

Uniting Church Glen Waverley

“Reaching Out”



Leisure Time

Newsletter

No. 53

June 2015

A message from the Acting Chairperson

This is the first newsletter since our AGM on April 13th, the date when significant changes occurred in the Management of Leisure Time. Our Coordinator, Margaret Fraser completed six years of service and, as a result of increasing family commitments, had to reduce her involvement in Leisure Time.

As coordinator, Margaret undertook a wide range of responsibilities and a very large proportion of her time was dedicated to the welfare of our guests. Her achievements over the period were many.

Margaret will be staying on the Committee, and will retain the roles of connection with other organisations and promotion leading to the recruitment of guests and volunteers.



The remainder of the Coordinators activity will be shared by other committee members, The organisation will be subject to review before the end of the year. Committee members, volunteers and guests thank Margaret for her contribution over 6 years and wish her well for the future.

The other Coordinator duties will be shared as follows:

Chairperson	Cliff Baker
Monday guest liaison	Pam McDonald
Guest Care	Pam McDonald , Elwyn Paterson
Processing New Guests	Bev Cameron, Pat Vevers
Care Subcommittee	Day leaders to share
Community Hub	Cliff Baker, Laurel Muir, Elwyn Pederson (Church Council rep)

Other committee responsibilities remain unchanged as follows

Secretary and Newsletter	Pam McDonald
Treasurer	Cliff Baker
Roster Secretary	Elwyn Pederson
Kitchen Coordinator	Laurel Muir, deputy Alison Hawkins
Care Secretary	Pat Vevers

Outings Committee

Jeanette Coutts (now Convenor),
Barbara Thompson, Pat Vevers
Ross Vevers, Pam McDonald, Cliff Baker
Allison Clarkson

Ministry Rep

Other responsible roles are fulfilled by two volunteers not on the Committee - Bobbie Rooks remains Transport Coordinator and Jane Adams is Police Check Coordinator.

Leisure time is now in its 37th year of operation, and, whilst the interim arrangements should keep Leisure Time viable, we need a full time Coordinator. To date we have tried unsuccessfully to recruit a suitable person but please would all Newsletter readers give some thought to fulfilling this need either in person or recruiting a friend.

The AGM was fairly well attended and volunteers enjoyed Margaret Fraser's Annual Report for 2014. We also had a presentation by representatives of Uniting Care Life Assist, a little disappointing due to technical problems.

Main items covered in the Annual Report were the 2014 outings, guest data, activities which connect with the wider community and the interim arrangements described above. If anyone wants a copy of this report please contact me.

Evelyn Fleming was thanked for auditing the Annual Financial Statement and reappointed Honorary Auditor for 2015.

We currently have 19 guests on our books and session attendances this year have ranged from 9 to 15 with an average of around 13. Health issues have been the cause for low numbers, although the average was reduced by two guests having protracted holidays in India. Both have recently returned to Leisure Time. We have welcomed new guests Rose Galea, Rose Gregory and Jelena Gerreyn but we still have 4 or 5 vacancies.

The audited Financial Statement was approved at the AGM. The 2014 budget was designed to minimise costs to guests and to just break even. The final result was that we financed six outings and ended up with a profit of just \$254.46. This year's budget has a similar objective and to date is on target.

We were successful in obtaining a grant from the Monash Council of \$2200 for 2015 less than the \$3000 we applied for, but sufficient to support a six outings program. We are grateful to the Council for recognising the importance of Leisure Time and continuing to fund us.

The Community Hub Mission Group is the umbrella body for a group of GWUC groups and deals with issues of common interest for its constituents – Playgroup, The Hub, Leisure Time, Cooee and Badminton. Together with a Church Council representative, the group met on April 22nd and will next meet on July 22nd.

Obvious benefits to Leisure time guests are the pleasure they get from interactions with the playgroup children and the use of the Hub Noticeboard. A visit from the group when the children dressed up for the Easter event was a highlight and a further event is planned. The Notice Board in the foyer is a useful source of information. Recent common issues, relevant to the volunteers, taken up by the group have been problems with both the Web, and the kitchen oven.

Leisure Time is a member of the Monash Council Interagency Network, our representative at the meetings will be Margaret Fraser.

Together with the Hub, we are also involved with the City of Monash PALS booklet. The current issue advertises a “Come and Try” day on July 13th. This gives people who are possibly interested in joining as a guest the opportunity to see what Leisure Time is about. It has been a successful recruiting tool in the past.

We are also involved in a group planning Monash Council’s participation in Senior’s month in October. The traditional Expo is likely to be replaced by smaller geographically distributed events. Participation in such events will be considered by the Committee closer to the date.

Cliff Baker
Acting Chairperson

Speakers on Monday 27 April, 2015

At Leisure Time on April 27 two members of Waverley Patchworkers, Pat Carroll & Norma Aitken spoke to our 14 guests about their craft.

Norma spoke particularly of the Gifting programme – approximately 250-300 quilts are donated each year to CARA, Waverley Benevolent Society, Monash Children's Hospital and other charitable organisations. Very generous gifts considering the many hours of work in each quilt.

Norma is also involved in the Art group who work on small artistic pieces suitable for wall hanging and showed us many beautiful examples.

Pat's work was in quilts and most done completely by hand, not machine. She showed us some magnificent work, talked of the patterns and how she plans the designs.

Extraordinary work and detail, by two very talented ladies who entertained us and gave their time generously.

Robyn thanked them on behalf of the guests and presented a small gift.

Pat and Norma joined us for lunch.



Barb Thompson – Leader

**What happens to a frog's car when it breaks down?
"It gets toad away"**

Featured Guest—Jelena Gerreyn

Jelena was born in 1938 in Sarajevo, the capital of Bosnia and a part of the Kingdom of Yugoslavia.

As a young child of 3 years Jelena was taken with her parents and sister to a concentration camp in Croatia (not Auschwitz in Germany) and witnessed many atrocities.



Jelena grew up in Belgrade, went to primary, high school and University, where she studied English and Russian language and literature. When she was 23 and graduated at University, she was sent to London by the Ministry of Foreign Trade in Belgrade to attend a special course at a college for six months, learning to interpret from English into Serbian and vice versa, where she met the love of her life on a dance floor. When she returned to Belgrade she thought the love affair would terminate. However, this didn't happen and one day the young man turned up on her doorstep and announced "I cannot live without you".

Jelena ran away to London bidding farewell to her family and married the young man.

Jelena and husband had two sons, born in London where they lived for 52 years. One son was killed in a unique accident when he was 24. The other son migrated to Australia with his wife and two daughters to live in Melbourne.

Jelena and husband migrated to Australia with the help of their son on 1st June, 2014. Jelena's husband sadly passed away in October 2014, 4 months after their arrival in Australia.

Jelena has many friends, joined clubs and has fallen in love with Australia.

If you would like to hear more of Jelena's story come and join us at Leisure Time on Monday 13 July when she will be telling the full story of her interesting life.

Featured Volunteer - Alister Hawkins

Alister was born in Haifa, Palestine which is now named Israel.

His family moved to Malaysia when he was 5 years old where he did his Primary School education.

Alister was lucky enough to have a monkey for a pet.

He moved to Australia with his family in 1958 aged 12 on a cargo ship full of Molasses.



The family lived in Moorabbin and he attended Highett High School. After completing High School Alister attended night school where he achieved his Certificate of Business Studies.

Alister worked for the MMBW (Board of Works) for 31 years as Transport Coordinator, then with the Fire Brigade and a big construction Company also as Transport Coordinator.

Alister went on a blind date where he met and fell in love with Alison. They married in 1972 in the Methodist Church Cheltenham. They set up house in Glen Waverley where they have lived for 43 years.

Alister has 3 daughters and 2 ^{3/4} grandchildren which he adores.

After many years working Alister is now happily retired and spends his days playing golf and doing a lot of volunteer work for South Eastern Volunteers and Leisure Time.

He loves to travel and is always planning “the next trip”.

Thank you Alister for being such a helpful, willing volunteer to Leisure Time.

“Always Laugh when you can. It is cheap medicine”

Transport Report

Again I have to thank our ever willing and obliging drivers . With so many of our guests being unwell in this wet and wintry weather drivers often have to drive further to pick up folk in different areas and frequently come out to drive only one guest instead of the usual two or three.



So again thank you for your kindness.

Bobbie
Driving Co-ordinator

Kitchen Report

The running of the kitchen in the first half of 2015 has once again been straight forward thanks to the kitchen helpers and the cheerful cooks.

Just a gentle reminder to those cooks who bring food in their own dishes— please collect your dishes as promptly as possible. Your dishes will be placed in the locked Leisure Time cupboard for safe keeping. Dishes left on the benches may be placed in lost property.



The large crystal bowl left in the kitchen many months ago is still in the kitchen. Please check your crystal cabinets at home to see if something precious is missing.

Laurel Muir
Kitchen Coordinator

Outings Report

Since our last newsletter the guests have enjoyed a lovely day at Warrook Farm where they had a hay ride, fed poddies, patted a tame bull and milked Daisy the cow. Back on board the wagon and off to watch sheep shearing, then Milo the dog herd sheep.



Everyone enjoyed a scrumptious lunch, the meat just melted in your mouth.



After lunch it was time to return to Glen Waverley but not before everyone had visited the kangaroos, ducks, donkey, golden pheasant.



Some of us even purchased items from the well stocked shop.

Outing Report Contd.

Monday May 18 we went to the RSL Glen Waverley for Morning Melodies at and afterwards enjoyed a lovely lunch.

Morning Melodies was a cheerful event with the entertainer interacting with the guests, we also had a sing-a-long and there were some guests even dancing.

There was a lot of laughter and everyone enjoyed themselves.



Thank you to all the helpers who came.

Pam McDonald
Outings Committee

Rosters

Thank you to all the volunteers for making their own roster swaps, and remembering to tell Heather Hon so she can make the changes on the Wiki. This has helped Elwyn greatly.

**Written by Pam
on behalf of Elwyn Pederson**



SERVICE OF PRAISE

Sunday July 26, 2015, at 2.30pm at Glen Waverley Uniting Church come and sing your favourite hymns. Free Spirit will be leading the singing.

Afterwards enjoy afternoon tea.

All are welcome.

**Alison Clarkson
Ministry to Seniors**



Wonderful News.

The safe arrival of Matilda to Libby (daughter of Margaret and David Fraser) and husband Nathan,

Congratulations to all.





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