

What's on at St Margarets

MAY Diary Dates

SUNDAY	6 th	9.25am	Quiet time – candle lit
		9.30am	Sunday Service
MONDAY	7 th	9.30am	UCAF Yarra Yarra Presbytery
		5.00pm	Finance & Property Meeting
TUESDAY	8 th	9.30am	Dad's Army
		7.30pm	Bowls
		7.30pm	Elders Meeting
THURSDAY	10 th	9.45am–10.45am	Music Together
		10.30am	Baradine AC Communion
		10.30am- 12 noon	Church Office Open
SUNDAY	13 th	9.25am	Quiet time – candle lit
		9.30am	Sunday Service

INFORMATION: ARNIE WIERENGA. INFORMATION Please note that Arnie may be contacted in the following ways:- MOBILE: 0419 553 434
 EMAIL: arniew1965@gmail.com MAIL - P.O. BOX 306 MOOROOLBARK, 3138
 Arnie will take his day off on FRIDAY each week . Unless there is an emergency please respect his opportunity to relax on this day free from phone calls.

CONTACTS - CHURCH COUNCIL EXECUTIVE:

Chairperson: Marj Hookey 9726 7286 Secretary: Robert O' Shea 9735 2393

13th MAY 2018

<u>Reader</u>	Jean Curnow	<u>Ushers:</u>	Nancy & Carolyn
<u>Tea Station</u>	Fay & Rex	<u>Sound Desk</u>	Stephen White
<u>Power Point:</u>	Alan Norris	<u>Chapel Cleaning</u>	Graeme & Merle

The Church Office is open on Thursday mornings 10.30am – 12 Noon telephone number 9723 7323 Notices can be emailed to stmargarets@netspace.net.au by 10.30a.m. each Thursday

NEWS FROM **MANUS ISLAND**

The last article I wrote included a letter From Mehran who amongst other things said:

The most problem here, leaving me in limbo situation. Nobody knows when we go to America! Some lucky refugees were sent to America but I am still waiting! I wish I had a laptop computer to study and searching some lessons and useful information in my free time in Manus but I don't have and I wish you could help me for that.

Without an appeal, two members of our congregation gave me donations to help provide a laptop for Mehran. Two weeks ago, I sent off a reconditioned laptop and carry bag from myself and friends at St.Margaret's. The total cost was Laptop \$175, Postage \$91. It took nearly two weeks to arrive, and when Mehran went to collect it, he was charged 125 Kinas (\$51) to receive it!! I was shocked. However the asylum seekers are each receiving \$100 each week, and Mehran told me was able to handle the expense from his savings.

In his latest email - Hello my dear friend Franklyn. Yesterday morning I received the laptop that you sent me before from the post office in Manus. ... Thank you very much. I am really glad and appreciate you for your help and understanding my situation.

I am very happy to have a laptop computer now from generous Christian friends. I enjoy my time and learning English and study my favorite books. Using this new laptop isn't really difficult for me. I really appreciate you for your help and many blessings to you from your friend Mehran.

Mehran and others have been in Australia's Offshore Detention Centre on Manus Island now in their fifth year – for fleeing to Australia by boat !!

(Article provided by Franklyn)

Letter Writing Here are three more matters you may like to write letters about.

- Keep Victoria's land registry in our hands
- Ensure your voice is not stifled (speaking up about concerns)
- Compensation not Litigation (Fortescue Metals and local Aboriginal people)

The letter guidelines are in a pocket on the Social Justice board.

FAMILY GATHERING

. On May 27th Barry Brown is our special guest speaking on Mark. Mark the date in your diary and come along for an interesting and informative evening, good food and enjoy fellowship together. Robert O'Shea 97352393

Uniting Church Adult Fellowship

For the May meeting on Monday 7th the group is hosting the Yarra Yarra Presbytery UCAF May Gathering. This starts at 9.30 with a cuppa and finishes at 2.30. Everyone is invited to hear a line -up of lots of interesting speakers. But we are all asked, if we plan to be there for lunch, to bring our own, although tea and coffee will be served. The planned time for speakers is 10.30 for Rev Arnie Wierenga who will speak about his experiences recently travelling to Northern Territory. He will be joined by Rev Jennie Gordon. 11.30 Lian will talk about his experiences prior to coming to Australia. Rev Rob Gallagher at 1.15 will speak about icons and show some, and at 1.45 Doug Williams will speak about Rubaga Youth Development Association.

YOU'RE INVITED TO BE A PART OF A SAFE PLACE!

The Safe Church Awareness Workshop provides local volunteers and leaders with knowledge and understanding of our Safe Church policy and procedures. It gives you the opportunity to understand the importance of striving to be a Safe Church in our community and how you are an important part in our success

Appointed leaders are required to attend training and as such we will keep a record of attendance.

Appointed leaders are those who have been specifically asked and expected to hold a Working with Children Check (WWCC). These include Elders, Church Councillors, Sunday Activities Leaders, musicians, Power Point and Sound Desk operators, those involved in Kids Hope and Music Together, Lay Preachers and Retired Clergy. If you are in doubt, please ask or just come along to a training session to be informed.

We are offering two evening training sessions (people only need to attend ONE of these): **Tuesday May 22nd at 7:30pm OR Wednesday June 13th at 7:30pm**. Other churches will also have training if you cannot attend one of the above dates.

For more information, contact Rev. Arnie 0419 553 434.

Singularity Sings For RYDA

Please put aside Sunday June 3rd, 2:30pm for a wonderful afternoon of music and silliness as Singularity presents Gilbert & Sullivan's Iolanthe in concert to support Rubaga Youth Development Association. Afternoon tea included.

TERRA CYCLE - RECYCLING PROGRAM – toothpaste tubes boxes, brushes etc plus any make up containers now have a new container – **THE PURPLE BIN** - Jorja and Chloe now have over 2000 items to send away (worth \$20 which they are donating to RYDA) Please continue to save these items – put them in the one bin.

FOOD FOR WESLEY & HELPING HAND. Please continue to remember those in our community who, because of personal circumstance, must seek support. The food items we collect for them to give to those in need are greatly appreciated.

SAMMY STAMP - Save your stamps for Sammy! The used stamps you put in the box on the table in the foyer are taken into the Synod Office. Every Thursday in the Synod office a group of volunteers meet to sort and sell stamps. The money raised provides grants for special needs projects in Victoria, Australia and overseas that are worthy of assistance but not covered by other Uniting Church funding. Save your stamps to help. Please leave the stamps attached to paper. To trim the stamps cut around the stamp leaving a 3mm (1/8 inch) margin

THE LINK Thanks to all who supplied material for the last Link published on 1st April. There have been some appreciative comments from readers. Now it is time to commence preparing the June copy. I would be really pleased to receive any contributions from readers. I need to have copy by Wednesday 16th May. Email to marjhookey@hotmail.net.au is the easiest way and preferably as a 'word' attachment. If you do not have a computer, your handwritten contribution will also be most acceptable. Doug suggested some stories about your grandchildren. Have you been on an interesting holiday recently? Can you write a poem? Tell us about where you grew up or of a life changing experience. Marj Hookey, Editor.