

Special Events

9.30 Every Sunday
Live Streamed Parish Eucharist
11 a.m. "Zoom Morning Tea" and
catch-up. Contact Fr. Shane
0432 681 177

Advent Study Group see p 12

Watch website for details of
Christmas services

PARISH CLERGY

Vicar.

Rev SHANE HÜBNER

(0432 681 177)

shane.hubner@hotmail.com

Sudanese Priest

Revd. Joseph Arou 0431 541 535

lokagai@hotmail.com

Chinese Priest

Revd. Esther Zhang 0405 602 439

Family Minister

Barbara Plumridge 9898 5193

Honorary Clergy

Rt Rev'd George Hearn, 9840 7816,

Revd. Betty Bracken, 9939 5881

Revd John Stockdale 9890 8388

Revd Harry Kerr 9893 4946

ahmkerr@hotmail.com

Revd Alastair McKinnon-Love 0438

323 059

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GOOD NEWS

好消息

WELPIATH



Parish Magazine of the Anglican Parish of Box Hill
November 2020

The Vicar Writes

It is hard to believe that we have not had open services at St Peter's since the 23 March 2020. In the seven months since the first lockdown we have had to pivot and adapt. I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their commitment, hard work and prayers as we have had to make changes in this interesting year. Our online services continue and we are averaging 97 views per week. Our pastoral care continues with weekly phone calls to isolated parishioners and we have pivoted our food donations to St Thomas Anglican Church, Burwood, as they have been swamped by demands from the international students of Deakin University. The Parish Council have agreed on a budget for the coming 2020/21 financial year. The

bottom line is that we are facing a deficit of just over \$86,000. The situation with COVID means we can't make firm plans regarding fund raising ventures or be assured of when open services will recommence or when our facilities might be hired. These uncertainties have meant that while expenditure remains on par with previous years – projected income is way down – hence the large deficit. The good news is that we have cash reserves to cover this deficit. We also have good capital assets that can eventually be turned into income streams for the parish – so all is not doom and gloom. While things might be very tight for a few years there is every reason to think that our future holds great promise. There will be a more detailed letter shortly from the Vicar and Wardens outlining the financial situation of the parish and I ask that we all consider carefully our financial support of the Anglican parish of Box Hill.

While we do not think we will be able to hold a Carol service this year, we are planning to hold Christmas services on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. If we are allowed to have 50 people in the church then there will be two English language services on Christmas Eve at 9.30pm and 11.30pm and two services on Christmas Day at 8am and 10am. Parishioners will have to book in for these services. We have a contingency plan if the allowed number is only 20 but we are praying that we will be able to host at least 50 people per service.



Starting Sunday afternoon 22 November at 4pm I will be hosting an Advent Study entitled: 'Climate for Change – a series of

five studies about the Climate Crisis. This study is written by Russell Rollason and produced by ABM. At the moment this study will be online via zoom. More details will be provided in the parish link and on our website from 8 November. I take this opportunity to thank everyone who has supported my virtual pilgrimage around the Cathedrals of the Anglican Province of Victoria. By the time you read this I will be on the home stretch. My plan is to be back at St Peter's on Sunday 22 November, the feast of Christ the King – having walked 945k. So far we have raised well over \$3000 for Whitehorse Churches Care. You can follow the blog at <http://fathershane.org>

The Parish Office and St Peter's Church are at 1038 Whitehorse Road, Box Hill 3128.

Office hours:

Tues 8.30am – 12.30pm

Thurs 10.00am – 2.00pm

Office phone: 9899 5122

One other project to mention is our parish book we are putting together to record our community's journey during this COVID-19 year. We are looking for parishioners to contribute short (300-500 Word) pieces detailing your experiences and feelings over the course of lock

down 1 and 2. Please send pieces to Cecilia in the parish office by Friday 13 November. Our plan is to have the book ready early in December in time for Christmas.

As always I am extremely humbled to be the Vicar of such a wonderful parish and feel so proud that we

have risen to meet the crisis of the pandemic. I urge us all to continue to pray that we may know the love and blessing and guidance of God in the year and years ahead.

REVEREND WILLIAM JOHN DOUGLAS STOCKDALE, 12/10/1924 -29/8/2020 Bishop George Hearn (Read at Father John's funeral)

John loved life. He enjoyed it with a sense of wonder. Simple treats were significant and being a humble man he wondered why folk, friends and neighbours, family or friends would send in meals or treats. He retained that boyish delight right into his nineties. He enjoyed parties and many of us can recall his 90th birthday.

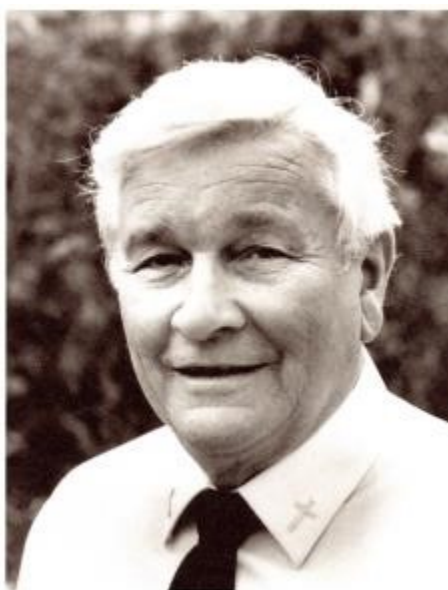
He was strongly attached to his brother and sisters and grieved their deaths in recent years. He had great love for his Melbourne family, Jeannie's nieces and their families. He especially asked me to give his thanks and love for all that they had done for him over the years. On behalf of John, our deepest thanks and prayers. God Bless.

John expressed the biblical encouragement of contentment and could affirm with St. Paul: *I have learnt to be content with what I have. (Philippians 4.10.)*

He was generous in his willingness to share with others and was extraordinarily hospitable. These qualities combined with a deep devotion shine through his ministry of nearly 70 years. It is regrettable that the pandemic has restricted our celebration of his life and ministry. John was born in Tenterfield NSW on 12 October 1924 and baptised in Christchurch Tenterfield on 25th March 1925. His younger brother Owen was a year younger than John. Sadly his mother died when John was 2 whilst giving birth to his twin sisters. He remained close to his family and rang them each week until their death. His father engaged a housekeeper to keep the family together. They married and moved to The Pocket in 1928.

John remembers: *I remember arriving in The Pocket late in the afternoon. That is what I first remember.*

I was sent to The Pocket Primary School when I was five. I remember the head of the school,



Gordon Kripner who was a great teacher. I owe him a great deal. In due course all four of us used to ride our ponies to school.

I went to Murwillumbah High School when I was eleven. It was up at 5 am to help milk the cows before leaving for school. I rode my bike to Billinudgel and caught the train to Murwillumbah and made the return trip each day. It was a long day and Dad decided that we would be better served if we boarded from Monday to Friday and Owen and I did that for 2 years until we moved from The Pocket to near Mullumbimby and went to South Lismore High School. Even this was a long day. Dad bought a mixed business in South Lismore which included a newsagency. I used to deliver papers before school each day.

While we were in the Pocket we were committed members of the Anglican Church and attended the fortnightly service at St. Bernard's Billinudgel, conducted by the Rector who was based at Mullumbimby. In summer we would go to church at

11 am and then go to the beach for a surf and picnic lunch. We returned home in the afternoon and milked the cows. When we moved to South Lismore, Dad would always say on Sunday morning, "Come with me," to St. Andrew's, our parish church.

We continued our education at North Lismore High School. I was made prefect in my final year. I became a members of the choir at St Andrew's and became involved in youth work in the parish. Revd. Norman Fox was the rector and he regularly challenged me with the question: "Have you thought about ordination?" I gave a negative answer until the call could no longer be ignored. I ended up in Moore Theological College in Sydney. I hated living in Sydney and on occasion I was thoroughly depressed. I was helped through this time by Noel Delbridge who remained my oldest friend. During my second year at Moore a decision was required which Diocese I would serve. It was decided it would be Sydney. In the parish I was attached to at this time I heard Deaconess Peggy Spry speak of her work at Wilcannia in far west NSW. In due course I applied and was accepted for Service with the Bush Church Aid Society in remote parts of Australia. On another occasion I listened and spoke with the Revd. Geoff Sambell in a group of students at Moore who did not believe that the Diocese of Sydney was the be and end all of Anglicanism. The result of this discussion was that I applied for ordination in the Diocese of Melbourne and was accepted. I was made Deacon in 1951 and ordained Priest in 1952. I served my curacy in St. Mary's, North Melbourne. Jeanne graham was a member of St. Mary's Youth Group. We were married in the Cathedral on January 3 1953. Jeanne shared my ministry all of 60 years until her death in August 2011.

The next month John was seconded by BCA to the Bishop of Riverina and appointed Priest in Charge of Wilcannia on the Darling River. This began a lifelong fascination with the desert environment. He spent seven happy but demanding years there. Most of the parishioners lived vast distances from Wilcannia and ministry involved long miles in the old Holden ute. They stayed at stations, shearing sheds, police residences and local pubs. Jeanne became adept at opening and closing gates

John loved the outback desert country and its particular beauty. He loved the people of the outback, their honesty and frankness. They responded to the Stockdale's generosity and hospitality. After nearly 8 years, John was appointed Victorian State secretary of BCA 1969 until July 1969 when he became vicar of Thornbury. He wrote: *I was asked by the Archbishop to be chaplain to the Herald and Weekly Times in October 1976. After an ongoing dialogue we actually got the appointment in November, while continuing part time ministry in Thornbury.* John resigned from Thornbury in January 1987 after he had purchased a home in Box Hill North, now Mont Albert North.

I was contracted to the Herald and Weekly Times for 30 hours per week in addition to 5 hours per week with

the Australian Paper Mills at Fairfield.

The role of industrial chaplaincy was quite new and involved ministry with the workforce and business.

Lee Rees who was personnel manager at APM wrote: *I first met John at Fairfield when he turned up at the office. John attended the mill each week for nearly 20 years.*

There were some 600 employees in the mill at the time and it was a difficult place owing to ongoing industrial problems. John was able to maintain excellent relationships within the workforce because of his down to earth character. It was also a sign of respect to be known as the Sky Pilot within the mill. We shared the liking of good red wine and have many memories of our times with John and Jenny and their immediate family. May he RIP.

John regarded this as his most significant ministry and remained grateful for the opportunity it provided. Red wine appears in many of the messages he received from family and friends, especially the bottling which took place in the Parish Hall at Thornbury.

John was a generous connoisseur but his generosity was not confined to red wine. He always took an interest in ordinands who undertook a field placement at Box Hill and was generous with book vouchers and in other ways.

Several years ago he decided to set

aside a significant portion of his estate. We talked for many hours until he offered to endow a Chair in Trinity College Theological School in Melbourne. Then last year he decided to endow a Professor working in Fields of Practical Theology and Ethics. The Revd Dr. Robert Derrenbacker, Dean of Trinity College Theological School writes: *The creation of the John and Jeannie Stockdale chair in Practical Theology and Ethics is an incredibly significant development in the history of Trinity Theological School. It meets an important curriculum need both at Trinity and the University of Divinity, particularly in the field of ethics. It fills and academic void for Trinity students, especially for those pursuing ordination. For these reasons, the staff and students at Trinity Theological school are deeply grateful for John Stockdale's generous vision for excellent and comprehensive theological education.*

It is fitting that John's ministry will continue in the formation of future clergy in our church.

Well done, Good and Faithful Servant.

ST PETER'S PARISH MEN'S BREAKFAST, SATURDAY, 28 NOVEMBER 2020

By hook or by COVID oops...crook

The speaker will be FATHER SHANE HUBNER.

"Mum and Me by Rail across the USA"

Lockdown permitting we will gather in the Undercroft for Breakfast at 8.00 am. Otherwise we will have a virtual Breakfast by ZOOM at 8.00 am,, as we did in August. Please book with Ken McDonald. 9077 8809

REVISITING THE BELOVED'S PRAYER

Jude Westrupp

Each generation needs to 'interpret' and 'translate' Scripture and the Word into language that is contemporary and comprehensible. As we are all 'beings' in the 'image' of God, "male and female", then by logical inference God is "male and female" and infinitely SO much more, than could ever be defined or circumscribed.

It's time to reinstate the 'other' half of the human into the language, liturgy and words that we use in our worship, prayers and praise together. These are offered as two possible translations/versions that may resonate with some people of faith.

No 1: an inclusive version

J Westrupp 2018

dear God *our Father*
who is in Spirit Realm *heaven*
hallowed be Your name
Your Realm *kingdom* come
Your Will be done
on earth as it is in Spirit Realm *heaven*
give us today our daily bread
and forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us
save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil
for Yours is the Realm *kingdom*, the Power and the Radiance *glory*
now and forever
amen

No 2: from the Aramaic words of Christ

From: N Douglas-Klotz (Prayers of the Cosmos: Meditations on the Aramaic Words of Jesus)
Please take the time to read this beautiful translation in full.

Prayers of the Cosmos: The Lord's Prayer

(inspired by Matthew 6: 9-13, Luke 11: 2-4)

O Birther! Father-Mother of the Cosmos
Focus your light within us—make it useful.
Create your reign of unity now—
through our fiery hearts and willing hands.
Help us love beyond our ideals
and sprout acts of compassion for all creatures.
Animate the earth within us:
we then feel the Wisdom underneath supporting all.
Untangle the knots within
so that we can mend our hearts' simple ties to each other.
Don't let surface things delude us,
but free us from what holds us back from our true purpose.
Out of you, the astonishing fire,
returning light and sound to the cosmos.
Amen.

ANTICIPATION

Gwen MacDonald

I wonder if you can anticipate something that might not happen. That's how I'm feeling at the moment. You and I, no doubt, have the same feelings, wondering what a normal life is like after the all the instructions, and 'lockdowns' have been lived through.

Although we are all having a bit of a grizzle about the increasing limits put on us hopefully as they say, to avoid any more deaths and cross contamination of the Coronavirus (COVID-19). So far it has only been the newspaper spelling out the gruesome details of a 'Pandemic Virus' and daily reports from our health department via the Premier.

My main problem is how I will manage my day without instructions about when and how far I can go to shop, wearing a mask of course. By the time the lockdown has been lifted, I know I will be very vulnerable to all suggestions and official instructions.

I know I will go on feeling guilty if I invite someone other than family to our home for a 'cuppa', talk or any invitation for that matter. The

lockdown instructions have been in an invisible way indelibly marked on my psyche for the rest of my life. It feels like 'Big Brother is watching and waiting'.

To add to the rules about isolation, we (myself and other residents of our Retirement Village) are not allowed into the Community Centre. In the first couple of weeks we had our Monday Bingo afternoons and one or two low key activities. We needed the mental contact with other residents.

One of the other ways of 'bolstering' our spirits is that our grounds have a large circular road known as Central Avenue. Everyday a group of residents meet outside a designated place at 11.00am (usually a week day). The group is spaced out and we walk about three times around this area. If someone is having a Birthday, the Birthday 'girl' or 'boy' is called out into their garden and have 'Happy Birthday' sung to them.

Another problem is the bad feelings that were thrown at all Victorians, it made me feel a bit like some sort of 'bushranger or bandit', who

trespasses over borders waiting to cause injury to an innocent from New South Wales and especially 'goody goody Tasmania'. I think there could be a 'reward day' after the lockdown is lifted e.g. Haircuts for male and female persons (as well as the dog)! The worst aspect of the lockdown each time, is that it always seems to stretch out longer than the expected time. Two becomes four weeks etc. Fortunately, all Victorians are not like me and can let it all wash over them, I am pleased for them, and can only wish the rest of society comes through with flying colours and not the pain.

I read the Bible for a clue as to how to proceed and ended up with an instruction from Galatians, Chapter 6: Verse 2. *"Carry each other's burdens and in this way you will fulfil the law of Christ"*.

MAMA'S BIBLE

One evening, four brothers chatted together after dinner. They discussed the 95th birthday gifts they were able to give their elderly mother.

The first said, "You know **I had a big house built for Mama.**"

The second said, "And **I had a large theatre** built in the house."

The third said, "And I had **my Mercedes dealer deliver an SL600 to her.**"

The fourth said, "You know how Mama loved reading the Bible and you know she can't read anymore because she can't see very well. **I bought her a parrot who could recite the entire Bible.** It took ten preachers over 8 years to teach him. I had to pledge to contribute \$50,000 a year for five years to the church, but it was worth it. Mama only has to name the chapter and verse, and the parrot will recite it."

The other brothers were impressed.

After the birthday celebration Mama sent out her "Thank You" notes. She wrote:

Milton, the house you built is so huge that I live in only one room, Thanks anyway."

"Marvin, I am too old to travel. I stay home; I have my groceries delivered, so I never use the Mercedes. The thought was good. Thanks anyway."

"Michael, you gave me an expensive theatre that can hold 50 people, but all of my friends are dead, I've lost my hearing, and I'm nearly blind. I'll never use it. Thank you for the gesture just the same."

"Dearest Melvin, you were the only son to have the good sense to give a little thought to your gift. The chicken was delicious. Thank you so much." Love, Mama

BOOK REVIEW

The Nine Tailors by Dorothy L Sayers (Originally published in 1934) Reviewed by Cecilia Joyner

I have long been a fan of detective fiction, both historical and modern, starting with my reading of Sherlock Holmes when I was a teenager and working through other "classics" of Agatha Christie and many others. I have generally preferred my detective fiction English and non-violent (apart from the knife covered in blood discovered in the library!) But I have also become a fan of detective novels set in other countries where the descriptions of Venice or China or India are an added bonus to the story. When I came across the author Dorothy L. Sayers, I was immediately hooked by the wonderful Lord Peter Wimsey. Shell-shocked in the First World War, Lord Peter is the second son of an aristocratic family and he is wealthy and intelligent but a highly individual and likeable detective. The books conjure up the era of the 1920s with the language, social roles and way of life and, best of all, they are written by someone who

knows how to write. The book has been televised more than once but, as is often the case, the book is better.

The Nine Tailors is the ninth book in the series and one of my all-time favourite novels being regularly re-read and enjoyed all over again. It is the wonderful combination of church bell ringing, the life of an Anglican parson, village life, and mysterious goings-on that makes the book so enjoyable. Although from a very different time and country, I grew up in a small country town living in a vicarage so perhaps I identify with the story for that reason. At one stage, as a small child, I lived near a carillon of bells also. Sayers writes very well and knows the subjects that she describes so evocatively. Most attractive about the story is the parson (apparently based on her own father) and his pride in his church, his care for his parishioners and his life as a priest, which all make for delightful reading.

It has to be admitted that there is a

considerable emphasis on bell ringing with enough detail to make your head spin but even this has its interesting side and is integral to the story. Stolen necklaces, unidentified bodies, secrets and double crosses all keep you guessing while life in the bleak fen country of England comes alive and there is something very appealing about the closeness of the small community life described. It is not a book to be read quickly but savoured and entered into. Oh, and some of the newer detective authors I have enjoyed involve archaeology. Elizabeth Peters with her tongue firmly in her cheek sets her stories in Egypt around the 1920s, while Elly Griffiths sets hers in present day England. But read the *Nine Tailors* first.

Nine Tailors is available from www.booktopia.com.au for \$17.50 or from Whitehorse Manningham library

SAMARITAN'S PURSE—OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD 2020

Jan Gunst



Boxes are going to Fiji, Cambodia, Malawi and Madagascar.

Doesn't the display of 47 boxes look good displayed to great viewing advantage, on the altar.

It was a very challenging year to get boxes done. So thanks to everyone who responded to my articles in the LINK each week. A big thanks to Vicar Shane for his great support. As shops weren't open to buy things, many folk took up my offer to "do a box for them". Other folk ordered items on line and filled their boxes that way. I had shopped early. I just happened to have a good supply of most things. At the end I made shorts and skirts when my supply of bought shorts and T-shirts ran out.

This year because of COVID 19 there is no warehouse in Melbourne. We delivered our boxes to Heathmont Baptist Church so they went straight into the container.

Jan Gunst, Co-ordinator.

RAY'S STORY

Ray Liu

I am Ray Liu, I come from China. I came to Australia as an overseas student and then worked in Australia. In Australia, I met my wife Chris Li, she is the one who led me to believe in God. She is an overseas student, and she is a Christian from a Christian family. I am very grateful that God led me and Chris to St. Peter's Church in Box Hill. Under the guidance of Pastor Esther, we worship and study together with brothers and sisters. I really feel blessed that I can know Jesus Christ, the true God. I am very happy that Chris and I can worship the Lord together as a couple, as a family.

I was baptized in St. Peter's Church in 2019. So, I don't have much Bible study experience, but I can feel the complete grace and love of the Lord for me.

The grace of the Lord is overflowing, and the love of the Lord surrounds me all the time. Since I believed in God, there has been great strength in my heart, and the faith has always supported me. It is this belief that allows me to face the ups and downs of life, to face my sins, to feel the grace of the Lord every time, and to enjoy the warmth of his love.

I can't imagine what a terrible picture my life would be without Jesus.

Believing in God does not mean that life can be plain sailing. I have encountered many setbacks and difficulties after becoming a Christian. But it was God who supported me in these difficulties, blessed me with grace and love, and made my faith stronger and stronger.

Every time we get through a difficult time, God is telling us: He is always there.

2020 is a turbulent year. Covid-19 has affected all aspects of people's

lives. Chris and I had to go back to China due to Covid-19.

At that time, Chris had been pregnant for more than 22 weeks, and we had to take the plane back to China at the end of July. However, under the influence of Covid-19, the ordinary journey from Australia to China has now become extremely difficult.

If without the protection of God, without the support of faith, it would have been impossible for us to return home on time - not to mention writing this story at home safe and sound. The difficulties and trials on the way back to China ran through from beginning to end.

Looking back, through prayers and faith, under God's care, we can see we have passed every difficulty.

These difficulties included

1. Air tickets are scarce and expensive.
2. The need to fly via Sydney, but NSW closed the border to VIC.
3. Applying for the border permit, then NSW invalidated the permit.
4. We needed to continuously declare our physical condition to the Chinese government to return to China, but I made a mistake and cannot board the returning plane.
5. I asked the Chinese Embassies in Sydney and Melbourne for help. They said they couldn't help.
6. The Sydney Embassy finally agreed to help, but a paper version of the Covid-19 test report must be presented. I only have test results in SMS.
7. After finally getting the paper report, the Sydney Embassy suddenly stated that they could not help people in Melbourne.
8. So it was necessary to re-contact the Melbourne Embassy again and do everything over.
9. The Melbourne Embassy finally stated I can board the plane, but in Sydney airport, the airline staff said that what the embassy said did not count.
10. On the flight

from Melbourne to Sydney, someone got Covid-19 test positive result.

All these things caused Chris and I to collapse for a while, and we couldn't see hope ahead. Because we have sold everything, staying at a friend's house temporarily, all we wanted to do was to go home. Besides, Chris will not be allowed to take the plane after some time because of pregnancy. Many of these difficulties cannot be solved by human efforts alone.

The only thing we can do at that time is to pray. Then, God kept us. God is our helper, our keeper.

During this period, Esther and the brothers and sisters prayed for us together. Chris and I also prayed around the clock. As we prayed again and again, the difficulties were overcome one by one, and our faith grew stronger. We believed that if God allowed us to return to China, we would definitely be able to return.

In the end, we landed safely on Chinese land. Thanks be to God.

As the Bible says, *God's power is made perfect in weakness. For when I am weak, then I am strong.*

Therefore, I believe that no matter life's ups and downs, it is given by God, and there is God's good will. Finally, things will end well. We must have faith and pray for everything; God will accomplish it. When troubles give us a heavy heart, the wisest action is to unburden ourselves upon the Lord, for He truly cares for us and will sustain us through any circumstance.

Past the seeker as he prayed came the crippled and the beggar and the beaten.

And seeing them...he cried,

'Great God, how is it that a loving creator can see such things and yet do nothing about them?'

God said, 'I did do something. I made you.'

Sufi Teaching

Fundraising News

Hello everyone,
We trust that you are safe and well. We have missed seeing all of you in our church family.
Our unhealthy spot of bother means no 2020 Fair so a change to our fund raising.
Would you welcome a chance to shop from home while providing a little profit to our parish?
We have used Prospect wines in Nunawading for our wine fundraisers for a few years now. They offer us their quality wines and some Australian goods which will be delivered directly to the address that you nominate. Delivery costs are extra to the Melbourne Metro region \$6.00. I apologise for earlier information stating that it was free.

All orders are to be in packs of six or multiples of six. However anyone who does not need six items can piggy back onto someone else's order, let me know so we can coordinate this.

This offer for both categories starts now and continues until the end of November.

- Local addresses can have deliveries including early December.

HOW TO ORDER:

- **ORDER ONLINE** at Prospect Wines at <https://prospectwines.com.au/product/box-hill-anglican-church/>
- Email Cecilia for a copy of the order form anglicans.boxhill@bigpond.com.
- Discuss forms and cheque payment with Hilary.
- Pick up a form from the U'croft on Sat mornings during the Food Bank
- Direct payment: Frivilla Pty Ltd, BSB 633108, Acc. No: 118382969
- collection and proceed as above.
- Questions? Talk to Hilary 0400 635 600 or cchrb@hotmail.com

On line orders are parcel deliveries to any Australian address (yes, that includes Tasmania). However you must order a minimum of 6 items from any of the above named goods. \$6.00 delivery cost to Melbourne metro.

- Anyone who orders twice will receive a free 375 ml bottle of Rutherglen Muscat.
- All orders are entered into a raffle free of charge for mystery prizes.
- Thank you for your time in reading this, take care. Hilary



TRAVEL ALL OVER THE COUNTRYSIDE

Dianne Armstrong

I enjoy the wonderful feeling of freedom, just getting behind the wheel of a car, and driving on a short journey of 2 or 3 hours or especially when setting off on a longer journey of 2 to 3 weeks. My parents' holidays were fairly predictable with annual holidays at Dromana with the extended family, when we were young or an occasional trip to Tasmania, where my father developed connections in horse racing, leading to his eventual purchases of race horses. My enthusiasm for the open road probably began when as a newly married in 1963 I travelled with my husband Murray to the Blue Mountains and Sydney. I didn't learn to drive until I was 28 years old, when I was pregnant with Miriam, but Murray loved driving, and on our annual holidays he drove to both the Gold Coast and Sunshine coast on different years, experiencing the summer rains and flooding at Caloundra on one occasion. We had to move accommodation due to flooding and I was nervous when we had to drive through some floodwaters. I was also introduced to camping for the first time at places like Indented Head, where fresh fish was on the

job on that day. Future holidays were often spent at Bright, with Murray having made a sled for the girls to use during the snow season at either Mount Buffalo or Falls Creek. Great fun was had in the snow and Miriam and Melanie quickly became adept at bush walking, and I particularly remember the climb to the top of the Horn at Mt Buffalo. I have another memory in that area when we were brought to a sudden stop near the top of the Mt Porepunkah Road, when a huge tree had fallen straight across the road. It took some time to be able to turn the car around on the narrow mountain road to face the direction from whence we had come. Whew! My holidays changed following the breakdown of my marriage when Miriam was 7 and Melanie 5 years old. On their first plane trip to Tasmania, Miriam was very fortunate to be seated next to an off

duty pilot, who explained and pointed out many interesting features to her. I had a liking for Tasmania since I travelled there on the Princess of Tasmania, with my friend Lauris (of 60 years) when we were 18 years old. My father also took me to see the Kings Cup rowing competition one year, as a partner in the legal firm, where Lauris and I both worked, was the coach of the Mercantile Rowing Club and an article clerk

was a participant. That partner was the coach of the 1956 Olympic Games team which came 3rd in the race which was held at Ballarat. Further trips to Tasmania included the mystical Cradle Mountain, with its endless walking trails, the well known Dove Lake circuit and the lesser known King Billy Pine Walk, which had no real track, simply pink ribbons on trees to guide the way. Other great bush walking holidays have been to Halls Gap in the



Grampians and Wilsons Promontory. I recollect a walk at the Prom, when Melanie was leading the way, striding out with her long legs and leaving Miriam and I in the rear. As we set out on the walk she said she'd never seen a snake on a bush walk. Lo and behold her nightmare came true when she spotted one just ahead on the side of the track. I was then appointed as leader of the walk, and chief snake spotter. My longest walk was taken at the Prom one year when Melanie and I did the 5 hour return walk to Sealers Cove. It was certainly worth it both in the beauty of the walk and Sealers Cove. Melanie strode ahead as usual and I took it at my own pace, but she waited for me at an area which is well known for leaches, so she could apply some sort of spray to my legs. I hadn't forgotten having leaches all over my legs after a walk in Powelltown following heavy rainfall. Not recommended!

The Expo in Brisbane in 1988 was a good experience for the girls as we stayed in Surfers where they loved time at the beach, and for 3 days we caught the bus to the Expo. The video of the Canadian countryside on a huge screen still stays in my memory. In 1990 I drove to the Barossa Valley and Adelaide where Miriam and Melanie were able to catch up with Rev Anthony and Naomi Cumming, when he was priest in charge of St John's, Norton Summit, and we had lunch with them at the Rectory. I was on Anthony's Field Education Committee, when he was a Theological student, and in charge of the Sunday School at St Peter's.



menu, thanks to Murray and his friend Daryl, and at Lakes Entrance and Warrnambool. Miriam was born in 1970 and Melanie in 1972 and holidays changed somewhat with a house in Point Lonsdale which we shared with my parents for a few Christmas holidays. Melanie was only 5 months old and at that time cloth nappies were the only option, the washing machine breaking down on Christmas Day, but miraculously a repair man was found to do the

Miriam and I made our way to The Entrance, north of Gosford, N.S.W. via the Blue Mountains, in 1991, where we planned to stop on the way. The risk of not having a booking became evident when we were unable to find accommodation due to a number of people taking a four day weekend with Anzac Day. Finding a motel in Hornsby several hours drive on with a Vacancy sign was such a relief. The Hawkesbury River Mail run boat provided an interesting trip where mail was dropped at the end of jetties, for people whose only access was via the water.

While staying at Noosa in 1993, a trip to Fraser Island, the large sand island, was a highlight, and as expected we saw several dingoes on the beaches and near our picnic area. Lake McKenzie, a fresh water perched lake had beautiful clear water in which to bathe, and as advised we cleaned our jewellery with the very fine sand. We also enjoyed Rainbow Beach on the return journey, with the multi coloured sands in the cliffs.

My great uncle had a general store in Goroke in Victoria during WW2, and that is in the Nhill and Little Desert area. There was still an operational General store when we passed through in 2001 on the way to Narracoorte Caves in South Australia, with its skeletons of extinct animals. Penola was the next stop with the Mary Mackillop School and Visitor centre with the history of her work in that area. A good drop of wine is to be found in the adjoining Coonawarra area. A new appreciation of the diversity



of the Australian landscape began with my first trip, with Miriam to the Top End, in 2001 when we stayed in a hotel overlooking the stunning Darwin Harbour and Esplanade. A bus trip to Katherine (now called Nitmilluk Gorge) and a boat trip down the Gorge, with its high cliffs was amazing. Just keep an eye out for the thousands of bats in the trees near the entrance, one

traveller attempting to wash bat droppings off her clothing. Yuk!

The experience of the outback encouraged me to drive further into inland Australia, with a long drive to reach Wilpena Pound in the Flinders Ranges in South Australia. We travelled via Mildura, Morgan on the Murray River, Melrose in the Southern Flinders Ranges, and Quorn where we departed for a steam train ride on the Pichi Richi Railway. Wilpena Pound is a huge natural amphitheatre 11km in length and 8km wide, with kangaroos and wallabies as the most common animals. We did see a vehicle at the Wilpena Pound resort severely damaged after hitting an unfortunate kangaroo. Great walking tracks.

Queensland was calling again with time spent at Port Douglas, including trips to Cape Tribulation via Daintree River, with its crocodiles, mangroves, ancient fan palms and the beautiful Mossman Gorge. My one and only snorkelling experience was during a trip to Green Island via Catamaran, when a great number of passengers became sea sick, and it was difficult not to join them! We had good viewing of the reef and the colourful fish from a semi submersible, and fortunately the return journey was in calm waters. The Kuranda sky rail and train and Cape Barron falls was a mystical experience with the fog in the valley.

My desire to experience the joy of the open road took over again with a round about trip taking in Mungo National Park, via Mildura where the remains of Mungo Man were found, and where you can still see Aboriginal middens. Broken Hill was the next stop, with its Flying Doctor Base, Pro Hart Gallery, near Silverton, not quite a ghost town,

where I believe the Mad Max Films were made, and a mine experience with the hard hats. Nearby is the Opal Mining town of White Cliffs, where we stayed in an underground B & B. We were able to see the owners own opal mine following dinner there, and there was a bucket for donations to the Royal Flying Doctor service which is so vital in the outback. White Cliffs



mines the paler, pastel coloured opals. The desert country continued with the viewing of an open cut gold mine at Cobar, the Open Range Zoo at Dubbo and at Parkes we saw The Dish, made famous for its photos of the Moon landing and the subsequent movie under that name. In October 2003 the driving bug got to me with a trip to Lightning Ridge, which is close to the Queensland border. This is where they mine the famous darker coloured opals. We stayed at Bourke on the way, where we saw Fred Hollows Aboriginal style grave in the cemetery. The plantations of cotton and jojoba, and roses in our motel garden were just magnificent, all very surprising in this desert area. At that time the Darling River was flowing and a trip on the Paddle steamer was possible. Returning through Cobar, once again we enjoyed some festivities with the Festival of the Miners. Returning through Cobar, once again we enjoyed some festivities with the Festival of the Miner's Ghost, including a fire works display over the tailings dam. In addition to the gold mine Cobar had a large copper mine in the early 1900's and my uncle Charlie Crooks, a former parishioner at St Peter's was born there when his father was a miner. We experienced the usual dust storm at Broken Hill, hardly unusual in a town surrounded by desert, but on this occasion we viewed the huge sculptures in a desert park nearby, both interesting and impressive.

To be continued in next Good News

THINKING SUSTAINABLY TO SUPPORT INDIGENOUS LITERACY

Submitted by Margaret Rockow.

Did you know that around 30 million printed books are held in collections by Australian Public libraries?

But as new books come in and old ones can't be used anymore, libraries have to get rid of around 4.5 million books every year. That's nearly 1,800 tonnes of books going to landfill.

Library supplier James Bennett is looking to change these statistics. Armed with a new Sustainability Project, they set out with an ambitious plan to reduce the numbers of library books ending up in landfill and giving back to the community at the same time. We recently sat down with James Bennett's Managing Director, Kim Jardine to learn more about the project.

"We've been supplying books to libraries for 50 plus years," says Kim, "And what we were seeing was that after about five years, books were no longer usable and are being 'weeded' out by libraries."

"While libraries do their best to sell books on, or donate them after they've lived out their shelf life, a large proportion of books still need to be disposed of. And because all libraries laminate their books, they can't be pulped and recycled – they go straight to landfill."

This is where James Bennett stepped in, setting up their Sustainability Project, and aiming to collect unwanted books from libraries and find them a second life elsewhere. Their project also provides libraries with a means to meet one of their Sustainability Development Goals as set by ALIA and IFLA.

Libraries can sign up individually to the program, and James Bennett will collect their old books, free of charge. They can also choose whether they would like any profits made to come back to their library, or be donated to the ILF.

"We identify the books into two streams," Kim tells us, "There are books that could be resold or have a second life in literacy programs, and then those that we can't do anything further with. Any money we make reselling or reusing the books we either give back to libraries to purchase more books

or digital services for their community, or donate on the library's behalf, to the Indigenous Literacy Foundation. If there are books we cannot do anything with, we pay for the plastic covers to be removed, and then recycle the books sustainably."

For Kim, choosing ILF as the Sustainability Project's Charity of Choice was an easy decision.

"We believe in what ILF does, in providing Indigenous peoples the opportunity to write and publish their own stories, and particularly supplying books to remote communities," says Kim,

"In a similar fashion, James Bennett is a book supplier as well, so that resonated very strongly with us. Supporting reading, education and joy is something we're very passionate about and ILF does exactly that."

After a short trial phase, the Sustainability Project has been operating since March, and has achieved a fantastic amount in a short space of time.

"So far we've collected 90,000 books," says Kim, "We've sold around 4,500 books, and donated profits back to libraries as well as to the ILF. For the others, we paid for the laminate to be removed so the books could be recycled – and so those 90,000 books were saved from landfill."

"We really want to be a positive partner in the industry. This Project really came from us thinking about the value we want to bring to our role, and how we want to give back to our community, including looking after our precious land."

At ILF, we love this brilliant initiative and encourage all libraries to get involved. You can find more information [here](#).

"The James Bennett Sustainability Project is an innovative solution enabling libraries to repurpose discarded library materials as donations to communities in need, and contribute to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals by increasing recycling, reducing landfill, and improving literacy outcomes. Libraries can opt to receive credits for new library materials, or donate funds to support agencies including the

Indigenous Literacy Foundation. I am delighted to support the James Bennett Sustainability Project, and encourage libraries to participate in this worthy project." - **Viv Barton, President, Australian Library and Information Association.**

"Collection management and maintenance is a fundamental function of a library service to ensure collections remain up-to-date, relevant and accessible to the community. The disposal of withdrawn library items has always been a dilemma for the library industry as unfortunately many withdrawn items are generally sent to landfill."

James Bennett's Sustainability Program has been a godsend! In early 2020, Maribyrnong Library undertook an extensive Revitalisation strategy and with James Bennett's Program was able to ensure that many of the nearly 16,000 withdrawn items were sustainably processed. Many items were donated to charitable organisations, others were sold and yet others were sustainably recycled. The outcome is a win-win for all parties- our library collections have been reinvigorated and withdrawn items have been dealt with thoughtfully and sustainably with some even being provided a second opportunity to enrich someone's life." - **Anita Catoggio, Maribyrnong Library Service**

"Blacktown City Library Service was proud to be an early adopter of a project that offered so many positive outcomes for both the library and community. Joining James Bennett's Sustainability Project meant that we knew our discarded items were not going to landfill but being redistributed to projects that offered communities outcomes by strengthening literacy, learning, imagination skills into the future including raising much needed funds to support for the Indigenous Literacy Foundation." - **Joy Bourke, Blacktown Library Service**
Posted 08 October, 2020

Advent 2020

Advent Study

Starting Sunday afternoon 22 November at 4pm

'Climate for Change - a series of five studies about the Climate Crisis.

by Russell Rollason and produced by ABM.

At the moment this study will be online via zoom.

More details will be provided in the parish link and on our website from 8 November.



**Father Shane will preach on well known Advent Hymns
on the Sundays in Advent**

Watching

Your reign is always coming, Jesus,
slipping into our lives quietly like a thief,
and subverting our comfortable self-interest;
and, even though we know we should be watching
we miss it too easily and too often.

But, then when we remember,
when we set our hearts to see,
and our eyes to search,
we begin to recognize the signs,
the unexpected evidence of your glory
In our ordinary, everyday normality.

And so we praise you for the Reign of God
that constantly breaks into the world of women and men,
that always opens us to the new,
the possible,
the eternal,
the yes.

And we praise you for the capacity to watch,
to see it coming,
to recognise it's advent,
even though sometimes watching is the last thing we do. Amen.

John Laar, **Sacredise** January 29, 2015