

The Leaflet

The Scots' Church, Melbourne



Issue No. 1045

February 2014



Senior Minister,
the Rev. Douglas
Robertson





THE SCOTS' CHURCH, MELBOURNE

The First Presbyterian Church in Victoria – Founded 1838

LOCATIONS The Scots' Church, Melbourne, 77 Russell St (cnr Collins St), Melbourne
Assembly Hall Building, Werner Brodbeck Hall, Grnd Flr, 156 Collins St, Melbourne
Assembly Hall Building, Robert White Hall, 1st Flr, 156 Collins St, Melbourne
St Stephen's Church, Flemington and Kensington, 26 Norwood St, Flemington

WORSHIP **SUN:** **9.30 am Service**, St Stephen's Church
10.30 am Indonesian Language Service (www.icc-melbourne.org),
Werner Brodbeck Hall
11.00 am Traditional Service, The Scots' Church
5.00 pm Engage City Church Contemp. Service, Werner Brodbeck Hall
(Crèche and Sunday school are available during all Sunday services.)

TUE: **7.00 pm City Bible Study (CBS)**, Robert White Hall

WED: **1.00 pm Service**, The Scots' Church

THU: **1.00 pm Lunchtime Worship and Meeting**, Werner Brodbeck Hall

(Prayer requests may be given to the church office during office hours, or to
any duty manager at any service.)

MEETINGS **SUN:** 9.15 am Choir practice

WED: 10.30 am PWMU (second Wednesday)

7.30 pm Kirk Session (first Wednesday)

7.30 pm Board of Management (fourth Wednesday, bi-monthly)

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Minister, Central Business District	Rev.R. O'Brien	9650 9903
Assistant Minister	Rev.D.E.P. Currie	9650 9903
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Welcome to The Scots' Church, Melbourne,
and this edition of our bi-monthly newsletter,

The Leaflet

The Scots' Church Melbourne is a diverse and eclectic body of God's people who come together each week to worship God in a variety of styles and settings.

Beyond our weekly gatherings, we seek to love and serve the Lord by being faithful in our devotion to the Word of God, caring in our fellowship with one another and visitors, and generous in our outreach to the communities in which God has placed us.

We would be delighted to meet you at any of our church services or at any of our other public meetings and functions.

If you want to know more about the Christian faith, the Presbyterian Church, Scots' Church or the range of activities and ministries that we're involved in, please don't hesitate to contact us:

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Senior Minister
The Rev. Douglas Robertson

Dear Friends,

*And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I
make all things new* (Rev 21:5, KJV).

When I was growing up, my parents always decorated a room of the house and substantially cleaned the rest of the house, in preparation for Hogmanay.

Apparently, it was quite a widespread tradition across Scotland in previous generations. I remember many years when Mum had only just got changed out of her decorating clothes and into something rather smart, pouring out a couple of wee drams and shouting at Dad to get a move on because it was nearly midnight and he would miss 'the bells'.

I did not realise it at the time, of course, but I look back on it now and understand that this was a tradition that grew out of the basic human desire to wipe the slate clean and start again. In many ways New Year's Day is just like any other day, it's nothing more than an arbitrary datum point that allows us to keep tabs on where we are in time, yet it has come to symbolise for many people across many different cultures an opportunity to set aside bad habits, forget all the mistakes we have made, and realign our future. So we resolve to be fitter or thinner or stronger or smarter; not to slob in front of the telly or procrastinate; to spend more quality time with the children or with elderly parents etc.

Occasionally, just occasionally, one of these resolutions sticks and we manage to truly change a habit, but more often than not we let ourselves down and slip back into the old ways almost before we have said boo to a goose. The house always needs redecorating again next year.

God understands this weakness of our human will. The Bible is full of stories of people who set off with good intentions, but somehow get distracted before they complete their task. In the New Testament, there's Peter who said he would die with Jesus rather than disown him (Matt 26:35), but then hid his face in shame and denied even knowing him (Matt 26:69); Paul's struggle with temptation which

he speaks of in Romans 7; and the Corinthian Christians who fall into petty jealousies etc.

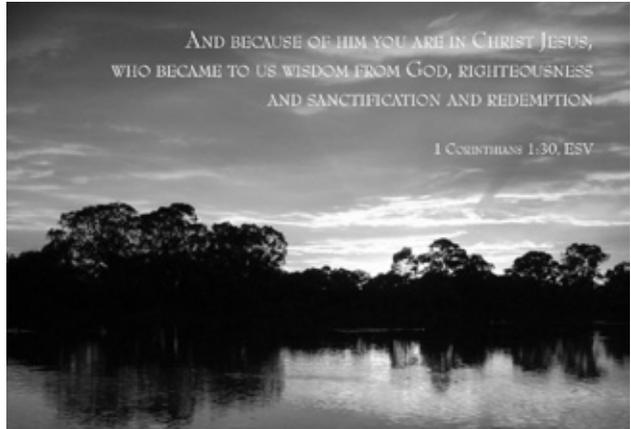
In every case, God remains faithful and steadfastly committed to his own promise: the promise of salvation that is in Christ Jesus, without wavering or weakening. Even as his disciples could not stay awake to keep watch over him while he prayed, earning the famous comment, 'the spirit indeed *is* willing, but the flesh *is* weak' (Matt 26:41), Jesus prayed with thanksgiving to God for these very people who had let him down, asking for his Father's divine protection, not that they be taken out of the world, but that they be protected from the evil one, and that they might be sanctified—which means to be renewed, to be made holy—by the word of truth (John 17:15, 17).

Sanctification is not something that happens once a year and then we gradually slip backwards for the rest of the year, or once a week when we come to church; it is a journey that begins when we accept Jesus as Lord and Saviour and commit ourselves by grace to serve him and his church, which progresses through many ups and downs and twists and turns, but which will end only when we enter God's eternal glory and hear these wonderful words, 'Behold, I make all things new' (Rev 21:5). The process of renewal will at last be complete.

By the time you read this, New Year 2014 will be but a distant memory, but the new year of church life and activities will just be getting under way. It **IS** a useful time to review what we do and why we do it, but in truth, every day should be a day of renewal. Every day should start with a prayer that God will work his miracle of sanctification in your heart, mind and life today.

Wishing you every blessing,

Douglas



Sanctification is a journey that begins when we accept Jesus and commit ourselves to serve him and his church.



Assistant Minister

The Rev. David Currie

Vision and *mission shaped intro*

Looking back

As we enter a New Year in the life of Scots' Church in Melbourne, we first of all look back to give thanks for a wonderful year of special events and celebrations in 2013; for the 175th Anniversary. With all the wonderful

displays and storyboards, we saw for ourselves what things were like in the congregation 50, 100 and more years ago.

Looking forward

What is the future like for the Scots' Church in Melbourne? That is what I want to spend a little time thinking about in this article.

We all know what the media says about the relentless decline in attendances occurring generally in all denominations in Australia—'at this rate the church is only a few years away from extinction'!—but what do YOU see? What is your 'vision' for the church? You do not need to refer to fancy theology books for that, you just have to go to our members, ordinary people, and ask them about the vision God is giving us. I once heard it explained really well using this little word trick:

V _ S _ O N

What's missing?

Give them the 'i's (the eyes)
and they will see for themselves!

Jesus gives us the eyes; he gives us vision. What do you see as you look forward?

The *mission shaped intro* course

The ministry team and Session have decided to meet over a few Tuesday evenings in February/March to think through some of these issues, finishing with the final

sessions on Saturday, 15th March (details are on the registration form available from the church office or website).

The six session *mission shaped intro (msi)* course takes you on a journey looking at the ever-changing nature of our world and local communities, and explores why the church needs to rethink its approach to those communities in meaningful and relevant ways. The

sessions include Bible teaching, creative activities, film clips, stories, worship and prayer, with active group participation. The course is designed to help and support Christians and congregations in the following contexts:

- Traditional churches who have decided to begin a review process about how they might become more effective in ministry and mission;
- Those who have a sense of calling about reaching people (not presently attending any church) from other sub-cultures or with an 'alternative' lifestyle, and seeing what new forms of church might emerge.

The biblical basis for constantly reaching out to others

The God we worship, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, seems to be a missionary God. We would not know God if the Father had not sent the Son in the power of the Spirit, and the Son now sends us ('Go therefore and make disciples ...' (Matt 28:19, ESV). We are sent to share the Good News, to serve our communities, to let others know that God loves them. The reason we do it is because it is the very nature of a missional; sending God. One writer puts it this way: 'It is not the church of God that has a mission in the world, but the God of mission who has a church in the world.'¹

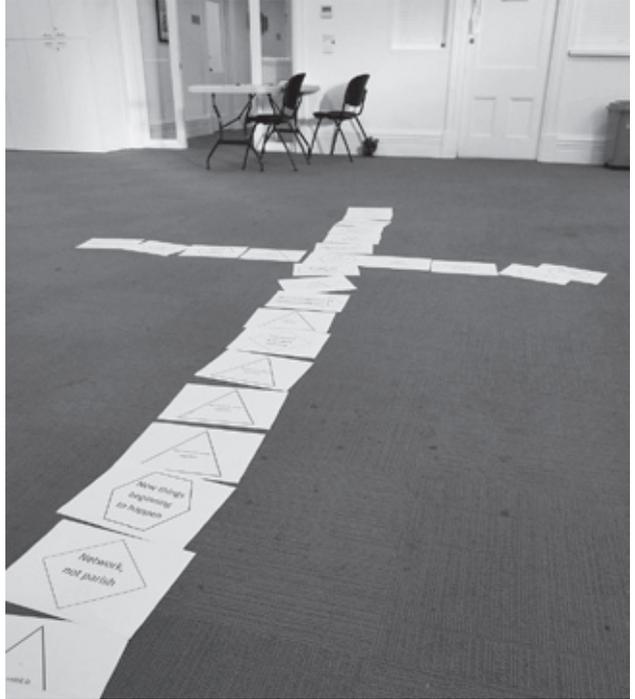


A sign I came across in Tasmania: where are we going?

¹ Tim Dearborn, *Beyond Duty: a passion for Christ, a heart for mission*, MARC, Europe, 1998

Vision

At the start of a new phase in the life of Scots' Church, we take time to rest in God's presence; to pray, to share ideas, to discern a way forward, and to begin to see more clearly the vision God has for us. As we work through the initial phases of the *msi* course, we need to hear a variety of contributions, so the course is open to everyone—church leaders and members, and those who are excited about the possibilities of what might lie ahead for Scots' Church as we listen to God's call.



An exercise from Vision Day: our ideas took the shape of a cross.

May God richly bless you in 2014, and may He guide and strengthen us as we have our vision renewed about how best to love and serve others in His name.

David

Service and sermon recordings

If you wish to listen to some of the sermons preached at Scots' Church throughout the week, they are available for download on the church website at: www.scotschurch.com/resources/online-sermons.

Alternatively, the 11.00 am traditional worship service is recorded each Sunday and is available on CD for a small charge. Contact the church office for information.

online





Minister, St Stephen's, Flemington
The Rev. Philip Court

Updates

This Christian life: what do the Beatitudes mean for us in our daily lives?

Having completed the sermon series on the Nicene Creed on 5th January, we at St Stephen's, Flemington, have now embarked on a detailed exploration of the

Beatitudes, as they are expressed by Jesus in Matthew's gospel. This series deals with our calling and purpose as Christians, our union with Christ, and how God blesses us in and through the challenges and trials of our Christian lives.

Christmas at St Stephen's

The Sunday before Christmas, 22nd December, was a big day at St Stephen's. Over 70 adults and quite a few children attended our Indonesian-English bilingual service of worship, conducted by the Rev. Henk De Waard in Batak. The congregational lunch that followed was better than ever, and the fellowship was warm and animated.



Thelma and her niece, Sue, were among the many enjoying St Stephen's pre-Christmas lunch.



A few of the younger brigade outside St Stephen's Church on 22nd December.

Pam Christie's 20 years of music ministry

On Sunday, 5th January, we paid tribute to one of our organists, Pam Christie, for completing 20 years of service to our congregation. We hope that God will grant her many more years of music ministry.



The Rev. Philip Court presents Pam Christie with a commemorative Bible on 5th January to mark her 20 years of music ministry.

In Memoriam: David Roberts

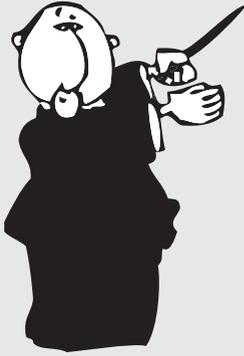
A member of our congregation, David Roberts, passed away on 8th January, at the age of 67. Born with multiple disabilities, David was abandoned at birth and grew up in institutions. He lived in the Flemington area all his life, and was a well-known and much-loved local identity. A frequent attender and contributor to the Flemington mission, he invariably arrived with donations of toys. He became a regular worshipper at St Stephen's in recent years, and enjoyed the occasional excursion into Scots' Church as well.



David Roberts: 19th February 1946 – 8th January 2014.

With his courage, perseverance in the face of great adversity, cheerfulness, generosity and faith, he blessed all who knew him. He will be remembered with great affection.

Phil



The **BIG** Hymn Sing!

An evening of hymn singing

Sunday, 23rd March at 5.00 pm

With narrator Christopher Lawrence

Although a classical musician, author, recording producer and conductor, Christopher Lawrence is most noted for his work in radio with ABC Classic FM, where he presents each weekday.

With a career spanning 25 years in broadcasting, Christopher has also conducted many of Australia's capital city symphony orchestras, and written several best-selling books.

The Scots' Church, Melbourne, is proud to have Christopher join us for an evening of singing.

Accompaniment and vocals:

The Scots' Church Choir with brass, percussion and organ



Entry to the evening is free of charge. All are welcome.

My Other Choir

As many know, several of our singers from The Choir of Scots' Church also sing in the Australian Chamber Choir (ACC). We are familiar with a few additional faces from the ACC popping into the choir to sing Messiah, the St John Passion and other major works. You cannot keep them away!

The ACC has some beautiful programs lined up for 2014, and I would like to offer our Scots' Church friends discounted tickets:

- The Western Wynde features *Song for Athene* by John Tavener, which was sung at the funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales in 1997.

Tavener died in November 2013 after a long illness. His music is juxtaposed with a work by his famous forebear of the same name.

The Western Wynde was a well-known 16th century song, whose melody appears nine times in every section of this mass.



Photo credit: Australian Chamber Choir

The Australian Chamber Choir has a wonderful concert series organised for 2014.

Also on this program is Stanford's majestic *Magnificat for Double Choir* and the magical *Valiant for Truth* by Vaughan Williams;

- In *Ecclesiis* is a richly varied program of music written for the multiple choirs of the Basilica of St Mark's in Venice, Italy. An ensemble of 17th century instruments (cornetto, sackbuts, curtals, rackets) will give the works by Monteverdi and Gabrieli an authentic sound;
- In a third program, Ligeti's atmospheric *Lux Aeterna* stands beside Pergolesi's *Magnificat* and Purcell's *O Sing Unto the Lord*, for choir and soloists, which are accompanied by baroque strings.

Douglas Lawrence
Director of Music.
Scots' Church



The Australian Chamber Choir Concert Season for 2014

Concert 1: The Western Wynde

Date: Sunday, 16th March at 3.00 pm

Venue: St Fidelis, 49 Clarendon Street, Coburg

Concert 2: In Ecclesiis: Music from the Basilica of St Mark's Venice

Date: Sunday, 8th June at 3.00 pm

Venue: Our Lady of Mount Carmel,
216 Richardson Street, Middle Park

Concert 3: Lux Aeterna

Date: Sunday, 9th November at 3.00 pm

Venue: Our Lady of Mount Carmel,
216 Richardson Street, Middle Park

To receive a 10% discount, book your tickets at www.AusChoir.org/book-now. Enter the word 'scots' as the Gift/Promotion Code and click 'Apply'.

Christmas at Scots'

Christmas at Scots' Church is a very special time, with wonderful music and worship services reflecting the joy of Christ's birth and providing opportunities to reach out to the community.

For the first time, a service of Six Carols with Readings was held mid-week, on 18th December. It was a great success and enjoyed by all who attended.

Handel's Messiah, performed by The Choir of Scots' Church and orchestra, under the leadership of Douglas Lawrence, was very well attended, with the wonderful music drawing a standing ovation at the conclusion.

It was most encouraging to see so many attending the Service of Nine Lessons with Carols on Sunday morning, 22nd

December. As always, the choir sang a beautiful selection of carols, interspersed with the prescribed readings, and the large congregation obviously enjoyed the opportunity to sing favourite carols. The organ music was further enhanced by the David Farrands Brass Ensemble, which accompanied some of the singing. The Christmas theme continued through the day, with the Engage City Church congregation having a Christmas celebration in the evening.

On Christmas Eve, the Community Carol Service at 5.30 pm and the Christmas Eve Service at 11.30 pm provided another opportunity to worship and celebrate the occasion. On Christmas Day, the services for both the Scots' Church and Indonesian language congregations were enjoyed by all who attended.

Our thanks to our Director of Music, Douglas Lawrence; our Assistant Organist, Dr Robin Batterham; and to all the members of the choir for their contribution to the worship at Scots', at Christmas and throughout the year. ■



The performance of Handel's Messiah was well attended and thoroughly enjoyed by the audience.

Interview

Jenny Pilgrim

Jenny Pilgrim was born in Melbourne and, with her younger brother, grew up in Northcote, with the family later moving to the suburb of Heidelberg. A Brownie and Girl Guide, Jenny also joined the 'Pilgrims' and later the Presbyterian Fellowship of Australia at Northcote Presbyterian Church where she attended Sunday school as a child, and subsequently, a teacher.

After completing her secondary education, Jenny undertook general nurse training at the Preston and Northcote Community Hospital (PANCH). On graduating, she staffed in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) there for a year before moving to The Royal Women's Hospital to gain her midwifery certificate. She then returned to ICU at PANCH for some time before moving back into the midwifery field to gain further practise.



Jenny Pilgrim contributes to Scots' Church in various ways, one of which is her membership of the Board of Management.

Jenny's next position was as a nurse educator at the Mercy Hospital. At this time she undertook postgraduate studies, graduating with a Bachelor of Science (Nursing), with a major in Education, from La Trobe University. She later gained a master's degree in Nursing Studies, again specialising in Education, at Deakin University.

Jenny moved to the Royal District Nursing Service—which has a link with Scots' Church, as it was founded in 1885 by the Rev. Charles Strong, who was for a time,

a minister at Scots' Church—and held her position as nurse educator for 21 years. During that time, Jenny established the graduate nurse program, which she conducted for 11 years. She has now moved to a private haemodialysis practice, where she works part-time.

When Jenny and her family moved from Northcote to Heidelberg, they began to attend Scots Church there. This church became Uniting at the time of Church Union, with the family continuing to attend there for some time.

When Jenny married for the first time she lived at Hopper's Crossing, attending the Presbyterian Church there. Some years later she began to attend Scots' Church with her parents, who had moved to Scots' by this stage. Over the years the family had attended Scots' from time to time, with Jenny's father referring to it as the 'mother church', finally moving there permanently rather than remaining with the Uniting Church. It was at Scots' that Jenny met her future husband, the Rev. Jack Pilgrim, at that time an assistant minister with the Rev. Norman Pritchard. He was subsequently appointed senior minister, but sadly died some 13 months after he and Jenny were married.

Jenny has remained at Scots' as an active member. After Jack's death, she was grateful to Rae Anstee, Elizabeth Fearon and Ann Robinson for their support in encouraging her to become involved in a range of activities associated with Scots'. A relieving teacher in the Sunday school for some time, Jenny has taught regularly for the past three years. She is now in her third term on the Board of Management, a responsibility she thoroughly enjoys. She is a member of the Outreach Committee, and serves on the Sunday morning social hour roster. Jenny is also involved with 'Street Pastors', currently in the early stages of development in Melbourne.

Jenny has one daughter, Rebecca, from her first marriage. Rebecca is married with two delightful daughters, Sophia and Lollita, with a third child expected soon. Jenny's grandchildren give her great pleasure. Her other interests include opera and ballet, and she also enjoys cooking. A highlight for Jenny each year is the pre-Christmas dinner she hosts for all associated with the Sunday school, and is much enjoyed by everyone! She feels very much a part of the Scots' Church family, where she really appreciates the fellowship and support she receives and, in turn, is able to give.

Our thanks to Jenny for her faithful and continuing contribution to the life of Scots' in so many ways. ■

An update on building works at 150 Collins Street

A 'Topping Out' ceremony on 2nd December, attended by senior stakeholders and community representatives, celebrated the building at 150 Collins Street reaching its maximum height. This was a significant occasion and marked a major step forward toward the completion of the building works.

In December, the external heritage restoration works to the Scots' Church building were nearing completion, and work on the link way from Collins Street had commenced.

Installation of services throughout the building continues, together with the installation of lifts. Ceilings are also being constructed.

It is anticipated that the project will be successfully completed in mid-2014.

Reference: A. Karmelich, 150 Collins Street Stakeholder Newsletter, December 2013.



The 'Topping Out' ceremony was attended by many.



The building has now reached its full height.



The Little Collins Street facade of the new building.

News from the Flemington Mission

Annual barbecue attracts a record crowd

The mission's pre-Christmas barbecue was held on Tuesday, 3 December, with an attendance of 95. For the second year running, we were entertained by the choir

from the Fitzroy-based outreach, St Mary's House of Welcome. They were in fine voice as they performed some beautiful Christmas carols.



Plenty for everyone at the annual mission barbecue.

Mission church Christmas service

The final Tuesday morning worship service for the year was held on 17th December. It was well attended and its focus was on the Christmas message of God being with us. These monthly services have proved to be a success, and I plan to continue them throughout 2014.



St Mary's House of Welcome Choir in full voice.

No more clothes, please

Following a recent review of our operations, we are no longer accepting donations of clothes. Our existing stockpiles of clothes are being passed on to the nearby opportunity shop operated

by the local Anglican Church. The best and most cost-effective way to support the work of the mission is to donate money. This can be done electronically (BSB 083 004, Account No. 51512 1952) or by cheque posted to: *Mrs Glenys Wright, Treasurer, Presbyterian & Scots' Church Joint Mission, 86 Kurunjang Drive, Kurunjang, Vic, 3337.*

Donations of non-perishable groceries, cooking utensils, crockery and cutlery are also most welcome.

An anonymous thank you

A card containing two \$50 notes was recently slipped under the mission hall door. This was the anonymous message written inside the card:

There are no words that will express how much I appreciate your help. Thank you for supporting me in my time of need. Many thanks. May your kindness be returned to you a hundredfold.

What a blessing and an encouragement for all of us!

Phil Court
Missioner

Baptisms

♥ Finnley Joseph Charpentier (born 4th February 2011) and his brother Gilbert Morgan Charpentier (born 24th September 2013, sons of Elizabeth and Daniel, were baptised on 17th November.



♥ Immanuel Nayottama Komaling (born 15th May 2013), son of David Komaling and Tyas Prameswari, was baptised on 15th December.



A 'Space Camp' Experience and More!

In mid-2013, Duncan Robertson, together with about 30 students from Scotch College Senior School, travelled to the United States. Their two-week program included a five day 'Space Camp' conducted by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), followed by a visit to the Kennedy Space Center in Florida. During the second week, the group was based in Las Vegas, with visits including CSI: The Experience, the Grand Canyon, Hoover Dam and the Cirque du Soleil. Their final stop was at Los Angeles, before returning to Melbourne.

'Space Camps' are conducted at the US Space and Rocket Centre, Huntsville, Alabama. These intense camps are of five days' duration, with participants graduating at the conclusion. Although the majority joining in the camps come from the United States, there are also students from many countries, enhancing the experience.

Participants are housed on campus in ultramodern buildings which reflect 'space' themes in their design. Although the Scotch College students were accompanied by teachers, the NASA staff were responsible for the entire camp experience. The program included class sessions—as well as providing a comprehensive history of space flight, they covered theoretical aspects in preparation for 'hands on' experiences in a range of team activities each day. These were conducted under the guidance of group leaders, and proved most challenging. For instance, teams were given a map of the Moon, a list of modules and other resources available to them, and were required to design a Moon base, taking into account all aspects of life on such a base. The results of each team were photographed and displayed for other groups to view.



'Astronaut' Duncan Robertson.

In another exercise, teams simulated a space mission, with half the team acting as 'Mission Control' and the others in space, with the roles then reversed. In each instance, the groups were given a list of instructions they were required to perform. Opportunities also included a simulated experience of being in a capsule tumbling during re-entry. Another simulator provided training in an environment of the Moon's gravity, one-sixth that of Earth; this is used for training for astronauts.



Duncan in a Mercury space capsule.

A simulator in an 'Orion' space craft tested the team to its limits. They were supplied with a list of requirements to ensure a safe landing on Mars after nine or 10 months of travelling from Earth. They 'arrived' many hours late, and rolled and tumbled on landing, continuing on into space! Mission Control saw their plight and allowed them to continue on their mission as if they had landed safely!

Each day, participants went to an IMAX Theatre on campus, where they viewed films related to the space program. The building was dome-shaped, with films projected on to this, making them appear almost three dimensional.

At the conclusion of the camp, Duncan, together with his fellow students, graduated and received his 'US Space Academy Wings'! Our congratulations to Duncan!

The next destination for the Scotch students was the Kennedy Space Center in Florida. This launch site has been used for every NASA manned space flight since 1968. The center has an extensive section for visitors, which includes models of all the rockets made by NASA over the years. Other attractions include a Moon landing simulator and a range of exhibits. There are also stalls where independent space agencies are able to advertise their own technology.

The students' visit coincided with the opening day for the Atlanta Space Shuttle. Although they were not able to go inside the shuttle, they were able to view it at close quarters. They were also able to visit the launch pad that has been used for all manned space flights.

The group then flew to Las Vegas, which was to be their base for most of the second week. Highlights of this week included visits to CSI: The Experience at the MGM



Team Sierra: the members of Duncan's Space Camp team upon receiving their 'US Space Academy Wings'.

Grand hotel, the Grand Canyon, Colorado, Hoover Dam and a performance of the Cirque du Soleil.

CSI: The Experience allowed the students to test their skills in investigating and solving crimes—a different style of simulation! On their trip to the Grand Canyon, with its absolutely spectacular scenery, they were able to stand on Eagle Point, which gives a wonderful view of the extent and beauty of the formation. The Hoover Dam with its enormous structure, was awe-inspiring. They were able to visit the hydro-electric power station within the structure of the dam wall, which generates electricity for several surrounding states. The spectacular Cirque du Soleil performance was very much enjoyed by all.

Then to Los Angeles to visit Hollywood and experience Disneyland on Independence Day! After enjoying some of the rides, the group were treated to a spectacular display of fireworks to celebrate the special day—a fitting way to end two weeks of unforgettable experiences. ■

The 175th Anniversary Celebrations Continue

The celebrations that took place on Sunday, 24th November 2013 were to honour 175 years since The Scots' Church was established in Melbourne in 1838. The first of any denomination in the Port Phillip District, later Victoria, to hold regular services, it was a parish of the Church of Scotland.

Scots' has gone on to become one of Melbourne's great churches. The worship service, the opening of a time capsule and the sealing of another, a delicious luncheon, and the 175th Annual General Meeting with Professor Geoffrey Blainey as guest speaker, brought together a wonderful day of celebration for all associated with The Scots' Church.

The day began with the morning worship service, which included the glorious anthem, *Lord, Thou Hast Been Our Refuge* by Ralph Vaughan Williams. The choral Psalm 122 was the one sung at the service of the laying of the foundation stone of the present building, in 1873. The sermon preached by the Rev. Douglas Robertson entitled 'The Beginning and the End' was a most appropriate theme for the day. The hearty singing of the congregational hymns reflected the wonderful occasion.



The special day commenced with the morning worship service and the choir's beautiful music ministry.

The Robert White Hall, in the Assembly Hall building, was the venue for the remaining events of the day. The hall was magnificently decorated for the occasion, with tables set for about 140 guests, enlarged photos of the life of Scots' on the walls, beautiful flowers, and blue and white balloons.

The first event was the opening of the 'unofficial' time capsule sealed in 1938 and found when rebuilding works were in progress earlier in 2013. The Hon. Matthew Guy MP, Minister for Planning and a member of Scots', together with Mr Jeremy Smith, an archaeologist with Heritage Victoria, carefully broke open the material surrounding the time capsule, which was encased in a stone that had been hollowed out. Enclosed in a Rosella brand pickle jar, it consisted of a copy of the Order of Service for the Centenary Thanksgiving held on 6th February 1938, including a brief history of The Scots' Church. There was also a letterhead of Wm. M. Shields, Architect, of 123 Queen Street, Melbourne, dated 22nd June 1938, relating to building works being undertaken on the church at that time. Mr Guy went on to seal the substantial 2013 time capsule, with the assistance of Mr Andrew North, Church Administrator, and the Rev. Robertson, prior to its placement in the basement of the building at 150 Collins Street, currently under construction. It was sealed behind the staircase, and a plaque placed on the wall to mark the occasion.

The 2013 time capsule contained: a copy of the *Holy Bible: NSRV*, 1989; a *Church Hymnary: Words*, 4th Edition, 2007; a draft copy of the manuscript for the book *The History of Scots' Church* that is currently in the process of being published; copies of various documents related to the construction of 150 Collins Street, including the plans and lend lease; a 2013 annual report of the church; copies of *The Leaflet*; orders of service; the special events music brochure for 2013; and various other information leaflets. There were also photos of the Scots' Precinct, newspapers, current Australian currency, stamps, the stained glass windows booklet, and 175th anniversary commemorative memorabilia, together with the contents of the 1938 time capsule.

About 140 people sat down to a delicious lunch, followed by the 175th Annual General Meeting. The speaker for the occasion was Professor Geoffrey Blainey, an eminent Australian historian. He spoke of the profound influence of the Scots and their Presbyterian faith on Australia as it developed as a nation. Many Scottish people migrated to Australia in the 19th century, and in the 1911 census in Victoria, one in six identified with the Presbyterian Church.

Many politicians who served Australia as prime ministers have a Scottish heritage. These include Sir George Reid (1904–1905), who was the son of a Presbyterian minister; Andrew Fisher (1914–1915), a Scottish migrant and a Presbyterian; Sir Robert Menzies (1939–1941 and 1949–1966); William McMahon (1971–1972), who was of Scottish descent; and Malcolm Fraser (1975–1983).



THIS TIME CAPSULE WAS LAID BY
THE HON MATTHEW GUY MP
MINISTER FOR PLANNING
ON THE 175th ANNIVERSARY OF
THE SCOTS' CHURCH MELBOURNE
AND THE SCOTS' CHURCH PROPERTIES TRUST
CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW
WESTPAC HEAD OFFICE IN VICTORIA
ON 11 SEPTEMBER 2013
BY DOUGLAS HARTSON, SENIOR MINISTER



Celebrating 175 Years of



Anniversary 1838 -



Worship at Scots, Church



2013 Celebrations



WM. M. SHIELDS
F.R.A.S.A.
ARCHITECT
TELEPHONE 84 8209

National Trusts Building
183 Collins Street
Melbourne, 22

Presbyterians were great philanthropists through the 19th century. One such person was Francis Ormond, a Scottish born pastoralist, who gave generously to education and religion. He gave almost as much to The University of Melbourne as the government of the day, as it was being established. Ormond College is named after him.

In the field of literature, names associated with a Scottish heritage include writers and poets Dorothea Mackellar, Banjo Patterson, John Shaw Neilson, and Adam Lindsay Gordon, the most famous of all in his day. Les Murray, a contemporary Australian poet, is a Free Presbyterian.

For part of the 19th century, Scotland and Prussia were the only two highly developed education systems in the world. The Scottish settlers brought with them to Australia their strong tradition of education, setting up schools as a major priority in the young colony. A school was quickly created in association with Scots' Church in the late 1930s, and Scotch College and the Presbyterian Ladies' College were both established early in Melbourne.

Scots' was the first church in Melbourne to have a permanent minister: the Rev. James Forbes. The earlier church on the present site was demolished in the early 1870s and the present building opened in 1874. It was the tallest building in Melbourne at the time of completion. Scots' Church remains a Melbourne landmark, and has played an important and central role in its history and its Christian development.

Professor Blainey concluded with a reference to Psalm 122, quoted on the front page of the Scots' *Weekly* for the day: 'I was glad when they said unto me. Let us go into the house of the Lord'.

Following a vote of thanks by the Rev. Douglas Robertson, Miss Rae Anstee, Session Clerk, presented Professor Blainey with a gift.

Greetings from our Turnbull Trust preacher, the Rt Rev. David Lunan and his wife Maggie, were received, as well as from the Rev. Neil and Dorothy Urquhart of Fullarton Parish Church, Irvine, Scotland. The Rev. Urquhart came to Scots' for some months in 2010, when our minister, the Rev. Richard O'Brien, and he exchanged pulpits. Our congratulations to Fullarton Parish Church, who are also celebrating 175 years of worship.

The 175th Annual General Meeting of The Scots' Church, Melbourne, followed. The day ended with the contemporary worship service—Engage City Church—conducted by the Rev. Richard O'Brien. This was an appropriate conclusion to a wonderful day for the Scots' Church family. ■

Plants of the Bible

Common Pomegranate

It is generally accepted that the pomegranate originated in Iran, although it has been cultivated since ancient times. The only genus of the family Punicaceae, there are two species, the common and dwarf or ornamental varieties. It is the former to which reference is made in the Bible.

The common pomegranate (*Punica granatum*) is a small deciduous tree that grows to between five and eight metres in height. It has narrow oblong glossy leaves and bright red flowers up to three centimetres in diameter, with four to five petals. The edible fruit is a little larger than a lemon, with a rounded hexagonal shape and a thick reddish skin. It contains from 200 to well in excess of 1000 seeds, which range in colour from white to deep red and are embedded in a white spongy membrane. It is because of these seeds, which are tasty and refreshing as well as nutritious, that the plant has been cultivated for thousands of years. Widely grown throughout the Mediterranean region, it is now found across the world. The fruit is in season during the autumn months.

It is of interest to note that the French term *grenade* for the pomegranate has given its name to the military grenade, due to the similar shape of early grenades, with the term entering common usage.



Common pomegranate
(*Punica granatum*)

Although there are several references to the pomegranate through the Old Testament, it figures most prominently as a decoration on the garments of the high priest and in the temple building. Pomegranates and bells alternate on the skirts of the high priest, in colours of blue, purple and scarlet, with bells of gold (Exodus 28:33-34). In the temple of Solomon, about 200 pomegranates were engraved on the capitals of the two pillars of the front of the temple (Jeremiah 52:22-23). It was seen to symbolise fertility and fruitfulness of the land.



The pomegranate tree is widely grown throughout the Mediterranean region.

Other references to the pomegranate include 1 Samuel 14:2, where Saul sat under a pomegranate tree; in Joel 1:12, where failure of the pomegranate crop was seen as a sign of God's judgement; with seven references in the Song of Songs, where images of its beautiful flowers and fruits are used to draw comparisons.

The pomegranate has been regarded as symbolic in many cultures. In Ancient Egypt it represented prosperity and ambition, while it featured in many myths and legends in Ancient Greece. It remains symbolic for modern Greeks, and is prominent at Greek weddings and funerals.

In the earliest appearance of Christ in a fourth century floor mosaic from Dorset, England, the bust of Christ and the Chi Rho are flanked by pomegranates. The fruit also features in many religious paintings, for example, by Botticelli and da Vinci, where it is often portrayed in the hands of Mary or the infant Jesus. The broken fruit is seen as a symbol of the suffering and resurrection of Jesus.

References: M. Zohary, *Plants of the Bible*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1982; Old Dominion University, *Pomegranate*, Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA, 2007, viewed January 2014, <<http://www2.odu.edu/~lmussem/plant/bible/pomegranate.php>>; Wikipedia contributors, *Pomegranate*, Wikipedia: The Free Encyclopedia, 2014, viewed January 2014, <<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pomegranate>>.

A New Cookbook is Launched

The newly published 2013 edition of *The PWMU Cookbook* was launched at a ceremony held in the Robert White Hall on 3rd December 2013. First compiled in 1904 as a fund-raising activity, the book is now in its fifth edition and 48th printing.



Dr Mairi Harman, Editor, signing one of the newly launched cookbooks.

The Convenor of the joint committee of the Presbyterian and Uniting churches responsible for the publication, the Rev. John Wilson, welcomed Mrs Elizabeth Chernov, wife of the Governor of Victoria, who launched the new cookbook. Also present were the moderators of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria, the Rt Rev. David Palmer, and of the Uniting Church, Mr Dan Wooton, together with members of the Presbyterian Women's Missionary Union and Uniting Church

Fellowship. Fiona Bligh, author of *From Suet to Saffron: The History of the PWMU Cookbook in Victoria, 1904 – 2012* also attended.

The Editor of the latest publication, Dr Mairi Harman, then spoke on the process of preparation for publication. Refreshments followed, with recipes from the new cookbook being used in preparation of these by members of the PWMU. Sales of the new cookbook were very brisk.

Lois Taylor

The Australian Connection to Bath Abbey

Should you be fortunate enough to visit beautiful Bath Abbey in Somerset, England, you would be able to view a memorial to Admiral Arthur Phillip, the first governor of New South Wales.



Admiral Arthur Phillip, the first governor of New South Wales.

Although Phillip was born in London and grew up there, he spent his retirement in Bath, settling there in 1805, and dying some nine years later, three months after his promotion to the position of admiral. He is buried in the church of St Nicholas at Bathampton.

Born in 1738, Phillip attended the Greenwich school for the sons of seamen, where he undertook an apprenticeship in the mercantile service, then transferred to the Royal Navy where he saw active service. Although there was a period in which his time was taken up with managing the properties he acquired in Hampshire, he ultimately returned to the seas, where he served as a captain. At the time he was appointed first governor of New South Wales, he was undertaking survey work for the Admiralty.

Phillip was an honourable man, who was described as brave, honest and self-sacrificing. He was also a sensitive man, who was well qualified to lead the First Fleet to Australia. They left Portsmouth, England, in May 1787, arriving at Botany Bay on 18th January 1788. This site proved unsuitable for settlement, so they moved on to Port Jackson, where landing operations began on 26th January, the date now celebrated as Australia Day. Of the 1,030 people who went ashore, 736 were convicts; the rest were marines and civil officers and their families.

Although Governor Phillip had complete authority over the colony, he used this wisely, and worked hard to resolve the friction and conflicts that inevitably arose. The enormous difficulties he faced in establishing the new colony can only be imagined. Although his discipline was firm, he recognised the importance of rewarding and encouraging good behaviour, as well as punishing bad conduct. He refused to tolerate ill-treatment of Aborigines and sought to maintain harmony with them.



The inscription on the memorial to Admiral Phillip reads:

IN MEMORY
ADMIRAL ARTHUR PHILLIP R.N.
FOUNDER AND FIRST GOVERNOR
OF
AUSTRALIA

BORN IN LONDON 11 OCTOBER 1738
ENTERED THE ROYAL NAVY 1755
DIED AT 19 BENNETT STREET BATH
31 AUGUST 1814

TO HIS INDOMITABLE COURAGE, PROPHETIC VISION,
FORBEARANCE, FAITH, INSPIRATION AND WISDOM
WAS DUE THE SUCCESS OF THE FIRST SETTLEMENT
IN AUSTRALIA AT SYDNEY
26 JANUARY 1788

THE EARTH IS THE LORD'S AND THE FULLNESS THEREOF
1 CORINTHIANS X 26

Phillip also encouraged those who were working to improve the food situation, which was often dire, through farming, although progress in this was slow. His efforts to reform convicts, as well as disciplining them, was advanced for the times. However, his indifference to religious fervour was typical of the contemporary Church of England of the time, into which he had been baptised.

In December 1792, Phillip left to return to England due to illness, having established the colony. His naval career continued until his retirement, when he moved to Bath.

Bath Abbey is an Anglican parish church, and one of the largest examples of Perpendicular Gothic architecture in the west of England. Cruciform in plan, it is able to seat 1,200 people. It is noted for its fan vaulting, and contains many memorials and monuments.

Interview

Barbara and Peter Bell

Peter Bell came from a family of six children, and went to school in Liverpool during the Blitz. After that, he elected not to carry on to university and instead acquired a position in the Pursers Department with a shipping line trading to South America, and also the United States and West Africa. He enjoyed his time with them, which included a spell ashore in Spain, but after three years he returned to the United Kingdom in order to complete two years' National Service with the Royal Marines. After the long training, he was posted to the Mediterranean area, based on Malta, and latterly, Cyprus, during the Greek-inspired trouble there.

Upon demobilisation, Peter decided to travel, and migrated to Perth, Western Australia. He was employed by Dalgety's upon arrival and for the next few years lived a quite hedonistic life, as he puts it, until the Empire Games came to Perth. At that time, he met a local maiden, an ex-Methodist Ladies' College girl who was a nurse and who had previously worked in Melbourne as a house mother at The Royal Victorian Institute for the Blind on St Kilda Road. Her name was Barbara Francis. Barbara and Peter decided to marry and were wed in May 1963, and were blessed with the arrival of Jonathan in 1971, followed 18 months later by Paul. At that point, Peter switched career direction and joined the fledgling computer industry with Burroughs Ltd (Peter remained in the information technology industry in a variety of roles until his retirement). Shortly afterwards, in 1973, the family was transferred to Melbourne, and subsequently, in 1975, to head office in Sydney. Three years later, a move to the United States was mooted but declined as Barbara and Peter wished their boys to have some stability during their education years. They then moved back to Melbourne in 1978, around the corner from the Kilmartins, and in 1983, the year Jon started Scotch College, moved to Camberwell.

Barbara and Peter became members of Scots' during this time, with Norman Pritchard being the minister. Norman was supported by assistant ministers: Douglas Robertson, Sheri Edwards and Laurence Coutts. There was a thriving Presbyterian Fellowship of Australia at that time, populated by the children of the Taylors, Greens,

Kilmartins, Youngs, Pritchards, Evans, amongst others, and Barbara and Peter were also quite heavily involved in the church, particularly with the crèche. At the end of this period Norman left Scots', and Jack Pilgrim was appointed in his place.

They were also very involved in supporting the various parent groups at Scotch College, especially the Social Services Auxiliary, and subsequently, the Monash Medical Parents' Association.

They were both particularly upset with what they believed to be the retrogressive move by the Presbyterian Church in removing the right of women to participate fully in the Church, but this coincided with a decision to retire and move back to Perth. Barbara's mother, known to many in the church, was still alive at that time, so they bought a house close to her in the Hills area and saw a lot of her until she passed on in 2001. Not long thereafter, they decided to return to Melbourne where most of their friends were.

In 2005, they attended a 50-year reunion at the Royal Marines in Devon, England. Later on, during their time in London, they decided to have lunch at Fortnum and Masons. The smallness of our world is shown by those also dining there! (see below).



From left: Elizabeth Fearon, Barbara Bell, Ann Robinson, Rae Anstee and Peter Bell enjoying lunch at Fortnum and Mason's, London.

Barbara and Peter's older son, Jonathan, is a partner in a skin cancer clinic in Perth, Western Australia; he and his wife Shelley have four children and are regulars at the local Baptist church. Paul is a partner in a specialised property development company; he and his wife Tara have a home in Elwood, and have provided a beautiful grandson and granddaughter for Barbara and Peter.

Two thousand and thirteen was a notable year for the Bells. Eightieth birthdays and a fiftieth wedding anniversary were celebrated by a five-week holiday over June in an apartment on the Canal Saint-Martin in Paris, France, living like the locals and exploring most of Paris and environs. The year was, of course, finished off in style with a classical swallow dive by Peter down the staircase in the Scots' Church Assembly Hall resulting in two broken wrists. These were ably attended to by Epworth Emergency, with capable first aid provided by Jenny Pilgrim and Rosemary Sahhar. Peter would like to reiterate his thanks and appreciation for all the calls and messages he received after the unfortunate mishap. ■

In Memoriam

Our sympathy is extended to the family and friends of the following people:

- Ms Janice Laught, who passed away on 26th November. A funeral service was held in Pascoe Vale Uniting Church on 6th December. Jan was a volunteer on the Welcome Desk roster.
- Lt Colonel W. E. (Ed) Sullivan, who passed away on 26th December. Our thoughts are with his wife Yvonne and family. A service of thanksgiving for Ed's life was held in Scots' Church on 2nd January.
- Mrs Sue Young, who died suddenly in late December. She was wife of Russell, and mother of Emily and Erik. Sue was the daughter-in-law of Margaret and Laurie Young. A funeral service was held at the Boyd Chapel, Springvale Crematorium, on 6th January.
- Greg Reardon, who died recently in New South Wales as the result of a fishing accident. He was husband of Irene, and brother-in-law of Caroline Allinson.

Psalm 121



Victorian Presbyterian Churches Past and Present

Former Gaelic Church and Schoolhouse, and Free Presbyterian Church, Geelong

If you travel along Latrobe Terrace in central Geelong, you will pass two well-preserved buildings, each of which had an important place in the history of the Presbyterian Church in Geelong as Scottish people settled in the area in the mid-19th century. The buildings consist of the former Gaelic church and schoolhouse, and Free Presbyterian Church.

The Gaelic church and schoolhouse, built in 1854 by a Free Presbyterian Church congregation, was established for Gaelic-speaking immigrants from the Scottish Highlands. Classified by Heritage Victoria, the simple Gothic style building in brick and sandstone at 271 Latrobe Terrace was designed by Geelong



The former Free Presbyterian church in current times.

architect John Young. The church met in this schoolhouse until a separate chapel was built in 1859. One of the most intact surviving examples of government subsidised schools of the 1850s, it is the oldest surviving Free Presbyterian Church in Victoria. Heritage Victoria notes that it has associations with the Presbyterian Church, particularly related to divisions leading to the establishment of the Free Church in Victoria in 1846, three years after the Free Church had formed in Scotland, when well over 400 evangelical ministers left the established church to protest against subservience of church to state. Many of the Scottish immigrants to Victoria in the 19th



The Gaelic schoolhouse is currently being used as a vascular clinic.

century had also been affected by land clearances in the Scottish Highlands.

The Gaelic schoolhouse is built on a rectangular plan, of freestone rubble with tooled freestone quoins and architraves. The front gable end has been tuck pointed, and the entrance has a flat Gothic arch with a hood mould of brick.

The former Free Presbyterian Church, located on the same block on the corner of Latrobe Terrace and Myers Street, was built by the congregation that had originally met in the Gaelic school-

house. Designed by Geelong architect Christopher Porter, it was erected from 1858 to 1859. Its design is an eclectic fusion of Colonial Georgian and Gothic design, with classically derived ornamentation and is built of stucco-rendered masonry. It is one of the few surviving examples of the work of Porter, and a notable example of a Victorian preaching church. Although the exteriors of both buildings have been preserved, they are now serve commercial purposes, the schoolhouse as a vascular clinic and the church, a property business.

The interior of the church, sympathetically adapted for commercial use with fine wood panelling, includes an historical record of the church and schoolhouse in the reception area, as follows:

GEELONG GAELIC CHURCH

The Presbyterian Church of Eastern Australia had its roots in the Presbyterianism of Highland Scotland. Such was the large number of Presbyterians in Geelong in the 1840s that a part of the town was known commonly as 'Little Scotland' and today, the southern most ward of the City of Geelong West bears this title.

A number of Presbyterian congregations were established in the region in these early years but not all of the Scottish settlers were English speaking. Consequently, on April 25, 1853, owing to the increasing number of Gaelic speaking Scots, there was established in Geelong a Gaelic congregation of the Free Presbyterian Church of Victoria.

This church, which in 1853 united with the Presbyterian Church of Eastern Australia, its New South Wales counterpart, was founded on the standards and principles of the Free Church of Scotland. It was decidedly evangelical and reformed, adhering to the biblical teachings that were rediscovered and asserted by such men as John Calvin and John Knox during the Reformation of the Sixteenth Century. Its worship was conducted with unadorned simplicity, preaching was central and it was maintained that the Bible was God's infallible word which proclaimed salvation by God's grace alone through faith in Jesus Christ.

Following the establishment of the Gaelic speaking congregation in 1853 a sandstone schoolhouse was erected at a cost of £581-14-. Church services were first held in that building on October 8, 1853. The schoolhouse still stands at the rear of this building, facing Latrobe Terrace. The whole site some 3 roods, 14 perches [0.4 hectare], was a grant from the Government.

The congregation grew, and as the schoolroom was too small for the 200 in attendance, tenders were called for the construction of a church designed by Christopher Porter in a 'Transitional Colonial Georgian' style. This building was completed for the sum of £1,521 - 12-3 and was opened for worship on May 1, 1859. It is listed on both the City of Greater Geelong Register and the Australian Heritage Commission Register of the National Estate and is one of the few surviving works of this architect. The building was acknowledged

as a notable example of a preaching Church in Victoria with a centrally located cedar pulpit.

The Church has had eight installed ministers during its history, one of the most notable being Rev. John Sinclair (1881 – 1932). Since 1973 Rev. John Cromarty has held the pastoral oversight of the congregation. After 130 years of continuous use, it was decided unanimously by the members to sell the property in order to relocate to a new and more functional church complex.

In 1989 Costa's Pty. Ltd purchased the property. The next six months saw the restoration of the building into a modern office facility whilst still retaining its oldworld charm. It was first occupied commercially on the 31st March, 1990.

Eight years on however, tragedy struck in the form of a devastating fire in October 1998, which, with the exception of the four walls, completely destroyed the structure. With the positive support of the Geelong Council, the restoration works were commenced immediately and the building was again open for business in September 1999.

The restoration following the fire included the reconstruction of the bell tower. Although this no longer houses the original bells, it does have a recording of bells that ring out the Geelong Football Club theme song whenever Geelong wins an AFL Premiership!

It is worth breaking a journey to inspect these lovely historical buildings that have been so well preserved and carefully maintained.

(The assistance of Mr Andrew Balaam of Costa Property Group in granting permission for the historical record of the Free Presbyterian Church to be included in this article, and for additional information, is gratefully acknowledged.)

References: Richard Nichols, *Former Gaelic Church And Schoolhouse*, Everything that's happening: On My Doorstep, viewed January 2014, <<http://www.onmydoorstep.com.au/heritage-listing/3399/former-gaelic-church-and-schoolhouse>>; Richard Nichols, *Free Presbyterian Church (FORMER)*, Everything that's happening: On My Doorstep, viewed January 2014, <<http://www.onmydoorstep.com.au/heritage-listing/20064/free-presbyterian-church-former>>; Victorian Heritage Database, *Former Gaelic Church and Schoolhouse*, Heritage Victoria, 2013, viewed January 2014, <http://vhd.heritage.vic.gov.au/vhd/heritagevic/?timeout=yes#detail_places;3399>; Victorian Heritage Database, *Free Presbyterian Church*, Heritage Victoria, 2013, viewed January 2014, <http://vhd.heritage.vic.gov.au/vhd/heritagevic/?timeout=yes#detail_places;68264>.

Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, New York

This Is God's House. All are Welcome.

In October 2013, on our first trip to America, we spent three weeks in New York. A city of such vibrancy, energy and colour, we delighted in the changing patterns of the movement of people as we travelled around the city.

The hotel we stayed at was on the Upper West Side at 74th Street, two blocks away from Central Park. Before leaving home we checked to see where the nearest Presbyterian Church was to where we were staying. As it was a 20 minute walk through Central Park to Fifth Avenue, we found we could attend the 11.00 am service at Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church.



The Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, New York.

Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church was founded in 1808 as the Cedar Street Presbyterian Church and has been located on Fifth Avenue at 55th Street in mid-town Manhattan since 1875. Both churches, Scots' in Melbourne founded in 1838 and completed in 1874, and Fifth Avenue, have very similar histories to one another.

It reminded us of how remarkable the influence of Scottish settlers was in the 19th century in bringing their Christian faith to America and Australia.

We attended three Sunday morning services at Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church. The first Sunday was World Communion Sunday with the Sacrament of Holy Communion conducted by the Rev. Kate Dunn. The elements were distributed to the congregation by the elders, male and female, all dressed in dark suits with a white carnation in their lapel. Additionally, two young members of the congregation walked up the centre aisle with the elements if they were required. The sermon, 'Lift a Glass' was preached by the Rev. Dr Scott Black Johnston, Senior Pastor. We were uplifted by the service. The preaching, music, the choir and the participation by lay members, as well as the welcome we received, made it a very special worship service for us.

On the second Sunday, the sermon was preached by the Rev. Kate Dunn. Once again, lay members were involved in the service. Each Sunday we attended the Call to Worship, a deacon or elder would read a psalm with responses from the congregation. We thought this would be well worth exploring at Scots'. Another feature of the service that appealed to us was the 'Passing



The interior of the church.

of Peace'. You were asked to say to the persons along side you, in front of you or behind you, 'The peace of Christ be with you' and respond with 'And also with you.' A personal way of acknowledging the people around you.

During the service, the children were invited to the front of the church before departing to Sunday school. Before they left there was a 'Litany of Parting', which was said by both the congregation and the children:

Congregation: 'May God be with you there.'

Children: 'May God be with you here.'

We thought what a wonderful way for the children to experience God's love for them.

The third Sunday service was once again lead by the Senior Pastor, the Rev. Dr Scott Black Johnston, whose sermon title was 'Breathing In and Breathing Out'. During the service we experienced for the first time the children's choir of 25, ranging in age from eight to 11. All robed in the same way as the senior choir, they sang two items, and were led in their singing by the children's choir master. It was a joy to see and hear them singing.

Each Sunday, a member of the congregation would speak about the pledge campaign for the coming year (2014). The total to be raised by the congregation, set by the trustees of the church, was \$2.75 million. This was an increase of three percent over the pledge figure for 2013. The American taxation system allows for generous tax deductions for donations to churches, but even allowing for this, with a congregation of 2088 members (2012), this is a very impressive amount to raise in support of their many outreach programs. This pledge campaign was over and above planned giving and the weekly offering.

With five ministers and other support staff, Fifth Avenue is a major church in the City of New York. In 2001, the church successfully sued the City of New York for the right to shelter homeless individuals on its front steps. The church sits at the intersection of wealth and poverty, and to that end, the church provides a refuge for up to 12 men, 365 nights a year, with food and lodging in the basement of the church. This outreach is provided by volunteers from the congregation. Pastoral care, care for the elderly, mission trips, adult education, family ministries, and support for other church missions in New York, shows a strong Christian commitment to the welfare of people whatever their creed or colour.

It was a pleasure to attend the worship services at Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church; it reminded us of Scots' in so many ways. The traditional hymns, choir, preaching and fellowship has left a lasting impression on us. Hopefully, one day we may be able to return to Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, New York, and once again absorb the vitality of this great metropolitan church.

Robert and Margaret Lowe

Word search

Luke 17 (NRSV)

Find the words in the grid. When you are done, the unused letters in the grid will spell out a hidden message. Pick them out from left to right, top to bottom. Words can go horizontally, vertically and diagonally in all eight directions. (Solution on page 30.)

K D I N G F G D O M P O F G
 O D E B J A A D B H G R T D
 Z J X S L Q E I A B V N Y G
 L H N I T L C R T V R J Y N
 B F L O A R I P E H N T B I
 J E T E I S O K F W E S H L
 E L V P E T U Y H H V A E B
 M E C E T B C K E T A M A M
 R L S V E N P E G D E A L U
 V Y Q R T K N Z J D H R E T
 G N I R E F F U S E L I D S
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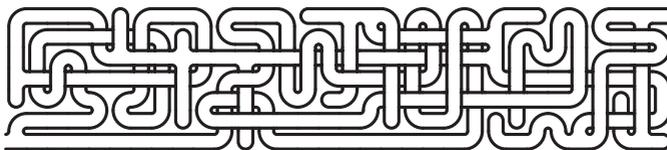


The words to find ...

- DESTROYED
- FAITH
- FORGIVE
- GALILEE
- HEALED
- HEAVEN
- JERUSALEM
- PHARISEES
- REBUKE
- REJECTION
- REVEALED
- SAMARIA
- STUMBLING
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- THANKED

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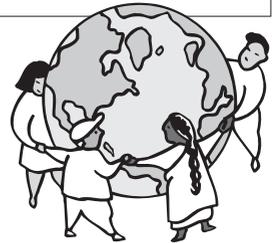


The Weekday Welcome Desk

The following statistics show weekday visitors to The Scots' Church from July to December 2013:

International visitors						
Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
178	141	122	165	242	247	1095
Australian visitors						
Victoria						
Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
183	105	130	184	69	139	810
Interstate						
Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
112	72	54	81	77	82	478

We continue to welcome visitors to Scots' Church from around the world, as well as from Victoria and interstate. Countries from which we have received our greatest numbers of visitors over recent months include: Italy, China, the United States of America, the United Kingdom, Germany, New Zealand, Japan, the Netherlands, France, Canada and Taiwan.



We have hosted some groups of students visiting from schools, who displayed a great interest in the history and architecture of the church.

A visitor to the midweek service on 13th November was Jill Skither of Acacia Presbyterian Church, Queensland, whose neighbour, Brian Clow, is a descendant of the Rev. James Clow, the first Presbyterian minister in Victoria.

Our thanks to Ann Robinson for organising the rosters for the Welcome Desk, Eric Pretty in the compiling of statistics related to visitors to the church, and to all those who serve so consistently to welcome our visitors. ■

In Memoriam



Lt Col. William Edward (Ed) Sullivan **16th October 1938 – 26th December 2013**

Lt Col. Ed Sullivan was born and spent his childhood in Sydney. At the age of 15, he joined the army, undertaking an apprenticeship in vehicle maintenance at the Australian Army Apprentices School, Balcombe, Victoria. For Ed, it was the beginning of a 37½ year career in the Australian Army, during which he was posted to every state except the Northern Territory, South Australia and Tasmania.

After going on to attend the Officer Cadet School, Ed was allotted to the Royal Corps of Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (RAEME) and progressed through army ranks as a Commissioned Officer in a range of leadership roles; first as Lieutenant, then as Captain. As a Lieutenant, he served on the headquarters of workshops in both Western Australia and Queensland, and as a Captain his first appointment was as the Aide-de-Camp to the Master General of the Ordnance. From this prestigious posting he went to command the 1st Armoured Regiment Light Aid Detachment (LAD), specialising in minor and immediate repair to Centurion tanks, as well as other equipment, and then went on to command the LAD section in support of B Squadron of the tanks in Vietnam.

On his return to Australia, a short posting to Bandiana was followed by his promotion to Major, and then as the second in command of the RAEME Training Centre at Bandiana. Ed undertook a course at the Australian Staff College, Queenscliff, in 1974, followed, in 1975, by a posting to the 3rd Base Workshop at Broadmeadows, then to the repair and maintenance element on the headquarters at Victoria Barracks, Melbourne. He was reposted to Balcombe, but this time as the second in command.

During this posting, a colleague introduced Ed to Yvonne, who was working as personal assistant to the General Officer Commanding Logistic Command. Ed began to attend Scots' Church with Yvonne, who was already a member, and they were married there in 1978. Ed and Yvonne were faithful members of Scots' from that time, Ed later serving on the Board of Management for a period of 12 years.

A promotion to Lieutenant Colonel in 1979 saw Ed posted to Headquarters Field Force Command at Victoria Barracks, Sydney. In 1981, he and Yvonne returned to Melbourne, and, in 1983, Ed went on to complete a further course at the Joint Services Staff College, Canberra, in preparation for further senior appointments.

Two postings within army headquarters in Canberra, were followed by a return to Melbourne, where he remained until his retirement in July 1990.



Ed Sullivan progressed through the ranks of the Australian Army to Lieutenant Colonel.

Ed, having seen active service in Vietnam, saw fit to remember this by creating a memorial to the Vietnam fallen. In the Collins Street porch of Scots' Church, Ed's regimental sword and cane have been mounted on a board, in memory of the 504 soldiers who lost their lives in the Vietnam War.

After retiring from the army, Ed applied to become an associate to a judge of the County Court, spending 12 years as associate to Judge Neesham, followed by four years with Judge Wood. Ed retired from this position in November 2008.

Ed had a lasting interest in rugby, playing both Rugby Union and Rugby League as a young man, later becoming a referee in both codes. In 1964, he refereed a Springbok game in Western Australia to allow these players to acclimatise to Australian refereeing. Ed eventually became chairman of the Referees Appointment Board in Canberra, also coaching referees at this time. He took part in both the opening and closing ceremonies of the 1956 Olympic Games, held in Melbourne, where he carried the



The regimental sword and cane that hangs in Scots' Church.

country name banner for the Norwegian team. He was honoured with a bronze medallion, presented to him by the Norwegian team manager, subsequently donating this to the Sports Museum at the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

Ed was also a long-serving member of the Freemasons.

Ed and Yvonne had some wonderful overseas holidays together, including a visit to the Passion Play at Oberammergau in 2010. Other trips included a visit to Japan in cherry blossom time, a cruise from San Francisco to Sydney on the Queen Mary 2, and cruises on the Baltic and Mediterranean seas.

Ed and Yvonne have made an enormous contribution to the life of Scots' Church in many quiet ways, including a large donation of toys each Christmas, and a beautiful brass rubbing which hangs in the Assembly Hall. Ed will be very much missed for his kindness, friendliness and sense of humour. He died on 26th December 2013 after a long illness, during which he was constantly supported by Yvonne. Our thoughts and sympathy are with Yvonne, her family and friends.

A thanksgiving service to celebrate Ed's life was held at Scots' Church on 2nd January 2014. ■

Photo credit: Petesmilas. Source: en.wikipedia.



The Queen Mary 2 in Sydney in 2007.

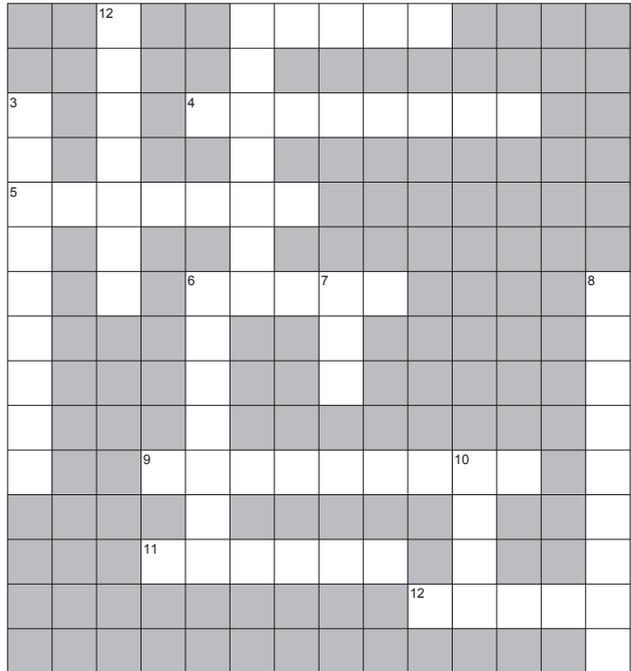
Biblical Crossword

Luke 17 (NRSV)

Solution on page 30.

Across

2. What town was destroyed after Lot departed from it?
4. Jesus said that the kingdom of God is where? (5, 3)
5. Faith the size of a _____ seed could uproot and plant a mulberry tree.
6. The apostles asked Jesus to increase their _____.
9. To what did Jesus compare the coming of the Son of Man?
11. What did Jesus ask his disciples to do if one of them sinned?
12. Jesus said of the leper who thanked him that his faith had made him _____.



EclipseCrossword.com

Down

1. To whom did Jesus ask the lepers to show themselves after they were cleansed?
2. As Jesus went to Jerusalem he passed through Galilee and what other region?
3. Which leper thanked Jesus for healing?
6. If a disciple repents, how should the others act?
7. As Jesus entered a village, he was approached by how many lepers?
8. Who asked Jesus when the kingdom of God was coming?
10. Who entered the ark before the destructive flood came?

Want to join us at Scots'?

**You'd be sure of
a warm welcome.**

Please contact the Session Clerk,
Miss Rae Anstee, on (03) 9650 9903.