



# The Journal of Killara Uniting Church Parish

"Fiveways" - Corner Arnold Street and Karranga Avenue

<https://killara.uca.org.au>

Issue 95 June 2022

## Anzac Service, 2022 - and a Special Birthday!

CONNECTION



**Born on Anzac Day,** Ron Leckie was about to achieve his 100th birthday . See more photos and community news inside.

**Thank you to Elizabeth Krust** for your many years of service arranging flowers and preparing Communion



Join our next bushwalk

27th June, 2022

Contact Liz Giles



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**From the Editor*****A serving church***

The example of Dorcas (Acts 9:36)'She spent all her time doing good and helping the poor...' prompted the theme of this *Killara Connection*.

Margaret Middleton, after reading the story of Dorcas' death and the account of her good works, spoke of 'Knitting for Dorcas' – an activity which she undertook as schoolgirl, and which is promoted at PLC Sydney to this day. The first Dorcas' example inspired the creation of the Dorcas Society on the Isle of Man in 1834.

Looking at the articles in this issue, the theme ***the church serving others*** is apparent in many guises: in the work of Lindara, in the Biggest Morning Tea, in the Knitting Group's giving to needy people, and in the past history of Killara Church as evidenced in Elaine Morell's reminiscences, where she remembered the Church collecting clothes for charitable distribution.

We are also conscious of the coming 120 year anniversary of Killara Uniting Church, 'Five Ways'. As we prepare for our Church's 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary, it is good to know that such service has always been part of our Church. However, lest achieving this milestone is greeted only with rejoicing, Bill Locke's reflections, spoken about 10 years ago, prompt us to look also to unfinished tasks.

**Julie Sekhon****A Grand-daughter for Peter Gibbs and Linda Brown**

In early June Nalani Gibbs was born to Alisha and Callum.

## From the Minister's Desk.

### Yangrae Son [Minister of the Word]

In Acts 9: 36-43, we encounter a woman named Tabitha (Aramaic name) who lived in Joppa. Her Greek name was Dorcas. Tabitha-Dorcas was a highly respected disciple, one who put her faith into action by caring for the weak and the widowed in her town. However, she became sick and died.



During the mourning of her death, the local women showed Peter the clothes Tabitha had made for those who relied on her generosity. From the minimalist description of her home and the lack of mention of others in the household, she appears to have been a single woman, possibly a widow herself. However, her generosity meant that she was significant not only to the widows, but to the whole congregation, as we read that two men were dispatched to find Peter in nearby Lydda, begging him, "Please come at once!"

Peter turned to the dead woman and said, "Tabitha, get up." The renewed and now alive Tabitha is then shown to all believers, especially the widows.

The raising of Tabitha-Dorcas from the dead echoes the resurrection story of Jesus from Nazareth, born in Bethlehem, and crucified in Golgotha. Just as Peter was summoned from Lydda to rush to Joppa to raise Tabitha-Dorcas from the dead, Christ's life and death is not confined to a particular geo-specific locale. This woman, this widow, Tabitha-Dorcas, having a particular hyphenated name, with a pluralist identity, experiences the universality of God's love through the salvation drama that unfolds beyond the confines of her room, her home, and the town of Joppa. Her generosity of practical giving and warmth for her neighbours extended beyond just helping widows, but also the men felt indebted to her generosity that they too sought Peter urgently.

Tabitha-Dorcas, while seemingly confined in her room, lifeless, is given life by the transformative universality of God's grace and love. Her generosity, charity and compassion for others through acts of kindness has reverberated beyond Joppa, its shock waves were felt in Lydda, and certainly now in Killara. Her example of loving one another transcends the confines of space and time. Such is the power of God's life-giving love.

We will walk with each other,  
 We will walk hand in hand,  
 We will walk with each other,  
 We will walk hand in hand,  
 And together we'll spread the news  
 That God is in our land.  
 And they'll know we are Christians  
 by our love, by our love.  
 Yes, they'll know we are Christians  
 by our love.

[Written by Peter Scholtes, *As One Voice* 130]



### Highlight events in our Church: Easter

Easter is the high point in our Church's life and we shared remembrance of Christ's passion in the Tenebrae service on Maundy Thursday at Lindfield Church and in the Good Friday service at Killara. On Easter Day we celebrated Christ's triumph over death. That same day Nathan was welcomed into Christ's Church by baptism, following the long held baptismal tradition: on Easter Day Christ rose from the dead and by baptism we signify that we rise to new life in Christ.



## Celebrating Lindara.

On Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> May, the Lindara Chair and Lindara Family Worker from CatholicCare, gave an update on the support provided under the Lindara program.

It was a talk which both inspired and encouraged the congregation. Following their talk, a large collection of hand-knitted blankets, beanies and knitted dolls were presented to the Lindara worker- to be given wherever there was need.



*Postscript to the donation to Lindara (letter sent to June Wait from Marnie Neilson):*

Many thanks for the lovely bag of beautifully knitted beanies that were generously donated.

Last Saturday I spent the afternoon at the Street Side Medics Blacktown Clinic handing the beanies out. Unfortunately I could only get one photo as the others were not keen to have their photo taken! I do want to assure you that each beanie was very much appreciated and each person left with a lovely warm head!

Please pass on thanks to all the beautiful knitters.

## Gutter Cleaning

There has been a series of tradespeople cleaning carpets, clearing out gutters and other fixes around the church and manse.



### DIRECT GIVING:

Please consider making a donation to the church using direct deposit to help maintain our beautiful buildings.

Westpac Banking Corporation: Gordon Branch

**Account name**

Killara Uniting Church Collections Account

**BSB 032 086**

**Account number 177056**



### Anzac Service, 2022 - and a Special Birthday!

On the service on Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> April was memorable both for the message and the commemoration. Guest preacher Revd David Gill urged us to examine the motivation before rushing to conflict, whilst John Middleton led in a remembrance of those from our own Church who paid the ultimate price in war. Margaret Middleton told the poignant story of the Fry family whose three sons were lost at war.

**Born on Anzac Day,** Ron Leckie was about to achieve his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday, and this was celebrated with a cake over morning tea. As an ex-service man, the day was especially important to him. Members of Ron's family, friends and his Church family joined in warm congratulations.



**Janet & Graeme Lumsden move to Wahroonga House**



### Walking group update

The largest group ever joined the walk from Artarmon Post Office on 21 March. Thanks so much to Sue Mitchell for organising.



Janet and Graeme have settled into their new home at Wahroonga House, and are enjoying the view from their windows.

**NEXT WALK Monday 27 June**  
Email: [elizzieg51@gmail.com](mailto:elizzieg51@gmail.com)



## Reminiscences of Past Years

Elaine Morell

I was christened in our Church on 5<sup>th</sup> June 1932. It was the depth of the Depression and my parents walked me up to the Fiveways Church.

Revd A.P. Campbell was the minister at the time. He was very enthusiastic about the Killara Community Service Club, which had enormous support. I remember, as a small girl, dropping reminders for clothing drives in letterboxes and later collecting clothes for charitable distribution from the Church. Revd Campbell was also, according to my father, a fine after dinner speaker.

Sunday School was in the afternoon and we wore flowered hats and our very best clothes. Later, during the war, Sunday School was in the morning and in December we all went together to Sunday School exams at Milson's Point Congregational Church.

During the war, Mr J.F. Wolfgarten who lived opposite Killara Park was interned. The Church supported his wife and son Michael. At the end of the war, Mr Wolfgarten was Church Secretary and worked very hard to raise money to build our present Church Hall. Arnold Street was closed for a fund-raising fete with cake and assorted stalls between the manse and the Church.

I was able to meet the Revd Campbell as he returned to lead us after Revd Denis Ryan retired, and we waited for Revd Mervyn Kelly and his family to arrive from Exeter in the United Kingdom.

Revd A.P. Campbell christened our three children. I particularly remember my Liz's christening, as it was a very hot Sunday in early October 1957. A bushfire was burning along Churchill Road not far from our home in Larchmont Avenue. As we left for the Church, a fire engine exploded at the end of the street. We did hesitate whether to go or stay but fortunately on our return we found that no homes were involved.

I think our lovely blue Church carpet dates from 1962/63. Mervyn Kelly told me that many meetings had discussed the colour of the new carpet as the Christmas service was to be televised. He decided, without further consultation, to select a blue carpet to be laid for this service.

In 1963 the Evening Fellowship group was approached by Ku-ring-gai Council to volunteer for Meals on Wheels deliveries. Five churches: St David's, Lindfield Tryon Road Uniting Church, St Albans, Holy Family and Fiveways each filled a week each month. It was a much appreciated Council initiative.

As we approach the 120 year anniversary, I feel very fortunate to have had many happy memories of our Church: the Anniversary Sunday School choir under Mrs Arlom's direction was very special, as were Sunday School picnics in Killara Park and holidays with Church families. The Church community was a very close family.



**Ponder the path of your feet;  
then all your ways will be sure. Prov Ch4 V26**



**You will notice a difference with the paving with a significant clean and repointing.**



## People and Events which have Shaped Me

Bill Locke

(An abridgement of a talk given during the ministry of Revd Chris Udy)

People nowadays seem to be collectively described as various generations and are grouped by letter, such as Gen X, Y or Z. This can be difficult for the more mature of us in claiming our identity, particularly those born at the height of the Depression. Perhaps we should be described as generation “D” for Depression – not because we caused it, but simply by chance we arrived then.

Admitting to being a member of that generation may help in putting these remarks in context and explain how some of the values many of us inherited were formed and fused.

The devastation caused by the Depression to many families was not fully recognised by my generation until adulthood as the stresses fell on our parents and the rest of the adult population. It also fell on those who had somehow survived World War 1, including so many disabled and widows who had little alternative but to try to get work and get on with their lives.

During that time our schools’ and churches’ role in the community was most important. Neighbours were very supportive of one another and were a major part of our social life. The young concentrated on their freedom of movement on their billy carts, playing in the nearby bush, around creeks, complete with tadpoles and all the other necessities for a growing child (including the advice that a golf ball on the Gordon links is not lost until it stops rolling!

The Methodist Church at the top of Cecil Street, Gordon, with some 300 in the Sunday School, was our great support through the witness and pastoral care of the minister lay people.

World War 2 came, and generation “D” were too young to be in uniform although the parents’ generation and the slightly older siblings were caught up in the recruitment and the appalling conflict that lasted for six years. It was the cause of immense suffering and loss around the world, and none will ever forget the newsreel films of various battles, the liberation of the concentration camps and the plight of the homeless in war torn areas.

Out of that terrible period flowed the enormous number of displaced people from Europe, many of whom came as a valuable stream of migrants to this country. Most were seeking a better life, were more than happy to give their best endeavours here and to make a long-term commitment to their adopted home.

With the war finally over, we gave thanks, welcomed home those who served and survived, remembered the support and vitality which came from our spiritual home at the top of Cecil Street, finished school and started on our career paths.

Again, generation “D” were favoured: as the number of careers and jobs in the post war boom gave us great opportunities and choices. In my vocation I was fortunate to train in a small professional practice where the skills and integrity of the partners was of the highest order, resulting in exposure to a real understanding as to how business relationships should function. The father of one of the senior partners had been instrumental in giving the Lyceum property, between Pitt and Castlereagh

Streets to the then Methodist Church: this remains a focal point for the Uniting Church in our city and the operations centre for the Wesley Mission.

It is immense luck to be born into a stable Christian family and into a diverse and privileged country such as this with the high standard of living, democratic system of government and all the other benefits of a stable society...

Although we have seen remarkable progress in many areas, there are concerns that the ‘To Do’ list from our generation passes on many unresolved matters for the attention of generations X, Y and Z. These include various inequities and areas where action is required to enhance the dignity of people and to conserve our planet: maybe also some consideration as to why some people might receive a package of \$2000 per day, when a single pension would pay \$15,000 a year [figures circa 2012]

Although there are significant issues, there are many people in this country full of compassion and great goodwill, and I therefore remain very hopeful for the future. I am convinced that God is good, God is real and continues to challenge and inspire whether we look for it or not...

The thing that never ceases to amaze me is that God actually works through us ordinary folk, and that Chris [Udy]’s conclusion on 24<sup>th</sup> August [2012?] was a real challenge to us:

*‘To listen for God’s call and confess and affirm that at our deepest and truest and our best we are loved and called by God to join Him in His work of saving grace.’*



## CO-OPERATION AGREEMENT

### 20 YEAR MILESTONE

Within the last month many within the Killara – Lindfield Church Family have viewed a Lindara Family Program presentation, or had the opportunity to read the Autumn Newsletter. Should you have not, you are encouraged to visit the dedicated CatholicCare Lindara Family Program website - link: [Lindara Family Program - CatholicCare Diocese of Broken Bay \(catholiccareddb.org.au\)](http://Lindara Family Program - CatholicCare Diocese of Broken Bay (catholiccareddb.org.au)) – to view the videos.

Lindara is presently in the course of its two year planned giving process wherein individual members of the UCA congregations make either one off, or regular committed donations to the Lindara Family Program. Donations over \$2 are tax deductible. Forms are available within the church foyers.

Concurrently, Lindara is in the course of rolling over its two year co-operation agreement with CatholicCare Broken Bay. Funding raised through the giving process shall contribute towards attainment of the 20 Year “milestone” of the Lindara – CatholicCare Co-operation Agreement. When attained, it shall be a remarkable accomplishment for the remaining two founding congregations of Lindara.

For readers not familiar with the formative background of the Co-operation Agreement, early in 2004 when it seemed the Lindara Family Program may have to cease following the withdrawal of Wesley Dalmar Child and Family Care support and there being no financial basis for the program to continue in a meaningful way, a “Transition Committee” was formed under then Lindara Chair, Mrs Jan Langley. Jan Langley and husband Philip, of East Killara congregation, were both actively involved with Lindara for many years.

Jan made a very good decision when she invited Peter Rehn, of Killara congregation, to join the “Transition Committee”. Peter’s professional Advisory and Consultancy skills were a huge addition to the other members drawn from the Lindara Executive Committee on the Transition Committee. Broadly, the Transition Committee looked to solve three basic issues:

Financially, the funding model of the past had become grossly inadequate for the programme that Lindara was operating;

The programme was in many ways difficult to manage and a high degree of “burn out” had been experienced by key people in the programme;

The programme had no corporate entity and hence was reliant on other organisations for the employment of the social worker, the rental of property and for the provision of tax-deductibility status for donations.

After some six months of deliberations and extensive meetings with third parties, including Centacare (now known as CatholicCare), late 2004 a “Transition Committee” Survey & Questionnaire was issued to the congregational members to elicit views on the Lindara – CentaCare co-operation agreement approach and commitment to the two year planned giving funding model. Overwhelmingly positive views and strong funding pledge support was forthcoming from congregational members by the 12<sup>th</sup> December 2004 closing date.

The outstanding issues of administrative support and tax-deductibility status for donations were met in 2005 when Peter Rehn’s quiet persistence and persuasive skills gained the support of UnitingCare Ageing – Northern Region to undertake the administrative tasks. It has only been within the last 12 months, and after many years of support, that UnitingCare has withdrawn from this role and Lindara has taken it over following its registration with the Government’s ACNC and endorsement of deductible gift recipient status.

The inaugural two year Lindara – CatholicCare Co-operation Agreement came into effect in 2005, providing for the engagement of a dedicated Lindara Family Support Caseworker for 2 days per week.

Two years later, in 2007, supported by the indicative donor support within the two year planned giving process, combined with Lindara Markets fund raising activities, together with their faith, the Lindara Executive Committee took the bold step of leaping to commit to an agreement of funding the engagement of the dedicated Lindara Family Support Caseworker for 5 days per week. For the Committee, the need within the community and the vision of setting up the former Lindara Family Program were decisive factors. Engagement for 5 days per week has remained the case since.

The arrangements within the agreement between the parties is known descriptively as the Lindara Family Program, and today is widely recognised within the community for its underlying homeless and families in crisis cause, and its good reputation. On 10<sup>th</sup> February 2021, the Hon. Jonathon O’Dea MP, Member for Davidson and Speaker of the NSW Legislative Assembly, delivered a Community Recognition Statement in Parliament regarding the Lindara Family Program and Lindara Markets.

Having outlined that, and also given the background of the origins of the agreement, the Lindara Family Program is prayerfully thankful for all of the successes it has with homeless and families in crisis needs within the Kur-ring-gai and Hornsby communities. Sadly, the need is endless. It regularly shares some of these “stories” within its quarterly Newsletters.

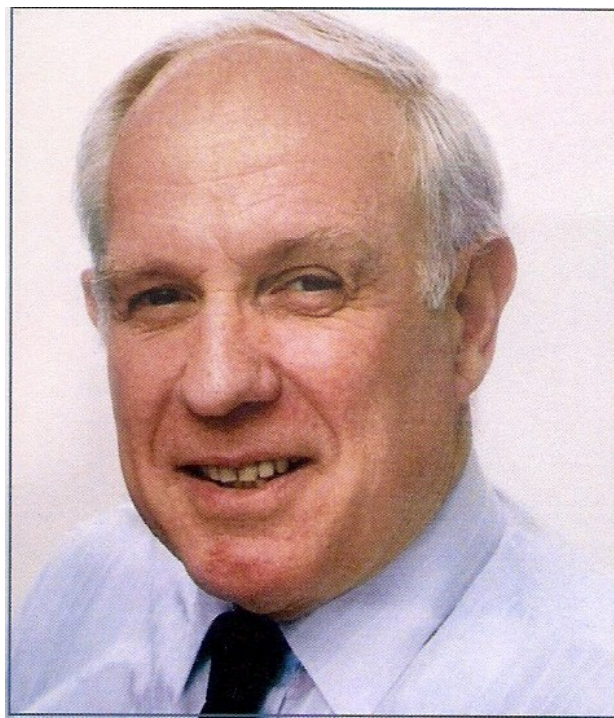
For completeness of the origins background, after several years of honorary advisory and consultancy, inclusive of interaction with the staff at CatholicCare, Peter Rehn formally joined the Lindara Executive Management Committee in 2007, as Co-Chair with Jan Langley. Joining was on the understanding it was to be for a two year tenor. Within a short period, he became Chair, passionate about the underlying cause of the Lindara – CatholicCare arrangement, and remained Chair of Lindara until his passing in late 2019. Similarly, Jan Langley continued to be actively involved with Lindara until her passing in 2011.

As mentioned above, the funding pledged through the present two year planned giving process shall contribute towards attainment of the Lindara – CatholicCare 20 Year Milestone, and more importantly continuance of the Lindara Family Program cause.. Thank you for any financial commitment you may be able to contribute.

### **Rod Henriks**

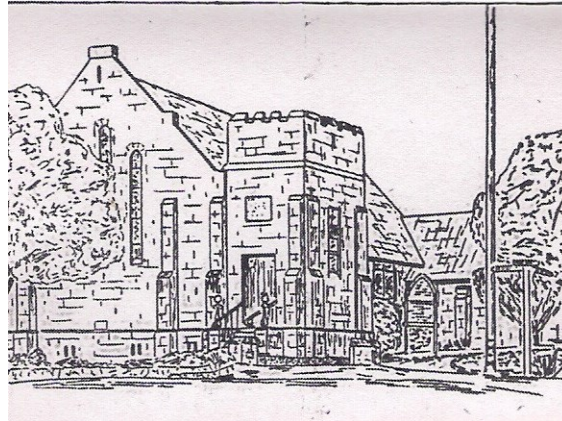


**Jan Langley**



**Peter Rehn**

## Killara Uniting Church (Five Ways) 1902-2022



**Killara Uniting Church will celebrate its 120th anniversary on Sunday 17th July, with a thanksgiving service, followed by a light meal (brunch)**

**Keep the date free!**

**If you are aware of past members who would like an invitation, please notify Kira (0491201313) or Julie (0400631739)**



An excellent morning tea for the Cancer Council was held on May 19th. Sue Mitchell performed great feats of organisation in coordinating speaker, invitees and decorations, and we again benefitted from the generosity of Funeral Directors Gregory and Carr who provided and served the food.

### Biggest Morning Tea 19<sup>th</sup> May

Guest speaker Professor Stewart Dunn had everyone intrigued as he challenged us to determine whether we had the qualities to make a good diagnostician or a surgeon, pointing out that both have their place in treatment.

A great array of lucky door prizes also shared pleasure widely. The day's takings – all to go to the Cancer Council – amounted to an amazing \$16,500 !

