

# BANYULE BABBLE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF BANYULE

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

SEPTEMBER  
2013

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## PHILIP PHILOSOPHISES

*Through all the changing scenes of life*

*PSALM 143 Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love, for I have put my trust in you. Show me the way I should go, for to you I entrust my life.*

In our life journey, we have many ups and downs. This is nothing new, and the invitation for us is to walk with God each step of the way. We face many changes every day and have to adjust if we are to live well. Changes bring challenge and sometimes grief. We invite God into this, as into our joys.

This is true of our life as a church, and we are facing some tough decisions with regard to our budget. Recently, due to concerns about the financial pressures within our Parish, the wardens conducted an examination of all areas of expense in order to cut costs. Some cuts have already been implemented: for example, the gardening services have been cancelled, and cleaning reduced by half. In 2014 we will not be able to employ any staff other than our two parish priests. Soon we will have to face up to the unsustainable weight of trying to maintain multiple properties.

In earnest discussion, we reluctantly decided that the position of Parish Office Assistant will need to be ended. We feel it is vital for us to make wise decisions for the financial well-being of the whole parish into the future. Lynne McGowan has filled this position for a very long time, and she has always given far more to it than required: her depth of commitment to the parish has been such a blessing to so many people. As you know, Lynne is a wonderful, warm-hearted and loving person who has brought much joy into our church life. She has finished at the end of August, and we wish her a sad and very fond farewell. We hope to give her a proper send-off as a parish soon.

In the office we will be looking for people to help on a casual basis for 4 hours per week. And because Lynne will also not be available to run our mainly music sessions on Wednesdays (and next

year we will not have Elizabeth on Thursdays) our priority will be to cover this role so that this vital outreach ministry can continue.

It has been with much pain that these difficult decisions have been made, and it will mean a greater burden on our clergy, who will need to pick up more administrative tasks in the office. Please keep these matters in your prayers as we seek to find a way forward in helping our parish to thrive and be a blessing to others.

Thank you for your generous giving of time, money and resources, and most of all your love and prayers, which make our parish a living and vital place of genuine community and care.

Grace and peace to you all.

Philip



The Editor would like to add his own sadness at the loss of Lynne. The Wardens, faced with the need to reduce costs, made the only decision they could; but the loss of Lynne's cheerful grace will be felt deeply by many.

*The Anglican Parish of Banyule*

## Holy Spirit Watsonia Ladies' Guild

cordially invites you  
to a concert presented by

## *Wandering Melody*

Venue: Holy Spirit Anglican Church  
78 Watsonia Rd, Watsonia

Date: Wednesday 9th October 2013

Time: 1.30 pm

*Please come and join us!*

Entry: \$6 includes afternoon tea and door prize

**RSVP 2nd October**

Further details contact Joan Hodgson  
9846 1681

## *Parish Spring Fair*

*Saturday November 9th*

*9.30 am - 2.00 pm at St Andrew's*

September is the month for HAMPER DONATIONS. Use-by dates of 2014 or after, please.

All hampers and Christmas cake will be on display for ticket sales at the musical afternoon in October.

October will be the month for MYSTERY BOTTLES donations.

Next fair meeting: Saturday 28th September, 9.30 am, at St Andrew's.

*Rbonda Murphy*

## The SAVOY SINGERS

## 100 YEARS OF MUSICAL COMEDY

*Featuring songs from such shows as:*  
THE MERRY WIDOW NEW MOON  
FIDDLER ON THE ROOF  
SHOW BOAT OKLAHOMA!  
LES MISÉRABLES  
SOUTH PACIFIC MY FAIR LADY  
THE WHITE HORSE INN  
WEST SIDE STORY OLIVER!  
PHANTOM OF THE OPERA  
CAMELOT SWEET CHARITY

Soprano: Christine Flood, Helen Glover, Julie Holah,  
Beverley Morton

Mezzo: Michelle Black, Janice Kennedy, Jenny Coll

Tenor: Darren Rosenfeld, Michael Try

Bass: Garry Coath, Barry Fry, James Johnston

*Musical Director and Pianist:* Janet Perkins

*Percussionist:* John Wise *Compère:* Barry Fry

**Date: Sunday 27th October, at 2 pm**

**Venue: St Andrew's Anglican Church**

**Tickets/Bookings: \$20, phone Joan 9846 1681; payment no later than Monday 7th October please**

The performance will be followed by

## L High Tea 7

## This Month – September

**Sunday 1st:** 8 am St Andrew's; 10 am St John's (Family service); 5 pm Holy Spirit (+ teaching)

**Wednesday 4th:** 11 am Strathalan

**Sunday 8th:** 10 am St John's; 10 am St Andrew's; 5 pm Holy Spirit (with teaching)

**Sunday 15th:** 10 am St John's for whole parish: Adrian Lane of BCA preaching

**Monday 16th:** 1.30 pm St Andrew's Mothers' Union

**Wednesday 18th:** 11 am Iris Grange

**Sunday 22nd:** 10 am St John's; 10 am St Andrew's; 5 pm Holy Spirit (with teaching)

**Wednesday 25th:** 10 am Holy Spirit Mothers' Union

**Thursday 26th:** 10 am M.U. Northern Deanery Quiet Day at St Alban's Coburg West

**Saturday 28th:** 9.30 am Parish Fair committee meeting at St Andrew's

**Sunday 29th:** 10 am Combined Service at *Rosanna*

## Next Month – October

**Wednesday 9th:** 1.30 pm Wandering Melody at Holy Spirit: \$6; 7.30 pm AMS meeting at St Andrew's: Mark Cox. Ladies welcome

**Saturday 26th:** Parish Working Bee at St Andrew's

**Sunday 27th:** 2 pm Savoy Singers at St Andrew's, \$20 by 7th Oct; 9846 1681. We want 200 people to come!

## Wanted

- New ADF deposits
- New helpers for *mainly music*
- New volunteers for the Macleod Op Shop

## Holy Spirit Watsonia Mothers' Union

Holy Spirit Watsonia MU meeting on **Wednesday 25th September** at 10 am.

Northern Deanery Quiet Day — **Thursday 26th September** 10 am at St Alban's Coburg West.

*Elsie Storr*

## St Andrew's Mothers' Union

**Monday 16th September:** 1.30 pm Branch Meeting in the church. Bring a 'childhood photo'.

*Betty Kettle, 9435 6533*

## Anglican Men's Society

On **Wednesday 22nd September** our parish will be taking the AMS service at St James' Old Cathedral. The men would like the ladies to join us on that evening for tea at 6 pm.

On **Wednesday 9th October** we are having young Mark Cox as guest speaker at the AMS meeting at 7.30 pm in St Andrew's Fellowship Hall. Ladies are invited.

Mark Cox is a Youth Representative working for World Vision Australia. Having completed studies in International Relations he found himself in Malawi, Southern Africa, in 2010, where he lived and worked for two years. Working on disability and inclusive education programmes for the Malawian Ministry of Education, Mark was involved with a range of health and education initiatives in numerous districts around the country. He is now back living in Melbourne where he continues sharing stories of the people he met and is completing his Masters Degree in International Health.

*Albert Harvey*

## AMS Snowball Drive

Thank you to all the snowball buyers. The money raised over recent weeks from the sale of the bags of snowballs goes to the welfare arm of the Anglican Men's Society. At the end of each year the Anglican Men's Society distributes monies to a number of organisations including Wycliffe Bible Translators and Open House.

*Geoff Murphy*

## Don't Give Up

Feeling sad and all alone?  
The future not too bright?  
Do not despair and give up hope,  
Our Lord will ease your plight.

Life is full of ups and downs –  
The way's not always clear.  
Put your trust in One who knows –  
And He'll remove your fear.

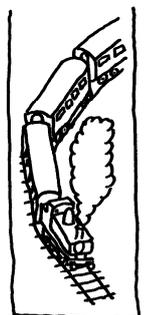
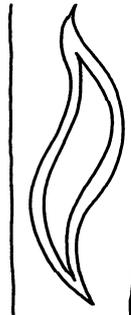
He will ease your troubled mind  
With His unending love.  
Just tell Him all that's in your heart –  
For blessings from above.

*Betty Kettle*



THE VICAR USES THESE TO COMMUNICATE WITH THE CONGREGATION

PATTERN →



WHAT THE VICAR INTENDS IT TO MEAN →

CHRISTIANITY BRINGS NEW GROWTH

THE SPIRIT IS AT WORK

THE BIBLE IS VERY IMPORTANT

WE ARE ALL ON A JOURNEY OF FAITH

WHAT THE CONGREGATION THINKS IT MEANS →

WE COULD DO WITH SOME HELP WITH THE OVERGROWN CHURCHYARD

ONE DAY WE WILL GET SOME PROPER HEATING

IN SOME WAYS A STOLE LOOKS SIMILAR TO A VERY LARGE BOOKMARK

I LIKE TRAINS

# STOLES

## Mission Snippets

by Mavis Lean

**Anglicare Victoria:** At Mission House Fitzroy, 7500 clients seek help during the week on a regular basis. A safe haven for those fleeing from violence.

Some services offered are:

- Advice and referral to doctors
- Good-quality food and basic necessities
- Assistance with pharmacy prescriptions (particularly for asylum seekers)
- Limited educational assistance
- Baby bundles for new mothers
- Low-cost clothing offered through the op shop
- 720 Christmas hampers in 2012

A recent grant from the Myer Foundation of \$10,000 was spent in six weeks.

Donations of food items, clothing, beanies, scarves and rugs are always gratefully received.

Preston Family Services & Yarra Valley Ranges are also struggling to meet the growing needs of so many people who need help.

**Anglican Overseas Aid** is a small, not-for-profit organisation, has a reputation for being strongly relationship-focussed, and for delivering on its objectives of strengthening partnerships in developing countries to overcome poverty, injustice and disease. From its inception 25 years ago, Anglican Overseas Aid has gone from strength to strength, and is always thankful for donations to support its vital work improving the lives of thousands of people in developing countries.

**Bush Church Aid.** The Rev'd Stuart and Katherine Haynes wrestled with God for some time before accepting the challenge to minister to the few people remaining at St Francis' Anglican Church, Moranbah, Queensland. The mission given was to bring a new, refreshing style of ministry to rebuild a diminishing congregation.

A dying church has been renewed and refreshed by the power of prayer and belief that God is calling people to St Francis'.

For the first time in 13 years, Easter Day Service was celebrated with a full church, a humbling and thankful experience for Stuart and Katherine.

People are coming for all kinds of reasons from different cultures and find a warm welcoming reception and return for more good news, and give thanks for the ministry at St Francis' and a new beginning in a church thought to be dead.

This is just one story of the vital work at BCA right around Australia.

The power of prayer is alive. Praise God.

### Church Missionary Society (CMS)

The State Director Wei-Han Kuan stated in a recent *CMS Branch Matters* the four principles of mission are:

1. Mission is to all nations;
2. Mission is Spirit-empowered;
3. Mission is God-led; and
4. Mission is Gospel proclamation.

**Steve and Jenny Sonneman** with Timothy and Elizabeth are currently on Home Assignment from June 14<sup>th</sup> to 1<sup>st</sup> September. Unfortunately, they are unable to visit the Parish of Banyule. Pray for their ministry in Pakistan, their friendship with people and their devotion to God to proclaim the gospel to all.

**Tavis and Kate Beer** with Beka and Fin. Please pray for Kate for healing and renewed strength following two recent nasty accidents. Remember too Beka and Fin as they struggle with heat, the environment and schooling. We rejoice with Tavis and Kate on their ordination to priesthood on 25<sup>th</sup> July.

Continue to pray for the thriving ministry and their devotion to God's people.

The Beer family will be in Melbourne for Home Assignment in October – watch for more detail.

“Holy Spirit, fall afresh on us.”

**The Leprosy Mission (TLM)** is celebrating 100 years of ministry support from Australia to countries throughout the world. Key priorities:

- Stay focussed on leprosy until the work is finished.
- Strengthen and expand our work with people with physical disabilities.
- Include people society rejects.

TLM runs 18 hospitals in India, which provide general medical services as well as specialist care and referred services. This is a huge country and presents a huge challenge to the

Mission, along with ministry to a further six countries in need of medical treatment and God's compassionate love and healing ministry expressed through doctors, nurses, volunteers and supporters. Donations to The Leprosy Mission are always appreciated. Prayers for the Mission are power-filled and always answered by our compassionate God.

### Medical Mission Auxiliary (MMA)

In his article on disabilities in Nepal, Owen Lewis tells of people with disabilities but also writes of some who are without social support – no pension, no disability insurance, often with only a straw hut in which to sleep – people are helpless. These are OUR neighbours, the people Jesus teaches us to love as ourselves. May we be mindful of the valuable work carried out by dedicated people to bring hope, health and life to people with so little.

“More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of.” Contact Ruth Judd (President) phone 9898 2982 for further information.

**Open House** has entered the forty-second year of somewhere to belong, and offer friendship, support and creative programs to the many people who seek guidance on their journey of life. We can only imagine the hope given at Open House to the people in despair when their lives are transformed. To the staff, supporters and volunteers we offer praise and thanksgiving that they heard the Voice of God and responded.

**The Mothers' Union** is a worldwide mission of three and a half million members spread over 75 countries to have ministered to families at every level over one hundred and sixty-seven years. May our prayers and concerns for marriage and family life remain strong as we remember those who have gone forth in faith to love and serve the Lord.

**Mission Boxes** for financial support are available for Anglicare, BCA, CMS and Leprosy and collected for opening at St Andrew's in June and November.

Box Secretaries attend to collection, receipts, and disperse donations to the appropriate Missions.

Mavis Lean

## Vestry Notes

Meeting of Tuesday 20h August at 7.30 pm

### BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

#### 1. Gloucester Drive update

Heating.....	\$3,200
Cooling – evaporative upstairs .....	\$4,390
Internal painting.....	\$8,390
External painting.....	<i>on hold</i>
Carpeting.....	\$3,700
Window furnishings .....	\$3,900
Floor-sanding downstairs .....	\$2,560
Two skips .....	\$1,000
Laundry approx.....	\$1,612
<b>TOTAL QUOTES .....</b>	<b>\$27,852</b>

#### 2. Rosanna Playgroup given permission to:

- Install a Safety Key Box with a pin number.
- Install a notice board on the back wall.
- Replace the locks on the external doors and give us keys, but they must all be keyed the same.
- A request to dispose of the pews in the hall was put on hold for the present.
- A request that hall-hirers leave playgroup furniture *in situ*: we will request hall-hirers to replace any furniture moved.
- They will monitor heating more closely.
- They are keen to be involved in the parish fête.

### REPORTS

**Philip** – much time spent in negotiations re Gloucester Drive. Otherwise a fairly normal busy winter schedule.

**Rene** – has settled into the routine of services, Bible studies and CRE. His relationship with his Kids' Hope child is still developing.

#### Finance

Geoff left a finance report covering October 2012 – August 2013.

It was noted that:

- Weddings are down.

- We need to raise the wedding fees to cover costs of a cleaner afterwards.
  - The alarming power-meter reading was an estimate.
- Many THANKS to Geoff and Mike Connor for their work in restoring the accounts following the theft of the treasurer's laptop.

### WARDENS

#### Heidelberg

- Thanks to those who turned up to the Working Bee at Heidelberg. Some good work was done
- Andrew Socnik has offered to mow the back lawn at Heidelberg free of charge when requested. A letter of thanks will be sent.

#### Watsonia

- Some drapes need replacing in the vicarage. The Guild will take on the repair and/or replacement.
- Vicarage gas heater has stopped working. Diocese gave permission to use money from the building fund to replace the heater.

#### Wider Parish

- Because of our budget crisis it was decided to cut the Parish Office Assistant's position from 16 hrs/wk to 4 hrs/wk. As a result Lynne will finish work in the office at the end of the month.

We are trying to act wisely and responsibly. Apparently, it is very unusual to have a paid office assistant in a parish.

The phone will be on the answer machine.

- *Finance for Gloucester Drive*

Guidance from the Diocese was sought re the use of the Baxter Bequest for the Gloucester Drive renovation. There is no legal problem but the Archbishop has stopped it.

A letter will be sent to the Archbishop explaining the situation in detail and requesting that he reconsider his freeze on the use of the Baxter Bequest.

[*Editor's note: Apparently the freeze has since been lifted.*]

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.**

## Blessings

This is a song, written by Laura Mixon Story, which won the 2012 Grammy Award for Best Contemporary Christian Music Song. It was presented at St Andrew's by Katrina Philip last month.

*We pray for blessings, we pray for peace  
Comfort for family, protection while we sleep  
We pray for healing, for prosperity  
We pray for Your mighty hand to ease our suffering*

*All the while You hear each spoken need  
Yet love us way too much to give us lesser things*

*'Cause what if Your blessings come through raindrops  
What if Your healing comes through tears?  
What if a thousand sleepless nights  
Are what it takes to know You're near?*

*What if trials of this life  
Are Your mercies in disguise?*

*We pray for wisdom, Your voice to hear  
We cry in anger when we cannot feel You near  
We doubt Your goodness, we doubt Your love  
As if every promise from Your Word is not enough*

*And all the while You hear each desperate plea  
And long that we'd have faith to believe*

*'Cause what if Your blessings come through raindrops  
What if Your healing comes through tears?  
And what if a thousand sleepless nights  
Are what it takes to know You're near?*

*And what if trials of this life  
Are Your mercies in disguise?*

*When friends betray us, when darkness seems to win  
We know that pain reminds this heart  
That this is not, this is not our home  
It's not our home*

*'Cause what if Your blessings come through raindrops  
What if Your healing comes through tears?  
And what if a thousand sleepless nights  
Are what it takes to know You're near?*

*What if my greatest disappointments  
Or the aching of this life  
Is the revealing of a greater thirst  
This world can't satisfy?*

*And what if trials of this life  
The rain, the storms, the hardest nights  
Are Your mercies in disguise?*

Did you hear about the cross-eyed teacher who lost her job because she couldn't control her pupils?

(Submitted by Rosemary Bellair)