

# BANYULE BABBLE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF BANYULE

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

SEPTEMBER  
2012

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## PHILIP PHILOSOPHISES

A HEALTHY community is a dynamic one. This is what it means to be alive.

We have experienced so much blessing over the years, with amalgamation, vision casting and lots of good ministry along the way. Mainly music and our family outreach are priority ministries which encourage us as we seek to reach the next generation with the Good News of Jesus.

Next year will bring more adjustments to us, as our staffing changes once again. The vestry have made a decision that we cannot afford to keep on the same level of extra paid staff, and we will be able to have the equivalent of two full time priests. With Andrew moving on to his second curacy, we are searching for another staff member. We are looking for someone who will be able to consolidate the work done so far, to give us the long term ministry we need, and especially to focus on the pastoral needs of our young families.

Please continue to pray for the life of our church. Specifically, I hope you will be able to take time out on Saturday 29th September, to enjoy time at Amberley for our Parish Retreat Day. This will be a key part of our planning for the next steps we take.

I hope you are encouraged to see that the Lord is doing his good work amongst us.

I thank you all for your faithful service and loving care.

Philip Trowse



### PARISH RETREAT DAY AT AMBERLEY

9 am – 3 pm Saturday 29 September 2012

*Delicious food, rest, recreation,  
fellowship and prayer*

***Congratulations to Andrew and  
Camille Bowles on the birth of  
Ethan Matthew Bowles!***

**The Roster Coordinator will be visiting soon  
to add Ethan to the list**

### Parish Spring Fair Committee Stall Conveners Contact List

*It was formalised that the Fair will be held on  
Saturday, 17<sup>th</sup> November, 2012 from 9.30 a.m. until  
2 p.m.*

The following is a list of the stalls and those who will be primarily coordinating/running them.

**BBQ and drinks:** Rod Harris, 0439 794 994, & Glenn Farrington and Frank Webb.

**Cakes:** Marion Edmends, 9478 4614 and Mary Harper, 0422 718 334, with Dulcie Michaelson helping.

**Craft:** Kaye Collins, 9457 2530, with Betty Kettle helping. Donations very welcome.

**Happy Café:** Rhonda Murphy, 9459 8152.

Beth Jones will be helping with the Café, and Norma Evans has offered to be the treasurer for the stall. Joyce Gough and Marion Edmends indicated that they will be making sandwiches.

**Lucky Dips:** Will need to ask the parishioners for contributions of items. Linked at the moment with Children's activities: Rosemary Bellair, 9459 5394.

**Mystery Parcels:** Althea Bernet, 9458 2913.

**Mystery Bottles:** Stall holder is still undecided. Please contact Rod Harris on 0439 794 994. We also need appropriate donations.

**Plants:** Crystal Dunn, 9859 6353, with helpers already noted as Gwen Matheson, Naira Riad, Lorna Buckmaster and possibly Dorothy Harper as well.

**Treasure shop:** Barbara Andrews, 8467 0334.

**Treasure Bags** (for kids): The treasures for these bags have already been organized.

**Raffles and Hampers:** Joyce Gough, 9459 9184. We need donations of goods for inclusion in these.

**Fabrics:** Maureen Shand is happy to run this stall again, and is organized.

**Wood turning:** Allan and Joan Way are happy to run this stall again.

**Books:** Andrew Bowles, 0423 932 030 (subject to nappy duties).

**Toys/Jigsaws/mainly music/Children's Activities:** Rosemary Bellair, 9459 5394.

**Face painting:** We will invite Karen Docker, Gay Miller and Wendy Farrington to be involved in this hugely popular children's activity/stall. Interim contact: Rod Harris, 0439 794 994.

**A clown:** Gay Miller, 9459 4750. Gay is prepared to do this again, but we need to see whether we can secure another person from the parish to volunteer to also be a clown and entertain the children.

**Advertising:** Rod Harris and Rosemary Bellair will coordinate advertising this year, and Rhonda Murphy indicated she is willing. We will place an advertisement in the Leader. Mary Harper kindly offered to approach the Estate Agents regarding signage.

*What we wish to convey to all Parishioners, is that a successful Parish Fair will occur if we unite as "A people of Faith, Serving God, and being a Blessing to others".*

The next Fair meeting will be held on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> September, at 10.30 a.m. in St John's lower hall.

Yours in service and gratitude,

Rod Harris, Chairperson

### *Anglicare Rosanna Auxiliary*

*extend a warm invitation to parishioners,  
friends and neighbours to join us on*

**Monday 3rd September** at 1 pm  
at St Andrew's Fellowship Hall

Guest speaker: Robyn Vella from Loddon Shire  
Topic: **Flood Survival in Rural Towns**

*Afternoon Tea and Fellowship*

Donation \$6. RSVP Mavis 9457 2321

### **FAMILY-FRIENDLY CHURCH AND LUNCH**

***St John's, Sunday September 23<sup>rd</sup>***

Come for a relaxed service geared for the children, and then we'll share some time together afterwards over an early lunch.

Kids fed, friendships forged, and the church family is built up!

*In 2013 we will be moving to have a regular family lunch after church on the FIRST SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT HEIDELBERG.*

FAMILY SEMINAR

### ***The Dynamics of Family Relationships***

September 27<sup>th</sup>, Holy Spirit Watsonia

## This Month – September

**Monday 1st:** 10 am mm Father's Day: St Andrew's

**Sunday 2nd:** 12 noon 'Out 2 Lunch' at RSL

**Monday 3rd:** 1 pm 'Flood Survival in Rural Towns',  
St Andrew's Fellowship Hall: \$6 for Anglicare

**Thursday 13th:** 10 am MU Day of Reflection at  
Holy Trinity East Melbourne

**Monday 17th:** 11 am St Andrew's Mothers' Union  
Tour of St James' Old Cathedral

**Sunday 23rd:** 10 am Family-Friendly Church and  
Lunch at St John's

**Wednesday 26th:** 1.30 pm St John's Fellowship:  
Robert Winther, Veterans' Affairs, The Austin

**Thursday 27th:** Seminar 'Dynamics of Family  
Relationships' at Holy Spirit

**Saturday 29th:** 9 am – 3 pm Parish Retreat Day  
at Amberley

**Sunday 30th:** 10 am Combined Parish Service at  
St Andrew's: 'Commitment Sunday'

## Coming Up

**Saturday 17th November:** 9.30 am – 2 pm Parish  
Spring Fair

## Wanted

- New volunteers for the Macleod Op Shop
- Goods and helpers for the Parish Fair

## St. John's Fellowship

**Wednesday 26th September** at 1.30 pm: Robert Winther will speak about his work as liaison officer for Veterans' Affairs at Austin Health. Everyone very welcome to come along!

*Pauline Holbery, Secretary 9459 0364*

## St Andrew's Mothers' Union

**Thursday 13th September** 10 am: Day of Reflection at Holy Trinity, East Melbourne.

**Monday 17th September** 11 am: Tour of St James' Old Cathedral.

Visitors welcome.

*Betty Kettle, 9435 6533*

## Thanks

Thanks to those who braved the foul weather and came to the Working Bee at St Andrew's. Philip put in some fine cupboard doors, and a fine sawdust floor (like an old butcher's shop). Even braver souls worked outside pruning, regardless of the chilled rain that ran over faces and down necks. The Editor discovered that by standing underneath branches as he sawed at them, he was cooled during his hard work by refreshing extra showers from the leaves, and the lack of sight due to waterlogged spectacles was no problem, as the falling branches gave notice of their arrival by friendly vigorous taps on his head and back.

Not many, unfortunately, were at church the next day, as they were presumably in bed with pneumonia.

## Scroll Found in Temple

"I have found the book of the law in the house of the Lord." (2 Kings 22:8, 2 Chron 34:15)

Many of us will remember the story: the long-lost Book of the Law\* was found by Hilkiah the priest in an unvisited part of the Temple (perhaps part of the Treasury), and was brought to King Josiah of Judah. For a very long time worship of Yahweh seems to have been unfashionable. Josiah was determined to re-establish the worship of the one true God, and was shocked to discover how far the nation had deviated from the Law, and what the consequences were that were prophesied to result (full story 2 Kings 22, 2 Chron 34).

We have re-enacted this story on a smaller scale, with the discovery by Mavis Lean of a lost scroll in a corner of St Andrew's. The lost scroll was passed to the Editor of the *Babble*, who was shocked to discover that the *Babble* had deviated from its duty by not publishing its contents in the August issue. We hasten therefore to apologise, and publish the full text on the right:

\*What book was the Book of the Law that was found? The answer is unknown. Some have supposed it was the whole Pentateuch, but the word 'book' (i.e. scroll) is in the singular, and it would be unexpected for such a large work to be on a single unwieldy scroll. A common guess is that it was Deuteronomy, which ties in nicely with Andrew's sermons (see next page).

Conspiracy theorists think the book was planted.

## Anglican Men's Society, Rosanna 18th July 2012

The meeting commenced shortly after 8 pm, led by Geoff Murphy. As it was a cold winter night, it was held in the church foyer.

It was great to see so many faithful members, including Rex Turner, who is not a young man. And also young David Lovett: we thank you for coming along and participating in the service. And it was nice to see Andrew the Curate in attendance.

John Adams did the reading from that beautiful chapter, *Ephesians* 1:1–14 – a letter from Paul, chosen by God to fully understand its context. One needs to set aside and follow the passages one by one. Paul was telling us that God loves us dearly – he has a plan for you, even from the day you were born. He tells us in kindness not to be foolish, but wise: to follow him all the days of your life, with the promise "I will give you the Holy Spirit, to guide you and to help you from wandering from the fold". And if you look back on your life, you will certainly find that God keeps his promise. It's therefore up to you to do your best to keep his commandments.

After prayers were said Geoff welcomed our guest speaker, the Rev'd David Patterson, here to bring a message of his experience in the church of today. I first met the Rev doing locum work in the parish of St Mary's Preston: a New Zealander with a wide knowledge of

theology. I could see he was well versed in his teachings to the local community. Not only did he serve in Victorian country parishes, but also in Melbourne – he was able to compare the way people looked after one another, for all types came to his door for assistance.

Even in the UK along by the Thames, I was surprised to know that he had met gypsies who were Christians. Some of the ladies were very colourful in their dress code. When they have a funeral, the casket is in the caravan. Before the final burial, the lid is off so loved ones can pay their respects. Many English and Irish people did this until well up to the end of the fifties; being in a cooler climate, it was suitable.

Things do change. People do not seem to fear the teaching of their priest and services are conducted in a friendlier way. We thank the Rev'd David for his informal talk, and wish him God's blessing on taking up his work in Adelaide.

There will be forthcoming announcements about taking the meeting at St James' Old Cathedral in September. To support us in this worthy cause we are also hoping to have another Men's Breakfast, which you will all hear about in the coming weeks. Did you know we are now into our 11th year, sharing AMS in the parish? Hopefully more men will come forward.

After Geoff said the grace, we all had a cuppa, served by Max.

May God bless you all,  
Lay Chairman Albert Harvey

We reproduce below the first of a series of lectures preached by Andrew at St John's on Deuteronomy. For the benefit of those who missed them, or for those who want to repeat the pleasure, the *Babble* will print the whole series, starting this month.

## 'In Former Days'

Deuteronomy 4:32-40 & Acts 3:22-26

St. John's, Heidelberg, 22/07/12

We're now into the first week of a new term. In this term we've decided to base all our sermons on reading through the book of Deuteronomy, which is the fifth book of the Bible, and one of the books of what is called the 'Torah', the Old Testament law.

Some of you may be groaning inside to hear this, and that's actually why I thought this would be a good idea. The Old Testament is often literally a closed book to many of us. We don't read it, we don't see that it is relevant. It has a lot of things in it that we find offensive, or bizarre. That's true for me too. So I'd like us then to work with this ancient book of the law for the next few months to see what it can tell us, and why we do keep it in our Bibles.

The book of Deuteronomy is a record of a sermon that Moses gave to the Israelite people as they were preparing to enter the Promised Land of Canaan for the first time. It was at the end of Moses' life just before he died, and he is passing over a last exhortation to the people as to how they should live once they have entered the new land that God is giving them. Basically, then, Deuteronomy is a blueprint for ethical living in the Promised Land. It is a book about ethics.

The name of the book, 'Deuteronomy' is taken from the Greek for 'second law'. It is a phrase used in chapter 17, where the king is encouraged to keep a copy of the law so that he can refer to it and obey it. That is actually a helpful idea, because ethical living does require constantly referring back to the basis of our ethics and the principles that we are trying to live out.

The way I'm approaching Deuteronomy for us here and now is to see it as an example and form that is parallel to the ethics of the Christian life. Becoming a Christian is a lot like entering into the Promised Land. It is a venture of faith that we undertake with God, and we need some form of guidance of how to develop the ethics of our faith. How are we supposed to live Christianity out in concrete situations that we meet throughout our life? And Deuteronomy,

along with the New Testament, gives us an insight into how Christian ethics is formed and how we approach the different issues. My point is for us to see not only that the Old Testament is an interesting book, but that it is actually extremely practical. The greater understanding we have of the whole Bible, the more easily we will be able to discern what it means to live the Christian life faithfully and fruitfully.

In order to introduce Deuteronomy I chose a passage from chapter 4. The first few chapters are a preamble to the actual laws, where Moses reminds the Israelites of their history and how it has led up to this point. What this does, which is very important, in fact crucial, is that it turns the law from just a set of laws into a covenant, into a relationship between God and his people which they are living out. And this relationship is based on God's action to redeem the people. So Moses reminds them about how they were liberated from slavery in Egypt, and how God protected them as they went into the wilderness after living Egypt. He reminds them as well how God gave them the law at Mt Sinai and how he has been helping them to come into the Promised land. So all these things have happened. And then there comes a 'so', a 'therefore'. 'So acknowledge today and take to heart that the Lord is God in heaven above and on the earth beneath; there is no other. Keep his statutes and his commandments, which I am commanding you today for your own well-being and that of your descendants after you, so that you may long remain in the land that the Lord your God is giving you for all time.' Their obedience to the law

derives its motivation from what God has done for them in the past.

What's worth seeing for us is that this is exactly the same structure as Christian ethics has. The apostles always derive ethical instructions from a remembrance of what Jesus has done for us. We begin with the relationship we have with God. We remember the coming of Jesus, his incarnation, miracles and ministry, his death and resurrection. These are all things that God has done through Christ to liberate us from sin and to allow us to enter into a life of holiness and spiritual blessing. And then we think, well how should I behave? What should my ethical obligations and responses be?

So in the next term we're thinking about a number of specific ethical issues and how they're addressed by Moses in Deuteronomy and by Jesus and the apostles in the New Testament.

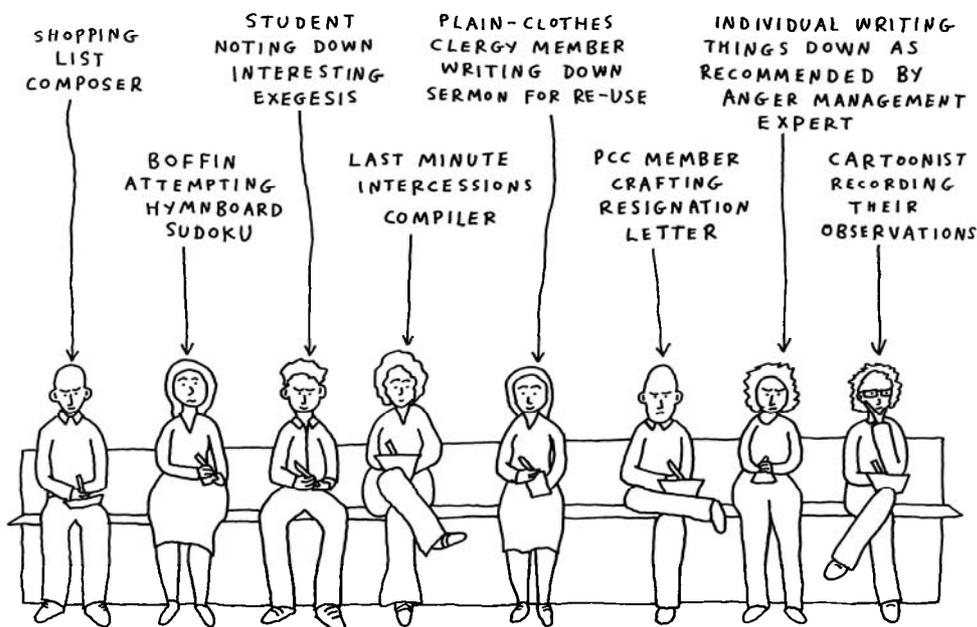
But today, the first thing to think about is 'do we remember what God has done for us?'. Do we remember that Jesus has set us free from sin and death, and are we looking forward to a life with God on that basis? Because that is where our ethics come from. And it is why, as we go along I think we will see that all the ethical issues resolve themselves towards and imitation in our own lives of God's grace and love toward us.

So to summarise our opening look at Deuteronomy, what does it teach us? Well, it shows us that the first ethical task is not to do particular things but a purely reflective task – remembering that it was with God's help that we arrived at the entrance to the Promised Land.

Andrew Bowles

## MAKING NOTES

WHY PEOPLE ARE WRITING THINGS DOWN DURING THE SERMON



# Godfrey Ellard Hemsworth

25/3/1947 – 24/7/2012



The funeral of Godfrey (Goff) Hemsworth, Vestry member, churchwarden and Renaissance man, was held at St John's on Monday 30th July. The full church sang *Amazing Grace* and *Be Thou My Vision* with feeling, and heard from Goff's daughter Sarah and son Tim.

## *Sarah Flynn (née Hemsworth)*

I'd like to say a few quick words about dad.

Firstly, thank you everyone for your support. Dad really appreciated the care and concern over the past few months from family, friends, the parish and work colleagues. I know he'd be touched with so many of you here today.

Also thank you from mum, Tim and me for the support both practical and emotional that we have received, it has been greatly appreciated.

Those of you who knew him well, would know that dad appreciated the finer things in life—or as mum would say “had champagne taste on a beer budget”! Whether it was a fine red wine or a dinner out, dad would always choose a “high-end” option!

Dad and I had a fun banter going for as long as I can remember, where I was his partner-in-crime. Whenever he'd made a sneaky purchase during his lunch hour in the city, he'd come home and lob in my bedroom with his goods in a bag, that I'd get to admire and giggle when he'd say, “Whatever you do, don't tell your mother!” Of course most of the time mum found out—I mean there's really only so long you can hide a beautiful sports coat or leather shoes or new watch! During the last few months,

dad certainly had fun upping the ante a bit on purchases—fully encouraged by me of course—getting himself the best iPad with all the add-ons for use during chemo and even a new kettle with five different temperatures to ensure his tea was at perfect temperature at all times!

There was no issue though when it came to spending on travel. Mum and dad have taken some wonderful trips over the years. They spent twelve months living in the UK and travelling in Europe when they were first married and when they returned home vowed not to wait to retirement to take the next trip and to give Tim and me the passion for travel. So dad organized a trip to Hong Kong, China and Macau when we were teenagers and opened our eyes to the world of travel and culture. Dad and mum went on to take many more trips, back to Europe and also closer to home, both with friends and by themselves.

Travel only confirmed dad's other passion: history! I think that we could safely say that he has enough books to rival the history section of any of the local libraries—with undoubtedly a better selection and cross-spread of carefully selected and well loved books on any area of history from the Roman times to Ancient Greece!

I've got to say though, that this was particularly handy during my VCE studies. It probably comes as no surprise that history and international politics were my best subjects, having such an amazing wealth of knowledge on hand 24/7!

I love the passion he had for his history. I'd often be distracted by the twinkle in his eye and his excitement and how his whole face would light up as he'd explain to me in great detail parts of the French and Russian revolutions.

Dad's passion for history of course included our family history. He spent much of the last few years carefully archiving letters from his parents and uncles and aunts during the war. He had a great way of keeping them all alive in the way that he spoke about their achievements and experiences and gave us a great appreciation of the service and sacrifice many of our family gave during the War.

It was from being inspired by the stories of his uncles who flew Lancaster Bombers and Catalinas in the War that gave dad a longing to learn how to fly. So during his 40s dad started flying lessons out at Essendon airport. After lots of study and clocking over 20 hours of training flights with his instructor, dad flew solo a Cessna 172 and fulfilled a lifelong dream, that definitely gave him a great sense of satisfaction over the past few months. His grandson Cameron has been captivated by idea that grandpa has

actually flown a plane all by himself and they have enjoyed spending a fair bit of time over the last year or chatting about it! And of course, now every time a plane flies overhead, Cam proudly informs me that it's the same one grandpa flew!

Dad has been an incredibly hands-on and enthusiastic grandparent. In the early days when either of my children were unsettled as babies, it was dad who had that “magic” touch. I remember one time when Pete was away and Cam and I were under the weather, I just couldn't settle Lizzy no matter how much I rocked her. So I put her in the car, drove round to mum and dad's and I walked in and handed her to him and said “OK, please work your magic!” and off he went down the hall with her and returned literally only a few minutes later saying “OK she's out, where do you want her?” I just looked at him and thought, now that's what I call a great dad!!

His generosity with his time for his family and desire to always help and support us has been incredible over the years. He's always taught us that family comes before anything else and that you can get through anything together.

While my life will most definitely not be the same without him, he has given me so many wonderful memories that I now plan to entertain and probably bore my children with for the rest of my life.

## *Tim Hemsworth*

Thank you everyone for coming today. Thank you also to those who supported Dad and the rest of our family over the past few months. Your prayers, support and thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated.

I want to tell you a little about my dad.

Dad was born on 25 March 1947 in Sydney. He was the second and final child for his parents, John and Rosalind. Dad also had an older sister, Antoinette (or Toni as she was called) who was born before the start of the Second World War. Dad's name, Godfrey Ellard Hemsworth, was a very traditional family name going back five or six generations into the 1800s. Indeed the first or second born son in each family was called either ‘Godfrey Ellard’ or ‘John’. When Dad married, his father (who was John) approached my mum and said “your first born son will be Godfrey Ellard.” To this mum replied.....“No he won't.” I confess that I was always pleased with mum's answer. I remember my grandfather (mum's dad) telling the story that our family dentist had once discussed Dad's name with him. “Now, Godfrey,” he said. “That's an unusual name—what do we call him for short? I mean, you can't call him ‘God’.”

After he was born, Dad's family moved around NSW a little and Dad went to a few different primary schools. Dad would often tell us about his family when he was growing up. Each of them had a very special place in his heart. He was extremely protective of their memory and I never heard a negative word about any of them. One story he related recently was when he was six or seven years old he had a sleepover with his Auntie Betty. It was his first sleepover and he woke up, thought it was morning, got up and walked home to his house and tried to get in. Next thing he knew Betty appeared with a torch and looking very cross. It was not morning: it was the middle of the night and it was bright because of the full moon! Auntie Betty was not impressed!

In 1955 Dad's family moved down to Melbourne. They eventually settled in Macleod, and Dad would often point out the house in which he used to live as we drove passed as kids. From 1958 (in grade 6), Dad went to Ivanhoe Grammar where he met some great friends, including Peter Mealey, with whom he remained friends throughout his life. Now Peter had a sister, didn't he? Her name was Meredith. Well, there was a New Year's Eve party at the end of 1968 in Mount Eliza. Peter invited his friends (which of course included Dad) and Meredith invited her friends. Dad started eyeing of one of these friends, then chatted to her and eventually took her out on a date. This was, of course, Mum. Now Dad tells the story that, after waiting for some time to pop the question, he finally did ask – outside Mum's house at the time. She said yes and they walked inside to ask her father's permission. I believe Mum's version is slightly different! Anyway, they married on 14 August 1971 at St. Peter's Eastern Hill. After returning from their honeymoon in Queensland they moved into a place in Viewbank, which has been the family home ever since. After a trip overseas in 1975, I was born in 1976 and my sister, Sarah, in 1979.

Dad started working for the Bank of NSW in January 1965. This bank merged and is now Westpac, with whom he kept working until being retrenched in 1993. In the final years with Westpac he worked as a manager at a range of different branches. During the late 1980s he was a relief manager at country branches (like Orbost, Nhill and Kaniva). Mum, Sarah and I would take a holiday to visit him on these occasions. I remember once Dad took me with him because he had to go and open the branch. I had to stay outside because he had to do an "official check" – just in case there was a robber. (I remember

thinking how cool that would be if there was a robber!)

After leaving Westpac he spent a few years doing whatever he could to earn money. In 1997 he got himself back into the banking industry, working this time for the ANZ, where he stayed right up until taking long service leave this year. The fact that he was in their loans department meant that I had some great, free advice for applying for my own house loan. What always amazed me about Dad working in the bank was that (in his words) he knew nothing about maths. Well, his grasp of interest rates, balances, the effect of different loans on the balance of your account, the different possibilities for dealing with your money—all of this is way above my head.

To Dad's great joy, in 2006 his first grandchild, Cameron, was born. In 2009 Eliza was born and in 2011 Ashlyn was born. He took great pride in his grandchildren and they delighted in playing with their grandpa. Even last Tuesday he was still playing 'Open Shut Them' with Ashlyn.

One of my earliest memories of Dad is standing at the window of our house, looking out on the driveway. It was my third birthday. My grandmother (Dad's mum) was kneeling down next to me saying "look, there's Daddy's car." It was being brought home on the back of a tow truck. My memory of it was that Dad had crashed the car.....he told me a few years ago that it had just broken down. I'm not sure either way, but I do know it was (naturally) a Volvo! Dad was very particular about his cars. He knew exactly what sort of car he wanted, and could describe the features of particular cars in great detail. I think his five-year-old grandson Cameron has inherited that particular characteristic.

Knowing what he wanted in a car became particularly evident one night in 2006. I was over at mum and dad's place and Dad called me aside at one point and said "I'm glad you're here, there's something I want to talk to you about." A beginning like this could mean several different things, so I simply waited. I certainly wasn't expecting what came next: "We want to give you \$20,000 to buy a new car!" I must admit – I didn't quite know what to say. He had some stipulations, however—most of which were based around the number of airbags, ABS brakes, safety ratings and so on. And of course, he was happy for me to buy a Volvo!

Another early memory is of Dad telling us bed time stories. The favourite was always Joey Wildebeest. Joey was a particularly adventurous wildebeest who would find himself involved in some

exciting and thrilling escapades. Of course, as a child – I knew these were just stories! I was absolutely shocked when I was older to learn that wildebeests actually exist!

Dad had many interests throughout his life, but the one that stands out most for me is history. If it happened in the past – he knew about it. And he didn't just know the basic details, he could hold an in depth discussion about World War I and II, the history of the British Empire (of course!), the Roman Empire, the Greek Empire, he could list all the 'important dates' (the Battle of Hastings, the Black Plague, the Falklands War, all the crusades, the years of Julius Caesar's reign). On top of this he knew all the Greek and Roman mythologies in detail. In fact, only last week I had been trying to remember the name of one of the characters in Greek mythology (something Ashlyn was doing had reminded me of a story). I mentioned one sentence and Dad answered immediately! Despite his condition, the look on his face said "doesn't everybody know this?" His love of the Roman Empire even saw him learn to speak Latin. I remember him going to school at night after work during the 80s. At this stage I didn't quite understand why my Dad was going to school (that's what I did all day – and he was supposed to be grown up now!). However, it was his love of history and learning that drove him. Dad spent years drilling into me that there are two types of knowledge – you know it, or you know where to find it. If it involved history – I always knew where to find it!

If history was important to Dad, and he valued family above all else, then the Dad's greatest passion was family history. I admit that for the first 15–20 years of my life I was so saturated by it that I didn't want to know. However over the last 15 years I have developed my interest. When it came to researching family history, Dad was a master investigator. He went to all ends of the Earth (literally), contacted everybody he could and gathered an enormous amount of information and memorabilia. Dad was most excited when showing you a letter written by his mother to his father, or by his grandfather. Letters that were decades old and gave him a valuable insight into that person's character.

Dad could be described in so many different ways. But if you asked him what he was, he would always reply (with enormous pride) "I'm a Hemsworth." This was how he defined himself. This was the most important thing in the world to him. For him, this was family. Nothing was more important. Nothing more needed to be said.

# Vestry Notes

Meeting of Tuesday 17th July 2012 at 7.30 pm

## PRIORITY ISSUES

### Rosanna 2015 committee

The Diocese has been asked to suggest general direction options for Rosanna. We will still be able to decide on particulars.

**When** it is decided we must also consider the best way to implement the project.

### Mission giving

Anomalies discovered in the finance figures caused the decision on Mission Giving to be deferred until the next meeting.

## MINISTRY REPORTS

### Philip

#### Vicarage swap

It has been agreed that we sell the Vicarage at Lascelles Crescent and purchase a unit in Jika Street. This is proceeding with speed.

#### Good news for a 'diminishing' church

We need courage and faith to keep going when good people are knocked down and our energy depleted. The good news is that God's Spirit is at work in us still, and we experience much unity as a church.

#### Stewardship of resources

While we are making good progress in our aim to "be good stewards of our resources", I remain concerned at the lack of growth in our Sunday services. This is an on-going issue that will need much creative thought and prayer.

#### Reaching the next generation

The goal of "reaching the next generation" remains a high priority for us, and we must not give up.

#### Parish structure

For 9 years as a Combined Parish, we have tried to be "even handed" in giving equal proportions of attention to each centre; but the congregations at each centre don't seem to have grasped the unity of the parish family. I will be proposing some new structures as we approach our next AGM.

### Andrew

- The major event for me this month has of course been the birth of our son Ethan last Monday.

- While I was holding the fort when Philip and Lynne were on holidays it was a good opportunity to experience more responsibility and the challenges it brings.

- I was blessed to spend a good deal of time with Goff Hemsworth and his family in his final week.
- I spent three days in late July at the Post-Ordination Training conference, which was held at Amberley.
- We ran the first of our Parenting Seminars in the evening of August the 2<sup>nd</sup>. We have had considerable interest from our mainly music families regarding these events.

### Ros

- I have continued with pastoral care and conducting the 10.00am services at Rosanna on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month in Rosemary Young's absence.
- The Post Ordination conference held at Amberley Retreat Centre was a refreshing and life-giving time for me.

## FINANCE REPORT

Due to problems with the bank no monthly statement was available. A number of anomalies were found in the 'Year to Date' figures. These will be reconciled.

## WARDENS' REPORTS

### Heidelberg

- Central Safety and Maintenance Measures Brochures for each centre have been received.

### Rosanna

- The working bee on Saturday was poorly attended, possibly due to the weather but it also indicates that there are increasingly fewer people able to help on these days.
- The Op Shop volunteers to be asked whether they would consider a move to a larger shop.

### Watsonia

- Op Shop doing well.
- Locks have been put on the two exits from the church to prevent 'escapees' from *mainly music*.

## UPDATES

Parish fair meeting was very well attended and the whole parish seems to be working together. Next meeting Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> Sept.

## OTHER BUSINESS

**PARISH RETREAT DAY** at Amberley on 29<sup>th</sup> September.

Rosemary Bellair

**NB. IF YOU FEEL YOU WOULD LIKE CLARIFICATION ON ANY OF THE ABOVE POINTS, VESTRY MEMBERS AND WARDENS ARE ALWAYS AVAILABLE TO HELP.**

# KEEPING ORDER



PRIEST IN CHARGE



PRIEST NOT IN CHARGE

## I was sent these

- An Edinburgh minister was horrified when he was quoted in the local newspaper as having expressed his delight with the "nudist play in the church hall". What he had actually said was "I am delighted with the new display in the church hall".
- A local newspaper report: "The sudden gust of wind took all who were at the ceremony completely by surprise. Hats were blown off and copies of the Vicar's speech and other rubbish were scattered over the site".
- When a child was asked what one must do before obtaining forgiveness for sin, he replied, "Sin".