

HAPPY★NEW★YEAR



Wamindi Update

Anglican Church of Australia

Wakefield Ministry District

wmdhome.org

January 2015

As we begin a new year, this edition of Wamindi Update looks back with rejoicing on our Christmas celebrations and looks forward to a year which we hope will be filled with new zeal for worship, for our faith and for reaching out to others with the good news of Jesus. The Centenary Celebrations planned for the whole diocese give us opportunity to commit ourselves afresh to the mission God invites us into and sends us out on while giving thanks for the heritage of faith received from those who have gone before us.



Messy Church at Holy Trinity, Riverton

What a triumph the Christmas Eve service was! It all went so well, & with 85 there, that must have been a record in itself! Roz Rowett

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Services in the District

Jan 11th. 9.00 Auburn, Balaklava, Clare, Riverton 9.30 Hamley Bridge Hospital 11.00 Penwortham, Snowtown 7.00 pm Watervale
Jan 18th. 9.00 Auburn, Balaklava, Clare, Riverton 11.00 Hamley Bridge, Penwortham, Yacka 2.00pm Saddleworth
Jan 25th. 9.00 Auburn, Balaklava, Clare, Riverton 11.00 Belvidere, Goyder, Penwortham 5.00 pm Watervale
Feb.1st. 9.00 Auburn, Balaklava, Clare, Riverton 11.00 Hamley Bridge, Penwortham, Yacka
Feb. 8th. 9.00 Auburn, Balaklava, Clare, Riverton 11.00 Hamley Bridge Hospital Service, Penwortham, Snowtown Monday 7.00pm Watervale
Feb 15th. ABM Sunday 9.00 Auburn, Balaklava, Clare, Riverton 11.00 am Hamley Bridge, Penwortham, Saddleworth, Yacka,
Feb. 22nd 9.00 Auburn, Balaklava, Clare, Riverton, Belvidere 11.00 Goyder, Penwortham 5.00 pm Watervale

THINKING ALOUD ALLOWED: Canon Barlow

In the Gospel for Christmas Day – St.John’s Gospel chapter 1 verses 1to 14 – there is what I consider to be the saddest verses in Holy Scripture, and it seems odd at first sight that they are read on the gladdest day of the Christian Year. “He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him.” (verses 10 & 11, N.I.V.) But then comes what I consider to be the most joyful verse: “Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.” (v.12) The unrealistic and superficial blah about “Peace on earth” and “the Season of Goodwill” is contradicted by Jesus himself: “Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace but a sword.” (Matthew 10:34, N.I.V.) Doesn’t sound like the Jesus we like to hear about does it? He was plainly saying that the peace the angels sang about would be rejected by many, and persecution would come to those who bring the good tidings, even within families. So in one sense Jesus brings peace to those who receive him; in another he foresees division, suffering, war and death. To be worthy of that peace and to receive it, a person must be willing to be separated from those whom he loves, and even from life itself “Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace to men on whom his favour rests.” (Luke chapter 22 verse 14, N.I.V.)

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Thanks to Archdeacon Prue and our band of helpers, Holy Trinity took on a very different format for our Christmas Eve service this year. Some 80 people came along to enjoy our real nativity scene and to listen to the story of Christmas. The stable was prepared and the Innkeeper ready to direct Joseph and Mary to their lodgings. There were angels, shepherds, a star and four beautiful sheep nestled under the pine tree, Mary rode across from the old rectory on her 'donkey', escorted by Joseph and an angel. After



they reached the stable and settled down, Jesus was 'born' and the shepherds and the angels were invited to leave the sheep and come to see the Holy Family. After this, we all went into the hall where accompanied by carol singing, the children made stars, angels and woolly sheep before we all processed these decorations into the church, installed the baby Jesus into the nativity scene and enjoyed the rest of the Eucharist. To finish the evening, We enjoyed a lavish supper and much conversation with our regular congregation and many guests, it was certainly messy church, disorganised chaos at times, one might say, but thoroughly enjoyed by all present. Many thanks to Archdeacon Prue for her wonderful help but we are now wondering what she has in store for us for Easter!

Elizabeth Harris

Belvidere: Christmas Eve at Belvidere saw some 40 people and we had a user-friendly all-age service there too. There were at least a dozen children and again, it was great fun!

Prue O'Donovan

Hamley Bridge Hospital on Christmas Day was different again. Some from the Uniting Congregation as well as residents participated in the interactive service. They are such good sports!

Prue O'Donovan

Auburn celebrated Christmas with a Sunday morning traditional eucharist with 37 people and it was appreciated by both regular attenders, occasional attenders, newcomers, and families of regular attenders. A big increase over 2013 numbers. The flowers were wonderful as usual and the welcome warm. Gerald Moore officiated, Dorothy Thorpe preached.

Penwortham held its usual *Carols under the Pines* before Christmas. Gerald Moore gave a hand this year. More than 60 attended, including a dozen kids, and supper followed.

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Congratulations Elizabeth Harris.

In December at the presentation night for Riverton and District High School, Elizabeth Harris received a personal award given by the Minister of Education and Child Care in the State Government for outstanding voluntary service to the school. She believes it was not really her but the members of the Breakfast Club which she started nearly 7 years ago, who earned the award. Well done to all of them!



Lent begins on 18 February. Ash Wednesday services are scheduled for St Barnabas Clare at 10.00am and at St John's, Auburn at 9.00am. **Thirsty?** is the title of the Lenten studies prepared by the Rev'd Ruth Buxton of Port Lincoln especially for his centenary year. You can download them from www.dio.wilochra.org.au Go to Contents/Wilochra Centenary/Lenten studies and you can download as a whole

book or individual sessions. It can be used by individuals or by groups. There are some handout sheets for Good Friday and Easter Day Use them as best suits you.

Service to Launch the Centenary Year of the Diocese of Willochra 3.00pm on Sunday 22 February, 2015 at the Cathedral, Port Pirie. This will be a joyful service where people from across the diocese will gather to launch the centenary celebrations. Come with your congregation. Invite your friends and family. Please bring some food to share. - The Launch of *In a Dry and Thirsty Land*. - The presentation of the first Willochra Bursaries. - The blessing of the Centenary Cross. - The sending out of the First Bishop's Staff on its diocesan pilgrimage. Please bring some Afternoon tea. Let's hope our ministry district is well-represented.

In a Dry and Thirsty Land... the book being published for the Centenary of the Diocese can be ordered for \$20 and paid now. After 31 January it will be \$25.00. See your church representative to place your order. There is something in the book about every congregation in the diocese.

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