



The Journal of Killara Uniting Church Parish

"Fiveways" - Corner Arnold Street and Karranga Avenue

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

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CONNECTION

The **Knitting Group** meets monthly (and knits hard between meetings!) As well as their regular knitting of wraps and beanies, they have been knitting teddies to bring some joy to children suffering in the cruel war being waged in the Ukraine.

Thank you to June Wait and all the knitters who made beautiful teddies for children in Ukraine.



Prayers and Bears for Ukraine



Introducing Mykola (or is that MyKoala)
Meaning Victory of the People



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**From the Editor**

It is always sad when an issue of Killara Connection contains a number of obituaries, indicating that we have lost people who have been an important part of our Church life. Nevertheless, they leave a legacy, and often an example for us to follow. We could appropriate the words of Jesus in Matthew 13:52 applying them to ourselves, *'...every teacher of the Law is like a householder who takes new and old things out of his storage room'*. We have had the benefit of thousands of years of Biblical writings and almost two thousand years of the Christian church, as well as learning from respected people from the past. Old, but not *so old*, was the hymn by George Herbert, 'King of glory, King of peace' which Ian Martin elucidated for us, explaining its 17th century vocabulary, so that we could feel Herbert's deep devotion as we sang. Music, especially as expressed in hymns, lead us to worship, and we appreciated a return visit of Cantrice, as we appreciate loved hymns in our services. Great examples, writings, hymns, traditions - these are our stores from the past.

On the other hand, living in the 21st century, we express our faith in the context of modern learning and techniques. Our Church exists within the structures of a larger entity and must conform to its regulations. These, when they work well, can be beneficial to the functioning of our local church. The caring arms of our church (Pastoral Contacts, Dementia Support Group) are aware of modern secular wisdom, which informed the impetus to organise the recent workshop on giving and receiving help. How rich we are in the store of old and new things!

Bringing new and old from our stores might characterise many of the activities of our church life over past months, as illustrated in the photos in the following pages.

Julie Sekhon*Ian Martin*

From the Minister's Desk.

Matthew 24:36 (NRSV) But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.

Apocalypse means to uncover, to reveal, to take apart or away what is covered or concealed. Eleven years ago, in 2011, an American tele-evangelist Harold Camping



warned that on 21st May, 6:00 pm local time, in each of the world's regions, powerful earthquakes would shock the world, with the good and the faithful to be beamed up to heaven.

Given that I am writing this, and you are reading this, looks like the weight of our sinful burdens did not qualify us for this apocalypse, perhaps the next one?

For the first Sunday of the Church Calendar, in the Year A, St Matthew's year, we have been given the apocalyptic reading: *"Two men will be working in a field: one will be taken away, the other will be left behind. Two women will be at a mill grinding meal: one will be taken away, the other will be left behind."*

Why does the church arrange the 'end-story' for the first Sunday of the year?

Eschatology is a study about the last, the end of time. Arguably, the beginning, and the middle, is given meaning by the end. The unique Christian understanding of time is demonstrated in Jesus' resurrection, the last eschaton has taken place here in the middle of history. That end, God's ultimate end, is revealed to us here and now.

Our Creator, God, not only created the universe but continues to create, sometimes dismantling the present to bring about God's future. Our present arrangement, here and now, is inherently unstable because of our living God.



No one knows what day and what hour God will come into our life. Loving and living God is destroying our 'progression', dismantling our pride, devastating our confidence in our own strength. Like a thief in the night, God will come to take our hearts and minds, and uncover all in his name and glory.

[This is an abstract of the sermon preached on 27th November 2022]

Yangrae Son [Minister of the Word]

John Selby Fogarty 21 March 1927 - 27 August 2022

John Fogarty lived a very active and full life. We were fortunate that over the years so much of his energy was devoted to our Church, which he attended regularly from the time of his marriage to Nancy Sproule in 1952. He served at various times as deacon (later as elder), led Sunday School, together with Nancy and also led the Youth Group and Boys' Club. He also took on the organisation of the Church's Christmas dinners, which he MC'd with natural ease, and the 'John Fogarty joke' was a regular feature. John had a genial nature, enjoyed contact with others and made many friends.



John grew up with a twin brother, Jim and the two boys were natural companions in boyhood sport and activities. When World War II came, John enlisted. The war was then nearing its close, but John benefited from ease of access to university courses, made available to ex-service personnel.

John chose dentistry and practised for many years: partnering with Keith Hicks, another former member of our Church. In the words of his son, Peter – he *served* dentistry, providing treatment to less fortunate people through the Dental Hospital and Cerebral Palsy Australia. His generous nature led him to serve on various committees and support charitable events.

John met Nancy Sproule and they married in 1952. It was a happy marriage and they raised four children: Peter, Geoffrey, Phillip and Cathy of whom John was proud.

Amongst John's many interests were golf - he started a church Golf Group, which enjoyed many holidays together – bridge, and local history. In his later years he was a keen croquet player and coach.

Another interest was Probus: John was one of the foundation members of Lindfield East Probus Club where he was an early vice-President then President. During John Middleton's Presidency, John became 'Joke Master'. On meeting days he started promptly at 10am and this ensured members arrived on time.

John lost Nancy in 2009, and suffered the additional loss of his son Phillip in 2019.

In 2020, at the beginning of the Covid 19 pandemic, John had a holiday at Urunga with his only daughter Cathy. It worked so well they decided to make it a permanent arrangement and Cathy made modifications to her home so John could have his own area. John had been a tireless worker for the Ku-ring-gai Historical Society and soon became a vital member of the local Historical Society. He played croquet, swam and surfed, regularly walked Cathy's dog Gigi and generally lead a full and enjoyable life.

When his health failed John reluctantly moved into nearby Raleigh Retirement Village but Cathy became their gardener so she still spent valuable time with her Dad. John was warmly cherished by his family, as he was by his many friends.

David Ernest Willis Blackwell OAM

25 October 1934 – 13 November 2022

Faithful servant of the church, loving and loved family man and a strong worker for his profession and for community outreach programs, David Blackwell is remembered with affection and great respect. We in this church remember his quiet presence, his warm smile and the ways in which he contributed - particularly at our annual Biggest Morning Tea for the Cancer Council.

David was a chartered accountant who specialised in bankruptcy. He contributed to his professional association and was known in his practice – and more widely - as a man of undoubted integrity. He also contributed, particularly after retirement, to community causes. In particular he worked with the Ku-ring-gai Youth Development Services (KYDS) and PLC School where he served on the Council, and as its Chair. Their music building, opened in 1992 was, in consequence, named the David Blackwell Music School.



He also contributed to Apex, Rotary and Probus clubs. A further honour came In 2012 when he was awarded an OAM for his work with his professional association and for the community.

David was peaceable, patient and tolerant. He was loyal to his friends, especially his tennis group which meant a great deal to him. His family, above all, was dear to him: Robin, his wife of 52 years, and children: Jenny, Andrew, Nick and Suzie -whilst his grandchildren were his delight. His church and its worship meant a great deal to David. His son Andrew has no doubt that David was greatly loved of God, and God in his grace brought David's life to its close in peace. He is now with his Lord and Saviour.



Giving and Receiving?

A **workshop: Giving and Receiving Help – why is it hard?** was held on Sunday 20th November. It was thought-provoking and had the aim of making us more sensitive to need and ready to offer help, or to ask for help when strength and abilities are waning.

Giving and Receiving Help - what's hard about it?

A workshop held on 20th November prompted us to think about our own responses to offering help, or asking for help.

The workshop was led by Judy Muir, with facilitators from the Pastoral Contact and Dementia Support Groups.

What is difficult about asking for help?

Maybe it is :

- fear of losing independence,
- fear of looking weak,
- being ashamed of needing help or being too proud to ask or to accept.
- or not wanting to give in, not accepting that what we did last year, we can no longer do e.g. carrying boxes that we once could manage.
- not liking what is offered but finding it hard to ask for what we do want.
- no-one has offered help and we're afraid of being a nuisance.

We often find it easier to interact with a professional agency rather than a close friend/relative, but a close friend or relative is often the one who recognises our needs. Maybe a cultural sensitivity deters us from accepting help.

It is important to ask for help well before a crisis point is reached.

What is difficult about offering and giving help?

Maybe it is

- concern that we're seen as interfering.
- our tendency to say 'Let us know if we can help' rather than offering specifics.
- fear of embarrassing those we seek to help.
- fear of being overcommitted
- being too busy to reflect on others' needs
- not knowing what would be helpful
- thinking that there is nothing we are capable of that would help.



What else can we do?

keep in touch - phone calls, visits.

be aware but not overbearing.

Remember: don't try to take over the role of the professionals or of family.



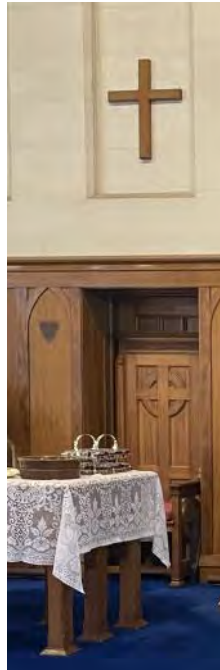
Group Photo

On the 6th November a group photo of the congregation was taken for Christmas services promotion and for posterity.



Thank you to our Treasured Jen Neilson

On November 6th, a ‘thank you’ with flowers to Jennifer Neilson who has served several terms as Treasurer and as Assistant Treasurer.



The Shaggie Wedding

After two postponements due to COVID preventing gatherings , Maggie Gibbs (daughter of Linda Brown and Peter Gibbs) married Shan Haberl on 8th October.



Annual Congregational Meeting

AGM. The Annual General Meeting was held on 25th September. At the meeting, John Sanders was re-elected as Chair of the Congregation and Julie Sekhon as Secretary.

Peter Graham was re-elected as Presbytery Representative, and Carol Field, Annette Harman and Susan Mitchell were re-elected to the Church Council.



Maggie and Shannon
had a lovely
honeymoon in
Tasmania



Music



Music. We enjoyed musical presentations from our long-time friends Cantrice on 16th October and talented students Youyou Wu and Jenny Lee on November 13th.



A poignant Memory

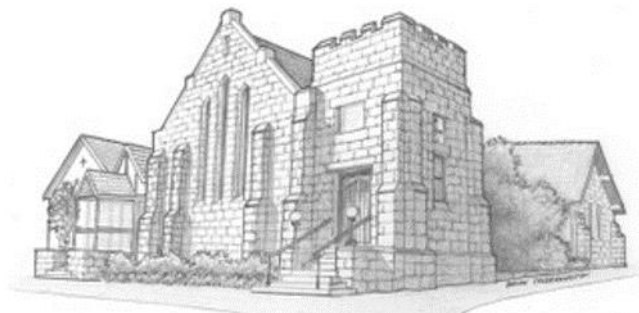
Liz and John Giles organised a special floral display in memory of their infant son David



Artwork Presentation



A **presentation** of the framed original drawing of our church by Brian Caldicott was made by Jan Stanwell on November 13th. In presenting the picture to Yangrae, Jan thanked him for all he does for our church, and she spoke of what our lovely church means to her after almost 40 years of membership.



GIVING

Our beautiful church needs upkeep, painting, insurance, and cleaning.

Your donation is greatly appreciated and allocated with careful consideration by the Property Committee and the Church Council.

Direct Deposit to Westpac Privacy Account.

BSB 032—086

Account number 177-056

Account Name:

**The Uniting Church in Australia
Killara Uniting Church**



Margaret (Meg) Hornbrook

7 July 1930 - 22 September 2022



We remember Meg Hornbrook for her friendship and for her generous, outgoing nature. From 1993 she lived across the road from Killara Church in a home which boasted a beautiful garden lovingly organised and tended by Meg – symbolic of a lady who loved beauty in her life. There are memories of Meg slipping unobtrusively into a pew for a church service after a quick trip across the road from her home on the opposite corner of the street.

Born Margaret Lamble, Meg grew up on the North Shore and trained as a kindergarten teacher, working for some years until she met and married Alan Hornbrook, a young doctor. Together they built a happy home, raising three children: John, Susie and Diana. Meg was a wonderful mother and grandmother: her family was first in Meg's heart and gave her immense joy. As a young mother, she made many of the children's clothes herself, she was also an avid embroiderer and many items in her home displayed this.

Meg was also a wonderful cook and visitors were always greeted with delicious homemade cake or slice with a cuppa.

Sadly, Alan died in 1979.

Meg was a good organiser, and held leadership positions in various community organisations: she also volunteered as a 'Pink Lady' at Hornsby Hospital, was a keen Golfer and enjoyed playing Bridge.

A lady who loved and expressed beauty and one who gave and received affection and friendship.

Graeme Morgan. AM

9 September 1943 - 31 August 2022

Associate Professor Graeme Morgan and his wife Margaret were members of Killara Uniting Church during the ministry of Revd Ivor Bailey, and Graeme was a great support to Ivor during Ivor's final illness.

Graeme was an oncologist who was active in promoting improved radiation treatment facilities for cancer patients both in Australia and in South-East Asia and a man who went out of his way to support others through their cancer journey. We respect him for a life of service.



Bushwalking Group

NEXT WALK WILL BE IN 2023 AFTER THE HEAT OF SUMMER

Contact Liz Giles for details and/or suggestions

The **Walking Group** meets monthly for fresh air, exercise and fellowship (and coffee afterwards!) Photos are from 13th September, 18th October and 25th November.

Tiptoe amongst the tulips in Turramurra

13 September, 2022



Many thanks to Ros for organising such a beautiful walk in September...complete with hand drawn map and clear directions. We were so lucky that we had good weather...not too hot and not too cold!

Thanks also to June and Paul for kindly hosting morning tea and to those who provided delicious slices etc. Well done you two...morning tea AND supervising your gorgeous grandson. He looked like he enjoyed the walk too!

Bushwalking Group. 18 October around East Lindfield



View to Chatswood



Thanks Norma Smithers for organising the East Lindfield Walk

Bushwalking Group. 25 November around Hunter Hill



Freshwater turtle

99 Not Out! Edith Cowlshaw

A special birthday celebration for an amazing artist Edith Cowlshaw. Edith recently held her third solo exhibition at Artsite Contemporary in Camperdown.

The congregation acknowledged Edith's





A Baptism. It was a joy to share in the baptism of **Ashley and Miles Bicanic** on November 13th.

The Bicanic family have already endeared themselves to us.



‘Congratulations’ with cake on November 13th for Jan Smith, leader of the Pastoral Contacts who was celebrating a special birthday.



The **Pastoral Contacts** continue to be part of the ‘connective tissue’ of our church and sometimes have their own celebrations!