melbourne and our brothers and sisters in the southern part of the Diocese were shut down again. That has meant that the mountain resorts are again shut down. Church worship has been resumed on Sundays with the restrictions for safety and distancing. Worship is already different from what it was at this time last year, even where we have been able to return to our churches.

Our Prayer Book gives us wonderful freedom to reimagine our worship and how we interact with each other as faithful Anglicans. I have heard some great stories from people around the traps of the rediscovery of the significance of Morning Prayer as parishes have maintained Sunday worship using this great Office through Zoom. (I wish I had shares in that company at the moment.)

Rebuilding our parish and congregational life is going to be slow. This will be as complicated and as frustrating as is the rebuilding of our social, commercial, business, sporting, political, etc. lives. It would be nice if the government or the Bishop could just sort it out, but as we can see it is just as complicated and frustrating for them as it is for us.

The recent events of violence in the United States have produced a lot of writing on how change has been achieved in American society since the end of the Second World War. There have been huge changes brought about as a result of legal decisions in Congress and the Supreme Court. In most cases the events that initiated the changes were small and local. Local people started doing things that they could actually do. They moved to desegregate bus travel and counters in cafes and especially public toilets. They wanted voting rights; they wanted the end of all discrimination but they needed to do something about what they encountered every day and this was where they started.

It may be that we need to thoroughly reorganise our Diocesan life and this is probably one of the best opportunities for doing so, but we need to reimagine our own local congregational life as we come out of the restrictions of COVID 19. What can we do in our own little patch? Those of us who have followed the Sunday Lectionary have been hearing or reading the Letter of St Paul to the Romans. In particular on 12th, 19th and 26th July we have read through the whole of chapter 8. This is one of the most powerful statements in the whole Bible of what our salvation in Christ Jesus, our Lord, really means. (It was reading this chapter that brought David Suchet, "Hercule Poirot", to faith.) Spreading the Good News starts somewhere with somebody. Somebody told each of us the Good News — parents, grandparents, uncles, aunts, cousins, friends.

Coming to church needs encouragement and explanation. What we do and how we do it is not immediately obvious to strangers. I grew up in New South Wales. Football is Rugby League. The first time I went to an Australian Rules football match it made no sense at all. It looked like some sort of cross-country brawl. There did not seem to be any rules and getting a point for missing the goal seemed totally stupid. It took a lot of friends a lot of patience to explain what was going on to this somebody. It is a bit like trying to explain cricket to Americans.

When something like normal social interaction is re-established we will have many stories to tell. Fires and lockdowns and the hopes and fears associated with them will feature in many conversations. Perhaps we will have stories of faith — our own and that of others. Each of us is able to tell our story — why it is that we find what happened in and through the life and death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ good news.

Some of what we do in Church is more readily understood than some other things that we do. Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer were the main public worship of Anglicans for four hundred years from the first Book of Common Prayer in 1549. These Offices are for everybody. They have some of the greatest music ever composed. In the Church of England some of the greatest growth is in parishes and cathedrals where Matins and especially Evensong are sung each week. Good music, good Bible reading, good prayer and a sermon make for good worship where people can be introduced to the faith.

Re-establishing our churches as places for gathering to worship and interact with each other and with the communities of which we are part will take real effort. The contribution of each and every one of us has a part to play. It took friends who could be bothered to explain Australian Football to me. It takes Christians who can be bothered to explain the faith and what happens in church.

EXPLORING FAITH MATTERS Education for Ministry

Rev. Greg Davies, Director of EfM Australia, is planning to run a virtual EfM course starting later this year. If anyone would like further information as it becomes available, please email Rev. Helen Malcolm hmalcolm@bigpond.com.



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