



New Horizons

The newsletter of the Warwick/Killarney Parish

AUGUST 2026



What a special time

**Jumpers and Jazz
2026**

**We shared Jesus
and Music**



Grace and Peace to you!

As we come to the close of another Jumpers & Jazz season, my heart is full of gratitude. What a joy it has been to watch our churches come alive with colour, creativity, hospitality, and the gentle hum of community life.

To everyone who decorated our worship spaces so beautifully, who served in the courtyard, who welcomed visitors with warmth and generosity—**thank you.** Your efforts created an atmosphere where people felt at home, where conversations flowed easily, and where the love of Christ was quietly but unmistakably present. The notes, the colours, the laughter, and the joyful faces stirred something deep within me. It has been a privilege to worship alongside you in these vibrant weeks.

Work on the new toilet block and shelter at Freestone are progressing with the September monthly service to be led by Presbytery Minister Rev Russell Reynoldson. This will be a special time to acknowledge the monetary gift from the Presbytery which enable the new facilities to be built. Also extend thanks to all who have given of their time and expertise to ensure the members of the Freestone congregation and visitors have a hygienic, safe toilet. A very big improvement from the original and a permanent replacement for the hired portable toilet which has been used for the past months.

We have shared in many special services over the past weeks. The Scots PGC boarders attended worship in Killarney. The Toowoomba Male Voice Choir shared their talents and testimony with the Warwick congregation. Thank you to our talented musicians for the worship service at the conclusion to Jumpers and Jazz. I was privileged to conduct the baptism of Xavier Walker at the Freestone service. Last Sunday in Warwick we welcomed our local Veterans and recognised their contribution over many years.

A special word of thanks also goes to our Killarney folk. Your contributions this year have been a blessing, and your willingness to serve, host, and participate has enriched our shared ministry. The Alpha course in Killarney has been particularly moving. Week by week, I have sensed that God is doing something extraordinary—something tender, courageous, and full of hope. There is a stirring of the Spirit that is hard to put into words, but easy to recognise.

One of our Alpha attendees, Brian Lee, captured this sense of wonder in a poem he wrote, titled **"Only Jesus Could."** His words reflect the quiet miracles happening in hearts and homes and remind us that God continues to work in ways that surprise and delight us.

A Personal Note

From **1 September to 1 December**, I will be on long leave. During this time, my husband and I hope to attend a retreat at **Iona in Scotland**, a place of deep Christian heritage and renewal. We are excited to travel to the **UK, Turkey, South Africa, and Mozambique**, mostly to spend precious time with our family and loved ones.

This will also be a significant and tender time for me personally. My mum passed away during COVID, and our family will gather to **spread her ashes**—a moment of remembrance, healing, and gratitude for her life.

Please know that I will continue to hold you in prayer throughout my absence. Rev **Russel Reynoldson**, our Presbytery Minister, will lead worship three times during this period, and Rev **Ian Smallbone** will serve as my official replacement. I know you will embrace them warmly and make them feel at home, just as you have always done.

As we move forward, may we continue to listen for God's leading, remain open to the Spirit's prompting, and celebrate the beautiful things God is doing among us—in Warwick, in Killarney, and in every place where love is shared and faith is lived.

With gratitude and blessing, *Ansie*

Only Jesus Could

The greatest victory this world has known
Took place on a cross where the greatest love was
shown Where we were saved by the Lamb's blood And
only Jesus could.

For who could bear the pain,
Of that great victory
Where blood was shed for you and me
Yes, no one but Jesus could.

**A man without sin, He
died and rose again.
Such love we'll never see
And he did it all for you and me.**

He bore that pain through skin and bone To
light the path and guide us home
And we were saved by the Lamb's blood
Because only Jesus could.
So, no matter what we say
No matter what we do
We can never repay
The love that God has shown To
me and you.

**He saved us using his own son's blood Because
no one but Jesus could.**

News from August Church Council

We start our church council evenings each month with a communal meal and enjoyed a hearty warm curry and dessert provided by David and Dianne – then we move to the Community Centre meeting room where we can work using the big TV screen to read the agenda and developing minutes.

At this church council meeting all our ministries – study groups, mainly music, fellowship groups etc, were asked to present a report of their gatherings and from these we continue our oversight of the different activities that occur under the name of our parish. It's these small groups of loyal members who are the foundation of our outreach and support within our church community.

At every council meeting all our task teams report on the business that needs to occur for us to be accountable for decisions that keep us functioning – the business of our operations. As usual, there is always a lot of information that relates to property -Affordable Housing in Warwick and Killarney and the new toilet block at Freestone this month. We welcomed our Treasurer – Jenny Lane – back after her extended adventures overseas and there was a lengthy, robust discussion relating to the complexity of our financial information – a great deal of it due to the Affordable Housing complexes. Our belated budget for 2026 will be delivered to Presbytery by the end of August.

Rev Ansie updated our information regarding our planned employment of a part-time chaplain with funds available through presbytery, starting Jan 2027. This role would include preaching as well as community building within our existing groups, such as Courtyard Coffee, Affordable Housing and mainly music. This is a very exciting development for our parish and will enable greater community involvement as well as supplementing our preachers as they work across our parish.

As stated in the notices recently, Rev Ansie is due for long service leave as well as recreation leave and will be away all of September, October and November. Our Presbytery Minister – Rev Russell Reynoldson - will be with us part time for the first 2 weeks and the last two weeks, and Rev Ian Smallbone will be in Warwick Thursday to Sunday for the middle period. Those of us on council are very much aware of the tremendous effort and hours Rev Ansie expends on behalf of our parish – within our immediate community and in dealings with WillowTree37 and Affordable Housing - as well as the myriad concerns and tasks that are part of keeping us on track as a faith community with preaching and counselling.

Our administrative assistant – Elizabeth – is now working 20 hours per week with her responsibilities expanding as we come to appreciate how her skills can assist in our operations. She is now managing the demanding role of all risk assessment and management so if you receive an email from Elizabeth, it could well mean that you need to renew your blue card. Remember that a blue card is no longer necessary just for working with children but any activity where a certain amount of risk and accountability is involved.

Congregation reports

Each of our congregations presented reports pertinent to their circumstances and I encourage everyone to attend their congregation meetings -usually only one in addition to the AGM at the beginning of the year. We thank the chairpersons and secretaries of those meetings and always encourage everyone to attend these gatherings, so you have an opportunity to be involved with your local concerns.

October 10th Market Day

We are heading into the lead up to our October Market Day and the planning and work involved in providing stalls: a huge plant sale, produce, collectables, books, craft - and the usual busy home cooking, sweets, sausage sizzle and courtyard coffee. As well as providing very useful funds for the many and varied needs of a parish with aging buildings (and people), this event is such a lively gathering place for our local community. Local entertainment – as well as ARK animal rescue - will provide a busy backdrop to the general hum of activity. As with most activities it's more fun to be involved if you can, so offer your services, goods and support as you are able.

Jumpers and Jazz in July

It's over for another year but fun and busy for the 10 days of the festival. We provided a well-stocked choice of sweet treats - as well as breakfast options – to a steady stream of visitors with quite a few repeat customers, knowing they could relax in our comfortable hall – now with air-conditioning – for as long as they wanted to stay. One attraction was the variety of the stalls provided: jewellery, craft sewing, a good range of plants, honey and a wonderful display of glass work by Alain Colfs. With all expenses considered the net income for the coffee component was \$3210 – an extremely rewarding result. I have come to realise that the relaxed atmosphere created by this ministry team contributes to the general positive acceptance by all the visitors who make this a regular Friday morning destination.

So that's an overview of what we've dealing with – I haven't mentioned our IT, communication, pastoral care task teams which have been managing their normal roles as they do from month to month. If you have any queries, please have a conversation with any of our council members - their photos are on display in each of our church buildings.

Sue Campbell

Secretary Warwick-Killarney Uniting Church

MARKET DAY 10TH OCTOBER 2026

A Meeting to finalise arrangements for the October Market Day will be held on Thursday 10th September in the Wesley Room at 11:00am

Focus Stalls

BOOKS, COLLECTABLES, PLANTS , CRAFT, PRODUCE

Plus, all our regular favourites.

Learning about People in our Congregation

This couple sit in the back row every Sunday and greet us with welcoming, shy smiles. They have an interesting story to tell us about who they are and how they have come to be here among us. So, who are they?

Introducing Marie and Rote Kaituu

Their previous home amid a happily connected family was the beautiful, tropical Island of Rotuma in Fiji which has a population of approximately 5000. They have magical memories of the pristine beauty of their homeland but came to Australia in search of employment and better earning capacity as the tiny Island lacked development. To do this they have left behind their children, three girls and one boy spanning ages from 8 to 18 who are cared for by family and friends until they find the way forward to come to join them

Rote, who was a plumber in Fiji, arrived in Australia three years ago, arriving in Perth where he quickly found work on a grape farm and remained for two and a half years. Then he was joined by Marie who arrived a year ago and they then both spent time working in Oakey both becoming Meat Inspectors, before finally moving to Warwick to work at John Dee in February this year living in company accommodation.

What do they miss about the life they have left? This is when you glimpse the beauty of the place and its idyllic way of life that they have left behind. Those of us who have travelled to Fiji would understand that! They remembered the warm clear waters and beaches, the fishing, swimming, snorkelling, the canoes, the language, the food and the fresh tropical fruit, the tropical wonderland, the islands that make up the country and the familiar people. But it becomes very clear that what they most miss is the sense of community, the immense sense of belonging and the special culture of sharing food, dancing and each other's lives.

Sunday was very special, a day of communal worship where the morning service was mostly 3 hours long starting around 7am. The children left to learn at Sunday School, the afternoon was a family time all together, and the evening became a time of fellowship together. Hymns were familiar and sung both in English and in their own language. They attended the Methodist Church, and both sang in the choir!

One thing they had to get used to was being on time. Time in Fiji was slow and laid back...working On Fiji Time was so easy! Now they are as tied to the clock as we are! Marie admitted being lonely (Missing the family and the community!) She misses her homeland, her Island and her culture.... but she says, "Australia is now home!"

That's just a taste....

now it's over to you all to find out more and surround them both with a new community!.....Shalom, Jean



A Blessing as Rev Ansie and Rev Willie Take Time Out

We thank you Lord for Rev Ansie's service among us. Only You know the countless sacrifices made behind the scenes that enable our congregation to flourish under wise leadership. As Revs Ansie and Willie take leave, let us pray for safe travels and for a relaxing, restful and rejuvenating time. Prepare their hearts to revel in exploration of cities and landscapes less familiar along the way, in such places whose contours you deliberately created, may they pause to take in the evidence of your diverse imagination expressed in glories of scenery, and in an artistry of peoples and cultures.

May they reconnect with family and friends and let it be a time to sit longer at tables and drink deeply of one another's company, enjoying each a time without the steady pressures of ordinary days.

As you called your disciples to come away with you, retreating from the crush of crowds, pausing in their long work, simply to rest, to reflect, to enjoy your company, your words, your conversation, to enjoy their fellowship with one another, so help them also, in this time of vacation, to carve out spaces merely to be, to be with you, to be together, to be refreshed. Bless their journey and time spent away. That they might return as those who have been revived, with hopes resurrected, delight restored, hearts readied again for forward movement into life, strength renewed to share in our Parish life once more.

TWEATTT (those who eat alone and talk to themselves)

Our numbers are dwindling...but the meals do not!

Not long after Gordon died, I discovered that meals without conversation were not worth making. How easy to forget to eat and you soon realise that most of the enjoyment of a meal comes from the interaction with those who are around you. It always comes back to close and meaningful relationships and a world beyond yourself. Then, I placed a proposal before Church Council and Treasurer Jenny immediately came up with our name. So began a venture that has been greatly beneficial among those of us who live alone. We met after church on the first Sunday of the month and tried the eating places around Warwick open on Sunday. This was satisfactory but the layout in many places were not conducive for talking as a group and were rather noisy, making it difficult to hear and communicate.

Along came Terry and his catering group where it seemed the perfect way to organise square seating in a quiet atmosphere. Now we meet in the Hall and are feted right royally to a two course meal for \$15 each at midday. Conversation flows around many sources...from church news, family news, world news, questions and anecdotes, while the food is out of this world as Terry and Glenda produce gourmet meals, often with choices. Amazing couple!!

It is not an elite group...just a group who love to talk as they eat. We welcome everyone and we find it a really wonderful way to share new relationships and make new friendships. Please come and join us...I do a count at morning tea! Our group is truly diverse and, at present our count lies between 10 and 12. So remember it is held the first Sunday of the month...come, you won't regret it! Shalom, Jean

Stories...Their Impact and Lessons...Food for Thought



I was really going to write philosophically about TIME! But, as time went by, I didn't quite get the time to put it all together. Maybe the time will not elude me next edition so that I can give you something to think about when you and I have time !!

Instead, I have considered once again the value of stories to both make us think and cause us to rethink. As we have made our way through the Gospel of Matthew, we have met many parables told by Jesus that seem easy to understand until we unwrap them and find the challenges hidden there for us.

Many years ago, Meredith Heard and I attended a seminar in Brisbane opening our eyes to the value of storytelling the lessons of the Bible and I bought a couple of books that have proved enormously useful over the years. The following story comes from 'Storytelling...Imagination and Faith' and it highlights our need to hoard and exclude... and invites us to share and include. So, here goes! May it open things up for you!

Once upon a time, there was an old man from the lovely Island of Crete. He loved this land with a deep and beautiful intensity...so much so that when he felt he was about to die, he had his sons take him outside so he could lie on his beloved earth. Then, as he was about to die, he reached down by his side and clutched a handful of earth and died a happy man.

He now appeared before heaven's gates. God, as an old white bearded man came out to greet him. "Welcome," he said, "You've been a good man. Please come into the joys of heaven." But, as the old man started to enter the pearly gates, God said, "Please, you must let the soil go!" "Never!" said the old man, stepping back. So, God departed sadly, leaving the old man outside the gates. A few eons went by, and God came out again, this time as a friend, an old drinking buddy. They had a few drinks, told some stories, and God said, "All right, now it's time to enter heaven, friend. Let's go!" They started for the pearly gates once more, and once more God requested that the man let go his hand of soil...and once more he refused.

More eons rolled by. God came out once more, this time as a delightful and playful granddaughter. "Oh grandpa," God said, "you're so wonderful and we all miss you so much. Please come inside with me!" The old man nodded, and she helped him up for, by this time, he had grown very arthritic and old indeed...so arthritic that he had to prop up the right hand that was holding Crete's soil with his left hand. They moved towards

the pearly gates...and his strength gave up! His gnarled old fingers could no longer stay clenched into a fist and the soil sifted out between them until his hand was empty.

He then entered Heaven and the first thing he saw was his beloved island!

William J Bausch wrote the book, and it is both a book of stories and a book about storytelling...and I became hooked on the value of a good story. Next time we will investigate time as time permits.....Shalom, Jean

KILLARNEY GIRLS BRIGADE DAY.

Our day was our annual Darling Downs Regional Day. Our only get together with the girls from other Darling Downs companies, each year.

"You are my MIRACLE WORKING GOD.
Help me to have Faith to see Your MIGHTY, MAGNIFICENT power.
Be my mirror so I can remember I am Your MASTERPIECE."

It was a fun dress up day. Everyone dressed as something starting with M. We decided to all go as Minnie and Mickey Mouse, girls all wearing what they liked with the mouse ears we brought everyone.

LEADER Helen looked wonderful with her red polka dot skirt, with her white socks and gloves with pretty red bows. Girls brought crafts they made at home, on mirrors, and masks etc.

Fun crafts and games were made and played through the afternoon. Then afternoon tea, and home on a bus to Warwick shared with Warwick Company.

Girls Brigade theme this year :- Step out in faith



Romancing the Stones Festival Morning Tea

Williams Hall - Warwick Uniting Church

Saturday 12th September 2026 10:00 - 11:45am

Guitar and Vocal Recital – Devonshire Tea

Tickets - \$20.00 no booking required.

KILLARNEY CHRIST CHURCH A New Chapter

**A Service of Holy Communion
Will be held on Saturday 29th
August 2026 at 10:30am**

**The Parish welcomes you to share
with Bishop Cam, Clergy
Parishioners and Friends. Morning
Tea to follow.**

The Archbishop has approved the sale of
Christ Church Killarney to our K-Life
neighbours.

While this does mark a form of closure,
Christ Church will continue to be
a place of Gathering and Worship.
for the Killarney Community

Please RSVP to

warwick@anglicanchurchsq.org.au

The Downs Presbytery



CONGREGATIONAL RENEWAL

Sat 29 August
9am - 3pm
Warwick Uniting Church
37 Guy St, Warwick



Renewal is a buzzword in the church – but how do congregations enable renewal in today's crazy world?

Come and learn from a practitioner who has renewed three congregations, in the bush and the city. Practical, pragmatic, Biblical. Not for the faint hearted.

Topics Include:

- It's not your fault
- Understanding renewal
- Visions, Mission & Culture
- Vibrant Spirituality
- Healthy Churches
- Community engagement

**Morning tea &
Lunch Included
\$10 pay on day**

Your facilitator, Rev Paul Clark, is an author, broadcaster and Minister with over 20 years' experience helping congregations find health and growth through Christ. He now oversees Ministry Formation at Trinity College.

This workshop is aimed at Church Leaders and is best done by a whole church leadership team.



To Register Call – 0427 962 781
Or email admin@downspresbytery.com



Warwick mainly music. Help Wanted!

The Warwick mainly music team would appreciate the assistance of a couple more helpers.

Recently we had said 'farewell' to some of our regular members for a variety of reasons and now find that on some Thursday mornings our team is reliant of too few people. Many children activities have a recommended ratio of team members to families for both child safety and risk management.

At mainly music there is always a family adult with the children, however this does not affect the need for more helpers. One requirement is a Blue Card and another having fun and enjoying interacting with babies and toddlers.

If you are interested, please come and see for yourself any Thursday morning from 8:45am to 11:00 am.