

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

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

St Margaret's Anglican Parish Eltham acknowledges the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation as the traditional custodians of the land on which we worship. We commit to working for reconciliation and justice for Aboriginal people. Diversity and inclusivity are important to us at St Margaret's.

O God, our Redeemer,
in our weakness we have failed
to be your messengers of forgiveness and hope:
renew us by your Holy Spirit,
that we may follow your commands
and proclaim your reign of love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

***Welcome back Keren. Not quite the journey you expected
but hope you have felt our prayers and love as you enjoy
this time of peace, creativity and rest***

***Thank you Linda for all your guidance and support. A
superb locum. So blessed that you will stay with us***

***Thank you Christopher for your leadership, fun love and
care. Please behave on sick leave.***

Thank you Robert, always our pastoral guru

In This Issue

Parish Council notes
Finance Committee
Anglicare
Linda's Reflections
The Door
Keeping in Touch
Virtual Church
Do Justice
DRG Status
Donation Forms
Glenn Loughrey
Marjorie's Funeral
Pastoral Care

Thank you

Marjorie Taylor's family do sincerely wish to thank, so many of you who have shared your love and sympathy with us all at this time of loss of our dear Mother. All those who knew her will have their own memories of her, either personally or as a working member of your group. For us her love and instilled legacies will strength us day by day. At 102 it is indeed the end of an era, one that has covered historical events over many decades. Her sharp mind and gentle manner will endure for many years to come. Thank you all in our St. Margaret's family, from Marjorie's family, Helen, Mark, Rosemary and Phillip.

See back page for pics.

A reflection on recent funerals at St Margaret's

From my first week at St Margaret's I have fielded calls from folk outside of our church who are looking to have Anglican Prayers said at the interment of their loved ones. To maintain privacy I won't include names but there is an opportunity to reflect on this important out-reach to our community.

These examples that I share here give insight into the different ways that families mark the end of a life and the ways that a church can be of assistance. Sometimes there is disagreement about what will be done. In one case the children of the deceased did not hold a funeral. The mother of this man called St Margaret's to ask if a priest would say prayers at the interment of his ashes.

The next example was a family where a group of siblings had different views on religion. In a spirit of compromise, a celebration of life was held at a funeral home. However, one daughter asked if I would inter the body of her mother who had attended a church school and who saw herself as a Christian. I held a graveside service.

Next came a request that I take a service at Le Pine. This approach came from a Rotarian who had met Keren at an ANZAC service.

Next came a family without church affiliation. Despite this, the patriarch of this family had connections with Eltham community that spanned multiple decades. I interred the ashes of this gentleman, and a service of Thanksgiving has been planned and will be held in our church when restrictions lift.

After these services came two funerals of two St Margaret's parishioners. Beryl and Marjorie's families upheld the religious beliefs of their loved ones and the planning of both services brought to

fruition lives lived in faith. On these occasions it was fitting for the whole of the St Margaret's community to participate virtually.

In each of these celebrations mentioned here, the church offered the opportunity to witness to Jesus' words "I am the resurrection and the life." As a Priest I can say that the ministering in the bereavement space is a blessing. On each occasion I drew strength by connecting to my spiritual roots. Families no matter what their religious beliefs open their grieving family to an outsider. Funeral planning is a place of vulnerability that is to be held tenderly and with respect.

Yours in His service, **Linda**

Anglicare Partnership Group

Did you know:

Over 30% of Anglicare children in care are of Indigenous heritage? As such acknowledging appropriate cultural awareness in these children is critically important.

Uncle Ian Goolagong (yes, brother to Yvonne) is one of the two Anglicare cultural advisors?

Anglicare has been approached by the State Government to arrange help for people in the Dandenong Ranges area who suffered in the massive wind storms earlier in the year?

The Parish Anglicare Group is still able to collect knitted and sewn cloths as well as good used clothing. Last week Bob, Anglicare's driver came and collected another collection of items? Already there are 6 more large bags of knitting and clothing to collect. Please contact Jenny Disney if you have goods to donate.

The day Bob came he had helped distribute 79 food parcels to people at St Albans?

When lockdown is relaxed we will need to hold a massive collection for Anglicare Vic.
Jenny Disney

The Door

"One door closes and another one opens" so they say. Well we have taken that saying in a very practical way and changed doors completely! For some time now we have been concerned about the difficulty some people had with opening the original very heavy door. For many months we tried to get the solution of reducing the hydraulic pressure on the closer. However the suppliers were distinctly unhelpful. So in the end we took the decision to remove the big glass door and the smaller timber one and replace them with a smaller pair of doors.

After some searching we found a glazing company, Fast Glass, who came out and designed what we now have. They were an excellent company to deal with and delivered what they promised despite Covid.

The larger of the two doors is electronically operated by sensors from both inside and outside. There is also an emergency green button to open the door. This door is wide enough for a wheelchair and the other door can also be opened manually for even wider access. The automatic door will also close automatically.

John Winkett
For Property Committee



Keeping in Touch

**We are so grateful that we can still keep in touch.
How are you managing? Do you need help?**

- Jenny Disney says how lovely it was to make phone calls and was so warmed by catching up with parishioners. Many people are doing this.
- Barbara Talbot sends an email to the Monday Circle Group each week. Topic ranges from various subjects, history of St. Peter's Eastern Hill. Mother Teresa; 1908 train crash; Nellie Bly; The Grand Melbourne Fire to name a few.
- Helen Coutts ensures Book Group meets each month.
- Zoom drinks are quite popular.
- Wonderful news to hear MaryAnn and Graham welcome a new granddaughter, Millie Lynette.
- New family member for the junior Pettys-Hank.



- Lyn Clements has Peggy, her new best friend,



- Richard tried to book me in to the hairdresser under the title "pet grooming" Didn't work. Please Mr Andrews!

Please feel free to send, news, comments, pics etc etc for next edition.

Virtual Church Services

Two years ago, at this time, we were all planning what we would do for Christmas and where we would go. Who would have thought that in 2021 we would be sitting in our homes not being able to go to Church or plan for a visit with family and friends, let alone the Christmas holidays! The Covid-19 Pandemic has radically changed our lives in the last 18 months and I think it is fair to say that our lives will probably never be the same again. We have all had to adapt to working from home, not travelling anywhere with the abandon that we enjoyed before, doing our shopping online, going to Church online and consequently, starting to lead very insular lives.

Fortunately, the Parish of St. Margaret's has a very organised and pro-active Parish council and when the first lock-down came early in 2020, they very quickly put the wheels in motion to allow us to continue to worship almost as before, but just virtually.

With the assistance of technology, we regularly have upwards of 50 people attending our Sunday morning worship services, we have conducted the ordination of our friend Christopher Garcia and we have conducted Christenings, weddings and funerals.

All this has been made possible, not only because of 21st century technology, but it has required the services of a group of dedicated volunteers who give up hours of their time to ensure that the services mentioned are streamed in a way that everyone in the Parish can attend Church and see exactly what is happening throughout the service, almost as if they were in the Church themselves.

Technology is great when it works, but everyone has seen the occasional glitch that we experience during a service and we thank you for your patience while we sort out the gremlins that creep into the system or when we push the wrong buttons. None of the people operating the PowerPoint or cameras are trained in this type of

technology and we have literally had to learn by our mistakes.

For your patience and understanding, we thank you. We would also like to put out a special word of thanks to the wonderful team of people who have made themselves available to ensure that our services are broadcast live to you in the comfort of your homes. The members of this team are made up of Liz Prior, Mandy Stevens, Sandra Brown-Holt, John Humann, Harry Watson and Rob Mackenzie. Without them the virtual Church services would not be possible.

Rob Mackenzie

Do Justice

St Margaret's was one of 137 places of worship in Australia which marked "Sound the Alarm" for Climate Change on March 11.

The Australian Religious Response to Climate Change (ARRCC) is again calling on faith communities like ours to be a moral voice calling our Government to have the courage and leadership to take action.

The United Nations recently ranked all 193 countries in terms of their action on Climate and Australia came in 193rd. ARRCC's aim is to encourage faith communities of the need to do better

So be aware that **Faiths 4 Climate Justice** will be having two days of action in October (covid regulations allowing.) calling for Strong Action Now

Sunday 16th October ... in our services
Monday 17tha meeting outside the offices of the Federal Treasurer.

Bruce Pascoe will be featured in a free webinar organized by Christmas Hills Land Care Group and Nillumbik Council on Sunday 26th from 5.30 to 7 pm. You need to register by September 22 so If you would like to "attend" please contact Jenny Disney or Kathleen Toal for details of registration.

Jenny Disney

St Margaret's Music – Update



St Margaret's has Deductible Gift Recipient Status (DGR) through the Melbourne Anglican Cultural Organisation Inc. for donations to this very worthwhile project.

To make a donation please refer to the attached Donation form.

St Margaret's Music is an exciting opportunity for young musicians to engage in the rich heritage of church music.

St Margaret's Music scholarship offers a way for young people to explore everything from Gregorian chant to Gospel songs from traditional hymns to contemporary worship music.

Our aim is to expose young people to music which has contributed to the shaping of Western civilization.

In 2022 we are offering three music scholarships for promising young performers in a range of instruments. While keyboard players (organ, piano, etc) are preferred because of versatility, other instrumental players are welcome to apply: woodwind, strings, guitar, brass.

The scholarship, worth \$2000, is for the student's instrumental fees, for one calendar year. A review of progress will occur six monthly (July and December.)

Scholarship recipients are expected to engage with and learn music to be performed at specially designed monthly church services (including January).



St Margaret's Yarning Circle Project - Update

St Margaret's has Deductible Gift Recipient Status (DGR) through the Melbourne Anglican Cultural Organisation Inc. for donations to this very worthwhile project.

To make a donation please refer to the attached Donation form.



Artist: Emily Tuke

The use of a yarning circle is an important process Within Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture.

The Yarning Circle is a place where individuals or groups can come to sit, ponder, 'yarn', laugh or meditate, and aims to assist communities to build stronger bonds.



Donation Form

(through the Melbourne Anglican Cultural Organisation Inc.)

Name	<input type="text"/>		
Address	<input type="text"/>		
Suburb	<input type="text"/>	Postcode	<input type="text"/>
Email	<input type="text"/>	Phone	<input type="text"/>

Parish or Agency Name: wish to have access to the name, address, date and amount donated to their fund. If you agree to the Melbourne Anglican Foundation (or administered fund) providing these details, please tick the following box. You are not required to disclose this information and if you wish your giving to remain anonymous you may do so by NOT ticking the box.

- ☐ Yes, I authorise the Melbourne Anglican Foundation (or administered fund) to provide my/our name, address, date and amount of donation to Parish or Agency Name:

I wish to make a donation to support:

☐ DONATION BY CHEQUE:

I wish to make a one-off donation of \$ to MELBOURNE ANGLICAN FOUNDATION for **the ministry above**. I understand that my donation is tax-deductible and it will be used only for this ministry. Please send a receipt to the address above.

Make your cheque payable to "Melbourne Anglican Foundation".

☐ CREDIT CARD DONATION:

I wish to make a one-off donation of \$ to MELBOURNE ANGLICAN FOUNDATION for **the ministry above**. I understand that my donation is tax-deductible and it will be used only for this ministry. Please send a receipt to the address above.

Please debit my ☐ VISA ☐ MASTERCARD

Credit Card Number: CCV:

Expiry Date: / Signature

☐ **DONATION ONLINE:** If you wish to make a one-off donation online go to www.melbourneanglican.org.au/melbourne-anglican-foundation and click on the **DONATE NOW** button.

☐ **REGULAR DONATIONS:** I wish to make a regular donation **and have attached the Westpac Direct Debit Request**. If you require a Westpac Direct Debit Request contact The Melbourne Anglican Foundation on ph (03) 9653 4286 or email foundation@melbourneanglican.org.au



The Melbourne Anglican Foundation

209 Flinders Lane, Melbourne VIC 3000

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St Margaret's Anglican Church

79-81 Pitt Street

Eltham VIC 3095

9439 9238

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Parish or Agency Name: St Margaret's Anglican Church, Eltham wish to have access to the name, address, date and amount donated to their fund. If you agree to the Melbourne Anglican Foundation (or administered fund) providing these details, please tick the following box. You are not required to disclose this information and if you wish your giving to remain anonymous you may do so by NOT ticking the box.

☐ Yes, I authorise the Melbourne Anglican Foundation (or administered fund) to provide my/our name, address, date and amount of donation to Parish or Agency Name: St Margaret's Anglican Church Eltham

I wish to make a donation to support:

A Yarning Circle (St Margaret's Anglican Church Eltham)

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PAINTINGS BY GLENN LOUGHREY ON DISPLAY

These paintings are hanging in the church, so disappointing that you can't see them.



LIFE RISES FROM THE VOID



HIDDEN IN COUNTRY

In the centre of this piece there is, if you stand back and stay long enough a face camouflaged in the surrounding landscape. We are indistinguishable from country



ELEMENTS OF COUNTRY

The subtle shape and colour of country



DESERT RIVER

Does not need further description



COLOURS OF COUNTRY

Painted on a reclaimed piece of advertising.
Seemed appropriate at the time



SELF PORTRAIT OF THE ARTIST AS A WIRDAJARI MAN

Country is our name, We carry country in our body.. We are known by country despite having individual personal identifier

Vale Marjorie Taylor 18/08/21—Wonderful parishioner passing into His care aged 102



Rev. Christopher Garcia led the service



Rev. Keren Terpstra welcomed and led the prayers



Adrienne Watson invited to represent the Parish



Keren played her harp at communion



The stately coffin



The coffin leaving by the old church doors



Along side Marjorie's seat made from the site oak tree



Last ride down Pitt St

At Eltham Cemetery



Final Prayers



Goodbyes from Helen and Geoff



Resting next to her husband Ben Taylor

Frustrated Pastoral Care

At the last PCTeam meeting the impact of the 6th COVID lock down was clearly showing. Not only in how we felt but what we were doing. The seminar/workshop for facilitating those needing support for and dealing with dementia was again postponed. Last year we had expected a presentation from outside but we have been fortunate to have an offer from Sheila Cheary, who joined us a few years ago and now is a member of the Team. Her background is in nursing and aged care and its management. She still is prepared to

deliver a face to face event. She has prepared an extensive take-home booklet on how to deal with and manage issues and access support services. This needs to be delivered in a more personal setting than on Zoom and to encourage those of us not yet in need, to have an understanding of what may be around the corner -- about one in three people over 80 have dementia.

The lockdown has really even-more isolated those already not able to meet with community. Those in aged care have been special victims: at the beginning of last year those at SVCS (formerly Judge Book) aged care started their lockdown with a flu closure just before the pandemic started. Our delivery of worship services has been frustrated and only by some special training have about 6 out of a couple of dozen services been delivered and a little visiting too. Even Revd Linda has been unable to visit because of her involvement with other aged care.

Essentially, the PCTeam has been limited to mostly telephone contacts and cards, even when we know more informal visitation takes place, perhaps under a bubble agreement?? As a team we have to follow the rules.

On the positive side:

- there is a new Pastoral Care worker at St Vincent's (after a 6 week void) who took the initiative to talk to us and prepare for a restart;
- we are still able to keep in touch with around thirty parishioners; still have some good laughs and also understand the huge anxiety of several with major health or family problems.
- sending them cards to remind people that they are cared about and prayed for – the cards and their thoughts linger long after the phone call.

As we reflected there is almost no member of the team who has not faced a health issue, some of them major, in the last two years, so we have supported each other too. But Zoom support is only a small fraction of a hug, or if that's too much a close face to face with a smile and genuine concern.

Please, if you are not already vaccinated think of pastoral care and get vaccinated because without enough community inoculation we shall not be able to resume normal visiting. Please!!

Harry for the PCTeam

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