

St Margaret's Anglican Church Eltham



the Parish Matters

Celebrates parish life and reports important items from the most recent Parish Council meeting
Find us on the web at www.stmargaretseltham.org.au/ Facebook at www.facebook.com/stmargaretseltham

God of Power and love,
who raised your Son Jesus from death to life,
resplendent in glory to rule over all creation:
free the world to rejoice in his peace,
to glory in his justice, and to live his love.
Unite the human race in Jesus Christ your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen..**

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Revd Keren's Arrival and Commissioning

On Monday August 22nd Keren Terpstra, St Margaret's new vicar arrived in Melbourne after a short holiday with her sister in Berry, NSW. On her way to her new home in Montmorency she picked up her new blue car and test drove it on the ring road to the Parish. Next day her furniture arrived and in the afternoon she was reunited with Gabrielle her cat who had been staying in a Melbourne pet hotel awaiting her arrival. What an incredible and hectic time. Still a lot of unpacking to be done before her commissioning.

Everyone is looking forward to the very special service **on Thursday 1 September at 7.00pm** when our new Vicar, is commissioned as Priest in Charge by Bishop Philip Huggins. Keren has carefully put together a service which will include Holy Communion and some great music. The wardens (Sally, John W. and Robin) have been working closely with Bp Philip and Keren on the final details of the Commissioning.

This is a very exciting time and the beginning of a new era for St Margaret's. There are a number of roles for members of the congregation to undertake in the service and the Wardens took the view that it would be very appropriate for newer members of the congregation to play these roles. They have also ensured that people from all our three services are involved.

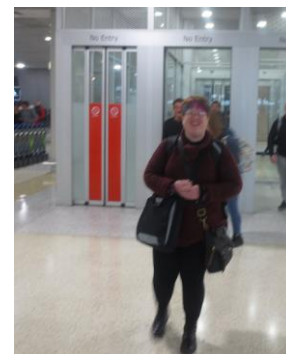
We are delighted to hear that a number of representatives from her last parish in Booval will be present to hand her over to our care; that her fellow clergy will be there to support her; that her friend the Revd Dennis Webster will lead our first

hymn and the psalm; the Mayor and several Councillors from the Shire of Nillumbik will be present and that we, as a congregation will pledge our support for her future ministry.

This is the church that is part of your world and we are so very grateful to all who love and support our mission.

The service will be followed by refreshments in the hall. **Please all come to welcome Keren.**

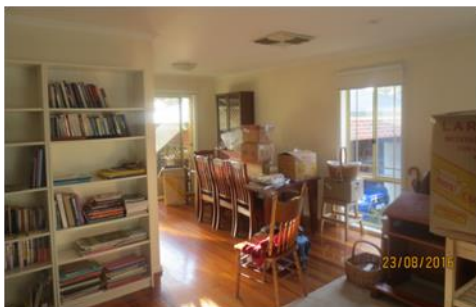
If anyone needs transport, please contact Sally Petty (9439 2116)



Arriving at Tullamarine



First meeting with 'Zachery' the New Mitsubishi ASX



Unpacking - still many boxes to finish

Fr Ruwan's Farewell

Fr Ruwan's farewell service was attended by over one hundred members of the congregation and almost eighty stayed for the lunch and concert afterwards. At the service Kathryn gave the interactive sermon inclusively, and connected so well with the scriptures whilst Shaun's leadership of singing nearly lifted the new roof. 'Ruwan's Alleluias' were sung with great emotion. Robert led the choir during communion to create a moving connection with the spirit.

At the end of the service John Winkett presented a stimulating vote of thanks on behalf the Parish to



John Winkett thanks Ruwan and family presenting them with gifts.

Ruwan and family, picking out the highlights of their involvement and impact they had made, particularly connecting with new opportunities like the Open Choir and much more. He presented Ruwan with 'Eltham' cuff-links, a stole in the new special green 'hill depicting' print for the vestments and some cash to help moving to his parish at Whittlesea and Kinglake.

[Don't forget Ruwan's commissioning on September 8th there at 7 pm.]

The concert that followed was a truly joyful time with singing, recitation of poems, stories and lots of



Our Choir singing at the Farewell concert after lunch

laughter at jokes and more. As can be seen in the pictures, the lunch guests really got into singing Shaun's selected pieces and ended with Ruwan leading the conga dance helped by young Jorgi. Sadly we had to say goodbye to the most joyful and perhaps most challenging inter-regnoms of the last half century.

Sincere thanks to the Palapathwalas and the Parish for its support from catering through to having fun and joy. Well done all.

We are sorry if you missed out but plan to attend on St Margaret's Day when we hope for more fun and sharing.



Us matching the Open Door Choir with one of Shaun's brilliant songs?

Council Appreciations

A regular item on Parish Council's agenda is to recognise and express our appreciation to specific people:

- **Graham Considine** for two days of extensive **gardening at the vicarage..**
- **Harry, Robin and Sally** for organising Ruwan's farewell lunch and concert.

A Gift to the Parish

The Wardens and Parish Council were delighted to receive a wonderful gift from Alan and Denise Nichols: a carving in Huon Pine entitled "The Cross of Jesus" by Bishop John Bayton, Iconographer and artist. It was given to Alan in recognition of his 25th anniversary of his ordination.

We will now determine the best location for this beautiful carving in the Church.

John Winkett

Parish Council August Summary

- **John Winkett** Welcomed everyone
- **Minutes of the July** meeting were accepted
- **Discussion of Action Items**

- Parish Councillor Photos and responsibilities to be put on large copy of a *New Approach to PC Plan*
- Website Calender is up -- but still work in progress
- PCT follow up on baptisms not yet finished
- Sydney Carter presentation Further discussion in hand for later this year
- Dialogue with Shire on supporting charity handouts etc is ongoing
- Contact with all Church Groups soon to be completed
- Mission Allocations were discussed and will be finalised next meeting.
- **Correspondence**
 - From Sally. Mary Lynton-Moll's absence for 5 weeks means that ***we are looking for a volunteer to do Hall booking.***
 - Valuations document from the Diocese telling us that later this year there will be a professional evaluation of the church's assets for insurance assessment.
- **Finance and Resources inc. Finance report.**
 - The Ad-hoc Planned Giving review notes were received.
 - The Finance committee recommended changes to the pledge campaign
 - Launch of planned giving has been postponed.
- **Pastoral Care**
 - Concert fund raising opportunity Ruwan had made suggestions about the next Diamond Valley Open Choir concert in October
 - Next PCT 2016 Seminar will be a Spiritual Health Australia presentation for Pastoral Care Training.
 - The number of people on the Care Contacts List increased to 32
- **Worship and Spirituality**
 - **The Commemorative Service for the Battle of the Somme.**
The extensive evaluation report was noted for its detail on the quality of the responses. 126 including 30 school children attended this second service about WW1 victims
 - **The Event Plan Document for the MOWatch Seminar** was endorsed. Fundraising to be decided by organising Committee.
- **Internal and External Relations** Progress on various issues was noted.
- **Progress Property Development and Maintenance**
 - **The vicarage** refurbishment has finished
 - Locks will be changed this weekend
- **Dendy House Extension**
 - Already approved by Diocesan Building Committee.
- Nillumbik shire has decided that we don't need a planning permit as their concern about the lemon scented gum tree has been resolved.
- The stuck flush in men's toilet cistern has been fixed.
- A solar cell driven light has been installed in the new shed
- Working bee a call for help to be put in Pew sheet
- **MAP Update.**
 - **Blessing the Animals Service on October 2nd** to be coordinated by Melissa
 - **St Margaret's Day November 20th**
Format for a lunch similar to Ruwan's farewell but tea and coffee after the service will be served in the foyer
 - **AGM Nov 27th at 4 pm**
- **Progress with the Vicar's Commissioning on September 1 was discussed.**
- **PC Financial Report**
 - **Auditor is still working through the accounts** is working out well
 - **The Financial Reports** will be endorsed at the September meeting
- **Wardens Meeting Report**
 - Working Bee last Saturday to swap Dendy House offices.
 - 2nd working bee to be held for shed sorting and removal, weeding, chairs installation in shed
- **Other Business.**
 - Alan Nichols offered and we accepted Huon Pine Carving of the Crucifixion
 - Ruwan's Commissioning 8th September 7 pm at St Peters, Whittlesea

More on the WW1 Commemorative Service

In recognition of those on the Honour Roll on the South Wall of St Margaret's Church.

At the Commemorative Service in July we remembered the soldiers and nurses from Eltham who served at the Battle of the Somme in 1916. The nurses are Edith Caroline Muncton Miller and her sister Frances Mary Miller. Their brother Ernest Russell Miller is also listed on the Honour Roll. Edith Miller is also listed on the Honour Roll at St Peter's Eastern Hill as she attended church there when working as a nurse at a hospital in Flinders Lane Melbourne run by Miss Garlick.

The local paper *Evelyn Observer and Bourke East Recorder* on Friday 3rd September 1916 reported that over 300 people had gathered on Monday 27th

August at the I.O.O.R. Hall in Eltham to farewell Nurse Miller (Edith) and 10 young men (another 8 were unable to attend as they were already in camp) and wish them all God Speed on their way to the front.

A few Biographical details:

Edith Caroline Muncton Miller. Staff Nurse. Enlisted, 10/8/1915.

1st and 2nd Australian General Hospitals. Embarked, 2/9/1916. RTA, 10/2/1918. Discharged, 25/11/1919. (POB, Bendigo, Victoria. NOK, Mother. Mrs Rhoda Miller, address listed as "Rellim", Eltham

Served at the 1st Australian General Hospital at Rouen France from the 20/4/1916 and nursed many of the wounded from the Battles of the Somme and Fromelles.



**Edith Miller (front row 2nd right), ANZAC Day (unknown year), New Zealand (nd) (family collection)
Photo Courtesy Raewyn Galvin N.Z.**

Francis Mary Miller. Staff Nurse. Enlisted, 0/11/1915.

Queen Alexandria's Imperial Nursing Service. Embarked, 8/12/1915. RTA, 0/6/1919. Discharged, 26/6/1919. (POB, Eltham Victoria. NOK, Mother. Mrs Rhoda Miller, address listed as "Rellim", Eltham.

Arrived in France on the 4/4/1916 and served in military hospitals near Etaples France. Nursed many of the wounded from the battles of the Somme and Fromelles.

Sources Terry Phillips Historian Eltham Montmorency RSL and Kathleen Toal St Margaret's Eltham

Note: For an informative account of Nurse Edith Miller and her siblings written by Dr Janet Scarfe go to the East Melbourne Historical Society website: emhs.org.au/person/miller/edith_caroline_munckton

Kathleen Toal

From time to time a person dear to us has gone to God, and we have a few words to remember them

Vale Barry

Memories of Barrie Cerda

Barrie was a true gentlemen and a man of integrity. Sadly missed by family and friends.

He was a big man with a big personality and an even bigger heart.

He touched many lives over the years both in Australia and Indonesia.

Rest in Peace Barrie
Cheers

Elizabeth

Ed This Edition Harry Watson