

BANYULE BABBLE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF BANYULE

HOLY SPIRIT WATSONIA ❖ ST ANDREW'S ROSANNA ❖ ST JOHN'S HEIDELBERG

JUNE
2011

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ANDREW ASSEVERATES

THIS MONTH I'll use my coveted front page slot both for an advertisement and an asseveration (which means to make an emphatic statement - come on, it's hard to find verbs beginning with 'A' that have to do with writing something).

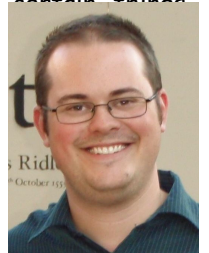
Before I went on holidays I was encouraged because our Vestry supported my proposal that we should try to start a weekly ministry that could be specifically for the younger families in the parish. But what should we do? We want to find out what is the best way to help this group grow in their spiritual lives and to deal with the particular challenges of that stage of life. So we're planning to have a meeting during the 10am Service on July 3rd at Heidelberg to start a conversation. Anyone who has an interest in our family ministry and/or wants to be involved is welcome. We hope that we can launch

something new by Term 4. Starting things is always difficult, but it's exciting as well because we are not bound by what is already happening or has been in the past. I would appreciate your prayers, and if you have any ideas about what we can do then I'll be very enthusiastic in listening. That I can asseverate.

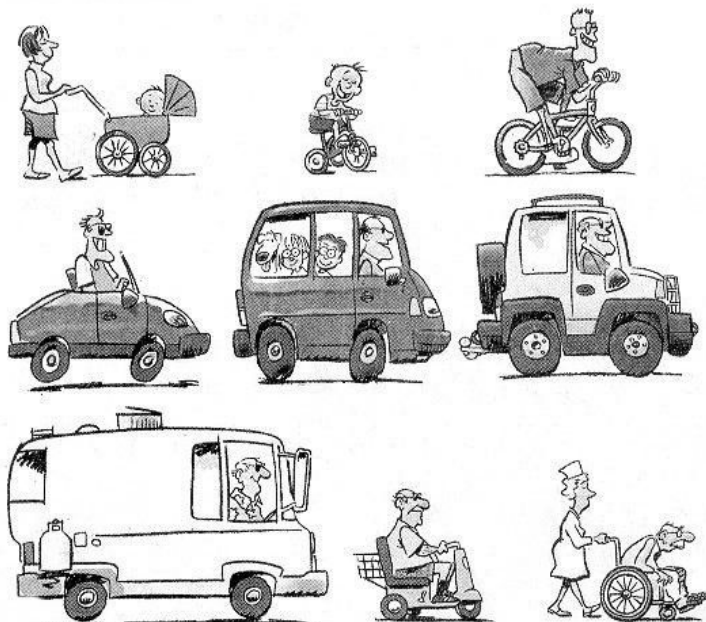
We just spent a week staying down by the beach at Point Lonsdale. It was a good time to reflect in quietness and develop my personal relationship with God, which by the nature of being ordained always threatens to become a professional relationship only! When going through good times like being in a lovely place and doing fun things I tend to realise that even in the best moment there is something 'more' that I want that is beyond it. This dissatisfaction is at the heart of my perseverance as a Christian. Following Jesus holds the

promise that there is always something greater over the next horizon, a deeper awareness and experience of the presence of God, a more profound change in my character, more precious insights into the nature of the infinite world in which we live. If you listen with an analytical ear, most of the messages that we get from our society and the groups within it are designed to make us feel that we can and should settle down in limited happiness and be content if only we possess certain things or join a certain group or do certain things. But I hope that we can also hear within us the 'groaning' as creation waits for the glory of God that has yet to be revealed (Rom 8:18-25).

Andrew



The Wheels of Life



(Submitted by Mike Terry)

Saturday 4th June, 9 am – 1 pm

Working Bee at Holy Spirit

*All able-bodied people from all centres
are asked to come and help*

General gardening

Window cleaning

Soil spreading

Paver laying

Bring gardening and other useful tools

Pentecost Sunday 12th June

On the day of Pentecost, we will all be gathered in one place: **Holy Spirit Watsonia** at 10 am.

It is Holy Spirit's Patronal Festival.

Morning tea afterwards, supplied by the ladies of Holy Spirit.

Don't forget to wear something red if you can!

This Month – June

Saturday 4th: 9 am – 1 pm Working Bee at Holy Spirit

Saturday 11th: No service at Watsonia

Sunday 12th Pentecost: 10 am Combined Parish Service at Watsonia

Monday 13th: 6 pm Men's BBQ at St John's, \$10

Friday 17th: 7 am Men's breakfast at 184 Burgundy St, \$20

Sunday 19th: 11.30 am Meeting at St John's on possible weekly family service

Monday 20th: 1.30 pm St Andrew's Mothers' Union, 12 Adamson St Heidelberg

Wednesday 22nd: 7.45 pm St John's Ladies' Fellowship

Next Month – July

Saturday 9th: Mid-Winter Feast at St John's

Sunday 17th – Wednesday 20th: Mid-Winter Retreat

Sunday 24th – Wednesday 27th: Clergy Conf.

Wanted

- People for lawn mowing rosters: 9459 9049
- Non-perishable food for Anglicare: 9458 2321

Money – April

Income: Giving: \$7,799.80
Other: \$13,427.25
Total: \$21,227.05

Expenses: \$33,582.75

Loss: \$12,355.70

Giving was up, thank you. It was a bad month for expenses, with quarterly payments for superannuation, diocesan assessment and land tax all appearing this month.

We have moved \$25,000 from the ADF curacy account to the general account to cover the losses.

Mission Box Results

Church Missionary Society.....\$400.00
Leprosy Mission.....\$442.05
Bush Church Australia.....\$468.30
Total:.....\$1310.35

Thanks to all, June Lockhart

St John's Ladies' Fellowship

Our personable Assistant Minister, Andrew Bowles, kindly agreed to speak to us at our April meeting. Andrew's father is a minister in the Anglican Church and Andrew was raised in parishes in Sydney and Brisbane. He committed his life to Jesus when he was 14. As a teenager he was involved in some of the ministries in their parish, particularly worship teams and leading some small bible groups. He was involved in the youth groups and some men's ministry, preaching and leading services. So he had strong grounding for the life he was to later choose but this did not happen immediately. He went to university and studied psychology and although he found this interesting he did not feel compelled by the idea of doing this kind of work and after finishing his degree he drifted for a while. Obviously God had planted the seed in his heart and he eventually conceded he should seriously consider ordination. This was just prior to his becoming engaged to Camille who he had met at church and this needed much discussion with her.

Having made the decision he knew that it was the right one and he came to Ridley in Melbourne to study 5 years ago. This testimony led Andrew to the subject of vocation and the mistaken belief that people have that you can only talk about Christian vocation in terms of whether you feel you are called to be ordained or not – and this is wrong. He quoted Corinthians 12 v. 4–11 and summarised that all Christians manifest the presence of the Holy Spirit in the gifts that we have been given. All our work is equally important and spiritual as expounded in the same passage by Paul in v. 14: "For just as the body is one it has many members" etc.

Thank you, Andrew. This was both insightful and encouraging to us. We are blessed to have both you and Camille with us.

Eileen Broadway

Our next fellowship meeting will be on Wednesday evening, 22nd June at 7.45 pm. Our guest speakers will be our old friends Marion and Alan Lang. Alan will show us slides of his trip to London, the Isle of Wight and Malta. Everyone is very welcome to come along.

Please note that this will be an evening meeting!

Pauline Holbery, Secretary Tel. 9459 0364

St Andrew's Mothers' Union

Monday June 20th at 1.30 pm at the home of Brenda Griffiths: 12 Adamson St, Heidelberg:

Marion and Althea tell of their travels

Collection of groceries for Anglicare.

Betty Kettle 9435 6533

New Family Service time?

Some people have said they would like a weekly Family Service, probably in one location, instead of two a month at different locations. This would mean a different time from the traditional services, so they would be separate services, and people could choose the style of service they prefer. On Sunday 19th June at 11.30 am there will be a meeting at St John's to discuss this and make decisions. Anyone who would like to be part of the new services is urged to come.

Do you have a Y chromosome?

Rob Koch of 'Better Men Australia' is running a series of meetings for men:

Monday 13th June (Queen's Birthday) 6 pm – 8 pm: Men's barbecue at St John's, only \$10

Friday 17th June 7 am – 8.30 am: Men's breakfast at Vyve Café 184 Burgundy St Heidelberg, \$20

Sunday 19th June 10 am: Rob will speak at the family service at St John's (women will be allowed to come to this one)

Enquiries/bookings: Philip 0416 230 455

Bad news for St John's

Gay Miller and I attended the Banyule Council meeting on Monday 23rd May to express our opposition to the proposed development at 1A Burgundy St, next to the church property, on the right-hand side. The development will be a huge four-storey block of flats built right up to the property dividing line and occupying practically the whole block. In the face of council objections they set back the top storey further from the street side and a little from the back side, but not at all from our side. The current building is to be demolished.

The meeting was a very disappointing one. I had expected that public Council meetings would be largely show, with the real decisions made behind closed doors; what I had not expected was that the show would be so badly acted. The ward councillor, Jenny Mulholland, did not even attend. The motion to recommend the proposal was put by Cr Wayne Phillips, who said that he was not familiar with the proposal, and then put a series of questions to some administrative official that were asked and answered so glibly that they were obviously rehearsed. He finished with a speech that remarkably cosied up to the developer. The motion was seconded by Craig Langdon; there was not even a pretence at any real discussion; and it was passed unanimously.

The building is completely out of line with the Council's own heritage planning document, which appears to exist for appearance only. Only Tom Melican expressed the view that it was unfortunate, and that he only voted for it because he feared otherwise VCAT would approve the original plan. How sincere he was I cannot judge.

We could appeal to VCAT but the diocese has already told us they would not fund it, and we cannot afford it.

Worse is to come, with a proposal currently before council for five stories (four visible) all along the back of St John's—see the picture, and note it is from a low angle: the flats are as high as the tower.

Peter McKay

St Andrew's Anglican Men's Society

Welcome to you all to the first meeting of the year, held in the church chapel at 8.05 pm. Secretary Geoff Murphy laid the service in prayer; followed by Bro John Adams, who did the Bible reading: John 10:1–10, which was about the Good Shepherd and His sheep.

It is a lovely story, told many times over, illustrating in Jesus' name that we are his sheep; always wandering to and fro. Those of us who have pets know they will come to us, for they know our voice; but from a stranger, they will run away and hide. Jesus assures us all, "I am the leader of you. If you follow Me, you will be saved". And you know Jesus will never leave us or forsake us—blessed be the name of the Lord.

Afterwards prayers were said by Bro Albert Harvey. We thank all those who sent apologies: we hope you will be able to join us next time.

We were delighted to have Mr Ron White as our guest speaker, who is well known throughout the parish. Feeling full of spark and twenty-one years old, he illustrated with film that one is never too old to take up the challenge to travel. We sat back in awe marvelling at the places he had been to. Portugal, Spain, France, Turkey, London—

where he worked for some time—then back to Australia. The people there seemed to have an easy way of going about things, but were hard-working. It was very inspiring to see the fine cathedrals and workmanship, most likely built far back in the fifth century, and still proudly standing. Pilgrim journeys throughout Spain; the statue of St James in the beautiful cathedral of France; the bellringers pulling the ropes; back and forward sways the incense. So the people had a spiritual feeling that God was with them.

The countryside had its own beauty and peace. At one point there was the fountain of wine, and the tomb of Santo Domingo, in the beautiful León Cathedral. Next time you travel, give a thought to Ron, either walking or motorcycling or rolling or whatever. I am sure if you want to join him, he will find you a donkey—he intends to do another trip.

From the bottom of our hearts, we thank you, Ron, for a most enjoyable evening. May God bless you in your travels, to come home safely.

After the Grace was said, we all had supper. Remember you too are welcome to join us. It's a very low-key meeting. Regardless of your faith, we are all brothers in Christ.

God bless,

Lay Chairman Albert Harvey

Hug

There's something in a simple hug
That always warms the heart;
It welcomes us back home
And makes it easier to part.

A hug's a way to share the joy
And sad times we go through,
Or just a way for friends to say
They like you 'cause you're you.

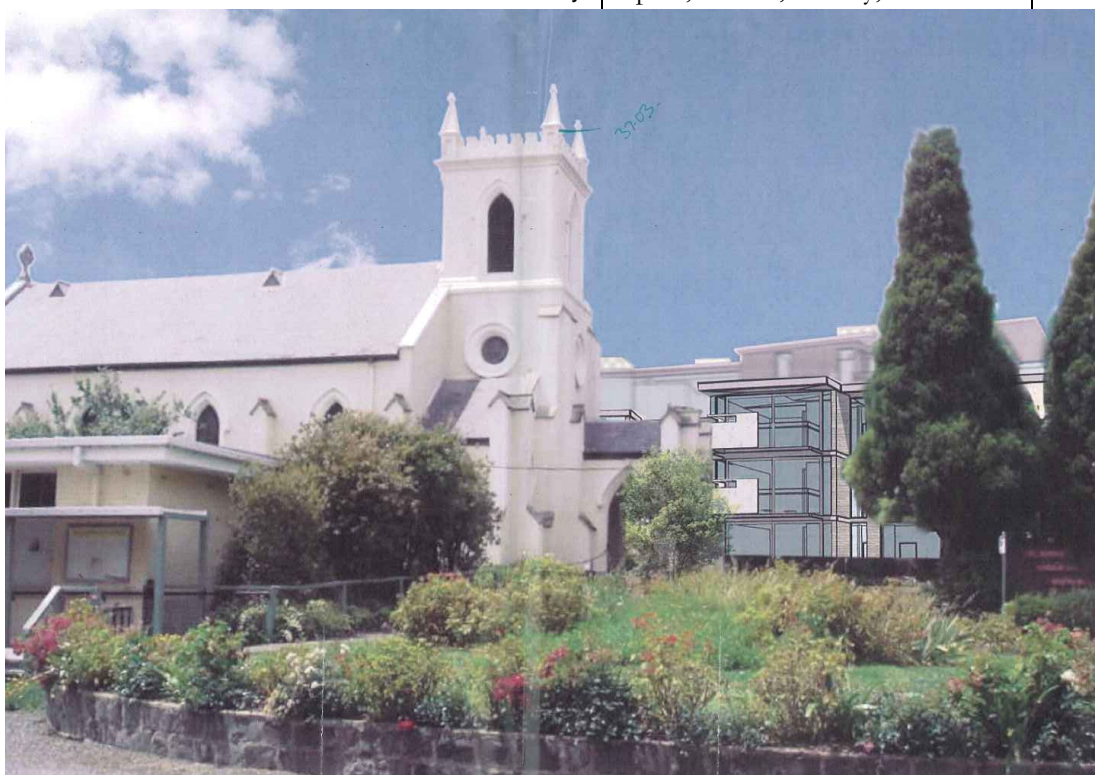
Hugs are meant for anyone
For whom we really care,
From your grandma to your neighbor,
Or a cuddly teddy bear.

A hug is an amazing thing –
It's just the perfect way
To show the love we're feeling
But can't find the words to say.

It's funny how a little hug
Makes everyone feel good;
In every place and language,
It's always understood.

And hugs don't need equipment,
Special batteries or parts –
Just open up your arms
And open up your hearts.

By Jill Wolf
submitted by Freda Abrahams



Vestry Notes

Meeting of Tuesday 17th May 2011 at 7.28 pm

Matters arising

- Stewardship drive in hand.
- Watsonia cross in hand.
- Rosanna memorial garden still to be costed.
- Pews have been moved from the back of St Andrew's. Storage is taking up space in the Small Hall.

Mission giving

Macleod College Chaplaincy	\$1000
Open House	\$2000
Olympic Village Preschool	\$1000
Asylum Seekers' Centre	\$1000

These are local groups. CMS, BCA, ABM and Anglicord to be considered later.

Archbishop's strategic plan: observation phase

- The Outreach group has started. All people are children of God, and God is at work in them. Our job is to see what God is doing, and consider what we can do to join in.
- Six members of Vestry will carry on the observations. New members of the Outreach Committee are sought.

Ministry reports

Philip Trowse

- We should look at encouragements.
- What is important is not what is urgent, but laying foundations for the next 50 or 100 years.
- Staff retreat day: looked at achievement of goals.
- Property Consultancy Committee 26 May and 23 June.
- Division of duties amongst clergy:
 - ♦ PT: Office admin, staff and group oversight, leadership, policy. Visiting, funerals, weddings, baptism enquiries, community planning, rosters and encouragement.
 - ♦ RY: Midweek communions, traditional services, focus on Rosanna, nursing homes, parish partners, funerals & weddings.
 - ♦ AB: Family services, mainly music, pastoral care, RE in school, developing family ministry and younger approach, coordinating Baptism classes, Parish Fair, visiting, funerals, weddings as possible, baptisms.
 - ♦ RR: Sunday services (preaching and assisting), pastoral care when possible, baptism and wedding preparation (later).
- Some Watsonia members unhappy with the new discussion format. A survey is being done.
- CRE in schools has been in the news, but no problems with ours.
- Congratulations to Marion Edmends on her well-deserved community service award for her playgroup work.

Rosemary Young

- Encouraged that when staff looked at goals, about 2/3 had been achieved.
- Nursing home work is important. Regular services at Iris Grange and Strathalan, and other nursing homes have made requests.

- Mid-week communions going well and may be extended.
- Healing services are developing. Help and advice is being sought from someone who has done healing services in other parishes.
- Parish Partners:
 - ♦ Replacing 'Pastoral Partners'.
 - ♦ First training session this week.
 - ♦ 20 volunteers: 5 people per Parish Partner.
 - ♦ Parish Partners must be committed to Christ and the parish.
 - ♦ There to listen and be available, not to be a therapist.

Parish op shops

The Macleod shop still not repaired: stern letter to agent.

Treasurer's report

- A bad month for expenses.
- \$25,000 transferred from Curacy to general account.
- ADF signatories updated.

Team ministry

- Parish Partner scheme progressing well; life groups will be put aside for now.
- Lay readers/worship leaders appreciate the opportunity.
- Discussion of Watsonia services. To be given more thought.

Reaching the younger generation

Andrew has called a meeting for 19th June at St John's for those interested in a new weekly family congregation, to decide if they want to go ahead, where, and at what time.

Missions

- We'll adopt Tavis and Kate Beer, a missionary family working with aboriginal people in the Northern Territory, as link missionaries.
- CMS will visit the parish to speak.

Important calendar items

- Auction Night 28 May
- Mission month 16 May–12 June
- Rob Koch talking to men 13–19 June
- Reconciliation week 27 June–3 July
- Clergy conference 24–27 July
- Combined service 29 May at Heidelberg: Vestry to provide morning tea.
- Combined service 12 June at Watsonia: Morning tea provided by the Holy Spirit Team.

Communion

Due to requests, at communion non-alcoholic wine will be made available in thimble cups, as well as (not instead of) the usual wine in the common cup. This will give an alternative both for those wishing to abstain from alcohol and for those worried about the hygiene of the common cup.

Peter McKay

All the verses!

Time to return to that great hymn, 'Salve, festa dies'. In the April *Babble*, I said it has at least 32 verses. Now I've found another 9, and it looks like there are more. This month we include only:

Ascension

Refrain:

*Hail thee, festival day!
Blest day that art hallowed forever,
Day when our God ascends
high in the heavens to reign.*

Lo, the fair beauty of earth,
from the death of the winter arising,
Every good gift of the year
now with its Master returns.

Refrain

Daily the loveliness grows,
adorned with the glory of blossom;
Heaven her gates unbars,
flinging her increase of light.

Refrain

Christ in his triumph ascends,
who hath vanquished the devil's
dominion;

Gay is the woodland with leaves,
bright are the meadows with flowers.

Refrain

Christ overwhelms the domain
of Hades and rises to heaven;
Fitle the light gives him praise—
meadows and ocean and sky.

Refrain

Loosen, O Lord, the enchained,
the spirits imprisoned in darkness;
Rescue, recall into life those
who are rushing to death.

Refrain

So shalt thou bear in thine arms
an immaculate people to heaven,
bearing them pure unto God,
pledge of thy victory here.

Refrain

Jesu the Health of the world,
Creator of man and Redeemer,
Son of the Father supreme,
only-begotten of God!

Refrain

Equal art thou, co-eternal,
in fellowship ay with the Father;

In the beginning by thee
all was created and made.

Refrain

And it was thou, blessed Lord,
who discerning humanity's sorrow,
Humbledst thyself for our race,
taking our flesh for thine own.

Refrain

Pentecost

Refrain:

*Hail thee, festival day!
Blest day that art hallowed forever;
Day wherein God from heaven,
shone on the world with his grace.*

Lo! in the likeness of fire,
on them that await his appearing,
He whom the Lord foretold,
suddenly, swiftly, descends.

Refrain

Forth from the Father he comes
with his sevenfold mystical dowry,
Pouring on human souls
infinite riches of God.

Refrain

Hark! in a hundred tongues
Christ's own, his chosen Apostles,
Preach to a hundred tribes
Christ and his wonderful works.

Refrain

Praise to the Spirit of life,
all praise to the Fount of our being,
Light that dost lighten all,
life that in all dost abide.

Refrain

God, who art giver of all
good gifts and lover of concord,
Pour thy balm on our souls,
order our ways in thy peace.

Refrain

God Almighty, who fillest
the heaven, the earth and the ocean,
Guard us from harm without,
cleanse us from evil within.

Refrain

Kindle our lips with his live bright coal
from the hands of the Seraph;
Shine in our minds with thy light;
burn in our hearts with thy love.

Refrain