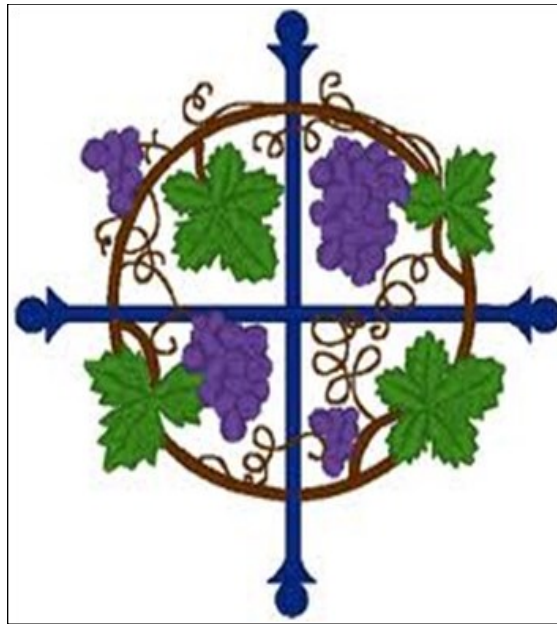


ST MATTHEW'S GRAPEVINE



PARISH OF ALBURY

MARCH 2013

Fr Peter writes :

Dear People of St Matthew's

Easter

*There is a green hill far away,
Outside a city wall,
Where the dear Lord was crucified,
Who died to save us all.*

*We may not know, we cannot tell,
What pains He had to bear;
But we believe it was for us
He hung and suffered there.*

*O dearly, dearly, has He loved,
And we must love Him, too,
And trust in His redeeming blood,
And try His works to do.*



Cecil Alexander the wife of the Bishop of Derry wrote some very well known hymns including "All things bright and beautiful", "Once In Royal David's City" and "There is a green Hill far away" she had a special interest in children and wrote the last hymn when at the bedside of her seriously sick daughter, so it still feels like a prayer and is one of the best loved hymns of this season. Particularly when sung to the tune by William Horsley, a great friend of Mendelssohn.

Lenten speakers and visitors included the Governor of NSW, Professor Geoffrey Blainey, Rowan Callick from "the Australian newspaper" and others on the theme "Home and Away"-belonging and separation.

Holy week, beginning with Palm Sunday and a procession with donkeys and palm branches has posed special challenges in relation to moving sometimes reluctant animals amid crowds of equally excited children without compromising very special music and liturgy which have been overcome through a careful using of St Matthews amazing building, so the "Bethlehem stable" which thrilled 1000 people at Christmas will become the triumphant entry into Jerusalem decked with palm branches, and the palm crosses will be blessed and distributed during the service which will engage young and old.

Maundy Thursday features a special Eucharist and foot washing and altar stripping and short watch while Good Friday will be kept with great solemnity with passion hymns and readings, followed by an ecumenical stations of the cross at Northern Albury and a concert of sacred music and arias by Opera Singer and star of the Adelaide ring cycle Liane Keegan and American conductor Dobbs Franks at 3 pm.

Easter day will be a great family celebration with baptisms and chicks, Rabbits and baby animals at 9am again with outstanding music from Organist and Choir followed by a champagne breakfast.

Harvest festival, the weekend before Lent, was a very happy weekend with a splendid Harvest market and harvest services, many went to a great trouble to host stalls and the scare crows have become like old friends and look very effective and while they have not scared the growing number of crows in the rectory garden they have certainly scared visitors to the rectory !!!!

“Albury’s Own Regiment“ the 2/23rd enjoyed a big day in Canberra recently when well-wishers came to the dedication of a new plaque and the special connection with St Matthews was remembered and prayers and dedication shared by the Rector of St Mathews and the military chaplain at the Australian war memorial.

Our bellringers, choir and sanctuary team and so many in the St Matthews family continue to serve St Matthews in an outstanding way and on behalf of us all our deep appreciation and keep up the good and joyful work.

Fr Peter



Lent Lectures—Tim Fischer with guest organist Allan Beavis



Will Elrik—up coming Lent Speaker

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

SAFETY ISSUES putting a sensor light in the toilets

LANDSCAPING A raffle with proceeds going to the garden has been organised. If you would like to buy a ticket see Annie Snow.

OUTREACH AND PASTROL CARE Rev'd Maureen would like to start a Pastoral Partnership programme. The Pastoral care team hopes to hold a memorial service, perhaps close to Mother's Day.

ANGLICAN FOOD ROOM 34 hampers were given out in January. 254 packets of mince were given out. 25 of these were given to Westside. Barbara Hoodless has offered to assist Angie in the food room. They will work alternate months.

ARCHIVING The archives have been transferred from Unit 6 to Unit 7 in St Matthew's Village. Thanks to the help of Steve and the boys from community services.

FINANCES Cassie Piltz our book keeper has resigned. Another book keeper will be appointed. Our Diocesan assessment has increased a lot, mainly due to the increase in insurance costs. The assessment is based on several things, one being our income. Cathy Carden, Ken Davenport and Fr Alan are going to meet with Tim Williams (Registrar).

BANK BALANCE As the books are at the auditors I cannot give the financial figures to the end of January.

CHOIR There are 45 members on the books. It wont be long before the gallery isn't big enough to hold all the members.

BELL TOWER Looking at ways to cool the tower. Have been looking at portable coolers.

FENCE AROUND AIRCON. UNIT Martin Hendriks is going to put a fence around the unit..

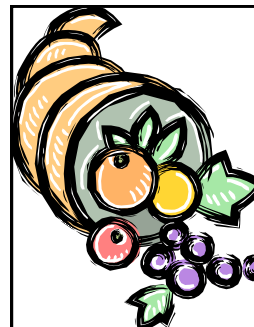
Kaye Kennedy Parish Council Secretary

HARVEST FESTIVAL MARKET.

Thank you to everyone who supported the market, whether it was setting up, packing up, donating goods for the stalls, helping on the stalls or just coming to buy.

We raised \$1625.00 after expenses. Please note other food is the morning tea & ploughman's lunch

BOOKS	\$ 128.80
BBQ	\$ 354.20
CAKES	\$ 384.85
APPLES	\$ 311.00
OTHER FOOD	\$ 32.05
PLANTS	\$ 185.50
PRODUCE	\$ 56.00
DONATIONS	\$ 132.60
STALLS	\$ 40.00
TOTAL	\$ 1,625.00



ST MATTHEW'S AGM

**TO BE HELD ON
SUNDAY 3RD MARCH**
FOLLOWING THE 9 AM SERVICE
Bp. John Parkes to be Guest Preacher.

St Matthew's Church, Albury

Invites You to Attend our

Aged Care Easter Service

**Wednesday 29th March, 2013
at 10.30 am**

A specially designed service
in preparation for Easter Week
This will be ideal
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We truly want to make you our special focus

**Light refreshments will be served
at the conclusion of the service**

Should you require assistance
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please ring St Matthew's Church Office
"Phone 6021 3022
and we will make every effort to arrange it



Children's Church service time has changed to 10.30am each third Sunday, with the now usual 9am service beforehand and

★ *Julie Scott* Children's Church spokesperson for Mother's Union, Albury

MONTHLY OFFERINGS

<i>Week</i>	<i>Planned Giving</i>	<i>Open Plate</i>	<i>Baptisms</i>
6 January	\$1070.00	\$691.10	
13 January	\$ 986.50	\$641.10	
20 January	\$ 899.00	\$587.75	\$100.00
27 January	\$1251.50	\$983.60	

*Offerings do not take into account any payments that are paid directly into the Bank.
No Evensong In January*

**Direct Deposit into St Matthews Bank Account is available
for those wishing to make a donation or for your planned giving.**

Parish Banking Details.

Bank National Australia Bank (NAB)
Account Name St Matthew's Church Albury No 1 Account
BSB 082 406 Account no. 17053 2923

PARISHIONER PROFILE FOR GRAPEVINE—Sam Goddard

My early years were spent in Melbourne where at the age of 10 was sent to the junior boarding school at Melbourne Grammar. In time, had matriculated and completed one year at the University in first year Science, joined the University Rifles and spent the next two years at Bonegilla. The Chemical Warfare unit left the area and Defence let me finish two years of Science and then needed private means to do Medicine finishing in 1950. After a period of 2 years intern in public hospitals city practice was not for me: this meant either general practice or extra training for a specialist. Decided on Eyes and had a year at the Royal Eye Hospital



London linked with Institute of Ophthalmology. It was during this period was seeing Marion Suttie a trained sister from Edinburgh: finally another year at Birmingham to obtain the necessary qualifications. Marion and I were married at St. Bartholomews London prior to return to Australia.

An offer to join a large eye practice in Adelaide was accepted giving access to the Children's Hospital and their General Hospital. In 1956 Dr Rosen had his surgery for sale and decided then to buy his practice in Bogong Chambers. Arrived in Albury with Marion, 2yr old David and a yappy dog called Toby. Worked steadily for next 35 years then stopped at aged 70 to have radical surgery for a tumour and then pledged to take increasing interest in matters related to the Church particularly the Anglican tradition. Over this period my family were not regular church attendees, the two younger boys were baptised by Fr Fred Hill and occasional children's Sunday school run by Mr Jim Wenham. After attending Albury Primary School each of the three boys were sent to boarding school. Marion became friendly with many of the migrants staying at Bonegilla with regular work and intent to settle here. They had common appreciation of the Arts, Drama and Music. I attended Men's Group meetings in the old hall, breakfasts working bees but not as enthused as would wish. Then suddenly after months and months of bible and psalm reading I became apparent of feeling a close member of the church community. At present am attending Prayer Circle which is not a secret society run by Demons but a challenging skill.

Bless you all my friends,

Sam Goddard



Piglets with Damaris, Morgan and Shem



The youth group



Fun and fellowship on Pancake night



Enjoying the ambience on pancake night!



Harvest festival scarecrow winners!



Harvest festival stall

MENS GROUP BREAKFAST

The Men's group held a breakfast meeting on Saturday 9th Feb a good group attended and the Rev. Charles Vesely was the Guest speaker. Charles is a Padre with the Australian Defence Forces (ADF) and is located with the Army at Bandiana. He told us that ADF chaplains are sent by the Church into the Forces to minister to all personnel. He said that the ADF highly values Chaplains and indeed even in times of fiscal restraint by the Govt. a few more are currently being engaged which is a very good sign. Currently Chaplains are celebrating 100 years of service to the Army. He said that Chaplains not only minister to defence (Army, Navy and RAAF) personnel but also to their immediate families. He has to be ecumenical as he encounters all of the main faiths and also to non believers. He recounted an experience when on a flight to Afghanistan for a deployment there, a man sitting beside him on the plane said "why are you coming to this war ? " "you are wasting space that could be taken up by another 'war- fighter'?" Charles replied that he was coming in an official capacity with the blessing of the ADF. Later on when on the deployment, this same man came to Charles and asked him to pray as he was very nervous about going into the firing line the next day. Charles stressed that he is right on the battle front and is right in the firing line when doing his duty as a Padre. While chaplains are officially non combatants they are out there among the troops all the time. On deployment he conducts services for the ADF staff and conducts Compline every night in the compound 'behind the fence' as he puts it. and also he holds services and communion every Sunday. He says that he usually conducts a prayer session to finish the day and then he 'leaves the night and the next day' to God. Afghanistan was Charles' second deployment as earlier- on he served a tour of duty in Timor-Leste. Charles is currently conducting a three week Chaplaincy course for ordained Priests who are to become ADF Padres. The men all showed great appreciation for Charles' address and for having a man of his calibre among us.

Graeme Scott

Serving the Men's breakfast



Burning of Palm crosses pancake night



Children showing their palm crosses

BOOK REVIEW

Proof of Heaven A Neurosurgeon's Journey into the Afterlife
Eben Alexander MD
Macmillan \$24.99 (at Dymocks)



This is an interesting and impressive book with many clinical details not usually available in accounts of NDE (Near Death Experiences), but at first glance it might be just another description of what the author experienced, or thought he experienced, while in a coma. However, Dr. Alexander says "My experience showed me that the death of the body and brain is not the end of consciousness...What happened to me while I was in that coma is the most important story I will ever tell. But it's a tricky story to tell because it is so foreign to ordinary understanding". There have been many accounts of NDEs with fewer details or verification, and which skeptics often refute. Dr. Alexander was, and still is, a neurosurgeon, and as a scientist has described exactly the medical procedures and the reactions of his family. These events occurred in 2005. Following a severe backache one morning the illness progressed rapidly and the patient was soon in a coma. A lumbar puncture (to remove a small amount of spinal fluid for diagnosis) revealed that Dr. Alexander had a bacterial meningitis, which is often fatal - his brain at this stage had ceased to function. Details of medical procedures, treatments, antibiotics etc are included. He remained in a coma for seven days, during which time family members visited and stayed and some prayed. Finally he awoke and eventually recovered completely, and with detailed recall of the NDE. Medical comments in the book refute reasons often given for NDEs, as most accept that there is still limited brain function. In Dr. Alexander's case, the spinal fluid was full of pus so brain function was absent. So what did he experience? Reviews of this book (TV, Good Reading magazine) concentrate on what he actually saw, rather than the meaning of the experience. After all, that is what most people want to know. "What is heaven like?" There are some details, 'a beautiful place, many universes with love at the centre, the Creator so close there seemed no distance between God and myself, God - omniscient and omnipotent, but any descriptive word falls short; beings full of light' and so on. Five years after this experience, of what value has it been? For Dr. Alexander the knowledge that we ourselves are loved completely and that we have the unconditional love of our Creator is more important than anything else and also that consciousness does not die when the body dies. Dr. Alexander says he is 'living proof' of this and what he had learned was so important he needed to tell as many people as possible. After reading this book, skeptics will probably remain skeptics! But for the rest of us? Surely we have been taught that we are loved unconditionally by God? But do we believe it - without the benefit of a NDE? The medical details (and there are many) are carefully explained for the layman. There is a good index and several pages of book titles on similar subjects.

Read the book and make up your own mind!

Angela Braybrooks.



EVENING GROUP NEWS

Our first meeting for 2013 was held on Thursday, February 21st and was well attended. President Margaret welcomed back Thelma and Ann who had been unable to attend meetings for a while. Time was spent organizing the programme for the year. Also, possible fund-raising ideas were discussed and two were decided upon. Details next month.

P. Thorman (Secretary)

H U M O U R

7 Reasons Not To Mess With Children.....



A little girl was talking to her teacher about whales.

The teacher said it was physically impossible for a whale to swallow a human because even though it was a very large mammal its throat was very small.

The little girl stated that Jonah was swallowed by a whale.

Irritated, the teacher reiterated that a whale could not swallow a human; it was physically impossible.

The little girl said, 'When I get to heaven I will ask Jonah'.

The teacher asked, 'What if Jonah went to hell?'

The little girl replied, 'Then you ask him'!

.....

One day a little girl was sitting and watching her mother do the dishes at the kitchen sink. She suddenly noticed that her mother had several strands of white hair sticking out in contrast on her brunette head.

She looked at her mother and inquisitively asked, 'Why are some of your hairs white, Mum?'

Her mother replied, 'Well, every time that you do something wrong and make me cry or unhappy, one of my hairs turns white.'

The little girl thought about this revelation for a while and then said, 'Mummy, how come ALL of grandma's hairs are white?'

.....

The children had all been photographed, and the teacher was trying to persuade them each to buy a copy of the group picture.

'Just think how nice it will be to look at it when you are all grown up and say,

'There's Jennifer, she's a lawyer,' or 'That's Michael, He's a doctor..'

A small voice at the back of the room rang out, 'And there's the teacher, she's dead.'

ON THE RECORD

Baptisms

We welcome into Christ's family

27 January Tamika Janise COAD
Chase Ronald BARTLETT
3 February Domenick Leslie Casmore BROWN
10 February Willow Kate DOUGHTY
Thomas John PERRY
16 February Jack Archer KETTLEWELL
17 February Giaan Louise BEARD
Christopher Andrew BEARD
Shari EDWARDS
George Eric WHITSED



Weddings

We congratulate those joined together in Holy Matrimony

26 January Benjamin James Taylor ROBINSON and
Kara Leigh WEBSTER



Funerals

*We pray for those who have died and extend our sympathies
to those who mourn*

29 January John Lester ROACH
4 February 'Frank' Francis Richard SULLIVAN
6 February Jean Olive OSMAND
12 February 'Stan' Stanley Victor RUDD



Years Mind – March

We pray for those whose anniversary falls at this time

'Jim' James Charles EVANS (2nd), Benjamin PARKER (3rd), James Roy MONK (3rd), Joan THOMAS (5th), Jeff HOLLAND (6th), Penny SNELL (6th), Michael HEALY (8th), Aimee Lea KOEHLER (9th), Gloria CORBAN (11th), Phyllis STEPHENS (12th), Henry KNOBLE (13th), Minnie EISENHAUER (13th), Sr Clare (13th), Joanne Lesley NESBIT (14th), Roy WINSTANLEY (17th), Frank GIBBS (23rd), 'Doll' Dorothy WEIDNER (23rd), Leonard LEMKE (26th), Mildred WINSTANLEY (28th), Frank HARDY (30th), Nita KLOSE (30th), Brian Marcus CLIFF (30th), Joan DAVIS (31st)

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ST MATTHEW'S PARISH DIRECTORY

SERVICE TIMES

Weekdays

7.00 a.m. Morning Prayer
5:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

TUESDAY

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

WEDNESDAY

10:30 a.m. Eucharist

THURSDAY

No services

FRIDAY

10.00 a.m. Eucharist at Riverwood (except 1st Friday). All welcome

SUNDAY

9.00 a.m. Sung Eucharist
Last Sunday of every month—Matins with Holy Communion
10:30 a.m. Children's Church 3rd Sunday every month
5.00 p.m. Evensong (Only 1st Sunday of every month)

PARISH CLERGY:

Rector:	Peter Macleod-Miller	Ph: 6021 3022
Associate Priest:	Fr Alan Kelb OAM	Ph. 0418 464 053
Associate Priest:	Rev'd Maureen Beattie	(02) 6026 8861
Hon. Associate Priest:	Fr. Bill Ginns	Ph: 6025 0556
Hospital Chaplain:	Rev'd Arthur Martin	Ph: 0414 575 875
Pastoral Care	Deacon Heather Matthews	0402 900 777

PARISH OFFICE:

Rector's Secretary: Deb Davenport
Book keeper/Accounts: Cate Kirk
Open Monday to Friday 8.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.
Phone: 6021 3022
Fax: 6041 3149
e-mail: office@stmatthews.com.au Website: www.stmatthews.com.au
Facebook: St Matthew's Anglican Church Albury

PARISH COUNCIL:

Fr Peter MacLeod-Miller—Chairman	Angie Barney	Cathy Carden
Victoria Chick—Rector's Warden	Mark Carden	Ray Fietz
Ken Curnow—Warden	Robyn Gibbs	Carol Read
Ken Davenport—Warden & Treasurer	John Satchell	Robyne Slade
Kaye Kennedy—Secretary	Stephanie Stephenson	Kay West

Councillors

GRAPEVINE EDITOR: Julie Scott Ph. 6021 8897
Email: jazzer43@bigpond.net.au

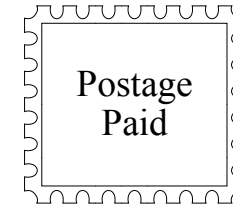
ST. MATTHEW'S GRAPEVINE

PARISH OF ALBURY

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DATE: MARCH 2013

