

2019 Annual Reports

for the

Anglican Parish

of

Yass Valley

AGM - March 29, 2020



Table of Contents

Parish Council Reports	3
Chairperson	3
Rector	4
Finance Report.....	7
Wardens Reports.....	11
Saint Clements Yass.....	11
All Saints Murrumbateman.....	14
St Mary's Mungahlin	16
Saint James	16
Musicians	17
Mission and Ministry	18
Fundraising 2019	18
mainly music.....	19
Jacob's Well Bookshop & Café	20
Steel Strings Singing	20
Yass Organic Growers Inc. (aka YOGI, or Yass Community Garden)	21

Parish Council Reports

Chairperson

Firstly, I would like to thank you the Parish, without your contributions and support your Parish Council could not function.

We have strived to do what God would have us do. A lesson learned was it is no good just to say we need something to happen. If we haven't got a clue ourselves how it might be achieved. We are all full of good ideas, but we need to be committed to the solutions and outcomes ourselves

Our meetings always start with prayer and spiritual matters. Also, they always end with us standing, holding hands reciting The Grace Prayer.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,

and the love of God

and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all,

now and evermore,

Amen

We have had another busy year; our old buildings need lots of maintenance and refurbishment. Not only do we hope to maintain the buildings, we seek to care for and nurture our Parish. Our next exciting project will be the hall kitchen make over, not only will this benefit us but also our local community. It is a good to think that those around us will be happy to spend time on and feel comfortable in our church grounds.

I would like to thank you all for your care, love and encouragement.

Rob O'Keefe

Rector

But I will bless the person who puts his trust in me. He is like a tree growing near a stream and sending out roots to the water. It is not afraid when hot weather comes, because its leaves stay green; it has no worries when there is no rain; it keeps on bearing fruit. (Jer 17:7-8)

Many of us know people drive to discover their roots, where did I come from, who are my people, do I have a famous ancestor?

Yet the vital truth is not where did we come from but where are we going? Our past only brought us to today, the future is not simply a matter of social, ethnic or hereditary roots...

Our future is written by our spiritual roots. As Christians the bible says **we are planted by streams of water**. But it also tells us it is up to us to send our roots deep into those waters and to drink deeply from those waters.

The deeper we send our spiritual roots the deeper drink then the stronger and taller we grow.

Since you have accepted Christ Jesus as Lord, live in union with him. Keep your roots deep in him, build your lives on him, and become stronger in your faith, as you were taught. And be filled with thanksgiving. (Col 2:6-7)

Last year, I asked you to:

- embrace the desire for change...
- imagine ways in which we might engage meaningfully with people we meet...
- invite people to be part of the Kingdom of God...

I thank you for beginning that journey with me. The success of things like

- the Christmas Day Lunch
- the mainly music program
- the bookshop café mornings
- the All Saints Centenary celebrations
- the improvements to our facilities
- the combined churches service before Christmas
- our support for the expansion of SRE in the Yass High School

plus

- your response to the drought and bushfire emergencies
- more regular commitment to attending worship
- not only inviting but bringing others to church

all demonstrate that we have begun to drink of the spiritual waters that God has planted nearby.

I encourage you to also cast your eye over our finances. Surely we have seen the proof of God's challenge to his people to “*taste and see that the LORD is good...*” (Ps 34:8).

The Passion translation (TPT) puts it like this...

Drink deeply of the pleasures of this God. Experience for yourself the joyous mercies he gives to all who turn to hide themselves in him. Worship in awe and wonder, all you who've been made holy! For all who fear him will feast with plenty. (Ps34:8-9)

Over the past 7 years, **with God's help**, we have seen

- our finances become more reliable and predictable
- the maintenance of our facilities moving from being reactive to being proactive... we actually have a maintenance fund now!

Both of which I believe are because we have been more intentional in seeking God and waiting for Him to lead.

We now have a great platform to move ahead... but where is God leading us?

But Jesus called for the parents, the children, and his disciples to come and listen to him. Then he told them, “Never hinder a child from coming to me. Let them all come, for God's kingdom realm belongs to them as much as it does to anyone else. (Luk_18:16 - TPT)

And our task is to make a way for them, to introduce them to the Jesus that we know and whom we love and that we serve.

I believe that this is our principal task...

- This is why we are planted near streams of living water...
- This is why we are nourished in worship...
- This is why Jesus came...

In 2020 I would like to focus on three things:

1. Infants and Primary School Scripture

In NSW we have a legislated right to go into **EVERY** NSW government primary school and provide to **EVERY** student who wants it

30 minutes of religious education per school week

At present we spend less than 90 minutes per term in Yass Public, Berinba Public and Bowning Public schools.

There is a clear and obvious open door for us to obey Jesus and build a road that will lead these children to him... but once a term is not enough.

He said to them: A large crop is in the fields, but there are only a few workers. Ask the Lord in charge of the harvest to send out workers to bring it in. (Luke 10:2)

The cost is **NOT** great...

- Yes! there is some training... about 2 days every year
- Yes! there is a set curriculum... but it is REALLY VERY GOOD
- Yes! we combine with the other Christian churches to do it
- Yes! it is fun
- Yes! the children enjoy it
- Yes! Most of the children want to be there.

Please PRAY for this vital ministry.

Please ask God if in fact it is your ministry!

2. mainly music

mainly music is a vital connection to families with preschool age children. We are continuing to host mainly music in Yass BUT...

There is an opportunity to have the same ministry operation in Murrumbateman.

It takes 2 hours a week during school terms of your time to be part of this ministry.

Please PRAY for this ministry.

Please ask God if in fact it is your ministry!

3. Monthly outreach services

Going into the fields is only the beginning. We go so that in time with the help of the Holy Spirit we can invite people to join us in learning about just how great is the love of God for them.

I wholeheartedly believe that it is entirely possible to

- remain Anglican
- provide an easy and comfortable introduction to church
- meaningfully engage the young and the mature in Jesus.

This will inevitably mean some changes to the way we do things on a Sunday.

I would like to begin a monthly service at both All Saints and St Clements that makes this our focus. The details are still forming.

Finally, I cannot tell you what awaits any of us this year or the next but I do know what awaits everyone at the end of their lives... either eternity with their saviour Jesus or eternity in the outer darkness...

So, from now until you see Jesus face to face, I encourage you to take seriously the task of proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God (Matt 4), as Paul writes:

I have adapted to the culture of every place I've gone so that I could more easily win people to Christ. I've done all this so that I would become God's partner for the sake of the gospel. (1Cor 9:22-23 TPT)

May the peace of God and the love our Lord Jesus be your comfort and challenge always and in all situations.

Yours in Christ

Reverend Ken Rampling

Finance Report

The Parish Council operated without a Treasurer during 2019.

While not ideal it was possible as the parish finances underwent a revamp during the term of Margaret Buckmaster. Among other things the parish finances now have:

- A process for Electronic payment of bills, and
- The accounting system makes bookkeeping much easier and less time consuming by downloading the bank accounts automatically.

It is not a situation that should be allowed to continue so the next Parish Council will need to make finding a Treasurer a priority.

However, Parish Council is pleased to report that the parish finances for 2020 is very much a good news story.

Firstly, thank you for your generosity in your giving which has transformed our financial situation. So great was your generosity that we contributed an Sundays cash giving (\$2018) to support Anglicare's bushfire relief work without impacting our normal operations... praise God! Please take some time to look over the financial statements prepared for the AGM.

Secondly, the balance of our general account has steadily improved to the point where we generally have funds for the next 2 weeks activity.

Thirdly, through several years of hard work the All Saints congregation has been able to

- Conduct a very successful Centenary year, and
- build a new toilet.

Fourth, the ability to attract two grants have allowed PC to begin improvements to

- the Mary Curl Room (now completed)
- the kitchen in the Parish Hall (due to be completed by end of May)

Fifthly, we have been able to contribute significant funds to a variety of community outreach activities from the Trust Account and maintain the principal:

- High School SRE (\$10,000)
- Murrumbateman Carols (\$750)
- Yass Carols (\$750)

Finally, Parish Council has selected three special projects for 2020. You will already be made aware of the envelope system to allow you to support throughout the year for:

- Bushfire and Drought relief
- Refurbishment of the Parish Hall
- Provision of a Memorial Roll at the St Clements Cemetery.

Thank you for your generosity during 2019 and we look forward to seeing God bless us again in 2020.

From the Parish Council of Yass Valley Anglican Parish

**ANGLICAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA
PARISH OF YASS VALLEY
OPERATING STATEMENT RELATING TO GENERAL FUNDS
FOR THE FIVE YEARS ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015 TO 2019**

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Parish Income					
Church Collections -					
Planned Giving (direct credits)	89,042	85,011	73,244	67,623	73,821
Other	49,020	48,910	77,684	75,025	82,836
Fundraising				5,693	1,880
Hall Rent	1,020	2,354	605	1,182	482
Cottage Rent	15,340	15,340	15,340	15,349	11,370
Interest	1,877	722	351	602	382
Columbarium Fees	1,180	4,180	80	389	-
Solar Electricity Rebates	2,196	1,900	423	203	164
Bookstall - Net Proceeds	144	1,181	(857)	173	(664)
Normal Parish Income	<u>\$159,819</u>	<u>\$159,598</u>	<u>\$166,870</u>	<u>\$166,239</u>	<u>\$170,271</u>
Parish Expenditure					
Stipends, Superannuation, etc.	94,298	95,010	95,772	97,391	84,426
Property Expenses	39,342	40,823	46,152	42,659	50,208
Car Expenses	2,860	2,415	2,115	1,832	1,740
Books, Music, etc.	954	2,253	2,441	2,245	2,000
Administration and Conference Costs	7,273	5,339	9,018	4,840	5,368
Diocesan Commitments	19,375	19,762	20,167	20,293	21,693
Missions from offertories	-	-	400	-	1,814
Pastoral Care	-	100	313	-	170
Normal Parish Expenses	<u>164,102</u>	<u>165,702</u>	<u>176,378</u>	<u>169,260</u>	<u>167,419</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)					
After payment of Parish running expenses from normal Parish income	<u>(\$4,283)</u>	<u>(\$6,104)</u>	<u>(\$9,508)</u>	<u>(\$3,021)</u>	<u>\$2,852</u>

FINANCIAL STATEMENT COVERING PARISH FUNDS

	2018	2019
General Funds Balance - 1 January	39,329	32,332
Less: Murrumbateman Field Days Account	10,252	-
	<u>29,077</u>	<u>32,332</u>
Surplus/(Deficit) from Parish operations - as above	3,021	2,852
	<u>26,056</u>	<u>35,184</u>
Add: Other Receipts		
Grants from Community Outreach Trust	9,000	15,000
Donations/Fundraising for maintenance	13,178	8,572
Grant for Mary Curll Room	15,303	-
Income of Murrumbateman Vestry	1,541	8,463
Transfer Murrumbateman Field Days A	-	21,278
Missions etc	2,280	2,771
Ministry Projects	-	1,409
Sundries		1,130
Bellringers	100	59,138
	<u>67,458</u>	<u>94,322</u>
Less: Other Payments		
Mary Curll Room renovations	13,468	1,200
Payments for Murrumbateman Vestry	-	11,970
Community Trust payments	9,000	15,000
Maintenance Expenditure	11,658	5,050
Missions etc	1,000	35,821
	<u>35,126</u>	<u>67,041</u>
General Funds Balance - 31 December	<u>\$32,332</u>	<u>\$58,501</u>

Separate Trust funds are not included.

THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF YASS VALLEY

STATEMENT BY THE PARISH COUNCIL

The Members of the Parish Council declare that:

The attached financial statements and notes detailed on pages 2 to 7 present a true and fair view of the financial position of the Parish as at 31 December 2019 and the results for the year ended on that date in accordance with accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Parish Council of the Anglican Parish of Yass Valley and is signed on behalf of the Parish Council.

Dated at Yass: 17 March 2020



Robyn O'Keefe
Parish Council Chairman



Rev Ken Rampling
Rector

Wardens Reports

Saint Clements Yass

In the name of the Risen Christ, I am pleased to present the annual report as Warden of St Clements for the 2019 calendar year.

The year proved another busy one for the church and its leaders, with a mix of traditional and contemporary services, social activities, works and approvals and grants for future works, and special events, including commemorative services, baptisms, weddings and funerals.

During the calendar year 1 January to 31 December 2019, total attendance at St Clements remained almost stable from the previous year with 7538 worshippers.

By the Register, Sunday 56 services with 1871 worshippers, 51 Monday services with 1002, two other Holy Communion (66), and the special Commemorative evening service with 44.

Six baptisms were attended by 219 people, a substantial wedding with 172, and sadly 16 funerals with 3872. This latter figure was exactly half 2018. Many of these funerals resulted in up to 600 people attending and preparation required the movement of all the chairs in the hall to be set up in the church and then returned; not an easy task especially in the hotter months.

Easter and Christmas services including the 11:00p.m. service on Christmas Eve with 170 and 122 people respectively.

One figure that cannot be captured was the number of ex tempore visitors who came for private reasons during each week, including during the Turning Page Festival. But it was a joy to meet some of these in our church's beautiful environment. Many visitors from overseas were noted in the visitors' book

The program of Bible Studies continued on Tuesday nights in the Mary Curll Room. Apart from being well-researched and presented, invariably examined the relevant text from the points of view of different Bible translations, and from the different perspectives of Jewish and Greek mindsets. This led to more depth of understanding as well as some lively discussions and people are encouraged to join the group for about 90 minutes during 2020.

An important and to my mind well overdue event occurred on Sunday 22nd December when an Ecumenical service of the combined churches was held in the Yass Memorial Hall. More than 200 people joined in fellowship to rejoice in the pending birth of the Christ and to share thanks, praise and worship to God. It was, however, disappointing that many of the St Clements congregation who had attended the 8:30 service did not attend the other. Yet, it is out there where the people and the most need is that we should be as well.

Another special service was the Remembrance Day service held in the church foreground and which included a field of red poppies, representing each person from the Yass Valley who have served in times of conflict. It was simple and dignified, and truly a time to reflect on the sacrifice of those men – and the families they left behind.

Congregational social activities were wide-ranging during the period and included assistance at the Murrumbateman Field Days and All Saints Centenary activities, the Driver Reviver program at Murrumbateman over the various public holiday weekends (though cancelled at Christmas due to the smoke hazards), the ‘Garage Sale’ in the Hall and the successful cake and cook book sales in the town. The Thursday ladies’ bible study and Friday morning men’s coffee group which were initiated by Rev Judy continued through the year. Sadly, the latter lost two of its members, one who passed away, but others have joined.

New initiatives included the Mission and Ministry weekend, mainly music pre-school children’s program in the hall and coffee and chat meetings in the Mary Curll room (separate reports to be provided) and a display at the Yass Show, which attracted some interest resulting in inquiries for baptisms and weddings.

It was also good to see the level of Parish support to the Christmas carols praise, worship and pageantry at Murrumbateman, Yass and Bowning.

External activities held on the Campus included the Indigenous program, after-school child support, visits by groups from out of town, concerts, Band of Brothers and Circle of Sisters meetings, a part of the Turning Page festival, the successful Community Gardens Open Day with plant sales, pizza and music, and some private functions.

Seven different groups also hired the hall during the year.

An important and historic event on the first weekend in September when Synod met and elected Mark Short as the new Bishop. We pray for him and his leadership and vision during a very challenging time ahead.

As a result of grants approvals, the Mary Curll Room was modernised with air-conditioning, a new kitchen, paint, curtains and bookshelves for the Jacobs Well

bookshop. This has all made a marked difference to the room especially as a lot of unused items were disposed leaving still more space for storage. Improvements to the Community Gardens and further replacement of the Rectory perimeter fencing and other works in the Rectory were carried out and the microphone system on the lectern was replaced.

The question as to how better manage the stage and other areas in the Hall continues to be addressed under the overarching question as to how best use it to further outreach into the community. As part of that a government grant was approved in December to upgrade the outdated kitchen to meet current commercial standards.

One important development was the decision to hold off the sale of the cottage and it continues being rented while a longer-term strategy for the Campus is developed. In the interim, some improvements are being considered for the New Year.

During the year, several construction, maintenance and repair activities were conducted.

Thanks must go to John Buckmaster for his painting of the external hall windows and to Kerry and Ray England for their outstanding refurbishment of the church front doors.

More works are necessary and working bees will be necessary once the weather gets cooler. I would hope that these may be an opportunity for closer trans-Parish interaction.

To support this, a multi-phase works program has been developed. In addition, I completed a Diocesan-issued WHS Audit which indicated that while by and large we are complying, there are some areas that will need addressing as time and finances permit.

The year ended on a challenging note for me when on 31st December I deployed to the Goulburn Emergency Evacuation Centre as part of the ANGLICARE Disaster Recovery team to assist with the evacuees from the Tallong area bushfires. This yet another practical outreach activity.

My thanks for the year go to our hard-working and dedicated Revs Ken Rampling, Judy Heggart, and Steve Neuhaus for their leadership and example, to the Parish Council for its often lively discussions over Parish management, our fabulous music team who inspire us to praise each week, to Dorothy Lock who is so flat out in so many vital areas of outreach and pastoral ministry, to all those who step up to perform so cheerfully all those duties the church needs every week (including morning teas) and finally to all of you, the Parishioners.

While I shall continue my various duties on Sundays, this will be my last term as Warden and therefore my final report. The Lord has expanded my ministry in other areas outside the parish and these will require increasing amounts of my available time.

It has been an honour and a privilege to serve you in love and fellowship and through you our Living Lord and Saviour.

May I ask you to pray for us to be a living, dynamic Parish that is focused on and supports the Parish and outreaches to its people as a whole, and not just the local church., for our leaders, the new PC and the challenges ahead as we now turn towards the new Church Year.

Also, pray for each other and that through us all others who do not know of Jesus as their Saviour may have the opportunity to know Him.

To the outgoing Parish Council. My thanks for your unfailing collegiate enthusiasm and wisdom as we wrestled with the nuts and bolts of Parish management in its full range of demands and ever-shifting priorities.

To the incoming PC, my best wishes and prayers that the Spirit will guide you through the months to come. There is no doubt that the future for St Clements is brighter than last year with the generosity of so many as well as an enhanced, Spirit-given vision.

In conclusion, I look forward joyfully to another Spirit-led year in 2020 as we continue our journey with its challenges, joys and sorrows, but with our trust and faith in our mighty Creator to show us the way ahead for the fulfillment of His plan for the Yass Parish.

Andrew Stackpool, Warden

All Saints Murrumbateman

1. CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS - All Saints was dedicated in 1919 as a War Memorial Church to the fallen and surviving soldiers who served in the then called Great War now called World War 1. Nine local diggers died in the war and nine memorial trees were planted in the church grounds to their memory and are now included amongst the mature trees that provide the present magnificent back drop to the church. We were not able to identify the individual trees specifically dedicated to the fallen nine so it was decided to have installed a joint plaque to their memory positioned so as to be able to be read from the Hercules street footpath.

2. The Centenary Celebrations included a dinner at the Murrumbateman Inn, and a Memorial Communion Service held outside the church under those magnificent trees , Memorial Plaque Dedication event and participation in the Murrumbateman Anzac Day Service which coincided with the other events. There were many local and wider visitors who joined in including several family members of the fallen nine who lived all over the place who had been tracked down and invited through the Sherlock Holmes work of Tina Kay.
3. NEW TOILET – We have been talking about and planning for a new toilet connected to the new Murrumbateman Sewerage System for ages. Just before Christmas a contract for building it was signed for a price of \$27817.
4. MURRUMBATEMAN FIELD DAYS – Another successful Hot Dog Stand was held in 2019 with a profit of approx. \$6000. Because of this and the prior accumulated profits we have more than enough money to pay for the toilet.
5. DONATIONS – The old air conditioner started to play up and gratefully an anonymous donation enabled it to be replaced. Michael and Geraldine Hartley, who have moved to Hervey Bay in Queensland , donated their ride on mower which young Marcus has been skilfully operating although the grass has now stopped growing because of the drought.
6. CHURCH ROSTERS - Rev Ken introduced a new volunteer church roster system in 2019 whereby the previous roster was wiped clean and people had to sign up to be included in a new roster. For All Saints this has proved to be successful with a substantial increase in volunteering. I must say I feel very heartened by the response. Under this new system you have to opt in annually instead of opting out. This is part of the new approach our Rector has taken whereby each year our commitment in various aspects of church life is preached about over a series and thought about collectively and individually. The fundamental idea is to think about our individual commitment to Christ. My personal opinion is that doing this regularly makes it easier for all concerned, especially a rector, so that the question of financial giving is easier for all concerned to talk and think about in a context where we are challenged in a low key Aussie sort of way. The challenge is not directed only or even mainly to financial giving but is directed at strengthening our overall commitment to our Lord and Saviour.
7. BIBLE STUDY GROUP – This group continues strongly sharing around the hosting and leadership. Currently the biblical topic of study is Self -Esteem (grounded in God not ourselves). Recent topics have included Women of the Old Testament and The Search for Meaning (Ecclesiastes). Lots of fun mixed in with serious study including homework.

8. THANKS - Heather Bullock continues giving us the benefit of her musical talents monthly which we appreciate greatly – just made me remember that we also have been given a piano which saves Heather having to lug her instrument in and out of All Saints each time. Thanks Alison and Darrell.
9. Also continuing thanks to our Rector Ken for his leadership and all his various efforts, and of course Lynette, for her music and much else. We are also very thankful that Judy has recovered from her operation and that she is again taking services Murrumbateman. Judy's illness has of course meant an increased workload on Ken. Also thanks to Rev Steve Neuhaus and Gary Gruber who have taken occasional services at All Saints.

Dick Peterswald, Warden

St Mary's Muntoonan

Three services were held during the year on the fifth Sunday in the month, with an average attendance of 15 parishioners. Numbers were boosted by folk from Murrumbateman as a service is not held there on the fifth Sunday.

Once again, our thanks go to Rosemary Bear and her daughter, Leanne, for providing music for our services.

Maintenance for the coming year would hopefully include the painting of the windows, both inside and out, as well as any other exterior timbers that require attention. Some cracks are apparent in a couple of places in the walls but don't seem to be getting any worse, some filling is required.

The old pine trees are still a cause for concern with limbs starting to fall from the four remaining trees. the task of removing them is a rather daunting one, both in manpower and cost, but perhaps one a year is a possibility.

Thanks again to Adrienne and Phil for supplying power for our services and for just keeping an eye on the church between services.

John Buckmaster Warden

Saint James

A busy year: 9 church services, with a total 83 folk joining for worship. There were 4 Communion and 5 morning prayers.

A large pine tree fell over the church fence but we are unable to attend to clean up yet, as it is too risky for chain saws, but the village man power have it in hand for the cooler weather.

No Carols in the church grounds in December as Bowning school requested we join their Friday evening market fair. We supplied free sausage sizzle which went down well, however I think we will endeavour to have our Christmas carols in the church grounds as usual, but need to look at time options. We are very fortunate to have Geoff Townsend playing the organ each service to add to our worship with great hymns.

With Gods guidance.

Bimbi Turner, Warden

Musicians

I would like to acknowledge the dedication and willingness of Sue Gruber and Kerry England who week in and week out have joined with me to provide the worship in song for services at St Clements. I have enjoyed my time in musical worship with them immensely. Without them worship would be much emptier! They both take time to prepare during the week, arrive early to service, and use their talents to facilitate your worship. Take the time to thank them and pray for them.

Thanks also to Heather and Mel Bullock who provide live music for worship at All Saints once a month, Helena Painting and Geoff Townsend who play for St James and Rosemary Bear who pumps the organ, and Leanne Bear who shares her wonderful skill on the violin at St Marys Muntoonan.

Leanne is also responsible for preparing and drawing together the musicians for the 11pm Christmas eve service. This beautiful classical accompaniment for the lessons and carols service was a true delight.

All Saints uses recorded music most weeks: thanks to Dick Peterswald and Nimnh Hartley and Frank Owen who drive the iPad – that too is a great gift of time and concentration to their congregation.

It would be magnificent to have some additional musicians (and yes, vocalists are musicians!) to join the team to fill out our sound and allow the possibly of giving the musicians some time to worship without leading

Lynette Rampling, Worship Co-ordinator

Mission and Ministry

Fundraising 2019

“The people were delighted with their donations, for they contributed to the Lord with a willing attitude; King David was also very happy.” 1 Chronicles 29:9

The Parish held a successful **Garage Sale** on 2nd March 2019 and raised over \$1400. Thank you to everyone in the Parish who contributed a multitude of goodies that we were able to sell.

The team worked very hard collecting and sorting all of the items, and spent most of the Friday setting up the Hall and organising the tables and displays.

Special thanks to the faithful team of helpers who give up much of their time to make it a successful event.

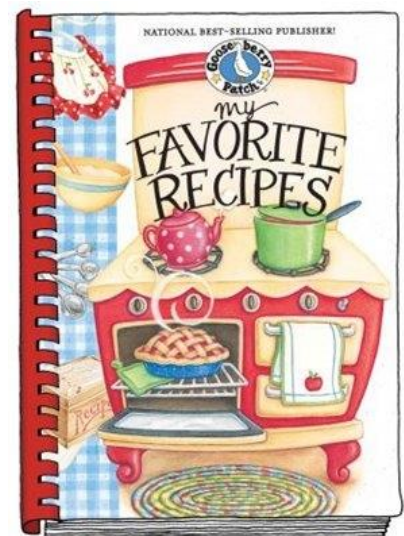
The next Garage Sale will be held on Saturday 19th September 2020.

Please start collecting and spreading the word.

At one of our Open Parish Council meetings, it was suggested that a Parish Cookbook might be a nice thing to do. All of the cooks in the Parish were very keen to contribute their favourite recipes. **The Yass Valley Anglicans Cook Book** was born, with a collection of over 80 recipes. The books were sold for \$10 each and so far we have sold over 90 books. They were a very popular Christmas present!

Special thanks to Lynette for her hard work in collating and binding these books, and to everyone who helped with printing and proof-reading and contributing recipes.

We will use these books as an on-going fundraising activity. The books are available at the back of the Church.



Kerry England

mainly music

“Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth, burst into jubilant song with music; make music to the Lord with the harp, and the sound of singing.” Psalm 98:4-5

mainly music commenced in St Clement’s Hall in February 2019, after a 2 week trial period in January. We have had a slow but encouraging start, with a number of regular families attending during the year. It has been wonderful to watch the children enjoy learning the great songs and actions, and also to see the bonds they have formed with mm Team members.

In 2020 we will aim to grow and reach more families. We will continue to meet on Thursday mornings during School terms, but we will commence at 10am, which hopefully will be beneficial to some of the Mums with younger children. It might also be welcomed by the many Grandparents who are part of our group.

A special thank you goes to all of the wonderful team members who have given their time to help establish this Ministry. Lynette has been a fabulous Music Leader, and she is ably assisted by our other team members. The children (and their Mums and Dads) especially enjoy the yummy treats that are provided each week by our great cooks.

We welcome visitors, so call in for a cuppa and join in with the toe-tapping songs and actions. If you feel that you could support us in any way, please talk to me. I would ask everyone in the Parish to keep mainly music in your prayers as begin a new year.



Kerry England, Team Leader

Jacob's Well Bookshop & Café

Jacob's Well has been opening this year not only as a bookshop, but as a drop-in location with opportunities for card and board games, jigsaws, conversation, tea, coffee, and refreshments.

During the cold of winter there was a pot of soup available to provide an extra joy, and in the recent extremely hot weather we opened our doors on many days of the week to give anyone an opportunity to be in a comfortable space.

The bookshop has been restocked about every six weeks to provide a rotation of material. It also provides baptism bibles and other general church supplies as required.

It would be wonderful to have some more volunteers – to look after the selection of goods from Koorong, to man the bookshop, or to simply be present to chat with those who drop in.

Lynette Rampling

Steel Strings Singing

As begun in August 2016 every third Monday of the month finds Craig Szabadics from the Vine Church and I in Thomas Eccles Gardens providing an afternoon sing-along with the residents. We have 2 sets of 10 songs and chat with the residents over tea in between sets.

Robyn O'Keefe joins us to man the computer so that the residents can follow along with the words for songs ranging from John Wesley to ABBA and (just about) everything in-between.

We aim primarily to entertain, but also to be Christ's ambassadors both subtly and directly to this valued part of His kingdom.

If you enjoy a good sing-along and chat with folk who have limited opportunity for getting out amongst the community, why not join us?

Lynette Rampling

Yass Organic Growers Inc. (aka YOGI, or Yass Community Garden)

The Yass Community Garden was founded 4th July 2011 in the area of church land previously used as the tennis courts.

It's membership this year has continued to sit at around 20 individuals, families or community groups, with a portion of those actively involved week to week. A few of the current membership have association with the Anglican church.

Although members may be in the garden at any time, we have aimed on a Sunday afternoon to do work together in the garden, and on the first Friday of each month to gather for an afternoon of drinks and nibbles, (and pizza when conditions have allowed) to admire our efforts.

The extreme weather has hampered efforts in the garden – not much produce this season! We are working hard to keep the permanent plantings alive so that they can thrive when conditions improve.

You might like to consider becoming a member of the garden as a way of reaching out into the community is a pleasurable and productive way.

Lynette Rampling YOGI Treasurer

