

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/

Almighty and everlasting God,
you hate nothing that you have made,
and you forgive the sins of all who are penitent:
create and make in us new and contrite hearts,
that we, worthily lamenting our sins,
and acknowledging our sins,
may obtain of you, the God of all mercy,
perfect remission and forgiveness;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

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Grand Opening

Saturday 9 May @ 2.30. Opening of the church extension and multifunction space. by Bishop Philip Huggins, followed by afternoon tea. All parishioners, past parishioners, friends and relatives are warmly invited to join in this wonderful occasion. Please pass on any names you would like to suggest for formal invitations.

Open House

The church is finished and the hall is nearly complete, so it's time to start planning how we are going to celebrate this and show off our new site to the community.

After the official launch on May 9th we will be running a series of "Open Houses" to give the Parish Activity Groups; the previous and current users of our facilities; our neighbours; our local Anglican congregations; and the Eltham/Research/Montmorency communities an opportunity to see our new space & tell them what we aim to do with it. Stay tuned for more details over the coming months, but block out May 16th & 23rd on your calendar.

Sarah Toomey toomey@internode.on.net

WANTED!

An army of volunteers who want to engage with the community

Email Sarah to sign up & find out more about joining our Open House Campaign

WANTED!



St Margaret's would like to borrow your gazebos during May

Email Sarah if you can help

CCC

Welcome to a new regular section on Community, Connections & Communication (CCC). As you may know, this was an initiative of our Mission Action Plan and you will be seeing a lot more on this topic as the year unfolds. The big questions floating around at the moment are What is CCC? What does it include? What does it not include? & How does it affect me? Great questions, but you'll have to wait until after next month's Parish Council meeting for the answers! In the meantime talk to Sarah.

Sarah Toomey

Lent Life @ St Margaret's

For you to enrich this period of Lent through participation as summarised below.

More detail is in **Lent Life @ St Margaret's**. This document found in the Foyer and shows opportunities for you to join:

The Pilgrim Group will start Tuesday 24 Feb 7:30pm. led by Libby. This is the first of four study books and is for those wanting some clear foundation on Christianity and is a good basis for the books to follow later in the year and beyond. Contact Libby (9439 9238).

'The Panoramic Story of The Bible' - Sat 7 March and Sat 14 March, 1pm to 4pm with **Bishop Graeme Rutherford**. This already has over 20 enrolled, either in the foyer list or through Lynette in the Office (9439 9238).

Children's Lent time

Celtic Evening Prayer March 1st

Lent Music & Meditation March 22

Or Make:

ABM offerings

Almsgiving.

Site Re-Development

For the last few weeks we have been praying for the carpenters and joiners. Our prayers are being answered but you can't see the results yet. All the carpentry is being done off site and it will be installed when the plastering has been completed. The plaster panelling was completed on Sunday 22nd and the finishing will commence on Monday 23rd.

The wooden part of the main front door has arrived and we are now considering on the best finish.

The new main power line to the local power company supply has been laid and we are waiting for the company to make the connection. When this is done we will have the entire site with power, which means cooling, heating and lighting in the foyer and vestry.

We are about to let a contract for landscaping the site. Due to budgetary constraints we will not be doing any work on the Western side along the driveway of the old RSL. We will however be putting in a new driveway and Pathway to Dendy House.

John Winkett
Project Manager

Planned Giving Concern

Graham Carew prepared an interim report on the state of the Planned Giving for Council at its last meeting. The report identified that all three types of Planned Giving were down on promises. Envelopes into the plate were nearly \$2000 behind, ADF Deposits \$1000 and Direct Bank Transfer \$1700 down. We rely on Planned Giving to be able to meet expenses and outgoings just as each person has to plan their household operation.

For those who have already given generously we say thank you and those **who are behind would you please look to catching up your gifts**. If you have changed financial circumstances that prevent you from honouring your commitment it would be good to advise Graham. Once again many thanks to all who support our parish in this time of transition.

Harry Watson

New Voices

**PLEASE MARK THE DATE IN YOUR DIARY
FRIDAY 24 SATURDAY 25 JULY.**

St Margaret's has worked with the Shire of Nillumbik and the Eltham Bookshop for a number of years to host this Festival, celebrating the gifts of new authors and (this year) authors who have written books of a different genre to their previous publications. This year we are focusing on "the story behind the story."

Each session will explore how a book comes to be-philosophically and with what motivations. How does a writer view the book/story-as an expression of lots of accumulated experiences, as a way to experiment with literary skills, as a way to resolve/explore inner/social/political conflicts/challenges, as a way to show the way forward to readers. How do the writers and editors shape the book-what is left out, why, number of pages, covers, titles.

Meera has suggested, and is approaching a number possible participants. Are there any suggestions that you think we should consider?

This will be one of the first events to showcase our new facilities, please make the date known as widely as possible.

Sally Petty/Mary Lynton-Mole

Men's Breakfast

At Christmas time Men's Breakfast was held at the Glasshouse restaurant, as a celebration opportunity and because of the Hall being in the builder's care for Stage 2 of the project. Subsequent breakfasts have been at the Blands and the Watsons with thanks to Kerry and Adrienne for making their homes available

In March we return to the Glasshouse and in May we will not make full use of the new kitchen as on an Easter Saturday we respect the solemnity of waiting for Jesus to be risen, so the only cooked food will be damper. There is a plan to have another Bunning's fund raising barbeque in support of the Prevention of Violence Against Women.

Harry Watson

Council Appreciations

A regular item on Parish Council's agenda is to recognise and express our appreciation to specific people. This month we give special thanks to:

- The Revd Jonathan Chambers – Facilitator for the Parish Council Planning Day
- Geoff Sandy, preacher for Epiphany.
- Shirley Nash, preacher for Transfiguration

Editor this edition Sally Petty