



Glen Waverley Uniting Church

FREE CONCERT AND CRICKET

DATE: SUNDAY 23RD MARCH 2014

VENUE: WESLEY COLLEGE AUDITORIUM AND GROUNDS

(620, High Street Road, Glen Waverly-Melways Ref: Map 62 A12)



TIME: 12.00 Noon to 6.00 pm

SRI LANKA INVITES is a group of Sri Lankans from various backgrounds who are continuing a journey of peace and reconciliation. Its primary aim is to pave the way for Sri Lankans living in Australia to meet and form links beyond religious, ethnic, political, cultural and other divides. Toward that aim a *Sri Lankan Harmony Day* is being organized and the details are as follows.

PATRONS:

Supported by Former Victorian Governor Mr David De Kretser; Professor Paul Komesaroff

Mrs Annathaie Abayaskera Mr Shanaka Fernando

Mr Mohammed Mohideen Mr Jeffrey Abayaskera

Mrs Maheshini Perera Rev DevAnandarajan

- With Assistance from the UC Synod Vic/Tas

Inspiring speakers - Sri Lankan cricketers at exhibition
cricket match - Food, fun and fellowship

NO ENTRANCE FEE - **ALL ARE WELCOME!**

CONTACT PERSONS

Larry Marshall: 9331-2678

email: larry.marshall@victas.uca.org.au

Maheshini Perera: 9801-4349

email: mheshini@optusnet.com.au

Dev Anandarajan: 9504- 3077

email: gunam58@optusnet.com.au

Welcome

GWUC is a faithful, Christ-centred community that meets God and shares that unconditional love: meet_god@anytime.with.us

MARCH

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

2 March	All day	COP Applications Opening
4 March	11am	Pancake Day
5 March	7.30pm	Ash Wednesday Service
6 March	10am	Special Morning Tea at The Hub
7 March	10am	World Day of Prayer
21-23 March	Various	Strathdon Annual Art Show
30 March	12noon	Outreach BBQ Forum
APRIL		
3 April	10am	The Hub Hot Cross Bun Morning Tea
7 April	All day	COP Applications Close
7 April	2.30pm	Leisure Time Annual General Meeting



SPECIAL MORNING TEA
AT
THE HUB
GLEN WAVERLEY UNITING CHURCH

We would like you,
your family, friends & neighbours to
JOIN US
for Hot Cross Buns, tea or coffee to



**RAISE FUNDS FOR THE
ROYAL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL**



Where : Glen Waverley Uniting Church
When : Thursday 3rd April 2014
Time : 10.00 am to 12.00 noon

*Please add your name to the list on the Office Counter
if you are planning to attend. Thank you.*

Weekends away with "The GETAWAYS" – ALL WELCOME

"The Getaways" are members of our church family who enjoy spending a few days away a couple of times a year - camping, caravanning or cabining. The destinations are only a short distance from Glen Waverley.

The weekends are an opportunity to relax and chat and get to know our fellow campers better. Some bring craft to do, others may do a crossword or go for a walk. An afternoon 'nap' is a common pastime!

We come together for a shared meal on the Saturday evening.
There are no other organised activities.

Come for a whole weekend or join us for a day!

More details: Joanne Boldiston 9561 7818 | 0438 413 964 | j.boldiston@bigpond.com
or Margaret Lemke 9560 8710

2014 Autumn Getaway - Inverloch

Thursday 27th March to Tuesday 1st April 2014



Big4 Inverloch Holiday Park
2 Cuttriss Street, Inverloch

Call the park on **1800 468 375** and quote "The Getaways" to check availability and make your booking.

A deposit of 1 nights accommodation is required to secure your booking.
Please note: A \$25 cancellation fee will be charged if the booking is cancelled up to 24 hours before arrival.

Fees (2 persons per night):

Medium Site: \$44; Drive Through Site \$48;

Ensuite Cabin: \$120 Weeknights / \$150 Fri & Sat nights.

Linen provided to main bed in all cabins.

Minimum 2 night booking on weekends.

If you are a Big4 Member, don't forget to quote your membership number to get a discount.

Advance Notice!

2014 Spring Getaway - Daylesford

Thursday 23rd October to Tuesday 28th October 2014

Daylesford Victoria Caravan Park ph: 5348 3821

Please let Joanne or Margaret know if you are coming so that you can be contacted with extra details about each weekend.

We would LOVE you to join us!

Happy Camping!



Wheelchair Space

Property Committee is investigating the viability of creating a space centrally in the church for those in wheelchairs and with walkers to be situated more comfortably. This would involve removing one pew adjacent to the central aisle so that walkers could be positioned for better access by the user.

This would only proceed if there is a perceived need. There would be no compulsion to use that area rather than your preferred location elsewhere in the church.

If you have an opinion on this please contact Herb Fleming on either mobile 0407 516 827 or email fleminghe@optusnet.com.au

Special Morning Tea at The Hub with Conversations around the Needs of Seniors in Monash.

On Thursday 6th March, 10am – 12noon, we will be having a special morning tea at The Hub which will include conversations led by Monash Council Positive Ageing Lifestyles' staff around various issues concerning the needs of our senior residents.

Monash Council is working towards becoming an "Age Friendly City" – seeking to improve the living experience of senior residents, and making Monash a place where older people are supported, connected and valued for their contribution to community and family life.

Come along to the The Hub, bring your friends, and join in the conversations while enjoying morning tea together.

Ministry Team and Office News

In 2014, Ministry Team Members will be having the following days off:

Rev Neil Peters and Belinda Clear - Friday

Alanee Hearnshaw and Alison Clarkson - Tuesday

If you are in need of a Ministry Team Member on these days, please contact the office.

As you know, we are delighted when you visit the office. To streamline things, however, we are asking that if you need to have more than 10 minutes in the office, you would please phone and make an appointment. It is hoped that the office will be free for the last hour of each day so that Heather can work on confidential tasks she has.

Congregation Outreach Projects (COP) Process for 2014.

To Submit an Application: Glen Waverley Uniting Church is again offering the proceeds of the Annual Fete for Local, State, National and Global Community Projects.

Community Outreach Group now invites Applications for Congregational Outreach Project (COP) grants from the 2014 Fete proceeds. Applications open on Sunday 2 March 2014.

To make an Application collect the documents from the Church Office OR download them as below.

The documents that you will receive are:

The COP Assessment Criteria and,

The COP Application Form 2014.

These documents give the guidelines and the information required on the Application Form for each submission.

NOTE that there are some changed conditions for 2014 Applications which are included on the Application Form.

Please forward your Application either ...

... by email (in WORD format - NO .pdf files please) to
cop@gwuc.org.au (preferred),

... alternatively, in hard copy to:

COP Selection Panel,

Glen Waverley Uniting Church,

cnr Kingsway and Bogong Avenue,

GLEN WAVERLEY VIC 3150

The 2014 COP Selection Panel comprises:

Sharon Harper-Wilkinson

Steven Fraser, and

Alan Barnard

Closing Date for all submissions is Monday 7 April 2014.

Go to <http://wiki.gwuc.org.au/gwuc/CopProjects2014> to download the documents (at the bottom of the page).

Outreach BBQ Forum - Sunday 30 March

Come one, come all to the first quarterly BBQ Forum brought to you by COG. Our first speaker will be Dr Chris Drummond. Chris will speak on "Gujarat earthquake 2013 - Coping with Trauma." Food will be provided in the form of a BBQ, \$5 cost. It will be held from 12-2pm on the 30th March, following on from the combined service.

Please reserve your place on the clip board on the office counter with your deposit. Enquiries to Heather on 95603580.

Thanks for Asylum Seekers

Our GWUC Asylum Seeker Support Group had a meeting recently to review our activities of the past year, and to plan for the future. Looking back, we are grateful for the support given by GWUC. Members of our congregation have quietly helped to support asylum seekers in many ways, many of them unnoticed by the community at large. In 2013 our collection boxes in the foyer received donations of 54 items of bedlinen, 19 items of manchester for the bathroom, 959 items of clothing, 159 items of food, 93 of toiletries and 31 'sundries'. Most of these were given to the Dandenong Asylum Seeker Centre and some specific items to Lentara ASP (this was formerly Hotham Asylum Seeker Project, but has been transferred to Lentara). We are thanked sincerely for this effort and asked to continue our support. Food items such as cooking oil, lentils, rice, UHT milk etc are much in demand, as are household cleaning agents and toilet paper. The full list of preferred items is on the lids of the boxes in the foyer. If you would like to be on the roster of people who collect, count and deliver the goods (mostly to a location in Glen Waverley), let us know. We would be glad of any extra assistance!

Last year GWUC contributed \$3500 from COP funding towards the rental costs of a unit housing an asylum seeker family, who have no other means of accommodation, in Heathmont. In addition GWUC members made a large contribution towards assisting in the Whitehorse Council Community Chest, and this resulted in a grant of \$6362, which was a huge contribution towards the annual rent. 'Honey money' raised a further \$650 which was sent to Lentara ASP last October. Lentara ASP is dependent on all this support for its operation, neither receiving nor seeking government funding for its work.

In 2014 Lentara ASP hopes to get an 'edible garden' project underway and we are keen to be a part of this and to establish relationships with asylum seekers in our region. If you would like to join our support group, let any of us know: Maria Gillies, Lyn Maslen, Bobbie Rooks, Heather Wilkins, Geoff Willis and Robin Pope.

And again, thank you all for your part in our efforts to fulfil our calling to welcome, in love, our brothers and sisters in our community who are in need.

A Letter to the Congregation

Dear Friends,

Church Council met from 10am to 2.30pm on Saturday February 22nd. We started with devotions led by Neil Peters. Our bible reading told how the walls of Jerusalem were rebuilt under the leadership of Nehemiah. Neil highlighted four characteristics of Nehemiah's leadership that apply to us:

Compassionate
Prayerful
Strategic
Sold the vision.

Following the devotions we shared joys and concerns. I encourage all church groups to set aside some time in their meetings for intentional worship, interactive and reflective group bible study and sharing joys and concerns.

During the business part of the meeting we elected our office bearers for 2014. They are: Helen Stewart (Chair), Judy Lowe (Secretary) and Ashley Irvine (Treasurer). Vida Foo was thanked for her contributions as Secretary in 2013. We then moved onto other Council business. You can read the details of our discussions on the Psalter (the new name for our wiki).

Finally we had a planning meeting titled 'Journey With Hope' in accordance with our decision in December to have a planning day in February. There were two sessions. The first session began with Neil presenting something of his theology and what he sees as important in the life of the church. We also revisited the Church Structures diagram (available on Psalter) and discussed additions to it. In the second session we revisited the Steering Committee's eight recommendations and the SaltToDoList. This led to further discussion and the decision to convene a combined meeting of missional groups, functional groups and Church Council for more detailed planning.

Blessings to you all.

Helen Stewart - Chair of Church Council.

Lenten Studies

Lenten Studies will be commencing next week on the topic "Light in the Darkness". We are hoping many members of the congregation will join in these studies which will be held at different times during the week. There are sign up sheets available on a table in the foyer after service today, or on the office counter during the week.

The office is printing out the study books at a cost of \$5 each. This will be arranged through your Lenten Studies leader.

April Preaching Plan

Once this is finalised, it will be printed and distributed with the weekly bulletin.

Invitation to the Congregation and Volunteers

You are invited to attend the Leisure Time Annual General Meeting. Afternoon tea will be served after the meeting.

Under the Constitution all Church members are eligible to attend and cast a vote so come along and participate. Agenda papers will be available from the Church Office from 31 March to 6 April 2014.

NOTICE OF MEETING

The Annual General Meeting
of the
Glen Waverley Uniting Church Leisure Time
will be held at the
Glen Waverley Uniting Church
on
Monday 7 April 2014, at 2.30pm

The Agenda includes:

- Annual Report
- Audited Annual Accounts
- Election of Committee Members
- Appointment of Auditor

Pam McDonald - Secretary
27 February, 2014.

World Day of Prayer - Friday 7 March

World Day of Prayer is being celebrated at Glen Waverley Uniting Church from 10am on Friday 7 March. After the service there will be morning tea.

The Service, "Streams in the Desert" is prepared by the Christian ladies of Egypt. Speakers are Mr & Mrs Dale who have spent many years in the Middle East.

All are welcome.

The Christian Church in the World

What has happened in the last months, it is hard to fathom. Our prayers are requested.

Terror and Impunity in Hostile Rajasthan, India: Rajasthan, India, is hostile territory for Christians, who comprise less than half a percent of the state's population. Over the past decade the Church has seen significant growth in the south. Local Hindu resistance to church growth has resulted in toxic anti-Christian Hindu nationalist propaganda, creating a dangerous environment. In mid-November hostile Hindus kidnapped a young believer Anugrag Gemethi (7) on his way home from church. They brutally killed him, mutilating his body to send a message to local Christians who have long lived with intimidation and death threats. The police do not want to intervene. However, if the killers are treated with impunity, then security will evaporate as Hindu nationalist zeal is again on the rise. Please pray for India and its Church.

Burma (Myanmar) - Continued Ethnic Cleansing of Christian Kachin

Behind a smokescreen of political 'reform', the Burmese Army is continuing its campaign of ethnic cleansing in the Kachin State. The Christian Kachin have long resisted the Burman Buddhist regime's brutal dictatorship.

Whilst the Kachin seek autonomy so they can freely maintain their culture, the regime wants full control so it can exploit the Kachin's resource-rich lands. The extreme military violence meted out against the Kachin is motivated by greed and fuelled by State-sanctioned racial and religious hatred. Fighting rages in south Kachin State where the Burma Army is attacking village after village, employing heavy artillery, rape and torture, kidnapping villagers and looting.

The Kachin are traumatised, the regime controls the aid supplies and the West appears to have abandoned them for economic gain.

Please pray for Burma and its Church.

From Religious Liberty Prayer Bulletin

Uniting AgeWell Strathdon Community

Uniting AgeWell Strathdon Community, are seeking volunteers to assist with:

Leisure and Lifestyle - visiting, escorted walks, movie/theatre companion, letter writing, reading, listening to music, transport, escorted shopping, discussion groups., knitting groups, arts and crafts, wood working, floral arranging, assisting on bus trips, grooming and beauty care.

Providing Entertainment - Singing, music, information sessions, demonstrations and guest speakers.

Services - Administration, fundraising events, cafe and trash and treasure sales, library assistance, sewing and mending for residents or assisting with gardening.

Assisting Allied Health Staff - Physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, podiatry, hydrotherapy, rehabilitation and socialisation groups and assistance in Day Therapy Centres and Day Centres.

Corporate Volunteer group opportunities are also available ... a great team building exercise! We are also seeking expressions of interest from people to join our Events Committee which meet 5 times yearly to assist and enjoy events such as Pancake Day, The Annual Art Exhibition, The Children's Art Show and Strathdon Market Day.

Contact: Simon Cosgriff.

Phone: 9845 3104. Email: SCosgriff@unitingagewell.org

Strathdon Annual Art Show - 21 to 23 March

For details please see the Community Noticeboard.

Name Badges

If you have ordered a name badges, drop in to the office to see if yours has arrived. We currently have name badges for:-

Dawn Allen, Marj Collins, Glenn Laub, Bev Leishman, Julianne Millsom, Douglas Newberry, Jayne Pastyr, Nicole Robertson, Bobbie Rooks, Cheryl Swain.

Please feel free to collect these from the office during office hours. They cost \$8.50 each.

Inclusive Community Report

Munch with a Bunch: Forty people met together for lunch last Sunday. Neil and Lynne joined us and had the opportunity to get to know some more GWUC members. Our next lunch will be at the RSL on Sunday 27 April.

Pancake Day: Pancake Day is this Tuesday 4 March. We will be selling pancakes from 11am -1pm. Come and have lunch with us.

Morning Tea: There will be morning tea after the 11am service on Sunday 9 March. Please join us. You will have the opportunity to farewell Stan Ford who has been a member of GWUC for many years.

Prayer Chain: A few years ago we had two prayer chains operating at GWUC. We would like to have a prayer chain operating again as we sometimes receive a request for this. If you have been an elder, are more housebound than you have been before or you were a member of one of our prayer chains in the past, you may feel that this is something that you would like to do. There are no meetings. Prayer requests are passed on by phone and all calls are confidential. Prayer requests will come through the office or the Ministry Team. Enquiries to Heather in the Church Office.

Pastoral Partners: We will be having a workshop on Sunday 16 March at 1pm (until 3pm). We would love you to attend even if you haven't been to a workshop before. Margaret Allan and Neil Peters will be our facilitators. If you need more information about the workshop or Pastoral Partners contact Jan (9803 6820).

A Diary Date: Friday 2 May from 6.30pm to 9pm. A fun event at the church. Other groups (including Adult Group) are joining us and we will have a cross-generational get together (tea and entertainment). More details will be included in April's monthly bulletin.

Meeting: Our March Inclusive Community meeting will be on Tuesday 18 March at 10.30am in the outer vestry.

World Day of Prayer: Glen Waverley Uniting Church is hosting our area's Day of Prayer this coming Friday 7 March. The service will begin at 10am and will be followed by Morning Tea. The theme is "Streams in the Desert" and the service has been prepared by the Christian ladies of Egypt. The speakers will be Mr and Mrs Dale who have been missionaries in the Middle East. Come and join us for this special service.