

NEWSBEAT



NOVEMBER 2018

NEWSLETTER FOR THE PRESBYTERY OF PORT PHILLIP EAST



Feeling burnt out in your ministry? It could be time to Come Aside... Stroll over to page 5 to find out how.

Exploring different faiths can shine new light on our own beliefs. Members at Ormond Uniting shared several journeys of discovery recently. For a piece of the pie roll on to page 7.



Drought-stricken farmers receive an outpouring of compassion from St David's

BACK in August, a keen group of members of St David's, Uniting Church, Beaumaris met for a workshop about finding ways to witness to our community. The idea of a fundraiser for farmers who are struggling with drought in western NSW was suggested and received



unanimous approval. Money raised was to go equally to "Buy a Bale" and the Uniting Church's Frontier Service workers in the area. The date was set for Sunday 23rd September, following our morning services.

The whole church enthusiastically participated in the event which was held mainly in the church carpark where it was seen by people in the neighbourhood. It included an amazing craft group stall, cake stall, BBQ sausages, fun things for kids, and loud music played by our church band. A delicious



Devonshire tea was served in the foyer and on the veranda.

Church members made a point of connecting with new people who attended and useful conversations took place and encouraged some to come with their children to our school holiday kids' movie days, attended by up to 100



Cont. on page 2



Bill continues to heed God's call at 103

Rev Bill Morgan celebrated his birthday, 103 years young, on 23rd October 2018. Bill is a much loved and respected member of Glen Waverley Uniting Church. Bill was ordained 73 years ago in the Presbyterian Church and still has a passion for his life calling to exercise ministry.

Bill has a passion for leading worship and preaching, takes seriously the responsibility of presiding at the sacraments, and to this day, often by phone now, offers a well received pastoral ministry. Bill has a great interest in the church and a caring concern for the future of the church.

Rev Neil Peters has invited Bill to preach at the 11 am service at Glen Waverley on Sunday 18th November where Neil and Bill will jointly preside at Holy Communion. Both Bill and Neil are very much looking forward to sharing this service together.



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Congratulations to our Intermediate SIS debating team.

After several rounds and today's finals, the team (made up of Year 9 students Annabelle, Amelia, Sara and Jordan) have returned to Cornish College with a win after being the affirmative in the debate topic: "that Australians should have to obtain a license to vote."

During each round of competition this year, a member of the Cornish team has won best-speaker, with Jordan taking the prize today. Congratulations team!



Cont. from front page



Bringing the community together at Beaumaris

COME along to the Annual Twilight Fete & Community Event at Beaumaris Uniting Church (St Martins) on Friday 9 November, Corner Dalgetty Road and Gibbs Street, Beaumaris. It commences at 3pm and runs through until 8pm in the evening. Lots of stalls to choose from, including Cakes, Jams, Craft, Christmas Gifts; Pre-Loved Books, Clothing, Plants and a White Elephant Stall.

Also fun for the children - Face Painting, Toys, Sweets and a Jumping Castle plus a range of activities in the Day Kinder. Enjoy a tea or coffee, a sausage sizzle with family and friends or stay for a delightful evening meal.

Words by Anne Bergen
Photos by Shelley Hyde

children. Altogether, \$7,770 was raised for the farmers, including a donation of \$2,000 from our local Bendigo Bank.



BEAUMARIS UNITING CHURCH
CORNER DALGETTY RD & GIBBS STREET BEAUMARIS

TWILIGHT FETE
FRIDAY 9TH NOV
3:00 - 8:00pm

Fun For Everyone
Yummy Meals from 5pm
Kids Activities
Jumping Castle
Bargain Stalls Galore



Folk enjoy the snags and trivia at this Great Aussie Outback BBQ

MORE than 50 people joined together at Ormond Uniting for a BBQ to raise funds for Frontier Services. Frontier Services provides practical and pastoral care to people living in the outback who struggle with significant mental health issues as well as social isolation. A particular need at the moment is chaplaincy and practical support for farmers in the drought affected areas of NSW. People in remote Australia are 10 times more likely to commit suicide than people living in metropolitan areas. A delicious meal of sausages, salads, and sweets was

enjoyed by participants. The group organising the event was delighted that all of the money raised will find its way to Frontier Services. A total of over \$1,800 was raised. An Outback Quiz tested our general knowledge of Australia, as well as our knowledge of the early years of Frontier Services.

An Aussie Film puzzle had many of us scratching our heads – so many films that we almost remembered!

The event was a spectacular success thanks to generous donations from local shops, and plenty of willing workers on the day.

Proceeds help support community outreach programs in Frankston and beyond.

Food Fair

Friday 16 November

5.30pm to 8pm

High Street Uniting Church
16-18 High Street, Frankston

JOIN US for a festival of international food, cakes, a coffee cart, and other delicious fare. There are gourmet hampers to be won, fancy goods stalls, live entertainment and more!

ALL WELCOME

New office for better service

THERE is to be a new Uniting office opening at 321 Ferntree Gully Road, Mount Waverley. This is an exciting step for Uniting, providing us with the opportunity to bring together support and services staff from across the eastern suburbs of Melbourne. This includes relocating teams from and closing the offices at Brandon Business Park, 530-540 Springvale Road, Glen Waverley (formerly the Uniting lifeAssist office) and 1012 Little Burwood Hwy, Wantirna South (formerly the Uniting Harrison office). We remain as active as ever providing necessary and valuable services to the communities we work alongside in the area. We will offer a range of services from the new Mount Waverley office including homelessness, housing, aged care and disability services. We are taking the opportunity of this move to strengthen the provision of housing and homelessness services by co-locating with local organisations in the Eastern Region who provide complementary services. As the community services organisation of the Uniting Church, our partnerships with local congregations are important. We look forward to deepening the links we have forged over many years and are as committed as ever to work for a just world, where all people can live with dignity, hope and opportunity. Visit www.vt.uniting.org or email gavin.blakemore@vt.uniting.org for information.

Dedicated volunteers flock to this Op Shop to Rededicate

ALTHOUGH the Western Port UC Op Shop has been operating successfully for about 12 years the Shop was re-dedicated during a Parish Service at Crib Point recently. The Op Shop was established in 2006 through the generosity of the Burley family, substantial Parish support, extensive volunteer assistance aided by considerable community contributions. Since then it has become a neighbourhood icon accepting good quality merchandise to raise much needed funds for the Western Port Parish and a wide range of church and local organisations. Over the years an estimated \$150,000 in donations and grants have been forwarded to numerous UC appeals and projects and many community groups addressing disadvantaged families or improving their facilities have benefited from the proceeds. So, why re-dedicate the shop? Again, through the benevolence of the Burley family, Parish and parishioner contributions the Uniting Church now owns the freehold to the property and the Parish has this exceptional opportunity to advance its missional activities. The Dedication service on September 30, was conducted by the Rev. Wal Baker assisted by the inaugural chairperson of the Committee, Isobel Anderson who cut the ribbon at the Shop. She recalled the early days of fitting out the Shop, recruiting staff, establishing procedures and building up the business. She acknowledged the wonderful dedicated work of the many



Isobel Anderson - inaugural chair of the Op Shop Committee who cut the ribbon at the Rededication Ceremony reflecting on the success of the Op Shop with Don Bone a recently retired chair of the Op Shop Committee.

volunteers who had made the Shop a resounding success. Representatives of the three congregations,

Balnarring, Crib Point and Hastings bought forward items to signify the services the Op Shop offers. At the conclusion of the Dedication Service a light lunch was enjoyed by about fifty people.

Committee of Management Chair Shirley Nickels said the Op Shop is an integral component of the Western Port communities. It is well supported by about forty volunteers, provides social interaction, offers a vast range of excellent low priced quality goods, enhances personal skills and satisfies community service requirements. The place hums along for three and a half days per week with endless tasks to perform to keep the Shop neat and tidy, doing back room jobs, stocking shelves and arranging display windows. But it is much more than that said Shirley, "it has become a social focus for people to meet, greet and browse in a welcoming place". It is expected the Op Shop will continue to fulfil this essential community service well into the foreseeable future.



Part of the crowd who gathered in the Op Shop to witness the Rededication Ceremony.

by
Colin Watt

A COMMUNITY EVENT HELD SINCE 1993

HILLTOP MARKET

SATURDAY

17 NOVEMBER 2018

9am - 2pm

- CAKES
- CRAFT
- PLANTS
- BOOKS
- JEWELLERY
- WHITE ELEPHANT
- GOURMET FOODS
- CHRISTMAS GIFTS
- SAUSAGES/BURGERS
- FRAMES & PAINTINGS
- CLASSIC & ANTIQUE CARS
- OAKLEIGH BRASS BAND

In cooperation with St John's and St Luke's Uniting Churches

High Street Road Uniting Church
Mount Waverley
 482 High St Road Mt Waverley - Cnr Stewart St
 Melway 61 G12

Market 2018 | FLYER A4 2018 Rev 5 Borders

Calling all ministers to 'Come Aside'

THIS will be a retreat day with a distinct aim of 'coming aside' and purposefully evaluating how we are going, with respect to our current ministry/work context: mentally, spiritually and physically (including evaluating burnout).

Self-care, self-assessment and evaluating our ministry. "Are we in the right ministry going into 2019?"

The intention is that this day will offer a mixture of refreshment, evaluation, discernment but most importantly people will leave the day with a sense of resolution, clarity and action points for what is needed to be done. We not only need the space for this but the reflections of others. Input on the importance of self-care and structured self-care will also be part of the day.

Often times there is a 'mission within a mission' aligning more with our gifts, interests and desire but we need time to reflect on it and understand it better. For some of us the workplace/ ministry setting is simply draining or not using our gifts, training, skills and desires to their potential. For example, there are an increasing amount of people who are 'entrepreneurs' and creating what their ideal ministry would look like. How can we be using our gifts and talents more wisely and effectively? How do we reduce the potential for stress, burnout and our work impacting on our mental health and personal lives? There will be an offer of: supervision sessions, access to Spiritual Direction, creative thinking/ experiencing workshops, time to reflect and

meditation sessions (for those of you who wish to relearn or learn anew).

With the emphasis on slowing down, being mindful and caring for self, this is a strategic opportunity to invest in your future ministry.

Venue: Wellspring Centre, 10 Y St, Ashburton.

Parking: Plenty in street and local area- just across the road from train station.

Date: 24 November 2019. 10am (come earlier for a coffee/ tea) to 4pm. Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea provided.

Facilitators: James & Jo Lewis and Marcel Koper.

Cost: \$120.00 (early bird until 3 Nov \$100.00- quote code: earlybird). Donation on day towards lunch (sushi and sandwiches). Min number of participants 10- Max 25. Payment Link: <https://www.stickytickets.com.au/76695>



Message

"You shouldn't feel guilty about taking time for yourself. Every so often, everyone needs to give themselves a big ol' bear hug and treat themselves to some TLC."

**Sean Covey
of the month**

"Indoor" GARAGE SALE & Clothing Clearance – all clothing in hall – 50c each



SATURDAY 24th November 2018

from - 9am – 1pm

At Springvale Uniting Church
Balmoral & Albert Ave, Springvale.

- * Morning Tea/Lunch
- * Household items
- * Op Shop bargains
- * Toys
- * Home - made cakes
- * Gifts, jewellery,
- * Christmas gifts & decorations
- & lots more



Rev Dr Sean Winter
Head of College
together with the Faculty and
Staff warmly invites you to

PILGRIM THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE 2018 END OF YEAR SERVICE

4.00pm, Friday 2 November, 2018
Followed by refreshments

RSVP

Please RSVP before Friday 26 October to
Anita Beer
anita.beer@victas.uca.org.au

On-street parking only

The Centre for Theology & Ministry
29 College Crescent, Parkville VIC 3052
Tel. 03 9340 8800 • Fax. 03 9340 8805
study@pilgrim.edu.au • www.pilgrim.edu.au



Refugee Council of Australia

The Melbourne Annual Consultation Workshop of the Refugee Council of Australia is fast approaching: Tuesday 13 November from 9.15am-4.30pm. Details are below.

WHAT: Refugee Council of Australia (RCOA's) Annual Consultations Workshop

WHERE: Uniting Church 130 Little Collins Street, Melbourne

WHEN: Tuesday 13 November 9.30am-4.30pm (9.15am for 9.30am SHARP)

REGISTRATION: at http://refugeecouncilaus.nationbuilder.com/annual_consultations_workshop_melbourne or call (03) 9600 3302 (please register by Thursday 8 November) For more information and to sign their petition to ask the government to Get Kids Off Nauru visit <https://www.refugeecouncil.org.au/>

facebook

Spotted on



Technicolour tree-coat

TWO very big Joseph's out the front of St. Andrews and Carrum. I big thank you to all the members that made all

the bright colourful squares. A big thank you to my long suffering installing husband again too, *writes craft and sewing queen Elizabeth Alexandrou.*



STANDARD MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID COURSE



Learn skills and gain confidence to assist friends, family and co-workers experiencing mental health problems.

Mental health first aid is the help provided to a person who is developing a mental health problem, experiencing a worsening of a mental health problem or in a mental health crisis. The first aid is given until the appropriate professional help is received or the crisis resolves.

If you're interested in attending this course, please use contact details below to enrol. Hurry limited spots available!

LOCATION: Murumbeena Uniting Church
DATE: 3 & 4 Dec 2018. 9am to 5pm
PRICE: \$210.00. Early bird \$185.00 before 18 Nov 2018.
MHFA INSTRUCTOR(S): Marcel Koper
CONTACT NUMBER: 0422955084
EMAIL: tba

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Tea and lunch provided.
 For accreditation it is required that people attend both days.
 For any questions about MHFA please Marcel 0422955084

COURSE INFORMATION

- 12-hour Standard Mental Health First Aid (SMHFA) course
- Course topics cover: developing mental health problems, depression, anxiety problems, psychosis and substance use problems, as well as suicide and other mental health crises.
- Participants receive a copy of the Standard MHFA manual
- Participants are eligible to become an accredited Mental Health First Aider.

Participants will learn the signs and symptoms of mental health problems, where and how to get help and what sort of help has been shown by research to be effective.

www.mhfa.com.au

A 'Standing Together Against Racism' rally will be held on Saturday, 2pm, Nov 10th at the State Library. Racism is on the rise. Media and politicians like Peter Dutton



and Matthew Guy continue to peddle baseless "law and order" panic. The Liberals' policies will increase vilification and deepen institutional racism. Their fear campaigns and policies do damage Indigenous people, African communities, and combined with anti-migrant, anti-refugee, and Islamophobic racism in Federal politics, are producing a more toxic racist environment. It's an important time to unite and stand together against racism. Join the rally on Saturday, 2pm, Nov 10th.

- Stop Political and Media Vilification
- Freedom of Association not Criminalisation
- Jobs, Education and Housing not Scapegoating

If you have any questions about the day or event. Please feel free to get in touch with the co-ordinator Jasmine Ali on 0423 795 42

Unlocking faith diversity and tolerance



THE Wednesday night home group at Ormond Uniting Church decided to explore aspects of the key faiths in Australia, in particularly monotheistic faiths of Judaism, Christianity and Islam. Plus the eastern faith of Buddhism, which is growing in popularity.



We thought it would be a great idea to explore this in a series of Multifaith Sunday Services in October to promote better understanding, dialogue and mutual tolerance. We then approached April Kailahi, *pictured below right*, the Interfaith Community Development person from the UCA Synod (VicTas), who provided us with a number of excellent resources and great contacts with suitable speakers for the services, all of whom were women of faith. Rev Andrew Boyle, and April, assisted each group with the service planning and also enlisted the talents of Christina Rowntree, Artful Faith Coordinator from UCA Synod, to create some appropriate intergenerational and creative art activities within the services.

The first service featured ministry student Fiona Bottcher, talked about coming to Christian faith later in life, from outside common faith journeys and experiencing a "baseball bat" moment that propelled her into her journey of faith. Her focus on what things were important in her life was refreshing and encouraging.

The opening hymn for all services was "All are Welcome" by Marty Haugen and a beautiful Liturgy for the Human Race was featured, along with lively discussion time for the congregation. Next up was Buddhism, featuring the personal experience of Cynthia MacKenzie, of Irish background, raised in Canada. Having experienced a feeling of incompleteness in adult life, following a critical illness, she discovered Buddhism and the sense of peace and contentment that had eluded her.

Chris Rowntree and April Kailahi invited members of the congregation, to create a beautiful mandala and/or to write a prayer on a colourful prayer flag, or to discuss some faith experience that related to things Cynthia had spoken about. Later Cynthia conducted a short-guided meditation session, which

many participants found beneficial. The third Sunday explored Islamic faith and the joyful and engaging Amna Iqbal spoke clearly about the five pillars of Islam and explained them in very relational terms and anecdotes. Following this Christina Rowntree read some beautiful poetry from the 13th century Persian Islamic poet Rumi, and invited listeners to close their eyes and to try to focus on a phrase or word that resonated for them. Amna then spoke

about her defining moment when she experienced the presence of Allah profoundly, after experiencing jarring racial and religious intolerance during a homestay in Spain. She

then spoke positively about her personal experience of the practice of Islam and how this has impacted her life thus far. Much lively discussion among the congregation ensued.

The final service on Judaism, from Pam Spiegel, from Etz Chayim Progressive Synagogue was still to come at the time of writing, but some of the congregation participated in a Jewish service there. It was a wonderful experience seeing the Torah welcomed and read as the climax of a richly liturgical service. A special intercultural morning tea and forum discussion with all four speakers will explore challenging social impact questions arising from living out one's faith in today's society.



**JESUS^{THE}
GAME CHANGER**

**MURRUMBEENA
UNITING CHURCH**
117 MURRUMBEENA ROAD

**LAST TWO
SESSIONS**

**1PM - 2.30PM
ON THURSDAYS:**

1 NOV: WEALTH
8 NOV: REASON & SCIENCE

For further information:
office@murrumbeenauniting.org.au

Are we prepared?

THE Mission Development Committee is hosting an event on **November 14, 2018 at the Presbytery office in Noble Park between 7.30pm and 9.30pm** for anyone who is interested in hearing and discussing research on how, other denominations and Port Phillip West Presbytery, have supported their congregations for post-Christendom.

One of the key tasks of stage two of Port Phillip East Presbytery's 'cultivating a new future' process - carried out by Phil McCredden, was to prepare ourselves to create the way we will support congregations in engaging the post-Christendom context. During Stage 3 we will be creating a process and piloting it with a small number of congregations that are interested in being part of the experiment.

To prepare and spark our thinking and imagination, during Stage 2, Phil has undertaken some research on the following tasks:

1. Research the experiences of other denominations who have undertaken similar cultural change processes for both their denominational systems and congregations.
2. Research the implementation, operation and results of the Fresh Expression experience at Port Phillip West Presbytery which attempts to generate new innovative expressions.

If you would like to join the MDC at this event please let Ian Firth know on secretary@ucappep.org

**by Rev Greg Fry
Convener MDC**

Changing times for our Presbytery

REV Ineke Gyles got the meeting off to a good start with thoughtful worship which focussed on acceptance.

By way of illustration she asked Presbytery members to say what cameras they had used. Box brownies and polaroids are among those mentioned.

Ineke then asked how people take photos today. And, of course the answers were with phone and iPads. A big change. Ineke went on to say that our Presbytery is facing a time of great change and this is also an exciting time. Her remarks were a good foundation when Presbytery came to consider accepting Stages 3 & 4 of the *Cultivating a New Future* work being undertaken by Phil McCredden from Ecclesia. In speaking to his report, Phil said that the hard work was now done and that there was some excitement in engaging in stages 3 & 4.

But the highlight of the meeting was the Presbytery's unanimous support that, subject to certain conditions, Heather Hon should be ordained.

Heather shared some of her journey with the Presbytery and said she had learnt much in her time at Pilgrim College.

The Presbytery also decided that, in this time of change and that new Presbytery ministers are to be appointed, that it would extend the terms of Rev Andrew Boyle, Presbytery Chairperson and Rev Cameron McAdam, Deputy Chairperson for another 3 months. Elections have also been put off until an appropriate time with the Presbytery agreeing that convenors and members of committees should remain in place until elections are held.



by Ian Firth

Final Presbytery in Council meeting date for 2018

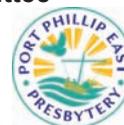
- **12 December, 2018**

ALL meetings will be held at Noble Park Uniting Church, jct of Joy Parade and Allan Street and will commence at

To see who represents Port Phillip East Presbytery on the current Standing Committee

visit:

<http://www.ucappep.org/about-ppep/key-people/>



SAFE CHURCH TRAINING – SOUTH EASTERN REGION

NOVEMBER 2018

ORMOND UNTING CHURCH, Corner of North Rd & Booran Rd, ORMOND.

Ormond UCA will be running two training sessions during November, maximum of 80 people per session.

Time as follows: Saturday, 10 November – 2:00 to 4:00pm.

Don't miss this opportunity to complete your safe church training before the year ends, remember, all employees and volunteers within the Uniting Church are required to attend.

Tea, coffee and biscuits will be available. Registrations will open on Monday 8th October and close on Sunday 28th October, or when full.

Enquiries or booking to our church office, phone 9578–1553 or email on office@ormond.unitingchurch.org.au

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 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....