



From the Rectory Desk...



It has been a strange year. Who would have thought a year ago that the world would have been changed so much by a virus one thousandth the width of a human hair? The Oxford University Press writes that “we have rescued and supercharged words such as ‘coronavirus’, ‘furlough’, ‘lockdown’ and ‘circuit breaker’.” Almost everything we do has

been affected, but, as I reflect as the year draws to a close, the thing that strikes me most is that we have had a time to pause and think, and perhaps to dream.

We live in an increasingly busy world. We always seem to be in a hurry. Any questions we have can be quickly answered by an internet search. It is as much as many of us can do to keep up with doing what, to our minds, we need to keep doing. And then came SARS-CoV-2, to give it its official name, and we were forced to stop for a while. Globally, the effect of the pausing of much transport and heavy industry gave a glimpse of how our environment could be improved, and we pray that movements to rebuild economies with this in mind will come to fruition. For individuals, some have had to reimagine what they do – the advert showing on television of an airline pilot finding a new calling as a bicycle mechanic comes to mind. That is not to say there hasn't been much hardship, and we continue to pray for government leaders as they seek to take care of their people, both medically and economically.

In our parish we have had the opportunity to use this time to do things that we might otherwise not have found time to do. We had to make changes to how we ran our services when we were no longer able to meet in person which then, when we returned to the St Luke's building, enabled us to explore new ways of worshipping together.

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PARISH DIRECTORY – DECEMBER 2020

PRIEST-IN-CHARGE Rev'd Dr Timothy Nicholson 3848 2123 E-mail: priest@stlukesekibin.org.au St Luke's Church 193 Ekibin Rd East, Tarragindi Admin: 3848 2123 Admin Email: admin@stlukesekibin.org.au All correspondence to PO Box 79 Weller's Hill 4121 WEBSITE: www.stlukesekibin.org.au FACEBOOK: stlukesekibin	PARISH COUNCIL Timothy Nicholson Chris Bromwich David Frarricciardi Janette Hagerty Susan Johnson Judy Jones Barry Kratzke Alison Lampe Honor Lawler Susan Lee Robyn McEnea David Moy Jenny Newsome Jenny O'Sullivan Greg Rodger Brian Wood Tim Vassella	COMMITTEE CHAIRS Building and Properties David Moy - 0411 871 460 Fellowship and Fundraising Janette Hagerty - 3277 8848 Pastoral Care Jenny Newsome - 3892 2876 Theatre Society Liaison Barry Kratzke ACTS 1:8 (Missions) Sue Vassella -3342 4510 Social Media, Music Brian Wood - 3848 2086 Faith & Worship 365 Rev'd Timothy 3848 2123
CHURCH WARDENS Brian Wood 3848 2086 Chris Bromwich 0402 058 919 Judy Jones 0405 683 768 SYNOD REPRESENTATIVES Chris Bromwich David Frarricciardi PARISH NOMINATORS Judy Jones Tim Vassella Alison Lampe	CHILDREN'S MINISTRY Chris Bromwich 0402 058 919 PRAYER CIRCLE Judy Jones 0405 683 768 KOFI KLUB Chris Bromwich 0402 058 919 PARENTS & PIPSQUEAKS In recess	WORSHIP SERVICES Join us to worship at St Luke's at 7am and 9am each Sunday. You can also link to the 9am service by Zoom. Join us on Saturday at 6pm by Zoom to worship together. Evening Prayer by Zoom: 6pm Tuesday to Friday (https://zoom.us/j/7210725462) or by telephone (07 3185 3730, meeting ID 721 072 5462). Contact the Parish Office for the password.
PARISH TREASURER Janette Hagerty 3277 8848 SECRETARY OF PARISH COUNCIL Chris Bromwich 0402 058 919 WORKPLACE, HEALTH & SAFETY David Frarricciardi 0419725695	HELPING HANDS ORGANISER David Newsome 3892 2876 PARISH SUPPLIES David & Jenny Newsome 3892 2876 CHURCH NEWS EDITOR Honor Lawler 0410 423 446 E-mail: phlawler@optusnet.com.au	HALL BOOKINGS FOR ST LUKE'S PARISH HALL St Luke's Parish Office: 3848 2123 admin@stlukesekibin.org.au

Our Mission Statement:

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we strive to be a faithful, worshipping, caring community, committed to serving God by sharing His love and peace with others, in the name of His Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ



CHRISTMAS SERVICES AT ST LUKE'S EKIBIN



O come let us adore Him

Saturday 12th December

6pm Carol Service

Preceded by a community sausage sizzle at 5pm

Sunday 20th December

6pm Carol Service

Preceded by a community sausage sizzle at 5pm; also streamed on Zoom

Christmas Eve, Thursday 24th December

7pm Family service

Children are invited to come dressed as characters from the Nativity story: angels, shepherds, kings, Mary, Joseph...

11pm Holy Communion by candlelight

Join us to sing carols from 10.30pm

Christmas Day, Friday 25th December

7am Holy Communion

9am Family Service with communion

Also streamed on Zoom

193 Ekibin Road East, Tarragindi 3848 2123 www.stlukesekibin.org.au

These services are subject to any COVID-19 regulations in force at the time. To preregister your attendance and/or obtain Zoom details see our website.

We have been able to take a substantial time to consider the way forward for our parish community, both in the work on the proposal to redevelop our campus to include an Anglican Early Learning Centre, as Brian Wood reports on later, and also in the thoughtful responses to our parish survey, which showed a positive vision of St Luke's to be a vibrant Christian centre in the heart of our community.

The Advent study we are using in the parish this year is called "So what are you waiting for?" It reflects on time, and the contrast between how we perceive it, and how God understands it; the difference between '*chronos*' and '*kairos*'. If that all seems a bit Greek to you (then you'd be right!), let me explain. *Chronos* is time as we measure it, in seconds, minutes and hours. *Chronos* describes our busy lives; controlled with our smartphones which help us to remember both what has happened, and where we need to be now or tomorrow. On the other hand, there is *kairos*-time, God's time. God is not bound by chronological time, which, as physicists will tell you, is just as much a part of the created world as is space and matter. God transcends this. What is important is what happens. St Paul for instance talks about a favourable time, a 'now' time, the 'day of salvation' (2 Corinthians 6:2). To see this, we need to pause to experience God's time. The image of Elijah's vision is helpful; we find God in the 'sound of sheer silence' (1 Kings 9:12), and need to create space in our busy lives to do so.

Therefore, as we come towards Christmas, we are not merely remembering and giving thanks for an event from over two thousand years ago when God became flesh, but, in a way, we are experiencing that every day God is born for us and in us. Immanuel. God with us. This is *kairos*-time breaking through into *chronos*-time; God breaking through into our world. And so, this really makes a difference. The message of the angels of 'good news of great joy' is for us, as well as for the shepherds. We can almost imagine being with them on the hillside, sitting quietly, hearing the gentle bleating of the sheep, and then being amazed, if not a little terrified, as we see visions of angels and receive this wonderful news. A Saviour is born, for us.

I look forward to celebrating the Advent and Christmas season with you all at St Luke's.

Sacraments and Rights of Passage

September, October and November 2020

Baptisms

nil

Funerals

Beverley Rosemary Soden

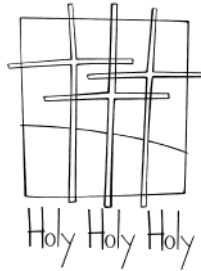
28 October 2020

Memorial Service

nil

Marriage

nil



Fellowship & Fund Raising Report

Our first social gathering since March this year was our “Just for Fun” Trivia Night on Saturday 17 October held in the upper hall. Everyone was in very good spirits, happy to be able to get together. We had thirty guests in the hall and a group at home on Zoom.

Sausage sizzles were held on Saturday 24 October and on the state election day, 31 October 2020, when we also held a cake stall. Voters were very happy to see us back and were very generous in their support. A total of \$1200 was raised for parish funds.

Many thanks must go to all who contributed in any way.

Janette Hagerty



Music and Choir Report

Covid-19 has changed so many different parts of our lives, our musical worship being another that has made us all re-examine our priorities in our daily lives and our weekly worship. Until recently we were unable to sing together on Saturday afternoons as St Luke's choir and unable to contribute to the weekly worship twice a month.

We all learned to be so grateful for our Zoom worship services. The musical contributions by Brian Wood and Trevor Lunn on Zoom enabled us to lift our hearts and voices to worship God individually in our lounge rooms. It is hard to express in words the joy of worshipping together again in our parish church, and eventually being able to meet on Saturday afternoons "for a sing together" and prepare two songs for St Luke's Day celebrations. The choir also presented "In Flanders' Fields", a moving musical tribute to the fallen, at our 7 am Defence/Remembrance Sunday service on 8 November 2020.



Trevor and Helen leading the singing



The Choir is now preparing music for Advent Sunday at 9 am and also music for our Christmas Carol services and Christmas Day services.

We have also been privileged to have Brian Wood on the piano and Trevor Lunn on the guitar, singing with choir member Helen Hutchins to lead us in some of our hymns at our Family Service at 9 am. Trevor flew solo in leading the music for the first time at our 9 am service on Sunday 15 November and did a great job. Sue Vassella has been assisting with the 7am music also, providing invaluable support.

At St Cecilia's Annual Concert on Sunday 23 October, Brian represented St Luke's with organ pieces. However, due to Covid-19 and lack of time to prepare, the choir was not able to participate this year.

Honor Lawler

Thank you, June!

We thank you, June McNicol, for your faithful service of approximately thirty years as Editor of our parish newsletter, Church News.

June's leadership encouraged very many people and groups to contribute articles, messages, reports and items of fun and games and encouraged them to improve their efforts and deliver on time, so that she could edit all of the material so as to make it not only interesting but a pleasure to read. Church News always came out on time: 1st March, 1st June, 1st September and 1st December and was always highly anticipated and sought after!

The newsletter plays an important role in keeping St Luke's parishioners informed of the many and varied activities undertaken under St Luke's banner and keeping our church community bonds strong. Congratulations to June on her well-earned retirement. The new team hope to keep up the high standards she has set.

Honor Lawler





Redevelopment Update

The following is an update on the proposed development of our St Luke's site here to include a new Anglican Early Learning Centre, that I presented to the congregations on 25th October, and a report on the response to letters sent.

At its October meeting the Parish Council voted with an over 70% majority to proceed with a development. Due to a number of changes in BCC requirements, we have agreed to take the following forward:

- A 94 place Early Learning Centre (ELC) run by the Anglican Schools Commission in partnership with the parish. The small change in capacity is due to balancing the age groups and including a larger proportion of babies.
- Relocation of the existing hall to the back of the property, elevated over part of the car park and joining this to the new parish hall with a fire resistant bridge.
- Retention of the Parish Centre house, lowered in a similar position to current, and refurbishing this as part of the ELC to hold the babies 0-2 years group.
- Relocation of the Memorial Garden to a new position adjoining the back of the church. The relocation will be done as previously discussed and agreed, in a reverent and respectful manner and creating a new garden area ensuring full access for the future.
- A new deck area adjoining the church and providing an entry and interface to the new parish hall on the upper floor over the ELC.

- Relocation of the car park with a new driveway near the current pedestrian gate to the hall.
- Creation of a green space for the parish at the front of the house, levelled and fenced to provide a safe area for events and gatherings.



There are many details we will still need to work through. In the two weeks following the 20th October Parish Council, letters were sent to all known family contacts of those interred or with reserve plots in the Memorial Garden to advise them of the development project, its possible impact on the existing Memorial Garden, and the relocation plans. They were offered an opportunity to speak to Rev'd Timothy or the Wardens.

A summary of letters sent and responses (as at 10/11/2020) follows:

- Total available sites in the garden (interred ashes, reserved sites, and unreserved sites): 184
- Total committed sites in the garden (Interred ashes and reserved sites): 162
- Total family units representing the committed sites: 89
- Total letters sent by post or email to represented family units: 79
- No current contact details available: 10 family units
- Acceptance or positive response (written or verbal response): 28 family units (35%)

- Concern or negative response: 1 family unit (2 additional family units, when contacted by phone to obtain a current address expressed some concerns; however, no further response has been received to date after letters were sent).
- No response to date: 49 family units (62%)
- Returned letters (not delivered): 0

The final details for a development application still need to be developed and approved for submission and there are a number of outstanding questions related to financial modelling, ground levels, exact placement of the house and boundaries of play areas to be answered.

There are other design details that will be finalised as we proceed through the Development Application (DA) process. We will be reforming a number of planning teams so that we can continue to engage a wider group of the parish in the final plans. We are hopeful that a DA can be submitted before the end of the year.

This is an exciting time for our Parish as we look to a future that will allow us many different missional outreach opportunities, modernised facilities and some additional income over a long term. I ask you all to pray for the future of the parish and those involved in the planning.

We will continue to provide regular updates.

Brian Wood



Monday Night Bible Study

The group has been looking in depth at the gospel of Matthew. We are aided by an IVP Connect publication by Stephen and Jacelyn Eyre.

The first sessions focused on “Discovering Jesus as King”. The long awaited birth of the Messiah is recorded in the first 2 chapters of this gospel. The nation of Israel waited for centuries for Gods anointed King to be born. What a wonderful day that was to be. Jesus’ birth however was not greeted with royal gladness by the nation and its leaders. Instead there was intrigue and conflict. The political and religious establishment felt threatened by the coming of the Messiah. It was left to foreign leaders to welcome the newborn king. (Eyre p 9) We began with a look at the genealogy of Christ, the angel speaking to Joseph in a dream and the visit of the Magi who worshipped Christ and witnessed to the entire city of Jerusalem concerning His birth.

In Matthew Chapter 3 we examined the words and actions of John the Baptist preparing the way for the coming of the Lord. We considered the significance of the dove and the voice from heaven at Jesus’ baptism.

We began meeting via Zoom but are now meeting in person in the Parish Hall every second Monday night. We have a long but informative and inspiring journey ahead.

Sue Vassella

Worship

Worshipping together with Zoom has remained a way for parishioners to be a part of worship and is offered for 9am Sunday services and evening weekday prayer.



This is August 16th 9am service just as the children indicated there were “spiders” in the Sunday School box. It was a good thing some of us were watching from afar, safe in our own lounge rooms, in our comfy pyjamas with a cup of tea for comfort.

Sue Vassella



Superstar - York Course written by David Wilbourne

Rev Timothy and June led this course in the parish earlier this year. There are five sessions in all, which have digital downloads, transcripts, guide questions and supporting reading material. Each session begins with a song from the musical “Jesus Christ Superstar”-which is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. A theme is taken from each of the songs to look at in depth.

In the first session the theme was- Who is Jesus? The words of Pilate to Jesus are sung with “Jesus Christ Superstar, do you think you’re what they say you are?”

In the second session the theme was the miraculous power of Christ. The words of Herod to Jesus in J.C.S. “Prove to me that you’re divine, change my water into wine”.

Session three looked at the Psalms with the Superstar ballad of Jesus singing to God the Father, “I only want to say, if there is a way, take this cup away from me, I don’t want to taste its poison...” The psalms catch the spirit of Jesus in Gethsemane but also “provide wisdom for navigating our way through the challenges and delights of life.” (Bp Stephen Cottrell)

Session four examined the Church as believers worshipping together united by faith. Themes included God’s purpose and plan for His people, our motivation for service being the hands and feet of Christ to others and being missional.

Session five was entitled “Cross Purposes” and investigated why Jesus had to die and importantly His resurrection. This was the ultimate triumph, with a perspective of the hope and joy available to those who know Christ personally.

Thanks to Rev Timothy and June for sharing this resource and building community within the parish.

Sue Vassella



St Luke's Theatre Society Report

2020 certainly was an unusual year for St. Luke's Theatre Society. We had our 2020 program prepared and then Covid -19 entered the picture. We were in rehearsal for ***The Importance of Being Earnest*** but had to postpone the whole year's program. Both we and our audiences were eager for us to re-commence activities.

Recent news from the government is that for 2021 theatre groups will be back to 100% capacity and this pleases us no end. We continued to have meetings throughout the year to fine tune our program when things got back to normal.

So, we are commencing our 2021 season with ***The Importance of Being Earnest*** directed by Gary O'Neil. Dates are six performances - 19, 20, 26 & 27 March. Our committee has decided to continue to perform at Christ Church, Yeronga for 2021 owing to the revised alterations at St Luke's. The second play is ***Natural Causes*** directed by Cameron Gaffney. Dates are six performances - 11, 12, 18 & 19 June. Play number three will be a thought-provoking drama, ***President Wilson in Paris*** directed by Gary O'Neil. Dates are six performances - 27 & 28 August and 3 & 4 September. The last play will be ***Living Together*** (the second play in the Norman Conquest trilogy following ***Table Manners*** which was staged in 2019). Director is Trevor Bond. Dates are six performances – 12, 13, 19 & 20 November.

We are hoping 2021 will be a popular year for us and we once again thank our audiences for their patience and anticipation.

Trevor Bond

NATURAL CAUSES

An Amateur Production

BY ARRANGEMENT WITH ORIGIN THEATRICAL™ ON BEHALF OF SAMUEL FRENCH Inc

BY ERIC CHAPPELL

DIRECTED BY CAMERON GAFFNEY

7.30pm: August 28, 29, Sept 4, 5

2.00pm: August 29, Sept 5

Giving

Care Kits
for Kids
Qld ♥

Care Kits for Kids Qld

Care Kits for Kids Qld is a not-for-profit charity run by volunteers to provide a little extra love and care through donating Care Kits to children in crisis and care.

Around 90 children in crisis situations are placed in care every week in Queensland. There are currently over 6,200 children in care in Queensland.

We collect new or handcrafted donations of clothing, toiletry and educational items to pack into Care Kits at the [Bulimba Community Centre](#), our home base for distribution to Queensland children in crisis and care.

How to help

Donate items at

- the Bulimba Community Centre: Mon/Wed/Fri 9am to 12pm at 1 Barramul St, Bulimba
- the office of Councillor Kara Cook - Morningside Ward: business hours at 63 Oxford Street Bulimba
- the Mt Gravatt Community Centre: business hours at 1697 Logan Rd, Upper Mt Gravatt
- In Stitches Brisbane (sewing group): 9am to 2pm on the 1st Tuesday or 3rd Saturday each month at Bernie's Place next to the Mt Gravatt Community Centre, 1697 Logan Rd, Upper Mt Gravatt.
- Phone Chris 0407141998 or Sandra 0418155429 or contact us at carekitsforkidsqld@gmail.com or <https://www.facebook.com/carekitsforkidsqld>

Things we need ... thank you!

Toiletry kits

Face washer / soap
Toothbrush / toothpaste
Shampoo / roll on deodorant
Brush / comb / hair bands / hair clips
Sanitary pads
Nappies / baby wipes

New / handmade children's clothes sizes 000 to 16:

Baby wear : singlets / onesies / sleepwear
New underwear / crop tops / pyjamas
New socks / shoes
T-shirts / shorts / long pants / tops / dresses
Jackets / vests / coats / beanies / rugs / wraps

Education / activity kits:

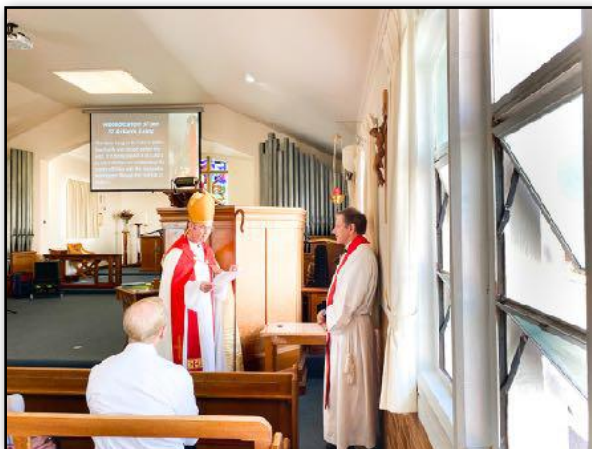
Colouring, writing or scrap books
HB and coloured pencils / markers / pens
Erasers / wooden rulers
Reading books
Small soft toy / doll



Feast of St Luke's 18 October 2020



Our Parish was privileged to have a wonderful celebration of St Luke's Day this year, with Bishop John Roundhill celebrating and preaching at both our 7 and 9 am services.



At the 9 am service Bishop John rededicated the St Aidan's Sanctuary Lamp which had been hung in St Luke's after regular Anglican worship had ceased in 2014. St Aidan's was de-consecrated on 30 May 2019. The words engraved on the top of the lamp read *"To the Glory of God - In Memory of Les Hamilton 1902 – 1986 From his Fellow Parishioners"*. We were thrilled that a large number of members of the family of Bill Hamilton was able to join us for this service, and a number of people who worshiped regularly at St Aidan's attended both services.



During both services Bishop John presented renewed Liturgical Assistants' Licenses to those present. St Luke's has nine currently licensed Liturgical Assistants who assist with distribution of the cup when that is permitted and can take home communion to those unable to attend the Eucharist.

This was the first time that the choir was able to sing together at a service, since Covid-19 became a fact of life in Australia in March 2020. At a safe physical distance from each other six members of the choir sang at 7 am and another six at 9 am. It was a great joy for the members of St Luke's choir to be allowed to sing together again.

Together with an inspiring sermon from Bishop John, joyous hymns, including the Hymn for St Luke, it was a deeply uplifting service of shared worship and fellowship. Bishop John commented afterwards that he had felt a heart-felt spirit of unity and enthusiasm at both services. Thank you to all who contributed to making our patron saint's day so memorable.

Honor Lawler





ACTS 1:8- Missions

The missions group has strived to plan and raise awareness of local, national and international needs in this very unusual year. In recent months the focus has included the Mission to Seafarers, with an updated report and presentation by Brian Wood during the Zoom service in July. This highlighted a Covid-19 situation that occurred off the coast of NSW that the Seafarers were able to give aid and assistance to. Many of the port facilities had been otherwise closed.

The mission focus for August was the Barnabus Fund for prayer and awareness of persecuted Christians worldwide. One example was to continue to pray for the families of those killed and those that have been injured or made homeless from the explosion in Beirut, Lebanon.

The mission focus for September was Prison Fellowship with the National week of prayer. The theme was “Peace- leave your anxiety with God” (Phil 4:6-7).

During October, the focus was Bush Church Aid. We will endeavour to support ministry to staffers Luke and Julia Collings who are based in Moranbah. (See article in Church News)

The November focus was the Archbishop’s appeal through ABM for the ministry of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Anglican Church. Next year marks the 150th anniversary of the “Coming of the Light”, which marked the arrival of the London Mission Society in the Torres Strait. Funds collected will go towards the establishment of the Melanesian Brothers’ ministry in the Torres Strait, provide for the work of the Ministry Development Officer for the Cape York Peninsula and assist with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ministry formation in the Diocese of North Queensland.

Locally Robyn Maxwell has been appointed chaplain for Wellers Hill State School. Her role is to provide pastoral care to students, staff and parents through one-to-one sessions, support groups and referral to other agencies. She will also coordinate the Modelling Affirmation Trust Encouragement and Support (MATES) group.

Visits to Regis Aged Care Salisbury have restarted under Covid-19 protocols. Whilst we were unable to visit, messages of encouragement, hymns, stories and scripture were sent via DVD. We are looking forward to singing Christmas Carols together with them in the week before Christmas.

CMS - Church Missionary Society - held its first online conference "Autumn Encounter" in August, with some of our parishioners participating. Of interest was the mission work in Italy and the challenge of the spread Covid-19 there. Our own CMS missionaries visited the parish in late November, and this was a time of great celebration. They shared their mission experiences at services and small groups. The CMS January Conference will be online in 2021.

Sue Vassella



Our Children's Church is again this year involved in supporting the Angel Tree Project. On Christmas Day, thousands of children in Australia open a present from their father or mother or grandparent who is not there – they are in prison. If it weren't for Angel Tree, these children would miss out on a gift from their missing relative. This is an international program of Prison Fellowship through which incarcerated relatives can nominate their children by supplying name, age, gender, carer's contact details and, if possible, the interests of the children. Prison Fellowship then calls on supporters and friends to donate gifts, or money to buy gifts. These are then delivered to the homes of the children or given out at a prison Christmas party. At St Luke's monetary donations can be made by putting a marked envelope in the offering plate or at the Carols evenings in December as a corporate offering. Otherwise giving can be made on line at <https://prisonfellowship.org.au/programs/angel-tree/>

Sue Vassella



St Hugh's Careforce "Inala Pantry"

The parish supports the work of Inala Pantry to help it in its mission with the needy of its area. For more details of its work see

<https://www.sthughsparishinala.org/careforce>

David and Judy Moy will be taking donations to Inala in the lead up to Christmas. You can contribute in the following ways:

- Non-perishable food and other items can be left at the back of the Church. If necessary please text or phone David on 0411871460 to arrange collection.
- Monetary donations can be given in cash in a clearly labelled envelope in the collection plate or directly to David (please include your name if you want a receipt). Note that some cash is useful for St Hugh's in cases of special or urgent need. Alternatively you can give via EFT to the parish, putting "Inala Pantry" in the comment field.

Sue Vassella



Parish Walk, Beryl Roberts Park, October 20th

Tuesday 20th October was a lovely day, sunny but with a cool breeze; perfect for a casual walk through the Beryl Roberts Park. So it was that twelve of us were there that day prepared for a short and not stressful walk through this fascinating park. Fascinating because it is very obviously old forest that has been relatively untouched by the encroachment of civilization. It put us in mind of the question asked at the parish trivia night, “Where is the oldest forest in the world?” Turns out that it is the Daintree Forest in Northern Queensland, more or less on our doorstep.

So, we were all enjoying casual chit chat as we strolled along the bush trail paying not a great deal of attention to anything – until we weren’t. As we walked into the old forest we came upon a colony of large (we said well-fed) bats who did their “bat thing”, flapping from tree to tree and generally disturbing the peace.



Then minutes later one of the group happened to look up at the opportune moment to see a large python nestling quietly in the branches above us. Being so still, it took a little while for everyone to see it, but then the cameras came up in a furious attempt to get the best shot.

Afterwards we were all a lot more attentive to our surrounds, perhaps wondering if there were any more surprises lurking in the branches or undergrowth.





We saw a very large and old ant's nest on the trunk of one tree that had been occupied by kookaburras. It was probably 500mm in diameter and the kookaburras had chipped a 100mm hole in the front to come in and out. Then we saw another old tree covered in walnut sized lumps of we weren't sure what. A quick Google check didn't reveal much. Maybe old wasps' nests or some disease growth.



After all that we came back to the picnic area to enjoy afternoon tea together and tell war stories about the snake and who got the best photos.

All round a very enriching experience.

Trevor Lunn



Going the distance

St Luke's has become a link church to Luke and Julia Collings, Bush Church Aid staff workers in Moranbah, Central Queensland. This involves a commitment to support them as part of our wider ministry (Acts 1:8) response through prayer and giving.

Moranbah is located on the Peak Downs Highway between Mackay and Clermont, about 400 kilometres north-west of Rockhampton in Central Queensland. It is a town that was specifically built for miners and their families working in the regions' coal mines. The population of Moranbah is young, multicultural and transient, due to fluctuations in the resources sector. It has a population of around 8,000 people and has a hot and dry climate.



Luke is the minister at St Francis Anglican Church and Julia connects with young families to reach them with the gospel. They moved to Moranbah in October 2017 and are excited about the opportunities for ministry in a rural context.

Luke was formally the Assistant Minister at All Saints' Air Force Memorial Church in West Lindfield in Sydney. He also served with Anglicare in a regional partnership role. They have three children: Bede (2010), Tabitha (2012) and Silas (2014).

How we at St Luke's can be informed and support them?

- The Collings quarterly newsletters, 'Musings from Moranbah' give a lot of up-to-date details about their various ministries to aid prayer, including their children's ministries. In their latest newsletter they particularly ask for prayer that Religious Instruction classes may resume this semester in the three local schools.

If you would like to receive a copy, let us know and it can be emailed to you.

- Their parish Facebook page gives updates of their activities, including their weekly devotions series (currently they are studying the Beatitudes): <https://www.facebook.com/moranbahanglican/>
- Once every two years they make a road trip to visit all their linked churches and we hope to be able to welcome them next year (or they will be able to send us a video message).
- The BCA State Officer, David Roger-Smith may speak at a future service at St Luke's, Ekibin. TBA

Sue Vassella



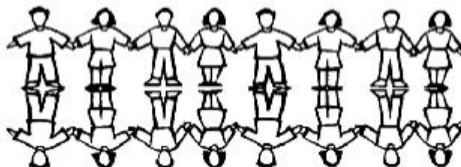
Synod Report

Due to the impact of Covid - 19, we were advised in March that Synod planned for 26 to 28 June 2020 would need to be postponed. A provisional proposal was made to hold Synod from Friday 25 to Sunday 27 September; however, on the advice of Diocesan Council the Archbishop later asked that the 2020 ordinary session of Synod be postponed to June 2021. It was determined that due to the complexity of usual Synod business, a full session by way of a virtual meeting was not practical. The Synod Canon mandates that an ordinary session be held in each year. In order to postpone the ordinary session the Archbishop called a special session of Synod, with the only item of business being a proposed canon which will enable the ordinary session to be postponed. Elections for office holders will also be deferred until 2021.

One of the key functions of a Synod is to receive reports about the work of the various parts of the Church and even though full Synod was not held, the Diocese provided an opportunity for Synod members to come together on a virtual platform (Zoom) to hear about the work of Diocesan Council and each of the Commissions by way of brief presentations and to ask questions and provide feedback. They were not decision-making forums. Attendance was open to elected Synod Representatives and attendees were required to register in advance for the meetings.

The schedule of presentation of reports and registration was as follows:

- Night 1 –21st October (6.30pm – 8.30pm) - Diocesan Council and Cathedral Chapter
- Night 2 –26th October(6.30pm – 8.30pm) - Ministry Education Commission and Parishes and other Mission Agencies Commission



- Night 3 –2nd November (6.30pm – 8.30pm) - Anglican Schools Commission and Community Services Commission
- Night 4 –2nd December (6.30pm – 8.30pm)- Finance and Diocesan Services Commission session, which will also provide information on the 2021 budget and the direction it is taking. This meeting was originally scheduled for Wednesday 4 November; however, it was rescheduled as the budget was not ready to present on 4 November due to difficulties with projecting income and expenditure due to the impact of Covid.

I have attended two sessions at the time of writing this report.

On 26th October Bishop Jonathan Holland provided an overview of the complex roles managed within the Ministry Education Commission (MEC). He provided an update on the planned growth in number of students at St Francis College over the next five years with additional courses being offered, including online courses and short courses as well as the traditional theology courses. The college is yet to understand the impact of changes to costs of tertiary education announced by the Federal Government, although it is hoped the impact on student numbers will be minimal. The other roles of the MEC include the residential community at St Francis College (the Community of the Way) and managing the site and other services.

Cathy Grant then provided a report on the work of the parishes and other Mission Agencies Commission (PMC). She highlighted the responses to Covid - 19, noting that parishes have risen to the challenge. Grants of up to \$1000 to assist parish communication were taken up by 89 of 133 parishes. She also discussed the impact of Covid on chaplaincy. Volunteers in prisons and hospitals had to cease work, although paid chaplains were able to continue in their roles. A new strategy is “Resource Churches” that have areas of expertise which can be utilised to help or advise other parishes, including Youth and Children’s ministry online resources and speciality in digital /online space. This is a new initiative and worth following.

The session on 2nd November provided an opportunity to hear more about the work of the Anglican Schools Commission as presented by Bishop Jeremy Greaves. He identified that there are 20 schools operating under the auspices of ASC with an additional 19 “education and care” early learning centres associated with parishes and schools. This includes 1200 approved places for children with 240 staff.

Again, the impact of Covid was the lasting message. Schools and facilities rose to the challenge of supporting their students in online teaching although there was a particular challenge for boarding schools. Risk watch was implemented with increasing reporting on the impact on schools, students and families. Enrolments have been relatively stable and are looking strong for 2021.

Karen Crouch and Kim Forrester outlined the work of the Community Services Commission of which Anglicare Southern Queensland is a core element. There was a particular focus on the impact of Covid on residential aged care facilities and the changes required for older facilities with shared bed and bathrooms.

I await with great anticipation the Finance and Diocesan Services Commission session on 2nd December. If you would like any further information please see <https://www.anglicanchurchsq.org.au/synod> (Synod 2020 Resource Year Book I)

Chris Bromwich



Eulogy for Beverley Soden – 30 November 1940 - 16 October 2020

To begin, we'd like to thank everyone for their support and friendship.



Beverley was forty-four days short of her eightieth birthday. She had an interesting and fulfilling life worth celebrating. It was a life described only by superlatives.

Her life was sustained throughout by a strong Christian faith introduced to her in early childhood. Beverley started attending St Aidan's in the 1970s. She was Sacristan and Liturgical Assistant during the time Fr Don Bleakly was the priest there. During that time she also delivered

home communion as a Liturgical Assistant.

She was a high achiever: dedicated and strong willed, intellectual, generous, outgoing, compassionate and loving. She loved life. She loved her family. She loved her career as a high school teacher. She loved people, entertaining, gourmet cooking, travelling, animals, sewing, music and the arts. She easily made, and maintained, friendships.

Beverley was a Francophile – she loved anything to do with France. She received a scholarship to teach in France for two years during the 1960s. She was good at several languages and loved the adventures that brought.

She loved cats and kept them as pets from a very early age. Beverley had the most beautiful warm smile.

In her later years she endured a long harsh winter of illness through Alzheimer's Disease and recurring breast cancer. She suffered with quiet fortitude and without anger or complaint. She was a wonderful example to everyone.

We are grateful for the gift Beverley was in our lives.

Now she has a peace which is so well deserved.

We sincerely thank you all for your thoughts, prayers and concern during Beverley's illness and since her death.

Darryl and Desley Soden

Liturgical COLOURS

Many of you will have noticed that the colour of the chasuble (the outer robe worn by the priest at the Eucharist) changes from time to time. In some churches the frontal of the altar also changes in the same way. There are four liturgical colours used in an attempt to teach us through our eyes as well as through our ears.

White represents purity and is used for all festivals of Jesus Christ, primarily Christmas and Easter. It is also the colour for All Saints' Day, signifying the purity of the white-robed throng of redeemed people assembled before God's throne [see Rev.7: 9-17]

Purple is used to suggest royalty, repentance and even suffering. During Lent, for example, the somberness of purple reminds one of the need to be humble before God and hints at the suffering that may come with following Christ. As the colour associated with royalty, it also points to Christ who rules through suffering and sacrifice. A similar use of purple is made during Advent, also a season of preparation and penitence similar to Lent during which we await expectantly the coming of the royal Christ.

Red also carries several meanings. At Pentecost, the colour red reflects the Pentecostal fire of the Holy Spirit. On Good Friday [or throughout Holy Week] it signifies the blood of Christ, the Crucified One. Red may also be used to indicate the royalty of Christ, because at his mocking, the soldiers put a scarlet robe on Him [Matt.27:28]. Red also signifies the blood of the martyrs and is customarily used on days when people who have died witnessing for faith are remembered.

Green is used in those times of the year that are not in any special season or not marked by any special day. Hence, the period from Pentecost to the end of the year and the period from Epiphany to the beginning of Lent use the colour green. It signifies growth, and during those times the church's worship focuses on themes of spiritual growth. It also signifies the world and during those times the church's worship lifts up its global mission. It is an appropriate colour for those times between seasons.

Ref: The ABCs of Worship



June McNicol

Trivia by Zoom

What a great concept to keep having fun in our new Covid-19 world! So easy to do and so much fun! When the night was originally planned, we thought all teams would be on Zoom so we organised our team and meeting place accordingly. When restrictions eased, we decided to still participate via Zoom and enjoy meeting as a smaller group.

The actual process was easy. Timothy set up a computer in the hall and we logged in as per usual. We were able to hear the questions clearly and sent our scores in via the chat room function. It was great having Timothy's smiling face and a 'thumbs up' encouraging us when he collected our scores after each round and to be able to chat with people in between as well. We kept ourselves muted so those in the hall couldn't hear our background chatter but I don't think those at the closest table in the hall realised we could actually hear them some of the time (not that we cheated, mind).

During the supper break we were treated to a yummy dessert of mango mousse and ice cream, which went down very well to sustain us for the final few rounds. Another bonus was that those footy fans among us were able to follow the final on TV and we, in turn, passed the scores on to those in the hall.

As we reflected at the end of the night, I think we were pleasantly surprised at how much we collectively knew. All in all a most enjoyable night and one I would certainly do again.

Robyn McElNea

Take A Seat (from Quilters Companion magazine)

Most of us would recognise the word 'pew' as referring to long bench seating used in churches for the congregation and choir. These days we'd nearly all take it for granted that when we attend a church service, we'd be provided with pews to sit on. But it wasn't always so.

The meetings of Christians in the two or three centuries following Jesus' death were typically held in private homes. The first buildings constructed specifically to act as Christian churches were modelled on Roman law courts, where no seats were provided. It was not until the 14th century that we first read of stone seats and then wooden benches being installed in churches and they did not become common until the 15th century.

The provision of pews in churches coincided, by and large, with the Protestant Reformation, which introduced the pulpit as the focal point of church architecture. Some historians believe that pews had the effect of reducing the extent to which church-goers actively participated, interacted and discussed Christian teachings and turned them into an audience for the preacher in the pulpit.

Renting pews became a common method for fund-raising for the church. Worshippers paid a regular fee that entitled them to sit in a specific pew with their name on it. When the Australian colonies were founded this practice was brought from England, with the funds used in the first instance to pay off the loans necessary for constructing the church buildings. St Peter's Anglican Church in Melbourne, which was built in 1847, still has records from its earliest years including the pew rent books of the 1850s. In 1896 however, it became the earliest inner-city Anglican church to abolish pew rents. It was another sixty years before the practice was completely eliminated in Australia; the last church to charge pew rents was St Matthew's Anglican church in Windsor on the outskirts of Sydney.

On the island of Sark, one of the Channel Islands off the coast of England, pew rents are charged even today. The Anglican church, St Peter's, was built in 1820 and included pews that were partitioned from each other with small swing doors. Pew rents have not ever been raised as there is no mechanism in place for doing so. So, in 2010 the annual pew rents still remained at their 1820 level: two pence for an individual seat and sixpence for a three-seater. The head of government of Sark, the Seigneur, has a long pew at the front of the church and is required to pay one pound for the privilege of occupying it! For those who can't afford these prices there are public pews at the back of the church. St Peter's is the last church in Britain with rented pews and the congregation has been asked by the Anglican Church to maintain the custom.

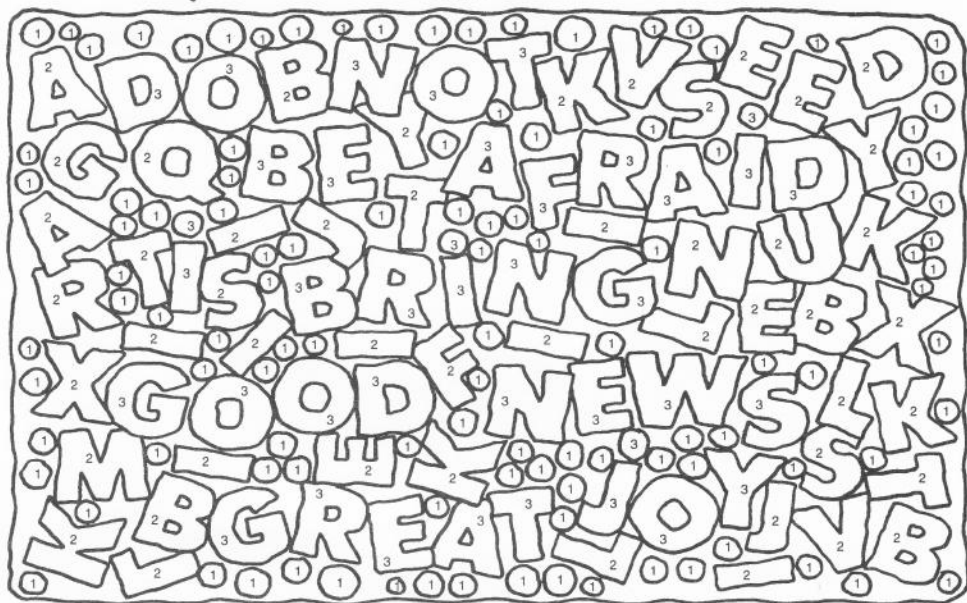
In 1977 local crafters on Sark began making cross-stitched cushions and hassocks for the pews in St Peter's. The pattern for the cushions was taken from the Victorian ties in the chancel and volunteers undertook the stitching. No doubt sitting in church is much more comfortable these days!





Colour by number

1- Red
2- Green
3- Blue



Unscramble Psalm 91:11-12

"O F R E H I L W L M C A O N M D I S H G L A E S N

C R O N N I C N E G O Y U O T U R D A G U O Y N I

L A L R O Y U W S Y A . N O H I T R E S H N A D H Y E T

"

L W I L A E R B O U Y P U ."