

ANGLICAN PARISH NEWSLETTER:

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Charlton Window launch

THE Charlton window finally found a home at the Shrine of Remembrance in Melbourne on Thursday, June 8. Originally, the window was consecrated in St Paul's Anglican Church in Euroa on January 13, 1903 when it was put into place as the centrepiece of a new chancel in the church.

The window was dedicated to John Charlton by his family who had lived at Castle Creek. John had fought and died in the Boer War and his family wanted a lasting memorial to mark his passing, particularly as he had been buried, where he died, in Pretoria, South Africa.

Unfortunately, when rebuilding occurred in the church in the 1930s, the window was taken down, packed away and stored under the floor of the church. When further

extensions were required in the church, the window was again moved and then spent many years in local sheds until gifted to the Euroa Historical and Genealogical Society in 2012. This group, understanding the mammoth task that was required to bring the windows back to their former glory, were fortunate that they were able to transfer this task to archaeologists Lynne Dore and Maxine Boyd.

In the April edition of 'Remembrance' (a Shrine publication) Dr Bronwyn Hughes wrote: 'Under the guidance of Lynne and Maxine, the John Charlton Memorial Committee was formed with representatives from the Australian Army and the VMR Association, a specialist stained glass historian and John Charlton's great-grandniece.

'This committee has overseen conservation of the window by Almond Glassworks, funded by the Victoria Remembers Grant Program.'

At the service held at the Shrine on June 8, many Euroa residents travelled down to Melbourne and joined a group of 150 people which included Charlton family members and members of the armed services. The Euroa group included members of St Paul's Anglican church, RSL members, Shire of Strathbogie Councillors and others who had been associated with this project in a variety of ways.

Speakers at the short but very meaningful service included the Governor of Victoria, Linda Dessau who launched the window, Dr Robin Droogleever who spoke on John Charlton and the MC was the chief executive officer of the Shrine, Dean Michael Lee.

Due to the large number of attendees, the ceremony was held in the visitor's centre not at the site of the window which is installed in the 'Galleries of Remembrance'. To appreciate the beauty of this window, you only need to visit the Shrine where it is on public display for many Victorians to view and appreciate.



Church Services for the Anglican Parish of Euroa:

Our Mission is:
To reveal God's love through words and actions empowered by the Holy Spirit

St Paul's, Euroa: Eucharist at 9.30am every Sunday and Eucharist at 10am every Wednesday.

St Andrew's, Longwood: Eucharist at 8am on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sunday.

[**Dates:** July 2, 16, 30; August 6, 20 and September 3, 17]

St Dunstan's, Violet Town: Eucharist on 2nd Sunday at 11.30am (preceded by 'chat & chew') and 4th Sunday, Evensong at 5pm.

[**Dates:** July 9, 23; August 13, 27 and September 10, 24.]

Anglican Parish of Euroa

The Annual Fete was held on Saturday, 29 April and again it was a great success.

Thank you to so many of our parishioners for making it happen.



'Safe as Churches' conference: This conference, which has been running for eight years, was very informative. Where it



is held, varies every year and as it happened in Melbourne this time, it was very convenient for many Victorians to attend and in addition there were attendees from all around Australia and NZ. All the speakers were exceptional, in most cases being the top of their field. An up-to-date report was given from the Royal Commission which stressed that we now need to be responsible for 'Working with Children' and 'Duty of Care'. Topics that were very enlightening were 'Elder Abuse' and the Pastoral Care of Parishes. Some valuable web sites that you may like to explore are: the Royal Commission web site, www.ourwatch.org.au and www.eSafety.gov.au .

SYNOD REPORT: by Rev Patti Matthews, Gabriel Kearle and Heather Bamford

Our notes are mainly taken from the Bishop's Address to Synod (a full report will be in the July Edition of 'The Advocate')

1. **Anglicare:** Anglican based organisations that are led from outside our Diocese continue to build on existing relationships. I am pleased to be able to report that Anglicare Hume has found fresh inspiration with direction coming from St Luke's in Bendigo. On Friday, June 2, we celebrated the signing of a new 'Memorandum of Understanding' between the Diocese and Anglicare Victoria. We are in the process of re-establishing the Diocesan Advisory Committee.
2. **Strategic Planning:** Over the last couple of years, the Diocese has moved on a journey to establish an action based Strategic Plan and that initial plan was presented at Synod in 2016. It encapsulated a range of thoughts, ideas and directions that had been drawn from around the Diocese. Six groups have been established and they include:
 1. Social Justice
 2. Parish Analytical Development
 3. Training (initial and ongoing)
 4. The Administration Review Task Force
 5. Safe Church
 6. Diocesan Planning

These teams are all active and moving forward at various stages of development and we already have some wonderful initiatives coming forward. Our biggest threat to our churches, is in doing nothing, and that is certainly not the case in this Diocese.

3. **The Schools:** Our three schools (Wangaratta, Cobram and Albury) continue to be among the jewels in the crown of the Diocese. Each is excellently led, and all are growing from strength to strength. Our schools are among the best performing of all the system schools of the Anglican Schools Commission. This is truly good news.
4. **Child Safe/ Safe Church:** You will all be aware of the proceedings of the Royal Commission into institutional responses to child sexual abuse and know that a series of hearings have occurred specifically looking into past and current practices of the Anglican Church. You will also be aware that these hearings have revealed the sad truth that the Anglican Church of Australia has not always met its duty to keep people safe and to respond to issues appropriately.

On January 1 this year, church organisations in Victoria became subject to Victorian Mandatory Child Safe Standards. All churches must now comply with the elements of the standards or be actively working towards achieving compliance. In this diocese, we have chosen to incorporate the Child Safe Standards into a broader Safe Church framework.

A recent audit conducted against the child safe requirements showed that this diocese has most elements in place already or are well underway.

5. Additional points of interest:

- a) A new diocesan advocate (legal advisor) Rachel Elliot, has been appointed following the death of David Parsons.
- b) Lesley Lewis (from Holy Trinity, Wangaratta), recently attended a conference at the United Nations on the 'Status of Women'. Lesley was Australia's only representative.
- c) Both the Mothers Union and Cursillo groups are struggling to continue
- d) Aged care facilities across the diocese are undergoing major (but positive) changes
- e) Many small communities (parishes) are struggling to stay viable
- f) We need to ask what each person can do for their parish
- g) There is a challenge to fill vacancies in some diocesan parishes.

Around Our Churches

St Andrew's, Longwood:

The Longwood church community were thrilled to hear that the church is going to be used for a wedding in November. So, some work is being done in the yards with removal and replanting of trees and some work being done on the front fence and gate. The septic tank has been replaced with an updating and replacement of some of the amenities. Currently the church and Sunday school buildings are being painted, using the same color. These works will have the church and surrounds looking pristine by November.



St Paul's, Euroa:

There are many topics in this newsletter that are also relevant to St Paul's, but there are some that particularly pertain to our buildings and grounds. With the tower roof now replaced, consideration is being given to other aspects of the St Paul's church. The floor of the church desperately needs replacing and this is now, finally, under serious consideration. The building sub-committee have recently put forward two recommendations to the Bishop and we are awaiting his reply.

The **grounds** continue to be excellently maintained mainly by Nan and John Sullivan with assistance also from Dave Blackie, Greg Musgrove and others. The occasional working bee helps deal with larger issues but Nan works hard to keep the gardens looking

presentable and as always, Nan would love to have some help. John Sullivan has been seen whizzing around the grounds for many years but he has finally handed over the keys. Brian Bamford and Greg Musgrove have willingly stepped in to work on keeping the grounds looking neat and tidy. John set a very high standard over the years that will be a challenge for these gentlemen to meet. And, yes, the driveways will also be dealt with soon!

St Dunstan's, Violet Town by Drusilla Green

Life at St Dunstan's seems to come in waves of busyness between the usual steady gatherings for services and fellowship. For various reasons, all legitimate, we only managed to have one service recently but that didn't mean inactivity amongst the faithful.

March 26 saw us celebrating the life of Isobel Matthews and remembering the wonderful contribution made by her to the life of the church. For many years, Isobel looked after the church in so many ways – as sacristan, providing flowers and food, holding open garden days and helping to establish the memorial garden amongst many other things.

Fund Raising Activities: The Violet Town Market in May provided us with the opportunity to have a wood raffle, the wood being kindly donated by Colin and Helen Rankin with considerable assistance from Mick McLaughlin. As this is 'sponsored' by the Market, the money raised is to stay in the town so we were able to put \$783 into our Restoration fund for St Dunstan's.

Thanks to the efforts of Robyn Machin (again!) our regular cake and produce stall was held outside the café in Violet Town on the Friday of the Queen's Birthday weekend. The troupes rallied with cakes, biscuits and slices most of which had disappeared by 3.00pm. This was coupled with another wood raffle and the two activities meant that approximately \$500 was contributed towards general parish funds. A big thank you to all who baked, chopped, sold tickets and manned the stall.

Services: We have appreciated the services taken by visiting clergy from time to time when Patti is unable to minister to us. It is always refreshing to have a new voice and approach but we are most grateful for the regular support provided to us by Rev Patti.

As one of the few churches in the diocese to offer an evening service on Sunday, St Dunstan's regularly has either Evening Prayer or Evensong at 6.00pm (5pm in winter). Watch the paper and pew bulletin for the next service at which you would be most welcome.

Ladies' Fellowship Group: The group's meetings continue to be interesting and varied. In April members were asked to bring a favorite piece of jewellery (heirloom) to the meeting and to tell its story. The meeting in May was a meeting with a difference. The group met at Vivian's house for a cooking demonstration and all those who attended were given a special treat. The



June meeting was cancelled as some members were away and also the Granite Hills Café was closed for the day so now the group will meet for lunch at the Granite Hills Café on Tuesday, 18 July. Parishioners from across the three centres are most welcome to attend these meetings/get-togethers. [Contacts for the group are: Margaret Brook (chairperson), Pam Breen (Assistant) and Nan Sullivan (Treasurer)]

The Parish Op Shop: Open Mondays 10am-2pm, Thursdays 10am-2pm, Fridays 10am-2pm, Saturdays 10am-2pm.
[On some days the shop may not open until 10.30am]

From time to time the Op Shop has an excess of quality baby clothes. Rather than store these, an excellent 'transfer station' has been found at the Caroline Chisholm Society in St Andrews Road, Shepparton. Here, in a sunny and well organised building, material aid such as clothes, toys, prams, and special baby packs are provided to mothers and their children.

The Society is a non-denominational, not for profit organisation that offers support for new and expectant mothers and their families. Its vision is inspired by the humanitarian work of Caroline Chisholm who is commemorated on 16 May in the Calendar of saints of the Church of England. The Society serves the whole of the Goulburn Valley including families from the Shire of Strathbogie as well as Greater Shepparton and Moira Shires. For more than forty years this Pregnancy and Family Support Service has been operating in the Goulburn Valley. Last year one of its founders Pat Coffey was awarded an OAM for her many years of volunteering but in particular for her focus on the needs of mothers.



PARISH CONTACTS

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PARISH SECRETARY: Heather Bamford **Phone:** 5795 1426
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PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Wardens: Phil Squires, Heather Bamford, Jim Brook; Drusilla Green

Councillors: Libby Woodhouse, Ethne Green, Greg Musgrove

[Parish Council meets on the first Wednesday of the month in the Vestry at St. Paul's].

DO YOU HAVE THE INTERNET?

Your newsletter can be emailed to you, but only if we have your email address! If you would like this option, please forward your email address to Heather Bamford:

heather.bamford172@gmail.com

Then you will get it in colour!!