



**Without a misters report for quite a few weeks and no sign of securing one in the near future I thought you might like to read an article from the Uniting Church web site as our front page was getting a little bit boring.**

The President of the Uniting Church in Australia Stuart McMillan has used his annual Easter message to pray for Christian churches in the Middle East and for greater compassion in Australia for those displaced by war and conflict. In a message recorded with Syrian refugees at Bankstown in Sydney's south-west, Mr McMillan urged Australians of all faiths and none to rise above political debate and reach out to those in desperate need of support.

"The Easter story is an outrageous love story of a Creator God who wants to reconcile the brokenness of Creation and make peace," Mr McMillan said. "Easter is a chance for new beginnings. It's our chance personally and in many ways, it's our chance as a nation to rise above the narrowness of our media and politics and defeat hatred and injustice with love and compassion."

Mr McMillan delivered the message with Rev. Gaby Kobrossi of Bankstown District Uniting Church, who has been ministering to many refugees who have settled in the Bankstown area. In the message Rev. Kobrossi describes English as a second language classes, one of several services his Church provides to new migrants. "As a Christian, as a Church this is part of our ministry, part of our role," Rev Kobrossi said. "During this Easter, during this Lent season, it will be really wonderful to say to these people, welcome."

The Australian government announced in September 2015 that 12,000 additional humanitarian places would be made available in response to the conflicts in Syria and Iraq. Last month the Government confirmed that all additional 12,000 visas had now been granted.

More than 6,000 refugees from Syria and Iraq have settled near Bankstown over the last 12 months, so many newcomers are dealing with the pressures of resettlement.

In his Easter message Mr McMillan also describes a recent church partner visit he made to Lebanon, where that country is struggling to cope with almost two million displaced people from the ongoing conflict across its borders. "We met a compassionate community working together with leaders of other faiths and their government to meet the needs of so many," Mr McMillan said.

"The full extent of God's love was clearly at work and being shared without favour.

"I pray for all peoples wherever they may be who have been displaced by conflict.

"I pray for the Christian Churches of the Middle East.

"And I pray that we in Australia, with them all, would know anew the full extent of God's love this Easter."

More than half the refugees living in Lebanon are children, with almost half of them aged 6-14 out of school. In response to the crisis, the Uniting Church's relief and development agency UnitingWorld has launched an appeal to help Syrian children get back in school. UnitingWorld is working with the Middle East Council of Churches and local churches in Lebanon, to support church-run schools provide education for more refugee children.

**Rev. Joseph Kassab of the National Evangelical Synod of Syria and Lebanon says the schools cater for students of all backgrounds and religions. "Students learn to live together in respectful, tolerant and harmonious relationships," Rev Kassab said. "They learn to live in communities, diverse but united. That's what Syria needs, and what the world needs – people who seek to live together respectfully, tolerant of difference."**

**Today**

Anglesea 9.00  
**Rev Bernie Long**  
 Airies Inlet  
**Worship Team**  
 Torquay 9.30  
**Rev Ron Manley**  
 Belbrae 11.00  
**Worship Team**

**Next Week**

**The Services will need to be organised by the individual churches**  
**Conducted by members of the congregation or an invited guest.**



**Bellbrae Bric-A-Brac and Book Stall**

Sorting each Tuesday  
**from 1pm – 4.30pm**  
 helpers are very welcome.  
 Opening times  
**Thursday, Friday 10am–4pm**  
**Saturday 10am–1pm**

**'Biggest Morning Tea at Torquay.**

Thank you to Beaut Beans for your kind offer to hold the Biggest Morning Tea at Torquay this year.

This will be held on Tuesday 6th June in the form of a Devonshire Tea morning. Sounds yummy. So please put this date in your diaries and support these ladies as they raise funds for Cancer Council. I presume this is from 10 am but will check and advise you all.

**Anglesea Church sadly acknowledges the passing of our dear friend Stan Stott  
a tireless worker in our church, loved and respected by all.  
Our love and prayers go out to his wife Melva and the family.**

**A Memorial Service will be held at the Anglesea Church on Wednesday 31st. May at 1.30pm (Stans Birthday)  
After a private cremation**

**A Parish Service to Farewell the Rev Helen Robinson  
Sunday June 25th. 11am at the Anglesea Church  
Anglesea to supply Soup & Sausage Rolls - Torquay Supply Sandwiches  
Bellbrae & Airies Inlet Supply Cakes & Slices - Put this date in your Diary**

**St David's Fete 2017**  
11am - 2pm, Saturday 20th May

Trash and Treasure	Cake Stall
Plants	Book Stall
Jewellery	Sausage Sizzle
Handicrafts	Kids Fun
Preserves	Much, much more

Cnr Talbot and Aphrasia Sts  
Newtown

**WORKING WITH CHILDREN**

- . Complete Standards Check List and Progress Report as you go
- . Distribute the Statement of Commitment to Volunteers/Leaders for them to sign and keep
- . Adopt and sign:
  - Our (Church) Statement of Commitment
  - Code of Conduct
  - Selection, recruitment and screening
  - Procedure, induction and training
- . Elect Culture of Safety Contact Person
- . Complete 'Safe Places' section of form and/or arrange for safety checks to take place (NB Annual Child Safe Maintenance Checklist included in loose leaf folder)
- . Ensure all leaders know that they need to complete training at least every 2 years
- . Elect first aid officers
- . Draw attention to complaints process: Reporting is mandatory.
  - . This applies to vulnerable adults also
  - . Listen to the complaint, but do not ask questions or make suggestions
  - Tell person you will report it
  - If vulnerable child/ young person/adult is in immediate danger keep person with you and report to police or child protection officers
  - Inform the Presbytery Child Safety officer and the Presbyter Minister-Pastoral Care and send them the completed form (see back of loose leaf folder)
  - Prepare response Plan as advised by the above

**Anglesea's Quarterly Congregational Meeting** will be held after the Service on **Sunday 28th May**  
The executive consists of Chairman, Secretary, Treasure, the Pastoral Care Convener and the Property Officer. I am away, so the other four will thankfully meet prior to the meeting to prepare the **Agenda** in my absence. **P. Heath**

**Anglesea Elders** to meet this **Thursday 25th May 4pm.**

**Anglesea's Sunday 28th May Service**  
Will be a Frontier Service Worship service with congregation participation.

**Anglesea's Afternoon Fellowship meeting**  
is on Wednesday 24th May at 1.30 pm. The item for Concern this Month is Breakfast Cereal