

NEWSBEAT



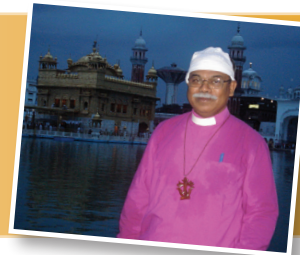
October 2012

PRESBYTERY OF
PORT PHILLIP EAST

Mission not impossible at SMPUC, see page 3



Malvern East prove they're no one-man-band at their Spring Festival. Turn to page 5 for full story and pictures.



India unearths her clerical treasures on page 8

International star hits the right key with local players

ORGANISTS from across the region were given the rare privilege of a masterclass with internationally renowned Dong-ill Shin during his Australian organ recital tour recently.

The global celebrity from Korea, pictured right, gave three young (and one not so young) players a masterclass at Toorak Uniting Church.



Church organists who played for Dong-ill included: Sarah Yang, organist at St Andrew's Gardiner, Rhys Ardvison, organist at St Peter's Anglican Church Eastern Hill, Miffy McIndoe, organ scholar at Scots Church and former organist at Malvern Presbyterian Church and Arwen Hur organist at All Saints Anglican Church, Mitcham.

More music to our ears...

THE Mission and Outreach Task Group invites the Presbytery to our very first Carols on the Green!

This invitation is open to all congregations, agencies and groups of the Presbytery as well as to the local community to Cornish College.

The choral fantasia will be held on Sunday December 2, 2012 at Cornish College, 65 Riverend Rd, Bangholme from 4pm to approximately 8pm.

The plan is to kick the afternoon off with a children's program of fun, games, craft activities and other cool stuff and then to begin our Carols on the Green at approximately 6pm.

Bring your rugs to sit out under the stars and enjoy singing carols together! There will be some food available for purchase on the night thanks to the Cornish College Parents Association.

We, however, need your help too!!

Rev Jay Robinson says: "The M&O Task Group would love congregations and groups to put up their hands

to help with one aspect of the event. We need car parking guides, lake spotters, people to set up and pack down, ushers, craft people, singers, band members, drama people, a stage manager, sound and lighting, procuring equipment etc. The more hands we have helping the lighter the work."

So, if you or your group are able to help please contact Rev Jay Robinson on jay@robinsonfamily.com.au. If you can please let us know by Friday 19th October.



If you would like to submit a news item for the Presbytery's monthly Newsbeat newsletter please send all articles and images to newsbeat@ucappep.org



The school that never gave up wins leading marketing award

CORNISH College has scooped a prestigious award for its marketing campaigns which have resulted in a doubling of the college's intake.

The Bangholme college won the prestigious Australian Marketing Institute Awards for Marketing Excellence in the New Brand, Product or Service Launch category (Victoria) for 2012. The award recognises the marketing initiatives undertaken in 2011 to establish the new Cornish College after St Leonards' College announced the impending closure of the campus in March 2011.

Cornish College, located in the southern suburbs of Melbourne in Bangholme, near Patterson Lakes commenced as a new Uniting Church coeducational independent College in January 2012 with 225 students from 3 year old ELC to Year 9 (Year 10 will be offered in 2013, Year 11 in 2014 and Year 12 in 2015). Evidence of the successful marketing initiatives is that enrolments will increase by 50% to be approximately 350 in 2013 and it's expected that they will grow by the same number in 2014.



The development of the strong Cornish College brand is seen as the heart of the successful launch of Cornish College in 2012. Cornish College recognises and acknowledges the work undertaken by Dave Clark Design Associates, a successful New Zealand design agency who have recently expanded into Australia, who provided their valuable expertise pro bono to assist in the successful establishment of Cornish College.

Council member and Marketing Chairperson, Mrs Karen Te Maipi and College Principal, Mr Kerry Bolger were delighted to accept the prestigious marketing industry award on behalf of the whole Cornish College community in recognition of all the work undertaken by many parents, students, community members and staff in establishing the new College that everyone is so proud of. Mr Bolger adds: "For a small school to win such an award and join major household brands in the national finals is amazing and a wonderful affirmation of the hard work of so many."

Need a helping hand?

The Lenten Offering provides funds for mission projects that are difficult to fund from other sources, like the SHARE Appeal or Board of Mission and Resourcing (BOMAR).

Four projects are selected, one in each of the following categories:

- International
- National
- Victoria
- Tasmania

Applications for any of the categories can be submitted and there is no restriction on the number of applications.

Particular attention will be given to projects working with marginalised and vulnerable sections of the community including:

- People who are homeless
- People with a disability
- Indigenous people
- Older people
- Prisoner rehabilitation
- People seeking asylum
- Young people

Applications must be received by 5pm, Friday 26th October 2012. Late projects will not be considered and applications must have the signature of the authorised person.

Direct any questions to Angela Goodwin, Campaigns Manager, 130 Little Collins St Melbourne 3000
t (03) 9251 5285, Angela.Goodwin@victas.uca.org.au
For more information visit www.shareappeal.org.au

Visitors welcome

We invite you to come along to a Cornish College school tour to see what everyone's talking about!

**Saturday 27 October, 10.00am
at Cornish College
65 Riverend Road
Bangholme VIC 3175
(Melways Ref 93 J12)**

Please visit www.cornishcollege.vic.edu.au to register or call 03 9773 1011.

Anti-Poverty Awards

THE Annual WJ Craig Lecture and Presentation of Anti-Poverty Awards 2012 Lecture will be presented by Karen Flanagan AM on Friday 19 October 2012 3:00pm – 5:00pm, Melbourne Town Hall, Swanston Hall, Swanston Street, Melbourne
RSVP: Kिरrilee Torney rsvp@connections.org.au or 03 9271 0816 by Friday 12 October. RSVP essential, refreshments provided.

Ecumenism: Next Step?

A public lecture entitled **Receptive Ecumenism: Next Step?** will be held on Friday 12 October, 7.30pm at Wyselaskie Hall, CTM

This event features the Very Rev Denis Stanley, Episcopal Vicar for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations, Archdiocese of Melbourne. It is in association with the annual national conference of the Christian Unity Working Group of the Assembly. All are welcome.

God inspired missions 'drop from the sky'

South Mornington Peninsula UC unearths two new missions from some unlikely sources

MISSION ONE:

SMPUC has three worship centres, Dromana, Rosebud and Blairgowrie. 51% of our people are aged over 80 and very few are under 70. One hundred people in church on Sunday represents an excellent attendance. Our finances are like those of many churches; rapidly diminishing. Mission has always been high on the agenda but over the years it has become harder and harder to sustain. We run three playgroups and an Op Shop and while we reach out to people in this way we have always thought we should be doing more. However we feel Mission for the sake of Mission lacks spiritual guidance.

So this is a story of a Mission that dropped out of the sky - A God Inspired Mission.

In December 2011 there was an article in our local paper about a group calling themselves "Cloverleaf." They needed land to build a home for their disabled adult children. However they didn't want to build just any home, but a home in a community of caring people. Our "Vision Group" decided that we would ring them and see where it led.

Now our congregation is 'dreaming a dream' of a community that provides a home to six severely disabled adults and four disabled people in supported independent living accommodation. There would be provision for some parents who wish to live near their children and some social housing. This would surround our Worship centre/ Community space that would be home to playgroups and other church groups.



MISSION TWO

In May this year our Pastor had a phone call from a lady called Wendy who had done some training and work at Sacred Heart Hands on Health. Wendy had 'placed her talents' in the hands of God and asked him what he wanted her to do. The result was a phone call to ask if she could have our backing to run a Hands on Health at Rosebud. Hands on Health gives ancillary health services to the most vulnerable in our community. These are Homeless people who sleep rough on the beach or elsewhere, and others who couch surf. There are also some who because of social and mental health issues may be in extremely vulnerable rental situations. For \$2 they can have a massage, their hair cut, chiropractic care, counselling, Bowen therapy, facials from a beautician and many other services. They

also get a "cuppa and cake" and the opportunity to talk to Pastor Margaret. The service has now been running for once a week for two months and we are starting to talk about increasing the days.



GRANTVILLE LODGE OPEN DAY
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14

Join in the excitement and discover a great place for your next event, school camp or family gathering!

p: 5678 8370 e: grantville@uccamping.org.au

Family Day Out | Enquire about your next group bookings |

Kids Activities | Afternoon Tea | Gospel Choir

Opening of Jenkins Homestead | Chapel Service

1:30pm - 5:30pm

Grantville Lodge

Grantville-Glen Alvie Rd, Grantville

Ph: 5678 8370

grantville@uccamping.org.au

**New
face at
Grantville**



Grantville has undergone a number of major changes in the last six months, including most recently a new member of the management team.

Matthew Quick is the newest member onto the UC Camping team and joins Grantville Lodge as their Assistant Manager. Matthew has extensive knowledge and experience in both Outdoor recreation and environmental sustainability which will be a great asset to UCCamping and Grantville Lodge.

In the beginning...

THE Uniting Church Historical Society invites all to a presentation marking the 1,700th anniversary of an event that changed the direction for the spread of Christianity across the world.

Sunday 28 October sees a meeting at 2pm at Deepdene Uniting Church, 958 Burke Road, Deepdene where Rev Dr Ian Breward and Rev Dr John Bodycomb will edify more.

History records that Roman Emperor Constantine (312AD) the night before a battle at Milvian Bridge near Rome, had a vision of the Christian Cross, with a message, "In this sign, conquer". He organized all his troops to wear a cross. He won the battle and issued the 'edict of Milan' ending persecution of Christians in the west of the Roman Empire. He effectively endorsed the Christian faith as an officially recognized religion.

Jesus had lived in Palestine within the Roman Empire. The Roman Empire ruled all countries around the Mediterranean Sea, having built roads to link them. Within a 500-year window of opportunity, Christianity was able to be spread across Europe and the North African world.

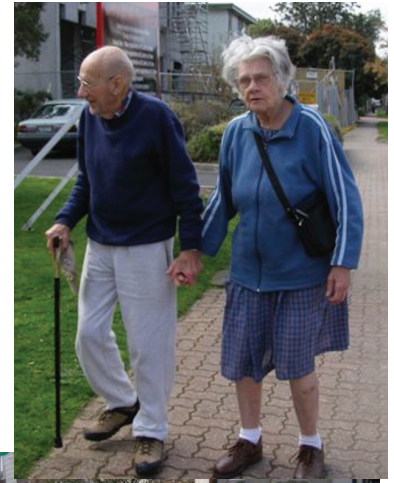
"The battle at Milvian Bridge, near Rome, is acknowledged as significant by all branches of the Christian churches today. The meeting at Deepdene is open to all who want to know more about early Christianity" said Dr Breward. Parking is available off Dale Street at the rear and entry to the meeting is free.

Stepping out

FOR the second year running, St John's Uniting Church Elsternwick walked for Africa.

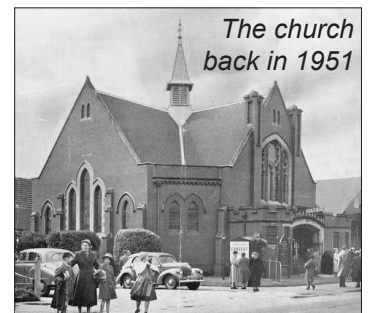
The sun shone and people joined us from the community to raise over \$3000 for the Stephen Lewis Foundation (www.stephenlewisfoundation.org) The organisation supports grandmothers and orphans in their care at grassroots level, putting food on the table, providing health care and supporting income generating activities. Our walkers were treated to a bowl of delicious African soup after the walk and the Social Justice Sunday Service, including the heartfelt singing of Soulsong the resident community choir. Thanks

to our sponsors Bakers Delight, the Party Centre and Ce Soir, all on Glen Huntly Road.



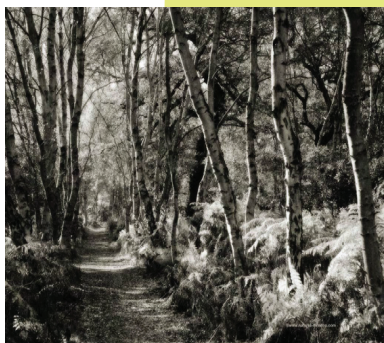
Birthday honours

EXCITEMENT is brewing as St John's folk are preparing for the forthcoming 125th anniversary celebrations. As we have connected with old friends, one of the memories people have of St John's is the Saturday night dances, so what better way to kick off the celebrations. Come and join us for our Supper Dance on Saturday 20th October from 7-9pm. We have a fabulous dance teacher with her team from Dance Craft Studio Elsternwick, leading us through a variety of dances (so don't worry if you're rusty or don't know a step!), followed by the most delicious scones with jam and cream. We have been gathering photographs and memorabilia to portray the story of St John's in yesteryears and



today. The Display will be open from Monday 22nd – Saturday 27th October from 10am-3pm. On Sunday 28th October from 10am, our Thanksgiving Service will be led by Pastor Christine Clinch with our preacher Rev Dr Mark Lawrence, General Secretary Elect and former minister of St John's; followed by a buffet lunch. Finally, St John's Tennis Club is celebrating its centenary and will be holding a Tennis Centenary Fun Day from 1pm on Sunday 28th October. For more details please contact Audrey on 9523 8413 or stjohns.elsternwick@ucappep.net.

Journeying with Dementia



2.00-4.00 pm
Sunday 4 November 2012

Brighleigh
Uniting Church
739 Hawthorn Road
East Brighton 3187

This seminar is for those who work with or care for someone with Dementia. It provides a brief understanding of Dementia and explores some of its early signs. There are suggestions for ways of communicating with those experiencing Dementia and supporting their carers, and there will be opportunity to share experiences and ask questions.

Presenter, Rev. Barry McWha, has served as an aged care chaplain for eleven years. He is currently Seniors' Ministry Facilitator with the Baptist Union of Victoria and is pastor to seniors at Kilsyth South Baptist Church.

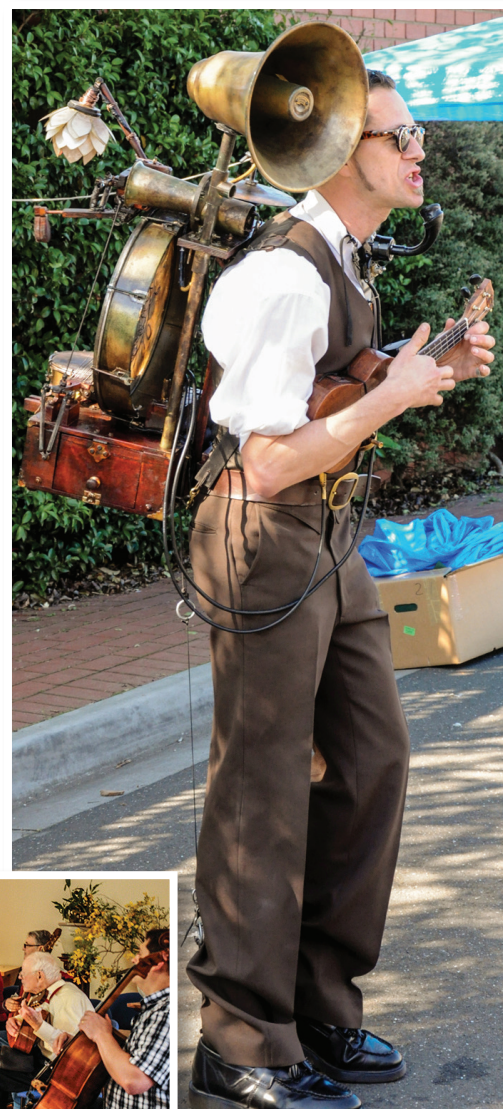
Malvern East UC springs into action

SPRING was definitely in the air at Malvern East Uniting Centre recently when they threw open their doors for their Spring Festival. The event aimed to encourage all users of the church buildings to come together and form a community for a common goal. This year the goal was to raise money for a worthy cause that the local community would come along and support.

Rev Peter Beale says: "We raised nearly \$2000 for the Reach Foundation! Groups involved included the UCAF, the Malvern East Combined Probus, the Serrell St Kindergarten, Mandolin's D'Amore, a Tongan band, a one-man-band, and many members of the congregation. "The weather was fine, and the event went very well. We hope to continue building on the success of this each year."

Reach is an independent, for-purpose youth organisation that was established by Jim Stynes OAM and Australian film director, Paul Currie, in 1994.

Jim and Paul recognised that, too often, the greatness in young people was hidden behind fear, anger or hurt so they created Reach to inspire all young people to believe in themselves and get the most out of life.



Let's face the music and dance... a one man band, above, was just one of the fun factors at Malvern East UCs Spring Festival



The Victorian Chapter of the Australian Church Library Association

...is meeting on Saturday, 20th October, 2012 at 10 am at Parable Christian Store, Shop 5, 426 Princes Highway, Narre Warren (Melway 110 E6) and then from 11.30 onwards at Beaconsfield Baptist Church, 7 Desmond Crt, Beaconsfield (off Princes Highway) (Melway 214 A2) finishing at 4pm.

The program will include:

- looking at the church library
- speaker, Kerryn Redpath - a recovered drug addict and author of *Out of Darkness*
- a session on Christmas resources and activities for your library - please bring ideas
- a swap table - bring along books, videos, cassettes, CDs and other resources that you no longer need.

Please also bring a plate of finger food for lunch.

For more information please ring Rachel on 9850 4828.

Dear Presbytery

The pipe organ at Toorak Uniting Church is integral to our worship and ministry - both the 9am worship service and the 10.15am service.

In 2011 and 2012 there have been 26 funeral and 21 weddings at TUC with the organ and the organist a significant reason why people choose our church. Most of these wedding and funeral attendees have little contact with a Christian church so we are able to present a strong Gospel message and a glimpse of the beauty of Christian worship.

At a recent Heritage Open Day, the church with its stained glass windows and unique architecture was put on

show to our neighbours and others interested in the story of TUC. On that day Jennifer gave a performance on the organ and demonstrated its value to worship



communities at TUC and Melbourne audiences.

Through our music programme our organist Jennifer Chou who has an international reputation, has introduced young people to the pipe organ and is a teacher with the Suzuki Organ School.

Letters to the Editor

This month there was an organ student's concert, pictured, sponsored by the Society of Organists and held at TUC which was a great success. Here is one quote in feedback:

"Hi Jennifer, Thank you for all your hard work to make this concert happen! Great venue, format and instrument for the students to perform on. A supportive environment - that is what is so important at this stage of their development." Chris Trikili, teacher.

The music programme of the church is also connected to the outreach ministry of Uniting Arts Toorak operating as Kinross House. This provides contact with the arts community beyond the congregation and gives us opportunities to explore the interface between music, the arts and spirituality

Finally the TUC organ has not been over hauled in over 30 years. The work to be done is essential to keeping the instrument in top condition.

Yours Sincerely

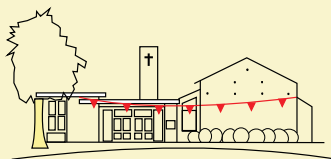
Rev Dr Christopher Page
Toorak UC

HILLTOP MARKET

SATURDAY

17 NOVEMBER 2012

9am - 2pm



CAKES
PLANTS
BOOKS



JEWELLERY

WHITE ELEPHANT

GOURMET FOODS

CHRISTMAS GIFTS

SAUSAGES/BURGERS

JUMPING CASTLE

FRAMES & PAINTINGS

LOTS OF FUN!



High Street Road Uniting Church
Mount Waverley

482 High St Road Mt Waverley - Cnr Stewart St
Melway 61 G12

To the Legislative Assembly of Victoria
The Victorian Government has recently announced a reduction in TAFE funding estimated at \$290million.

The Presbytery of Yarra Yarra is most concerned that necessary responses by TAFE providers to reduced funding will result in elimination of course options, reduction in availability of places, and increase course and service charges.

We respectfully point out to The House that the Uniting Church recognizes and affirms the responsibility of government to ensure that everyone has adequate opportunities to access quality education consistent with their interests, abilities, and aspirations.

We note with concern the impacts of the surprising and unexpected reduction in TAFE funding announced by the Victorian Government, in particular: widespread closure of facilities; cancellation of courses; fee increases; adverse impacts upon rural communities.

The Petitioners therefore request that the Legislative Assembly review this funding decision in the light of the constant need to enhance the skills of our society and the consequent need to develop rather than curtail the TAFE sector.

Presbytery of Yarra Yarra

PO Box 4308

BALWYN EAST VIC 3103

Editors note: If you would like to support the petition, or complete a petition sheet at your church, please contact John.Cranmer@victas.uca.org.au

Ewing showcases services

EWING Fete and Community Services Expo will not be your usual fete as it will combine a traditional church fete with a showcase of the community services supported by the church congregation.

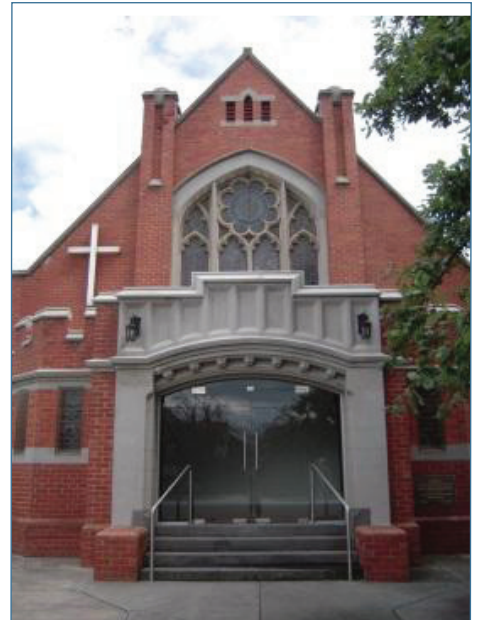
These services include: Asylum Seekers Resource Centre, Frontier Services, SHARE, TEAR Australia, UnitingCare Connections and UnitingCare Prahran Mission. Opportunities will be available for people to contribute to these services on the day through purchasing goods offered for sale.

Stalls on the day include: BBQ and sausage sizzle, books, home-made cakes, jams & preserves, plants, quality second-hand goods and more! All proceeds from these stalls will be donated to the Uniting Church agencies represented on the day:

Saturday, 17th November 2012 from 10.00 am–3.00 pm
at

Ewing Memorial Uniting Church
Cnr Burke Road and Coppin Street, MALVERN EAST.

For enquiries, please contact the Church Office on 03 9571 4575.



Gathering speed?

In a reflection prepared for our Presbytery meeting this Saturday, October 13, Kylie Crabbe discusses questions of collegial gatherings and more - outlining the Presbytery Standing Committee's invitation to all Ministers and Pastors to be a part of a collegial group. The full reflection is now on the PPE website at www.ucappp.org and click on Newsbeat. So have a read and begin to consider your own response to these questions...and we invite responses both on the website and through Newsbeat.



Port Phillip East Presbytery

Pentecost



The Uniting Church
in Australia

<http://www.ucappp.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/The-practice-of-collegial-gathering-1.pdf>

Sharing the love

The SHARE 2011 Annual Report is now available online at <http://shareappeal.org.au/about-us/annual-reports>. The theme for this report is diversity and highlights the different ways SHARE funds are used to address the needs in our communities.

Many funded programs have been highlighted, like the unique creative partnership between the UnitingCare St Kilda Drop in Centre and Melbourne theatre company, Inotrope. This unlikely partnership embodies much of SHARE's work in its ability to partner with an array of seemingly disparate groups to achieve something special where it is needed most.

The generosity of donors enabled \$927,934 to be distributed in grants in 2011, an increase of 28% on the 2010 distribution. If you would like a hard copy to be mailed to you please phone us on (03) 9251 5251.

Quote...

"If God created shadows, it was to better emphasize the light."

Pope John XXIII
261st Pope of the Catholic Church

...of the month

Bethel Pastoral Centre Workshop

"Is Forgiveness necessary, possible? A dialogue ..."

The day will explore some of the following themes:

- Reflections on harm and forgiveness
- Forgiveness for whom?
- Point of departure or destination?
- More difficult in the church?

Friday 23 November, 2012

9:30am-4:00pm

CTM

29 College Crescent Parkville 3052

Cost \$50 (includes lunch)

The workshop will be facilitated by:

Dr Jenny Dwyer and Rev Prof Chris Mostert

Jenny is a therapist and consultant who has worked extensively with victims and perpetrators of sexual abuse and violence. She has explored issues of justice and forgiveness in intimate relationships and worked with families to find pathways for healing for all family members. Jenny has worked with this issue in a faith context with different churches.

Chris is Professor of Systematic Theology at CTM and has been a parish minister and a teacher of theology in several Uniting Church colleges, currently in Melbourne. He has been engaged in questions of justice and is interested in forgiveness as a possibility we might find the freedom to offer rather than as a moral or theological imperative.

To register you can either:

Call/fax Bethel on 9859 8700 or

Email: bethel@victas.uca.org.au or

Fill in the electronic registration form on our website:

<http://bethel.victas.uca.org.au/workshops-and-training/>

And send/fax/email that to us.

Register now. Places are limited.





India's rite of passage?

INDIA has problems that make first world issues look like a walk in the park. A birthrate the equivalent of the Australian population every year, a maternal mortality rate of 44% in childbirth and nearly half the children born don't make it past the age of five...

Despite these hardships it is also one of the most colourful, beautiful and spiritual places on earth.

Helen Beeby, of High Street Uniting Church, Frankston recently joined a team of Australians on a Uniting World mission trip to North India to witness first-hand how the \$40,000 the group had raised for the Education for Disadvantaged Children project is being invested.

"We were greeted in Amritsar train station by Bishop Pradeep Samantaroy, of the Church of North India (CNI - a partner to UW)" says Helen, "where we were swathed in garlands and accompanied by the stirring beats of an Indian Mridangam drum. It was an unbelievable welcome!"

During the 14 day trip the group observed the amazing progress of the children in the Dalit villages [aka untouchables] who are benefitting from the education, healthcare, nutrition and social development programme being implemented by the CNI.

Om Prakash, Project Officer, explains: "Our people are taking part in more and more community and school activities, parents are becoming more involved and every child in every village in our project area is now going to school."

These children, disadvantaged purely by birth in an ancient caste system that will take generations to phase out, will be among the real society-changers in India.

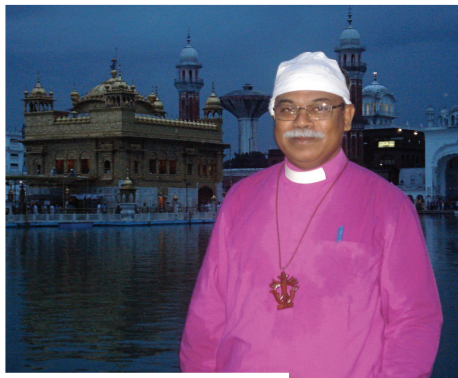
Bishop Samantaroy, Bunu to his flock, adds: "We could not have dreamed that so much has happened in just three years. This is like a catalyst of change – people are now asking 'what about our children? We do not work in any village where we are not invited, however, and we don't want to use the church buildings because we don't want education to have a church collar."

"There is a lot of hope now, but we don't want to work there into eternity - that is where failure lies – the aim is that they can take care of themselves so this is a process of seeing things change. The project has provided a platform for children to show their parents what is possible, and to develop their own talents.

"Money cannot solve all our problems. We are a family. Someone coming from Australia means so much to them. It transcends all barriers and builds relationships. It is better that you don't give anything but still visit..."

To see the difference our fundraising makes in a country that faces such mountainous challenges underpins the joy of existence and the universality of faith. Mother India indeed...

Helen meets, the whole of Bagwanpura village, above, and Bishop Pradeep Samantaroy leads a dawn tour of the Golden Temple, Amritsar



A five day trek in the Indian Himalayas ended the trip. Gisela [Langridge] is the super-secretary at Frankston's HSUC

Financial benefits of solar panels warm St Andrew's heart

SOLAR power is now a hot topic it seems as St Andrew's Gardiner is now reaping the benefits of installing the panels on the roof at the beginning of 2012.

In the last 8 months it has produced the following results.

- 3.9 mWh (3,900 kWh) of electricity has been generated
- this equates to the prevention of 4,627 kg of CO2 being emitted
- or the equivalent of a car being driven 23,167 kilometres
- Energy reimbursement of \$1,072.74

According to Phil Buttner, of St Andrew's Towards Zero Committee, their calculations represents a 7.62% of annual return.

Rev Dr Ji Zhang says: "We expect the figure will increase because the electricity price will go up and our reduction will further improve. Apart from the primary reasons for undertaking the project - theological, being a "good citizen" and educational/mission - there has been a



financial benefit to the Congregations. If we can analyse our usage and make improvements, there is scope to further improve this benefit. Also, we will gain if power costs rise in the future."