

# Surfcoast Uniting Churches Newsletter

For assistance, please contact :  
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Sunday 6th August 2023

*We acknowledge that we meet and worship on the land of the Wadawurrung people and pay our respects to their elders past and present.*

*Find out more at [www.wadawurrung.org.au](http://www.wadawurrung.org.au).*

**Lectionary readings : Genesis 32:22-31, Psalm 17:1-7,15, Romans 9:1-5, Matthew 14:13-21**

## VALE JAN HALE

It is with great sadness that we learned of the passing of Jan Hale last Tuesday.

Jan had been a member of the Torquay congregation since she and her husband Bob moved to Torquay from Highton in the early 2000s.

Jan was born in South Australia, the daughter of a Baptist minister. She completed her education at the University of Adelaide. She became a partner to Bob, a mother of four and a gifted teacher of language and literature.

After some time in Papua-New Guinea, she and Bob settled in Highton and soon became involved in the life of St. Luke's Uniting Church. Jan's great passion was for social justice and the arts. She brought this passion to Torquay. She was instrumental in arranging a significant art exhibition in the former church hall. She was also a strong force in the development of the Surf Coast Uniting Church Social Justice Committee, which took leading action in the establishment of a local branch of Rural Australians for Refugees.

Jan took a hand in the arranging of many public meetings concerning refugee issues. Her home was always available for activities and discussion, and always offered with great hospitality.

Following the disaster of the sinking of the SIEVX refugee vessel, Jan encouraged the Surf Coast Social Justice Committee to participate in a national project to create a SIEVX memorial in Canberra where groups were invited to paint poles one for each of the persons who were drowned. Accordingly, a pole was prepared by the Surf Coast Group and taken to Canberra where it still stands.

Jan was an enthusiast, full of ideas but also having the drive to implement them. She commenced the Beaut Beanies knitting group at the church, and then succeeded for a while to engage the wider community in a Beanie Festival.

She also loved music and dedicated herself to learning to play the harp.

In recent times Jan "slowed down" and faced some health issues. So we say farewell to a remarkable lady. May we share some of her passion for social justice.

We extend our deepest sympathy to Bob and the family.

(written by Robert & Annette Packett)

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Please note: The funeral service for Jan Hale will be at Torquay Church on Thursday 10th August at 11am.

You are welcome to attend. Please bring a small plate to share as we will have refreshments in Oak Tree Place afterwards.

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They must often change who  
would remain constant in  
happiness and wisdom.

Confucius

## Thank you

*From Roslyn Long:* Dear members and friends of Torquay, Bellbrae and Aireys Uniting Church, Thank you for all the words of care and comfort for myself and my family. when Bern died and at his funeral on 11<sup>th</sup> July at Anglesea. The service was a comfort and exactly what Bern would have wished. At present, I am staying with my daughter Ruth and her husband in Baringhup, Victoria, but I will return home to Torquay on the 17<sup>th</sup> of August. You can still contact me on my mobile at 0428 385 270. Sending my love and blessings to you all.

*From Pat Lloyd* —Thank you for your kind messages on the passing of Jean Murray. She always enjoyed leading worship in various locations, and valued the friendship and fellowship of all those congregations.

Deadline for items for our newsletter to be sent to [newslettersurfcoastuc@gmail.com](mailto:newslettersurfcoastuc@gmail.com) by 4pm on Thursday of each week

### Sunday 6th August

Aireys Inlet 9.30am Communion. Rev Bob  
Torquay 9.30am with Brian Shaw  
Bellbrae 9am Taizé Service

Check out our web page for all  
the sermons and diary updates.

[www.surfcoastunitingchurch.org.au](http://www.surfcoastunitingchurch.org.au)

### Sunday 13th August

Torquay 9.30am Communion  
Aireys Inlet 9.30am  
Bellbrae 11am

## What's Happening where we live?

- Thank you to all at Bellbrae for a lovely combined service last Sunday at 11am. We had good music, great food and even possums!
- You are invited by Portarlington Uniting to join a YARN about the Voice. Speakers include members of the local Wauthaurong community and Libby Coker, Federal MP for Corangamite. Sunday 13th August at 2pm at St Andrews Uniting
- UNITING STILL needs the these things—150gm jars of Vegemite and 50gm jars of coffee (any brand). As well as the usual long life milk etc. But please no tea as that is in plentiful supply!
- Noble Street Uniting in Saffron St, Newton, will be hosting an Afternoon Tea to support the work of the “**Bravehearts Education Program**” in Geelong Region. AT 2pm on Sunday 27th August with excellent speakers billed. RSVP to Ross on 0411 131 081 and check out [www.bravehearts.org.au](http://www.bravehearts.org.au).



Pre-register for a downloadable map

SURF COAST  
**ARTS Trail**  
**SAT 5 - SUN 6 AUGUST 10AM - 4PM**

@surfcoastartmatters  
[surfcoastartmatters.com.au](http://surfcoastartmatters.com.au)

### SOCIAL STUFF:

Coffee on Thursdays at 10.30am BOMBORAS on the Torquay Esplanade. Just turn up & chat. All ages and genders are welcome. :)

### From the Sermons this week: Matthew 14: 13-21.

#### Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand

<sup>13</sup> When Jesus heard what had happened, he withdrew by boat privately to a solitary place. Hearing of this, the crowds followed him on foot from the towns. <sup>14</sup> When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them and healed their sick.

<sup>15</sup> As evening approached, the disciples came to him and said, “This is a remote place, and it’s already getting late. Send the crowds away, so they can go to the villages and buy themselves some food.”

<sup>16</sup> Jesus replied, “They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat.”

<sup>17</sup> “We have here only five loaves of bread and two fish,” they answered.

<sup>18</sup> “Bring them here to me,” he said. <sup>19</sup> And he directed the people to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the people. <sup>20</sup> They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over. <sup>21</sup> The number of those who ate was about five thousand men, besides women and children.



This weekend is busy with the Surfcoast ARTS TRAIL at both Bellbrae and Torquay locations.

Saturday and Sunday times as advertised.

Bring the family and enjoy Devonshire Tea, soup and rolls at both locations, as well as craft, bargains and food for sale.

Torquay also has an Heirloom Lace & Treasures exhibition in the Church building.

### A BIG THANK YOU

*in advance to all those who have put up their hands, baked, painted, photographed and made sure everything runs smoothly and is a special few days for all the visitors we expect.*

### Community Dates and Events:

- Our fundraising BUNNINGS BBQ is on Sat 12th August DO Come !
- 3pm Sunday 13 August—Orchestra Geelong Concert—get tickets at [www.orchestrageelong.org.au](http://www.orchestrageelong.org.au)
- 25-26 August, LOCAL WORD Festival at Geelong Regional Libraries check the website or ask at Torquay library for a program.
- Plan ahead for the DARK SKY event to be held again at Aireys Inlet in September. Dates & details soon



Talking to Your Uncle and Anyone Else about the forth coming referendum.

Firstly—a thank you from the Airey's Inlet church and Rev Bob to all who enjoyed and attended the recent studies on Thursday mornings. The study has now concluded and we are all a little wiser about our place in Australia indigenous history.

Your newsletter email has a useful attachment with carefully considered questions and answers.

**Airey's Inlet** St Aidan's Church, 29 Great Ocean Rd, Airey's Sunday Service at 9.30am  
**Bellbrae:** Uniting Church. School & Anglesea Roads, Bellbrae Sunday Service at 11.00am  
**Torquay:** Torquay Uniting Church, 27 Anderson Street, Torquay Sunday Service at 9.30am

**BELLBRAE BRIC-A-BRAC OP SHOP & BOOK ROOM :** Uniting Church Hall, School Road. Bellbrae  
Open Fridays and Saturdays 10am to 4pm.

Your Offering for our churches, programs and outreach is very welcome. Direct Deposit or Cash  
BSB:083 929 ACC: 20987 6337  
Quote TQ, AI or BB