

Palm Sunday Procession at St Paul's [and mainly music group]



Our Mission:

Rejoicing in God;
Father, Son
and Holy Spirit,
we dedicate
ourselves
to
worship,
spiritual
formation
and
pastoral care
within the church
community,
local community
and the world.

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From the vicar



it's hard to believe that it has been 10 years since Alison and I came to the parish. So much has happened since then.

I remember when Bishop Stephen Hale asked me to consider coming to Ringwood. Initially I was interested. Caboolture was going well, and I didn't really want to move. However, within a week both Alison and I believed that it was time for us to move.

I started to find out more about Ringwood and I became convinced that Ringwood was the right place. I expected to come to the parish and simply do things that I had done in previous parishes. However, God had other plans. There were going to be challenges in this parish that I had never had to face before. But I had an overwhelming sense of God's presence and God's promise that he would equip me for these challenges.

The first challenge was to merge the three existing worship centres Park Orchards, Ringwood and Djerrnong. Not everybody was happy with the thought of merging. There was a sense that people would lose their identity or lose the relationships that have been so special over the years. There was also a sense of not wanting to change, even if your head told you that you had to change, your heart said no.

For many people it was a time of sadness and a time of grieving. They were losing something that had been so special for so many years. One thing that encouraged me was a statement from the Djerrnong congregation that they believed they could do more together than we could by staying apart. To be honest some people at Ringwood didn't see the need of merging because they felt everything was going fine. However, people started to realise that the merger would create greater opportunities to grow the church into the future. In the end there was general agreement that it was the right thing to do. When the final vote was taken amongst all the congregations there was an overwhelming majority of people who supported the merger.

It has been hard work over the years to help people come to see that this new Mullum Mullum congregation is 'their' church. I know that many people in the dioceses have come to see this merger as being one of the most successful merged congregations in the diocese.

The next challenge was to sell the surplus worship centres and use the proceeds to renovate and improve the Ringwood site. A development committee met over many months to draw up guidelines that would help to design the new buildings. One overriding principle was that the kitchen had to be at the centre of the building. The reason for this was that the fellowship amongst the congregation was a central focus of what it was to be the church, the body of Christ. It was also recognised that we had to have a welcoming space for new people to feel comfortable and accepted. I think we can all agree this has been achieved.

The whole purpose of merging and building a new worship space was to facilitate growth. Whilst our numbers have remained static it must be said that many new people have joined the church. However we have also seen other people leave the church. Some of these people have gone to glory whilst others have moved out of the area. What is interesting is that the average age of the congregation has dropped. I can only hope that this trend will continue.

I know that this parish is ready to move to the next level of its development. The new buildings are already providing new ministry opportunities and I believe that the openness to change that is developing in the congregation will ensure that this church will be in a strong position to grow the kingdom of God. I look forward to seeing exciting things happening in the future.

I want to thank God for giving me the privilege of serving here as the vicar. Both Alison and I will miss the many friends that we have here but I know that we will be travelling back to Ringwood in the future.

Thankyou for being a wonderful parish family and may God richly bless you in the years to come.

Michael

Around the Parish:

Our Vicar Michael announced that his last service with us before he retires will be on Sunday 15th April. There will be only one service on that day - at 10.00am. There will be a farewell luncheon after the Service.

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**More Parish moves!**

Our dear friend Jenny Dick-Smith has moved to Kalaru, NSW to be with her family. Jenny was farewelled at the service on 25th March. We wish her every blessing as she and her two cats adjust to their new life!

Val Olney will be moving in May to be with her family at Maroochydore.

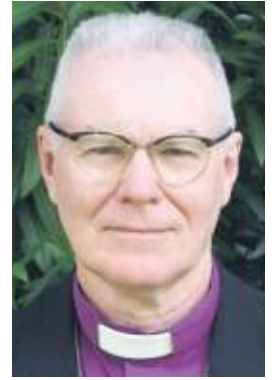
Both Val and Jenny have been very faithful members of this parish for many years - always willing to be part of whatever was happening. Their smiling faces will be missed.

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St Paul's Parish Players are now preparing for their major production on Saturday 4th August.

IS THERE A PROBLEM WITH AFRICAN YOUTH? CONVERSATION with the ARCHBISHOP 14TH MARCH

This was the subject of the recent Archbishop's Conversation held at Deakin Edge, Federation Square. African youth are much in the news in Melbourne, but how widespread is the problem? The panellists with Archbishop Philip were Nyadol Nyoun a young lawyer and social activist and The Rev. Chaplain Soma, Anglican minister and community leader, both with Sudanese backgrounds. Commentator Jon Cleary led the discussion.



Both The Rev. Chaplain Soma and Ms Nyoun are involved with Sudanese immigrants in different ways and they each spoke to some of the problems facing young people in trying to make a life for themselves in Australia. A leading cause of tension is that each time a young person or group is in the news they are stigmatised as "Africans" and are automatically assumed to be separate from the so-called real Australian community and therefore not part of "our" society. This can therefore isolate them from longer-term Australians and make it harder to blend into the community. It counts against them at school-age and they therefore tend to drop out and not try to seek jobs. In addition the issue of race is significant when applying for work and therefore many are unable to find employment. In turn, if they are not at school or at work there is greater likelihood of them seeking trouble and so, the cycle of lawlessness begins.

This has resulted in some members of the community now feeling that they are in a more "warlike" situation in this country than they experienced in their home country, which has to be a concern when we try to imagine where they have come from. Another surprising comment was that Sudanese kids are now being identified by their parents as Australian, not Sudanese, particularly if they were born here, and are now trying to please two communities and are caught between two cultures.



There are of course the usual racist taunts, such as "go back where you came from" as well as political moves to restrict immigration. Ms Nyoun, even though an educated woman and a practising lawyer, has admitted receiving racist taunts, which have saddened her, also commenting that she has the feeling that politicians don't care.

In their separate spheres though, both Chaplain and Nyadol are working with the African community to deal with problems and are trying to help them integrate into Australian society. Though there are many problems and progress is slow, they are happy to see gradual improvements being made.

In our Mullum community we can relate to some of these difficulties as we watch and work with the many Sudanese people who have come into this parish and help them to integrate successfully into our local community.

Peter Le Get, Social Responsibility Committee


**WINTER SHELTER FOR
HOMELESS PEOPLE**

A pilot program involving the cooperation of a number of churches in the Maroondah area, under the guidance of Wesley United care, is being launched this winter, to give safe nightly accommodation in the winter months. The need is great: at least 2,550 are homeless in this area, but only 3.2% of available rentals are affordable. The Shelter program will focus on the gap of great need - men over the age of 24.

The Ringwood churches have been inspired by a successful similar program run by Yarra Valley churches last year, as well as overseas programs in U.K., U.S.A. and Canada. The service operates on a rotating basis, with volunteers driving ten people each night to the host church for dinner, sleepover and a nourishing breakfast.

Volunteers and friends attended an information night on 26th March at the Salvation Army centre. Ringwood churches involved so far are Urban Life, Eastland, Croydon Hills Baptist, the Salvation Army, Truth and Liberation [T.L.C.] Bayswater and North Ringwood Uniting. More help is needed.

We hope this program will grow. Let us pray for volunteers, coordinators, cooks, drivers, cleaners and all who share the nightly shifts. You may also like to help with providing care packs, with shampoo, underwear, socks and knitted beanies.

We can't solve all these problems, but we can focus on building community and hope.

For more information contact Gitta Clayton [Croydon Hills Baptist]
email; gitta.clayton@chbc.org.au Tele: 0451 744 453

Songlines—Indigenous Travel Routes

British settlers in the Yarra Valley area usually travelled routes radiating out of Melbourne to the west, north, east and south. Often they assumed these were natural paths or animal trails, but in reality they had been used from time immemorial, and were maintained by regular clearing and burning off.

The routes were called Songlines, because land marks were coded into songs. Children were taught the stories relating to these formations and the care of ecological sites was thus preserved. They would sing the song in the language of the tribe living there—a sign that the visitors were not just trespassing, and they had come in peace.

The walking trails usually followed ridges, valleys and easy contours. Such roads are Geelong ['Jillong'], Ballarat, Sydney, Plenty, Warrandyte, Whitehorse, Mullum and Wonga [in honour of the great leader, Simon Wonga—headman of the Wurundjeri from 1851-74. Bulleen means 'resting place'].

For more detail, read Jim Poulter's books—some in the church library

In Memoriam:

We have recently lost two highly-regarded members of the Heathmont community
Dr Robin Underwood



Robin Underwood was a well-known and well-loved member of the congregation of the former Christ Church Heathmont who died on 16th March, aged 88. He and his wife Dorothy have in turn been members of the Mullum community but ill-health has recently restricted their attendance.

Robin was a highly-regarded civil engineer who became Chairman of Vic Roads. He had a world-wide reputation in road and traffic management and wrote several books and delivered many papers on the subject. He had attained the qualification of Doctor of Engineering.

But Robin was never into self-promotion and was content to stay in the background, even though in his quiet way he was a great contributor to church life. Among other roles he had been a CEBS leader, a member of Vestry, Church Secretary, Treasurer, Spring Fair convenor and

member of various planning committees. Robin also was the author of the history of Christ Church Heathmont, 1954 to 2004 as well as the story of Djerrnong, Heathmont & Ringwood East to 2009. He had firm opinions on what was right for the church and the community and because of his integrity and faithfulness his views were always sought and listened to.

Robin's wife Dorothy has specialised in embroidered church linen and the Christ Church banner in our worship centre was designed and made by her. Their daughters Cathy and Jenny have provided great support to their parents in recent times.

John Scanlon



John and his wife Evangeline, known as Van, were highly-influential members of the Christ Church Heathmont community in their own ways. John was the architect who designed the Church building, completed in 1964. It has recently been publicised that he was also the designer of the beautiful stained-glass window which last year was transferred from the Heathmont building to its location in our redeveloped worship centre, where it has been much-admired.

John died on 5th March, aged 91 and his and Van's family life was well-celebrated at his service here. John had been kept informed by Mary Le Get of the plans for the window and was then able to be present at the dedication ceremony in June last year, and was photographed by the window. But John was a man of many parts, not only as an architect in private practice, with involvement in many large projects, but as a very accomplished musician, playing the violin, and leading and performing in a wide variety of groups and musical genres. Van Scanlon

had a beautiful singing voice and together they performed in much of Melbourne's musical life.

John and Van were both born in Ceylon (now Sri Lanka), were married there in 1954, after which they came to settle in Melbourne. They built a house in Heathmont which turned out to be next-door to the Christ Church building which John later designed! Van played a prominent part in church life with GFS, choir and other musical occasions and was a greatly-loved community member. She died some years ago.

John lived on quietly in the same house, following his own passions of music and cricket, together with their loving family who on their visits regularly partook of the food which John enjoyed preparing for them. He leaves a family of two girls and three boys, together with many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.



The Parish Library.



After a lengthy break, due to the Church redevelopment and construction, the Parish Library is back. A new location, next to the Chapel, extra shelving and additional books the library has a fresh new look.

There is a large variety of books, mostly with a religious theme, covering Bible study; devotions; Christian living; self-help; novels; humour; children's books and more. Everyone is welcome to borrow any of the books to take home and read – just remember to return them when you finish. If anyone is inclined to write a brief book review it would be most welcomed.

For anyone interested, there are several books on the history of the churches that make up the current Mullum Mullum Parish. They are good reads and most people will recognise quite a few the current parishioners mentioned within them.

The library is a resource for everyone in the parish, so please use it often. From time to time there will be a themed focus on display – currently Indigenous Australia.

Any thoughts and comments can be made to the library convenor, Libby.

Reconciliation, the Parish and the Library.

Both the Diocese of Melbourne and the St Paul's Social Responsibility Committee see Reconciliation with the Indigenous Peoples of Australia as very important. A key element is learning and understanding the Indigenous culture, history and relationship to country. The Parish is working in small ways with our desire to return the nearby bush to local Indigenous plantings.

The library has a few books with a focus on Indigenous life currently on display (some books are on temporary loan from private collections). We have biographical books; history-based books; books on Indigenous culture and ways of living off the land.

There are several books on mission living including "The Mish" by Robert Lowe on the life on a Mission Station in Victoria. Stan Grant's book with discussions about race, discrimination and Australian culture. Plus, we have Bruce Pascoe's book on living off the land and farming.

Prayer for Reconciliation

In the midst of conflict and division,
We know it is You
Who turns our minds to thoughts of peace.
Your Spirit changes our hearts:
Enemies begin to speak to one another,
Those who were estranged join hands in friendship,
And nations seek the way of peace together.
Let Your Spirit be at work in us.
Give us understanding and put an end to strife,
Fill us with mercy and overcome our denial,
Grant us wisdom and teach us to learn
From the people of the land
Call us to justice.





MEDICAL MISSION AID

**Invite you to our
BLACK PEPPER
FASHION PARADE**

At St Paul's

2.00pm Tuesday 1st May 2018

Admission \$10.00

Afternoon Tea provided

Proceeds to aid MMA Projects

A Working with Children Card (WWC)
is mandatory for ANYONE who is doing
ANYTHING IN THE NAME OF THE CHURCH
which brings them into contact with people.

If you already have a current WWC, you must have Mullum Parish registered as an authorized organization.

If people fail to obtain a card by 1st May, then we will have no alternative but to ask them to cease doing what they are doing.

The WWC is free and the office can assist you in applying for the card.

MORNING PRAYER

This prayer book service is held every Tuesday in the Chapel - starting at 10.15am

followed by Tea/Coffee. A simple, short service lead by parishioners.

All welcome.



A Lasting Gift - to the Parish.

In the past few years I have had enquiries from different people who have wanted to leave the parish a bequest in their wills. This made me reflect how I had seen many parishes blessed by people who have left the parish a bequest from their estate. In our own parish of Mullum Mullum we have been left a number of bequests in the past few years. These bequests have enabled us to maintain our ministry and pastoral care both within the parish and in the wider community.

The wardens and I felt that it would be prudent to have an information brochure produced to help people who were interested in leaving a bequest to the parish. This brochure is available in the information display stand in the foyer of the church. You can also contact the parish office if you would like one posted to you or you could contact the vicar if you have any questions.

Michael

mainly music



Want something to do on a Thursday morning, that is fun, friendly and **Super Awesome**, then come check out **mainly music**! We need YOUR help!

If you can pick up a toy, bake a biscuit, direct traffic, cut up fruit, or draw with crayons you are more than qualified!

mainly
music®

Let Shannon know if you are interested! There are many jobs and things to do - there is bound to be something to fit your gift and skill set!

[Not during School Holidays]

If you can do any of these occasionally or regularly we'd love to talk to you.

Contact: Karen Waterson on 0419 587 160 or see any team member



KIDS HOPE AUS®

*One Child
One Hour
One church
One School*

World Vision

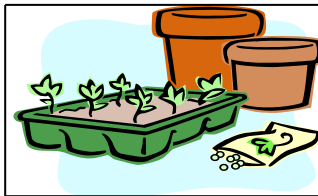
KIDS HOPE AUS. Is a mentoring program aimed at developing emotional and social resilience in children, thereby enhancing their capacity to learn. The Kids Hope Aus. model is built on a long-term partnership between a local primary school and a local church. Carefully screened and trained mentors from the partner church meet the children for one hour per week at the school.

This usually involves helping the child with homework, playing games, arts and crafts, or just spending time together.

The results? Changed lives! Interested?

Training available - there is an urgent need for more volunteers. Speak to Shannon

Classifieds



Branch Out Nursery

Quality plants and Terracotta Pots at Discount Prices
 191 Warrandyte Road, North Ringwood, Vic, 3134
 Telephone: 9876 3479



15 Milne Place,
 Nth Ringwood
 Phone: 9876 2318



MMA Op Shop

Come and explore the
 Medical Mission Aid Op Shop at
 301 Whitehorse Road, Balwyn 3103

Collectables, Treasures, Quality used clothes, books,
 haberdashery, manchester

Open 10:00am to 4:00pm weekdays,
 10:00am to 12:00pm Saturdays



HIGH Heathmont Inter Church Help is a voluntary welfare
 organisation run by the four local Christian churches.

We provide practical care and support for those local people who
 are in need. Mullum Mullum Parish is the Anglican Partner.

We operate from our own

Opportunity Shop at

136 Canterbury Road, HEATHMONT.

Everything is run by volunteers and all the proceeds of the shop are used for the
 care programs. We also rely on direct donations and a small number of grants
 from philanthropic groups.



Working Bee

Monthly working bees are held at St Paul's
 9:00am - 12:00 noon on the first Saturday of
 each month.

There is always plenty of work to be done
 throughout the property.
 Choose the job that suits you.
 Regular tasks include: mowing, weeding, cleaning
 gutters, pruning & planting.

Contact David Mangan if you need
 further information. ph 9876 3785



Next Parish News
 deadline is
 20th May 2018
 Please e-mail any articles to
office@mullumanglicanparish.org
 or leave them in the
 office pigeon hole.

Weekly Walking Groups

Tuesdays 9.30am

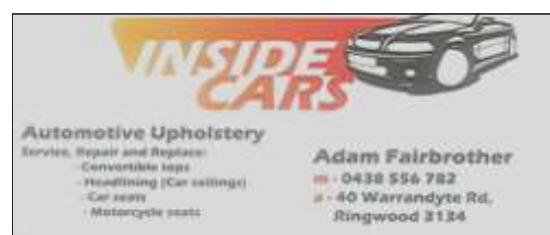
Meeting at the Bandstand at Ringwood Lake -
 contact Sheila Boots 9870 2628 .

We meet for coffee after the walk at the
 Laurent cafe at Eastland.

[near Myers 2nd floor]

Wednesdays 9.00am with St Stephen's -

Contact Bobby Smart 9870 2156





ANGLICAN
MOTHERS UNION
AUSTRALIA

Sharing Christ's love by encouraging, strengthening and supporting
Marriage and Family life.

We meet on the Third Thursday of the Month
12.30pm in the Fellowship area
BYO lunch.

You are welcome to join us!
Contacts: Elaine Longford or Carol Baxter

EMBROIDERY GROUP

Meet in the Parish House
Fourth Friday of the month
[not January]
BYO craft
All Welcome



Further Information:
Judith Reid
or Margaret Southey

ALMS BASKET

We need your help

Please remember those of our own
community
who are in desperate need of food;
Monday Lunch clients,
HICH clients and Refugees.
Just add something extra to your
shopping basket.



Some Ideas: Tin of Tomatoes,
Baked Beans or Spaghetti. Jam,
Peanut Butter or Vegemite.

Pasta, Rice, Breakfast Cereal,
Pasta Sauce.

Long life Milk, tin of Tuna or Fruit.



In order to reduce paper consumption, the Parish News is also available in colour on our Parish website.

Have you checked out the
Parish Website lately?
www.mullumanglicanparish.org

We collect used stamps for ABM.

There is a glass container in the Narthex in which stamps can be placed.
Please cut from the envelope and leave 1cm of paper around the edge of each stamp. All stamps, both overseas and Australian are collected.

Any queries, please speak with
Margaret Southey
or Judith Macpherson.



Parish Contact Information

Vicar: The Rev'd Michael Lazarus 0413040505 [retires 15th April, 2018]
email: vicar@mullumanglicanparish.org

Associate Priest The Rev Shannon Lee

Children, Youth & Family Ministries

The Rev Shannon Lee 0410619796
shannon.m.lee@outlook.com

Hon. Associate Priest: The Rev'd Brian Audsley 9870 7501

Hon. Deacon: The Rev'd Margaret Taylor 9879 8527

Pastoral and Aged Care Chaplain:
Meredith Chivers 9870 8907

Secretary to Parish Council Carol Baxter 9870 1163

Caretaker: Adam Fairbrother 0438556782

Parish Office: Hours: Tuesday-Friday
9:00am to 12:00pm 9870 2093
Email office@mullumanglicanparish.org

Parish News Editor: Elaine Longford office@mullumanglicanparish.org

Web address <http://www.mullumanglicanparish.org>.

Baptism,
Admission to Communion
Confirmation,
Weddings
and Funerals
By appointment
with the
Vicar

SERVICES

Sundays 8:00am Holy Communion
10:00am Holy Communion
10.00am All Age Service with Holy Communion [1st Sunday of the month]

Tuesdays 10.15am Morning Prayer in the Chapel

Wednesdays 10:30am Holy Communion

Sunday School 10.00am [not in school holidays]

PARISH NEWS

If undelivered, please return to
St Paul's Anglican Church
40 Warrandyte Rd Ringwood Vic

