

The Murray Anglican Anniversary Edition



diocese of the murray

walking the way... together

50 years 1970 2020

Fifty Years Plus One

The Best Laid Plans...

2020 - the year that two well-known sayings - the best laid plans of mice and men and life is what happens while you are busy making other plans - came home to reality.

The Committee of this publication had planned to produce a special edition of The Murray Anglican to be released on the 50th anniversary of the formation of the Diocese. However, COVID-19 put paid to all planned 50th anniversary celebrations and production of that special edition was put on the backburner where it sat for several months waiting for the right time to complete and publish it.

It has been a challenging year on many levels but also a rewarding year in that we have learnt new ways of doing things and new ways of keeping in touch.

In the early days of COVID, we all hoped that it would soon be over and that it would not take long for things to get back to normal but we quickly learned that we would have to learn a new normal and just as we were getting used to that new normal, the goal posts shifted again and we had to learn a new, new normal.

With all this in mind, we came to the conclusion that it was highly unlikely that there would ever be a right time to publish this special edition, so a decision was made to just get on with it and publish it and we aimed to have it out in time for Christmas. Once again, the best laid plans struck. A combination of family health problems, a major computer connoption, time spent sourcing a new one and the time spent setting up the new one put paid to that plan.

In the blink of an eye, Christmas was over and we were well into the New Year and, to be honest, enthusiasm for this project was at an all time low. However, after many discussions between us, we decided that too much work had been done to not complete this issue so we set a new target - the fifty-first anniversary. So, without further ado, here it is, and in the words of another well-known saying - it's better late than never.

1984 THE MURRAY NEWS SHEET

Resources, Resources, Resources

The Anglican Board of Christian Education, through Fr. John Linton, Provincial Field Officer in Education, has prepared resource materials on eight topics for parents.

In the coming weeks, these materials will be available to you in a number of ways. The first is through the Anglican Board of Christian Education website at www.abce.org.au. The second is through the Anglican Board of Christian Education website at www.abce.org.au. The third is through the Anglican Board of Christian Education website at www.abce.org.au.

Our Bishop's Letter

Dear people,

As you are all aware, I am writing this letter to you on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the formation of the Diocese of the Murray. It is a time of reflection and celebration. We have come a long way since 1970, and we have many things to be proud of. We have grown in numbers, in resources, and in the quality of our ministry. We have also faced many challenges, but we have overcome them with faith and courage. We are grateful for the support and encouragement of our people, our clergy, and our partners in the wider church and society. We are committed to continuing our journey of faith and service, and we are confident that we will continue to grow and thrive in the years ahead.

Padthaway Celebrates KING CHARLES THE MARTYR

On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the formation of the Diocese of the Murray, the Parish of Padthaway has celebrated the life and ministry of King Charles the Martyr. The Parish has held a series of events, including a service of prayer and reflection, and a display of the life of King Charles the Martyr. The Parish is grateful for the support and encouragement of its people, and is committed to continuing its ministry of faith and service.

1984 THE MURRAY NEWS SHEET

My dear People

The most inspiring women in the service of God were Mary, the husband of the Lord. There are many other women in the New Testament who are equally inspiring. For example, the women who were present at the crucifixion and the resurrection. These women were the first to see the risen Christ, and they were the first to spread the good news of the resurrection. Their faith and courage are an inspiration to us all.

WOMEN IN MINISTRY?

"Yes, please" is the attention riveting reply of Graham The Murray in his letter for this issue.

Our Bishop's Letter

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The Murray Anglican

Post Synod Edition
15th August 2009

New Vicar-General and Archdeacon

The Bishop has appointed the Rev'd Richard Southwood as Rector of St. Mark's, Vicar-General and Archdeacon of the Murray to begin from November this year. Fr. Richard is presently Rector of Beulah in the Diocese of Wangaratta, having come from the Diocese of Chesham where he was ordained, served his curacies and was Rector of Hockley in Essex. He has also served the Ministry to Seafarers in Brisbane. Fr. Richard brings youth and energy (being 41 years old) and significant pastoral experience. He was earlier this decade the youngest member of the General Synod of the C of E. Fr. Richard's primary responsibility will be to his people in the St. Mark's Parish and it was for this reason that Bishop Ross appointed Fr. Richard as a second archdeacon in June this year. The two archdeacons shall minister all over the diocese, but Fr. Richard will have the extra responsibility of Vicar-General. (Vic-G) to the Bishop to use wisely (or not!) Bishop Stuart will remain also on an archdeacon's Licence and continue to act as Hon. Bishop Assistant. Fr. Richard's first achievement is to have been naturalised as an Australian citizen. We will look forward to welcoming Fr. Richard in November. **RIGHT: Fr. Richard Ross, Archdeacon**

LEFT: Fr. Richard Southwood, Rector of St. Mark's, Vicar-General and Archdeacon of the Murray

RIGHT: Fr. Richard Ross, Archdeacon

LEFT: Fr. Richard Southwood, Rector of St. Mark's, Vicar-General and Archdeacon of the Murray

RIGHT: Fr. Richard Ross, Archdeacon

THE MURRAY ANGLICAN

TMA March 2012

SIXTY YEARS OF SACRED PRIESTHOOD

St Philip and St James at Old Nourlunga was the setting for Bishop Stanley Goldsworthy to mark his 60th anniversary to the priesthood. Nearly 50 people attended the service, including Bishop Keith Rayner on Friday the 9th of March, 2012.

Bishop Goldsworthy was able to mark the anniversary by celebrating the Mass, accompanied by the Administrator, Fr. Richard Southwood, Fr. Graham Coaling, Fr. Rog. Farrell, Fr. Dirk van Gijp and Fr. Paul Devenport.

He began his ministry in the Diocese of Wangaratta. He was the Priest at Yarravong from 1959 and 1972. He was the Parish Priest at Shepparton between 1972 and 1977. It was there he was appointed an Archdeacon, serving five parishes and 18 priests. Fr. Stanley was appointed as the Priest at Woodroffe in 1977 and was there for just 6 months, before he consecrated a bishop. He was the Bishop of Baraburra between 1977 and 1984.

Even though retired and living at Murrumbidgee, he has not lost his passion for an episcopal quality, particularly over the last 20 months, while the diocese is in an episcopal vacancy. He also maintained his priestly ministry in the Diocese over the years, mostly in the Parish of the Maryknock and in the Pastoral District of the Southern Alps.

The Murray Anglican started life as The Murray News Sheet circa 1972. Some 20 years and 5 editors later, it became The Murray News. We have not been able to determine when it became The Murray Anglican.

The front-page header of this issue is reminiscent of the Murray News Sheet's (The Murray Anglican's predecessor) header. Newspaper and Murray News Sheet articles have been reproduced as they were published, warts and all. We have also, as much as is possible, striven to emulate the style of The Murray News Sheet. One concession that we have made is to use a larger font because our eyes, like the Diocese, are not getting any younger.

Drawing from resources available to us, we have endeavoured to provide an overview of the formation of the Diocese and words from each of our Diocesan bishops. Also drawing on the resources available to us, we have endeavoured to include a snippet from or about every church in the Diocese. Unfortunately, despite having c30 years' worth of old newsletters from which to draw, a few churches missed out.

Fr Paul Devenport and Annette Schirmer

DIOCESE OF THE MURRAY BEGINNINGS

There are four of us remaining (I think) who were clergy of the Diocese when it was first formed. They are The Rev'd Canon Bill Goodes, The Rev'd Peter Fisher, myself, and The Venerable Conrad Patterson. Bill was at Berri-Barmera, Peter was at Renmark, and I was in the Tatiara (Bordertown).

In the nature of things South Australia is rather city-centred. Almost everything is concentrated in the state capital. Country people often feel neglected and this was particularly so in the Diocese of Adelaide. There was a strong feeling that we were in need of a kind of pastoral care that was not happening. So all of us recall that there was a groundswell of feeling that we would be better served pastorally with our own bishop. Earlier there had been an assistant bishop, Bishop John Vockler, subsequently Bishop of Polynesia, who had temporarily borne the title of Bishop of Mount Gambier.

Eventually matters came to a head and the Synod of the Diocese of Adelaide determined that a new diocese would be created. It was to consist of the South East, the Riverland, and the Fleurieu Peninsula with a boundary more or less along the escarpment at Darlington. This last was deliberately included so as to give the new diocese at least a part of the growing metropolitan area, and hopefully to provide a degree of financial security.

The debate was not a foregone conclusion. Some worried about the financial security of a new diocese. Some felt that a simpler solution could meet the need. Among those who were seriously opposed to the idea was the then Archdeacon John Bleby. It is a measure of the man that when the diocese did come into being he saw it as his duty to support it, and he did so by becoming Rector of Renmark.

There was much discussion about the name of the new diocese. One of the suggestions was that it should be named for Archdeacon Bussell. He had made a significant contribution to the development of the church in the young colony of South Australia. He travelled the length of the River Murray on the paddle steamer *Etona*, bringing ministry to the then isolated communities along the river. He carried with him a standard set of plans. Churches built from those plans can be found today, albeit with local variations, at Mannum, Morgan and Loxton. That idea was scuppered when someone realised that if the new bishop's Christian name was Russell he would be signing himself as + Russell Bussell.

Eventually the Synod elected The Rt. Rev'd Robert Porter, OBE, then Archdeacon of Ballarat, and with an honourable history as a missionary in Papua New Guinea. He was eventually installed. His first official act as the new Bishop outside of Murray Bridge was to install me as Rector of Loxton. An important decision was where was the Bishop to live? And where was his cathedral to be? Murray Bridge was chosen as being relatively central, accessible to all parts of the diocese, and being a place sufficiently large to be able to support a cathedral parish.

One of the wisest decisions of the new bishop was to invite The Rev'd Irvine Scott to come to be Rector of Murray Bridge, Registrar, and Archdeacon of the Diocese. His work was as important as that of the bishop in getting the new diocese on its feet.

The diocese began for convenience with a Constitution which was essentially that of the then Diocese of Adelaide. To begin with it was un-necessarily complicated for a straightforward rural diocese. Secondly it was constructed around a number of assumptions which no longer applied. For instance, it assumed a process of perpetual growth. That is, as parishes developed, the daughter churches would grow to the point where they would become parishes in their own right. In time of steady colonial growth this was possible. However, it was not now the way things were. So a committee was formed which drew up an entirely new Constitution. The job was so well done that a number of its provisions were subsequently adopted into the constitution of the parent Diocese of Adelaide.

However, this was a time of growth. In particular the Southern Vales were burgeoning. In time, a new church at Christies Beach replaced the converted garage at Port Noarlunga. A new church at Morphett Vale replaced the colonial Court House which the congregation had long outgrown. There was a new development at Seaford in a former child-care centre, which transformed into Seaford Ecumenical Congregation. The Parish of O'Halloran Hill, with one of the oldest churches in the State (1848), was subdivided with a new Parish of Morphett Vale. Subsequently it was further sub-divided with the creation of the Parish of Aberfoyle Park. Houses took over farmlands throughout this area and the growth continues to this day.

It was also decided that the new diocese should have a means of communication. *The Murray News Sheet* was born. It was to be free and available on as broad a basis as possible. It was designed in the first instance to bring the diocese together and to keep the family informed. This was another innovation which was later copied by our mother diocese.

The question needs to be asked. After 50 years, was it worth it? I feel that the answer is a qualified "Yes". The future is always a blank sheet, and none of us knows where it will go, what pressures will arise, what unexpected events will occur or how society itself will develop. There is no doubt in my mind that the new diocese has become a true family of the church. There is a real sense of belonging and of purpose. Of course there have been good times and bad times. Our world has changed very much in the last fifty years. To a degree our place in the world as church has changed a great deal. Perhaps we are still coming to grips with that. Nevertheless, here the Diocese of The Murray is. We need to find our vocation in this world as it is now. We have a structure. We have people. We have a future to find and to live. By God's grace we will do it.

*Conrad Patterson,
Archdeacon Emeritus.*

Bishop For Diocese Of Murray

The Rt. Rev. Robert George Porter is the Bishop designate of all parishes of the Murray Diocese, including the South Coast. He was appointed to the position last week, but his name was not released until Sunday night by the Bishop of Adelaide, the Rt. Rev. Dr. T. T. Reed. Bishop Porter comes to the Diocese with good experience both at the pastoral and administrative levels. He is the sort of person who can relax and meet his clergy and lay people on friendly, straightforward levels. But he can also maintain discipline and order. The late Bishop Johnson, of Ballarat, recalled Robert Porter from the mission field of New Guinea, where he had been awarded the O.B.E. for rescue service in the disastrous Mt. Lamington earthquake. He was brought back to be Archdeacon of Ballarat. In that office he was later to administer the Diocese for some time.

Later, chosen to be assistant Bishop, he showed himself very loyal and capable in that office. Many of the clergy of the Murray Diocese first met Bishop Porter at the clergy retreat of the Adelaide Diocese some ten months ago. His obvious concern for persons and his ability to get on the 'right wave length' impressed them considerably. No doubt their experience at that retreat was a big factor leading, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, to the choice made at the Mount Gambier meeting last week. Members of the General Synod and Australian Board of Missions committee also intimated that Bishop Porter was an outstanding young Bishop on the bench of Bishops. The new Bishop is young enough to be able to move around a rather unwieldy area; he has had war experience and will have few illusions; his missionary experience will ever keep Anglicans mindful of the world church; and he comes to what is essentially a missionary Diocese. He has come not to an imposing cathedral or Bishop's Court, to a very keen body of clergy, most of them young and ready to serve to the utmost. Whether young or old, clergy or lay people, all wish Bishop Porter well in his new and strenuous appointment.

NLA Trove Newspapers :Victor Harbour Times (SA : 1932 - 1986), Friday 28 November 1969, page 1



Those present at the Synod to Elect the First Bishop of The Murray

Back Row: Fr W J Chittleborough (Adelaide Representative), Fr R N Wynne, Fr K S Chittleborough, Fr C B Patterson, Fr P D Fisher, Fr P Atherton, Fr D S Miller, Mr..., Fr J Green, Mr D J Bleby, Mr G D Grosse, Fr R E Pocock, Canon G J Reglar (Adelaide), Maj Gen G W Symes (Adelaide), Mr R K L Lawson, Fr G Gatenby, Fr D W A Keay, Revd B May, Mr J Oliver, Mr ..., Mr A Pocock

Second Row: Mr R Gregurke, Fr G E A Cameron, Mrs A Harrison, Ms..., Ms..., Mrs Muggs, Mrs Lydia Curren, Ms..., Mrs A D Handke

Third Row: Mr..., Fr C C Chittleborough, Fr R O Nichols, Dr S O Waller, Fr H J McCann, Archdeacon E A Codd (Adelaide), Mr L A R Evans, Fr I B Mussared, Mr A R Curren, Fr W C S Johnson, Mr T D Kentish

Fourth Row: Mr W J A Pryke (Adelaide), Mr P S Dolan, Fr P N Riley, Mrs E R Lawson, Mr D M P Sayer, Mr H Frost, Mr R L Huddleston, Fr R A W Haire, Mr A G Aird, Mr J C Sciortino, Fr H T Butler, Mr I Gilfillan (Adelaide), Fr A W M Lewis

Front Row: Mr R T Wells, Fr V H Gough-Sherwin, Archdeacon L R Lenthall, Mr S C Jeanes (Adelaide — Secretary of Synod), Bishop T T Reed (Adelaide — Chair), The Very Revd L E W Renfrey (Adelaide), Fr S M Bramsen, Fr W J Goodes, Judge G E H Bleby (Adelaide)

From Port Elliot

The May Fair conducted annually by St. Jude's Anglican Church was held last Friday in the institute. The usual stalls carried good stocks and brisk business started early in the afternoon.

The wife of the new bishop for the Diocese of the Murray (Mrs. Porter) opened the function and afterwards was presented with a posy by Jane England. In the evening a concert was held and some very fine entertainment was enjoyed.

The Programme was performed by the Southern Districts Singers, a group of Dutch dancers from Adelaide, the Victor Harbour drama group, and several other visiting artists. Supper was served to the performers by the ladies of the church.

The proceeds were very satisfactory, and for the fair and concert the gross total exceeded \$500.

NLA Trove Newspapers: Victor Harbour Times (SA : 1932 - 1986), Friday 22 May 1970, page 7

Bishop Porter, of the Diocese of Murray, was guest speaker at St. Jude's Church on Sunday. Following the service, a parochial luncheon was held in the hall.

NLA Trove Newspapers: Victor Harbour Times (SA : 1932 - 1986), Friday 17 July 1970, page 6

Clergy List 1970

Diocesan Bishop

Bp Robert Porter

Clergy

Fr Peter Atherton	Strathalbyn
Fr John Raymond Bleby	Balhannah
Fr Septimus Mervyn Bramsen	Mt Barker
Fr Hugh David Butler	Naracoorte
Fr George Ernest Agar Cameron	Willunga
Fr Peter Douglas Fisher	Renmark
Fr George Alfred Gatenby	Tailem Bend
Fr William John Goodes	Berri
Fr John Green	Morphett Vale
Fr Reginald Alfred William Haire	Pt Elliot
Fr William Ernest Holmes	Mt Gambier
Fr William Courtney Saunders	Victor Harbor
Fr David William Alexander Keay	Christies Beach
Fr Lionel Rossiter Lenthall	Mt Gambier
Fr Allan Walter Morice Lewis	Kingston S.E.
Fr Howard John McCann	Pinnaroo
Fr Barry John May	Mt Gambier
Fr Donald Sydney Miller	Waikerie
Fr Henry Hugh Morrow	Bordertown
Fr Ian Bruce Mussared	Mannum
Fr Robert Oswald Nichols	Yankalilla
Fr Conrad Brenton Patterson	Loxton
Fr Eric William Philpott	Meadows-Mylor
Fr Raymond Ernest Pocock	Penola
Fr Irvine John Scott	Murray Bridge (Registrar)
Fr Robert Alexander Wyndham	Millicent
Fr Reginald Noel Wynne	Keith

Clergy Licensed to Officiate

Fr Lionel Norman Blakeway
Fr Colin Carew Chittleborough

From the Year Book of The Church of England

Diocesan Commission 1970

The first meeting of the Diocesan Commission was held at Murray Bridge on Thursday 23 April 1970.

The Commission's membership was:

The Lord Bishop of The Murray, The Right Rev'd RG Porter

Clergy

The Rev'd JR Bleby

The Rev'd LR Lenthall

The Rev'd WJ Goodes

The Rev'd GEA Cameron

Laity

Mr EG Bottroff

Mr AM Blackburne

Mr RD Warden

Mr JR Telford

Mr TD Kentish

Mr DJ Bleby

Mr GW Hicks

Mr JB Howie

The Rev'd PD Fisher was elected by the Commission on

04/06/1970

Once In A Lifetime

At the Patronal Festival in this centenary year of St. Augustine's, Victor. The Rt. Rev'd. R. G. Porter, O.B.E., Bishop of The Murray Church of England Diocese, paid his first official visit. After celebrating at the Sung Eucharist (second series style as it was the 5th Sunday in the month), and preaching, the Bishop then unveiled two memorial plaques: One to those who gave their lives in the 1914-1918 and 1939-1945 great wars; the other plaque, 'To those who have no memorial'. Mr. Don Smith, president of the Victor subbranch of the R.S.L., repeated the Ode of Remembrance, and the ceremony closed with the singing of the hymn 'God may Australia challenged, rise with vision vast and brave.' This hymn was written by the Rector on the night of the fall of Singapore in 1942. Most of the congregation of about 130 then went on into the Parish Hall for lunch...

...The day closed with 5 p.m. Evensong taken entirely by the young people, led by Mr. Peter Stanley. The service also included a lively discussion on the Christian relationship to current affairs...

...Mrs. L. Shannon and her team of Guild helpers did a splendid job organising the luncheon. There had been the possibility of including hot barbecued chops along with the fine hot soup. But inclement weather prevented the barbecue — still, all were very well fed. Since the day was wild and wet, both parishioners and visitors appreciated the fact that the new memorial wall and buildings formed a covered way so that it is now possible to walk from the church to the hall without going out into the weather. When the cloister archways have their doors placed in them the area will be still more protected. And by the barbecue at the back it is planned to have a fine open-air dance area almost under the trees...

Most of those present participated. Though this centenary occasion could only be once in a life time, it is hoped the over-all results of the centenary efforts will prove of great value in the years ahead, not only to parishioners of St. Augustine's, but in co-operative efforts with other churches, and to the many people who come from the city and elsewhere for refreshment and holidays at Victor.

*NLA Trove Newspapers:
Victor Harbour Times (SA : 1932 - 1986),
Friday 11 September 1970, page 1*

Anglican Province Envisaged

At the Synod of the Diocese of Murray on Monday the first move was made for the formation of a Province in South Australia. The three Dioceses in this State - Adelaide, Willochra and Murray - all have to pass the request for this through their Synods. This must then be ratified in the following year and passed on for approval of the General Synod meeting in Sydney.

Some time was given during Synod as to how best help those parishes suffering most owing to the cut-backs in the most hard hit country areas. The Commission of the Diocese was asked to set up a committee to enquire into the most effective methods of religious education.

The Archdeacon of Mount Gambier, the Ven. Archdeacon Lenthal, will make his official visitation to St. Augustine's parish on the occasion of the Patronal Festival next Sunday when he will preach at 11 a.m. and speak at a luncheon to follow in the parish hall.

*NLA Trove Newspapers:
Victor Harbour Times (SA : 1932 - 1986),
Friday 27 August 1971, page 6*

New Prayer Book

Sunday, 2nd July, was an historic occasion for Anglicans throughout the Diocese of The Murray, as the new Australian Prayer Book came into service, throughout the Diocese on that day. An Australian Prayer Book as it is titled, represents the work of a great many people throughout the Anglican Church in Australia and was achieved by much study and considerable consultation with groups of Anglicans in every part of Australia. The manner of its creation is in contrast to the earlier prayer books of the Church of England of 1549, 1552 and 1662 which were mainly the product of relatively few scholars and were imposed on the Church by authority as distinct from consent and acceptance. While the Book of Common Prayer of 1662 remains the basic expression of worship and doctrine of the Anglican Church it is hoped that the new Prayer Book will be widely used, representing as it does worship and the administration of the sacraments in a contemporary spirit and expression.

*NLA Trove Newspapers:
Victor Harbour Times (SA : 1932 - 1986), Wednesday 5 July 1978, page 5*

Diocese of The Murray

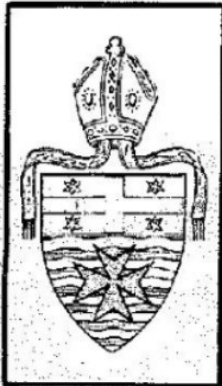
The Bishop of The Murray, the Right Reverend R.G. Porter, presided over the third session of the third Synod of the Anglican Diocese of The Murray which was attended by 71 lay synodsmen and 28 clergymen in the Uniting Church Hall, Murray Bridge, on Monday and Tuesday of last week. Although much time was taken in discussion on reports of various committees and aspects of diocesan administration some matter of wider and more general concern to the community at large were considered. The Bishop will issue a statement to the media on one such topic, child pornography which was of vital concern to all those present. Concern was expressed in relation to some of the activities of the World Council of Churches and a successful move was made to delete from future budgets contributions to the South Australian Council of Churches. The move sought to respect the consciences of Anglicans in the Diocese of The Murray on an issue which is highly controversial and will mean that contributions to the South Australian Council of Churches will be of a voluntary nature and not part of parish assessments.

*NLA Trove Newspapers:
Victor Harbour Times (SA : 1932 - 1986), Wednesday 27 September 1978, page 7*

DECEMBER



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So you Say...

SYNOD BLUES

The formal report of Synod appeared in last Murray News Sheet. Parish papers around the Diocese have carried their own accounts -

- Synod is a strange affair! Debate there was, but it was debate, not discussion, an airing of pre-conceived views, not a seeking for solutions. ("The Grape Vine" - Willunga)
- The necessarily cumbersome process of legislating for a Diocese was enlivened by humour, much common sense, and a generally good standard of debate. Nevertheless, we shall take a soft cushion next year. ("The Channel" - Waikerie)

DIVERSIFICATION

The name of the game in hard times, but it's too much for Fr Bob Stewart at Victor Harbour. There they not only have the

Book of Common Prayer, but also both First and Second Order from "An Australian Prayer Book."

Fr Bob says (with his tongue in his cheek?) "I try not to rock the boat too hard, but am beginning to feel that we could be a little less diversified, even if it only helps the person conducting our worship to stay on one track."

NOW THE GOOD NEWS

At Millicent, the Parish Council reports a string of good news ranging from the repair of the Church roof at Beachport through a steady improvement of Parish finances, includes a visit by 15 CEBS from Ascot Park (good news?), the introduction of the Australian Hymn Book, and a willingness of all to work together for the Church.

The Murray News Sheet December 1982

Our Bishop's Letter

My dear people,

In the August News Sheet, I reported that the relative calm of the staffing-of-parishes front over the last two or three years seemed to be coming to an end, and this has certainly proved to be true in the ensuing three months. If it is of any comfort, I read only yesterday that another Australian diocese of similar size and rural orientation to our own, expects to have six vacant parishes by Christmas...

...Last week, sixteen of our clergy attended the annual Clergy Retreat at the Retreat House at Belair. For three and half days, we tried to allow the Lord to have us to Himself in an atmosphere of prayer and silence. This year, we were greatly privileged over seven addresses to sit at the feet of one of the country's eminent New Testament scholars, Dr Leon Morris, who expounded to us on the Epistle to the Hebrews. It is not easy to gauge the "benefit" of such an experience, but nevertheless, I am certain that in various ways, God is able to speak to you, His people, as a result of you making it possible for your priest to have this time of quiet each year.

I find it hard to believe that this is my last News Sheet letter for 1982. My wife joins me in wishing you a happy and holy Christmas, and our prayer is that 1983 will be happier for our nation and for the world - that same world which God created and redeemed by means of the Word becoming flesh and dwelling among us.

Your friend and bishop,
 + Robert The Murray.

*The Murray News Sheet
 December 1982*

Building Goes Ahead

Construction of the new Morphett Vale Parish Church has gone ahead rapidly. The planned completion date is a few days before Christmas. However, plans for the consecration of the new Church of S. Hilary of Poitiers, are focused on Saint Hilary's Day, Thursday 13th January.

All the major construction work has been completed. The steel frame was erected on time and the brick work has been completed. An army of tradesmen is working steadily to have the project completed on schedule.

Visitors to the site have commented on how well the new building blends into the setting provided by the court house (and present church) built in 1855 and the former John Knox School built in 1870.

Friends from around the Diocese are invited to be present for the consecration on the Thursday evening at 7.00pm, or in the weeks following when a festival programme is being organised in the Parish.

The Murray News Sheet December 1982

New Diocesan Coat of Arms

After considerable delays, The Murray now has its own distinctive coat of arms - considerably different from what has been used up until now.

The changes can readily be seen if you compare previous News Sheets (see pg. 5) with the enclosed illustration. The Royal College of Arms in England has approved and granted to the Synod of the Diocese the arms reproduced here in black and white. The heraldic description of the Arms given in the grant is "Bendy wavy azure and argent, a Maltese Cross, or on a chief argent, a cross between the four Estoiles Gules." The colours depicted are in black & white in the following manner - argent (white), blank; or (gold), dots; azure (blue), horizontal lines; gules (red), vertical lines.

The Arms are surmounted by a two-tone gold stylised mitre set with red and blue jewels. The two centre diamonds are red. The lappets (tail pieces) are silver bordered with gold.

The Arms will be used on the common seal of the Synod, which will then be used on all legal documents, including those covering the transfer of land to or from the Diocese.

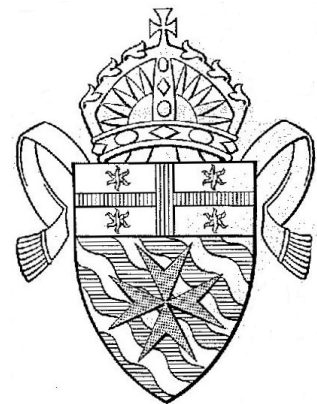
The Arms may be used by the Bishop and his successors, as they are, or impaled with their own personal arms. The Bishop will have the Arms and Mitre on his seal, which he affixes to all licences issued by him.

The chief (top of the Arms) bearing the red cross and four estoiles shows the relationship to the Diocese of Adelaide, and the base (bottom of the Arms) depicts the waves and sand bars of the River Murray, whilst the Maltese Cross (or the Cross of St John the Baptist) signifies the patron saint of the pro-Cathedral Church.

The Arms may not be used in any way without the approval of the Bishop. Any parish wishing to do so must submit an application to the Registrar, setting out full details of how and for what purpose it wishes to use the Arms.

HISTORY OF THE ARMS

The Bishop chose the design of the original coat of arms which has been used on his seal and by the Synod since April 1970. The then Bishop of Adelaide, and later first Archbishop of Adelaide, the Most Reverend Dr. T. T. Reed, had suggested several designs. Whilst visiting England in 1980,

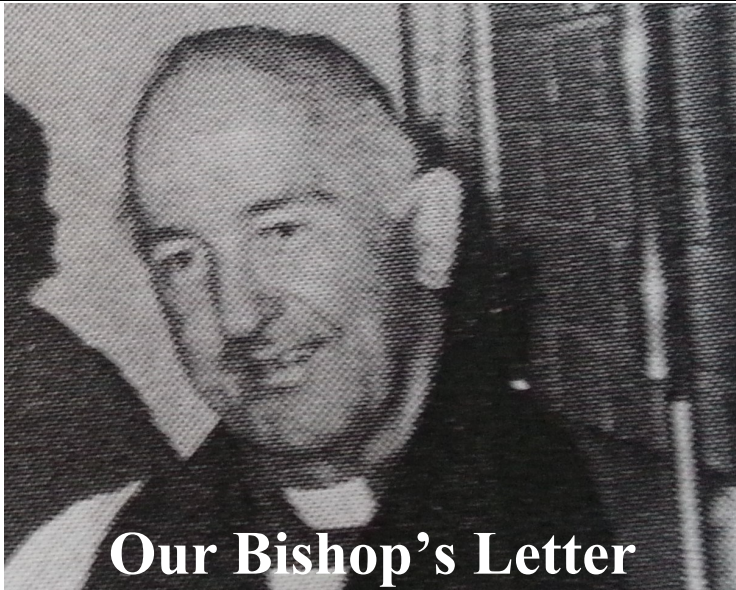


Archbishop Reed contact the York Herald of Arms about the possibility of a grant of arms for the Synod.

The original design could not be retained because of its similarity to one already in existence. The blue and white waves were changed from being horizontal to their new position.

The significance of the grant of arms is that the design belongs to the Synod and may be used only by the Bishop and the Synod. The old design will continue to appear on diocesan stationery such as letterheads and confirmation certificates until stocks are depleted.

The Murray News Sheet February 1983



Our Bishop's Letter

My dear people,
 Since the last edition of the News Sheet, I suppose the thoughts and talk of all of us have been centred on the word "bushfires." You will recall that on Ash Wednesday 1980, there was the severe but short-lived fire in the Adelaide Hills when, among other buildings in the vicinity, Christ Church Longwood, was destroyed. It was bad enough, but fortunately, there was no loss of life.

Ash Wednesday 1983 made the blaze seem small by comparison. Seven of our parishes - Mount Gambier, Millicent, Penola and Naracoorte in the South-East, and Mount Barker, Balhannah and Willunga in or near the Adelaide Hills - were involved. Of these, Penola and Millicent fared the worst. Of the twenty-six people who lost their lives in South Australia, seventeen of them were resident in The Murray and four of these were Anglicans.

I saw something of the devastation in the South-East a few days after the fire, and there can be no doubt that the livelihood of many people in that area will be affected for some time into the future. I had the privilege of being present at two ecumenical memorial services at Lucindale and Millicent, and on both occasions, was able to convey to the large numbers present the thoughts, prayers and sympathy of you all during and since the disaster.

In this Diocese (St Michael's House is in Adelaide), none of our churches or church property was lost, or even harmed, so that after consultation with the Archbishop, it seemed right to urge you all to support generously the public appeal, rather than launch any sort of diocesan appeal. I and those who have suffered are grateful for your response to this call. Nevertheless, it is likely in a few months time that a few of our parishes may need some financial assistance due to diminished income as a result of the fires. To meet this probability, I have set aside two generous gifts (one of the Diocese of Tasmania, and the other from the Mothers' Union in the Diocese of Adelaide), and it may be that we shall receive some assistance from the National Disaster section of the Anglican Home Mission Fund.

I urge you all to continue in your prayers for those who have suffered, and at the same time, to thank God for the wonderful drought-breaking rain that is falling even as I write this letter.

By the time you are reading it, Lent and Easter 1983 will be in the past. With my prayers that the new life of our Lord's Resurrection may be yours during and after the great forty days of thanksgiving that Christ is risen.

Your friend and bishop,
 + Robert The Murray.

The Murray News Sheet April 1983

So You Say...

LOST - A STONE

Would we had, fellow-eaters. No, at St Peter's, Morgan, they can't find the foundation stone of the church. If anyone does know where it is, the rector would love to know. Probably it came, along with the plans, in the old "Etona" with Archdeacon Bussell. A number of Riverland churches have foundation stones laid by that famous pioneer of the River. Did you know that one of the names proposed for our new Diocese when it was formed was "The Diocese of Bussell"? What if we had a bishop with the Christian name of Russell? Would he sign himself "+Russell Bussell?"

The Murray News Sheet April 1983

MODERN OR MOULDY

Among the steady stream of parishes moving over to the "Australian Hymn Book" is Mannum-Mt Pleasant. (Others who have recently changed over are Millicent and Morphett Vale.) Fr Alan Collett writes, "'A & M' has served us well, but the 'Modern' part of its title has long had a hollow ring and a great number of its hymns are never used. Most of the popular ones are in what I suppose we shall come to call 'AHB'. It has the advantage that the congregational book contains the top line of the music, so that those who can read music will strengthen the lead, and those who can't, will pick up the knack of it."

The Murray News Sheet August 1983

Kingston Centenary

The parishioners of Holy Trinity Church, Kingston, are keen to contact all past parishioners to invite them to the centenary of the Church.

Originally built by the Congregationalists in 1870, the small church was used by Anglicans from 1880, and bought from the congregation in 1883.

If you have any past association with our church, we are eager to have you celebrate our Centenary with us over the 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th November.

Events include a Ladies Guild reunion on the Thursday, a Friday night Soiree, a family day on Saturday and Parish Mass of Thanksgiving on Sunday, at which our bishop will preach.

Come back to Kingston and celebrate 100 years of continued church life with us.

The Murray News Sheet October 1983

St Edmund's Festival & Dedication of Memorial

Sunday 20th November saw the celebration of more than one festival. Besides the Centenary of Holy Trinity, Kingston Street, St Edmund's Barmera also celebrated their patronal festival, and as part of the celebrations dedicated the parish memorial to Jenny Miller, late wife of the Rector Fr Peter. The memorial, Australian Hymn Books, was dedicated by Fr Philip Carter who also preached.

The Murray News Sheet December 1983

So You Say...

SOMETHING FOR NOTHING

Tailem Bend-Meningie have had a very successful "Dinnerless Dinner" which raised in the vicinity of \$800. It must be something along the lines of the "No-ball" which wasn't held in Loxton on 29th February one non-leap-year in the Show Hall before it was built. Just think of all the non-catering, ladies, and organise one for your Parish.

The Murray News Sheet February 1984

From the Parish of Bordertown -

Padthaway Celebrates KING CHARLES THE MARTYR

We celebrated the day of our Dedication on Sunday 12th February instead of the 30th January, the anniversary of the king's death. The preacher, Mr W. H. Callaghan, for many years a reader in the Church of England, outlined the implications of the anointing of a king at his coronation, linking it with kingship in Biblical times.

The Murray News Sheet April 1984

CHANGE AND DECAY ...

"... in all around I see." Fr Malcolm says it is not quite as bad as that in Balhannah Parish. "The weather and the years have had their effect on Church property. Rather than let our buildings come tumbling down, we have decided to do something about repairing them.

Prince of Peace Church at Lobethal is to get a new roof.

Repairs are to be carried out to the churches at Balhannah and Woodside.

We are hoping to do something at Hahndorf as well."

The Murray News Sheet April 1984

And while we are talking about clergy moves, Loxton is to lose its priest, Fr Gene Bennett. He has accepted the Bishop's invitation to begin a new work - a pioneering work in Aberfoyle Park. No church plant, just a house to live in and the nucleus of a congregation. Fr Gene will be engaged in what one of our Anglican Missionary societies calls "church planting" - good description, that!

The Murray News Sheet June 1984

The Mothers' Union

DIOCESE OF THE MURRAY SOUTH AUSTRALIA Diocesan Festival at St Catherine, Keith

Hear Lord, for Thy Servant Speaketh!

At the annual Festival Eucharist celebrated at St Catherine's Church at Keith on 17th September, Bishop Porter preached to approximately 90 members on the importance of prayer and reflection in the life of the Christian.

Incessant activity replacing rest and reflection, incessant talk replacing listening, are the Devil's temptation to take us away from communion with the Father, warned the Bishop.

After the Eucharist, it snowed food and drink, transforming the hall into a banquet room, and ensuring the success of the afternoon.

The Murray News Sheet October 1984

Celebrations To Mark Church's Centenary

Willunga: Celebrations on the weekend of October 27 and 28 will mark the centenary of the parish church of St Stephen.

The celebrations will begin with a concert by the South Western Training Symphony Orchestra in the Willunga Festival Hall on Saturday, October 27. There will be a Thanksgiving Service at St Stephen's Church on the Sunday morning where the preacher will be the Right Rev R.G. Porter, Lord Bishop of the Murray. A get-together will follow the service and continue later. A walk will be held to the historical sites and buildings in Willunga, followed by a luncheon in the CWA and RSL rooms. The first Anglican church was built in Willunga in 1849 on the site of the present cemetery. However, the building deteriorated and became too small for the congregation. People came from as far away as Yankalilla. A decision was made to build a new church, but in the meantime the people of Aldinga had decided to build their own church—the present St Ann's. In 1880, the ladies committee, which had had a very successful bazaar, offered 180 pounds towards the building of a new church. It was decided to build a church within the town. In 1884, the church was completed and dedicated by Bishop Kennion. The Church of St Stephen is in the parish of Willunga, which has four churches and one church centre within its boundaries—St Philip and St James, Old Noarlunga; St Margaret of Scotland, McLaren Vale; St Stephen, Willunga; St Ann, Aldinga; and the church centre, Seaford.

NLA Trove Newspapers:

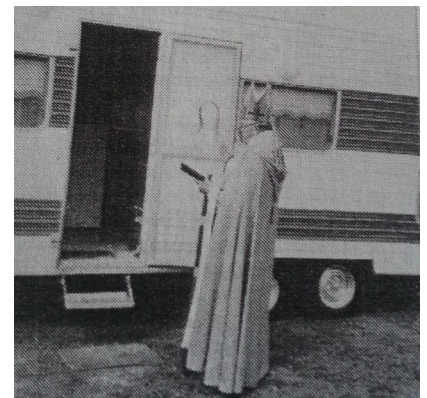
*Victor Harbour Times (SA : 1932 - 1986),
Wednesday 17 October 1984, page 2*

Caravan — holidays for needy families

The Mothers' Union in the Diocese of the Murray is administering a caravan to be used for much-needed holidays for needy families. The unit, blessed and dedicated by Bishop Robert Porter of the Diocese of the Murray at Goolwa recently, will be based in the South Coast area and is currently at Victor Harbor. The scheme is convened by Mrs Elaine Lane, of Goolwa. Four families are booked to holiday in the caravan from now until just after Christmas. Families using it will be asked to make a small contribution that they can afford.

NLA Trove Newspapers:

*Victor Harbour Times (SA : 1932 - 1986),
Wednesday 7 November 1984, page 9*



Where have all the old photos gone?

Dr David Hilliard of Flinders University is at present compiling an illustrated history of the Anglican Church in South Australia, to be published in 1986. Many people have already shown him interesting historic photographs, which may be suitable for inclusion in his book. He is particularly anxious to see more photos of country parish life - for example, the laying of foundation stones, church dedications, fetes, picnics, concerts and well known clergy and lay people.

The Murray News Sheet June 1985

Out and About - Among the Parishes

The Parish of Christies Beach: St Francis

There is abundant evidence of the life of the Spirit in this parish of St Francis. Fr Dirk van Dissel's second report makes exciting reading. The many activities of many people are empowered by their increasing awareness of the centrality of worship to the life of the parish.

"The worship that we owe to Almighty God must always be the main duty and delight of the Christian Church. It is therefore a great source of joy and encouragement to me to be able to report that attendances at the Sunday Eucharist have continued stable and that there has been an increase in the attendance at the week-day Communion services. An innovation this year has been the introduction of fully choral services with choir at the great Festivals."

Having left a splendid pipe organ at Keith, Fr Dirk is now setting out to plan for a pipe organ at St Francis. St Cecilia will have Fr Dirk in her special care.

The Murray News Sheet August 1985

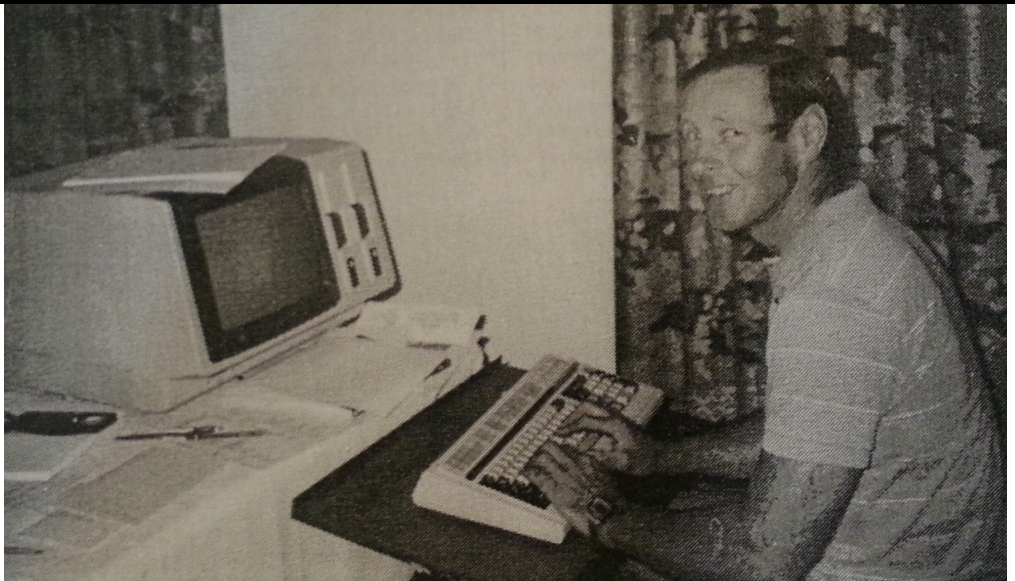
All their own episcopal work



We shouldn't take good laymen and turn them into priests.

Archbishop Penman

The Murray News Sheet February 1986



Mr Clive Hope who has designed all the software programmes for the parish computerised records and financial management.

From Profile on a 20th Century Parish, The Murray News Sheet October 1985

Around and About the Murray

Besides the care of all the churches, the Bishop is the person most qualified to compile these notes!

A reading of the papers received shows him at Bordertown, Millicent, Pt Elliott, Loxton Keith, all within the space of 5 weeks - no doubt there are others. We should pray that he is sustained through these series of confirmations. He sees us in our parishes among our friends, his people but there is a cost.

Christ Church: Strathalbyn

Fr Peter Simmons has written his first letter in The Anglican Connection at Strathalbyn. One important connection is with Fr Martin Bleby at Coober Pedy by the parish support of Bush Church Aid.

Christ Church: O'Halloran Hill

Fr Gordon Bainier

"Deny your very self and take up your Cross" proclaims the lively parish news sheet at the time of the Home Mission Appeal. On November 17 occurred the first anniversary of the establishing of the work at Aberfoyle Park under Fr Gene Bennett. His people are working hard to establish themselves, they need the support of the whole diocese.

The Pro Cathedral Church of St John the Baptist: Murray Bridge

The Archdeacon also writes of Aberfoyle Park, "We need to remind ourselves that one of the gifts of the Spirit is patience. Pray for Fr Gene and the foundation members of the church there as they strive to build up members and find ways to provide the means to live, to worship, to study and meet together for fellowship."

Loxton: Fr Roger Hilton

From the parish records comes the information that St Paul's Church Paruna is 60 years old.

St Barnabas: Bordertown,

Fr Peter Roper

A branch of the Mother's Union has been established and new members were admitted at a special Eucharist on November 12 at 7.45pm. Members from Keith parish also attended and the meeting which followed was by the Diocesan president, Mrs Jan Malpas.

St Catherine and the Good Shepherd:

Keith and Tintinara

The parish possesses a photocopier and the weekly newsletter grows in interest and entertainment. The Blessing of the Fleece brought the parish together at the property of Keith and Iris Gowling. The Eucharist was celebrated in the shearing shed, the sheep shorn, and the fleece offered to God with the prayers of the people. The sun shone and the parish family realised itself in the picnic atmosphere of a beautiful garden.

At Keith they needed the rest, for the annual fete had just realised a net profit of over \$3700.

St Michael and All Angels: Millicent

Appropriate for the month of November, Fr Alex writes: "We all belong to God through Jesus Christ. Death cannot kill the love that binds us together in bonds that transcend time and space. The same bonds between us and Christ lift us above and beyond, and into the life of God himself."

The Murray News Sheet December 1985

Out & About in the Diocese

Mt Gambier Christ Church

Doctor Owen and Doctor Mary Lewis have been home in Mt Gambier from St Andrew's Hall in Melbourne where they are in training for a three year term in Nepal under the auspices of the Church Missionary Society. In 1984/85 they spent three months in Nepal working on a local health programme. We wish them well in their preparations and, with their children, Nicholas, Emily, Alison, and Phillipa, God's blessings on their future work in Nepal.

The Murray News Sheet August 1986

Parish of Waikerie

Every Tuesday morning, the Anglican children of the Primary School meet in the assembly hall. We have a programme which varies each week, but includes such things as stories, plays, prizes, videos and songs. Parts of the session are in small groups, parts of it are all together. About 80 children take part.

The Murray News Sheet December 1986

Parish of Mt Barker

At a confirmation service in December a person already confirmed within the Roman Catholic Communion was received into the Anglican Church, and 4 adult candidates were first of all baptised. The church at Mt Barker and the Hall are to be completely rewired, with a new service being brought in underground. Also new heaters are to be installed and extra lighting in the church, plus an extra stove in the Hall.

The electrical work will be approximately \$7500. Also, the pews are to have 'boxed' shelves installed, and then Bibles will be purchased and placed in them.

The Murray News Sheet February 1987

Parish of Mt Barker

On Sunday 25th October was held the St James Blakiston Open Day, which started at 9.30 a.m. with a 3 km walk from Christ Church, Mt Barker, 11 a.m. Holy Communion was conducted by the Rev. Ben Jones, a former rector, 12.30 p.m. a barbecue lunch and later on an inspection of the church and graveyard.

The Murray News Sheet December 1987

Parish of Yankalilla

Except for some floorcovering, the hall at Yankalilla is finished and we are well on the way to making the kitchen a pleasant place to work in. A choir has been formed. 'Advent Studies' are to be held (choice of 2 groups - one Tuesday afternoon and one Tuesday evening)The Church Strawberry fete was held on Saturday 21st November and in the evening a Bush Dance in the Masonic Hall, with 'hot tucker' in the Church Hall opposite.

The Murray News Sheet December 1987

New High School Moving Ahead MORPHETT VALE

Planning towards the establishment of the new Woodcroft Anglican High School situated on the corner of

Panalatinga and Bains Roads, Morphett Vale is at an advanced stage with applications now being called for the position of school principal to take up duties in the later part of 1988.

Initial response from persons wishing to enrol their children at the new school has been strong, however, there are still vacancies available.

Woodcroft Anglican High School will be a low-fee, co-educational Anglican High School opening in 1989 with a year 8-9 enrolment. It is envisaged that when Year 12 is introduced at the school the maximum number of students enrolled will be 700.

The Murray News Sheet February 1988

Parish of Penola

A combined Church Guild Christmas evening was held in the Presbyterian Hall in December. It had the usual singing of carols, plus items by members of the different churches of Penola. The mid December service of Carols and lessons at St Cedd's Coonawarra, started at 5.30 p.m. and was followed by a barbecue tea. At St Mary's Penola, the memorial cross at the back of the church is now completed. the first memorial plaque is also in place. Cremations are now a much more feasible thing now that a crematorium has been built in nearby Mt Gambier.

The Murray News Sheet February 1988

Church Leaders issue a united plea for Aboriginal Reconciliation

In a joint statement 'Towards reconciliation in Australian society' released today, Australian Heads of Churches have issued a challenge for 'reconciliation and justice' between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Australians, in order to 'shape a new future and become a nation in which we all belong'.

"We need to seek forgiveness from each other, change of heart and new hope," they write, "acknowledging our history of conflict and division."

"Our Christian Churches need to be more open to receiving joyfully the blessings and insights offered through Aboriginal culture and spirituality," they say.

In the joint statement, a key contribution to the bicentennial year, the church leaders issue a strong call for a secure land base for Aborigines, more power for them in political processes, and a guaranteed future for their culture.

The Murray News Sheet February 1988



Bishop's Letter

My dear People,

At the February meeting of the Diocesan Council I advised the Council that it was my present intention to announce my resignation and retirement from the full-time ministry soon after my return from the Lambeth Conference in August, and that probably such resignation would take effect at the end of January 1989, during which month I will attain the age of 65.

I deemed it right to give this reasonable amount of notice and to do it before going to Lambeth rather than immediately after I get back. If there seems to be any note of uncertainty in using a phrase like "my present intention" I can assure you that this is only in order to conform with the provision of 'The election of a Bishop Ordinance'.

It is not my intention to harangue you with a valedictory address right now, beyond saying that if all goes as planned, I shall have been Bishop of The Murray for just under 19 years. They have been hard but for the most part happy years and Betty and I have never had the slightest regret that in 1970 we became South Australians. Jennifer and Lesley had a fair amount of their schooling here, trained here to fulfil their respective vocations, married here and fairly frequently come 'home' with their husbands and our delightful six grand-children. And just to confirm our claim to be bona fide 'crow-eaters' we intend to retire in Adelaide.

On February 26 I commissioned Fr Graham Cooling as Rector of Morphett Vale. He had been parish priest of Pinnaroo not long before The Murray was born. Then he was Rector of Port Adelaide followed by 15 years in the Royal Australian Navy. It is a joy to have him back in these parts and we welcome him along with his family.

On May 6 I shall be commissioning Fr Jim Stacey as Rector of Waikerie. He and his wife Joy are South Australians and they have served in the dioceses of New Guinea, Bathurst, Newcastle and the Northern Territory. Fr Jim has been Rector of Katherine for the last nine years.

This Easter will mark the end of the full-time ministry of Canon Allan Lewis, Rector of Penola. He has been in The Murray since its beginning serving in the parishes of Kingston-Robe, Port Elliot and Penola. He and his wife Mim have made many friends and have never spared themselves in their involvement in diocesan life as well as in whatever parish they have been.

Please pray that faithful priests and pastors may be found for Loxton, Penola and Strathalbyn.

By the time you are reading this letter the joyous Festival of the Resurrection will have been celebrated but we shall still be remembering our risen life in Christ as we walk the Great Forty Days of Eastertide.

During the last week of May and the first of June Betty and I hope to be walking some of the paths of the Incarnation as part of a Pilgrimage to the Holy Land. We shall be thinking of you all.

+ Robert The Murray

The Murray News Sheet April 1988.

"Oons! Who are you?"

The choleric Sir Antony Absolute asks this of his son! But here is a true story of a family come together again.

Grace Allen, whose husband Patrick is Rector of Willunga and whom she met when he was Dean of a youth camp in the diocese of Saskatchewan, was born on the unlikely town of Mosejaw, Saskatchewan.

Adopted when she was three years old, she had a happy childhood in Prince Albert Sask, though often wondering if she had any brothers or sisters.

And in another place there was an elder sister who likewise wondered. In 1949 she made fruitless enquiries.

Forty years passed. This time, at Christmas 1987 the Government assisted, and wrote to Grace, "You have a sister who lives in British Columbia. Do you want to know more?"

Letters - The first contact in fifty-four years revealed more. Not only an older sister, but a younger one! Alma the oldest, Sheila the youngest, and Grace in the middle.

A dream by three girls has come true.

The three girls and their families have been in contact with each other. They are full of joyful expectation when in June, Grace will fly to Canada for a birthday and a real, hometown hoedown.

To find and be found in the heart of a family is an experience of joy. The diocesan family is happy in their happiness.

The Murray News Sheet June 1988

Murray Anglican Youth Council Report

By Andrew Otto

Although no functions have taken place since our conference in June, the council has been busily planning many future ones.

Being involved with the preparation work for the 3rd National Anglican Youth Synod in Adelaide next January, has taken much time. The Secretarial Portfolio has been designated to us which means preparing such things as standing orders, rules of debate and synodal job descriptions.

Other things that are being planned are a Youth Service at St Aidan Aberfoyle Park on November 6 and the Diocesan Youth Weekend on December 2nd, 3rd and 4th.

Currently and with some urgency we are looking for representatives for the National Anglican Youth Synod from the diocese. If you feel you could attend or would like further information contact Kate Hampel (08) 391 0893 or Andrew Otto (08) 278 2095 (H) or (08) 382 3777 (W). Likewise, as the cost of sending, say, 5 delegates (\$295 each) and 3 observers (\$260), would amount to approximately \$2,250, if you would like to make a donation to cover this cost, please do so! (Cheques payable to MAYC).

I hope you keep our work in your prayers.

DIOCESAN COMING EVENTS

November 6 - Youth Service 'Moving Forward In Faith' St Aidan's, Aberfoyle Park 3.30 p.m.

December 3rd and 4th - Diocesan Youth Weekend at Keith.

January 20th to 27th - 3rd National Anglican Youth Synod Rymil Conference Centre, Picadilly Valley, Adelaide Hills.

The Murray News Sheet October 1988

Farewell to Bishop Robert

On Sunday 29th January, during Solemn Evensong at the Pro-Cathedral Murray Bridge, the Right Reverend Robert Porter layed up his pastoral staff. During November, December and January he had shared in farewells around the diocese organised on either deanery or parochial level.

The Murray News Sheet February 1989

Our Bishop Elect

BISHOP GRAHAM WALDEN

Bishop Graham Howard Walden was born in March 1931, in Brisbane. He spent his childhood in Queensland in a number of different centres as his father was a bank manager.

The name of his wife is Margaret. They have a married daughter, two sons and two grandsons.

Bishop Graham was educated at Cairns and Brisbane. He graduated from Queensland University with a Master of Arts in 1954. In the same year he was awarded his Licentiate in Theology after studies at St Francis Theological College, Brisbane.

He was ordained to the Diaconate by Archbishop Halse of Brisbane in September 1954 and was ordained Priest in June 1955 in St Paul's Cathedral, London, by the Bishop of London, the Right Reverend J.W.C. Wand, a former Archbishop of Brisbane whom he had known in his younger days.

He became a member of Christ Church College of the University of Oxford from which he graduated in 1959. His degree was reviewed in 1980 and he was granted a Master of Letters.

Upon his return to Australia he joined the Bush Brotherhood of the Good Shepherd and served in Gilgandra and Gulargambone Mission District in N.S.W. After his term with the Brotherhood he was appointed Vice Principal of the Torres Strait Mission Theological College and assistant priest on the staff of St Paul's Mission, Moa Island in the Diocese of Carpentaria.

In February 1965 he became Rector of Mudgee in the Diocese of Bathurst and in 1968 was collated Archdeacon of Barker in the same Diocese.

In May 1970 he was collated Archdeacon of Ballarat and Vicar General of that Diocese.

He was consecrated to be Bishop Assistant to the Bishop of Ballarat on the 25th March 1981 in St Paul's Melbourne. He lived for three years in the parish of Hamilton as Bishop in Hamilton and Rector of that parish. In 1984 he moved again to Ballarat since the administration of the Diocese was made easier by the Bishop and his assistant being in the one place.

Bishop Graham Walden has been active in the National Church and has in particular been a member of the General Synod since 1973 and National Chairman Anglican Men's Society since 1983. He has also been a

member of the General Board of Religious Education 1970-1981.

Some of his particular interests reflect both his ministry and his position in the life of the Church. He has an interest in changing rural conditions and the Church's Ministry in rural communities.



Bishop Graham Walden
(Courtesy of The Ballarat Courier)

APPOINTMENT WELCOMED

The news of Bishop Graham Walden's appointment has been welcomed around the diocese. In part this is no doubt due to the fact that the vacancy in the See will not be long. But it is also due to the fact Bishop Graham is known by some in the diocese and that his gifts have been acknowledged.

He has a varied background, but a great deal of ministry has been spent in rural areas of Australia and that is seen as good equipping for his ministry here.

On the other hand he has known difficulties of urban ministry and it is believed that he will be able to bring good pastoral care to the clergy and people of the Noarlunga region and environs that constitute a large area of the population of the Diocese.

ENTHRONEMENT ANNOUNCED

The Archdeacon of The Murray, The Venerable John Morley, has announced that the enthronement of the new Bishop will take place at Murray Bridge on St Peter's Day, Thursday 29th June 1989 at 6.00 p.m. More details will be advised through the parishes.

It is understood that the new Bishop's House will be completed towards the beginning of June. This fact, coupled with various responsibilities that Bishop Graham has in the diocese of Ballarat requires the enthronement to be at the end of June.

The Murray News Sheet February 1989

One Century

January 9 was the 100th birthday of Bertha Bell, regular communicant at St Nicholas, Seaford in the Parish of Willunga. Betha is brought to church week by week by Margaret Philpott who is a nurse at the home where Bertha lives. The Congregation of St Nicholas celebrated Bertha's birthday a day in advance, on Sunday, January 8, with a special thanksgiving Mass. Bertha chose the hymns. The presentation of some gifts, cards and cake, as well as the singing of Happy Birthday, followed. I am sure that there are not too many Anglican Parishes with a 100 year old active communicant, so Bertha is very special to the congregation of St Nicholas.

Bertha and her brothers and sisters were orphaned when she was seven years old, and living in Bradford. She was Baptised and Confirmed at St Mary's Church, Bradford. Brought up by an uncle and aunt, life was not all that happy - by the age of nine she was a twister in a cotton mill and was also attending school. In her late teens she met the man whom she was to marry, however, uncle would not allow the pair to meet, so they waited till both were twenty one, then were married. Her husband died seven weeks later.

After many ears as a widow Bertha remarried and this time the marriage lasted many years, was very happy and blessed with two children who attended the special service. The daughter, Joan, lives in Picton, New Zealand, and the son, Donald, in Wakefield, U.K. Both came over for the celebrations with children, grandchildren and great grandchildren all fronting up.

Bertha emigrated to Australia in 1979, at the age of 90! St Nicholas church has a happy congregation, no surprise really when someone like Bertha, whose early life contained so much suffering, is an active witness of her love for her Lord and the family within which she shares her worship.

-Report from the Parish of Willunga.

P.S. - Renmark has a communicant who was 101 on January 9. Ed.



The Murray News Sheet February 1989

Round and About the Diocese

MANNUM-MOUNT PLEASANT -MOUNT TORRENS

From the Rector's annual report: We are not a commercial enterprise so we cannot judge (the past year) on the profit or loss made. We are more like, for example, a sports club; but even here there is a big difference in that the church doesn't just operate for the sake of its members. The church is more a servant for the whole society; we seek to serve and help all people, members of the church or not...

The Murray News Sheet June 1989

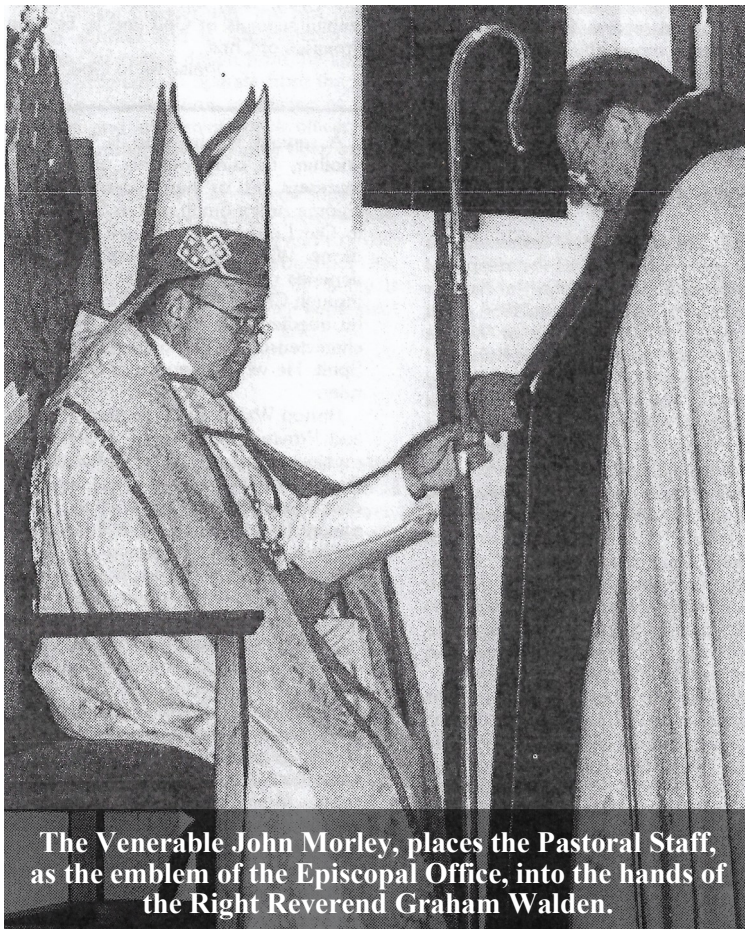
MOTHERS' UNION DIOCESAN COUNCIL



Back Row: Betty Forsyth, Joan Roper, Margaret Cameron, Jackie Eves, Judith O'Leary, Doreen Rushbrook. Front Row: Barbara Gilliland, Pat Nadas, Elaine Lane, Janet Grosse.

— BISHOP GRAHAM ENTHRONED —

On the Feast of St Peter the Apostle, Thursday 29 June 1989 at 6.00p.m, the second Bishop of The Murray, the Right Reverend Graham Howard Walden was enthroned in the Pro-Cathedral Church of St John the Baptist, at Murray Bridge.



The Venerable John Morley, places the Pastoral Staff, as the emblem of the Episcopal Office, into the hands of the Right Reverend Graham Walden.

The Pastoral Staff

In his homily, Bishop Walden, paid a warmly sincere tribute to what he called 'the heroic leadership' of The Right Reverend Robert Porter, a long standing personal friend. Bishop Walden reminded us that the Pastoral Staff which Bishop Porter, in accord with ancient custom, laid up on the altar of the Pro-Cathedral in January last, which Staff will be used by the Bishop of The Murray in perpetuity, was given to him as a farewell gift when he left the Diocese of Ballarat to become the first Bishop of The Murray, some 19 years ago. Bishop Walden, like his predecessor, the first Bishop of The Murray, was prior to his enthronement, Assistant to the Bishop of Ballarat.

The Murray News Sheet August 1989

A Few of The Currents of Synod

Our Bishop, the Right Reverend Graham Walden, gave direction to the Diocesan Synod of his priorities, Evangelism, Education, the support of Overseas Mission, the Expectation of Christian Growth in individual lives through "Lay Spirituality weekends, Gift Discovery weekends, outreach study groups, lay visitation weekends, and the exploration of Christian Growth through all societies and groups in the parishes."... The motion on Evangelism receives and adopts the General Synod Resolution which encourages the dioceses and parishes to receive the Lambeth Conference on the Decade of Evangelism and Evangelism in the Anglican Communion. A subsequent motion asked the bishop to provide a Working Party to submit to him plans for implementing 1990 as a year of prayer and preparation.

The Registrar, Mr Murray Nelson, presented this motion and quoted at length from the Lambeth Conference reports. Bishop Stanley Goldsworthy, who is parish priest of Taillem Bend and who hereafter kept his promise not to speak at his first Synod in the diocese, spoke of his passion for souls for whom Christ died...

The Murray News Sheet October 1989

Round and About the Diocese

MOUNT GAMBIER

If you thought Debutante balls went out with Fonzie, you're wrong. Mount Gambier's 1989 ball was a great success, with ten young ladies being presented to Dr Shinkfield, of St Peter's College, and Mrs Shinkfield. A parish camp was held in May, across the border at Nelson, Victoria. The grown-ups studied the theme "We are all missionaries" under the leadership of three CMS people.

LOXTON

The Rector, Father David Heussler, reports a 40% increase in giving since last year's stewardship programme. He adds that, important as money may be, the contribution of time and talent is even more necessary for growth in the church. St Mary's, Moorook, seems to have been enjoying its own renewal programme: the church yard has been cleaned up, pavers have been laid, and 14 native trees have been planted.

The Murray News Sheet October 1989

Editor's Gleanings

Due to lack of copy for this edition, the Editor has gleaned from here and there odd items that he hopes will be of interest to you.

Father James Stacey, of Waikerie went back to Papua New Guinea at the end of April. He was working with a team from Rotary Club to help build a dormitory block at the New Guinea Martyrs' Memorial School, Popenetta. Father James had served in the area many years ago as a missionary with ABM.

Patronal Festival guest preachers have included The Reverend Brian Fagan a CMS missionary who spoke at St Alban's, Berri and at St James, Waikerie, Canon Ron Williams.

Father Alf Stringer was duly welcomed at Millicent on a cold and wet Friday night in July. A number of former parishioners from Naracoorte were present for the occasion.

In the Rural Deanery of Renmark a meeting of Churchwardens was held at Barmera at the end of June. Seventeen wardens from all over the Deanery were present to have the opportunity to share the frustrations and joys of their particular office in the life of the Church. There was good fellowship and at Evening Prayer the Bishop preached. It is thought that another such meeting will take place next year.

The parish of Morphett Vale will have a parish retreat at Victor Harbor in August. The theme is "Be still and Know that I am God" and the conductor will be the Bishop.

The parish of Loxton is preparing for a Stewardship Programme to be held at the end of August. The guest preacher is to be Canon Roger Wood.

A musical workshop was held at Goolwa recently with Sr Jean Johnston. An interesting time was had by those who took part and it is hope that it will be taken further in parish life.

About the time this edition is published the parish of Mount Barker will be holding a weekend mission called "Cooee Weekend." The team will come from Port Macquarie and various meetings and workshops are to be held.

The Murray News Sheet is twenty years old this year.

The Murray News Sheet August 1990

Woodcroft Principal

Mr Mark Porter has been appointed Principal of Woodcroft College. Mr Porter is 36, single and belongs to the parish of St John's, Halifax Street.

He is a trained teacher and taught at Linden Park Primary School before going to Woomera Area School where he was Vice Principal. He is a classical scholar, and is able to teach History, Mathematics, Music as well as the classical languages. He began his appointment at the beginning of the fourth term 1990.

The Murray News Sheet December 1990

Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham

On a very hot Saturday 2nd February, the Bishop of The Murray, the Right Reverend Graham Walden, consecrated the shrine altar and blessed the stature of Our Lady of Walsingham and the Stations of the Cross at the Church of St John the Evangelist, Meningie.

The parish priest of Tailem Bend paid tribute to the lady who had done the beautiful needlework for the shrine altar.

In his address the Bishop recalled a saying of his headmaster that a man should treat his wife as he would Mary, Mother of our Lord. It was a thought provoking comment as he continued to speak of the history of the Walsingham Shrine in Norfolk; pilgrimage of past ages and our own; the need to pray against domestic violence and that Jesus was presented by Mary in the Temple and is presented in the Eucharist today.

The Murray News Sheet April 1991

Round and About the Diocese

AFTERWORD FROM BALHANNAH

Reg Butler, historian and parishioner of St Paul's, Hahndorf, has recovered an account of a Balhannah Sunday school picnic in 1891, where sports and tucker were 'engaged in by the juveniles with zest' and youngsters were encouraged to make 'the best of the great and grand country we are privileged to call our own'. The function occupied the whole day and evening, and a profit of 13 pounds (about \$1000 today, though) resulted.

The Murray News Sheet April 1991

G.F.S.

During the weekend of March 16-17, Girls Friendly Society leaders and members ran sessions for adults and children of the Parish of Waikerie family camp. The setting at Lake Bonney, the weather and the fellowship made the weekend a happy one.

The Girls Friendly Society of S.A. is stepping out and reaching out to the community now outside the church in an effort to bring it into closer fellowship with the worshipping community.

The Murray News Sheet June 1991

Seaford Ecumenical Project

(An initiative of the Anglican, Roman Catholic and Uniting Church in association with the Church of Christ). For nearly two decades now the Anglican and Uniting churches have shared a building in Seaford, St Nicholas. More recently Fr Ted Doncaster and the Rev. Dr Tom Atherton have been involved in a project which will involve not only the Anglican and Uniting churches but also the Roman Catholic and Churches of Christ. The aim is to build an Ecumenical Centre in the proposed new District Centre of Seaford. In the Centre the various denominations will do all that they can together in conscience. Liturgical differences will be catered for in a centre which will be primarily concerned to help create and sustain the people living in the district of Seaford. This is a 'trail-blazing' enterprise. There are very few precedents in this country, although there are several hundred in the U.K. A Working Group of ten is planning the project, two from each denomination. David Shinnick, the Roman Catholic Planning Officer is the Chairman and the Rev. Dr Tom Atherton is the Director of The Project.

The Murray News Sheet August 1991

Letter to the Editor

Reverend Editor...

I am concerned at the protocol - or lack of it - used in the diocese when our bishop is being referred to.

'Bishop Walden' is as illiterate as it is common. Pine, the British authority, describes this usage as a 'terrible solecism'. It is appropriate only for inactive bishops - which our Father-in-God certainly is not - or for assistants who are not suffragans.

'Bishop Graham' is more amiable, but comes under the same condemnation. We have only one diocesan, and do not need to be told his name.

The new metropolitan asks to be known by his baptismal name alone. That is his own idiosyncratic hope and not likely to be realised. It is to be hoped that this commendably conservative corner of Christendom would agree on 'the Bishop' ordinarily, 'the Lord Bishop' formally, and/or 'our bishop' when we are united in battle.

Yours in Christ, Edgar Woods Castle
The Old School House, Tungkillo SA 5236
The Murray News Sheet October 1991

Round and About the Diocese

Millicent

'Apart from visiting,' says Father Alf Stringer, 'nothing will make this parish develop like the power of prayer.' Those who can no longer get to church, he suggests, can still unite with others in intercessory prayer. At Mt Burr, the one-time St Bede's church building is to be offered for sale and removal.

Yankalilla

Social pressure may be what keeps errant Anglicans away from church, according to the Rector, writing in 'The Challenge'. They are afraid of being poorly thought of by regulars if they show up after a long absence, and they are afraid of being poorly thought of by others if they are missing from Sunday sport or fishing. 'As for the standard of importance,' he concludes, 'I leave that for you to think about.'

The Murray News Sheet October 1991

MORPHETT VALE

An unidentified cowboy booted, tutu clad, red wine loving non-fisher person was affectionately farewelled by the parish and Kingston is warned to be on the lookout for this strange creature.

The Murray News August 1992

School Chaplaincies

The growth in the number of schools taking up the Chaplaincy option has been extraordinary, with the area covered by the Diocese of The Murray being particularly unique in the concentration of chaplains, according to Chaplaincy co-ordinator, Canon Harvey Lewis.

"In 1987 the first part-time chaplain was appointed to a SA state high school. Many people I meet at the present time don't even know that such strange creatures exist, let alone that there are now 40 of them in SA," he says...

"So why this growth in chaplaincy?" he asks. "Various reasons, I think. Local churches have taken the initiative in approaching their local schools and putting forward a proposal (in some instances the school took the first step!) Also, in schools, I sense that many staff recognise in their students a lack of framework of values to live their life by. They want their kids to be challenged about deeper issues and they see that a chaplain can play a part in this. As one non-Christian staff member said to me 'A lot of these kids are flapping in the breeze.'"

Canon Lewis says the great thing about chaplaincy is that it not the 'hit and run exercise' that has so often been the trademark of Christian outreach work in state schools. "Chaplains are in there for the long haul - building relationships, caring, seeking to bring a more overt Christian influence into the system."

...Note - the Bishop told The Murray News that the Heads of Churches are aiming at having a chaplain attached to every high school in SA by the year 2000!

The Murray News April 1992

\$1,000 For Cathedral Fund

St. Augustine's Ladies Guild, Victor Harbour, has given \$1,000 toward the New Cathedral fund of the Diocese, the largest donation so far.

The gift was decided on following a visit to the Guild by Judith O'Leary and Margaret, our Bishop's wife, for a kneeler making demonstration.

Guild secretary, Aileen Bell says members seriously discussed comments made by Mrs. Walden and the donation was the result. The Guild sent the cheque with 'much pleasure and a little excitement' with Fr. Alan Collett being 'very enthusiastic'. Bishop Graham told TMN that the generous gift from St. Augustine's Ladies Guild was received with even greater pleasure and much excitement.



From left to right - Mrs. Alice Teare, Guild Treasurer; Mrs. Pat Briton-Jones, Guild President; Mrs. Aileen Bell, Guild Secretary with Fr. Alan Collett.

The Murray News June 1992

Round and About the Diocese

Roof Replaced

The original roof of St Luke's, Mount Schank was replaced in March this year and a dedication service was held on April 26.

The church exterior was painted by Correctional Service (young offenders) under the supervision of Brendan Gleed.

The congregation of St Luke's comes from Mount Schank and surrounding districts with devoted and faithful support from our rector, Archdeacon Brian Ashworth, St Thomas' congregation at Port MacDonnell and that of Christ Church, Mount Gambier, especially Christ Church choirmaster Rick Fisher and choir members who fill our church with joyful praise and music on special occasions.

The Murray News August 1992

MORPHETT VALE

An unidentified cowboy booted, tutu clad, red wine loving non-fisher person was affectionately farewelled by the parish and Kingston is warned to be on the lookout for this strange creature.

The Murray News August 1992

'Beyond Borders'

Mission is the core of every parish's life. It is what we are here for - to share the love we have from Jesus to those who haven't even heard a rumour that God loves them. This love is expressed by us in countless ways - having a cuppa with a new neighbour or stranger, cutting the lawn for the old gentleman across the street, writing a letter to an isolated missionary, ringing up the Rector to encourage him (rather than asking him for something).

Mission is also beyond borders - beyond the borders of our parish buildings, parish boundaries, community, city, state and country. Wherever we look, wherever we are, there are people with great needs and many have need of Christ as well. How will they hear? Will your friends know you love them if you don't tell them? Yet isn't it interesting that many don't know that Jesus loves them because we haven't told

them. Let's move beyond our borders. Let's go outside into the warm sun or cool rain, into God's world. That's where the people are. (Written by the Rev. Roger Ridley and provided by CMS, SA branch.)

The Murray News October 1992

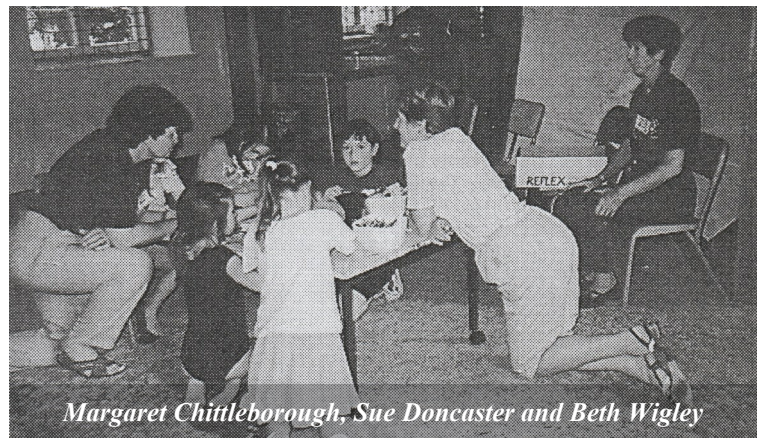
Building up children too

This year, a special 'Building up the People in Faith' programme was run for children at the same time as the adult programme.

Organisers were Margaret Chittleborough and Karen Harris from the Anglican Board of Christian Education in Adelaide, assisted by members of Mother's Union.

The numbers of children attending were seven at Balhannah (Strathalbyn Deanery), seven at Morphett Vale (Willunga Deanery), fourteen at Barmera (Renmark Deanery) and fourteen at Naracoorte (South East Deanery).

The programme included teaching on Holy Communion - which was the theme for the day - Bible stories and a symbolic Passover Meal. At the end of each day the children joined the adults for the Eucharist celebrated by Bishop of The Murray, the Right Reverend Graham Walden.



Margaret Chittleborough, Sue Doncaster and Beth Wigley

The Murray News December 1993

New Bishop Consecrated and Enthroned

On the first of March 2002, the feast of St David, the Venerable Ross Owen Davies was consecrated as a Bishop in the Church of God at a service held at St Peter's Cathedral Adelaide in front of a packed Cathedral which included the Governor of South Australia, Her Excellency, Marjorie Jackson-Nelson, AC, MBE...

...The following day at a Sung Eucharist at the Murray Bridge Town Hall, Rt Rev'd Ross Davies was enthroned as the Third Bishop of The Murray in front of a packed hall of over 600 people which saw all the seats taken and quite a few standing at the back.

The Rural Dean of the Riverland and Southern Mallee, Canon James Stacey and Lay Canon Bob Dewell welcomed the new Bishop on behalf of the Priests and Laity respectively. The deputy mayor of Murray Bridge welcomed the Bishop to the community and the member for Hammond, Peter Lewis, welcomed the bishop on behalf of all members of Parliament.

For many, the events of the two days may well have been a once in a lifetime experience as it is not every day that we get the opportunity to experience such worship.

Bishop Ross Davies and Archbishop Ian George

The Murray News April 2002



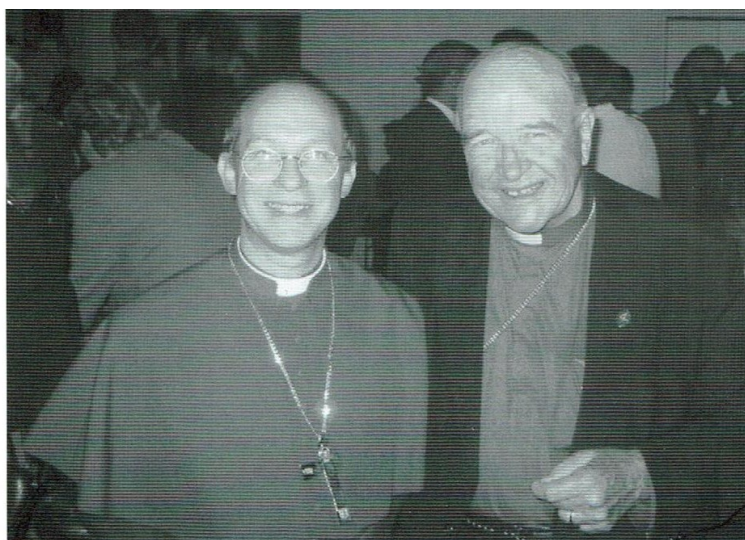
From the Desk of the Bishop

Dear Clergy and people of the Diocese,
The events of 1st and 2nd March have left me reeling! It is hard here in a small article to express my thanks for the tremendous support I have received from this Diocese and beyond for my consecration and enthronement. So many hundreds of you made the journey to Adelaide and then to Murray Bridge and to add to the sea of support there were nearly all of my family, many friends from my primary years onwards then past parishioners from all my Australian parishes and even two friends from the UK. I was greatly supported by priest colleagues from around the country...

...In the next edition of the Murray News I will remind you of the key points of my enthronement sermon as I am keen to work together right from the start on several issues of ministry and mission...

Recognising the Cathedral Church of St John the Baptist

At a service on the 3rd of March, the new Bishop officially proclaimed the Church of St John the Baptist Murray Bridge as the Cathedral Church. From this day on, the word "Pro" disappears from use.



Rt Rev'd Ross Davies, Third Bishop of The Murray and Rt Rev'd Graham Walden, Second Bishop of The Murray taken after the consecration service at The Cathedral Church of St Peter on the Feast of St David, 1st of March 2002.

The Murray News April 2002

The Bishop Writes

Dear friends far and wide,
We Anglicans worry a great deal about our identity. It is not difficult to find the reason why. It is simply because there are many Anglican identities. Our primary identity is found in our baptism and the grace received there. We made distinct promises which most of us renewed at confirmation. Baptism makes Anglicans a communal people grafted by the Holy Spirit into the Church. We share in the life of Christ and we share this life with each other. That brings us to the second plank of our identity – the Eucharist. Anglicans believe the Eucharist to be the central act of Christian life, constantly renewing our baptismal identity, uniting us to God through Christ and to each other in his Body. We are also people of the Word of God, and Holy Scripture is foundational to our expression and proclamation of faith. Anglicans believe themselves to be people of the One, Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church, as we say each Sunday in the Creed. This means we strive to be part of the Church Christ founded on the Apostles. In witness to this we keep the orders of bishop, priest and deacon. This makes us an Episcopal Church and the basic unit of government in Anglican Church life is the people gathered around their bishop with their priests and deacons (The Diocese). The local congregation is where all the elements of Church are found united to the wider Church by the Bishop and his clergy. This means we 'informed' the great Catholic tradition of the Church as it has been reformed in the sixteenth century – the Reformation.

Within the above outline of our general identity there is much room to manoeuvre and to say that there is a wide variety of Anglicanism is and understatement...

There are many identities of Anglican from evangelical to anglo-catholic and all points in between

...So today there are a multiplicity of Anglican identities and these are stressing the Anglican Communion to breaking point. Anyone who claims to have the recipe for normal Anglicanism is not tell the truth about the Communion. Today's identity problems centre on the issue of Revelation. Is our religion divinely instituted and revealed, most especially in Holy Scripture, or is it more malleable stressing the insights of today, deconstructionist biblical scholarship and a wish to affirm all people in their opinions, regardless of repentance and belief. I am known for being of the former persuasion!

We can worry about these things if we like, or get on with it. My advice is that you support your parish clergy, pray, be regular at the eucharist, read your bibles and reach out in mission to those around you. Create loving church communities and let those who stress about Anglican identity get on with their problems!

Bp Ross Davies.

The Murray Anglican August 2009

AROUND AND ABOUT

Mylor and Echunga Small and Happy

Members of the congregations of St John's Mylor and St Mary's Echunga join together to worship in each other's churches on alternate Sundays. After the Eucharist, all join together for a light breakfast in the Vestry. Many Murray congregations are small, and happy too, as they share their faith.

The Murray Anglican August 2009



Ordination of Fr Paul Devenport at Christ Church,



O'Halloran Hill
 Back to Church Sunday in Seaford Pastoral District

The Murray Anglican Advent 2020

A Housekeeping Synod at Tailm Bend

"Love One Another" was the theme of this year's Synod which met over two days at Tailm Bend in May.

The theme was initiated by the Administrator of the Diocese Fr Richard Seabrook, who in his Synodal address encouraged members of Synod to be respectful, and to encourage and show love to each other during this session of Synod.

The synod was very much a housekeeping session as the Bishop Election Committee continues to meet to select a new Bishop for the Diocese.

Archdeacon Seabrook described the Synod as a turning point in the life of the Diocese during a debate on the formation of a Social Questions Committee. The formation of the committee was given unanimous support following discussion that time be set aside at each Synod to discuss an issue which is relevant to the Diocese...

...In another move, Synod supported a debate on the ordination of women to be placed on the agenda at the next session of Synod, providing there will be a new Bishop.

The Murray Anglican July 2011

Sixty Years of Priesthood

St Philip and St James at Old Noarlunga was the setting for Bishop Stanley Goldsworthy to mark his 60th anniversary to the priesthood. Nearly 50 people attended the service including Bishop Keith Rayner on Friday 9th March 2012.

Bishop Goldsworthy was able to mark the anniversary by celebrating the Mass, accompanied the Administrator, Fr Richard Seabrook, Fr Graham Cooling, Fr Reg Farnell, Fr Dirk van Dissel who preached on the day, Fr David Keay and Fr Paul Devenport.

He began his ministry in the Diocese of Wangaratta. He was the Priest at Yarrowonga from 1959 and 1972. He was the Parish Priest at Shepparton between 1972 and 1977. It was there he was appointed an Archdeacon, giving him pastoral oversight to 15 parishes and 18 priests. Fr. Stanley was appointed as the Priest at Wodonga in 1977 and was there for just 8 months, before he consecrated a Bishop. He was the Bishop of Bunbury between 1977 and 1984.

Even though retired and living at McLaren Vale, he has helped the Diocese in an episcopal capacity, particularly over the past 20 months, while the episcopate is vacant in the Diocese. He also maintained his priestly ministry in the Diocese over the years, mostly in the Parish of the Murraylands and in the Pastoral District of the Southern Vales.

The celebration of the priesting continued afterwards at Oscars Restaurant in McLaren Vale with clergy and members of parishes from Mt Barker, the Southern Vales, Port Elliot-Goolwa and Happy Valley.

The Murray Anglican Autumn 2012

Safer Ministry Training

The roll out of safer ministry training in the Diocese is almost complete with eight of the 10 seminars undertaken.

The course has been approved by the National Council of Churches in Australia and has been led by Linda Vinnall from Safe Ministry Resources, who also presented the course for the Uniting Church in SA.

Up to 60 people have attended each of seminars since they began at Victor Harbor in June. The others have been held at O'Halloran Hill, Mt Barker, McLaren Vale, Tailm Bend, Berri, Naracoorte and Mt. Gambier.

The new system of safer ministry training is being undertaken to comply with state legislation, which requires all people who work with children, young people and the vulnerable to have completed the course.

The training aims to reduce the instances of abuse, to make our churches open to everyone and to provide God with an honouring respectful ministry for all those who hold ministry positions in the Diocese. The training will cover all those who wish to apply for new permissions to have a ministry position in the Diocese, effective for three years from Advent 2012. This includes anyone who holds a licence as a bishop, priest or deacon, or has a pastoral assistant's permission, anyone involved in children's ministry, all choir directors, adult servers and wardens.

St John the Baptist, Macclesfield

Once again the folk of the Mount Barker Parish had the opportunity to dress up at the Feast of St John the Baptist. The Patronal Festival Mass, held at St John the Baptist, Macclesfield, was followed by lunch and a concert at the Macclesfield Recreation Centre. The theme of the concert was Music from the Movies.

The congregation of St John's is very small and they are to be congratulated and commended for putting on an excellent meal and entertainment.

The Church of Saint George The Martyr

St George's Church has stood on the hillside overlooking the historic township of Mount Torrens since 1860.

Like the town, the church has much history. Parts of the original specifications and tenders for the building of the church are still preserved among the church's records and documents. The foundations and walls were to be "...of good hard stone and lime...", the windows were first closed with calico and the original roof was made of wooden tiles.

In January 1917, Mrs Mary Ann Turner financed the replacement of the original roof with galvanized iron. 95 years on, and the roof was very much showing its age and the effects of the elements.

Like all heritage buildings, St Georges needs ongoing care and maintenance, with water getting into the church and the vestry, the roof was an obvious priority. We are therefore pleased to report that St Georges, Mt Torrens - still with a Turner as part of our faithful congregation, has recently had a new galvanized roof fitted.

The congregation at St Georges would like to extend our thanks to the local contractor, Scoots Roofing - Lobethal, to Heritage SA for their contribution and all the members of the Mannum - Mt Pleasant Pastoral District for their generous support.

Pastoral District of Kingston Robe

The Pastoral District of Kingston Robe learnt more about the role of ac.care on Sunday the 29th July as part of its Sunday celebration for the welfare organization.

The guest speaker was its Manager of Community Services, Paul Cameron. He spoke of the need to respect each person who requests help, as having a history with which we probably have not had to cope.

The Pastoral District combined the day with a small "Christmas in July" celebration. There was a special morning tea including Christmas shortbreads, laid on a table cloth and with decorations normally set aside for December.

There were nativity figures used for the altar and there were Christmas carols sung by Sir Harry Seacombe and the Westminster Abbey Choir.

The Murray Anglican Spring 2012

St James, Delamere

Nicole Filsell was confirmed by Bp Stanley Goldsworthy at St James' Church, Delamere on Sunday, September 30th. Both of her God parents were able to be with her for the special occasion. She had been prepared by Canon Graham Cooling who is the Priest-in Charge at Delamere.

The Murray Anglican Summer 2012

A Sad Day in the Mallee

On Sunday 15th April 2012 the building we know as All Saints' Church, Pinnaroo was secularised (or de-consecrated). There had not been a Service at All Saints' for 5 years and the building was in a sad state of repair, and occupied by pigeons and rodents.

The Murray Anglican Winter 2013

THE MURRAY ANGLICAN ENTERS INTO NATIONAL PRESS AWARDS

The Murray Anglican entered into two categories in the Australasian Religious Press Association Awards, held in Melbourne in September. The categories entered were Best Regional Publication and Best Small Team Publication. The winners of the awards were announced on September the 8th as part of the Australasian Religious Association Annual Conference at the Marriot Hotel which Fr Paul Devenport attended. It became apparent the Murray Anglican was in for some tough competition and awards were won by Dioceses that employ at least one person in a part time position to be the editor of the magazines.

The Murray Anglican Spring 2013

FOURTH BISHOP OF THE MURRAY INSTALLED

Bishop John Ford has been installed as the fourth Bishop of The Murray in the presence of the Anglican Primate of Australia, Philip Aspinall, the Archbishop of Adelaide, Jeffrey Driver and other visiting Bishops.

The installation, by the Venerable Richard A. Seabrook, Administrator of the Diocese, took place at a Sung Evensong at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist at Murray Bridge on 6th December 2013.

The installation was also attended by the Governor of South Australia, Kevin Scarce, the State Member for Hammond, Adrian Pederick, the Catholic Archbishop of Adelaide, Philip Wilson and other Anglican Bishops including the Bishop of Willochra, John Stead, the Assistant Bishop of Adelaide, Tim Harris and a former Bishop of Willochra, David McCall.

Also in attendance were the Chancellor, Robert Tong, members of Diocesan Council, members of the Bishop Election Committee, the Synod Solicitor, John Strachan, Diocesan clergy and representatives of every Parish and Pastoral District in the Diocese.

Keith Robinson, a representative from the Diocese of Exeter where Bishop John Ford served as the Bishop of Plymouth from 2005 gave thanks for his episcopal ministry in their diocese and commended him to that Diocese of The Murray in love and care.

The words of Jesus in John's Gospel, "I am the Good Shepherd" were the basis of the homily delivered by Bishop John Ford at his Inaugural Mass as the Bishop of The Murray, held on the Feast of St Ambrose of Milan, Bishop and Doctor of the Church in the fourth century.

Around 350 people attended the Eucharist at the Murray Bridge Town Hall on Saturday 7th December, the morning after the Installation at the Cathedral. Amongst those present at the celebration were the Archbishop of Adelaide, Jeffrey Driver; the





Archbishop of Sydney, Glenn Davies; the Bishops of Bendigo and Willochra, Andrew Curnow and John Stead; Bishops Stanley Goldsworthy, Stuart Smith and David McCall.

At the conclusion of the sermon, the Bishop invited all to repent of their sins and renew their baptismal vows. The vessel used for blessing of the water was designed and put together by Jonathan Woore, a parishioner from Mt Barker and a member of Diocesan Council. The waters of baptism were sprinkled over those present with the Bishop ascending and descending along the two aisles of the auditorium. David Mills, a Pastoral Assistant from the Pastoral District of the Southern Vales came to the stage and asked the Bishop himself whether he would share the Diocese's journey of faith as being a fellow Christian with them and for them. Of course, he agreed!

The Murray Anglican Summer 2014

First Annual Youth of the Murray Retreat



On Friday 26th September, the young people of the Diocese of The Murray gathered at Woodhouse, in the Adelaide Hills for a weekend of fun and fellowship. The weekend began with a "get to know you" dinner. We had gathered from all around the diocese and we made an interesting group of people – teachers, students, doctors, vets and a lot of part time Woolworth's workers.

After dinner we were introduced to a style of worship unique to a part of France called Taize. This style of worship is very musical and is very much a youth based culture with young people from different churches all over the world travelling to France in order to take part in this musical worship.

The Murray Anglican Summer 2015

Visiting Bishops

The Diocese was supported by two English Bishops and their wives earlier this year. Bishop John Hind and his wife Janet came in January and spent three months in the Diocese, undertaking formation programs, speaking with clergy at archdeaconry meetings and conducting safe encounters seminars.

Their visit was followed by Bishop Michael and Esther Langrish. Bishop Michael was able to join Bishop John Hind in formation and teaching programs and in confirming 12 people at two Easter Vigils at Millicent and Mt Barker. Bishop Michael also conducted two Rural Theology seminars while Esther delivered seminars on the Importance of Listening.

Both Bishops were able to be present with Bishop John Ford at the Chrism Mass in Holy Week at Mt Barker and at a residential for ordinands near Keith.

Formation Studies

"It is finished" These words uttered by Jesus on the cross, signified the accomplishment of God's purpose beginning with the creation and ending with the perfect atonement for the original sin of Adam. Bishop John Hind used this phrase in his opening lecture and Bishop Michael Langrish in his final session in completely different contexts thus bringing unity to an intense series of formation studies.

A group of lay people from various parishes in the Diocese were fortunate to be included with the ordination candidates in two blocks of lectures at Strathalbyn. Each block consisted

of eight weekday sessions and one whole Saturday. Bishop John Hind covered early church history and theology, the Doctrine of the Trinity and the development of the traditions and practices we are still familiar with today



The Murray Anglican Winter 2015

From the Bishop



I write this in PNG just before returning home for the last of my three visits to our Archdeaconries. I have been struck by how the themes emerging from all three of the visits so far are remarkably the same and I have no reason to doubt that similar issues will be discussed in the Limestone Coast.

I clearly shouldn't be too surprised that the major questions and challenges that face our Diocese are realised and understood (to some degree at least) all across each of our archdeaconries. During the two visits so far I have met with our pastoral assistants and these have been absolutely wonderful occasions when I have been able, I hope, to encourage this fantastic band of lay ministers in their present ministries and open for them the need for us to deepen and broaden the ministry of laypeople. This will be essential if we are going to grow the Church in our area...

...Celebrating the sacraments of initiation and the preparation for them, and follow up after them, are critical matters in our common life. Not surprisingly they are high on the agenda in our sister Diocese in Popondetta. In fact all over PNG (and in other places in the world where the Church is growing) the lay ministries of evangelist and catechist are intimately bound up with these sacraments. I would like us to find ways of developing these ministries in our Diocese since there are a number of lay people who have the skill and ability to be involved. However, there is a need for us to provide appropriate education, training and formation for them...

...We have so many possibilities opening up before us and the future is looking pregnant with opportunity. We can learn so much from our sister Diocese in the areas mentioned here and in many others...

...Whatever the future holds it will be our prime ministry to follow in the footsteps of the shepherds and the magi, to fall in worship before God incarnate, and be sent by Him in the service of his world as we witness to his love for all...

The Murray Anglican November 2015

Retirement for Rev'd Canon Alex Bainton

On Sunday 10 April, over 100 people attended the farewell service for the Rector of the Anglican Parish of Victor Harbor. The Reverend Canon Alex Bainton had served 40 years in ministry, his last appointment being for 12 years as Rector to the Victor Harbor Parish which includes St Augustine's in Burke Street and St Christopher's in Mt Compass.

The Murray Anglican Winter 2016

Synod Approves Women to the Diaconate

The Diocese of The Murray has become the last remaining diocese in the Anglican Church of Australia to pass legislation to ordain women as Deacons.

At a special session of Synod at Woodcroft College on 5th November, the move was endorsed by both houses of clergy and laity. The laity approved it almost unanimously with only one person voting against it, while there was a two thirds majority, 15 votes to five in the House of Clergy.

Bishop John who was instrumental in bringing the motion to Synod, followed a round of consultations around the Diocese in May, titled "The Murray Progress" which addressed the way forward for the Diocese.

The legislation will allow for the ordination of women to the permanent diaconate, in supporting the role of the Bishop and priests in the Diocese.

A New Diocesan Structure

Synod has been told the formation of the new ministry districts will provide for a greater representation of people on Diocesan Council and those on Synod.

Each of the ministry districts will have one clerical and lay member on Diocesan Council comprising of 16 members, along with the six extra appointments by the Bishop. As well, there will be six lay members from each district on Synod, comprising of those who have been elected to Diocesan Council.

Diocesan Council will take responsibility for such matters as finance, buildings, pastoral organisation, staffing, aspects of maintenance, risk and Work Health and Safety. However each community will continue to work out the best way forward, following their own priorities and making their own decisions.

The new plan will also see changes to the composition of local church councils.

Diocesan Council member, Rick Fisher told Synod that mission districts may find it more beneficial to have just one parish council and achieve a better mix of skills and talents from a deeper pool, and reduce repetition of necessary routine tasks that don't lead to mission and growth.

Mr Fisher believed the make-up of the new Diocesan Council would provide equal representation from the districts plus the ability for people with required skills to be appointed.

"If we are going to feel that we are part of the one big family, can I suggest that this is a far better model" he said.

The Murray Anglican Summer 2016

ac.care

ac.care's CEO Rob Foggo will be retiring after 25 years with the charity, 24 of those years as CEO. He has led ac.care through many changes and significant growth. He began with ac.care in 1991 as part of the foster care team, at which time the total staff was about seven. Today there are over 250 full-time equivalent (FTE) employees in rural regional South Australian regions of the Limestone Coast, Murray Mallee and Riverland providing over 50 community programs.

In 1993 Rob was appointed Manager of South East Anglican Family Support Services, at which time he commenced working to ensure the sustainability and provision of quality services by such a small regional based community service organisation. The result was the merger between the South East Regional Accommodation Forum Inc. and South East Anglican Family Support Services. This merger formed South East Anglican Community Care Inc, which later became known as ac.care, with Rob as its CEO.

The Murray Anglican Autumn 2017

Church Goes Blue for Survivors

During October 2017 the Cathedral found itself bathed in blue light in support of Blue Knot Day on 22nd October. The day is intended to raise awareness of the Blue Knot Foundation, a national organisation that works to improve the lives of an estimated five million Australian adults who experienced trauma and abuse during their childhood. The foundation provides phone counselling, information and workshops and trains health and other professionals who work with survivors.

This year, the Blue Knot Day was themed “unite in support of adult survivors of childhood trauma” to encourage widespread and visible community support. This is such an important part in the healing process as individuals often struggle to heal in isolation. By coming together as a community and spreading positive messages and raising awareness people are able to help those still suffering in their recovery.

As part of the day a special service was held in the Cathedral and Tailem Bend Churches that acknowledged survivors’ strengths and challenges, praying for God’s strength for those suffering as well as praying for the perpetrators of violence and abuse that they may come to know the love of God and that it may change their lives.

The Murray Anglican Autumn 2018

Cathedral to Be Re-Dedicated

St John the Baptist at Murray Bridge is to be re-dedicated as a Cathedral in September.

Bishop John says his predecessor issued a document under seal proclaiming it his cathedral. However, no further provision was made for its mission, ministry and governance. Bishop John has decided to rectify this by the creation of Statutes for the Cathedral and these will be published under episcopal direction on 29th August – the Feast of the Martyrdom of John the Baptist.

There will be a celebration of this on Saturday 15th September at 2 pm, which will include the re-dedication of the Cathedral in the service of the locality and the mission of the Diocese.

Bishop John said the Statutes provide that the Priest of the Parish is also Dean of the Cathedral. Accordingly, Fr David Price will now assume this ministry and function.

The Murray Anglican Winter 2018

Bishop John Ford To Retire

Bishop John Ford has announced that he will retire on or before the end of May, 2019.

He announced with mixed emotions to the Diocesan Council in September his decision to retire being the fourth Bishop of the Murray.

Bishop John in making the announcement referred to his earlier advice, before accepting election as the Bishop, he would not expect to work much beyond his 67th birthday which is in January, 2019.

Bishop John added that it had not been an easy decision as he was so committed to the Diocese and its renewal in the service of the gospel.

He said he was aware of how much needs to be done to place the Diocese on a firm footing for the future, but is convinced that the Diocesan Council has both the resolve and the commitment to take things forward.

Bishop John said he prayed that the Bishop Election Committee would be able to complete its task in a way that would minimise the length of any vacancy.

The Murray Anglican December 2018

A New Diocesan Bishop

A priest with former connections with South Australia has been elected as the fifth Bishop of The Murray. The Reverend Keith Dalby, the Rector of St John’s Gordon in the Diocese of Sydney for the last 15 years was voted by the Bishops Election Committee to succeed Bishop John Ford, who officially retired at the end of May.

The Bishops Election Committee, chaired by the Chancellor, Robert Tong was enacted once Bishop John announced at the end of September 2018 that he would retire.

The Committee sought names from all Australian Archbishops, parishes and pastoral districts in the Diocese and within the committee as part of the process.

It met regularly and ended up interviewing four candidates, two of them twice before coming to its final decision at a meeting after the conclusion of Synod on 26th May. The decision was announced a week later on Sunday 3rd June.

The Reverend Dalby, 57, who is married to Alice with five children said it was with a great sense of excitement and anticipation in coming to be the Anglican Bishop of The Murray.

Diocesan 50th Anniversary Celebrations In 2020

Plans are already being considered for the 50th anniversary celebrations of the Diocese in 2020 and a Diocesan Committee has been formed to consider ways the anniversary can be celebrated across the diocese.

The idea was first mooted at the Clergy Chapter with Fr Damian Feeney in February, where clergy were asked to think of evangelistic events to help celebrate the milestone. Fr Damian urged them to give themselves and their ministry teams plenty of time to prepare for such an event, so that all could be well prepared for the celebrations during the year.

One of the suggestions is to utilise the vessel *Etona*, now in private hands at Echuca. Contact has already been made with the owner and he is receptive to the idea, given some work needs to be done to the vessel and river flows.

The boat was used in the 1800s and early 1900s for ministry along the River Murray, in evangelising the river towns with services including baptisms and weddings.

Some thoughts at the clergy chapter and since have been individual events in each of the seven towns along the River Murray where there are Anglican Churches, as the *Etona* makes its way upstream from Goolwa to Renmark. They include dinners, exhibitions and Welcome Back to Church services and associations with the Mannum, Cobdogla and other museums. As well, a celebratory book with recipes has been suggested.

Another is to make a direct request to the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby for a grant for the upgrade of the vessel. The *Etona* needs to undergo some renovation before the celebrations. The boat was partly funded by Eton College in Berkshire in England, of which Archbishop Justin Welby is a board member. There is a possibility the Archbishop may also be coming to Australia in October next year. As a result, there has been a suggestion to invite him to be part of the celebrations, given his wishes to visit rural dioceses.

The Murray Anglican Winter 2019





Deaconed, Priested And Consecrated In The Same Cathedral

St Peter's Cathedral in Adelaide was at near capacity for the consecration of Bishop Keith Dalby on 16th August 2019. Bishops, clergy and lay people from across South Australia along with representatives from the Diocese of Sydney including the Archbishop of Sydney, Glenn Davies and from his parish St John's Gordon were present. The Primate and Archbishop of Melbourne, Philip Freier and a number of other Australian Bishops were also present. Bishop Keith was selected as the fifth Bishop of The Murray by a Diocesan Bishop Election Committee, headed by the Diocesan Chancellor, Robert Tong, after the committee deliberated for nearly six months. This followed the retirement of Bishop John Ford in September 2018. For Bishop Keith, it was a homecoming for him and his wife Alice, after 15 years at St John's, Gordon, around eight years in the Diocese of Ballarat at Warracknabeal and several years in the Diocese of Adelaide.

Enthronement of Bishop Keith Dalby

On the day following his consecration, Bishop Keith Dalby was enthroned as the Fifth Bishop of The Murray at the Cathedral Church of St John the Baptist at Murray Bridge.

The enthronement on Saturday 17th August 2019 was an invitation only service due to the small size of the Cathedral.

Those represented included his family, members of Diocesan Council, two members of each parish or pastoral district in the Diocese, full time Diocesan clergy, the Archbishops of Adelaide and Sydney, Bishops and clergy.

The enthronement began with Bishop Keith being presented by representatives from his Parish of Gordon in inner northern Sydney.

The declarations were then read out before the Administrator of the Diocese, Bishop Lindsay Urwin inducted, installed and enthroned Bishop Keith to the diocese.

The Archbishop of Adelaide and Metropolitan of South Australia, Geoff Smith on behalf of the Bishops of the Province recognised Keith as Bishop of The Murray and greeted him as a brother Bishop.

In Bishop Keith's homily, he stated that like Abraham, Moses and Joshua, he was very aware of his shortcomings, but was totally confident that God is at work in the Diocese, as long as we aligned our efforts with what God is already doing.

"If we engage in our agenda, our work, we will ultimately fail. If we engage in the Lord's work, we can do nothing else but succeed.

I am here to encourage you, to pray for you and with you, to lead you, to admonish and correct where necessary and to do everything within my power to make sure you all succeed And that will require me helping you identify where God is at work, and helping you collaborate with God."

The service concluded with the Eucharist, a blessing of the City and the Diocese and a reception at Tyndale Christian School in Murray Bridge, where there was a formal welcome for Bishop Keith and his wife, Alice.

Snippets from The Grand Tour

With caravan in tow, Bp Keith travelled nearly four thousand four hundred kilometres starting from Murray Bridge to the Riverland, down to the Limestone Coast, then to the Fleurieu Peninsula and ending in the southern suburbs of Adelaide at Morphett Vale. He also went through three gas bottles, mainly due to the cold weather in Mt Gambier!...

...Bishop Keith then travelled south to Lameroo in the southern Mallee where he met parishioners at St John the Baptist...

...He had the opportunity to meet parishioners at Mt Schank, Port MacDonnell, Millicent and Penola and to meet the respective Pastoral District Councils and he also visited the Op Shop at Christ Church Mt Gambier...

...Bp Keith has since spent time in the Murraylands taking in Murray Bridge, Mannum and Tailem Bend, in the Adelaide Hills area taking in churches at Balhannah, Mt Pleasant, Mt Torrens, and then further south at Strathalbyn, Milang and Langhorne Creek.



St Luke's, Mt Schank

Fifty Years Plus One

From the Bishop

Dear fellow disciples,

This time last year, we were looking with great expectation to the 50th anniversary of the Diocese, only to have the ability to celebrate as we had hoped, taken away from us by the pandemic. This past year has been one of turmoil, uncertainty, expectation, and disappointment. Just when we thought life would be resuming as they were, COVID has continued to challenge our plans.

Despite all that has transpired, I want to express how pleased I am with everyone's efforts in the Diocese. It has not been an easy time, but you have all risen to the various challenges magnificently and I want to commend you all for your amazing efforts. The pandemic has forced us as a church out of our comfort zones. We have realised that we needed to change, and while I am understanding of the desire to go back to normal, the reality is we can never do that. Life has now irrevocably changed.

I think, especially as I write this of the last couple of days, Alice and I have celebrated our Wedding Anniversary, but the day before was the anniversary of our son's death. This was a life changing moment, and the reality is that life has never been the same. Often, when speaking to bereaved parents, or anyone bereaved, I speak of not getting back to normal, but to get on with the new normal that we find ourselves in. This is the same for us as we start to emerge from the fog of COVID. We can never get back to normal, but we do need to get on with the new normal.

To that end, I have written to the clergy and encouraged them to experiment with ministry while staying within the boundaries I have prescribed for them. We need to throw off the shackles of the past, within reason, and be bold and courageous for the Lord. God in His infinite wisdom and mercy was bold and courageous when He first created us in His image and likeness and set us within the good creation. Even though we sinned and turned our back on Him, he did not forsake us, and was again bold and courageous by sending His Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, the second person of the Trinity into our midst fully human, to live our life, to show us how to live for God and for one another, even though it cost him his life. In the fullness of time, God raised him from the dead and gave us a new and living hope that where Jesus has gone, we might too; but in the meantime, we are also called to be bold and courageous for the Lord, to share the life we have in Christ Jesus with the almost 50 per cent of the population that does not know Jesus.

This is our challenge as the people of God today. It was not the case 50 years ago. Then, the culture supported the church, but it no longer does, and any cultural capital we had has evaporated in scandal and sin. We need to be willing to do things differently to the past, and that is going to be scary for many of us, but I will be there with us all as your bishop. I get a very strong sense that we have been too busy trying to survive, when what we need to learn is how to die, before we can be raised to new life by God just as he raised Jesus to new life. There are parts of our life as a diocese that I suspect will

have to die. Do I have anything in mind? No. However, COVID has reminded us that in one sense, the old ways have already started to die, if they have not died already.

We must be ready for that. This will mean that there will be grief in the diocese and we need to deal with that, but after all, isn't that what the whole of Lent, Holy Week and the Triduum is all about? The descent into death with the promise of new life on Easter Day.

Too often, even as Christians we want to bypass Good Friday, ignore Jesus resting in the grave on Holy Saturday and go straight to the happiness of Easter Day. However, we delude ourselves and deny ourselves the true happiness of Easter Day, if we omit Good Friday and Holy Saturday. We need to sit at the foot of the cross and absorb its horror, and we need to sit quietly at the graveside of Jesus, in its silence and ambiguity about the future. Only then, can we truly enjoy the first fruits of resurrection, the anticipation for our own hope.

So we need to get on and do things differently. To that end, we will at Synod be launching our new digital platform to give us a better chance of reaching out to each other and to the world in which we live. I have also connected us up to some excellent lay training programmes which I believe will be started in Southern Suburbs by the end of April and hopefully the South Coast at the same time. There will be little or no cost. These are important parts of our diocese starting to move in a new direction with a new purpose and a new hope. Some of you may still cling to the past for whatever reason, and I say to you, that's fine, we are waiting for you when you are ready to catch up with us in the present. I also note that there is much disquiet over the need for us to be more intentional with respect to our governance. I am sorry that it has caused this disquiet, but we need to take this seriously for the world now takes it seriously. Hence, if the many people who do not know the Lord Jesus hear we are not taking governance seriously, I believe it will seriously hamper our evangelism efforts. I am working very closely with the Registrars of the Dioceses of Adelaide and Willochra, to gain as much synergy across the Province as is possible. There is a belief by many of us, that this approach should be national, but we recognise that, for various reasons this is virtually impossible. However, we can work together as a Province and I intend for that to happen. More information will be forthcoming just after Easter.

As I close, I pray that as you continue your journey to the cross of Good Friday, you commit yourself to sitting prayerfully, and in a penitential attitude before the means of our redemption, and I do hope that you commit yourselves to sitting quietly at the grave site of Jesus, pondering and praying, so that we all might rejoice afresh on Easter Day, the Day of new hope, and new direction and as you do all this, pray for your parish, your parish clergy, this diocese and for me, that we might be bold and courageous together to bring about the kingdom of God, here on earth as it is in heaven.

The Lord be with you

Bishop Keith

A New Normal

The effects of the Pandemic on our liturgical life were covered in depth in our Spring 2020 issue. The following is a very brief summary of where we are at now.

Once face-to-face services resumed, we found respectful, yet contactless, ways of passing the peace. We were reminded that though no matter how far apart we sit in our pews, we are still one in the Body of Christ.

We discovered the positives of livestreaming services and this continues in some Parishes/Pastoral Districts. Those involved have worked hard to improve the quality of livestreamed services, The Mt Barker Parish now has a dedicated camera, laptop and special microphone. This is greatly appreciated by the housebound and the vulnerable.

We also discovered the positives of Zoom – no leaving the house on cold and rainy nights, no setting up beforehand, no packing up afterwards, straight to bed (for some) as soon as meetings have finished and enabling the housebound and vulnerable to participate in Morning Prayer and/or Bible Study.

As restrictions lifted, new rules and regulations were introduced and new COVID-Safe Plans were issued. Something that hasn't changed though are the cleaning and disinfection protocols. All those who undertake this behind-the-scenes, but absolutely necessary task, should be commended for their commitment and efforts.

COVID Marshals became a requirement at religious ceremonies in August 2020, QR Codes for Contact Tracing were introduced in December 2020, and as from March 2021, places of worship were allowed to operate at full capacity providing face masks were worn.

Despite all these rules, regulations and inconveniences, we have much for which to be grateful here in South Australia.



Milestone Noted in Strathalbyn and Milang

All Saints' Day was a slightly more significant celebration than usual in the Parish of Strathalbyn this year as Fr Alex Stone presided at the Communion Services at St Mary's Milang and Christ Church Strathalbyn to commemorate not only the untold number of saints who make up the great cloud of witnesses, but also his 60th anniversary of ordination to the priesthood.

Not letting retirement get in the way, Alex, and his wife Beverley, are still regular contributors to the life of the parish, especially around their home base in Milang, where they are very active in the community. Alex is also active at Langhorne Creek and Strathalbyn, where he still occasionally presides at Sunday Services and is known for helping keep the small congregation singing in key. But he is especially connected with the mid-week service at Strathalbyn, where he always is willing to lead the discussion group that meets afterwards and to provide some useful educational material to get things going.



We celebrate and applaud Fr Alex on this tremendous achievement, and to thank him and Beverley for their ongoing commitment to the Church and to congratulate them on their 60 year commitment to each other.

Western Fleurieu Pastoral District

The parish of Western Fleurieu Anglicans, which has six churches, aims to make the fifth Sunday of the month an opportunity for the congregations to get together for a parish picnic or other shared event.

Despite COVID regulations, a preliminary heatwave, and a forecast for rain, the fifth Sunday in November 2020 (the 29th) was a perfect day for a parish Combined Eucharist, and the lawns behind Christ Church, Yankalilla were the perfect setting for it. It was also the occasion for a visit by Bishop Keith and his wife Alice, which the Bishop made his opportunity to bless the renovated rectory and its occupants, Fr Brenton and Lyn Dick. And to cap it all, it was the perfect day and the perfect setting for a totally byo picnic on the lawns to follow.

This being the first Sunday of Advent, Bishop Keith preached on the Advent message of being prepared for Christ's coming. Brian McMillan on the organ and Lorraine Nitschke on the clarinet accompanied the choir leading the congregation in the hymns.



St Paul's Naracoorte

In 2019 it was decided to celebrate 140 years of St Paul's Church 1880 to 2020 but the Covid restrictions ended most of our plans. However, the burying of a time capsule was a plan that we were able to carry out.

On Sunday 20th December 2020 a time capsule was buried near the Lych Gate in the grounds of St Paul's Anglican Church, Naracoorte. Over the preceding weeks the parishioners were asked to contribute items of interest, including their family's involvement with the church over the years, some local history and how Covid 19 affected them. Copies of Newsletters which were delivered to our church family during the lockdown, containing photos, which kept us all up to date with what was happening within our town and our church family, along with a Coin Collection with all the coins dated 2020, some photos on a USB, a copy of our 2012 Recipe Book, and the history of, St Paul's Church of England Naracoorte 1880 -1980 booklet as well as some small objects of interest were placed in the time capsule.

After the church service in St Paul's on Sunday 20th December the congregation moved to the grounds near the Lych Gate to witness the burial ceremony of the time capsule which was conducted by Fr Wayne Corker.



Garden Award

A garden, which the late Rev'd John Hewitson and his wife Ann established at their property at Murray Bridge, has won a garden competition sponsored by the Rural City of Murray Bridge.

Ann Hewitson entered the Spring Garden Competition under the category of the most sustainable garden. There were about 10 categories in the competition. Ann received the award on the first anniversary of John's death.



Christ Church, Mt Gambier

The second visit of the new Bishop of the Murray, Bishop Keith Dalby, in early October and the Patronal Festival of Christ Church Mount Gambier in late November featured in an extremely busy period for the parish.

Bishop Keith preached at both Christ Church and St Luke's Mount Schank at which St Luke's Day was celebrated. During three busy days, Bishop Keith held a mini-seminar at which he outlined reasons for requiring a Strategic Plan for the churches in his Diocese. He urged the Parish to come up with a WHY statement so that the Parish can work out the best way for the HOW and - then - the WHAT statements. According to Bishop Keith, the adoption of the WHY statement will enable people to see it as something they wish to be involved with when they see that many people are willing to sacrifice time, talents and money to do it.

International Students' Support: Fr. Neil Fernando praised the support We Care Mount Gambier, founded by the Parish, had received in donations of food and personal items aimed at assisting International and Australian students stranded in Adelaide because of the Covid - 19 pandemic and lacking income or family support. About 100 excited and appreciative students from India, China, Nepal, Sri Lanka and a number of other nationalities gathered at St George's Goodwood to receive the donations. South Australia's Premier Steven Marshall, later visiting Mount Gambier, later said he greatly appreciated the help Mount Gambier and surrounding parishes had provided to the students.

Mini Market: Christ Church parish had a highly successful Mini Market and garage sale late last year in place of the well-established Church Fair which had been cancelled because of Covid - 19 restrictions. Nearly six-thousand six hundred dollars was raised for the Church. One of the highlights was the sale of hundreds of take-away Sri Lankan meals cooked by Fr Neil and Nalini.

Recycle Runway: Another great success was the 2020 Recycle Runway function where budding stylists bought bags of used clothing from the church Op Shop. These were re-made into fashionable offerings which were modelled by parishioners...this gained nearly \$7,000 for ac. care and regular attendees are now looking forward to the 2021 production which will feature India.

Fathers' Day: An innovation for Christ Church was a Father's Day service with several videos being used to enable children and teenagers to offer fathers some well thought out good wishes for their special day, making it a great service to the delight of Fr Neil.

Young Peoples' Service: Non-Eucharistic Church Services are being offered for young people and children and these are taking place once a month.

A course on Christian Meditation: A six week long Christian meditation course saw three of the course sections completed with 70 per cent of those attending being non-Anglican. The best way to introduce Christ to those who do not know him.

The Bell Tower: The Church Bell was rung for the first time in years on November the 24th with long time parishioner Otfried Linder having the honour of pealing in its new life which and at the same time celebrating his 90th birthday

A new sound system: Fr Neil says a new sound and a video system recently installed at Christ Church through many donations from parishioners, is proving its worth and enabling live streaming.

Remembrance Day and All Soul's Day: Christ Church saw another strong turnout of parishioners despite continuation of Covid - 19 restrictions and the All Soul's Day service saw a maximum attendance both at Christ Church and St Luke's.

Naidoc Celebration: Naidoc Week was marked by a special service with the Aboriginal Lord's Prayer.

New Convenor: ac.care's has a new Convenor with Mount Gambier parish council member and Diocesan Synod representative. Rick Fisher has been appointed to the position by Bishop Keith.

The Bible in outline: Fr. Neil began a whole of bible study on every second and fourth Saturdays.

Recorded Services: Continuation of recorded services which can be found on the Parish website.

Appreciation dinner for volunteers: The Christ Church parish council held a special celebratory dinner in appreciation of outstanding work done by the Parish Op Shop volunteers.

Joan Tremelling.



Rest Eternal Grant Unto Them, O Lord

Fr Peter Carlsson

The Diocese acknowledges with sadness the death of Fr Peter Fritz Carlsson.

Fr Peter was Priest in Charge at Millicent and Penola for 10 years between 2005 and 2015. During that time, he became the Director of Formation.

In 2015, he was appointed the Archdeacon and Vicar General of the Diocese and moved to Murray Bridge. Two years ago, he moved to Strathalbyn until his sudden death in late January.

His funeral was held at St George's Goodwood on 1st February by his good friend and priest, Fr Scott Moncrieff. May he rest in peace.



Fr Percy Leske

The Diocese also acknowledges with sadness the death of Fr Percy Leske.

Fr Percy was an assistant priest at the former Parish of Willunga between 1997 and 2003 and at Seaford Ecumenical Centre from 2008 until 2012.

Fr Percy also worked for Bush Church Aid in the north west of Western Australia for 10 years during the winter months until 2008.

Prior to his retirement in 1997, he was a field superintendent with the CMS based in Darwin. He was ordained a Priest in Darwin in 1980 and served in two parishes in the NT and in Victoria.



Australia Day Award

Fr Thomas Karamakuzhiyil accepting an Australia Day Civic Award from the Adelaide Hills Council on behalf of the Anglican Parish of Mount Barker in recognition of the Parish's efforts, along several other community and churches in the Hills. The award was presented the by the Cuddlee Creek Bushfire Recovery Coordinator, Alex Zimmerman.



Communion at Meningie Hospital

Finally, Covid releases its grip enough to allow a celebration of Holy Communion for the Transfiguration at Meningie Hospital. Our own community were joined by two residents of the Aged care section of the hospital, but the gathering was held on the doorstep, not in the hospital. A caution for us all to stay flexible.

The service was organised with hospital management with the proviso that if more than five of our regular community showed up we would have to move out to the aged care facility courtyard. And more than five did show up; But. What had been forgotten was that our service was programmed for 10 o'clock but health department rules only allow visiting between 11am and 4pm. The courtyard is not accessible from outside and we could not enter. The solution, aided by friendly nurses, was to celebrate at the front door of the hospital.

Being in such a public space did not stop us singing and nothing will stop communion. The only thing we missed was a cup of tea after the service, that is a small thing I think, compared to the restart of this community ministry.

Fr Ian Jansse



Marg Jude, Mary Whiteside, Barb King, Fr Ian and Ken King (on the Bed) on the porch of the Meningie Hospital.



Updating our Child Safety Qualifications

A number of refresher courses in Safe Child Environments have been delivered over the past two months, along with a full day course for those who have not undertaken the training in the Diocese.

Face to face training was severely impacted last year due to COVID-19 restrictions. So, in a bid to complete the relevant training this year, the Child Safe Environments Course titled “Through Their Eyes” has been held at Victor Harbor, Loxton, Mt Barker, Mt Gambier and Naracoorte. As well, the full day course was delivered at Mt Barker on April the 17th.

Among those at Loxton were 14 people and one ex-Riverlander, who came to support Fr Brenton Daulby who is offering to deliver the course for the diocese.

Fr Brenton Daulby, gave an interesting update on both the legislative requirements and actions when we are conducting or looking at our Mission when children and young people are present.

Fr Brenton’s experience both now, and in the past in the emergency services, gave the time together a somewhat special, personal touch, together with all the necessary information from the course booklet.

The scope of the requirements and the possible outcomes of the wrong things done to younger people are somewhat confronting to those of us who may live rather sheltered lives, yet want to spread the “Good News” about our Saviour to all in our communities.

Peter Hawkins

Celebrating Barbara Robertson

Christ Church Anglican Church, Yankalilla, has a trove of religious paintings by noteworthy South Australian artist Barbara Robertson. Not often available for public viewing, these treasures were on display in Christ Church hall during the 2021 Festival Fleurieu in April.

As a group, they comprise a significant collection and make a strong statement about the artist’s religious ideas, her concern for the environment and her love of Indigenous peoples. Several of the paintings were based on the face of David Gulpilil. Strong and bold, they display Robertson’s power and impressive talent. They were gifted to Christ Church by the artist in the 1980s and 90s.

Some seldom-shown paintings from private collections was also on display.

A limited number of secular works from Robertson’s family was for sale, giving collectors a rare opportunity to acquire works by the late artist who resided locally for 15 years. Sale proceeds will go to a foundation for Aboriginal youth.



Christ Church, Mt Gambier

Numbers continue to solidify as Covid 19 difficulties retreat and the well-attended Holy Communion service had 18 youngsters of 12yrs, and younger, present and everyone relished the return of the after service 'cuppa', much missed during the past year.

The parish had a very busy lead up to Easter with strong attendances at a World Day of Prayer event hosted by Mother's Union attended by Ministers and faithful from other Churches and Mayor Lynnette.

There was a Hat Day event at which much laughter and pattern sharing entertained many prior to a Parish luncheon.

A fund raiser to assist unemployed women in Sri Lanka and youth with autism in the local area raised about \$2,000 from a special "heavenly curry meal" organized by Fr Neil and wife Nalini, who are both good cooks.

The six weeks Lenten studies conducted by Fr. Neil were very well attended.

To mark Palm Sunday, ahead of Easter Day, the most important day in the Christian calendar, Palm leaves featured in a congregational march around the grounds of Christ Church following a little Jesus on a pony singing hosanna to the Saviour of the world.

There was one service of Holy Communion on Tuesday and Wednesday both beginning at 5.30pm while the Maundy Thursday service began at 7pm with the Watch of the Passion continuing until midnight. There was a 7pm service at St Luke's, Mount Schank on the Saturday with an Easter Vigil at Christ Church from 8,30pm and there was one Easter Sunday service in the Parish - from 9.00 at Christ Church.

Just prior to Easter day, Fr Neil was interviewed by the well listened to local ABC discussion/interview show.

Joan Tremelling



Easter In The Riverland

A Stations of the Cross Service in a park next to the Church in Renmark, an Easter Vigil at St Oswald's Monash and a sunrise service by the River Murray were some of the highlights of Easter in the Riverland.

The Way of the Cross Service was held in the Jarrett Memorial Gardens on Good Friday. The service at 1.30 pm was a combined churches event in Renmark, which followed the 14 Stations around the park, with Taizé chanting with the song, "Jesus remember me when you come into your kingdom". It was followed by afternoon tea with hot cross buns and then the Celebration of the Lord's Passion at St Augustine's Renmark at 3 pm. About 60 people attended, with one person who had never been before emailing Fr Paul expressing how it was such a moving and unforgettable experience, that Good Friday would never be the same and that she would be back next year.



The Easter Vigil was held at St Oswald's Monash on Saturday night with the lighting of the new fire and the first Mass of Easter and then just after the sunrise on Easter Day, a service celebrating the risen Christ adjacent to St Augustine of Hippo Renmark in the park by the River Murray. At both services, there was a renewal of baptism vows and a champagne supper and breakfast respectively.

Clergy List 2021

Diocesan Bishop

Bp Keith Dalby

Clergy

Fr Des Ackland	Murraylands
Fr Richard Burr	Southern Suburbs
Fr Wayne Corker	Upper Limestone Coast
Fr Paul Devenport	The Riverland
Fr Brenton Dick	Western Fleurieu
Fr Neil Fernando	Lower Limestone Coast
Fr Andrew Forder	Southern Suburbs
Fr Cliff Greaves	Southern Suburbs
Fr Bruce Hicks	Victor Harbor
Fr Daniel Irvine	Mt Barker
Fr Ian Jansse	Murraylands
Fr Thomas Karamakuzhiyil	Mt Barker, Strathalbyn
Fr Paul Monash	Southern Suburbs
Fr Scott Mudd	Murraylands
Fr David Patterson	Upper Limestone Coast, Kingston/Robe, Tatiara
Fr David Price	Murraylands
Fr Lyndon Sulzberger	Lower Limestone Coast
Fr Simon Waters	Western Fleurieu

Deacons

Dn Peter Chapman	Western Fleurieu
Dn Carol Cornwall	Southern Suburbs
Dn Margaret Holt	Strathalbyn
Dn Jonathan Jackson	Southern Suburbs
Dn Peter Sandeman	

Canons of the Cathedral

Lay Canon Michael Bleby
Lay Canon Murray McFarlane
The Right Reverend Canon Dr Stephen Pickard
The Reverend Canon Dr John Warner

PTOs

Fr Max Bowers	Dn Malcolm Martin
Fr Peter Bourne	Fr Ted Newing
Dn Mary Chilver	Fr Edmund Pumphrey
Fr Peter Chilver	Fr Peter Randle
Fr Bruce Cliff	Fr Nicholas Rundle
Fr Alan Colley	Fr Mark Sibley
Fr Graham Cooling	Fr Peter Simmons
Fr Brenton Daulby	Fr David Smith
Fr Steve Davis	Fr Alex Stone
Fr John Devenport	Fr John Thompson
Fr Dennis Eales	Bp Lindsay Urwin
Fr Robert Haynes	Fr Dirk van Dissel
Fr Roger Hilton	Fr Ian Young
Fr Robert Hupfeld	

From the Diocesan Prayer Diary 31st March 2021

Chrism Mass 2021



Thank You

I wish to thank Annette for the tireless amount of effort she has put in to producing this 50th anniversary magazine celebrating The Diocese of The Murray. Thank you also to all those who have helped in providing resources for the magazine.

This anniversary edition begins with an article by a priest who was the Rector at Bordertown when the diocese was formed in 1970. The Rev'd Conrad Patterson then became the Rector at Loxton, the first such appointment by the newly installed Bishop of The Murray, Robert Porter.

I am sure you have enjoyed reading this edition of The Murray Anglican and the treasure of news excerpts over the past 50 years.

Fr Paul Devenport Editor –The Murray Anglican

Personally, I have enjoyed this trip down memory lane. I've smiled at old photos of people that I have known for a long time, chuckled over some of the snippets and have been saddened reading the names of so many faithful priests who are now with God.

Annette Schirmer



diocese of the murray *walking the way ... together*

50 years
1970 2020

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Fr Lyndon Sulzberger, Fr Simon Waters,
Mrs Ruth Daws, Mr Chris Martin,
Mr Murray McFarlane, Dr Ted Sandercock,
Mrs Joan Small, Mr Richard Fisher,
Mr David Fleming, Mr Robert Foggo, Mr Des Warner.
In attendance:
Mrs Donna Jones, Mr Graham Dickson,
Mr Jeff McHugh, Fr Andrew Forder

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THE AUSTRALIAN BOARD OF MISSIONS

80 YEARS AGO

From the Church News, Diocese of Adelaide, 30th August 1901 - "It is nearly two years since two enthusiastic and intrepid young church men, Messrs A.H. Lennox and A.M. Gathercole, arrived at Kaparlgoo situated 100 miles due east of Darwin, and three-quarters of a mile west of the South Alligator River. From this small beginning in November 1899, the work steadily progressed so that in 12 months time they had gathered around them more than 44 Aboriginal people.. With the assistance of the Aboriginal people, they erected a good serviceable house on one side of the street of their little township, and five Aboriginals' houses on the other. They cleared 10 acres of heavily-timbered scrub, and enclosed two gardens of five acres each."

Miss Ellen Kettle of the Department of Health in Darwin is writing a history of Aboriginal health services in the Northern Territory, and has asked if there are, among our readers, descendants of Messrs Lennox and Gathercole, who may have letters or photographs and who would be prepared to share them.

The Murray News Sheet April 1984

