

# Surfcoast Uniting Churches Newsletter

For assistance, please contact :  
(Torquay) Jane Skelton  
(Bellbrae) Maxine Flakemore  
(Aireys Inlet) Keith & Mary Bremner  
Rev Bob Thomas : 0479 169 931  
Church Office: 03 5261 2369



Sunday 10th September 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 : Exodus 12: 1-14, Psalm 149, Romans 13:8-14, Matthew 18:15-20

## Creation and Climate Justice

As we celebrate Season of Creation (1 September - 4 October 2023), we come together in prayer, action, renewed commitment and advocacy for God's beautiful creation.

You are invited to share in **Common Grace's Evening of Prayer and Praise for Season of Creation - 7:30pm AEST Wednesday 20 September 2023**. This will be a time of reflection, song and prayers to 'Let Justice and Peace flow'.

[Register to join this online evening now.](#)



## FACT CHECK: for your prayerful consideration...

A referendum is used to ask the Australian people whether they approve of a change being made to our Common wealth Constitution, which is Australia's ultimate law.

In this case, the amendment doesn't change existing words, but instead adds new words to the Constitution. If passed, the amendment would insert a new Chapter IX at the end of the Constitution, saying:

### **Chapter IX — Recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples**

#### **129 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice**

*In recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the First Peoples of Australia:*

- (i) there shall be a body, to be called the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice;*
- (ii) the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice may make representations to the Parliament and the Executive Government of the Commonwealth on matters relating to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples;*
- (iii) the Parliament shall, subject to this Constitution, have power to make laws with respect to matters relating to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice, including its composition, functions, powers and procedures.*

Despite the rather confusing public debate about other issues, all that voters are being asked to do in a referendum is decide whether or not the above words should be inserted in the Constitution. There is no change to any other law.

REF: University of Sydney

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 10th September

Torquay 9.30am—Rev Bob Thomas  
Bellbrae 11am - Rev Bob Thomas  
Aireys Inlet 9.30am – Rev Bob /video

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

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

### Sunday 17th September

Torquay 9.30am - TBC  
Bellbrae 11am – TBC  
Aireys Inlet 9.30am – TBC

## What's Happening where we live?

If God were trying to tell me something, would I know?

If God were reassuring me or challenging me, would I notice?

I ask for the grace to be free of my own preoccupations

And open to what God may be saying to me.

from SacredSpace.ie

### In our neighbourhood:

#### Coffee on Thursdays at 10.30am

BOMBORAS on the Torquay Esplanade. Just turn up & chat. All ages and genders are welcome.

#### Regular weekly activities include:

**Beaut Beanies**—10:30am Tuesdays in Torquay church

Coffee & Kids—9.30am every Friday during Term.

And remember the **Bellbrae Opshop & Bookroom** open every Friday & Saturday from 10 to 4pm.

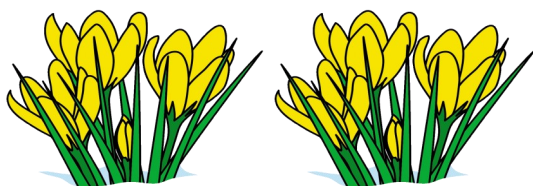
New volunteers are always welcome anytime!

**Everyone is welcome to enjoy and attend any of the above activities and outreach which happen on our Surf Coast.**



### Taking Care of each other:

1. Happy Birthday to all the September babies. Have a lovely day and a celebration of being you!
2. Remember to check on your friends and neighbours in this very odd weather. And if they ARE under the weather, we're all happy to help.



Matthew Chapter 18: <sup>19</sup> "I also tell you this: If two of you agree here on earth concerning anything you ask, my Father in heaven will do it for you. <sup>20</sup> For where two or three gather together as my followers, I am there among them." from this week's Lectionary.



## Music @ St Luke's

PRIDE STREET. TORQUAY

Sunday 17th September 3pm

Clarinet Quartet  
Adults \$15 children free



Thursday 12th October 12:30-1pm

Tom Healy Pipe Organ Recital  
Free



Sunday 22nd October 3pm

The Surf Coast's string orchestra  
Vivaldi, Mozart, Puccini, Scott Joplin  
Adults \$20, concessions \$15, children under 12

### Community Dates and Events:

- The **Embroiderers Guild** will exhibit embroidery and textile arts at Geelong West Town Hall on Sat 9 & Sun 10th Sept. 10am to 4pm. Entry \$10. A feast for the eyes.
- Portarlington Community Breakfast at St Andrews. Sat 9th at 8am! Craig Castree shares his expertise about SOIL. Email to [standrewsportbreakfast@gmail.com](mailto:standrewsportbreakfast@gmail.com) to RSVP.
- The **DARK SKY** event is on at Aireys Inlet on September 16th
- **Sept 17th: Walk for YES** Parliament House Steps 12pm to 3pm  
[www.yes23.com.au/melbourne\\_walk\\_for\\_yes](http://www.yes23.com.au/melbourne_walk_for_yes)
- October is **Positive Ageing Month** on the Surf Coast.  
Probus, U3A, Walks, and Fun, Games and one event at Oak Tree Place—Cream Scones : [www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/Community/Over-55s/Positive-Ageing-Month](http://www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/Community/Over-55s/Positive-Ageing-Month). The full calendar is attached to the newsletter mail this week.
- Sunday 15th October: At Aireys Inlet Community Hall at 2.30pm the **Victorian Welsh Choir in Concert**. Proceeds to Red Cross. Tickets: \$35. to reserve call Margo on 0412 742 117 or Christine 0408 444 199. Or Pay at the door.



### You are all invited to a Spring Fling Lunch

@ Oak Tree Place. Anderson Street, Torquay

On Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September

From Noon

Do bring a neighbour, family or friend to share with you. There is no cost. We love enjoying each other's company over a meal.

### Call Robyn Harper or Tricia Genat for any Queries

Menu will suit vegetarians and will have GF options: Spring Punch, Quiches, Salads, Fruit Salad, Trifle, Chocolate & Coffee

Transport is available.

**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