

# 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/](http://www.stmargaretseltham.org.au/) Facebook at [www.facebook.com/stmargaretseltham](https://www.facebook.com/stmargaretseltham)

### St Margaret's Prayer for 2019

Lord, teach us to pray.  
Teach us to listen to your voice and to hear your word.  
Teach us to offer our hearts to you in love and to know your love.  
Teach us to forgive and be forgiven.  
Teach us to give our lives in your service and to do your will.  
Teach us to pray, and pray in us Lord Jesus. Amen

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### St Margaret's Day

#### Have you signed up to come?

9.30 ---- Only one service  
11.0 Morning tea  
11.50 Seat everyone,  
sung grace  
12. Main course buffet  
1. Entertainment  
1.20 Dessert buffet, tea  
and coffee  
2 Entertainment  
2.30 Closing prayer  
All hands on deck to clear up  
and put away

### Your Diary

#### November

10 11 Annual Meeting;  
12.45 Pub lunch  
3.30 Rehearsal for Carol  
Singing for Town Square  
17 9.30 St Margaret's Day service  
and lunch festivities  
23 1pm Child Safe Training  
24 10 Baptism of Lachlan Constable  
11.30 Rehearsal for Carol Singing

#### December

7, 14, 21 10.30 Carol Singing in the  
Town Square *needs support*  
12 Nativity in the Park  
20 7.30 Liminality Fundraiser concert  
24 5 Children's Christmas Service  
10.30 Carols and Midnight Mass  
25 9.30 Christmas Eucharist

### House Keeping

- Please ensure that **everyone dealing with hall tables leaves two (preferably three) set up in the alcove.** This allows those who have difficulty lifting them to move them out for their activities
- We are still chasing improvements to **the sound system.** Any comments welcome in the drop box.

## Parish Council Report October

Parish Council met on Monday 28 October, the last meeting of the current Council.

As has been our practice all year, the meeting commenced with a meal and scripture study.

A key item of business was planning for upcoming events, including the parish Annual Meeting, the St Margaret's Day celebration, and Christmas outreach activities such as the Carol Singing and Nativity Scene in the Eltham town square.

We reviewed briefly the status of Child Safe Church activities, including the first training session held for St Margaret's church workers. This was well attended and was deemed to be successful.

The Vicar gave us an insight into matters debated at Synod, and also reported on progress with engaging a Curate to assist her in ministry in the parish.

All subcommittee reports were tabled and accepted, in particular the Property Committee report, which identified that the hall floor required sanding and surfacing, a task to be scheduled for January.

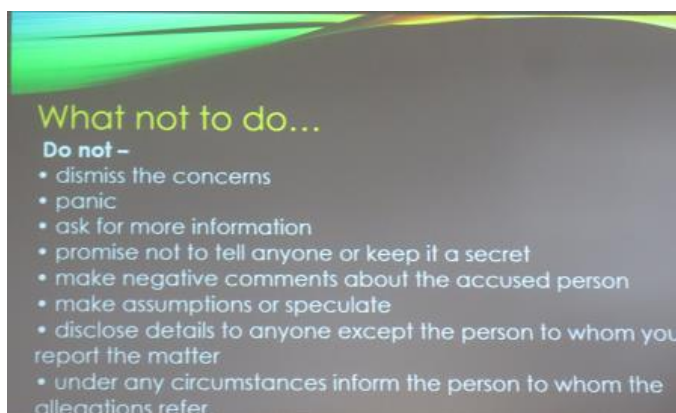
There was more discussion about the possibility of a yarning pit, an example of the fire holder for the pit is shown above, which would bring together local indigenous folk and offer space for fostering connection. This likely would go in the space in front of Dendy House and the memorial garden.

The meeting concluded with prayers

John Humann

## First Training for Child Safe Church

On Nov 10<sup>th</sup> Keren led our first Child Safe Training course that all of those who are on rostered duties need to complete this month. About a dozen people attended. Some feeling angry that they



should need to do this after being active in the church for so long, others saying it would be a great waste of their time and a third group who felt they needed to get this behind them and to move on, knowing they had helped making St Margaret's move towards compliance with State and diocesan

legislation. The two-hour session began promptly and ended on time



As well as the slides there is a well developed booklet

Surprisingly there was not one person who said they felt their time was wasted as they had learned a lot about the logic and stages of making us child safe.

Sadly, sometimes we could see that many of the fun things of our childhood or Sunday school teaching days would need different management - likely no more taking ten kids home for a sleepover! But let's move on and meet the world where it is; knowing that it is a high priority for most parishioners to return the parish to family status, with people of all ages participating so that in the future there will still be some who have known Jesus as they grow older. If you are on any roster put Nov 23 in your diary as a must do event.

[Also see Appreciations]

Mandy has given us the details:

### THIS IS REALLY IMPORTANT

#### Second Training Session

**On Saturday 23 November the Child Safe Training session will be repeated. The session will outline the new Child Safe Standards and how we can all make St Margaret's a safe church space, including the process for reporting any child safety issues or concerns. **This training is MANDATORY training for all people who are on ANY TYPE OF ROSTER AT CHURCH** so please be committed to coming along if you did not attend the last session.**

**Time: 1-3 pm**

**Transport Available**

**Venue: St Margaret's Church**

About three quarters of everyone on rosters now has their Working With Children Checks and Police Checks; if you haven't yet done your's, please contact Jen in the office and line up a time to see her to help you. We're asking everyone who needs to have a WWC and Police Check to **get these checks done before 24th November 2019**

Harry/Mandy/Keren

## Congratulations Keren

We all enthusiastically congratulate Keren on her appointment as our incumbent Vicar. There was warm applause at all the services at which announcements were made.

And this is what the Appointment License looks like.

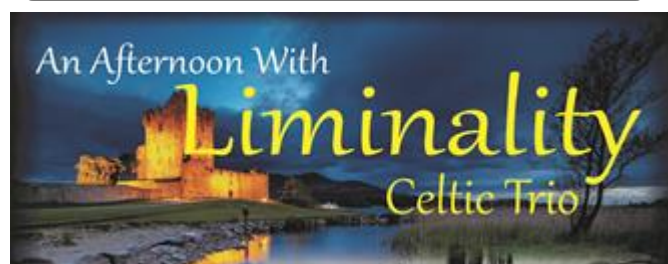


## Council Appreciations

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

- **All committee members, volunteers and group coordinators** for their efforts to make things happen throughout the church year
- **Geoff S, Mandy, David T and Keren** for their **steadfast efforts** in completing the **procedures for child safe compliance** (especially in view of the **Government Commission** requiring all parishes individually report on a 344 item questionnaire their compliance by the end of November).
- **Too-many-to-name** for getting their reports in on time for the AGM → **BIG thanks.**
- **Liz Pryor** and friends for planning **St Margaret's Day**

## Coming soon -- Second fund raiser



Another spruكة for the Liminality Concert on 20th December at 5.00 pm. We are honoured again to host Liminality, a Celtic trio, who will be delighting us with their music.. This concert is a fundraiser, with **funds raised going towards the Music Programme** Please invite your friends and relatives to be part of the concert, to come along and enjoy the music, and support our embryonic music initiative!

Keren

## Synod and Marriage blessing

This message came to us from St Peter's Eastern Hill

**St Peter's is proud to be a robust Christian voice for inclusion in the Diocese of Melbourne. Our inclusion ethos is based on our proud tradition of Anglo-Catholic witness: sacramental, scriptural and grounded in the Eucharist.**

**We are committed to living out this witness in the fullness of the Anglican tradition, which stands for unity in diversity and celebrating our differences.**

**In summary, our motion affirms the Parish Council position on inclusion of LGBTIQA+ parishioners, underpinned by our belief of the Real Presence of Christ both in sacramental forms and community of the faithful.**

**The motion also affirms the Anglican ethos of unity in diversity and rejects rhetoric that would seek to sow division among God's people.**

**We also express solidarity with the Diocese of Wangaratta, which has recently developed a rite of blessing for civil marriages.**

Your retiring Councillors are all recommending that their successors consider developing a similar standing for St Margaret's. **Please give them your advice through the Drop Box.**

Parish Secretary Harry Watson

### Next Parish Matters Submit By

The closing date for articles for the next Issue of PM is 9<sup>th</sup> December for publication on the next weekend

Ed this edition Harry Watson