

New Horizons Newsletter of Warwick/Killarney UCA



Jumpers and Jazz: Intergenerational Worship



IAN, AMANDA DALTON ,AND RAY



GENEROUS FOOD DONATION



Thank you for your donation!



LET THEM HAVE CAKE

The End Of A Big Wonderful Job



Hopefully, you've taken the opportunity to look through the former manse before it was officially handed over to house Protea Place – a day crisis, refuge centre for women in our community.

Our task was to restore the house to a comfortable, clean condition once the Lighthouse vacated the premises. So, from January to the end of July, it was stripped, sanded, cleaned, painted internally – the garage area converted into a very comfortable double room - then to paint and replace the guttering on the exterior.

But along the way, many business and trades people donated their time and skills – as well as products and monetary donations to complete this amazing task. New kitchen, new floor coverings, paint – so much paint – plaster board, air conditioners, security screens, upgraded electricals and plumbing, etc, etc, etc. All this has added enormous value to our property. It is now a beautiful home. That was our aim – to configure the building to be a suitable place for this centre.

Hopefully also, you are aware that this huge job was co-ordinated by Ian Darnell – with Ray Browne leading a small, dedicated team of volunteers to carry out the painstaking restoration of this tired home.

Without these leaders and workers, the task would not be completed – and we would not have the wonderful, valuable asset that now proudly adorns 37 Guy St.

Protea Place Warwick Opens its doors for service on Tuesday 8th August at 10am. 💜💜💜
We will be open each Tuesday and Thursday from 10 am to 2pm initially.
Lunch is served at 12. No appointments necessary and all services are free.

Our focus is on delivering our Dignity Services of lunch, showers, laundry, clothing and toiletries along with information and referral where possible. We have a strong housing focus and understand the challenges in accessing accommodation, however we will assist as much as possible.

Just a reminder to all that Protea Place is a holistic Women's Support Service for women in need who may be experiencing homelessness and disadvantage and needing some support to get back on their feet.

We are not a specialist DFV Service and do not provide accommodation. We assist many women with children but due to the space and model we do not have children on site.

Further details will be available in the coming week once brochures arrive. For now, please feel free to refer women directly on our open days and times.

We encourage services and front line workers to pop in and say hi have a cuppa, meet the staff and see the site. We also encourage warm referrals, including accompanying clients on their first visit if appropriate or required.

Please be patient with us as we find our feet and do our very best to support women in need in Warwick and the southern Downs Region . 💜💜

Kind regards
Amanda and Team xx



Dear Church Family

How do we even begin to put into words the experiences and things we have lived through in the last few weeks?

It has been a Jumpers and Jazz season like no other, the Bonfire in Killarney has been a first for me and I am still trying to wrap my mind around it all! Please help me in expressing my gratitude to all

the people that volunteered hours of their time to serve in various capacities during this time. The coffee shop was a delight and I do not know how I am going to survive without their smiles, coffee and cake every day!

On top of it, I have just returned from the movie Barbie that I watched with our young women's group and let me tell you it is NOT a children's movie! It was confronting and challenging at times. This movie is not for the fainthearted but addresses issues about gender stereotyping. I was struck by how easily we allow "the world" to tell us or to prescribe to us what is acceptable and how we should live. But if I reflect on this story in relation to Genesis 3, I am struck by the many biblical themes that can be found. If the Psalmist believes the words of Psalm 139:14 that he/she is fearfully and wonderfully made, I wonder what it means to be fully human, and how we become the best we can be in the care and love of God our creator.

The Protea Place drop-in centre for women is completed! What a joy and privilege to be part of this transforming work that God has done in our midst. We thank God for the living Saints that worked tirelessly to transform the Old Girl back into new life. Ray Browne, Ian Darnell and an army of faithful men and women from the church modelled to the community that new life is possible and judging by the number of women who are already enquiring about services, we know that the project is needed, and God has certainly enabled all of it to become a reality.

Our Intergenerational service in July focussed on the parables, on those who spoke about the little things that make a huge difference, like yeast, pearls, and seeds. We had to reflect on modern-day parables, and I could not help to reflect on how a conversation and prayer turned an old building into a fully restored work of art offering life-giving services to those who need it.

How a coffee machine birthed a coffee shop and a hospitality outreach to the whole community!

How one young person full of love for Jesus and overflowing with that love attracted a young man to wonder and find out more and now that young man is getting baptised!

I should never be amazed at what God can do with a coffee machine, a friendly smile or a dream – but I am still sometimes speechless – like now!

Pause with me and give thanks for the many signs of new life among us!

Ansie Liebenberg

Food for Thought....Parables.

Over the last few Sundays, we have been exploring the parables of Jesus were told to answer questions about The Kingdom of Heaven. At times, they have been very easy to relate providing us with a very clear meaning and a definite challenge. Others, however, have many facets that can lead us into new interpretations and challenges.

So, this month, I found a couple from a book titled, "Parables and Fables for Modern Man" written by Peter Ribes SJ. They both involve a tree!

Parable No 1

Once upon a time, people used to complain about their pains and sufferings. Each one was sure that their troubles were the worst of the lot. The Master told them a story:

On the day of judgement when all met before God, he allowed them to be free from their sufferings by hanging them on the branches of *The Great Tree of Sorrows*. After that, for a long time everyone was free from pain and sorrow. They could enjoy themselves to their hearts content.

Then, at the end of that glorious time, God asked the people to circle around *The Great Tree of Sorrows* and pick up any sorrows that would be best suited to them. They went round and round the tree, looking at all the sorrows hanging from its branches. It was a hard decision to make! Finally, when all had picked up the sorrows of their choice, God looked at them...and, lo and behold, each one had reclaimed their own!

Parable 2

There was a magnificent tree, sturdy, graceful and shady. Its branches were laden with leaves, flowers and fruit, all gently swinging in the cool early morning breeze. But then, one unhappy day the branches began complaining to the tree.

One said, "I am not prepared to remain for ever as just a mere branch! I want to be a tree like you. I want to stand on my own and be independent!" The tree replied, "You are a part of like all the other branches. You give us vibrant beauty and life...all of us make up the tree!"

Then another branch complained, "Why should I have so many leaves and hardly any fruit? I want to have as much fruit as the branch next to me. It's not fair that I should be treated differently!" Very gently, the tree said, "Why does it matter if leaves and fruit are not evenly distributed? All that belongs to all belongs to each! If it were not for your leaves, there wouldn't be so many fruits on the other branches. Remember...we are all one single tree!"

Another joined in, "I am fed up having so many flowers. The insects looking for nectar give me no peace. Those passing by hurt me taking away the flowers. Why should I suffer more than the other branches?" The Tree replied, "Darling, beauty goes with suffering...that's the price! Remember we all make up one tree...your beauty and your suffering are also ours."

Another complained, "Why should these orchids grow on me robbing my sap and draining my strength? I do not want to belong to the tree!" With great patience and kindness, the tree replied, "Those precious orchids can't live without us. They need our support and service and teach us to be generous. It is because of you that all of us can show compassion and love to our brothers and sisters in need."

It's we, not you, not he alone, not I...It is we all together ...WE ARE THE TREE!

Another Octogenarian....Lee Wells

Born in Southport in 1940, Lee has had an interesting and varied life that has spanned most of the states of Australia. An Ambulance man, Lee's Dad and his family were posted to Boonah where young Lee attended primary school. Lee was actually baptised in the Presbyterian church, but he became part of the young people at the Methodist Church in Boonah, attending Sunday school and moving into the OK's and the MYF. Through MYF his faith in Christ began to crystalise, and, he actually had a small part in the beginning of Kamp Stacey and those Easter camps.

Lee started an Apprenticeship as a Motor Mechanic in 1955, but his heart was in the Navy where he joined HMS Albatross in 1958 as an Airframe Mechanic. To mark the occasion, his mother presented him with a Bible inscribed with the words, " In all thy ways acknowledge Him" , His faith journey began to move a little deeper as he became part of a Bible Study Group that met in a home over a meal and with further involvement in the Nowra MYF. Here he was deeply influenced by the Navy Chaplain who would become his future Father-in-Law and also where he met a young lass who stole his heart and who would become his wife.

Faith began to mean so much more as Lee took on the responsibility of preaching at the small churches around Nowra along with other young navy people who were part of the Nowra MYF. In 1961, he went to sea on an aircraft Carrier. Lee and Marg were married in 1964 in Sydney and the family grew with three girls adding to the mix. From Nowra, the little family moved to Perth where the Navy paid for Lee to enrol in Perth University where he was awarded a B. Sc. which lead him to become a Navy teacher of Maths and Physics for the next few years.

Lee became a part of the Nedlands Church in Perth where he served as a Steward. But Lee doesn't stay in one place for long! In 1971, he was sent to Cornwall in England to the Naval School of Meteorology to become a weather forecaster! Then it was back to Nowra, and on to Canberra into the Dept of Defence in 1978. Here, he was once again part of a small group who met in a home where they shared their faith.

His naval career came to an end when he retired in 1980 and the family moved to Brisbane while Lee studied to become a Secondary School Guidance Counsellor. And this is where his story becomes ours as, in this role, he was posted to Warwick High School in 1981 and became part of the Warwick/Killarney Uniting Church. The family soon became a valuable part of the Wesley Uniting Church where Lee taught Sunday School to the Year 8s from Scots, volunteered to be on the Warwick Blue Care Committee where he served as their last Chairman and he also served on the Church Council, something that he did for another three stints.

Lee has been a part of learning and maturing his faith over all those years and it didn't stop in Warwick. He became part of the Dodd's home group, took part in both the Kerygma and Disciple in-depth Study of the whole Bible, and was recently a part of Alpha which he found deepened his faith and where he enjoyed getting to know other people on a deeper and more personal level and where he was privileged to see the evidence of answered prayer.

He was part of the Men's Breakfast, a member of a Worship Committee, always prepared to take a leading part in our worship. He ran the first Blue Card Training, is part of the 4th Hospitality Group and is open to helping where needed. He sees his role at present as being Marg's backup ready to help her in all the many, many roles she currently fills.

As Lee looks back over all those years, he feels very much at peace, knowing there is something ahead to look forward to. He believes he has gained much more tolerance and understanding and can see what is really important in life as he “sifts the wheat from the chaff.” He knows that his minister father-in-law has had a large influence on his journey of faith as he stood beside him as a guiding light throughout all of life’s ups and downs. He sees us here as a close-knit Christian church and looks back on his time at WHS as quite special because of how many of the staff were practicing Christians and how that covertly moulded the ethos of the whole school community. What a wonderful summing up of how the yeast leavens the lump of dough!

Thank you, Lee, for your honesty, your faith, your interesting life, and for agreeing to be interviewed!!

The peace of the Lord be always with you.....Jean

JULY CHURCH COUNCIL CHATTER

July – a busy month! Thank you to those leaders who have sent in their Task Team and Ministry Reports. Ministry Reports will be looked at in detail at our next Council Meeting.

Protea Place Warwick:

- Amanda Dalton, CEO of Protea Place Toowoomba, led the many thanks owed to our community and Church members for the transformation of our tired old manse to a beautiful home.
- We are now their landlord, and you wonder how the relationship will work.
 - It was emphasised at the opening today that this is a community service and will need to be supported by the community. It has come to this start point only through immense good will from the community and a lot of hard work from Ray’s Roustabouts and Ansie.
 - They will be paying rent and for the electricity they use.



HANDING OVER THE KEY

Name for the old manse:

Should we give this old manse a unique name? It will be known as Protea Place Warwick, but this is the community service they are providing.

You may ask why give it a name and what is purpose for future generations? These questions should be part of our conversation and this conversation will be raised at the next Warwick Congregational Meeting. We have one suggestion already: Hagar’s Well, view the message again [\(1\) Facebook](#) or read Genesis 21:8-21

Warwick Congregation:

We thank Kristina Christensen for her cleaning, but Kristina has obtained other employment and once again, we are looking at employing a cleaner, and of course, how we pay for it. At the moment we are paying SNH \$50 per hour until an alternate cleaner can be found. This will be discussed at the Congregational Meeting.

Are you willing to help us stream our Services?

- camera operation training online video available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eTaE81S5omw>

Killarney Congregation:

- We have experienced answer to prayer.
- We have seen and give thanks for God's hand in life of our oldest member Bernice who we have recently farewelled.

Freestone Congregation:

- God has been at work in our lives providing rain for our farms to produce food. God has been blessing families with the birth of babies in the community.
- Friends are helping with building a new fence for the church at Freestone.

Scots PGC College:

Rev Nathan Barton has concluded his time at the College and Presbytery has requested that we undertake to conduct Chapel Services on Monday and Wednesday plus closing Services at end of term. This requires Rev Ansie to undertake another 12 Services and cover this gap while the College seek another Chaplain. Rev Ansie will be assisted by Rev Willie, Rev Marius Kruger and Rev Yvonne McRostie and hopefully the need will only be for this term, but it has already given Ansie extra commitments and once again she is finding it impossible to have a day off essential for her own health and restoration.

Jumpers and Jazz: so many parts! A review and full report will come.

- **Labyrinth and Tree:**
 - Thank you, Jan Reid and Jazz Lane for this thoughtful labyrinth posted so beautifully with reflection points on the 23rd Psalm. Well worth the walk and from my post in the Courtyard through the week, it was good to see many trying it.
 - Thank you to the tree people depicting the Jazz theme of Pathways as the Pathways of Life with clothing from the different ages/stages of life.
- **Jazzy Breakfast:**
 - Elliott Parker, Yvonne McRostie's son came in place of Sharny Russell and provided some really great entertainment with his companion from the Stingrays.
 - We had approx. 100 people come and enjoy breakfast.
 - ?profit will go to supporting our local missions.
- **Courtyard Coffee:**
 - Many thanks to Cathy, Daphne and Jazz and Jenny who created such an interesting and inviting space for people to come and enjoy a drink and a treat.
 - Many thanks to those who donated goods to our popup Stalls, from gorgeous plants to clever craft.
 - We served people from Toowoomba and surrounding areas, plus many local coffee and tea drinkers.
- **Life of Christ in the Church:**
 - Many thanks to Ansie and her knitters, especially Ruth, for this display. The thought provoking pathways depicting biblical events. A wonderful nativity scene and a creative crocheted cross just two of the displays.

Market Day News

The year is roaring past us with our next Market Day on Saturday 12th August. Just a few reminders about the stalls for this market:

Books – Gordon Bratby is convener and donations can be left on the stage in the hall. Low boxes are useful to display books, so they are just one layer and the titles on the spine are easily read. This saves on space and makes it so much easier to find particular titles and authors. Fiction and children's books are very popular, and all are very reasonably priced usually all under \$5.00.

Bric-a-Brac – we have received a donation of large amount of household goods to include in the market so we will set up a stall in the parking area. We have 4 workers so far but could do with another one or two to help set up – 7:30am onwards.

Home baked - always room for more baking – some with a variety – savoury, preserves, etc. don't forget to label with ingredients.

Treat yourself – sweets of all sorts – Michelle Wixted is convener with Mary Young OS – we need more helpers for weighing on Friday morning – 8:30am – please bring your kitchen scales.

Plants -natives + ornamentals - if you have well established plants bring them along into the courtyard. Darell and Pam Fletcher might need some help if there's a crowd so keep an eye out for how you can help.

Sausage Sizzle – Angela and Anne are well organized.

Courtyard Café – Terry and crew will be serving morning tea, pies and soup –

Entertainment - from 9.00am An eclectic variety to suit all tastes.

- Scots Junior Pipers,
- Melomaniacs (a very lively choral group),
- Ellie Kelso and some groovy movers
- and Central School choir.

But – so we can enjoy all this activity – we need workers:

- to set up Saturday morning – See David Angell contact 0400 433 910.
- cook – sweets and baking.
- offer to help on a stall.
- come and just enjoy the busyness of the morning.
- sit and enjoy the entertainment.
- clean up if you can afterwards.

EFTPOS is available for all stalls. Rather than pay individually you can accumulate dockets and just pay once.

Sue Campbell – for Scott Young.



Fletcher puts his coins in our 'spotty box' at mainly music.

The spotty box sits on the table for donations to assist those mainly music groups in underprivileged communities.

A mainly music group can provide joy and laughter for communities who may be in troubled times. There are even mainly music groups in Women's prisons. These groups support mothers and young children. The costs of these sessions are enabled by generous donations.

The Warwick mainly music group has sent a donations a couple of times each year to assist those less fortunate.

Visitors are always welcome on Thursday morning to come and see how much fun we have.

Wondering about the changes to New Horizons?

Since the installation of the new printer in the office, the cost of printing has meant that the number of colour pages is calculated per sheet. Therefore, I have tried to keep the colour on only two pages back to back. Thanks to Marg Wells who prints and collates the hard copies we are able to provide you with an interesting and informative edition each month.

News and articles are always welcome. Please send to lesterwm@activ8.net.au or you can contact me on 0427673726. Thanks Angela Lester.

And a couple of thoughts to conclude:

- "Like water, be gentle and strong. Be gentle enough to follow the natural paths of the earth, and strong enough to rise up and reshape the world." -- Brenda Peterson
- "We cannot but admit that not even the least thing takes place unless it is ordered by God. For who have ever been so concerned and curious as to find out how much hair he has on his head? There is no one. God, however, knows the number. Indeed, nothing is too small in us or in any other creature, not to be ordered by the all-knowing and all-powerful providence of God." --- Zwingli, Huldrych.

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33a Guy St Warwick, 4370. Office Phone 07)4661 1080.