

the Parish Matters

Celebrates parish life and reports important items from the most recent Parish Council meeting
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Christmas service times:

Christmas Eve
5:00pm Christmas Service for Children
10:30pm Carol singing
11pm Midnight Mass

Christmas Day
9am Christmas Communion Service

Using our Church facilities

As you will all know one of the objectives of our re-building program was to provide state of the art facilities for not only Church use but also for the wider community.

The bookings from outside groups for the hall and Church have been excellent. We have our regular hall users on most days of the week and we have hosted special events such as the Seniors Week activities, Open Door Community Choir concert and the recent Eltham Woodworkers exhibition.

So we are meeting our objectives but we also want to ensure that our own Church Groups also have access to the facilities when required.

We would therefore ask that all Groups complete an **Event Planning Form**, a copy of which is included in Parish Matters. (copies available from the parish office or on the website) We would like you to record all future special events that you have planned for the next 12 months. Also make sure that you have booked the area you require for your regular meetings.

With this in place we can ensure that you have timely access and that there is plenty of advance notice for supporting such events. In this way we can ensure that you get maximum support from everyone in the Parish. There is an amazing amount happening through all our Church Groups as well as the wider community.

It is exciting to be part of this process as we seek to become firmly established as a Church which is an integral part of the local community.

The Wardens

Maintenance

Please note that all maintenance issues should be addressed to John Winkett. If urgent matters arise please refer to the Parish Office.

Communications

It has been the custom to take photos at special events and load them onto the parish website and Facebook page. Care is taken with children's pictures and approval is normally sought from leaders and or parents. Please advise the office if you are not happy with this custom.

St Margaret's Day

Lovely day. Thanks to all who helped make our Patronal Festival a warm and fun occasion. Glad the parishioners were so well versed on St Margaret's life! Keren, challenged us all is to carry on the love and care St Margaret showed within our Community.

We gave thanks for the lectern Bible donated by Harry and Adrienne, for the Gospel book donated by Fay, and the flower and cross stands given by Elizabeth.

We then moved into the grounds and Keren blessed the new extension to Dendy House and thanked the members of the Site Development Committee for all their work. (The parish staff gave thanks for the new toilet in Dendy House!)

This was followed by lunch in the hall.



Council Appreciations

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

- Sally Warner and Kirsten Winkett acting Hall Managers.
- Lynette covering demands for hall use.
- Retiring Parish Councillors: John Human, Sally Petty, Kathryn Smith, Sarah Toomey, Harry Watson

Ed This Edition Sally Petty

Parish Council November Summary

1. Correspondence

- Thanks from Austin Health for donation towards CPE materials and
- for Children's fund raising for Oxfam

2. Pastoral Care

- **Purchase of mobile** phone and pre payed sim for 24/7 pastoral contact in progress
- **PCT 2016/7 Seminars Spiritual Health Australia presentation and Team Training.** This will now be in February.11 and 18 Timing 11-4 pm proposed

3. Discovering Spirituality

- Hall booking done for 18th March for Anne Greenwood Exhibition support
- Event Planning Sheet to be prepared and submitted
- Team discussion about hiring gallery space. Would need to be vetted by PC
- April 23rd will be Dadirri Day 2017

4. Communications

From the report:

- Need to work on the various list and directories in conjunction with Pastoral Care Team.
- **The employment of Communications position (Mary LM) is to be maintained.**
- Next projects are Pew Leaflet and Parish Matters
- Thanks were expressed to Sarah, Sally and Mary. Also their offer to **continue to work on this activity with the guidance of a nominated Councillor from the 2017 PC was accepted.**
- Christmas Notices St Megs services for Parish

5. Property Development and Maintenance

- Dendy House extension -- Finished
- Church roof repair and all gutters on three buildings cleaned
- Next step is the safe design of the play area. Play area plan to be circulated.

6. MAP Update

- **St Margaret's Day November 20th**
- **AGM Sat Nov 26th at 4 pm** Finishing with evening prayer
- Review of achievements against plan reported in AGM **but no review against MAP in preparation for January Planning Day was agreed to.**
- **Operational plan for 2016 should serve as a basis for 2017.**
- **Ask all church group plans and PC committees for plans for next year**

- **It was agreed that thanks to retiring members would be made at the time of commissioning the new PC**

7. Vicar's Report:

- Busy doing AGM report
- She mentioned some ideas for next year.

8. PC Financial Report

- **Kathleen** talked about the reports which were tabled
- Discussion of changes recommended by the auditor.
- List of payments was circulated.
- **The Financial Report for the year was endorsed**

9. Wardens Meeting Report

The verbal report covered:

- Parish Council items were covered elsewhere.
- The woodworkers and similar need to be hosted carefully to take advantage of the opportunity.

10. Appreciations.

Retiring Councillors

Sally Warner and Kirstin Winkett

Lynette

11. Other Business.

- Harry reported that there had been a follow up discussion to Keren's with a parishioner who likely would benefit from a forum to discuss faith issues. **He proposed that a 'Faith Issues' Group might provide this opportunity. Geoff Sandy had previously convened such a group and would be willing to do it again,** and it would need to start soon to be of benefit. **Parish council supported the intent and the way forward.**
- Harry also reminded the PC of the **hall table** inherited from Adrienne's father that had temporarily been placed in the back of the church, as a focal point for activities that took place there, even perhaps as an altar. The original intent was to get a feel for the item as being of the right size for the purpose. **Keren had asked if it could be gifted and the Watson's had replied affirmative. on condition that:: if at any time it is not wanted by the church it should be returned to their family** This gift and caveat was agreed to.
- **There followed a discussion over supper and several beverages of our mutually appreciated attributes.**

12. The meeting closed with prayers led by Keren at 11.05 pm

Next Meeting. The next meeting of the New Parish Council will be held on **Tuesday December 20th** at 7.45 pm