



The Anglican Parish of Modbury, St Luke's Church

NEWSLETTER 6

November 2019

November is here, the last month of the liturgical year, beginning with the festival of All Saints and All Souls on 3 November, then Defence Sunday on 10 November. It's a busy month with the grand opening of the Community Garden on 12 November, the Quiz Night on 22 November and Pet Blessing on 24 November (shifted from first Sunday in October). Isn't it wonderful to have so much going on in the church? There is indeed a spirit of energy and enthusiasm which has grown over the past year as we begin to live into our vision: **we will be an open community of faith which engages with the community and inspires and encourages people to know Jesus Christ.**

The parish council invite all members of St Luke's on Friday 6 December at 6 pm to a Christmas party and presentation of the parish Mission Action Plan progress and assessment of how we are working to achieving our vision. Like last year, this will be an opportunity to share thoughts and contribute to the ongoing discussion on how we best serve God in the community of Modbury. Please save the date!

Sunday 8 December will be the last week at St Luke's for Jordan, Sarah, Sophie and Elijah Breed. Please join us as we farewell them for Canberra in 2020. We welcome back to St Luke's John, who returns from India for three and a half years to study a PhD. Sadly we lost Jim Palin, a dearly loved brother in Christ on 14 October and farewelled him from St Luke's. We will miss Jim, his wry sense of humour and ever obliging manner.

This will be the last newsletter for 2019 as in December the Link Year Book will be published. The newsletters will resume in January. Thank you to everyone who has contributed over the past six months to this new venture in communication. There is always a lot to say, but sometimes we don't make the effort to say it! The effort is always worth it.

BALTIC CHARM AND THE TREASURES OF RUSSIA – RIVER CRUISE SEPTEMBER 2019

By Colin Fidock

The Revolutions of 1989 formed part of a revolutionary wave in the late 1980s and early 1990s that resulted in the end of communist rule in Central and Eastern Europe and beyond. The period is sometimes called the Fall of Nations or the Autumn of Nations. This change began on the 4th June 1989 and ended on the 26th December 1991.

Dany and I decided in 2018 that we would like to visit Russia and the Baltic states that had once been under Soviet control. Some years before we had visited Bulgaria [where Dany's family live and where she had spent a few years after the war] and Romania. This visit was indeed an eyeopener as we discovered that despite the yoke of communism being lifted, progress and change had been slow.

So, off to the Baltic states, first visiting by bus, Lithuania, Estonia, Latvia and across the

Gulf of Finland to Finland. Progress and change is obvious. People were far more receptive and welcoming as we travelled each day to see old towns, historic sites castles, churches and not to mention the experience of cobble stones and steps!!!! Unforgettable moments were visiting the 'Hill of Crosses' a symbol of Lithuania's non-violent struggle during the Soviet Regime, tasting Black Balsom Liqueur in Latvia [yes sounds like tar and tasted like it too!], Experiencing a Secret Soviet bunker in Ligatne, Estonia a Cold war bomb shelter built for the party faithful just in case the West launched a nuclear attack! It was a huge place with Lenin proudly displayed



and strict rules. NO PHOTOS IN THE MAP ROOM! Farewelling Estonia our mode of transport ferried us across the Gulf of Finland to Helsinki a seaside capital [now much colder] but beautiful Old town visiting, markets, experiencing great foods and finally a traditional Finnish dinner including

Reindeer served on mashed potato with loganberry sauce! What would the world do without the discovery of the potato?

Friday 13th saw our large group transfer to the Helsinki Station to board the fast train to St Petersburg, Russia. Needless to say we were looking forward to 11 days on board our river ship the MS Rossia.



Farewell Euro, hello Rubles with \$1.00 equal to 45 Rubles plus. Our Ship, part of a fleet of Russian tourist ships regularly takes tourists from St Petersburg to Moscow and return until winter freezes the rivers and canals. We were already wondering if Autumn had decided not to arrive as the weather became colder each day. We began 4 days in amazing St Petersburg, constructed by Tsar Peter the Great who decided to move his capital from Moscow further north. The city, Baroque in style and surrounded by canals and palaces is considered the Venice of the North. We visited the huge St Peter and St Paul fortress which includes the burial place of the Tsars from the era of Peter the Great, numerous cathedrals all crowned in golden domes and the State Hermitage [Tsars winter palace] now a museum filled with the most amazing historical and artistic treasures we have ever seen. I was awed by the amazing iconography.

Leaving this amazing city behind we travelled 1336 miles down the Neva river, Svir river, Lake Onega, the White lake, the Volga-Baltic waterway and finally to Volga river itself. During the following days we experienced life in rural villages, vodka tasting, a village and church constructed completely from wood, monasteries and the historical Kremlin of Uglich where Ivan the Terrible's son Demetrius [aged 7] was cruelly murdered. We finally reached Moscow. The weather? Very cold. 5 degrees during the day! Highlights were of course the Red Square, St Basil's cathedral, an outstanding folklore show and the Kremlin, the original residence and burial place of the Czars and now the seat of government and the home of Vladimir Putin. Security was very evident! Treasures displayed in the Armory were amazing. Our journey in the Metro to see the artistic stations was also a highlight.

Since the fall of the Soviet Union it is evident the people of Russia hold strongly to their culture and faith. The place of the church is firmly in place evidenced by the care the people place on their places of worship. Our journey was a great experience not to be forgotten.



A Special Milestone ~ Yvonne Hoad

Yvonne Hoad, a founding member of our parish and still worshipping with us celebrated her 90th birthday of the 7th of October. This happy occasion was marked by a get together of family and friends at the Lotus Chinese Restaurant on Melbourne Street North Adelaide. It was very special for Yvonne as her daughters from Darwin and Hervey Bay were there as well as her son and daughter from Adelaide.



Happy Birthday Yvonne!



A Platinum Wedding ~ Donald and Marjorie Prince

On Thursday 17 October Donald and Marjorie Prince (Thursday 10 am) celebrated 70 years of marriage! What a wonderful achievement. Marjorie fondly recalls that on her wedding day she 'Married a prince!' On their very anniversary day Donald and Marjorie came to church and showed us their special cards and greetings from civil and political dignitaries. The most special was the lovely card with a photograph and greeting from Queen Elizabeth herself.

The traditional gift for a 70th anniversary is platinum, one of the rarest metals in the world. Platinum is virtually impervious to wear and is a symbol of endurance.

Here are Donald and Marjorie with their card from the Queen.



AnglicareSA Christmas Hamper Drive

This year St Luke's is supporting Anglicare's hope to put together 500 Christmas hampers for individuals, families and children in need. We are aiming to put together **five** hamper boxes. Each box needs to have one of the following items:

- Devondale long life milk 1 litre
- Foster Clark long life custard 1 litre
- Bread spread: peanut butter, jam, vegemite
- Can of fruit 825g
- Can of vegetables: corn, peas, mix
- Can of beans: chickpea, cannellini, kidney 400g
- Can of baked beans or spaghetti 420g
- Can of soup: pumpkin, tomato, minestrone etc 410-530g
- Can of diced tomatoes 400g
- Can of Plumrose leg ham 450g
- Jar of pasta sauce: Dolmio, Barilla, Leggos 500g
- Packet of pasta: penne, spirals, spaghetti 500g
- Breakfast cereal: Weetbix, Cornflakes, Rice Bubbles 700g
- Packet of sweet/savoury biscuits 200g
- Coffee, Milo, tea or long life fruit juice 1 litre

In addition, every customer receiving a hamper may select some special Christmas items: **wrapping paper/gift bags; Christmas pudding; long life cream; jelly crystals; baby food; lollies; chips and crisps; savoury biscuits; chocolates; cookies, sweet biscuits, short bread; sauces; Zooper Dooper ice blocks.** *Please add some of these extra special items to your donation!*



Makarrata ~ a coming together after a conflict



Makarrata is a Ylongu word meaning 'coming together after a conflict.' It is a word used in the Uluru Statement of the Heart of 2017, where its use gives a powerful reorienting of the English word 'reconciliation.' Makarrata "captures our aspirations for a fair and truthful relationship with the people of Australia and a better future for our children based on justice and self-determination." (Uluru Statement from the Heart)

The Anglicans for Reconciliation network is now known as Anglicans for Makarrata, in recognition of the significance of this word for Aboriginal people going into the future. Have you read the Uluru Statement from the Heart? It is a real milestone in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people taking leadership in the matters of Makarrata and it is our responsibility to read it and hear what the people say. We cannot avoid what has happened in the past, but neither can we carry on as though it did not happen. The Uluru Statement from the Heart captures the aftermath for generations of Aboriginal and Torres Strait people since colonisation; the lost children, the lost culture, the lack of representation in all levels of Australian society, the overrepresentation within the criminal justice system. Makarrata must happen.

Did you see the hoards of people lining up on Uluru to climb the sacred rock before the cut off date in late October after which climbing was forbidden? I would also like to climb Uluru but the people have said it is sacred to them and they have asked us not to do it. So why clamour to do it when it is upsetting others? Is it not enough to admire the magnificence of Uluru from below or to walk its massive circumference? Clearly many people still don't want to listen, to participate in Makarrata. They just lined up to climb Ayer's Rock.

On the first day of this month I visited the Tarnathi exhibition at the Art Gallery of SA. It was so good and I recommend it to you all. In the works presented is the voice of the people, capturing past and present, creation, even a utopic image of what it could have been like when those ships sailed into Sydney Harbour - even as at the same time the native Australians were being shot by guns. When we look and really listen we are making Makarrata happen.

We, gathered at the 2017 National Constitutional Convention, coming from all points of the southern sky, make this statement from the heart:

Our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander tribes were the first sovereign Nations of the Australian continent and its adjacent islands, and possessed it under our own laws and customs. This our ancestors did, according to the reckoning of our culture, from the Creation, according to the common law from 'time immemorial', and according to science more than 60,000 years ago.

This sovereignty is a spiritual notion: the ancestral tie between the land, or 'mother nature', and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who were born therefrom, remain attached thereto, and must one day return thither to be united with our ancestors. This link is the basis of the ownership of the soil, or better, of sovereignty. It has never been ceded or extinguished, and co-exists with the sovereignty of the Crown. How could it be otherwise? That peoples possessed a land for sixty millennia and this sacred link disappears from world history in merely the last two hundred years? With substantive constitutional change and structural reform, we believe this ancient sovereignty can shine through as a fuller expression of Australia's nationhood. Proportionally, we are the most incarcerated people on the planet. We are not an innately criminal people. Our children are alienated from their families at unprecedented rates. This cannot be because we have no love for them. And our youth languish in detention in obscene numbers. They should be our hope for the future. These dimensions of our crisis tell plainly the structural nature of our problem. *This is the torment of our powerlessness.* We seek constitutional reforms to empower our people and take a *rightful place* in our own country. When we have power over our destiny our children will flourish. They will walk in two worlds and their culture will be a gift to their country. We call for the establishment of a First Nations Voice enshrined in the Constitution. Makarrata is the culmination of our agenda: *the coming together after a struggle.* It captures our aspirations for a fair and truthful relationship with the people of Australia and a better future for our children based on justice and self-determination. We seek a Makarrata Commission to supervise a process of agreement-making between governments and First Nations and truth-telling about our history. In 1967 we were counted, in 2017 we seek to be heard. We leave base camp and start our trek across this vast country. We invite you to walk with us in a movement of the Australian people for a better future.