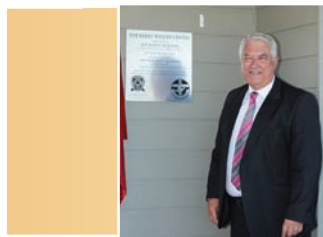


NEWSBEAT



MARCH 2016

NEWSLETTER FOR THE PRESBYTERY OF PORT PHILLIP EAST



Cornish College builds a fitting tribute to Kerry. Find out more on page 13.



Don't miss out on your dose of harmony - with cricket, food and entertainment. Check out the details on page 5.



Living water renews Sarah's spirit



IT was a beautiful day - the sun shone, not a breath of wind and a lovely mild morning.

In fact, Sunday February 7th could not have been more perfect for a group from The Village Church, along with family and friends, to gather on Canadian Bay Beach in Mt Eliza. Prayers were spoken, a new creed recited, questions asked and responses

made: "What do you ask of God's Church?" "I ask to be baptised into the faith and family of Jesus Christ." A moving testimony shared, and Sarah Louise Last was baptised by full immersion in the bay. Sarah, aged 22, came to The Village Church about 18 months ago. A veterinary science student, Sarah had discovered, unlike her two older siblings, she hadn't been baptised as a child. She wanted to explore what Christian faith was about, she was keen to be baptised and over the following 18 months Sarah became part of the church community. She explored and asked

Cont on page 2

... but fire rages at Noble Park

FIREBUGS have struck at Noble Park Uniting Church in a string of criminal damage incidents that have left police and churchgoers baffled.

In the early hours of Wednesday, February 17 a fire was lit in the kitchen adjacent to the church hall, *explains Presbytery Minister Rev John Mann*. "The kitchen has been totally destroyed and the adjoining hall so badly damaged that it will not be able to be used until extensive repairs are made. An early estimate of the damage is \$1m plus" While the fire was contained to the hall and kitchen, the church foyer suffered smoke damage, but fortunately, apart from smelling of smoke,

Cont on page 2



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



A joyous baptism in the bay at Mount Eliza

Cont. from front page.

questions and sought to discover a faith she could claim as her own. Sarah immersed herself in the life of the church and offered service with other young adults through Red Frogs. With her minister, Rev Cameron McAdam she explored what baptism was, and Sarah decided that the beach she knew and loved was the place for this occasion. A service of confirmation followed at the church, with photos of the baptism pictured, and Sarah sharing her testimony again for

those who didn't make the beach. In her testimony she spoke of the importance of her family, of the life lessons they have shared with her, she spoke of faith as active and being lived out, and she talked about the importance of a curious and humble faith, a faith that asks questions and doesn't know all the answers. In the church she has found a group of people who gather and together seek to find a path in life, to live their best as they might understand or discern it. Welcome to the church Sarah.



Church persecution prompts our prayers



Cont. from front page.
the church, pictured

below, and another meeting space and kitchen have not been damaged. One of the consequences of the fire was that the whole site was declared a crime scene which prevented anyone entering the property. That included Presbytery staff who decamped to a local McDonalds for a life-saving coffee and access to free wi fi. While the work of cleaning up the property has started, the site has to be made safe before any repairs can commence. Naturally the Congregation is struggling to



understand why anyone would do such a thing. The fire follows incidents involving the deliberate smashing of glass door panels.



Cornish welcomes its second principal

NEW principal at Cornish College Vicki Steer welcomed students back for the first day of school on Monday 1 February.

At her induction she said: "I am delighted to be joining the Cornish College community. The College's commitment to education for a sustainable future, its holistic and innovative approach to student development is strongly aligned with my educational philosophy. Our students are learning about how they can make a difference today and as adults." In total, 615 ELC to Year 12 students will attend UCA school Cornish College in 2016, up from 543 students last year. The College opened in 2012 with 220 students. "The story of the foundation of Cornish College in 2012 is one of effort, persistence and courage by parents, staff and students. This



school thrives today because of the community's deep belief in our educational philosophy of preparing students for life. This is a vibrant school community, with a commitment to excellence in teaching and learning. We recognise the importance of academic rigour, creativity and developing strong foundation skills for learning", said Ms Steer.

Cornish College's first Year 12 students all successfully achieved their Victorian Certificate of Education in 2015. 12.5% of Cornish College's VCE students were

in the top 5% of the state with an ATAR of 95 or above, 25% were in the top 10% of the state with an ATAR of 90 or above and 44% were in the top 20% of the state with an ATAR of 80 or above. Robert Boag achieved the highest ATAR result of 98.7. "On behalf of Cornish College, I congratulate the young men and women of the class of 2015 and wish them well as

they embark on the next stage of their journey of lifelong learning. We now look forward to supporting our second cohort of VCE students in 2016", said Ms Steer.



Sacrededge *Spirituality in Diversity*



Rachel Kohn



Frank Yamma



Mariam Issa



Padraig O'Tuama

The Little Festival with the Big Heart

April 29 - May 1 2016 **over 20 artists and presenters**

Registrations online at:

www.unitingqueenscliff.org.au
contemplation creativity compassion



Enquiries: Jan 0429 356 230

unitingqueenscliff@inet.net.au



www.facebook.com/sacrededgefestival

Celebrating differences

Sacrededge "Spirituality in Diversity" is on again from April 29 - May 1. This is a unique opportunity for those on the edge and their supporters to come together and celebrate and experience diversity. The themes for the weekend are Indigenous, Asylum seekers, LGBTI, Sustainability and Mental Health.

Greg's golden moment at Cheltenham

IN a packed church at Cheltenham, Rev Greg Fry was inducted into the Cheltenham-Mentone Parish, writes Rev John Mann.

The Rev Christine MacDowall preached a sermon at the service, on Sunday 7th February, about using one's treasure sensibly, quoting the story of King Canute. She concluded - in a caution to the congregation - that if they intended to set up a chair at the local beach for Greg to sit in so he could stop the tides of change, then she would be very disappointed.

Greg was inducted into the Parish after having served a long term supply ministry there. Greg reminded the congregation that his new placement is quite different to the special supply ministry role he had, which was one of assisting the congregation to change and to re-focus its mission.

Now Greg's hopes and calling are in consolidating the changes and building for the future.

Local ecumenism and community support was displayed with a strong group of representatives shaking Greg's hand in the service. Great signs for the congregation engaging the wider community.

A warm and wonderful afternoon concluded with a generous afternoon tea and fellowship.



Pictured above: Rev Dr Robert Johnson, Chair of the Port Phillip East Presbytery conducts the service of induction for Rev Greg Fry. Left: the laying on of hands to strengthen Greg's new ministry.

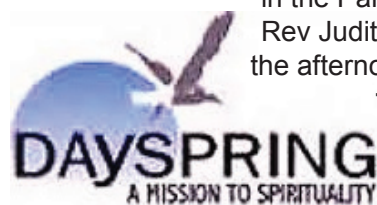


The art of the matter

On Monday 14 March (Labour Day) Hampton UC's Readings and Conversation group will meet as usual in the Parish Centre at 4:30pm.

Rev Judith Atkinson from Holy Trinity will be leading the afternoon on the topic **Imag[in]ing the Divine: the Word made Art.**

All are welcome to come along, enjoy an afternoon tea and interesting discussions.



Gone but not forgotten

For all those interested in praying and working for peace in the world please reserve this date:

ANZAC DAY 25 APRIL 2016

11.00 AM, ST PAUL'S

CATHEDRAL, MELBOURNE

Truly, We Will Remember Them

The Cathedral together with Pax Christi and the Anzac Centenary Peace Coalition, invite you to a service of lament for all soldiers who suffered and died in World War I, especially in the Battle of the Somme in 1916; for the doctors and nurses who cared for the wounded and dying; for loved ones at home during and after the campaign; for the government attempt to conscript men into the war that was said to be THE WAR THAT ENDS ALL WAR. Inquiries: revdrjohnsmith@ozemail.com.au

New life and hope in war-ravaged Sri Lanka

In the North of war-ravaged Sri Lanka, in Murunkan, the Methodist church has a farm of 60 acres called 'Jeevodayam' (which means "as long as there is life there is hope").

It was started by Rev. Jeyarajasingham in 1974, 40 years ago, and developed very well until he had an untimely death at the hands of the military.

Raja Rajakulendran, a minister from the Church of South India, settled in Australia started the Tamil church in Melbourne and worked in several churches in Victoria.

He had the courage and extraordinary vision to go back to the totally neglected Jeevodayam farm in 2013 as a missionary to live and work. About 40 acres of the farm were cleared to plant cashew. Raja was supported by UnitingWorld and the VicTas Synod of the Uniting Church. Perhaps few thought he would succeed!

His passion and hard work together with his training in farming and agriculture have contributed to a farm now that has 1,600 cashew plants with capacity for more. Each plant is expected to yield ten kilos of cashew from 2020. Unprocessed this gives Rs.3000 per plant (about \$30). This means a much needed and guaranteed income for the community and the Methodist church of Rs 4,800,000 (\$48,000) every year from 2020. This is a big sum of money.

It is a joint local community venture because locals, especially women are increasingly employed in cultivating, cleaning and selling cashew. This is the first time Jeevodayam is moving to self-sustaining cashew cultivation. The farm is accepted as a key supplier by the Government owned Cashew Corporation of Sri Lanka. The ministry at this place has a pre-school of 18 children; a Friday club for 35 pre-schoolers; an English learning group of 55 meeting every Saturday; an annual youth camp for 70 youths, Sunday worship and pastoral care. In 2015 the farm hosted a field education programme for six theological students of different denominations from the Theological College of Lanka at Pilimatalawa. There is potential to develop the place for visitors on a pilgrimage or for tourism. In Murunkan, Raja has worked with leaders and ordinary people from all religions including the strong leader, Roman Catholic Bishop Rayappu Joseph.

2016 is a celebration of 40 years in ministry for Raja and his wife Kala. This will be celebrated on:

April 2nd at the Koornang Uniting Church at 10.30am. Rev. Asiri Perera, President of the Methodist Church in Sri Lanka who has supported this project enthusiastically will grace the occasion.



Delicious food * Exciting Cricket * Inspiring speakers * Amazing performances

Harmony Day

WRITING A NEW STORY FOR SRI LANKA

Free Admission
All are welcome

FREE CONCERT AND CRICKET

Sunday 6 March
Mulgrave Community Hall
(off Wellington Rd)

2pm Cricket/4pm Concert/6pm Dinner

SRI LANKA INVITES is a group of Sri Lankans from various backgrounds who are continuing a journey of peace and reconciliation. Its primary aim is to pave the way for Sri Lankans living in Australia to meet and form links beyond religious, ethnic, political, cultural and other divides.

Toward that aim we present to you
Sri Lankan Harmony Day

Winner of the Serendib
Gold award for
Community Harmony, 2014

Supported by United Sri Lankan Muslim Association of Australia (USMAA)

Our patrons:


 Mohammed Mahideen


 Shanaka Fernando


 Professor David De Kretser


 Annahala & Rev. Jeffrey Abayasekera

With
Professor Paul Komesaroff,
Rev. David Pargeter
Maheshini Perera, Rev. Dev Anandarajan
and
Assistance from the
UC Synod Vic/Tas
Commission for Mission

For more info contact:
Larry Marshall
9331 2678
larry.marshall@victas.uca.org.au

Maheshini Perera
9801 4349
maheshini@optusnet.com.au

Dev Anandarajan
9504 3077
gunam58@optusnet.com.au

We gather here, aware
that we live in a time of
transition
For religious language and
imagery
As we learn more and more
About our world and our universe.
Whatever holds everything in this universe
together,
From the magnificence of galaxies
To electrons rushing within atoms,
we believe we are a life-form that brings
this Source and Sustainer, Organizing
Power, Mind, to unique and wonderful
expression.
We want to acknowledge and celebrate
The mystery and wonder of who we are.
We are mindful of people now and
throughout human history
Who have opened our minds
To a deeper appreciation
of what it means to be human,
and of our connectedness with all of
creation. **Amen.**

by Michael Morwood



Hampton's major make-over draws to an end

2016 sees Hampton UCA settling into its totally renovated facilities, including two new manses, with still over \$300,000 to make available for the wider church. Here's the story of how they did it...

"Over five years ago the Hampton Church Council realised that our existing manse needed extensive and expensive renovation, or a complete knock-down and rebuild, requiring funding that the congregation just didn't have," explains Council Chair, Ian Menzies.

"Simultaneously, new insurance requirements meant that the little-used tennis court on the church's site could no longer be maintained. Being 'land-locked' it was not really saleable, so we made the decision to instead to sell



the run-down manse and rebuild on the tennis court site." That site was too valuable to for just one home, so the major decision was then taken to take the more complicated but ultimately more rewarding route and build two. Several years of seeking various approvals followed, and when all were in place the old manse was auctioned and sold for a pleasing \$1.3 million.

With careful selection and much design tweaking, two 'project homes' were built. Synod manse requirements were kept in mind, and both are now in use as manses. Careful oversight ensured that the project came in around \$100,000 under the approved budget, despite the many issues and unexpected matters that arose along the way.

"Once the remaining funding was more certain, other projects could be taken up," Ian continues.

An impressive figure of around \$300,000 now remains from the Property Sales Proceeds to be shared with wider church. Hampton's former



property liabilities of a dilapidated manse and a disused tennis court have been transformed into the valuable assets of two brand new homes and a completely renovated suite of church buildings. "What's not to like?" says a relieved and pleased Ian as the various projects draw to a close.



JOAN STOTT UCAF BURSARY

Are you:

- committed to or already studying for leadership or theology within the ethos of the Uniting Church
- under 35 years of age

Could you use funds to:

- pay fees to your "Place of Study"
- pay for additional courses or resources

Apply now for a Joan Stott Uniting Church Adult Fellowship (UCAF) Bursary for study in 2017

Contact:

David Wang for more information and an application form E:

david.wang@victas.uca.org.au

Applications closing date is Tuesday 31st May



Golden milestone for a golden couple

Rev Deacon Val and Rev Peter Aumann who have served in so many Victorian parishes over the years, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Thursday 18th February with friends from the Stonnington Community Uniting Church (formerly Ewing Memorial) and also from the Synod Archives where Peter is one of the volunteers. The chosen venue was the Glasshouse Cafe, Caulfield Racecourse.

They also celebrated this milestone at their home with family and friends on Saturday 13th February.



A fond farewell for Eileen in thanks for her service

THERE were smiles and more than a twinge of sadness at the release of ties service at Sandringham recently.

On 27th December, 2015, a service of release of ties and retirement was conducted by Rev Fiona Winn for Rev Eileen Ray, pictured above, at Sandringham Uniting Church.

Members of the congregation thanked Rev Eileen Ray for her leadership, her guidance and her community initiatives with play groups, Messy Church and social justice concerns. Thanks were also extended to Rob Allen for his regular assistance in services with music.



The Language of Love Festival

@

Bentleigh

April 30, 2016

Come, hear and see exhibitions,
music, and join in
activities like Patting the Ponies
it's about love in all its forms

Watch for further advertising
or enquire at
bentleighuca@bigpond.com

Sponsored by



Our symbol - two people in a heartfelt
conversation

**'Life's lessons'
by Rev Ross Stanford**

A COUPLE of years ago I took the funeral of the son of one of our members, who had been intellectually handicapped from birth.

His sister gave a most moving eulogy, including some reflection on the effect that this man had on the lives of his family. I spoke with her afterwards and she gave me permission to use it. Her words speak volumes about what is truly important in life and capture the essence of the Christian ethic. *"... I have always felt very protective of my little brother and watched and cared over him all of my life as have my brother and sisters. (My family) would probably agree that our worry for Pete was teaching him life skills and enduring the hardships of life, and keeping him safe. Our roles as teacher and his as student was a life time lesson. But, as I sat with him in his last few days and talked about the life he's had and the experiences we've*

Reflections on Faith

Students show they're pretty 'andy with the irons on new course



shared, I came to the realization that somewhere along the line our roles had been reversed. He was the teacher and we were the students. Very early on in a small country town - back in the 1950's and 60's - the attitude to the disabled was very different, especially amongst children. During that time I learnt about discrimination, about standing up for the underdog. I learnt through Pete not to judge people by the way they looked or the colour of their skin but what was in their heart. He taught us patience and empathy. He taught us to love the simple things in life, to accept things that we cannot change

It was fantastic to have media personality Andy Lee visit the Cornish Links Golf Course

and to appreciate our family. He taught us about endurance and the sort of deep love one can have for a sibling. But most of all he taught us courage - courage with dignity. This beautiful gentle man taught us some of life's most intricate lessons..."

recently to hear more about Cornish College's Golf Leadership Program. Andrew Thomas "Andy" Lee is an Australian comedian and musician. He usually works alongside Hamish Blake as part of the comedy duo Hamish & Andy. Year 1 Cornish student Luis soundly beat Andy on the first hole – view the short video on Twitter (@Andy_Lee and also @cornish_college. Golf Program Coordinator, Mr Sean Kirschenberg and Chaplain/Golf Coach Mr Jarrod Davies were on hand to show Andy our wonderful course - the first 9 hole golf course at a school in Australia and specifically designed for children.

Call to action from young adult leaders for life-changing conference

THE National Young Adult Leaders Conference gathers young adults from many diverse cultures to be inspired, coached, encouraged and developed as leaders and disciples in a highly relational community. In 2016, NYALC will be held at the Gold Coast on 8-13 July.

At NYALC 2016 young adults participate in daily worship and Bible studies. They are encouraged to listen and learn from the faith and cultures of one another through small groups and intentional conversations. The young adults will visit a local ministry and mission projects and reflect on the contextual theology and leadership approaches of these ministries. They will be empowered to discover or deepen their contribution to the Uniting Church as a missional movement. NYALC is about learning from

one another's stories across many cultures and from an amazing team of mentors including President Stuart McMillan and the Chair of the UAICC, Rev. Dennis Corowa. Participants have their eyes opened to the richness of the Uniting Church, and most of all they are encouraged in their Christian faith. They also have a lot of fun!

For more details and applications: <https://assembly.uca.org.au/news/item/1806-mentoring-our-young-leaders>

Another 'Hot' Church event for Rev Ray McCluskey

A NEWLY ordained minister from Gippsland Presbytery was inducted at Monash UC in front of a totally-full church with many church members, guests - especially from the Presbytery of Gippsland - in attendance.

It was one of the best attended events by members of Presbytery for a long time. Ray spoke briefly about his ordination held last December in 45 degree heat and with a failure of the church's air-conditioner.

It certainly wasn't as hot at his induction but it was still a very warm occasion in all aspects.

Rev Dr Robert Johnson led his first induction since his installation as



Presbytery Chair, Rev Liz McMillan preached a heart-warming sermon. The new Presbytery Secretary Mr Ian

Firth also spoke words of welcome and the resolution of the Presbytery to the congregation. Monash UC celebrated its cultural diversity as a part of the induction and the Monash Choir sung a wonderful song "Alleluia, Praise to God" accompanied by a special church band.

Ray who formerly had a career in Information Technology (IT) is a most welcome addition to not only the congregation but to the Presbytery as well.

Pictured at Rev Ray McCluskey's induction are also the Rev Philip Liebelt, the Rev Ann Simons, his two friends and fellow travellers along with Rev Robert Johnson and Ian Firth.

Quote

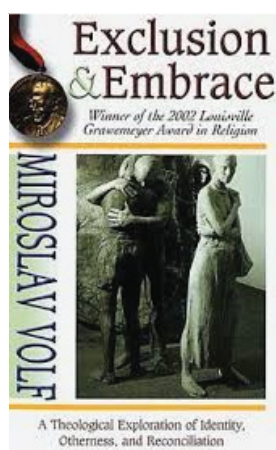
Life is like a camera...
Focus on what's important,
Capture the good times,
Develop from the negatives,
 And if things don't work out,
Take another shot.

of the month...

AN IMPORTANT Multi-faith Conference on issues of faith and meaning in the lived experience of disability is planned for August this year.

Prof Hans Reinders and Rev Bill Gaventa, will add their voice to a special Exclusion & Embrace Conference at the Jasper Hotel, Melbourne on August 21-23, 2016.

Organiser Andy Calder, says: "Multi-faith Conferences such as this one bring people together who wish to explore the understandings and experiences of disability and spirituality. These are rare occurrences in Australasia. The name of the Conference is drawn from a book with a similar title, written by Miroslav Volf, and acknowledges the struggles and joys that are found in the experience of disability and faith. Among the themes explored will be ethics, care, inclusion in faith communities,



friendship, discrimination, love, justice, liberation.

The Conference will include keynote presentations, concurrent sessions and an Art Exhibition.

In addition to spoken presentations and workshops, there will also be stories, poetry and song. The closing date for Abstracts is 10 April, 2016

Registrations are now open with Early Bird prices set till 17 June 2016. It is recommended people take advantage of the early registration as numbers are capped at 160. Further details from Ann

Byrne at ann.byrne@victas.uca.org.au 03 9251 5404.

A few places are still up for grabs at special conference



Uniting Church in Australia
SYNOD OF VICTORIA AND TASMANIA

FIJI CYCLONE APPEAL

**Cyclone Winston: Lives lost
and hundreds left homeless**



Photo: ABC News

DONATIONS: Call 1800 668 426 or visit www.shareappeal.org.au

Our friends in Fiji are suffering widespread destruction in the aftermath of Cyclone Winston, which hit on Saturday 20th February.

Reports to date indicate that 29 people are confirmed dead and around 14,000 people are sheltering in evacuation centers. Whole villages have been destroyed, particularly on the island of Koro where a relief and assessment ship is being deployed.

Share has launced an emergency appeal with donations supporting UnitingWorld's partner, the Methodist Church in Fiji. The Methodist Church is the largest denomination in the country, covering an extensive network across 55 districts. President Rev Tevita Bainivanua has opened all church buildings for emergency shelter and has directed ministers throughout the country to assess and report on the extent of the damage.

According to UnitingWorld staff member Rev Dr Cliff Bird, who is on the ground in the capital of Suva, destruction has been "widespread and very bad."

"The Lau group of islands, Koro Island, villages on Vanua Levu and their township Savusavu have been hit very badly. Hundreds of homes have been lost, infrastructure damaged, farms, vegetable gardens, livelihoods destroyed. Water and power supply to many areas are still down," he said.

Donations will be forwarded to UnitingWorld and used to support the Methodist Church's relief efforts, including:

- re-establishing healthcare and schools
- replanting crops and livelihoods and
- 'building back better' to safeguard communities against future cyclones.

The Uniting Church has long been committed to assisting those in need, especially during times of crisis. Please consider contributing what you can, to stand beside our neighbours and to offer the practical support they desperately need at this time.

To donate, please complete the form below and return to PO Box 24154, Melbourne VIC 3001, call **1800 668 426** or visit **www.shareappeal.org.au**

YES! I want to help! Here is my gift to the Fiji Cyclone Appeal:



Donation Amount: \$

My details:

(Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss/Dr/Rev) First Name Surname

Address

Suburb State P/Code

Phone Email

Payment details: ☐ I enclose my cheque/money order (made payable to Share - Fiji Cyclone Appeal) OR

☐ Please debit my: ☐ Mastercard ☐ Visa ☐ Amex

Card Number Expiry Date /

Name on card Signature

Donations \$2 or more are tax deductible.

Share - Fiji Cyclone Appeal | PO Box 24154, Melbourne VIC 3001 | **Phone:** 1800 668 426 **Fax:** (03) 9251 5491

ALL are invited to walk the Dadirri Labyrinth ('Dadirri' is an Aboriginal word meaning 'inner deep listening and quiet still awareness and waiting') and enjoy a 'Quiet Day' from 10am to 4pm at Bronwyn Pryor's private home on several selected Saturdays in 2016:

**April 16, May 21,
August 27, September
24, December 3 and
December 31.**

Led by Bronwyn and her family, these delightful days will be held at 60 Bass Meadows Boulevard, St Andrews Beach 3941. Phone: 5988 5257. Cost: \$10 / \$5. Please register by the previous Thursday evening.

Also, from 7-9 October Bron will conduct a Retreat "Introducing the Labyrinth Experience of Prayer" at Pallotti College, Millgrove. Further details are available by: Email: robron@pryor.org.au Website: dadirri.pryor.org.au

Parent power

The Pop-Up Parenting Seminars at Trinity Uniting Church promise to be very interesting and they are following on from the popular lectures delivered by Steve Biddulph in late 2014/early 2015.

Right is our poster explaining more details of what will be on offer.

Any questions, please do not hesitate to phone me on 0419 872 532.

Sincerely,
Ailsa Drent (for and on behalf of Trinity UCA Parenting Group.)

Be still, and know...



POP - UP PARENTING SEMINARS

 Find us on Facebook

Accomplished keynote speakers present on parenting challenges in the 21st century and across the lifespan to promote thought, discussion and action.

IMPACTS OF THE 21st CENTURY ON CHILDHOOD & PARENTING

Dr Daniel Donahoe
Producer & Writer (Huffington Post)

Tuesday 8 March
7:30pm

FAMILIES COPING - EFFECTIVE STRATEGIES FOR YOU AND YOUR CHILD

Associate Prof Dr Erica Frydenberg
Psychologist & Research Fellow

Tuesday 15 March
7:30pm

POSITIVE DEVELOPMENT ACROSS THE LIFESPAN

Dr Judy Crigan Melbourne Graduate
School of Education

Tuesday 19 April
7:30pm

TICKETS \$10 PER PERSON PER SEMINAR
WWW.TRYBOOKING.COM - SEARCH "TRINITY"

Enquiries to 0419 872 532

Trinity Uniting Church, 15 - 17 Black Street, Brighton

Suicide Prevention Forum 2016

Can we do more to save lives?

A day of information, education and
development
For mental health professionals and
support workers

Presented by UnitingCare's Creative
Ministries Network
March 8, 2016
at the Australian Nursing Federation,
540 Elizabeth Street, Melbourne

Australia's suicide rate is unacceptable. The national target is to cut death rate by half within 10 years. It is an ambitious target that will rely like never before on the expertise, collaboration and leadership of the "gatekeepers" within the mental health community and support agencies.

The Suicide Prevention Forum 2016 brings together mental health providers, counsellors, agencies, and others in this field to explore how to work together more effectively to save more lives.

Hear from leading suicide prevention specialists, community support advocates and those touched by the tragedy of suicide about the latest in the keys areas of:

- Providing support in non-clinical and clinical situations
- Acting as "gatekeepers" for those at risk
- Referrals for mental health intervention.

Who should attend? Psychologists, mental health practitioners, counsellors, support workers and representatives from service providers and support agencies.

All day event involving keynote speakers, personal accounts of the "lived experience", panel discussions and workshops.

Visit Events page <http://www.ucappep.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/Suicide-prevention-forum-flyer.pdf> for further details and how to apply.



Fie Marino was recently inducted as the new Multicultural Ministry Consultant with the NSW/ACT Synod Resourcing Team, on February 20, 2016. This follows his placement as NextGen Resource and Development Officer within the Commission for Mission Intercultural Unit, Synod of VicTas. We wish you well, Fie!

BECOMING AN INTERCULTURAL CHURCH



Friday, 13th May:
7.30 pm - 9.00 pm
Saturday, 14th May:
9.00 am - 4.00 pm

VENUE:
Koorang Uniting Church
117 Murrumbena Road,
Murrumbena

Cost: \$70
Early bird: \$60
Group booking (3 or more
from congregation, agency or CTM):
\$50 by early bird date

KEYNOTE SPEAKER:

Dr Rosemary Dewerse is the Mission Educator at St John's College in Auckland.

She is a Kiwi wife and mother. She has worked at the Adelaide College of Divinity and Flinders University as Director of Mission and coordinator of the postgraduate pathway where the emphasis was on training missional leaders for the Australasian context.

Dr Dewerse holds bachelor's degrees in arts and music, is a trained schoolteacher, and completed a Master's degree at the London School of Theology and a PhD at Auckland University.

She lived and worked in Central Asia developing leaders for the church there, and for a number of years was part of a Pasifika congregation in Christchurch.

She is the author of *Breaking Galabashes: Becoming an Intercultural Community*, which offers four practices for creating communities that welcome and empower all people.

WHO IS IT FOR?

It is hoped that many Ministers and those in leadership in the Church in the Synod will take the opportunity to come and explore and learn how we could minister effectively and meaningfully in a multi-cultural Church that is seeking to be intercultural.

CONTACT & REGISTER:

Dev Anandaranjan on 03 9251 5486 or
Devanandan.Anandaranjan@victas.
uca.org.au.

COME AND JOIN US!

REGISTRATIONS CLOSE: FRIDAY, 29TH APRIL
EARLY BIRD REGISTRATIONS CLOSE: FRIDAY, 1ST APRIL
GROUP BOOKINGS CLOSE: FRIDAY, 1ST APRIL

College growth and expansion is testament to Kerry's years of service

A LASTING tribute to Kerry Bolger has been opened by the man himself.

The new Kerry Bolger Centre at Cornish College was officially opened by former Principal, Mr Kerry Bolger, on Friday 26 February, 2016.

The new building houses six classrooms for Years 4, 5 and 6 students, along with breakout spaces. Mr Bolger was the Founding Principal of Cornish College when it opened in 2012, until he retired at the end of 2015. Prior to this, Mr Bolger was Head of Cornish Campus, St Leonard's College, for over 20 years. Mr Bolger cut the ribbon with assistance from some of the Primary Student Leaders.

He says: "I was delighted to open the new building as it is testimony to what a community can achieve when



it pools its resources and works with persistence. I hope the students enjoy the wonderful learning environment and it will inspire them to be the best they can be". At the opening, The Kerry Bolger Centre was dedicated by Rev Dr Robert Johnson, Chairperson, Cornish College Council. The Year 4 EcoKids grew cuttings of Pigface, an indigenous groundcover, for all of the guests to take home. It is drought tolerant and suitable for sandy soils.

The building is part of a broader building improvement program the school is undertaking as a result of significant growth in student numbers. There are 615 ELC to Year 12 students at Cornish

College this year, up from 543 students in 2015. The College opened in 2012 with 220 students.

Cornish College's motto is Make a Difference and at its core is the development of independence, compassion and personal excellence in order for students to make a positive contribution for a sustainable future.

Future developments at the College will include a Senior Learning Centre for Years 10 to 12, a new Middle School Wing for Years 7 to 9 and the re-development of the Arts, Drama and Music facilities.

Back row, L-R: Cr Angela Long, City of Greater Dandenong, Mr Tim Richardson MP, Member for Mordialloc, Ms Vicki Steer, Principal, Cornish College, Mr Kerry Bolger, former Principal. Front row L-R: Adam, Gemma, Sophie, Aaron, The Hon. Mark Dreyfus QC MP, Federal Member for Isaacs.





Dates for your diary

- a) Christine MacDowall's induction at Sandringham Uniting Church - Sunday 20 March at 3pm.
- (b) St Andrew's Gardiner Congregation final service - Sunday, 10th April 2016 at 2.30pm

Bayside attraction for new Sandringham minister

Rev Christine MacDowall has accepted a Call to be 0.6 Minister of the Word at Sandringham UCA, commencing in March.

Christine has previously been Minister at Brighleigh, and following its closure and sale as part of Uniting Our Future has been more recently providing long term Supply Ministry at Koornang. The congregation at Sandringham is delighted that Christine will be joining them. Christine says, "I am looking forward very much to joining the Sandringham congregation, getting to know them and to meeting my ecumenical colleagues and the local community."

She adds, "I come with Bible in one hand and bucket and spade in the other, seeking Gospel treasure in the people and down on the beach!"



Presbytery in Council meeting dates for 2016:



- **Saturday, 21 May no longer at Noble Park due to the fire. TBA**
- **Saturday, 16 July TBA**
- **Wednesday, 28 September at St John's Mt Waverley**
- **Wednesday, 23 November at Cook Island Congregation at Clayton**

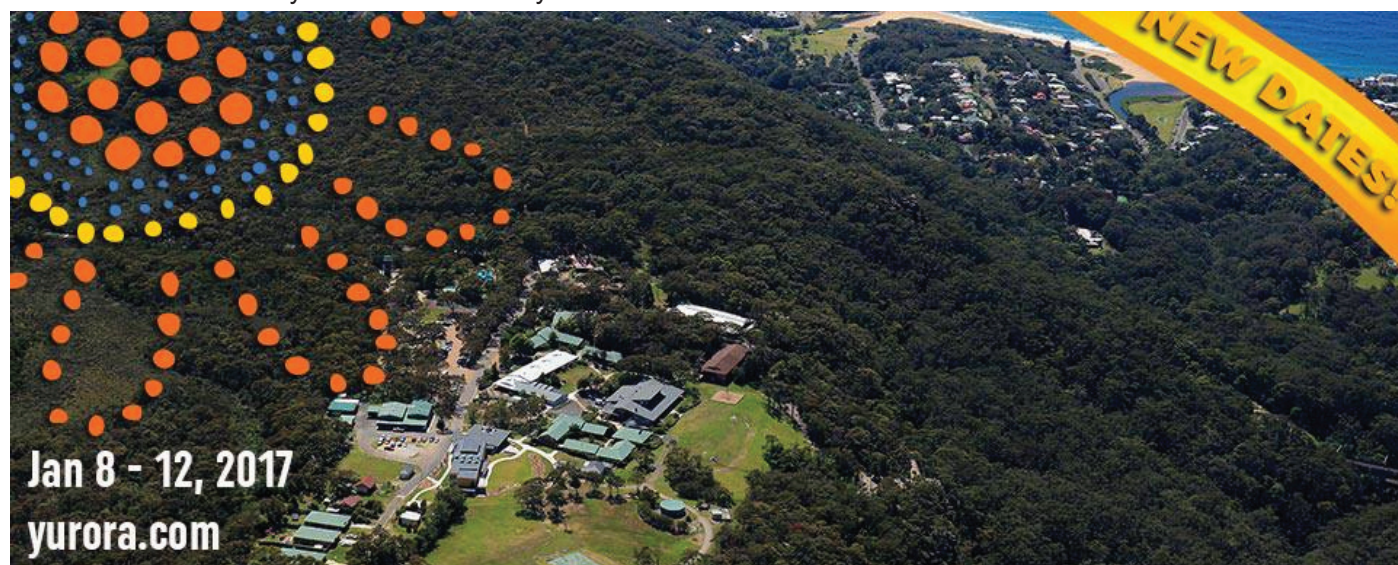
NCYC dates and location announced!

Yurora National Christian Youth Convention 2017 is now under way. So many fantastic young people and their mentors! So many different cultural groups and youth cultures represented. So much goodwill, energy, faith, life and vitality! 2017's NCYC builds on that great foundation. Soooo exciting! NCYC's have Bible studies, electives and workshops from great leaders from across the country and overseas. They have



Please note that as we have sufficient nominations the time to nominate for Synod 2016 has closed and no further nominations can be accepted.

dynamic worship experiences and huge community gatherings. They are great places to meet, greet and hang out with other young Christians. They are for young people between 16 and 25 and their leaders. For more details on this exciting event visit www.yurora.com



Jan 8 - 12, 2017
yurora.com

The NEW Port Phillip East Presbytery website is an exciting additional resource tool for communication across our churches, agencies, schools and communities. We welcome submissions to the website, Newsbeat and Facebook, but should advise that photographs may be used across all unless instructed otherwise when submitted.

Visit the Presbytery website at www.ucappep.org and www.facebook.com/ucappep.org for news, events and more....

The views expressed by contributors and editorial to Newsbeat are not necessarily the views of the Presbytery.