



Partnership in Print



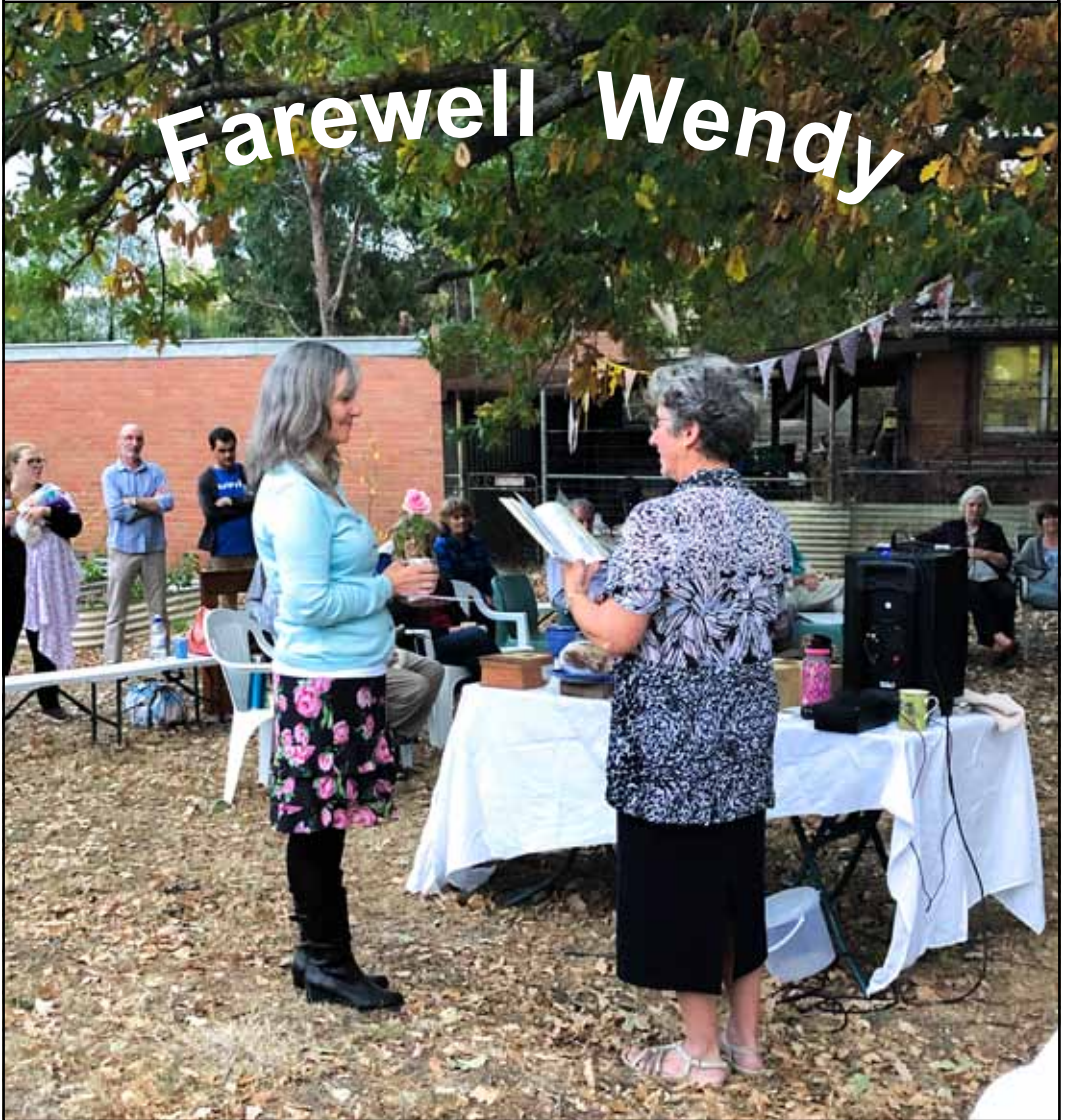
Uniting Church in Australia - Macedon Ranges Partnership

Barfold - Gisborne - Kyneton - Lancefield - Metcalfe - Mia Mia - Mount Macedon - Riddells Creek - Romsey - Sutton Grange - Tylden - Woodend

Issue No 43 - May 2019

Season - Easter 3 - Ascension Day

Farewell Wendy





We gathered under the spreading branches of an old oak tree, and made our farewells. Bread was broken, the cup served, stories told, prayers spoken. Food was shared, presents and presentations given, Michael Leuning was read, keys were ceremonially returned. Hugs, tears, laughter... a mes-

sage about a sycamore seed, and the death that must come before new life is possible. Our faith tells us that new life is not only possible, but that it is irrepressible; bursting out of the darkest depths and shattering our preconceptions about what God is doing. The Easter story reminds us that we are constantly being called on into something new and unexpected.

But I haven't been ready for Easter joy and possibility, because Easter this year also brought the end of the ministry team as I have known it. While this was always inevitable, I'm not ready for it to happen now. I want everything to stay the same as it was, the way it was supposed to be. We in the ministry team have been talking about change, almost non-stop, it seems at times, and we are now having to deal with a significant change of our own. And it's hard.

Not only that, the news at the moment seems particularly bleak. Bombings in Sri Lanka, the death of father-and-son surf lifesavers, the negativity of an election campaign, an earthquake in the Philippines - and so much more - are adding to a sense that our world is stuck in Good Friday rather than celebrating Easter's hope of new life. Even the offer of millions of dollars to help repair the burned Notre Dame cathedral only leaves me asking why it's so easy to raise money for some things and yet so hard to feed the poor.

Perhaps you've felt the same sometimes, out of step with the rhythms of the world or of church life. Wanting to dance on Good Friday, or finding it hard to be enthusiastic about Christmas Day. For those on the land at this time, the continuing lack of rain is a constant background hum, bringing a sense of unease into everything. For those dealing with illness and failing ability, just doing simple things can become burdensome. For some, life has never been easy, and perhaps it seems that it never will be. We are anxious about climate change, the continuing polarising of society.

So I am casting about for signs of resurrection, knowing they will come, grateful for the fact that God's ability to break into life far outweighs my incapacity to be hopeful at this particular moment in time. The signs come in gentle, quiet ways; a hug from a friend, a conversation that provides a tiny green shoot of future possibilities, a story about someone's generosity. The service under the oak tree has been a beautiful and fitting (and at times, unintentionally hilarious) ending. The quiet, deep work of the Spirit keeps calling us gently forward into life. Christ is risen, indeed, and perhaps I need to be reminded at a time such as this even more than when everything is going the way I would like it to. I'm reminded once more of a poem that has been a lifeline on a number of occasions:

Sweet and Sour

In this mysterious union of energy
 which we call humanity,
The black and the gold
 are so closely woven
that one cannot remove the pain
 without undoing the joy.

The gentle Buddhist,
 discovering this truth,
Removes both black and gold
 from his daily experience,
And calls the unsweetened, unbittered vestige
 the only peace.

Not so our Jesus,
 who embraces both
 with strong bleeding arms,
Affirming both Creator and creation
 as lovable –
And salvation as intrinsic
 to both the broken body and the shed blood,
 and the joy of wedding celebrations.

In this sweet and sour
 we spend our days.
In the unfolding of his purposes
We find our Lord giving the breath of life,
 while always
 his tears soak us,
 his joy uplifts us,
 and his love fills us.

*Bruce Prewer
'Australian Psalms'*

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Will you look for signs of resurrection with me? I'm hoping to notice some and be thankful for them each day. If you'd like to send some to me, we can collate them and include them (anonymously, if needed) in the next edition of PiP

Annette Buckley

Worship Leaders

	Partnership service	Other Partnership Services	Notes	Other Congregational services/prayers
May				
Sunday 5th May	Tylden 9 am - HC Annette Buckley	Riddells Ck - Wed 1st - 9am Woodend - Mon 6th - 11am - Meg Evans Riddells Ck - Wed 8th - 9am Kyneton - Fri 10th - 6:30pm - HC - Annette Buckley	Peter at Sacred Edge (PD)	5th Romsey 9am - Lorraine Saultry 5th Gisborne 9:30am - TBA 5th Kyneton 9:30am - lay leader 5th Barfold 10am - TBA 5th Mt Macedon 10:30am - D'Arcy Wood 5th Lancefield 10:45am - Lorraine Saultry
Sunday 12th May	Romsey 9am - HC Peter Cannon	Woodend - Mon 13th - 11am - Meg Evans Riddells Ck - Wed 15th - 9am	13th May - Annette on Retreat	12th - no service at Lancefield or Kyneton 12th Tylden 9am - Janet Cole 12th Gisborne 9:30am - TBA 12th Metcalfe 10am - TBA 12th Mt Macedon 10:30am - Janet Wood
Sunday 19th May	Kyneton 9:30 am - HC Peter Cannon Riddells Creek 4 pm - HC Annette Buckley	Woodend - Mon 20th - 11am - Meg Evans Riddells Ck - Wed 22nd - 9am Kyneton - Fri 24th - 6:30pm - Peter Cannon		19th Tylden 9am - Shirley Bowen 19th Romsey 9am - Trevor Turnham 19th Gisborne 9:30am - TBA 19th Mia Mia 10am - TBA 19th Mt Macedon 10:30am - Dawn Rasmus 19th Lancefield 10:45am - Trevor Turnham
Sunday 26th May	Gisborne 9:30 am - HC Peter Cannon	Woodend - Mon 27th - 11am - Annette Buckley RM Begg - Mon 27th - 3:30pm - Peter Cannon Riddells Ck - Wed 29th - 9am		26th - no service at Kyneton 26th Tylden/Woodend Op Shop 10am See info opposite 26th Romsey 9am - Ian Kennedy 26th Sutton Grange 10am - TBA 26th Mt Macedon 10:30am - Rob Coulson 26th Lancefield 10:45am - Ian Kennedy

Woodend/Tylden Op Shop Worship

On Sunday 26th May a special service for Op Shop Volunteers will be at **WOODEND UC** at 10am followed by morning tea. It is Volunteer Week.

Weekly Prayer & Meditation

There are a number of weekday opportunities to be involved in worship, prayer or meditation within the Partnership. You are welcome to attend any of these occasionally or regularly.

Prayer for Peace every Monday morning at 11am at Woodend. Followed by lunch. The community are warmly welcomed to this but we really encourage Partnership members to be involved.

The Lancefield Church is open for private Prayer and Meditation every Wednesday 11am - 3pm.

Labyrinth walk at Riddells Creek is available at any time if you wish to walk on your own.

Prayer Meetings are held at Gisborne Church at 2pm on Tuesdays and 10am on Fridays.

Meetings

CoCo

The Partnership Co-ordinating Council will be at Woodend on Saturday 4th May at 9:30am.

Romsey Church Council

Romsey Church Council meet at the home of Sandra and David Strack at 6pm on Wednesday 1st May for a meal then meeting.

Kyneton Congregation Meeting

A meeting of the Kyneton Congregation will be held following the service on Sunday 19th May.

Northern Church Council

The Church Council for Kyneton, Metcalfe, Mia Mia & UC members of Barfold Union Church will meet at 7:30pm on Wednesday 22nd May at Kyneton.

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Learning Opportunities

Mt Macedon Discussion Group

The first meeting of the Mount Macedon Discussion Group will be held on Thursday 2nd May at 2pm.

The theme is *Understanding the Christian Traditions*, starting with the question of who are we? Our heritage as people associated with the Uniting Church. The thinking is that we can't really understand others if we don't know where we come from. All welcome.

Voluntary Assisted Dying

Gisborne Uniting Church are embarking on a project of connecting with the community through exploring issues that matter to the wider community. In exploring these issues we ensure that a Christian voice is heard, along with other voices.

Our first presentation is an evening devoted to understanding the soon to be enacted laws on voluntary assisted dying. One speaker will explore the new legislation and this will be followed by reflections on the law by two health professionals. All three speakers have strong connections with the Christian community.

The evening will be at Three Little Pigs in Gisborne, 7 for 7.30pm on Thursday 2nd May. We hope that a wide representation from the community will attend along with members of the Uniting Church.

Theology for Dummies

On the first Monday of each month members of the Northern congregations meet at 10am at the Rural Cafe in Redesdale to discuss matters theological. No prior knowledge is expected, no question too silly.

Next gathering is Monday, 6th May.

Clubs and Groups

White Goose Book Exchange

The White Goose Book Exchange is open each **Wednesday** 9:30am - 1:30pm at Riddells Creek. Come for a book, to read the papers, a cuppa or just for a chat with our friendly volunteers.

Stitches in Rhyme

We are sewing Boomerang Bags for the Riddells Creek Community on **Wednesdays**, at The White Goose at 1pm, now being called Stitches in Rhyme - sewing and poems & stories.



Cuppa @ Romsey

Each Monday – 2pm

Coffee get together at Romsey is now at the church. First to arrive please put the kettle on.



Jazz nights at Lancefield UC **every Thursday night** at 7:30pm, until the arrival of winter. BYO drinks

Classical Music

Fortnightly Classical Music afternoons continue at Lancefield 2-4pm on **Tuesdays 7th & 21st May**.

Mt Macedon Men's Group

The men's group meet at Mt Macedon church at 10am on **Tuesday, 7th May**.

Tylden UCAF

Tylden UCAF are inviting the community for an all ages drop in cuppa on **Tuesday 7th May** at 10am followed at 11am by their usual meeting.

Brunch

Northern Congregations gather for Brunch at Redsdale Rural cafe on 2nd Tuesday of the month. Next gathering **Tuesday, 14th May** at 10am.

Muffins'n More

Tuesday 14th May 10am

Delightful Diners

The May dinner for the Delightful Diners for 2019 is on **Thursday, 16th May** at Double Eight Chinese restaurant, High St, Woodend, at 6pm.

Film Club

In March members of the film club watched Hidden Figures. For several of us it was a second viewing but just as good as the first time.

Due to Anzac Day the film club didn't meet in April. Instead we still have *Soul Surfer* to look forward to this week on **Thursday 2nd May**. *Soul Surfer* tells the story of Bethany Hamilton, her life of faith and as a surfer, after losing an arm to a tiger shark.

The normal gathering for May will be **Thursday 23rd May** when we will experience *Human Flow* which presents images of refugee movement around the world.

All Welcome 7:30pm Riddells Creek Church.

Post Script - It was only during PiP compilation that it has been realised that the film club date, moved because of Anzac Day, clashes with the Gisborne arranged Voluntary Assisted Dying Presentation on **2nd May**.

Due to advertising around Riddells Creek, film club will still go ahead, but it is expected that many Partnership members will attend the presentation at Gisborne instead. 'Soul Surfer' may be rerun at a later date or be available for individual loan.

Mt Macedon Thistle Club

We meet at the church on **Wednesday 29th May** at 12 noon for our Autumn Luncheon. Rev Lorraine Saultry will tell us about her ministry in Bright.

Devotions will be led by Dawn Rasmus

Please bring 'cans of soup' for Kyneton Caring Community.

Kyneton Chat'n'Chew

Kyneton Congregation's monthly Chat N' Chew, on usually the fourth Friday of the month, continues at Kaddy's Cafe & Eatery, High Street between midday-1.30pm.



The April gathering date is **Friday, 31st May @ midday!** All welcome! No need for bookings. Inquiries: Jenny Elston

Special Events

Garage Sale

Kyneton Garage Sale will be on **Saturday 11th May**. Set up the day before.

Emergency Ministry Training

Reminder that Victorian Council of Churches Emergencies Ministry (VCC EM) training is on **Saturday 25th May** at St Mary's, Woodend. See page 13 April 2019 copy of PiP for further details.

Concert

Proteus Ensemble Sunday 19th May Tylden Church 2:30pm

The Proteus Ensemble with Malcolm Cole will be presenting a concert at the Tylden Church. The string quartet will perform quintets featuring additional soloists in each case. They will play a bassoon quintet by Edward Elgar, a clarinet composition by Charles Villiers Stanford, a Michael Haydn quintet with two violas and Two Tango Sensations by Piazolla for piano accordion.

Everyone from the partnership is welcome to attend. There will be no charge for the concert. Please bring a plate to share for afternoon tea. A retiring offering will be available for the moderator's Disaster Relief Appeal.



New Editor Required

After 24 years (265 issues) of editing the monthly magazine for Romsey and associated congregations Jay Brooks is pulling up stumps to focus on other commitments.

Consequently the Partnership is looking for a new editor for *Partnership in Print* to commence with the July issue.

Jay says that she knew nothing about editing or compiling a newsletter when she commenced in 1995. She learnt on the job by experimenting.

If you would like to give it a go, or wish to suggest someone, please let Jay, your CoCo rep, or one of the ministry team know. Jay is willing to mentor the new editor.

Gisborne Secondary College Chaplaincy

Our AGM will be held on Monday May 27 at 7.30pm in the College Library. Following the AGM we will have a guest speaker and then Supper.

Herewith is the Chaplain's report for April. If you would like the Chaplain to speak at your Church at any time please let me know.

Bronwyn Tacey - Secretary GSC Chaplaincy

Greetings

It's hard to believe it's the end of term already. A busy and challenging term which started with around 26 new staff which included two new Assistant Principals, 263 new y7 students, new co-ordinators, and many new students from y8-y12.

A huge learning curve for all here at GSC.

At the beginning of the year, I was working with families entitled to CSEF and a uniform package. This led to many a conversation around hopes and fears in starting a new school, both for students and parents/carers. Over 50 families sought me out and I was also able to assist with stationary, generously donated by Office Choice in Gisborne, some texts, other uniforms and general enquiries.

I am indebted to the Lions Club for their generosity towards a family and students needing assistance to play sport. Also the other donors to the Chaplaincy program at GSC.

Three y9 boys started at the men's shed and are enjoying it immensely; the men are enjoying the young company and being able to share their knowledge.

I attended the annual Police youth leadership camp for girls at Walhalla where the ten girls from GSC were a credit to their families and their school. It was wonderful to see the young women embrace students from another school and show respect to the leaders. A boys camp will be held next term but I will not be on it.

Several weeks ago a parent of a y7 student died tragically; I visited the family, talked to staff and students and attended the funeral and will con-

tinue to keep in touch.

Several staff members had a parent die in the term which is shattering for them.

From next term, I will be working three days a week at school, the other two, in the local community. I will have an office in the Gisborne Unit- ing Church. I will be a resource person and will continue to pastorally care to those in need. The position will evolve as time goes on.

I look forward with enthusiasm to see what comes. Blessings

Barb Davis - Chaplain

Gisborne Secondary College Chaplaincy Committee

Movie night fundraiser



Monday 6th May 2019

Readings Cinema Sunbury

6.30pm for 6.45pm Start

Supper provided after the Movie

\$20 per ticket

Available from Snapshot Photos

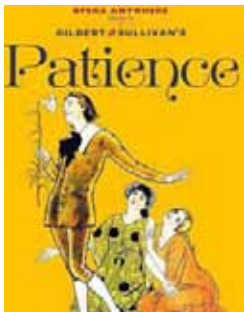
Shop 19 Gisborne Village Shopping Centre.

Cash only please

**If you are unable to visit the shop please Contact
Helen on 0407 686 708 or Bronwyn on 0417 028 605**

Please bring your ticket on the night

Partnership in Print May 2019



Patience



The Romsey Uniting Church

Invites you to join us for an afternoon of music, fun and laughter
from Gilbert & Sullivan's 'Patience'
performed by the Singularity Choir
Sunday, 5th May, 2019 at 1.30pm in the
Romsey Uniting Church Hall, 25 Pohlman Street Romsey
followed by afternoon tea
Cost: \$20.00 Concession \$15.00



The Story... All of the maidens in the village are besotted with Reginald Bunthorne, a moody and handsome poet, but he has eyes only for the simple milkmaid, Patience. The problem? Bunthorne's artistic ways are all just an act to attract women to him--he doesn't even like poetry! Besides, Patience is in love with her childhood sweetheart, who happens to be a real poet named Archibald Grosvenor, but feels she cannot marry him because he is just too perfect.....

RSVP. Before 28th April, 2019

Jeni Clampit 5429 5480 Email: jeniferclampit@bigpond.com

Or mail to P.O. Box 264, Romsey. 3434.

May 2019

5**Easter 3****9am - Partnership Worship at Tylden**

9am - Worship at Romsey

9:30am - Worship at Gisborne & Kyneton

10am - Worship at Barfold (cuppa at 9:40am)

10:30am - Worship at Mt Macedon

10:45am - Worship at Lancefield (cuppa at 10:15am)

1:30pm - 'Patience' at Romsey

6

10am - 'Theology for Dummies' at Redesdale

10am - Woodend OpShop sorting

11am - Prayers for Peace at Woodend

12noon - Woodend lunch

2pm - 'Cuppa@Romsey'

6:30pm - Chaplaincy film

7

10am - Mt Macedon Men's Group

10am - Tylden UCAF

2pm - Prayer at Gisborne

2pm - Classical Music at Lancefield

12**Easter 4****9am - Partnership Worship at Romsey**

9am - Worship at Tylden

9:30am - Worship at Gisborne

10am - Worship at Metcalfe (cuppa at 9:40am)

10:30am - Worship at Mt Macedon

13

10am - Woodend OpShop sorting

11am - Prayers for Peace at Woodend

12noon - Woodend lunch

2pm - 'Cuppa@Romsey'

14

10am - Brunch at Redesdale

10am - Muffin'n More at Gisborne

2pm - Prayer at Gisborne

19**Easter 5****9:30am - Partnership Worship at Kyneton****4pm - Partnership Inter-generational Worship at Riddells Creek**

9am - Worship at Tylden & Romsey

9:30am - Worship at Gisborne

10am - Worship at Mia Mia (cuppa at 9:40am)

10:30am - Worship at Mt Macedon

10:45am - Worship at Lancefield (cuppa at 10:15am)

10:45am - Kyneton Congregational meeting

2:30pm - *Proteus Ensemble* at Tylden

Items for PiP due

20

10am - Woodend OpShop sorting

11am - Prayers for Peace at Woodend

12noon - Woodend lunch

2pm - 'Cuppa@Romsey'

21

2pm - Prayer at Gisborne

26**Easter 6****9:30am - Partnership Worship at Gisborne**

9am - Worship at Romsey

10am - Worship at Sutton Grange (cuppa at 9:40am)

10am - Op Shop service at Woodend

10:30am - Worship at Mt Macedon

10:45am - Worship at Lancefield (cuppa at 10:15am)

Printed copies of PiP available

27

10am - Woodend OpShop sorting

11am - Prayers for Peace at Woodend

12noon - Woodend lunch

2pm - 'Cuppa@Romsey'

3pm - Service at RM Begg

28

2pm - Prayer at Gisborne

<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
1 9am - Prayer at Riddell 9:30-1:30pm - The White Goose 1pm - Stitches in Rhyme 11-3 - Lancefield Church Open 6pm - Romsey Church Council	2 2pm - Mt Macedon Discussion 7 for 7:30pm - Voluntary Assisted Dying Presentation 7:30pm - Film club at Riddells Ck 7:30pm - Jazz at Lancefield	3 10am - Prayer at Gisborne	4 9:30am - CoCo at Woodend
8 9am - Prayer at Riddell 9:30-1:30pm - The White Goose 1pm - Stitches in Rhyme 11-3 - Lancefield Church Open 7:30pm - Gisborne Church Council	9 7:30pm - Jazz at Lancefield	10 10am - Prayer at Gisborne 6:30pm - Meal & HC at Kyneton	11 Kyneton Garage Sale
15 9am - Prayer at Riddell 9:30-1:30pm - The White Goose 1pm - Stitches in Rhyme 11-3 - Lancefield Church Open	16 6pm - Delightful Diners 7:30pm - Jazz at Lancefield	17 10am - Prayer at Gisborne	18
22 9am - Prayer at Riddell 9:30-1:30pm - The White Goose 1pm - Stitches in Rhyme 11-3 - Lancefield Church Open 7:30pm - Northern Church Council	23 7:30pm - Jazz at Lancefield	24 10am - Prayer at Gisborne 6:30pm - Meal & HC at Kyneton	25 Victorian Council of Churches Emergencies Ministry training at St Mary's Anglican church Woodend.
29 9am - Prayer at Riddell 9:30-1:30pm - The White Goose 1pm - Stitches in Rhyme 11-3 - Lancefield Church Open 12noon - Mt Macedon Thistle Club	30 Ascension Day 7:30pm - Jazz at Lancefield	31 10am - Prayer at Gisborne 12noon - Chat'n Chew at Kyneton	

The Samaritan Woman

A Contribution from 'Theology for Dummies'

Too many stories this week...Still no Ethiopians, but too many Samaritans . . . as discussed by Rev David Withers, at our recent Church Camp, in John 4. "Whoever drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give will never be thirsty again." I'm overrun by them this week. . . All wondering what this well of life is? . . .

Mrs P hopped in the taxi this week, very first words she told me she had been dry for 4 days, only 1 can today, quite pleased with herself, cheerful, chatty, positive, her eyes were clear and her lips no longer cracked, hands were steady, . . . no foul language, . . .

Was 3 years ago, I found her slumped at the taxi rank on a bitterly cold winter night, the stench from the bile on the pavement, horrendous, alone and unable to get any response, I covered her with my jacket and called the cops and the ambo's, . . .

To see her now, at times, which are becoming more frequent, even for only short moments with a glimpse of happiness and joy that the well of life can bring is so very much a wonderful re-

ward to my heart. And did I even detect a slight of tenderness in her voice? . . .

And as we stopped at the drive thru bottle shop to get her cans, (at least she only purchased 4 on this occasion) I felt still only joy that we have given her. . . . Hope . . . and that's a value that perhaps she had lost. . . .

We completed the journey, and she proudly paid me her money as well as the money she owed from the previous occasions and I felt her self worth and self esteem moving in her, still chatting and joyous and even smiling.

So . . . as I drove off into the night, I prayed to my God to give me the strength to cope when next she may spit at me, abuse me, resent me, hate me, hurl foul language at me and all others who comes across her path. ?? . . .

I hope she continues to get better, just one step at a time. . . .

'Theology for Dummies' is a theological discussion group from the Northern congregations that meets at the Rural Cafe in Redesdale on the first Monday of each month.

Linda Liebich, from Riddells Creek, has news from a friend, Emmanuel, in Gideons. She quotes from an email about Sri Lanka:-

"Reports are slowly trickling in from Karen's (Emmanuel's wife) home town Batticaloa - one of the church bombs went off yesterday at Zion Church. Out of 25 killed in that church 14 of them were Sunday School kids coming out of the church. A few minutes before the kids were asked by the teacher how many of you are prepared to give your life to Jesus and all the kids put their hands up."

I can't even start to understand what this town is going through. It is heart wrenching.

Doug McIver, from the Northern Congregations, draws our attention to various items of news from the World Council of Churches. Condemnation of terror attacks in Sri Lanka. WCC communications director blackmailed by hackers. Expressions of sadness after the fire at Notre Dame Cathedral. Read more at < <https://www.oikoumene.org/en/press-centre/news/> >

Mt Macedon Thistle Club Adventure



Mt.Macedon Thistle Club members spent a lovely afternoon at the 'Enchanted Forest' sand sculptures at Dromkeen in Riddells Creek. (We even dressed as unicorns at one stage).



We enjoyed a delicious afternoon tea in the Dromkeen Dining Room after the tour of the sand sculptures. The Vanilla Slices were amazing!!

Report of Coco Meeting held on Saturday 6th April 2019 at Mount Macedon UC.

Lyn Ward led a devotion with a reading from 'Lent for Everyone' by N T Wright

Minutes of Coco meeting held in February were confirmed.

A discussion was held on the usefulness and access of the Partnership website. It was requested that a sermon/reflection be added to the service provided each week for the use of lay preachers. The suggestion was not supported and instead links to sermons/reflections are included in the service plan.

The changing of the Partnership name for ATO purposes is still in process.

Jay Brook's extension to conduct communion services has been approved for another 2 years.

The three month review of the revised worship arrangements was addressed. This review was only for any fine tuning of details to take place. A suggestion was made to change the Partnership service time to 11am across all congregations. This was not supported and the service times will continue as usual.

The Partnership arrangements for 2019 were discussed. The topics were: New ways of being church during the week, Sunday worship and Development of current and future 'hubs'.

Kyneton UC are the only congregation to have embraced a weekday service and are holding a fortnightly Friday evening service over a meal and a fortnightly Sunday service.

Key activities in each congregation were identified and it was suggested that these activities be supported by the ministry team and the Partnership as a whole.

The Woodend and Riddells Creek Hubs are continuing to evolve. A Project Manager has been appointed for Woodend and renovations are underway at Riddells Creek.

A supply minister will be sought to replace Rev Deac Wendy Elson for May – July. Presbytery will be approached to seek permission for the Partnership to replace Rev Deac Wendy Elson with a full-time person from August onwards for a 12 month period.

Annette wrote the ministry report. Her last paragraph was a lovely tribute to Wendy Elson. Your Coco Rep will have a copy of the report for anyone wishing to read it.

Treasurer report – New signatories have been elected for the Woodend Op Shop Committee.

The congregations all gave a brief account of any events since the previous CoCo meeting and any upcoming events.

Keith Hallett discussed an article from the February Crosslight; Would you believe? by Stephen Alcott (pg 14)

Jay Brooks is retiring from the PIP editorship. A replacement is being sought. Jay will produce two more issues (May & June) before giving it away. She is happy to mentor the replacement editor.

Colin Chapman extended a note of appreciation to Wendy for her time spent in the Partnership. He agreed wholeheartedly with Annette Buckley's paragraph in the Ministry Team's Report – see earlier – in regard to Wendy's exemplary performance: the time and effort that Wendy has put into the Partnership is very greatly appreciated.

Colin Chapman thanked Neil Twedde for his time as vice chairman of CoCo. He also mentioned Neil's resignation as Chairman of the Woodend Working Group and thanked him for his time spent in that role.

It was questioned as to whether congregations can ask Jay Brooks to conduct a communion service on a Sunday rather than attending the Partnership communion service. The conclusion

was that there are regulations that govern Jay's authorisation and these need to be abided to. Jay can only conduct a communion service under the direction of the ministry team.

Thanks to Mount Macedon for the lovely morning tea.

Next CoCo meeting Saturday 4th May 9:30am at Woodend.

Fiona Armour

What does happiness mean to you?

(summarised by Wendy Hebbard, from an article by Prof. Lea Waters)

Happiness is not the absence of depression.— you need daily doses of laughter, gratitude, connection with other people; wisdom that is not complicated, just focusing on the simple things in life. One of the most powerful is to contribute to happiness in others; it changes our sense of who we are.

You can't take happiness for granted. It's something we have to work at because our brains are wired for negativity.

Happiness is not about material thing; it's a mindset that gives serious benefits.

Being of service to others, having a purpose outside oneself, makes existence a fulfilling one. "Maureen", a Christian, pays frequent

visits to the sick and elderly, helping them do mundane tasks and cooking for them. (Even a smile 'counts')

Aristotle, before Jesus' time, described a state of mind shaped by the daily practice of striving to fulfil a meaningful purpose in life.

For some, it means cultivating awareness of a fellow human being's circumstances, starting from a place of compassionate regard.

Finally, another thing about contentment: like the butterfly that can settle unnoticed on your shoulder, happiness is often 'the silent partner of 'flow, that miraculous state of immersion in a challenging task you know you can execute well.

Classics in the Ranges

The Song of Mary in Luke 1, often called by the first word in Latin, Magnificat, is one of the most revolutionary songs of the ancient world. The proud get their just reward, and the powerful are brought down to size. The lowly are "lifted up". The musical versions of the song are many, but the J S Bach version is a standout. The Gisborne Singers will perform it on 19th and 26th May, with professional soloists and orchestra.

Also on the programme is the Mass in Time of War by Haydn. Also called the "Kettledrum Mass" because of its frequent use of tympani, this piece has soloists and choir singing together in a remarkable way. Both performances are at 3 pm., the first in New Gisborne at the Church of Christ, and the second in Kyneton at the Catholic Church.

Tickets are \$40, or \$35 concession, \$20 for students. Under 12s are free.

For tickets phone 0423-769-643 or go online www.gisbornesingers.org.au

What a wonderful season of Mia Mia cricket has just concluded. After finishing a resilience testing 3rd bottom



Mia Mia Cricket Club

last season the journey to success began way back in early September culminating in a Grand Final appearance at picturesque Pearce Reserve, Mandurang. Played over two successive days in front of a crowd estimated at around 200 the grand final was a tense affair throughout with the experience of seasoned finals campaigners Emu Creek eventually overcoming our youthful enthusiasm and determination to give them their 2nd premiership in succession. Congratulations to Emu Creek on their success, our Mia Mia cricketers will benefit greatly from the experience of participating in a Grand Final with Emu Creek.

Over this season there have been many highlights, individual honours to Andrew Conforti Nathan Sims and Brett Thomson were received at the Emu Valley Cricket Association presentation night, congratulations to these three. Honours also must go to all the supporters and administrators, our ground staff led brilliantly by Matt Ryan who kept the Flat in pristine playing condition throughout a very dry summer, the elder statesmen of our club returning to support and impart their knowledge and wisdom, wonderful to see and listen to club legend Phil Anderson at our matches amongst many others. Also won-

derful to see and listen to our younger members, for one, Gilly Mckenna, at only 9 months with sister Matari and

Mum Marita cheering on our team.

Which leads us to a very special mention which must go to the supporters and especially to the Wives, Girlfriends, Mums, Sisters, Elders, Club Stalwarts, The Dummies, and all family and friends who participate across so many areas of our Club, adding so much to the community experience.

Finally I thank God for being around when, 12 months ago I trekked by foot from the Mia Mia recreation reserve up the mountain to the God place, known as "The Church". My Bible grew heavy as the rain began to fall and I wondered how Moses felt when he made his journey all those years ago to pray for guidance for his suffering people. Alone too, I prayed with God for his guidance.

Success has rained down upon us in incomprehensible proportions. The spiritual health and well-being of the people is now in unimaginable wealth, the treasury is burgeoning and the offers of friendship abundant,

But we pause now, I and indeed we, must remember that it is only through the grace of God that our spirit now exists to this extent. I will continue to pray to be forever humble.

Brian Lauder



Directory removed
for privacy

N - Northern, SG - Sutton Grange, B - Barfold, MM - Mia Mia, M - Metcalfe, K - Kyneton, L - Lancefield, R - Romsey,
T - Tylden, W - Woodend, MtM - Mount Macedon, RC - Riddells Creek, G - Gisborne, P - Presbytery

Lectionary Readings Year C

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	Col	1st Reading	Psalm	2nd Reading	Gospel
Sunday 5th May	Easter 3	W	Acts 9:1-6 (7-20)	30	Revelation 5:11-14	John 21:1-19
Sunday 12th May	Easter 4	W	Acts 9:36-43	23	Revelation 7:9-17	John 10:22-30
Sunday 19th May	Easter 5	W	Acts 11:1-18	148	Revelation 21:1-6	John 13:31-35
Sunday 26th May	Easter 6	W	Acts 16:9-15	67	Revelation 21:10, 22 to 22:5	John 14:23-29 or John 5:1-9
Thursday 30th May	Ascension Day	W	Acts 1:1-11	47 or 93	Ephesians 1:15-23	Luke 24:44-53

Directory removed
for privacy

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 Helen Aldridge Joan Mills Andrea Strack Doug McIver
<u>KYNETON</u>	<u>Congregation Chairperson</u> Roy Gibbs	<u>Congregation Secretary</u> Jenny Elston
<u>LANCEFIELD</u>	<u>Elders</u> Peter Fraser, Ian Kennedy Judy Stammers, Rita Vandervalk	<u>Classical Music Group</u> Ian Kennedy
		<u>Organist</u> - Rita Vandervalk
<u>ROMSEY</u>	<u>Church Council/Elders</u> Noel Shaw, David Strack Jeni Clampit, Sandra Strack Jenny Elliott, Jay Brooks John Laing, Carol Toy	<u>UCAF</u> Pres/Sec - Jeni Clampit Treasurer - Carol Toy
<u>TYLDEN</u>	<u>Elders</u> Shirley Bowen, Joy Evans Max Hinneberg, Jean Lucas	<u>Worship Team Co-Ord</u> Janet Cole
<u>WOODEND</u>		
<u>MT MACEDON</u>	<u>Elders</u> Fiona Armour, Anne Fyfield David Liebich, Neil Tweddle <u>Men's Group</u> - John Cross	<u>Thistle Club</u> President - Shirley Cross Secretary - Anne Fyfield <u>Organist</u> - George Fyfield
<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> - Wendy Hebbard <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> - Fiona Armour <u>Treasurer</u> - Paul Gilbertson	<u>Finance Committee</u> Chair - Paul Gilbertson, Lyn Ward, Colin Chapman & Bronwyn Hewitt <u>Property Committee</u> Chair - Ian Kennedy Paul Gilbertson, Noel Shaw, & George Roberts
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SECRETARY

TREASURER

PROPERTY

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MIA MIA - Matheson Rd

BARFOLD - Heathcote-Kyneton Rd

METCALFE - 3 Metcalfe-Kyneton Rd

KYNETON - 54 Ebdon St (PO Box 892)

LANCERFIELD - 9 High St

ROMSEY - 25 Pohlman St
(PO Box 264, Romsey, 3434)

TYLDEN - Trentham Rd
(c/o Tyden General Store, Tyden, 3444)

WOODEND - 37 Forest St
(PO Box 34, Woodend, 3442)

Mt MACEDON - 682 Mt Macedon Rd

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Marge Townrow
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Ian Kennedy

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Neil Moorhouse
Rob Durstan

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