

14th September
7.00 pm House Group Teesdale

16th September
12 noon Deanery Meeting
St Andrews Corio

18th September
School Holidays Commence

19th September
10.30 am Consecration of Bishops
St Pauls Cathedral Melbourne

21st September
2.30 pm Army Chaplain Supervision
Vicar's Study

7.00 pm House Group Teesdale

22nd September
3.00 pm Youth and Family Cinema
Epiphany Meredith

23rd September
7.00 pm Parish Council
Parish Ministry Centre

28th September
7.00 pm House Group Teesdale

29th September
3.00 pm Youth and Family Cinema
Epiphany Meredith

5th October
Schools Resume

7.00 pm House Group Teesdale

7th October
11.00 am Communion
Estia Health Bannockburn

Parish Roster for September 20

Church Cleaning:

Inverleigh: Anne Bolitho

Bannockburn: Gill Dickson

Reader:

Bannockburn: Lynette Oates

Communion Assistant:

Inverleigh: Bruce McDonald

Bannockburn: Freda Duke

Parish Directory

Parish Office 5281 2553
Vicar
Rev'd Timothy Smith
0412 673 152
revdrtim@hotmail.com

Wardens
Darrell Blackman 0457 338 678
Carol Newlands 0409 654 527
David Bannister 0477 564 268

Parish Council Secretary
Carol Newlands 0409 654 527

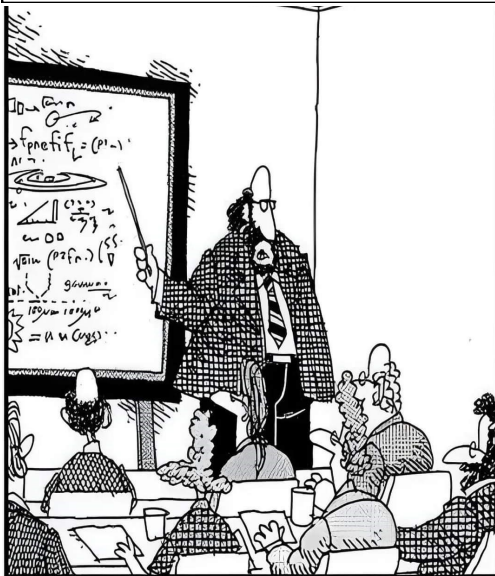
Parish Treasurer
David Osborne 0419 398 455

Assistant Treasurer
Luanne Thornton 0437 667 011

St John's Op Shop
Naomi Peel 0418 346 484

Surprise Op Shop
Luanne Thornton 0437 667 011

Pastoral Care
pastoralcare.gpas@gmail.com



"Along with 'Antimatter,' and 'Dark Matter,' we've recently discovered the existence of 'Doesn't Matter,' which appears to have no effect on the universe whatsoever."

Golden Plains Anglican News

Living the Gospel in Our Community

†Inverleigh†Bannockburn†Meredith

13th September 2026 SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

THE EVANGELICAL vs PROGRESSIVE DEBATE (PART 3)

Recorded conversation by the Rev'd Sandy Lintel, Curate, after another pint, for continuity.

Horse was keen to speak to me after church. I say "after church", but what I really mean is that he stood by the noticeboard until everyone else had gone and then fixed me with the look he usually reserves for unstable ladders. He explained that his head had been "doing a fair bit of spinning" since our discussion and that there were a couple of things he hadn't quite managed to park. So we returned to The Little John — which is absolutely NOT a euphemism for a diminutive convenience — and, once again, I asked Horse whether he would mind if I recorded and transcribed our discussion for the benefit of the wider parish. Horse agreed, on the understanding that if anyone complained, he would deny everything.



Horse: Right. Two things you mentioned the other night. That I've been tripping over ever since.

Sandy: Only two? That's encouraging.

Horse: First: personal conversion.

Sandy: Ah.

Horse: Lots of Evangelicals I've met talk about "giving your life to Jesus".

Sandy: Yes.

Horse: Which always sounds like a very private transaction. Like switching energy suppliers.

Sandy: It's meant to be relational.

Horse: I know. But it's very me-shaped, isn't it? "I gave my life." "Jesus saved me." "I decided." There's a lot of "I" going on.

Sandy: Guilty as charged.

Horse: And then there are the songs.

Sandy: I wondered when we'd get to the songs.

Horse: "I love you, Lord." "I surrender all." "I am desperate for you."

(Continued on page 4)

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(03) 5281 2553 revdrtim@hotmail.com

www.goldenplainsanglican.org

www.facebook.com/GoldenPlainsAnglicans

Worship Today: SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST [24]

Sentence: If you, O Lord, should note what we do wrong, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered.
Psalm 130:3-4

Collect: O God, you call your Church to witness that in Christ we are reconciled to you: help us so to proclaim the good news of your love, that all who hear it may turn to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Readings: Exodus 14:19-31; Psalm 114; Romans 14:1-14; Matthew 18:21-35

Hymns:

Inverleigh: 426 – Now we come our heavenly Father; 648 – Help us accept each other; 598 – Dear Father Lord of Humankind; 231 – At the name of Jesus

Bannockburn: *Be still;* Come as you are; Majesty here I am; Help us accept each other; Dear Father Lord of Humankind; *When the music fades;* All are welcome (Let us Build a House); *I believe in Jesus*

Meredith: *Be still;* Now we come our heavenly Father; Help us accept each other; At the name of Jesus; All are welcome (Let us Build a House); *I believe in Jesus*

Intercessions: ...and, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

World: all nations in war or conflict, those who perpetrate war, those who defend their nations, civilian casualties, aid workers, and those who are working for peace; South Sudan and all developing nations, all nations preparing for elections; wherever there is fear, violence, lack of freedom, injustice, oppression, racism, hunger, displacement, and homelessness; all national leaders and law makers; the building up of citizens and unity in the global community; Nepal, and all nations suffering from natural disaster; a world of where diversity finds unity.

Church: unity of the Anglican Communion, Abp Sarah Mullaley; Abp Ric Thorpe, Nigel Pope (to be consecrated as our Bishop), Adn Liz Rankin, AD Lankiri Thaba; the transition of our region and administration of the parish; Youth and Family Community Cinema, Thursday Lunch, Men's Breakfast, both Op Shops, and all our members; to be labourers in the harvest for growth of the parish; unity of administration and sale of the Parish's excess land for financial viability.

Community: the Wadawarrung and all our First Nations Peoples, the work of reconciliation and treaty; all the communities in our Parish especially Inverleigh, Bannockburn, and Meredith; all experiencing mortgage and rental stress, cost of living, and food insecurity; all who are marginalised, anxious and depressed; for communities that are welcoming, give belonging, affirm diversity in unity of culture, tradition, heritage and sexuality; to honour the diversity of human nature.

Those in need: Matt Bellchambers, Shirley Musgrove, Melinda Gregory, Karen Schulze, Jenny Bannister, Margaret McLaren, Sarah Rees, Jayden Rees, Fay McFarlane, Jesse Osborne, Phil Dickson, Paul Duke, Josie Harvey, Judith Palmer-Howlett, Zaher Mhanna, and all others on our heart and mind.



3.00 pm

Church of the Epiphany, Meredith
Refreshments Included

PRAYING FOR THE HARVEST

Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest.' *Matthew 9:35-38*

PARISH PRAYER GROUP

Join Revd Tim praying for growth in our Parish

Thursdays 1.30 pm
St John's Bannockburn

Lord of the Harvest,
thank you for the compassion of Jesus
who sees the crowds,
knows their needs,
and gives himself
for the life of the world.
Teach us to see Melbourne and
Geelong with his eyes.
Renew your church by your Holy Spirit,
raise up workers for your Harvest,
show each of us our part,
show each church it's next faithful step,
and send us In the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen**

(Continued from page 4)

trying to back away slowly.

Sandy: Fair.

Horse: Catholics and Progressives seem more relaxed about letting faith show itself first.

Sandy: By action.

Horse: Exactly. Feeding people. Listening. Turning up. Not needing a speech every time.

Sandy: St Francis.

Horse: Preach the Gospel always. Use words if necessary.

Sandy: Evangelicals worry that can become an excuse for never speaking.

Horse: And Progressives worry that speaking too quickly becomes an excuse for not listening.

Sandy: Touché.

Horse: I suppose my question is this. If faith is real, won't it leak out anyway?

Sandy: That's a good question.

Horse: Like a good ladder. You don't have to advertise it. People just keep using it.

Sandy: So active faith isn't about volume.

Horse: No. It's about visibility. And reliability.

Sandy: Evangelicalism at its best would agree with that.

Horse: At its worst?

Sandy: At its worst, it forgets that the Holy Spirit doesn't need help shouting.

Horse: That's reassuring.

Sandy (later reflection): It struck me, walking home, that Horse wasn't rejecting Evangelical faith so much as asking it to grow up a bit. Personal conversion matters. Decisions matter. Words matter. But none of them are meant to exist in isolation. Faith that never moves beyond "me and Jesus" risks shrinking the Gospel to the size of my own experience. And faith that can only express itself by chasing other people risks forgetting that God is already at work long before we arrive with our leaflets. Perhaps active faith is less about recruiting, and more about belonging. Less about persuasion, and more about presence. Less about speaking louder, and more about standing firm enough that others dare to climb alongside. Horse would approve of that. He prefers things that don't wobble — and people who don't shout instructions from the ground. If nothing else, I hope this reassures people that asking questions is not a failure of faith, and that disagreeing kindly is still a form of communion. Also, Horse assures me he has forgiven me for quoting St Francis. He remains unconvinced by worship songs written entirely in the first person singular.

Horse Palmer (Very Odd Job Man): Just to clarify, for the avoidance of doubt, I was NOT rejecting ladders, Evangelicals, or pints. I was merely suggesting that some things are best trusted once you've stood on them, and some conversations are improved by sitting down first. Also, for the record, The Little John is still a terrible name for a pub and a very unfortunate name for a toilet.

[https://www.facebook.com/stfaithfulshavnot/EducatingHorse\(Part2\)](https://www.facebook.com/stfaithfulshavnot/EducatingHorse(Part2))

Bible Readings

Prayer for the week:

O God, without you we are not able to please you: mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Monday

Morning: Ps 34

Habakkuk 1:1-11

Ephesians 1:1-14

Evening: Ps 119:17-40

1 Maccabees 1:1-19

Matthew 4:12-22

Tuesday

John Feetham, Bush Brother (d.1947) *Bishop*

Morning: Ps 37:1-17

Habakkuk 1:12-2:5

Ephesians 2:1-10

Evening: Ps 37:18-41

1 Maccabees 1:20-40

Matthew 4:23-5:12

Wednesday

Ninian of Galloway, bishop (d.c.432) *Missionary*

Morning: Ps 38

Habakkuk 2:6-17

Ephesians 2:11-22

Evening: Ps 39

1 Maccabees 1:41-64

Matthew 5:13-26

Thursday

Hildegard of Bingen (d.1179) *Monastic*
Abbess and spiritual writer

Morning: Ps 40

Habakkuk 2:18-3:7

Ephesians 3:1-13

Evening: Pss 42 & 43

2 Maccabees 4:1-17

Matthew 5:27-42

Friday

John Ramsden Wollaston (d.1856) *Missionary*
Priest of Western Australia

Morning: Pss 41 & 44:1-9

Habakkuk 3:8-19

Ephesians 3:14-21

Evening: Ps 44:10-27

2 Maccabees 6:1-17

Matthew 5:43-6:4

Saturday

Morning: Ps 45

Nahum 1:1-14

Ephesians 4:1-16

Evening: Pss 46 & 47

2 Maccabees 6:18-31

Matthew 6:5-15

You know you're no longer in charge
of your house when the dog decides
what time you wake up.



Next Sunday 20th September
PENTECOST 17 [25]

8.00 am Holy Communion

Inverleigh

10.00 am All-Age Communion

Bannockburn

5.00 pm Holy Communion

Meredith

Readings

Exodus 16:2-15

Psalms 105:1-6, 37-45

Philippians 1 or 1:21-30

Matthew 20:1-16

(Continued from page 1)

Sandy: They're very heartfelt.

Horse: They're also very singular. I sometimes feel like I've wandered into someone else's diary.

Sandy: Evangelicals would say faith has to start personally. You can't outsource belief.

Horse: I get that. You have to choose to stand on the ladder yourself.

Sandy: Exactly.

Horse: But if it stops there, something feels missing. Christianity isn't just about me and Jesus. It's about us.

Sandy: The Body of Christ.

Horse: That. Which sounds much more communal, and much less like a solo hobby.

Sandy: I agree. Evangelicalism sometimes overplays the moment of decision and underplays what comes next.

Horse: Which is learning how to live with other people. The hard bit.

Sandy: Very much the hard bit.

Horse: I don't remember Jesus saying, "By this everyone will know you are my disciples — if you have a powerful personal testimony."

Sandy: No.

Horse: He said love. Which mostly involves other people being annoying.

Sandy: That does ring a bell.

Horse: Want another?

Sandy: On a Sunday? I've got to get to Evensong.

Horse: You're a professional. You'll handle it.

(Sounds of Horse going to the bar, then returning)

Horse: Which brings me to the second thing. Active faith.

Sandy: Ah again.

Horse: Evangelicals talk a lot about sharing faith.

Sandy: Yes.

Horse: And again — not a bad thing. If something matters, you talk about it.

Sandy: Exactly.

Horse: But sometimes it feels less like sharing, and more like... pursuit.

Sandy: Define "pursuit".

Horse: Street corners. Megaphones. Knocking on doors when people are eating their tea. Cornering colleagues at work who just wanted to discuss spreadsheets.

Sandy: Enthusiasm can tip over.

Horse: At a certain point it stops being evangelism and starts being stalking.

Sandy: That is not in the training manual.

Horse: I hope not.

Sandy: Evangelicals would say loving your neighbour includes telling them what you believe is true.

Horse: Yes. But loving your neighbour also includes noticing when they're

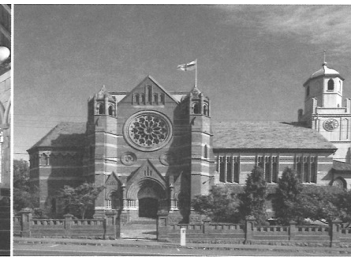
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St George's, Malvern VIC



All Saints, Bodalla NSW



St John's, Launceston TAS



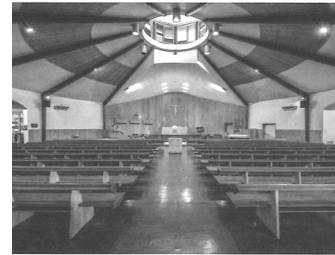
St George's, Maleny QLD



St Philip's, Sydney NSW



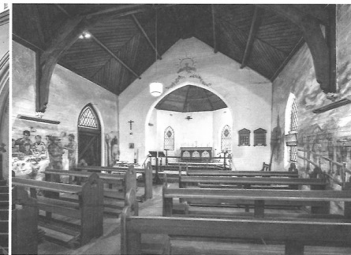
St Augustine's, Bayswater WA



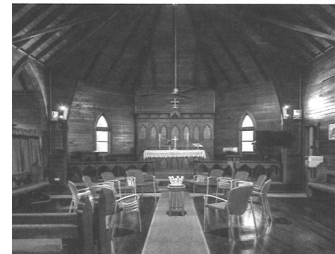
St Faith's, Burwood VIC



St Saviour's Cathedral, Goulburn NSW



St Peter's, Glenthompson VIC



Holy Trinity, Uki NSW



St Barnabas, Clare SA



St Columba's, Scarborough WA



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