



PARTNERSHIP IN PRINT



ISSUE NO. 87 MAY 2023

CRACKED POTS AND CRACKPOTS

Let's be very clear: I have never, ever been a gardener.

Everything I touch turns to black. I have been guilty of killing mint and even a small cactus. The mysteries of pruning elude me. The details of fertilisation, how much water is enough or too much, whether a plant needs full sun or partial shade are all mystic arts whose secrets I believe I will never unlock. Other people seem to manage to just stick things in the ground and, "Lo!" a big green leafy thing, likely with flowers and/or fruit, emerges for them. Not for me

At my mother-in-law's funeral, I said it was a testament to her optimism and blind faith that she continued to give me a plant as a gift every Mothers' Day. (Why my mother-in-law gave *me* a gift on Mothers' Day is a curiosity I never unravelled). In later years, the plant's description on the label invariably began with 'Hardy...'. I think perhaps I subconsciously saw that as a challenge. Other well-meaning friends have proffered cuttings from their own gardens, assuring me that this plant was "easy to grow...it just self-seeds and off it goes." 😊

My response to these generous gifts has been to be so terrified that I would do something wrong with them, that I've kept them in their original containers and kept them on the manse porch where I might at least notice they were looking droopy and sprinkle some water in their direction. This also has the benefit of keeping them safe from my slightly maniacal lawnmowing man who doesn't pause long enough in his labours to notice the aquilegia I've recently planted, which is going quite nicely, thank you very much, until it succumbs to his inattention.



In a conversation with Paul the other week, I was telling him that I've recently decided that I'm going to stop using the term 'sustainable' when it comes to talking about our life together as a Partnership, and my ministry in it. As long as things are 'sustainable' they are travelling along as well as they can...until a wheel falls off. Sustainable is just enough. I'm going to stop using the word 'sustainable' in the same way we were all encouraged to stop using the word 'tolerant' when we talk about the community. 'Tolerance' is the minimal we can do: for our communities to provide equal places for all: we need to talk instead about being inclusive. It's a welcome improvement: inclusive communities instead of tolerant communities. (continued on page 3)

The 'Greening of the Cross' on Easter Day in Gisborne

There is a centuries' old tradition in the Western church of 'hanging the greens'. The draping of the interior and exterior of a church could be done at Advent - hence the Christmas wreath with its circular shape representing eternal life - and at Easter. The Gisborne Uniting Church has greened its cross on Easter Day as a sign that 'what was dead is now alive'. This continues the Christian motif of the tree which becomes the instrument of death - as in the cross - but is 'raised' to life by a glorious display of greenery and flowers.

In recent years it also has become a symbol of the commitment of Christians to cherish the environment.

Pictured are Gwyn and Sandra on Easter morning



LECTIONARY Readings Year A

Easter

The great fifty days of Easter includes eight Sundays beginning with the Easter Vigil and concluding on the Day of Pentecost. The season celebrates the Resurrection and Ascension of Christ and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

Date	Day/Season	Colour	1st Reading	Psalm	2nd Reading	Gospel
30 Apr	Easter 4	W	Acts 2:42-47	23	1 Peter 2:19-25	John 10:1-10
7 May	Easter 5	W	Acts 7:55-60	31:1-5, 15-16	1 Peter 2:2-10	John 14:1-14
14 May	Easter 6	W	Acts 17:22-31	66:8-20	1 Peter 3:13-22	John 14:15-21
18 May	Ascension Day	W	Acts 1:1-11	47 or 93	Ephesians 1:15-23	Luke 24:44-53
21 May	Easter 7	W	Acts 1:6-14	68:1-10, 32-35	1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11	John 17:1-11
28 May	Day of Pentecost	R	Acts 2:1-21 or Numbers 11:24-30	104:24-34, 35b	1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 or Acts 2:1-21	John 20:19-23 or John 7:37-39

After Pentecost

A period of time that varies in length depending on whether Easter is early or late. In this period, the Church recalls its faith in the Holy Trinity. It seeks to relate its faith as a people of God to Christ's mission in the world. It commences with Trinity Sunday and concludes with the feast of Christ the King.

4 June	Trinity Sunday	W	Genesis 1:1 to 2:4a	8	2 Corinthians 13:11-13	Matthew 28:16-20
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Colours: P – Purple

W – White

G – Green

R – Red

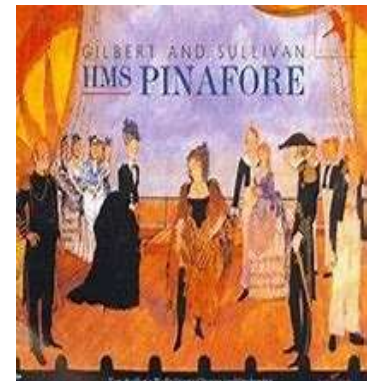
B – Black



Trial by Jury and H.M.S. Pinafore

*The Romsey Uniting Church
Invites you to join us for an
afternoon of
music, fun and laughter
from Gilbert & Sullivan's*

*'Trial by Jury and H.M.S. Pinafore'
performed by the Singularity Choir
Sunday, 28th May, 2023 at 1.30pm
in the Romsey Uniting Church Hall,
25 Pohlman Street Romsey
Cost: \$20.00 Concession \$15.00*



RSVP. By 12th May, 2023

To Jeni Clampit - 5429 5480 Mobile 0429 050 184 or Carol Toy - 0419 350 139

Name and phone number to be supplied; Payment may be made on the day

Afternoon tea will be provided.

(from page 1) I was saying this in the conversation with Paul, along with saying that I'm going to start thinking and talking about what is 'fruitful' or 'flourishing' instead of 'sustainable'. These words help us to consider going beyond the status quo, beyond maintaining what already is, and out into the possibility of what growth might look like. In our life of faith, 'growth' might be more people and bigger congregations, but it also might look like a deeper connection to God, a richer life of faith among the gathered community, more intentional mission to the communities in which we live. It might work from the permaculture-type principals we talked about last year: looking at what our resources are, asking what is needed, wondering what might best grow here, asking what needs to be changed to allow for flourishing

Paul's response, without knowing anything about my front porch, was to suggest that we might need to crack a few pots open. That allowing things to become pot-bound was never going to lead to flourishing. It might be sustainable, but never fruitful.

I realised, with horror, that that is literally how I had been living. Curating a collection of pot-bound plants, relatively safe, but not with any prospect of any kind of flourishing. In fact, probably looking reasonably ok, but on their way to a slow, sad death. I was mortified. I needed to do something.

So the next afternoon, with the help of a good friend, I cracked some pots. Some seaside daisies, some aquilegias, some sedum and some harlequin flowers (all probably able to be described as 'Hardy...') have been planted in the actual ground, giving them space to grow. They've been watered and nourished. One of the aquilegias is looking decidedly iffy, but that's ok. There will be 'failures', or rather learning opportunities, but hopefully much flourishing. And I don't just mean the plants.

I felt like a crackpot. It felt like a prophetic action. It felt like a call to breaking some more pots where things are sustainable...but not providing opportunity for flourishing. It felt like a challenge to break new ground and get hands dirty, to learn about pruning for growth, to water and nourish and nurture tiny shoots of new life. It felt like an invitation to be fruitful and flourish.

Where might that happen for you, for your congregation, for the Partnership, for the community around you? How are we bound by the safety of our current structures that might constrict our growth? What needs to be cracked open to enable new life to emerge and grow? Will you come and be a crackpot too?

Annette Buckley

May 2023

Jesus 101

Do you ever get confused about Jesus?

Do you wonder how there can be so many different versions?

Do you get put off by the way people talk about Jesus, do you get a bit uncomfortable reciting the creeds, or do you just not know what you think any more?

Do you maybe just have more questions than answers?

If any of these sound like you - if you never have thought about it, or always do -

if you are new or part of the furniture and would like a place to ask questions, challenge our assumptions, or just have a good chat with good people over a bite to eat:

Come join us on Wednesday evenings in September for 'Jesus 101' and a meal,

where we talk about who Jesus is, whether or not it matters, and what it might mean to us today.

All welcome — invite your friends! — faith optional.

Email Paul Banks (pjbank1@gmail.com) or join our list at morning tea after worship.

Look forward to seeing you there!

Mother's Day

I'm still your mum

When you no longer listen or care what I say.

I am still your mum.

When you decide I am old fashioned and want to go your own way, I am still your mum.

When you talk back and argue

I am still your mum.

When you figure you know more than I do,

I am still your mum.

When you move away and take a piece of my heart with you,

I am still your mum.

And I will love you still as much as the first day I held you in my arms.

I am still your mum.

And I will pray for you and make sure your wings are strong enough to soar

I am still your mum.

I will want what is best for you and will sacrifice my plans for yours.

I am still your mum.

I will always have room for you and a hug to welcome you.

I am still your mum.

And until my last breath, I will keep carrying your love with me,

And thank God every day for the privilege and joy it has been to be called – your mum.

Submitted by Wendy H

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 April	1	2	3	4	5	6
10am Partnership Service Kyneton HC Followed by Conversation	12.30 Souper Lunch 2.30 Faith Community 5.30pm Romsey Meditation		9.30-1.30 White Goose open Riddells Creek		10am Prayers at Gisborne (Sacred Edge)	(Sacred Edge)
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Easter 5 9.30am local services (Sacred Edge) No streaming	12.30 Souper Lunch 2.30 Faith Community 5.30pm Romsey Meditation	10am Muffin'n'More at Gisborne	9.30-1.30 White Goose open Riddells Creek		10am Prayers at Gisborne 6.30pm Fish & Chips Worship at Kyneton	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Easter 6 9.30am Romsey (streamed) Mother's Day	12.30 Souper Lunch 2.30 Faith Community 5.30pm Romsey Meditation		9.30-1.30 White Goose open Riddells Creek	Ascension Day	10am Prayers at Gisborne	*PiP articles due tomorrow please
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Easter 7 9.30am Sutton Grange (streamed)	12.30 Souper Lunch 2.30 Faith Community 5.30pm Romsey Meditation		9.30-1.30 White Goose open Riddells Creek 10am Minister's Munch		10am Prayers at Gisborne 6.30pm Fish & Chips Worship at Kyneton	
28	29	30	31	<h1>May 2023</h1>		
Pentecost 9.30am Gisborne 1.30pm Singularity Choir	12.30 Souper Lunch 2.30pm Faith Community 5.30pm Romsey Meditation		9.30-1.30 White Goose open Riddells Creek			

Mozart's Requiem

The Gisborne Singers are presenting Mozart's Requiem for their first concerts of the year in collaboration with the Macedon Ranges Chamber Orchestra. Guest artists, soprano Merlyn Quaife (also the choir's Patron), mezzo soprano Kristen Leich (a resident of the Macedon Ranges), tenor Michael Petruccelli and baritone Teddy Tahu Rhodes will be performing as soloists. Luke Severn, Gisborne Singers' Artistic Director will be conducting.

Commissioned to write the Requiem for a Viennese Count Franz von Walsegg in late 1791 to commemorate the first anniversary of the death of his young wife Anna, it remained unfinished at the time of Mozart's death on 5 December that year. A student of Mozart's, Franz Xaver Süssmayr, presented the finished work to the Count, but others may have contributed.

Mozart's widow Constanze was responsible for a number of stories surrounding the composition of the work, including that Mozart came to believe that he was writing the requiem for his own funeral.

Performance details

The first performance will be at a new auditorium (Worship Centre) at **St Mary's Anglican Church in Sunbury at 2pm on Sunday 30 April.**

The second performance will be held at **Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Church in Kyneton at 2pm on Sunday 7 May.**

The choir's famous afternoon tea will be available at the Kyneton performance.

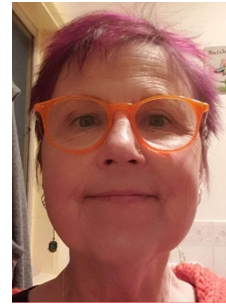
Tickets \$55 adult, \$45 concession, under 12 free.

Bookings:

30th April: <https://www.trybooking.com/CGXZR>

7th May: <https://www.trybooking.com/CGXZN>

Enquiries: www.gisbornesingers.org.au or phone 0408 156 263



CHAPLAINCY - Gisborne

The new Community Chaplain, Jane Williams, commenced her role at the Church on Wednesday 29th March. Her mobile number is 0481 591 565 and her email is jwilliams@korusconnect.org.au She may usually be found in the meeting room at the rear of the Gisborne Uniting church.

Wendy & Sandra - Gisborne



MAY 5-7 | WADAWURRUNG COUNTRY | QUEENSCLIFF | 2023

sacrededge

Festival
arts • music • stories

A heart for diversity

FIRST NATIONS | REFUGEE | LGBTQ
EARTH & OCEAN | WELLBEING

INFORMATION & BOOKINGS www.unitingqueenscliff.org.au

Welcome to Country, Music, Interactive Art Space,
Keynote Speakers, International Meal,
Art Exhibition, All-age activities

Exploring:
Living Together – The Sacred – Justice – Mindfulness – Inclusive Community

Focusing:
First Nations – Refugees – LGBTQ+ – Wellbeing – Sustainability

Contacts Other Groups		
<u>SUTTON GRANGE</u> <u>MIA MIA</u> <u>BARFOLD</u> <u>METCALFE</u>	<u>Congregation Chair</u> - Dot Smith <u>Elders - North</u> Dot Smith Marge Townrow	<u>Elders- Kyneton</u> Pip Elston, Jenny Elston, Helen Aldridge Andrea Strack
<u>KYNETON</u>	<u>Church Council</u> Roy Gibbs, Helen Carey Chair – Pip Elston Sec – Helen Aldridge	<u>Congregation Secretary</u> Jenny Elston <u>Congregation Chairperson</u> Roy Gibbs
<u>ROMSEY</u>	<u>Church Council/Elders</u> Noel Shaw Jay Brooks Jeni Clampit Jenny Elliott Carol Toy	<u>UCAF</u> Pres/Sec - Jeni Clampit Treasurer - Carol Toy
<u>TYLDEN</u>	<u>Elders</u> Shirley Bowen, Joy Evans Max Hinneberg	<u>Worship Team Co-Ord</u> Janet Cole, Shirley Bowen
<u>WOODEND</u>	<u>Editor Partnership in Print</u> – Robyn Zumstein	
<u>RIDDELLS CREEK</u>		<u>Craft Group</u> - Lynette Bucknall
<u>GISBORNE</u>	<u>Prayer Ministry/F & C</u> - Glennis Speed <u>Pastoral Care/F & C</u> - Bev Gilbertson <u>Social Justice</u> – Nola Anderson <u>Worship & Education</u> - Paul Gilbertson	<u>UCAF</u> - Maree Clarke <u>Craft Group</u> - Linda Moorhouse <u>Friends Pizza Night</u> - Ron Hebbard
<u>CoCo</u> - (Co-ordinating Council)	<u>Chair</u> - Colin Chapman <u>Secretary</u> - <u>Minute Secretary</u> – Keith Hallett <u>Treasurer</u> - Paul Gilbertson	<u>Finance Committee</u> Chair - Paul Gilbertson, Lyn Ward, Colin Chapman

A reminder for Changes in Congregation Leadership details

After each church has had its AGM – please let me know of any changes so Partnership in Print can be updated as required. (As this goes to print in April I have heard of no changes yet – please confirm if this is also correct – thanks, Robyn)



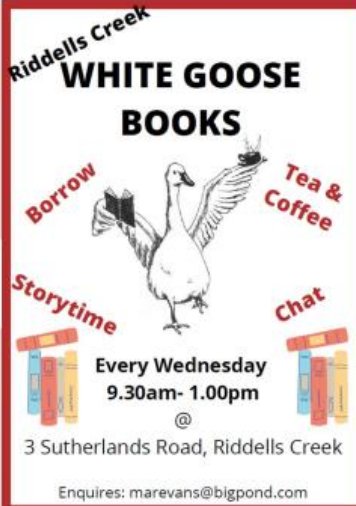
We're back – come join us

SOUPER LUNCH!!
Lunch every Monday 12.30
Delicious soup and crusty bread
YOU'LL BE VERY WELCOME!!
WOODEND UNITING CHURCH, NEXT DOOR TO OP SHOP

PIp #87 MAY 2023



Woodend-Tylden Op-Shop morning Tea (above) and Tylden Christmas lunch (below) Dec 2022

Riddells Creek
WHITE GOOSE BOOKS
Borrow Tea & Coffee
Storytime Chat
Every Wednesday
9.30am- 1.00pm
@
3 Sutherlands Road, Riddells Creek
Enquires: marevans@bigpond.com

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Address label

Partnership in Print is a monthly magazine produced by the Uniting Church in Australia – Macedon Ranges Partnership and is available on the last Sunday of each month, except December

Macedon Ranges Partnership is part of the Port Phillip West Presbytery of the Uniting Church in Australia.

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PARTNERSHIP WEBSITE www.macedonrangesunitingchurch.org.au

CONGREGATION DETAILS	CHAIRPERSON	SECRETARY	TREASURER	PROPERTY	CoCo REPS
<u>SUTTON GRANGE</u> - Church Access Rd <u>MIA MIA</u> - Matheson Rd <u>BARFOLD</u> - Heathcote-Kyneton Rd <u>METCALFE</u> - 3 Metcalfe-Kyneton Rd	Pip Elston	Helen Aldridge miamiakynetonu c@outlook.com	<u>Finance Committee</u> Helen Carey (Treas) Roy Gibbs Jenny Elston	Church Council Executive	Marge Townrow Dot Smith
<u>KYNETON</u> - 54 Ebdon St (PO Box 892)					Pip Elston, Lyn Ward, Helen Aldridge(alt)
<u>ROMSEY</u> - 25 Pohlman St (PO Box 264, Romsey, 3434)	Noel Shaw	Jeni Clampit	Roger Baker		Noel Shaw, Jeni Clampit, Jay Brooks (alt)
<u>TYLDEN</u> - Trentham Rd (c/o Tylden General Store, Tylden, 3444)	Max Hinneberg	Janet Cole	Dawn Hinneberg	Max Hinneberg	Lauren Turner, Janet Cole, Dawn Hinneberg
<u>WOODEND</u> - 37 Forest St					
<u>GISBORNE</u> - 23 Brantome St	Bev Gilbertson	Colin Chapman	Paul Gilbertson	Neil Moorhouse Rob Dunstan	Colin Chapman, Keith Hallett, Paul Gilbertson

I am looking forward to the Partnership service at the end of April to find out how God is present in the Partnership. This month's PiP is a little light on – so I am also looking forward to your photos and reports of how things are going for you and your church in time for the June edition – get your contributions to me by 21st May so we can fill the next edition. Thanks in advance!

Robyn (contact details at bottom of Contact list under Z 😊)

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