

# BANYULE BABBLE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF BANYULE

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

MARCH  
2013

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## PHILIP PHILOSOPHISES

I am about to go on leave for a couple of weeks, to attend (and officiate) at my daughter's wedding in Byron Bay.

Melody is 25, and has turned into a beautiful and wonderful young woman. She came into our lives and brought a "sweet song" to our hearts. And we are so happy that she has chosen a man who is rock-solid and totally devoted to her for life.

These occasions in life remind us to celebrate and give thanks. God has blessed us with so much, and just living as a human being on earth is a great privilege and adventure.

This is true of all of life's moments - recently we have had our share of partings in our church family, which are sad occasions, because of the loss, but gracious reminders of the gifts of those close to us, and of the fact that God has something planned for us "which no eye has seen nor mind can understand".

We are indeed "Spiritual Beings on a Human Journey".

What a joy and privilege that God journeys with us through every season of life!

"Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good!  
His love is everlasting!" Psalm 103.

Philip



mainly  
music®

Our *mainly music* program is about to start for this year. Increasing age and ill health are taking their toll on our team members. The team on Thursday mornings at Watsonia is particularly in need of new team members to make this a viable ministry. If you think you could help even on a fortnightly basis (approx. 8.45 am–11 am) please contact Cathy Hemsworth 9459 8623. The teams on Tuesdays at Rosanna and Wednesdays at Heidelberg would not turn you away either. Thank you.

Rosemary Bellair

[*Editor's note:* Philip will be away from 3rd March to 20th March. During his absence René will take most services; on 10th March Rosemary Young will take 10 am at St Andrew's.]

### Easter Flowers

You can make a donation for Easter flowers in memory of a loved one or in thanksgiving for anything—contact the office.

### Office Hours

Due to a change in Lynne's work schedule, the parish office will now open late (11.30 am) on Thursday mornings. It will continue to be closed on Mondays—and both clergy will have their day off on Mondays as well.

### Council Camps

We gave \$486.50 last year for Banyule Council's Camps for Disadvantaged Children—an excellent effort. Thank you everyone!

### Treasurer's Assistant Needed

We are short one Treasurer's assistant. The job is not an onerous one, and it does not need high financial skills: it is mainly simple bookkeeping and banking. Training is provided—talk to Geoff Murphy or Philip or René if you think you can do it.

### Parish Directory

The Parish Directory is being updated.

If you are not in previous editions and wish to be included, or if any of your details have changed, please fill in a form at any centre and return to the office.

### Election of Synod Representatives

Our present Lay Representatives at Synod have to retire because Synod rules say they are too old and decrepit. So we need new, younger, ones. We should have elected them at the AGM but we forgot, so the election will be at the combined service at St John's on 17th March. We need nominees!

## Do you have an enemy?

Nominate him/her to be  
Parish Synod Representative!

*Tedious speeches!*

*Interminable pseudo-  
parliamentary procedures!*

*Attendance compulsory!*

**No bar!**

## This Month – March

**Friday 1st World Day of Prayer:** 9.45 am Rosanna Baptist Church

**Sunday 3rd Lent 3:** 8 am St Andrew's; 10 am St John's (Family service); 6 pm Holy Spirit

**Wednesday 6th:** 11 am Strathalan, Macleod

**Sunday 10th Lent 4, Mothering Sunday:** 10 am St John's; 10 am St Andrew's; 6 pm Holy Spirit

**Wednesday 13th:** 3 pm Southern Cross, Macleod

**Sunday 17th Lent 5:** 10 am St John's for whole parish, election of Synod reps

**Wednesday 20th:** 11 am Iris Grange

**Monday 18th:** 1.30 pm St Andrew's M.U. in church

**Sunday 24th Palm Sunday, Banyule Festival:** 10 am St John's; 10 am St Andrew's; 6 pm Holy Spirit

**Wednesday 27th:** 11 am Viewbank Nursing Home (to be confirmed)

**Thursday 28th Maundy Thursday:** 7 pm Holy Spirit

**Friday 29th Good Friday:** 10 am Combined Service at St Andrew's

**Sunday 31st Easter Day:** Combined Service at St John's

## Wanted

- New helpers for *mainly music* at Watsonia on Thursdays—even if you can't do it every week
- New volunteers for the Macleod Op Shop
- A Treasurer's Assistant
- Synod Representatives

## Money – Oct-Dec

Income: Giving: \$28,364.59  
 Other: \$68,343.41  
 Total: \$96,708.00

Expenses: \$89,641.09

**Profit: \$7,066.91**

The income includes \$10,119.59 from our annual rental of the Watsonia car park.

## Working Bees

The parish working bees for 2013 will be:

**Watsonia**.....Saturday 18th May

**Heidelberg**.....Saturday 3rd August

**Rosanna**.....Saturday 26th October

All working bees run from 9 am to 1 pm. All of them are working bees for all able-bodied men and women of the whole parish. There is always something for everyone to do. Bring any useful tools you have.

## Grievous Losses

We have lost three people in late February: Beryl Grindal, Win Overend and John Griffiths. Their funerals were too late to be reported in this month's *Babble*, but we shall endeavour to cover them next month.

## Holy Week and Easter Services

This year we shall have services as a whole parish, so we can go through Christ's passion, death and resurrection together.

On **Thursday 28th March** there will be a combined Maundy Thursday service at 7 pm at Holy Spirit Watsonia.

On **Friday 29th March** there will be a combined Good Friday service at 10 am at St Andrew's Rosanna.

On **Sunday 31st March** there will be a combined Easter celebration at 10 am at St John's Heidelberg.

## Christian Religious Education

CRE 2013 started on Saturday 16th February with the annual Prayer Breakfast for the Northern Area at All Saints Greensborough.

This year we had three speakers. The first speaker was Andrew from the Gideons: they have offered to give each school a class set of Bibles (New King James). Last year they placed their Bibles in Melbourne and La Trobe universities and RMIT.

The second speaker was Justin Simpson, the General Manager of Christian Education Services at ACCESS Ministries. He informed us that 112,000 children received CRE last year in Victoria across 750 state schools. VCAT has ruled in favour of teaching Special Religious Instruction (includes CRE) in schools, but there could be another appeal.

The third speaker was Leanne Palmer from the North Eastern Region. She told us we need to fill out a Volunteer Agreement each year, teach to the year's program, and sign on each time we come in to teach, as this is our insurance.

After a prayer time, Ray Fitzgerald thanked our hosts (and we are welcome to come back in 2014). Thanks to Rosemary Lee for holding the fort at Watsonia Op Shop until I returned at 10.45 (just in time for a cuppa).

CRE teaching starts at Watsonia Primary early March—Preps: Elsie Storr; Grade 1/2: Lillian Smith (Greensborough Baptists); Grade 5/6: Philip Trowse. [René Pfitzner will be teaching CRE at Banyule Primary School.]

This has been a local mission at Watsonia Primary School for many years. Thank you for your prayers and financial support. Pray especially for the children in the State School system: they need all our prayers as they are growing up in difficult times.

Circulating around the Banyule Parish, I have noticed there are people in our parish who have taught or been helpers in CRE (RI) in the past. It would be interesting to know who you are and what schools you taught or helped at, because it is through you that this present day program has continued. Let me know by phone (9435 5164, leave a message).

*Elsie Storr*

## St Andrew's Mothers' Union

**Friday March 1st** World Day of Prayer

**Sunday March 10th** Mothering Sunday

**Monday March 18th** 1.30 pm Lenten Meeting in the church

**Friday March 29th** *Good Friday*

**Sunday March 31st** *Easter Day*

*Betty Kettle, 9435 6533*

## World Day of Prayer

**Friday 1st March:** 9.45 am for a cuppa and 10.15 am for start of service, at **Rosanna Baptist Church**, cnr. Waiora Road & Churchill Street, Heidelberg Heights.

Theme: *'I was a stranger and you welcomed me.'*

# René's Inaugural Sermon

## 1 Corinthians 13

Sermon by René Pfitzner at  
St John's, February 3rd 2013

You might be sitting there asking yourself – why are they doing the Bible reading for weddings? 1 Cor 13, isn't that the one they always read at the wedding ceremony? I'm told I can expect to be doing a number of weddings over the years here at St John's, and often folks ask to have this read in the ceremony, because it says 'love' a lot.

But why do we need a sermon about 1 Cor 13 in a commissioning service? We all know what its about—LOVE! How wonderful it is when two lovely people get together and love each other! It's about love!

Of course we all need to hear about love and be reminded to love because otherwise we'll all fall apart, and the church won't exist. We need each other! We need the kind of self-giving relationships that the Bible talks about.

The apostle Paul says over and over in Corinthians that the Church can't work with all the different members competing or doing their own thing. He reminds us that God gave us all gifts so we can serve each other Christians.

So it's important to serve others but here in chapter 13 we see that motivations are important too.

v1: *If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.*

This is the sort of thing the Corinthian church was big on—speaking in tongues, prophecy, knowledge of mysteries. Seems kind of esoteric to us, but these were the kinds of things they looked for in a spiritual person.

Let's bring it into out context—what would we look for? What kinds of spiritual gifts do we like? What do we admire in others? Someone who is a good listener? Or that person in your Bible study who prays well—you wish you could pray like them? Or that person who stays calm and philosophical when things don't go their way?

Paul says, maybe they are impressive. The things they do are godly. But what's in their heart? Why do they do the things they do? Is it to build up others? Or to build up themselves in the eyes of others?

Because just having gifts from God isn't enough—it's whether we use them to serve the church, or to serve ourselves.

We've got some other examples of different gifts in verses 2,3: prophetic powers, understanding mysteries and knowledge, having strong faith, extreme generosity, extreme self-sacrifice. All

amazing things in themselves, which God can use for good in his church. But if I don't do these things with the right attitude, they're worth nothing to me. I'm nothing.

We all want to be somebodies. We all want to make our mark in this world one way or another. We want to be remembered, not forgotten. We want people to say nice things about us, not bad things. The irony is, that when we pursue recognition and esteem as a goal, we become nobodies in the end. But if we love others, serve others, because we want them to flourish—then we will be somebody.

Jesus said 'the first will be last and the last will be first'. The Pharisees did things so that everyone would see them. Everyone thought they were fantastic! You couldn't get more godly than those Pharisees. They were like the Salvos or volunteers at the soup kitchen, you couldn't find a bad thing to say about them. But Jesus exposed their hearts. They did things to be seen and get credit from people.

It's tragic. The person who serves others with their gifts to show how good they are, gets no recognition from God. Here's how to be a nobody—do good things so that everyone will see how good you are.

If you want to be somebody, Paul has some suggestions: in vv 5–7 we've got a list of things we should do and be. Now I don't know about you, but whenever I see a list like this in the Bible it kind of washes over me. I'm reading along in my bible and there's a list of things you should do and things you shouldn't do and I kind of skim over it. Maybe you're not like that.

But it's important for Paul to stop and define what he's talking about. You can hear the word 'Love' and get all kinds of ideas. Like with those greeting cards with Snoopy on the front that say: 'Love is a warm puppy.' Or to take another example: one time I saw this phrase written on a wall: 'love is a drug'. So which is it—is love like a puppy or a drug?

Of course whatever we think love is... that will determine how we act. If you think love is a warm puppy, you'll be going for comfort. Making people feel all right about themselves. Don't do anything to shake them up or challenge them.

But if I think love is a drug—and I think we're talking about romantic love now—I'm going to be after the ecstatic feeling it can give me. But this won't make me loving, it'll make me selfish. So if I'm not feeling the love from you, I'll go somewhere else.

But if you think of love the way God defines it—then this is the way you'll behave. Vv 4–7. I'm going to

elaborate a little bit so it won't be the exact words, but it might be helpful to follow along in your Bible:

This is the way God defines love:

v4. Patient with others. Showing kindness. Not envious of others' good fortune. Not boasting in my own achievements or gifts. Not feeling superior over others.

v5. Not dismissing others as beneath my respect. Not preoccupied with myself. Not easily irritated with others. Not keeping score of the wrong people have done to me.

v6. Not looking for ways to catch others out. Not manipulating the truth to my advantage.

In verse 7 he lists some positives. Love always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

So that's what we're aiming for. How are you going with all that? Because if you're anything like me, you're probably not there yet. But go through the list. Find one thing and say—that's where I'd like to develop my character this year. This is a virtue I'd love to have. This is how I can grow in love towards this person.

You'll notice these aren't the big, impressive gifts that will dazzle and amaze others. If you grow in patience towards your boss or your neighbour this year you won't really write to your nephew about it or put it in your résumé. These are the every-day habits that will form our character in the long run. It's what makes us ready to be citizens of God's kingdom.

So Paul's saying: don't value this, value that. Don't put your energy into this, put it into loving people. Don't worry about whether you're recognised for your other gifts, there's only one gift that matters. And that's self-giving, other-person-centred, love.

But more than that, Paul tells us that love lasts. Unlike the things the Corinthians are excited about, Love will continue on into the new age.

v8: *Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end.*

So invest in something that will last. Paul wants us to keep our minds fixed on our eternal future. He gives us two pictures of life in the future compared with life now. Maturity and mirrors. Growing up and looking in the mirror.

Think about it like this—everyone thinks it's nice for children to be cute and innocent and dependent. That's proper. But no-one thinks it's cute for a healthy, fully grown 35-year old to be living at home and sponging off his parents and being fed dinner every night. That's just depressing.

So just say I'm perfectly happy with my spiritual maturity right now. I might say—you know, I really think I've arrived. It doesn't get any better

than this'. Well Paul says that's like a child who can't think of anything in the world better than a bottle of warm milk. That's not right, is it. Because as we grow up we learn about all kinds of amazing things like steaks and cruise ships and good books. We don't stay satisfied with mushy bananas. So what we know now are only partial experiences. They're not complete yet.

Like looking into in a dusty old mirror. We're only getting an incomplete picture.

v12: *For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known.*

Whose face does he see in the mirror? He's talking about God. We will see him face-to-face. We will know God fully. The gift of knowledge will pass away, but the knowledge of God becomes complete. In his kingdom we will know God, just like he knows us now.

A friend of mine asked me: Do you think we can know God? I said—yes, we can know God. He knows us and he has given us his word. He's given us Jesus, the image of the Father. He gives his Spirit to his people.

Now, when I say that, I'm not saying we know everything about God. That's for later. But I can still say I know someone without knowing every fact about them and everything they do and every thought they have. I know my kids but I don't know everything about them. I know the important parts—that they depend on me—they love their parents. So I can truthfully say that I know God. But I don't know him completely.

For many of us, when we became Christians we were hit by the incredible thought that God knows us and loved us so much... as to sacrifice his son. And that's what should sustain us, knowing that God knows us, and cares about us.

Paul wants the Church to realise that God cares about them. Not what they can achieve with their gifts, not the kind of reputation they can get with others, but how they can use their gifts to look after each other.

So Paul tells us we should love. But he knows that he can give all the good advice in the world, he can give us a good telling off, but this won't change our hearts. We need to know that God is for us and we have a glorious future with him, when we see him face to face.

I'll close with Numbers 6:23-6:

*The Lord said: 'This is how you are to bless the Israelites. Say to them:*

*"The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace."*

## Philip's Lent 1 Sermon

*Deuteronomy 26:1-11*

*Romans 10:8b-13*

*Luke 4:1-13*

*Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." Jesus answered him, "It is written, "One does not live by bread alone."*

*Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." Jesus answered him, "It is written, "Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him."*

*Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'"*

*Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.*

## With Christ in the Wilderness

17th February 2013

So, it is again the start of Lent.

It is a time for self-examination, fasting, repenting of sin, and seeking to follow the Lord more closely. We do this by watching Jesus, and trying to follow him in our minds just as the disciples did in their daily walking.

Let's follow Jesus into the wilderness. He has just been baptised by John in the Jordan River, and the Spirit has come down on Him in the form of a dove. His Father's voice has publicly declared him, "My Son, the Beloved. I am well-pleased with him".

So Jesus did not go into the desert to purge himself, for God was already pleased with him and he had no sin. He did not go to seek the Spirit's power, for that had already fallen on him. Presumably he could have begun healing that very minute.

He was driven by the Spirit into the lonely desert places, in order to confront the Devil.

Let's watch Jesus as he goes without food for 40 days: and his body becomes gradually weaker, and thinner. But he prays a lot! There he is, kneeling in that cave out of the sun, talking...there he is, practising throwing rocks at the devil,

and communing close to the Father. Watch him, as he climbs that steep craggy slope, and takes in the view of the cities of Judah way off in the distance. Sometimes he is crying, seeing what he must heal in people. Sometimes he is laughing, quietly pondering a story that he has just made up to explain how a Samaritan can be better than a priest!

At the end of 40 days, he is famished! Now is the point where his fast has become physically dangerous, because the muscle will soon begin to be eaten away instead of any fat. Bring on the crisis, Satan! I'm weak, but I'm ready. Come and face me now!

Let's switch for a moment and come back to the present day, and think about our baptism promises. The first question put to a person being baptised is:

*Do you turn to Christ?*

Well, we've been looking elsewhere haven't we? We are impressed with the power of human achievement: the pyramids, the wonders of engineering that mean we can probe into microscopic things at a molecular level, or work out with pure mathematics and physics that the universe is 13½ billion years old, and expanding. We can be impressed with the fantastic art works that people create, and marvel at the human body and how it works... Our gaze has been elsewhere, and we turn to look at Christ.

There he is, in the desert, thin and dishevelled, weak and dirty. Yet when we turn to him, something in us awakens: we are captivated by his purity, his humanity, his direct look as he returns our gaze.

When we turn to Christ, we are finally admitting that we can't do it ourselves, and we need help to live well. I think that capitulation of the will is probably why people resist turning to Christ for so long. Our pride gets in the way. We have to give in, and ask for help.

*Do you turn to Christ?*

I remember when I consciously turned to Christ, at the age of 16. Of course, he had been there all along, but I had deliberately turned my gaze away. As a normal red-blooded teenager, I wanted to have fun, and I had the idea that Jesus would stop me doing that, so I drank, smoked, kicked against my parents, got into a rough crowd who used to do petty vandalism and have loud parties – none of which my parents knew about.

Why would I want to turn to Christ? I was having fun!

But underneath I was still lonely and insecure. I couldn't trick my spirit could I? I didn't feel peace, or even feel very nice, because I was devoted to myself, and my own pleasure.

When Christ got my attention, through some other young people who were really committed Christians, I

turned again to look at Jesus; and when my eyes met his (metaphorically) I was undone, because I knew what a sham I was compared to him.

*Do you turn to Christ?*

See him in the desert, stumbling along, weak, yet with an inner strength about him that draws our admiration and wonder. This is no ordinary man.

*Do you repent of your sins?*

As we follow his journey through the desert, it is amazing to see a human who has never sinned. But he is facing temptations more powerful than any I have ever faced. When I face temptations I usually hold out for a while, but then it gets a bit harder, and eventually I give in, so that the pressure will go away. I try and try to be kind and generous, and open-hearted, but then it just gets too hard! And it is so easy to criticize that person, because there faults are obvious, aren't they!??

I can't resist temptation in its full strength: I know it's right to live according to the ten commandments: don't steal, don't lie, don't get envious...but though I keep aiming for the high principles, I always seem to fall short! This is letting myself down, and others, and God. This is the definition of sin – to “fall short” of what I know to be right.

I think each of us have particular struggles which we seem to have to face again, and again, and again: it might be envy, or bitterness, or feeling sorry for ourselves.

The problem with all of it, of course, is that it is centred on self, and we fall short of reaching our full humanity.

So I repent of my sins. I turn away from them because they are getting me nowhere, and I can see that Jesus in the desert is making some real headway against these temptations.

*Do you reject selfish living and all that is false and unjust?*

Now, there is a lot to be said for selfish living! It is fun, it is entertaining, and it does meet a need in us to be the centre of everything!

But the trouble is, of course, that we are going against our very nature! God made us to be “other-centred” – that is what love means, and he made us for love. Only when we truly find love do we come alive as we should. But if my love is all turned inward to myself, I am missing out on the best.

In the end, we are not made to live for ourselves and just find “self-fulfilment”. We are made to love and serve others: God first, and then our fellow human beings. It is interesting, and not surprising, that studies of happiness show that when we do something altruistic, to show love to others, we actually become happier – because we are made for this!

And when I think about all that is unjust in the world – that people only minutes from here are living in fear and trauma from their refugee experience, and kids are acting out because they have been abused in some way – I want God to use me to change this injustice, and bring about a better world.

*Do you renounce Satan and all evil?*

Jesus went into the desert for a showdown. What did Satan offer him?

Physical ease. Being human is hard work!

Power. Take the shortcut and avoid the cross. Do it the easy way.

Glory and fame, as people see a miraculous flying Christ! That will appeal to them more than this call to deny self!!

These must have been very real temptations to Jesus, who is fully human as well as Divine. But his was the way to real life, and to do that meant reversing the way Adam and Eve had done it.

Instead of thinking (as they did) “I can think of a better way to live”, Jesus submits his will to the Father and says: “Your will, not mine”

And when we reject the Devil and all evil, we are saying that too. Have your way in me Lord. I am willing to die to self, even if it hurts – because You say so.

We turn to Christ in the desert, and despite the barrenness of the landscape, we see a true path to life. His confrontation in the wilderness is our confrontation with everything in us that is hell-bent away from God. And as we turn to Christ, he lives in us and will be able to strengthen us, because he has faced the very temptations we have, yet he has overcome them.

*Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.*

Philip Trowse

## Adrian Lane: New face at BCA

Greg Jones has retired and left the Bush Church Aid office at St John's, and in his place we now have the Rev'd Adrian Lane, BCA's new Victorian Regional Officer.

Adrian has been at or attached to Ridley College for the past 22 years, most recently as Senior Lecturer. He says, “It is a real privilege to be given the opportunity to serve regional Australia, and regional Victoria in particular, through the ministry of the gospel. I am delighted and excited. A great tradition in BCA's history has been its commitment to prayer, and I eagerly ask for a fresh wave of prayer for regional Victoria. Regional Victoria has been through a tough time with council amalgamations, more than a decade of drought and recent floods. However, there is also fresh optimism with the recent rains. May that economic optimism be accompanied by a new movement of the Spirit, as people find hope and love through faith in Christ.”



Currently there are four BCA supported ministries in Victoria: church work at Strathfieldsaye, Sunraysia South and Central Mallee; and youth ministry at Sale.

*Below: Temptation #1,2,3, by James Janknegt*



# Vestry Notes

Meeting of Tuesday 19th February 2013 at 7.30 pm

## REPORTS

### Philip reported

- on events over the last two months
- plans for the year:
  - changed office times
  - on-line calendar
  - different service cycle
  - mid-week communion in nursing homes
  - Kids' Hope
  - Rosanna 2015 process /meetings
  - Being one parish in action.

### René reported

- his introduction to *mainly music*
- his first funeral
- a new Bible study group
- Sunday school program at Heidelberg
- a proposed BBQ for baptism and *mainly music* families.

### FINANCE REPORT — Geoff Murphy

- Received \$11,000 rent for Watsonia car-park
- It was agreed that Missions be paid 6-monthly.
- Accounts to the value of \$89,641.09 were approved for payment.
- The BAS statement for October, November & December has been sent to the ATO.

## WARDENS' REPORTS

### Heidelberg

- A water leak near the gate fixed by a new washer.
- Brighter lights in the church being investigated following a donation of \$3000.

### Rosanna

- The Vicarage painted inside & refurbished. Bathroom window & some blinds need replacing. Garden rubbish to be removed.
- We will request that joint access to the driveway is maintained.

### Watsonia

- A veranda over the front door of the Op. Shop is too expensive. A retractable awning was agreed to.
- Affordable options for improving the toilets to be looked into.

### General

- The Clergy have both decided that Monday is to be their day off. Therefore the office will continue to be unattended on a Monday. The office will open late (approx. 11 am) on a Thursday.

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

## OUR VISION FOR MISSION & OUR STRATEGIC PLANS

Philip reminded us of

- The direction of the parish over the last 30 years
- The Archbishop's vision for "making the Word of God fully known"
- Our six goals:
  - Building community
  - Inspiring worship
  - The next generation
  - Team ministry
  - Good stewardship of resources
  - Reaching out in service
- Next steps: 'Pathways' workshop  
Visits to other parishes
- More small groups and more Bible Studies
- Outreach to others, not catering just for ourselves
- Working in cooperation with the Diocese on *Rosanna 2015*

## DISCUSSION FOLLOWING

1. Concern was expressed at the way 2015 is going. It would seem that the diocese will sell, and keep most of the money.
  - In 10 years we may have grown and need the Rosanna centre. If we shrink we cannot maintain the Op. Shop and will be dependent on vicarage rentals for our income. Could the Diocese sell part but keep something to give us an income? It seems the Diocese simply wants to sell.
  - Philip responded that this concern and fear were tenable. At the moment there is nothing in writing. When negotiations begin all concerns must be put in writing.
2. Another concern was the change to the service times at Watsonia from Saturday evening to Sunday evening. Some parishioners have strong feelings against the change.
  - Philip explained the change was because Sunday is the day the outside community expects the church to be open. He suggested that a solution could be to move the service to an earlier time-slot, which some would prefer, especially in the winter months.

## OTHER BUSINESS

- The Tennis Club to be given permission to play social tennis on a Sunday afternoon for a trial period of 12 months.
- **Working Bees**
  - Watsonia** 9 am–1 pm Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May
  - Heidelberg** 9 am–1 pm Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> August
  - Rosanna** 9 am–1 pm Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> October
- **Synod Reps** MUST be selected on 17th March.
- Supervision of young boys in the toilets to be addressed

Rosemary Bellair

## WHAT DO YOU CALL A POPE WHO RESIGNS?



Submitted by Rod Harris

### Misprints and Oddities

In the final instalment of Anton Mikelenca's article in the Granger News last week, the text as printed read: 'Nobody did not see me drink here.'

It should have read: 'Nobody did not seen me drink here.' The News regrets this error and is glad to make this correction.

Granger (Texas) News

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## DRUMKIT TUITION

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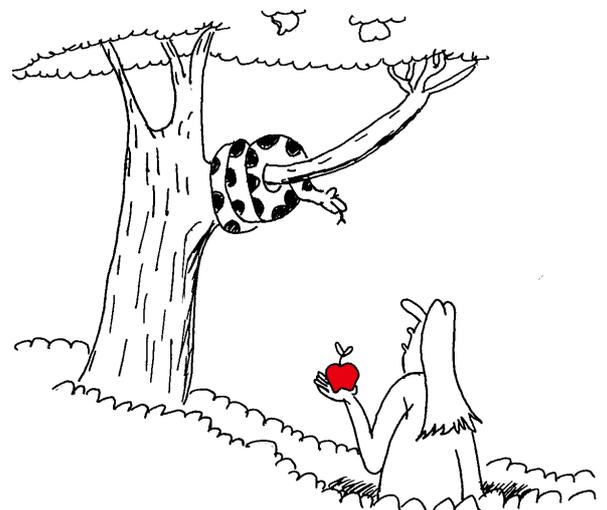
I have 20 years experience teaching privately and, more recently, in a music school. I also have experience teaching children with learning difficulties, e.g. dyspraxia, mild autism, dyslexia and fine motor coordination problems.

First lesson is free; \$20 per 45 minutes thereafter.

Contact Mike Martin on 0420 996 328.

(Mike is also looking for part-time work, if you know of any.)

## Eve's Temptation



"So what you are saying is that it is low calorie, high in fiber, won't make me fat, will keep me young, fill me up with out making me feel bloated, and will help me met men."