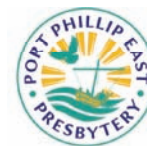


# NEWSBEAT



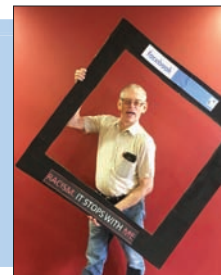
APRIL 2019

NEWSLETTER FOR THE PRESBYTERY OF PORT PHILLIP EAST



When the cameras came to the gym class: Cast your lenses over this reality TV moment on page 4.

Racism has no home in this community-focussed church. Newsbeat frames their diversity with a picture story on page 5.



## A powerful symbol of solidarity amidst the shock and sorrow

THE blood-soaked dust of the Christchurch mosques had hardly settled...

Stories, details and images of horror and sadness continue to pour out of this peaceful and friendly country, testing the believability that such a terrible event could happen in such a place.

A place of worship, in New Zealand, a country that has worked so hard to integrate and accept all people.

In the midst of the grief and sorrow, there have been many stories of courage, bravery and sacrifice, and people being saved "because they were late or not where they would normally be." It has also been encouraging to see how this event has been a catalyst for expressing solidarity with the Muslim community.

In a letter of support from the Christchurch inter-city churches to the Muslim community, they wrote:



*"In this frightening and disorienting situation, one thing I am sure of. We must not let this change us, make us fear more, or be less open to each other. Indeed I hope it helps us double-down on compassion, and care, and connection. The only force stronger than hate is love – as it always has been."*

**Words and installation by Rev Philip Liebelt, St John's UCA, Elsternwick**

## A meeting of minds

THERE are plenty of reasons to be hopeful about the future relationship between Australia's First Peoples and the Government - as the Village Church found out recently. For a small group from this Mount Eliza church and the VicTas Synod welcomed the Victorian Treaty Advancement Commissioner, Jill Gallagher in mid-March to hear more on what is happening towards forming a state treaty between the Government and First Peoples.

**by Rev Cameron McAdam**

We shared with Jill and her staff information about the Uniting Church's covenant with the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress, the Uniting Church preamble to its constitution and the more recent Assembly 2018 resolution on sovereignty.

At a local level we shared about our desire to build relationship with the First Peoples, our developing friendship with Willum Warrain, last year's camp, the Change the Heart service in January and the bush tucker garden. Jill spoke about her personal story, the journey towards a treaty and her work as commissioner to establish the First Peoples Assembly of Victoria which will have 33 elected traditional owners across five



Cont. on page 3

Port Phillip East Presbytery's vision & purpose: "Encouraging, resourcing and giving pastoral oversight to communities of faith and ministers entrusted to our pastoral care."



# Gospel can now preach for UCA

GOSPEL Ralte, who is an ordained Methodist Minister, and his wife, Grace, escaped Myanmar as refugees in December 2014, *writes Rev Ian Cayzer.*

They arrived initially at his sister's home in Mulgrave. They found the Mulgrave Uniting Church, who took them to their hearts, and helped support them financially. Rev Prof Howard Wallace, who was the Minister at the time, and later I helped him on his route into the Uniting Church Ministry.

Gospel had a Supply Ministry opportunity in Noble Park



which helped him into the rhythm of ministry in suburban Australia and he has been serving at Ulverstone since November, 2017. His children have so far been unable to leave Myanmar. They require medical checks

which the daughter has passed but Ebenezer has yet to achieve in order to get a visa to enter Australia.

## Hot off the press: A wonderful development...

Gospel told *Newsbeat*: "I received an email from Isabel Thomas Dobson as follows: "The Committee has unanimously resolved to recommend to the Synod Standing Committee that you be accepted as a Minister of the Word in the Uniting Church, subject to a certificate of completion being issued by the Assembly. Once Standing Committee has made its decision the presbytery will be informed and they will be asked to conduct a service of recognition. Thank you for your conversation today, and for your thoughtful reflection and insights. Our prayers continue with you, Grace, Gloria and Ebenezer."

Concerning our Children, Gloria passed her medical examination, whereas Ebenezer has to take further medical examination as his chest X-ray was unclear. So Eben has another medical appointment on 14 March, in

Yangon. They will start their first Uni semester exam on 18 March.

Please uphold him that this time he will be successful his medical examination.

Adds Gospel a few days later: "We are happy to share with you all that God has answered our prayer that Ebenezer's second medical examination has been successful. Today he signed and submitted the form which we reckon to be the last required document before issuing the awaited visa. Thank you all for your prayer-support. Our God is a great God."



*Cont. from front page*

under 30,000 are eligible to vote. All incarcerated

Aboriginal people will be eligible to vote. This Assembly will not negotiate treaty, but will establish the framework for a treaty, and the process for negotiating. The Assembly should be elected by September 2019. We were all surprised at how advanced this work was.

Aunty Jill was very generous with her time and willingness to share and listen. She expressed a gratefulness and even surprise at how clear the Uniting Church's voice was in support of sovereignty, treaty and the central importance of the Uluru Statement of the Heart as a basis for Treaty negotiations.

She appreciated, affirmed and encouraged our calling to build relationship, and asked us to encourage Aboriginal people to enrol and vote in this important step for voice and determination, and assist in publicly supporting the Treaty process and encouraging greater awareness and discussion among the wider non aboriginal community. It was a great honour to share this time with her.

## Uniting Church Historical Society 2019 Program

### LECTURE 1:

"Discovering Ecumenism and Asia: the Harvey Perkins story". Assoc. Professor Brian Howe, 2.30 pm, 28 April, Mountview Uniting Church, cnr Whitehorse Rd and Doncaster East Rd, Mitcham.

### UC NATIONAL HISTORY CONFERENCE:

"Finding a home in the Uniting Church". Friday evening 7th June – Monday 10th June, Centre for Theology and Ministry, Parkville. More information later.

### LECTURE 2:

"Rediscovering the Vision: the contribution of the Congregational, Methodist and Presbyterian churches in the formation of the Uniting Church in Australia". Rev. Dr D'Arcy Wood, 2.30 pm 18 August, The Avenue UC, Blackburn Road, Blackburn.

### HISTORIC CHURCHES OF MELBOURNE TOUR:

Visiting the Collins Street Baptist Church, The Scots' Church and St Paul's Cathedral for guided tours. 10 am–3.30 pm, Tuesday, 24th September.

Information: Geoff Paterson 0448740195.

Enquiries:  
Robert Renton  
0427 812 606



Uniting Church in Australia  
SYNOD OF VICTORIA AND TASMANIA



## A flipping great community

THE Mt Waverley Chadstone Uniting Churches cooked pancakes in the Mt Waverley Village on Shrove Tuesday. It was a very successful event with many local shoppers and traders supporting us. Jerry Ham, EO of Uniting Harrison; Gavin Blakemore, Mission and Ethos, Outreach; Revs Julie Ross, Semisi Tauali'i and James Douglas were all present. We cleared \$447 which we plan to donate to Uniting Harrison. **by Margery Kennett.**

*Pictured at Hamilton Place, Mt Waverley Foreground Jerry Ham, David Langley, Colin Adam. Background Judy Franklin and Rev Semisi Tauali'i.*



## Food Truck scoops prestigious award

THE Cranbourne Regional Uniting Church Food Truck was selected as a recipient of a 2019 Holt Australia Day Award.

These awards recognise the significant contribution groups, special members of the public, volunteers and philanthropists make to the community, sporting and service organisations in our local area.

At the Australia Day celebrations, the Hon Anthony Byrne MP led a ceremony at the Cranbourne Community Theatre. Phillip Start and Chris Marsh accepted the award on behalf of the 'The Cranbourne Food Truck' Volunteers.

Chris Marsh says: "The Cranbourne Food Truck commenced operation in January 2012 and provides free food to the homeless, poor and disadvantaged of the area. It operates four nights a week and is staffed entirely by volunteers. Thanks to all our volunteers for their dedication and compassion, without them the Truck wouldn't happen."

"Food is largely sourced from Foodbank and generous donations and F.U.N nights. With homelessness and unemployment on the rise and the downturn of manufacturing many people are struggling to put food on their plates, so the food truck promises a warm nutritious meal and companionship for people often isolated by their circumstances. However there are many ongoing expenses such as road taxes, petrol, insurance etc, so all donations are welcome. Call Chris Marsh on 0401 285 635 or email [cruca13@gmail.com](mailto:cruca13@gmail.com)



## Bowled over



The Barefoot Bowls Fundraiser was a great, if a little chilly, night, with a sausage sizzle, raffle and silent

auction. There were approx 20 teams of 4 playing, with

each team playing two games. Unfortunately Team Food Truck lost it's first match, however our second game was a close one with us leading for the first 4 ends, drawing in the 5th and just losing by 2 points in the 6th and final end. A big thank you to all those at Bendigo Bank Cranbourne who organised the event, to Cranbourne Bowling Club for hosting and to all the local businesses who donated items for the silent auction. Over a \$1,000 was raised on the night.



Mount Waverley Chadstone  
Inter Church Council

## Way of the Cross

Good Friday  
19 April 2019

Commencing at  
St John's Uniting Church  
37 Virginia St Mount Waverley  
at 11.15am.



The route will be along Park Lane to Sherwood Park. Stations will be visited around the park and surrounding areas before a return to St John's. People are then invited to share Hot Cross Buns and refreshments at St John's.

**All are welcome to celebrate with us.**





# From Persia to Pink Floyd - plus perfect performances



DESPITE the intense heat and bushfires of Saturday March 2, St Andrew's Berwick UCA Community Fair went really well.

Apart from the stalls overloaded with cakes, craft, quilts, veggies, clothes and collectables, we had the *Ad Lib* drama kids and musicians perform, and some face painting to entertain the children.

**Rev Wendy Snook shares highlights of St Andrews Berwick UC's Community Fair**

Our Scottish concert night was also a success, with a good sized and appreciative audience for the duo Red Grenadier and local band Journey Bound (of which I am a member). An unplanned highlight was a guest singer, Sahannaz, a boat person from Persia (Iran) who shared her story with us, and sang in her language a most moving dramatic song of pain and loss. She said that in Iran, women are not allowed to sing at all, and listening to Pink Floyd and other western music is illegal. But coming to Australia had its own pains, dealing with too much freedom after such oppression. A big thanks to everyone who participated and came along!

*Cordelia Little-Spence is pictured left with Rev Wendy Snook, who painted her face.*

## Moving pictures put spotlight on AgeWell

AGED care provider

Uniting AgeWell has teamed up with Channel 31 for the new series of *Move It Or Lose It*, the popular community television program aims to support older people to live well at home through daily exercise programs.

Uniting AgeWell sponsored the new series and produced four episodes, featuring real clients, filmed at its Noble Park AgeWell Centre.

The episodes focussed on four themes:

- MoveWell Everyday (using every day activities at home as an opportunity to improve strength and flexibility)
- Strong Bones (focus on weight bearing impact exercises to promote healthy bone density)
- Find Your Balance (focus on muscle strengthening, flexibility and reaction time to prevent falls)
- Bollywood (move and groove as you exercise)

Regional Manager AgeWell Centres Melbourne, Amanda

Mehegan said producing four unique *Move It Or Lose It* episodes

enabled Uniting AgeWell to showcase the diverse range of services offered at its AgeWell Centres. The TV partnership also reinforced the organisation's commitment to enabling all people to age well.



## Experience Incredible India 12-25, September 2019

**WOULD you like to go on the journey of a lifetime, that combines sight-seeing with a visit to a community program in North India?**

Visiting: New Delhi. Amritsar, Dharamsala and Rishikesh on The Ganges (optional 3 day extension to Taj Mahal.)

Staying in comfortable, well-kept, authentic and ethical hotels, and travelling in comfort, all needs and abilities are catered for.

Cost includes flights, accommodation, transport, sight-seeing entry fees and most meals (\$3,900). A fundraised donation of \$500 is also anticipated.

**Contact 0434 412 104 or  
e-mail: [helen.beeby@gmail.com](mailto:helen.beeby@gmail.com)  
for full itinerary.**





facebook

Spotted on

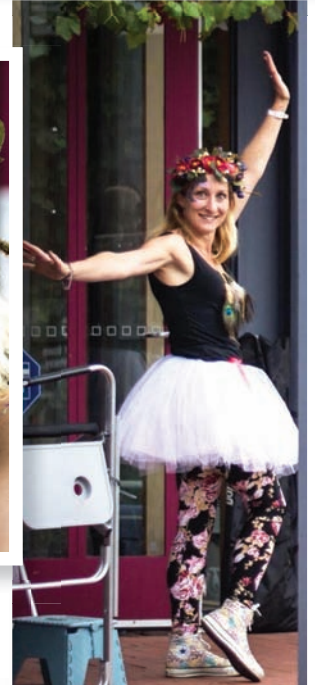


MURRUMBEENA UCA's now annual **Street Party** 2019 was another rip-roaring success. What a great evening we had, says Rev Jay Robinson. Thank you to everyone who came and made this event such a success!



### Harmony Day...

Celebrating our diversity and differences. Come down to Hampton Park UCA and make a pledge to stop racism and celebrate our diversity in our community. #racismitstopswithme



Chuckle corner

"I wonder what my dog named me?" 🤔

### A star was born at Cornish

CONGRATULATIONS Cornish alumnus, Barnaby Reiter. Or should we call you Bob now? Barnaby who is now based in New York, began rehearsals today for the US National Tour of Jersey Boys as the producer Bob Crewe, and also understudying principal role of singer-songwriter Bob Gaudio. Cornish College is very grateful today to accept music books and sheet music from Barnaby's own collection from throughout the years. And in a beautiful story come full circle, one of those items is a Jersey Boys music book.



JOIN IN WITH THE

# SONDER COLLECTIVE

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THE SONDER COLLECTIVE IS JUST ONE OF MANY GROUPS WHO ATTEND

STATE YOUTH GAMES



# Glen Waverley launches lively Chinese Fellowship program

by Rev Neil Peters

GLEN Waverley Uniting Church has been offering two, weekly, learning English classes that have attracted people from the local Chinese Community. One of those classes is taught bi-lingually in Mandarin and English. There have been requests to offer a Chinese speaking service of worship.

Sheila and Angel who teach the bi-lingual class had a vision to begin a Chinese Fellowship on a Wednesday afternoon following their class. The idea was supported and began two weeks ago. On the first afternoon 23 people attended which included 19 members of the Chinese community, many having little English and limited understanding of the Christian faith. But there is an interest in faith and church because they feel a part of this church community.

The program included basic praise dance (exercise to Christian music) which is big in the Chinese community, prayers, games. Gospel songs, a Bible verse, and a brief reflection offered by our minister Neil which was translated. Other members of the congregation will be invited to share reflections from time to time. It was a warm, welcoming, fun, learning time together.



Write upon our hearts, O Lord God, the lessons of thy holy word, and grant that we may all be doers of the same, and not forgetful hearers only; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. **A. Campbell-Fraser**



## Meeting our new Millennials

I'M Nicole Mugford and I've recently started in the role of Youth and Young Adult Ministry Team Leader at St Leonards Uniting Church Brighton Beach. I'm really excited to have joined the team and am enjoying meeting and engaging with young people in the community. I'm passionate about hearing the voice of young people and making space for them in leadership and I am excited to see the opportunities emerge in this community as they ask questions of faith and life.

I've made the move from South Australia where I grew up and had spent time doing ministry with young people both rurally and in the city. I have been working as a primary school chaplain while studying my Bachelor of Ministry and spent 3 years in Naracoorte as a youth pastor and chaplain. I've been a part of the Uniting Church my whole life and now am more actively involved through the Assembly with roles on the ASC (Assembly Standing Committee) and as a Panel member for the Disciplining the Next Generation Circle.

THE JOHN FLYNN FOUNDATION



You are warmly invited to our special John Flynn Foundation event. Come and hear from Rev. Gregor Henderson and Frontier Services' Bush Chaplain, Rev Sunil Kadaparambil speak of his adventures in the Parkin-Sturt Remote Area.

**Saturday 18th May 2019**  
Glen Waverley Uniting Church,  
Corner Bogong Ave & Kingsway,  
Glen Waverley 3150  
Lunch and Presentation  
From: 12.30pm-2.30pm  
**RSVP by Monday 13th May to:**  
Email: office@gwuc.org.au  
Phone: (03) 9560 3580

**Sunday 19th May 2019**  
St Leonards Uniting Church  
Cnr New Street and Wolseley Grove,  
Brighton Beach  
Lunch and Presentation  
From: 12.30pm-2.30pm  
**RSVP by Monday 13th May to:**  
Email: contact@stleonards.org.au  
Phone: (03) 9592 9333

**John Flynn Foundation**

We support the work of Frontier Services' Bush Chaplains throughout remote areas of Australia

The John Flynn Foundation | ABN 66 261 841 602 | GPO Box 2527, Sydney NSW 2001 | T: 1300 787 247  
Trustees Rev Gregor Henderson, Honorary Chair | Bruce McKay | Richard Stewart | Storry Walton | Sharon Lee | Andrew Markwell





## Bush Tucker Buzz

LAST Saturday a great group of 28 gathered for the first working bee on what will become our bush tucker garden, *writes Rev Cameron McAdam.*

It was such a happy morning, with an awesome sense of intergenerational community and a good spirit as we worked on this 'new' project.

A path was laid and non-indigenous plants removed and others trimmed and tidied up. There was enough crushed rock to re-do the paths in the front garden as well and these are looking lovely.

David Arnott was

instrumental in planning this working bee and doing a lot of pre-work which meant the morning was incredibly productive and we got lots done. Thanks to all who took part.



## FUNDAMENTALS OF TRANSITIONAL MINISTRY: The work of the people



7 - 9  
MAY  
2019

### Fundamentals of Transitional Ministry

This is a three-day program designed to give you an introduction to the key concepts and practices of ministering with congregations and agencies in times of transition. (Isn't that all of them nowadays?). While it is a stand-alone program, it is also the first phase of training that leads to being qualified as an Intentional Interim Minister. Thus, it is useful for anyone in lay or ordained ministry who is dealing with change, transition and new opportunities, and also for those exploring a call to Intentional Interim Ministry.

The FTM will be led by Rev Sharon Hollis (UCA Moderator) and Rev Fran Barber (Continuing Education Coordinator) at the Centre for Theology and Ministry, Melbourne.

### REGISTRATION

When: Tues-Thurs 7-9 May, 9.30am-5pm  
Lunch, morning tea and afternoon tea included

Cost: \$300 metro  
\$260 non-metro

Where: Centre for Theology and Ministry  
29 College Cres, Parkville, Vic, 3052

Registration: <https://www.trybooking.com/BAWRL>  
Or, pay by direct deposit to:  
Uniting Church in Australia  
BSB: 033 157  
Account Number: 34 41 36  
(Use "CTM FTM Wkshp" as Transaction Reference)

Or post this registration form with your payment to:  
FTM May 2019, Centre for Theology and Ministry,  
29 College Cres, Parkville, Vic, 3052

Name:

Role/Organisation:

Address:

Telephone:

Email:

Fee: ☐ metro \$300 ☐ non-metro \$260

Do you have any dietary restrictions:

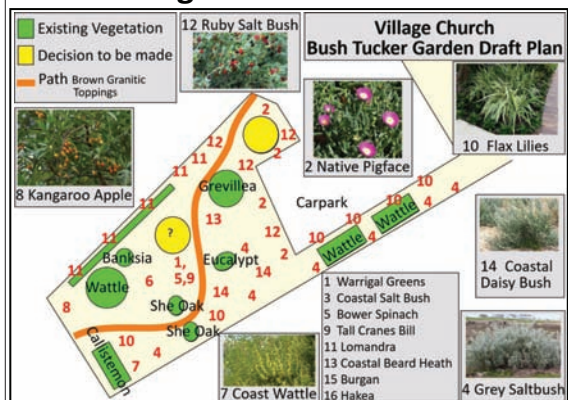
Refunds will be given for withdrawal more than two weeks before the event, less \$25 administration fee. Less than two weeks the refund will be 50% of the registration cost. Less than three days before the event there will be no refund.

Registrations close 1 May 2019



0173

## The Village Bush Tucker Garden:



Fundamentals of Transitional Ministry, right, will be led by Rev Sharon Hollis (UCA Moderator) and Rev Fran Barber (Continuing Education Coordinator). See big pdf on website below  
WHEN 9:30am – 5:00pm , Tuesday, 7 May 2019 – Thursday, 9 May 2019  
WHERE The Centre for Theology & Ministry  
29 College Cres., Parkville VIC 3052  
CONTACT: Ann Byrne at [ann.byrne@victas.uca.org.au](mailto:ann.byrne@victas.uca.org.au) or 03 9340 8800



## Presbytery in Council meeting dates for 2019

- 10 April,
- 19 June,
- 21 August,
- 16 October
- 11 December

ALL meetings will be held at Noble Park Uniting Church, jct of Joy Parade and Allan Street and will commence at 7.30pm.

All ministers and presbytery reps are asked to attend regularly. Thank you.

**To see who represents Port Phillip East Presbytery on the current Standing Committee visit:**  
<http://www.ucappep.org/about-ppep/key-people/>



## Working for a just Australia

DEAR Presbytery of Port Phillip East,

We are writing to inform you of a new resource for your congregations. The Uniting Church Vision Statement for a Just Australia is a collaboration of those working in justice across the church, including in Synods, Agencies and the Assembly. The resource encourages people to think deeply and engage in conversations about the kind of nation we want Australia to be and to reflect on where our faith in Jesus is calling us to seek out justice for all.



*Dr. Deidre Palmer  
 Christian Educator,  
 Social Worker,  
 Former Moderator Synod of SA*

The statement's release has been timed with the lead

up to the Federal election and is intended to assist people to reflect on the issues in small groups or host public forums with local candidates.

President Deidre Palmer, pictured above, writes: "I commend this resource to congregations and Uniting Church members. It is offered as a way of resourcing us as a Church, as we seek to live out our Christian discipleship in every aspect of our lives. As followers of Christ, each one of us is called to be a voice for justice and hope in our communities, in Australia and in the world."

The Vision Statement is expressed in seven foundational areas. It includes witness from the Bible and statements made by the Uniting Church.

There is a snapshot of the current situation in Australia across the seven foundations and key actions that are needed to move us toward the vision.

You can read and download the statement here: <https://uniting.church/visionstatement2019/>

## Important notices

REMINDER: Heather Hon's ordination is on Saturday, April 6 at 2.30pm at Glen Waverley UC. The church is on the corner of Bogong Avenue and Kingsway. Parking can be challenging so please allow extra time before the service.

Further to last month's bio's here are the job titles for each of the new Presbytery Minister's below L-R:

- Duncan McLeod is PM Team Leader
- Craig Mitchell is PM Church Development
- Anneke Oppewal is PM Pastoral



## Stories of Childhood

**Playgroup/Pre-school Ministry Training Day  
 Saturday April 27 Parkville**

STORIES of Childhood will assist you and your church in connecting more deeply with the children and their carers you are called to serve. The excellent electives on offer across the day include...

- Making music meaningful
- Using puppets with purpose
- Creative craft that communicates
- Safe conversations
- Inclusion and engagement for all abilities
- Identifying and responding to family violence
- Pathways from playgroup to congregation

Information and registration at <https://ucavt.goregister.com.au/storiesofchildhood2019/info/>

## Last chance for Synod 2019

AS a final reminder - if you would like to attend Synod and haven't yet sent Ian Firth your nomination form, then you need to do this by **Thursday 4 April**. Print, complete and send/e-mail the nomination form right to Ian at [secretary@ucappep.org](mailto:secretary@ucappep.org) Port Phillip East Presbytery PO Box 696 Noble Park Vic, 3174. Please call 9558 4710 if you plan to post the form.



*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](mailto: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](http://www.ucappep.org) and [www.facebook.com/ucappep.org](https://www.facebook.com/ucappep.org) for news, events and more....**