



# InSpire



NEWSLETTER OF THE STONNINGTON COMMUNITY UNITING CHURCH

Vol. 10, no 9

October 2024



(Who is the painter? What is this scene? See back page for answer)

*InSpiring*

## MINISTER'S MESSAGE

### Ambassador of inner and Outer Peace

#### Dag Hammarskjöld

I came across Dag Hammarskjöld's book *Markings*, in 1982 after Dag's death in 1961. I was fossicking through a second-hand bookstore in Brisbane Australia and recognized the author's name as Swedish. My mother's name was Nilsson (Swedish) which I inherited as my middle name. I purchased the dog-eared book for a few dollars and it sat on my book shelves for several years. The book was unread because after first sighting it was too confusing, and too complex beyond my understanding. It was also in the language of a mystic, which I was yet to learn.

While studying at Theological College in the 1990's I came across a quote by 13<sup>th</sup> Century Mister Eckhart crossed referenced with the words of Dag Hammarskjöld. It was some think like, "*If the only prayer you ever say in your entire life is thank you, it will be enough.*" I found in "*Markings*" the complementary quote, "*For all that has been, Thank you. For all that is to come, Yes!*"

I became intrigued about the life of Dag Hammarskjöld, his life work and as I later discovered, his untimely death. Briefly, Dag Hammarskjöld was a Swedish diplomat who served as the second Secretary-General of the United Nations from 1953 until his death in 1961. He was a son of Hjalmar Hammarskjöld, who served as Prime Minister of Sweden from 1914 to 1917.

His death, in an airline disaster or the arranged assassination of Hammarskjöld occurred during a Soweto Uprising and continues to be a mystery. Hammarskjöld wrote only one book and the draft was found after his death with the permission to publish it. It was published under the title *Vägmärken* 1963 (*Markings*) by Leif Sjöberg with the English translation by W.H. Auden, in 1964. *Markings* was a collection of ancient wisdom and personal reflections.

Interestingly, Hammarskjöld's writings make few direct references to his career as an international civil servant, nor to the historical events of his time. Instead, they reveal a deeply spiritual person, concerned with the sense that outer political peace must arise from inner spiritual

reflection and truth. His journal is often referred to as a 'modern spiritual classic.'

First a few quotes for the remarkable writing:

- "*Never, for the sake of peace and quiet, deny your own experience or convictions.*"
- "*For all that has been, Thank you. For all that is to come, Yes!*"
- "*To have humility is to experience reality, not in relation to ourselves, but in its sacred independence. It is to see, judge, and act from the point of rest in ourselves. Then, how much disappears, and all that remains falls into place.*"
- "*In the point of rest at the center of our being, we encounter a world where all things are at rest in the same way. Then a tree becomes a mystery, a cloud a revelation, each man a cosmos of whose riches we can only catch glimpses. The life of simplicity is simple, but it opens to us a book in which we never get beyond the first syllable.*"

**August 24, 1961**

**Dag Hammarskjöld**

**Translated from the Swedish by Lennart and Gillian Nilsson**

Is this a new land, in a different reality from today's?

Or have I lived there  
before this day?

Woke up, an ordinary day with grey light reflected from the street,  
woke up – from a sombre blue night above the tree line  
moonlight on the moor the mountain ridge in shadow.

Remembered different dreams,  
Remembered the same mountain landscape:

Twice did I climb the ridges, I lived by the inmost lake

and followed the river towards its source.

The seasons have passed and the light and the weather and the hour.

But it is the same land.

And I am beginning to know the map and the points of the compass

**Towards new shores. From: 1945-1949**  
**Dag Hammarskjöld**  
**Translated from the Swedish by Lennart and Gillian Nilsson**

Quiet – as when long bitterness breaks in tears:  
bare ground.

Soft light over wide, shimmering waters –  
Around me soft walls of thaw and haze, low  
ceiling of clouds, mauve from the setting sun.  
In the lake's world of mirrors, pale olive and  
pewter, bare alder branches are reflected,  
swayed by slow, invisible waves.

And then:

Around the lone flame an embrace of warm light  
in the soft darkness. The white clouds of hyacinth  
over the mirror, the deep, sombre well. Glimpses  
of tree trunks in a whispering forest of books.

Not for us, perhaps never for us:

Through the silence the jarring telephone signal  
from conversations we fled from but shall not  
escape. Beneath the calm your memory whispers  
of promises and the peace of burdens shared.  
*No rest if it is not everybody's, no peace until all  
has been fulfilled.*

Hammarskjöld writes, "We are not permitted to  
choose the frame of our destiny. But what we put  
into it is ours. He who wills adventure will  
experience it—according to the measure of his  
courage. He who wills sacrifice will be  
sacrificed—according to the measure of his purity  
of heart."

I can now see the connections between the 13<sup>th</sup>  
Century Mister Eckhart and 20<sup>th</sup> Century  
Hammarskjöld. These are not direct quotes, but  
personal interpretations of two reflective men.  
Separated by decades but not by spirit.

**Mister Eckhart**

- "The eye through which I see God is the  
same eye through which God sees me;  
my eye and God's eye are one eye, one  
seeing, one knowing, one love."
- Be willing to be a beginner every single  
morning... "And suddenly you know: It's

time to start something new and trust the  
magic of beginnings."

- "Spirituality is not to be learned by flight  
from the world, or by running away from  
things, or by turning solitary and going  
apart from the world. Rather, we must  
learn an inner solitude wherever or with  
whomsoever we may be. We must learn  
to penetrate things and find God there."

**Hammarskjöld influenced by Mister Eckhart**

- Lord, Thine the day and I the days.
- We all have within us a centre of stillness  
surrounded by silence. This house,  
dedicated to work and debate in the  
service of peace, should have one room  
dedicated to silence in the outward sense  
and stillness in the inner sense. It has  
been the aim to create in this small room  
a place where the doors may be open to  
the infinite lands of thought and prayer.
- The explanation of how man should live a  
life of active social service in full harmony  
with himself as a member of the  
community of the spirit, I found in the  
writings of those great medieval mystics  
for whom 'self-surrender' had been the  
way to self-realization, and who in  
'singleness of mind' and 'inwardness' had  
found strength to say yes...
- But how, then, am I to love God?' 'You  
must love Him as if He were a Non-God,  
a Non-Spirit, a Non-Person, a Non-  
Substance: love Him simply as the One,  
the pure and absolute Unity in which is no  
trace of Duality. And into this One, we  
must let ourselves fall continually from  
being into non-being. God helps us to do  
this.

I have no way of concluding this brief reflection  
other than with WH Auden's words in his  
translation of Markings in 1964.

*'If we read Markings without remembering all the  
time that it was written by a man who was a great  
"worldly" success, we shall fail to grasp the  
meaning of the sadness and "unworldliness" of  
many of the entries'.<sup>1</sup>*

Christopher

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<sup>1</sup> W. H. Auden, 'Foreword', in Markings, 12.

## **APPOINTMENT OF NEW MINISTER UPDATE**

An advertisement proclaiming our ministerial vacancy has been uploaded to the Church website (see [www.stonningtonchurch.org.au/church-minister-vacancy/](http://www.stonningtonchurch.org.au/church-minister-vacancy/)). Some touching up is still required but this page already has been seen by nearly eighty people. It is intended that the advertisement will be distributed more widely in other media (interstate UCA newsletters and other protestant publications).

Synod Placements Committee has not been able to provide any further names of candidates with whom the Joint Nominating Committee could have a conversation. This is indicative of the current acute shortage of ministers seeking new placements.

We have to resign ourselves to the likelihood that it will be quite some time before the search is successful.

Dick Carter

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## **STONNINGTON COMMUNITY UNITING CHURCH COUNCIL REPORT** *Joyce Jenkin*

The Ewing Kinder lease has been negotiated for another five years with the option of a further five years as well. Approval of the lease will be sought from the Presbytery of Port Phillip East and of the Synod Property Trust (Victoria) as required by UCA Regulations.

It is intended that the slab for the fountain near the Memorial Garden will be installed on Tuesday, 1st October.

Due to the retirement of Colin Jenkins at the end of the year, alternative arrangements will have to be put in place for the music on the Sunday that he currently plays for us. Council would like to thank Colin for his commitment over the years.

Council has given permission for an additional library bookcase to go in the Margaret McKinnon room.

Council has taken note of the fact that the sign on the corner of the Ewing block needs to be redesigned.

It was decided that The People's Choir and the Yukari Echo Japanese Ladies' Choir be invited to participate in the carols service on 22nd December.

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## **SOMETHING FOR THE SPIRIT** *Lorna Henry*

Springtime is upon us, at least in theory if not altogether in reality. September produced new growth out of the cold weather into a renewal of blooms, blossoms and new greenery.

Taking this regrowth as a symbol of life, at our September meeting we looked at photos of war-destroyed Nuremberg in Germany, the old ruined church of St. Sebald, and its rebuilding and transformation by human effort over 10 years. This was a deliberate choice, a commitment to renewal with a lot of hard work. It was not a certain renewal as in nature. Much pain was involved in this rebuilding, but the outcome brought joy, and a functioning church.

Nature renews itself perfectly each year, and yet human actions are threatening even natural growth and rhythms too. Destruction in the natural world seems more frequent and extreme. What will be the ultimate outcome? What is our commitment to preserve its renewal.

Turning our attention to the world of political choice and commitment, we discussed an article by Stan Grant about America (from The Monthly). It contained phrases like 'the death of the American dream' and 'America is in pain'. Soon Americans will face a choice and a commitment.

Australians have their pain too. Renewal is needed.

We are not in positions of power to effect change on any large scale, but as carriers of the Gospel, we have a commitment to renew, rebuild, transform for the better, wherever and whenever we can.

For October, we'll move to reflection and imagination. Poetry is able to express succinctly thoughts and feelings with which we can all resonate. Perhaps even stirring us to new actions?

We will read some poems of reflection about faith and life, and let's see whether they call up individual thoughts and feelings which we can share. The poems will be by local poets, people sharing our faith experience. The names Karel Reus and Denham Grierson will be familiar to you?

We will meet on Sunday October 20th, 5.00pm at 5 Vickery St, East Malvern.  
And you are welcome!

One further thing. In November, we will celebrate 20 years of Something for the Spirit. Do you have an idea for how we should celebrate??

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### **LIBRARY NEWS** *Faye Pattinson*

Exciting news!! The library catalogue is now available through the Stonnington Community Uniting Church website! Do have a look at it and browse the entries. Each entry has the author and title and also a short precis of the content. Perhaps you will find a book that you didn't know we held and will be moved to borrow it!

[SCUC-LIBRARY-CATALOGUE-AUGUST-2024.xls \(live.com\)](#)

Our Book Chat earlier this month was, as usual, stimulating and fun and some of the books shared were:

*All Creatures Great and Small* by James Herriot. Fresh out of Veterinary College the young James Herriot in the 1930s, James thinks Yorkshire would offer an idyllic pocket of rural life in a rapidly changing world. However, the erratic behaviour of his new colleagues, Siegfried and Tristram, the incomprehensible farmers and herds of semi-feral cattle this is far from it. These stories are charming, heart-warming and laugh out loud funny.

*Queen Macbeth* by Val McDermid. Shakespeare fed us the myth of the Macbeths as murderous conspirators. But now Val McDermid drags the truth out of the shadows, exposing the patriarchal prejudices of history. Expect the unexpected. A thousand years ago in an ancient Scottish landscape, a woman is on the run with her three companions – a healer, a weaver and a seer. The men hunting her will kill her – because she is the only one who stands between them and their violent ambition. She is no lady: she is the first queen of Scotland, married to a king called Macbeth.

*Understory: A Life with Trees* by Inga Simpson. For ten years, Inga Simpson lived inside a forest. Each chapter of this nature writing-memoir explores a particular species of tree, layering description, anecdote, and natural history to tell the story of a scrap of forest in the Sunshine Coast hinterland – how the author came to be there and the ways it has shaped her life.

*A Collection of Inspirational thoughts & Affirmations Together with Other Interesting Quotations* by Noel Miller. Over 60 years of his life the author has collected a host of inspirational thoughts and affirmations in a little black book which have been a great comfort to him during his journey through life which may be helpful to others.

Jo has donated a copy to the Church library.

Our last Book Chat for the year will be on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November at 10.30 am. All welcome even if you do not have a book to share. Come and have a coffee/tea and hear what others have been reading.

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### **AFTERNOON FELLOWSHIP**

*Lencie Harding*

Our small group met on Monday September 16<sup>th</sup> in the Margaret McKinnon Room. It was a most interesting afternoon listening to the members speak about their working lives.

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## AFTERNOON FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITY TABLE

*Lencie Harding*

On behalf of Treasurer, Jan Riches, I am pleased to report that September's Opportunity Table raised \$139.60.

Thank you to everyone who brought and bought. Special thanks to Margie Mitsikas for the freshly baked scones.

A cheque for \$500 has been sent to Frontier Services to assist the work of the Bush Chaplains.

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## SAMMY STAMP

*Lencie Harding*

The following is from Allan Clark's report for the October 2024 issue of the Uniting Church Adult Fellowship's magazine *Net Work*:

The wind has finally decided to ease as I write this. A couple of Sammy's helpers recently journeyed to Bendigo to speak at a U.C.A.F. Regional Gathering at the Kangaroo Flat UC. Their presentation included how a lot of our sales are accomplished through the internet, including overseas. The Sammy Stamp CD - now 8 years old - was also shown. The Sammy Stamp volunteers really enjoyed the day - and the food - and came home with many stamps etc. for Sammy Stamp to trim, sort and sell.

Now for more mundane items. Up to and including 5/9/2024, sales had reached about \$22,330 (\$23,542 same period, last year.) We have not approved any further grants therefore the Total amount in grants approved so far this year remains at \$30,900.

Please keep those generous donations of stamps etc. flowing in to P.O. Box 2260 NORTH BRIGHTON, VIC. 3186.

Allan Clark.  
Convenor

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## FORTHCOMING EVENTS Give us this day our daily bread... Food and Social Justice Justice and International Mission Convention 2024

**When:** Saturday 5 October, 9 am – 4:15 pm

**Where:** Centre for Theology and Ministry, 29 College Crescent, Parkville

**Cost:** \$40 Metropolitan/ \$25 Concession and Rural and Regional/\$10 online (morning sessions only)

Food is an integral part of our life in our Christian Communities. There are many social justice dimensions to what we eat. These include:

\*Making sure everyone has enough healthy food to eat;

\*Impacts on climate change, with emissions related to food making up a third of global greenhouse gas emissions;

\*Multinational food corporations that put their profits ahead of people's health;

\*Fair employment conditions for those that produce our food; and,

\*Not stigmatising people for their weight when ultra-processed foods are designed to be addictive.

You can register your attendance on this site [Justice and International Mission Convention 2024 - Uniting Church in Australia. Synod of Victoria and Tasmania \(uca.org.au\)](https://www.uca.org.au/justice-and-international-mission-convention-2024)

**FORTHCOMING CONCERTS @ CHURCH**

**MUSICAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA  
October 13**



MSV Malvern  
presents  
**CLASSICAL MUSIC  
CONCERT**

Orlando Basile (cello) - Angela Hengel (clarinet)  
Claire Qian (violin) - Daniel Wang (French horn)  
Jun Gardiner (cello) - Yuelin Cui (violin)  
Lieun Park (cello) - Kane Shum (violin)

Sunday 13th October 2024  
2:30pm

**Location :**  
Stonnington Community Uniting Church  
59 Burke Road  
corner of Coppin St and Burke Rd  
Malvern East

**Tickets :**  
Adult \$10  
Student/Concession \$5  
[www.trybooking.com/CRFCJ](http://www.trybooking.com/CRFCJ)

**More Information :**  
[msvmalvern.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:msvmalvern.secretary@gmail.com)

**LIFT THE SPIRITS  
October 27**

Please come and support this fund-raiser to support asylum seekers. Organized by Higgins Grandmothers for Refugees and spearheaded by Margie Mitsikas, the proceeds will go to the Brigidine Asylum Seeker Project (BASP).

You are assured of a wonderfully uplifting musical experience with the renowned pianist Alan Kogosowski and associate artists.

IN SUPPORT OF REFUGEES  
HIGGINS GRANDMOTHERS INVITE YOU TO

*'Lift the Spirits'*  
**CONCERT**

3pm SUNDAY 27<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER  
2024



Soprano  
**ELIZABETH FINKEL**



featuring  
**ALAN  
KOGOSOWSKI**



Clarinetist  
**LILY TAMIR-REGEV**

MUSIC BY  
**SCHUBERT CHOPIN MOZART  
& MENDELSSOHN**



STONNINGTON UNITING CHURCH  
59 BURKE RD. EAST MALVERN  
Tickets via [trybooking.com/CTZYA](http://trybooking.com/CTZYA)  
\$50; p/conc \$40; student over 12yrs \$20.  
Enquiries ph 0421 385 534

## THE PEOPLE'S CHOIR: SENIOR MOMENTS! October 29

This concert is part of the City of Stonnington's Seniors Week celebrations. A rollicking night is guaranteed under the direction of Bettina Spivakovsky.



warmly invited, including those who may be homeless, together with a range of community participants. No RSVP is required.

We are looking forward to extending the use of our beautiful Church to "house" the Forum (please pardon the pun!). The event will include a "curated" afternoon tea and an opportunity for us all to meet new people with an interest in this important subject, chat and make connections.

Please consider sharing this invitation with your contacts in the wider local community. Leaflets can be obtained from the Church Office. We would be grateful if you would place them on the noticeboards (physical or virtual) of as many organisations as possible.

The SCUC website provides comprehensive information about the Forum and its impressive speakers: Debra Holmes and Noah Yang.

[Community Forum- Housing and Homelessness \(stonningtonchurch.org.au\)](https://stonningtonchurch.org.au)

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### BE INSPIRED!



### SCUC Community Forum on Housing and Homelessness

**November 17**

Homelessness is a sensitive subject to which many of us respond with despair and discomfort. It is not the usual topic of choice for a Sunday afternoon discussion in Spring. However, the Church Council having decided to reinstitute community forums facilitated by the parish, we intend the inaugural SCUC Forum on Homelessness to encourage and inform participants, provide an opportunity to question and importantly to INSPIRE!

A busy informal congregation working group, convened by Alison Tokita, has been meeting frequently to plan SCUC's exciting 2024 social outreach initiative.

This free event will take place on **Sunday 17 November 2024** commencing at 3.00pm. All members of the congregation and friends are

We all recognise that homelessness is a complex multifaceted issue, with many causes and no one solution. There are some innovative dedicated services out there. Our Forum is about "joining the dots", helping us develop a better understanding of how we can make a difference.

Let's not be overwhelmed or put the homelessness issue in the "too hard basket", but rather take this exciting opportunity to play our part as individuals and as a congregation to assist in filling in the gaps.

Maria and Alan Sandbach

The leaflet with more information is on page 11.

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### "Sleepout Rough for the Homeless" November 22

Cheryl Jenkins has shared this information about a project of the Rotary Club of Chadstone / East Malvern to support South Port Community Housing which houses vulnerable elderly people without any government support. Cheryl wrote:



Rotary got involved through Michele Kennedy who was last year's president of the Rotary club of Chadstone/East Malvern of which I am a member. Last year we had an old (or surplus to requirements) coats drive to pass on to them and also refurbished laptops which I dropped off to them. South Port is a suburb on the edge of the city and feels like a low socioeconomic area.

Michele started "Sleepout rough for the homeless" about three years ago and has raised quite a bit of money. People pay for the privilege of sleeping overnight in Central Park!

You can book via Trybooking: [Sleepout Rough for the Homeless Tickets, Central Park, Malvern East | TryBooking Australia](#)

Ed: I have booked! Anyone else joining me?

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### COMMON THREADS *Alison Tokita*

On September 26, we again welcomed a new member, thanks to leaflets displayed in The Button Shop. We are glad that other recently joined members continue to come. Jackie attended for the third time and wrote in an email, "Thank you for taking the time out to teach me how to knit from scratch! I have since been knitting non-stop. It was more than worthwhile, life-changing actually." Jackie has invited all of us to attend her wedding in November, a nuptial mass to be held at St Aloysius in Balaclava Road!



Just one of a number of rugs joined up by Jo this month for KOGO. Our regular members continue to be productive in their various projects.

Next meeting will be Thursday 24 October, in the Margaret McKinnon Room, 10 to 12 noon.

Feel free to come and have fun making things, meet new people, and join the conversation.

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### MONTHLY CAFÉ CATCH-UP Tuesday 8 October from 2 pm Venue: Mr Sister Café, 81 Waverley Road

Our informal gathering over coffee on the second Tuesday of the month will again be at the **Mr Sister café**, on the corner of Douglas Street, very close to the church. This weirdly named café is a light and sunny venue, the coffee is good, and the service friendly. Please feel free to drop in for a chat and a catch-up. They are open till 3:30 pm.



All welcome, regardless of age, gender, dietary preferences etc.

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### PERSONALS / RELOCATIONS

We were happy to learn that **Rev Paulo Kwajakwan** has commenced a new placement at Benalla. You may recall he wrote of his life journey starting from Southern Sudan for InSpire in June 2022.

From [Community Voice | Cobram Courier](#)  
On Sunday, August 18 the congregations of Benalla, Devenish, Goorambat and Swanpool gathered in joyful celebration as Rev Paulo Kwajakwan was inducted into ministry. The service was led by Rev Gereldine Leonard, the chair of the Presbytery of North East Victoria, and supported by many friends from Benalla churches and the community. Rev Paulo will lead worship on Sunday, August 25 at Benalla (9.15am) and Goorambat (11am).

Another former member of our congregation, **Rev Sylvia Akau'ola**, has accepted a call to Toorak Uniting Church. We look forward to working together with Sylvia in the same Presbytery.

**From the Presbytery Newsletter, September 4**

Please join us to celebrate the induction service of Rev Sylvia Akau'ola Tongotongo to be called as a minister of Toorak Uniting Church. The service will be held on Sunday 6 October at 2pm.

**Elizabeth Terrell** is now settled back at Cameron Lodge, Wattle Park, after an extended period of respite after surgery.

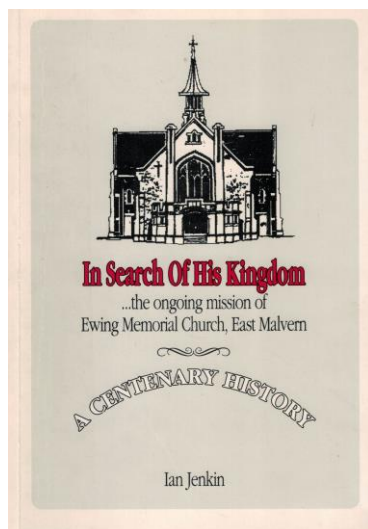
**Olwyn and Ron Syle** have moved to MECWA in Malvern Road, so they are now neighbours with Ian Jenkin!

**Gwen Dennis** has moved to ARCARE in Carnegie.

The Stonnington church community is shocked and deeply saddened by the sudden death of **Steve McAllister**, son of Grace and Keith. Well-known to many of our congregation, Steve is remembered for his vivacity, kindness and Christian leadership. Our condolences to Grace, Keith and their family.

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**Ian Jenkin's** *In Search of his Kingdom: The Ongoing Mission of Ewing Memorial Church, East Malvern, A CENTENARY HISTORY*, published in 1991, gives a lucid and comprehensive account of our church from its beginnings in 1888 to 1990.



As a historian, Ian has concisely contextualised the establishment of the church in the history of settlement and early development. Drawing of parish archives and oral history, he also consults numerous published sources that are listed in the bibliography. The book traces the parish through each ministry starting with Rev John Ewing 1888 – 1890) and finishing with Rev Alan Wade (1984 – 1990).

The names memorialised in the building itself can be recognised and are brought to life in this narrative. An extensive appendix listing office-bearers (including board of management /parish council and elders) provides links with many of those currently active in the parish.

This rich resource invites a follow-up account of the twenty-four years since its publication! Who will put up their hand to form a working party to collate published material and conduct oral history interviews to weave together the developments and changes of the recent past? An understanding of the past is a crucial foundation for the building of the future.

There are still copies to be had through Jane in the Office, and there are a couple of copies in the Library.

Letters to the Editor on this issue will be welcomed!

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### What our Parishioners Say!

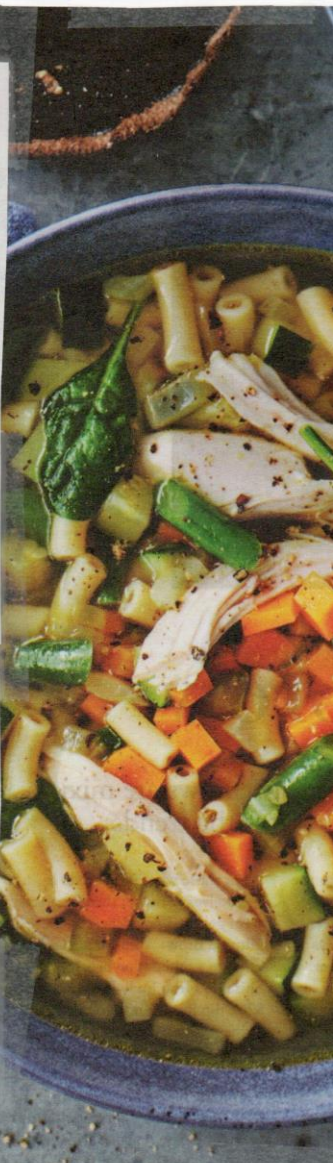
[Home | Stonnington Community Uniting Church \(stonningtonchurch.org.au\)](http://stonningtonchurch.org.au)

If you scroll right down close to the bottom of the top page, you will find a section of comments about how people experience and appreciate the church. Please send your pithy accolades to the Editor of *InSpire* for publishing on-line!

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## Michael's Recipes

In response to popular demand, Michael Williams has kindly shared his famed chicken soup and cinnamon biscuit recipes. He possibly hopes someone else will make the chicken soup for church lunches now and again!



**ROAST CHICKEN NOODLE SOUP**

An already cooked chook is the perfect shortcut for this simple but hearty soup.

**Serves 6**

- 1 shop-bought roast chicken
- 1 carrot, peeled and diced
- 1 celery stalk, peeled and diced
- 1 brown onion, peeled and diced
- 1 zucchini, diced
- handful of green beans, cut into 1cm lengths
- 2 tsp chicken stock powder (350cc water)
- 1 fresh bay leaf
- 1 stalk fresh rosemary
- 2 garlic cloves, bruised
- 40g butter
- 1 cup macaroni, orzo or other short pasta
- 2 cups baby spinach, roughly chopped
- juice of ½ a lemon

1. With your hands, strip the meat and skin from the chicken, leaving the bones and stuffing. Roughly chop the meat, place on a tray with the diced vegetables and set aside while you make the stock base.
2. Place the bones and stuffing into a pot and add all the peelings and offcuts of the vegetables, stock powder, herbs and garlic. Add 2 litres of water. Simmer, covered, for 1 hour.
3. Heat a large saucepan over medium heat and add the butter, then fry the carrot, celery, onion, zucchini and beans for about 5 minutes, until softened. Strain the stock into the vegetables and bring to a simmer. Stir through the pasta and spinach and simmer for 15 minutes, then add the chicken and stir through. Taste and adjust seasoning, then stir through the lemon juice and serve.



**BROWN CINNAMON BISCUITS**

Butter biscuits with a hint of cinnamon are delicious at any time, but I think they're at their best still warm from the oven. Just make sure they've cooled enough to not be too soft.

Makes 8 biscuits  
USE 1/2 TBS SCOOP TO MAKE BISCUIT BALLS.

- 250g unsalted butter, softened
- 200g soft brown sugar, packed
- 150g sugar
- 1 egg
- 2 tsp vanilla extract
- 350g plain flour
- 2 tsp baking soda
- 2 tsp cinnamon
- 1 tsp flake salt

1. Combine the butter and sugars in the bowl of a stand mixer fitted with the paddle attachment and beat for 5 minutes until pale and fluffy. Lightly beat the egg and vanilla together, then add a little at a time to the butter mixture, beating until combined. Sift in the flour, baking soda and cinnamon and mix on low speed until combined.
2. Heat oven to 180C fan-forced (200C conventional). Place a piece of baking paper on a baking tray (or two). Place 2 balls of dough on the tray then gently press the salt into the top of each ball. Bake for 12 minutes until just starting to brown around the edges. Remove from the oven, allow to cool for 5 minutes then serve.

## A WORD FROM THE EDITOR

Please feel free to send me your news items and photos for *InSpire*. We also welcome letters and articles, so if you feel inspired, do write about any topic of interest to you to share with our readers. *Letters to the Editor are also welcome.* We can also promote your events at a modest or no fee!

Deadline for the **November 2024** edition of *InSpire* is **Monday, 28 October**. Articles should be emailed to the Editor, Alison Tokita, at [REDACTED] where possible, or they can be given in person.

## **STONNINGTON COMMUNITY FORUM**



Designed by Freepik

### **HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS**

Sunday November 17, 3.00 to 5.00 pm

Stonnington Community Uniting Church

57 Burke Road (cnr Coppin Street), East Malvern

This Forum will challenge you to explore the interrelated issues of homelessness and housing by hearing from two inspiring people who have created organisations to provide services for the homeless. Their work ranges from distributing food and clothing, and extends to assisting with buying houses, and many things in between.

You will be encouraged to think outside the box about the complexities of the problems and the solutions, and to consider: What role can we play?

The speakers will welcome challenging questions and comments from all participants.

**Participation in the Forum is FREE**

### **Enquiries and further information**

Stonnington Community Uniting Church

76 Coppin Street, MALVERN EAST, VIC 3145

tel: (03) 9571 4575

email: [stonningtoncommunityuc@iinet.net.au](mailto:stonningtoncommunityuc@iinet.net.au)

web: [stonningtonchurch.org.au](http://stonningtonchurch.org.au)

**Refreshments will be provided**

## SPEAKERS

### DEBORAH HOLMES

Director, Avalon Centre, 1936 Malvern Rd, Malvern East



**Avalon**  
Centre

[avaloncentre.org.au](http://avaloncentre.org.au)



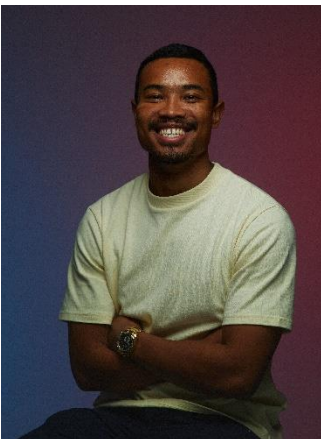
Deborah Holmes founded the Avalon Centre in 1987. "Our aim is to meet the unmet needs in society and help people who have slipped through the cracks. Avalon assists those who have been forgotten, overlooked and left behind. This includes the homeless, people with mental health and physical problems and disabilities, the elderly, refugees and anyone else who may benefit from our support. Avalon Services include *Homes for the Homeless*, *Avalon Drop-In*, and *Clothes & Bedding Distribution*, and individual support."

### NOAH YANG

Founder and CEO of "We are Mobilise"



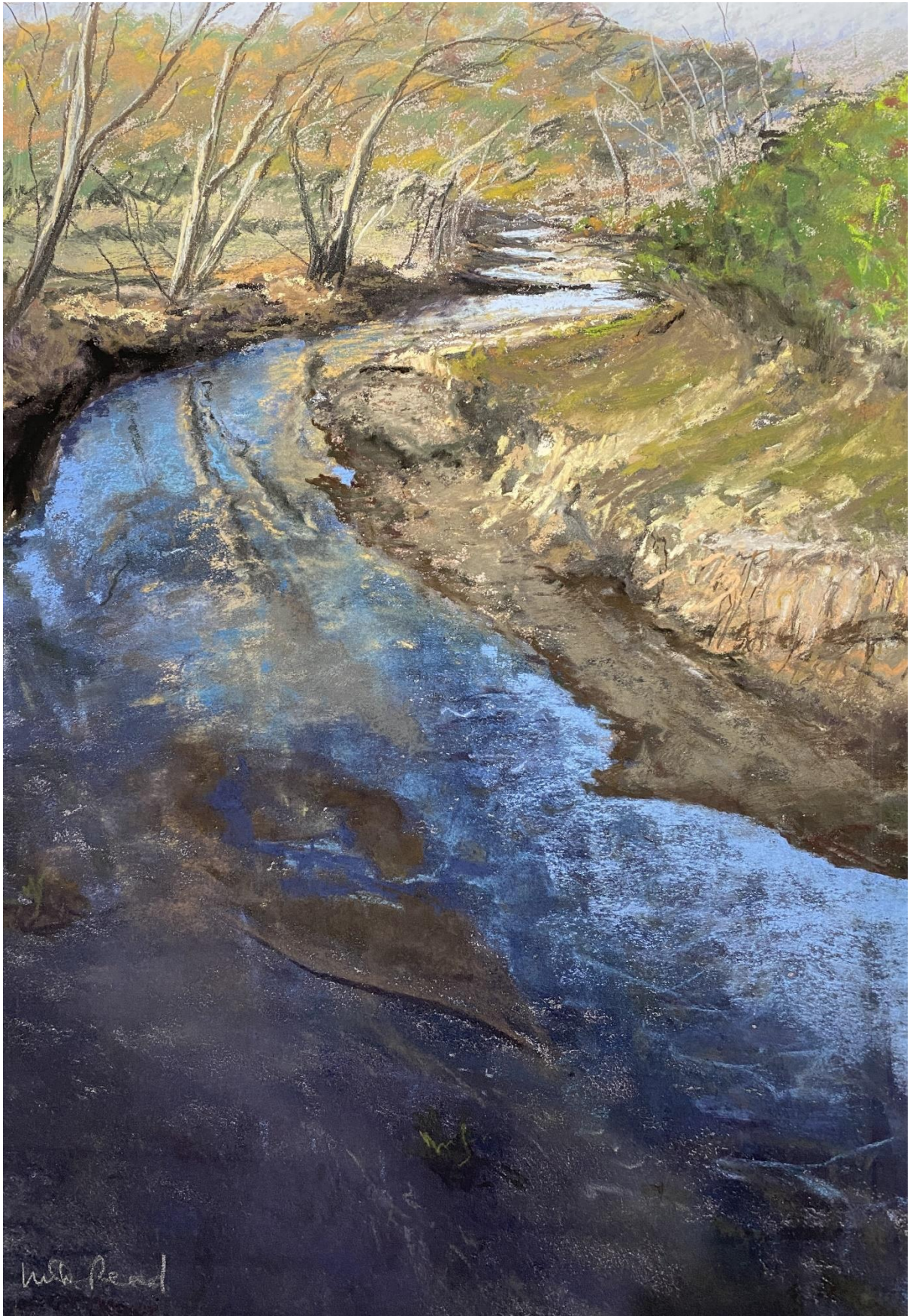
[Wearemobilise.org.au](http://Wearemobilise.org.au)



Noah founded the Mobilise movement challenged by the question "In a country as prosperous as Australia, why does anybody have to sleep on the street?". Since the first night he and a friend headed out with bags of bread to have conversations, Noah has led *We Are Mobilise* from a grassroots movement focused on assertive outreach through to an ACNC-registered national charity with operations in 5 states across Australia. Mobilise recently completed a \$2 million+ fundraising campaign with Nedd Brockmann, positioning it to launch some Australia-first direct giving programs - already having 100+ participants through these innovative programs.

**CALENDAR OCTOBER 2024**

<b>SUNDAY 6th</b>	<b>11 AM</b>	<b>EUCCHARIST &amp; COMMUNITY LUNCH</b>
<b>TUESDAY 8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>2.00 PM</b>	<b>CAFÉ CATCH UP AT MR SISTER CAFÉ 81 WAVERLEY RD</b>
<b>SUNDAY 13<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>10.30 AM</b>	<b>CHURCH SERVICE</b>
<b>SUNDAY 20<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10.30 AM 5.00 AM</b>	<b>CHURCH SERVICE SOMETHING FOR THE SPIRIT</b>
<b>THURSDAY 24<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>10.00 AM</b>	<b>COMMON THREADS</b>
<b>SUNDAY 27<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>10.30 AM</b>	<b>CHURCH SERVICE</b>



Yes, our own Michael Read, who paints in pastels. The scene on the cover is Jacksons Creek, looking towards the airport. You can see airport buildings on the skyline. This one is the Seven Miles Creek, east of Euroa. Thank you, Michael, for sharing these lovely pieces!