

September 2014

Barnabas Lunch

Do you realize that every second Sunday a Barnabas luncheon is held at the church? You would be most welcome. Please bring something to add to lunch.

English Classes

We still need some folk to help with the English classes at Darra. There is no need to be a teacher. The Vietnamese ladies are delightful and just need to learn conversational English. Please help!

Samaritan's Purse

On October 19, all the boxes for Samaritan's Purse will be dedicated. On October 12 there will be a retiring offering to cover costs of boxes and transport. Many thanks to people who have helped again this year.

I went to Southport Uniting Church to collect more dollies etc. While there I found out that three years ago the church started an Art Festival. This replaced the Christmas trees. The Art Festival has grown very large and involves the community. There are tents for painting, craft, pottery, belly dancing, etc. I saw a grand mural in the church painted by the children. They will let me know when it is on next year and maybe some of us could go down for the day.

The minister was worried about how he was going to get the money for repairs to the church buildings. And as well, he was upset because the regular organist was ill and a substitute was brought in at the last minute. The substitute wanted to know what to play.

The Minister gave him a copy of the service and said "You'll need to think of something to play after I make the financial announcement." During the service the minister said "Brothers and sisters we are in great difficulty; the roof repairs cost twice as much as we expected and we need £4,000 more. Any of you who can pledge £100 or more, please stand up."

At that moment the substitute organist played

"God Save the Queen".

That is how the substitute became the regular organist.

Cheers Jody

a time to
SHARE

NEWSLETTER

Greetings and Salutations

Garden Lovers



“Spring is sprung, the grass is ris,
I wonder where the birdie is?”

This month on September 11 the Garden Lovers went on a bus trip to the Laidley Spring Festival. Lots of lovely spring flowers, craft work and machinery was on view. An enjoyable day was had by all.

The August meeting was good too. We had over 30 people there and a lady came and told us all about African Violets. She was most

interesting and entertaining. Our next meeting is October 23.

Bush Dance

On Saturday night the 23rd August, the neighbours heard a different sound coming from the Oxley Darry Uniting Church. It was the sound of a band playing the rollicking tunes of bush dances, the Hokey Pokey, the Chicken Dance, the Barn Dance, The Pride of Erin and many others.

For two hours, the band played and the dancers danced. On and on they went, at a grueling pace, testing the fortitude of both band and dancers. But the excitement never waned. The spirit was electric. All tiredness was forgotten as the timeless appeal of irresistible rhythm and tunes could not be denied.

And what a diverse group of dancers they were! In one night, every generation gap that has ever existed was breached. There they were, seventy year olds dancing with nine year olds, and with not a hint of self-consciousness.

It was not only age differences that were forgotten. Able people danced with disabled. Caucasian dancers danced with Asian dancers. We were all one in Christ Jesus.

At the heart of it all was the music. And what a superb music it was! We are so fortunate to be the hosts of a truly professional dance band – the *Rank’n File* Band. And between them and the callers, John and Lisa Gunders, there was perfect co-ordination.

The Annual Bush Dance organized by the Pastoral Care team under the leadership of Sharyn Sinnamon and Jan Thompson, is now well established as an integral part of the tradition of the Oxley Darra Church. If you missed it this year, make sure you come next year for a night of peerless fun.

Commissioning of a Pastor

The 24th of August was a memorable occasion at the Oxley Uniting Church 9:45am service. Ken Ackworth, having completed his studies, was

commissioned as a Pastor within the Uniting Church. Ken has been our Youth Worker for the past eight years. On this special occasion, Reverend David Baker, Moderator elect, performed the Commissioning service.

Ken reaffirmed his faith statements. Ken also acknowledged the nurturing of his mother, his wife Debbie and friends in his faith walk, up till this time. The laying of hands by Church leaders and family, while all prayed for Ken, completed this procedure. We congratulate Pastor Ken on journeying further in his faith walk in order to grow God’s Kingdom on earth.



Crossroads

We have enjoyed many exciting nights again this year at our meetings on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month, including the usual friendly rivalry between the blue shirts and maroon shirts on the first State of Origin night when we watch the match on the big screen provided by our friend, Ken Ackworth.

Also the Puppet Ladies from Logan bring their amazing Puppets who sing and dance for us.

The Jindalee Salvation Army Band is another favourite as we shake and rattle our “instruments” along with the brass band and Angus is allowed to be the conductor – how he loves to wave that baton!

Those who enjoy our local band, *Rank’n File*, are welcome to join us in the hall on Wednesday **23 October** from 7:30pm for another “Australiana” evening and you can watch some of us swing our partners on the dance floor. Another of our local bands, *Delta Blues*, brings wonderful music for us during the year – we are waiting for their first CD to appear. This year we had a special treat when Mr King brought along his Jazz band to show us how they play.

It’s not all music and dancing – we have our craft nights for Mother’s and Father’s Day and also our Christmas craft, interspersed with games nights and, of course, many food nights such as Hot Dog Night, Sausage Sizzle, Pizza and Video Night and the *pièce de résistance*, the Christmas Dinner night. All Crossroaders and their helpers must be gourmet foodies! Needless to say we always finish each night with a wonderful supper.

Thanks to our Crossroads Organizer, Mrs June Jay, who is always reminding us that Jesus loves and cares for us each one, and our special carers and helpers from the Crossroads Committee. Also thanks to Mr Leigh, our Music Man, who plays his guitar so we can sing our Crossroads song so well at the end of each night and also for our sing-alongs.

OXLEY UNITING CHURCH has connections to the past in several ways.

In pioneering years of settlement, the entire area from Chelmer to the Blunder and the river to Rocklea was referred to as Oxley Creek.

Oxley, as a location as we now know it, had its beginnings as a highway village. when the bridge was built over Oxley Creek on the alignment of the present Ipswich Road. This allowed the coaches travelling from Brisbane to Ipswich to come through this area.

In 1862 white settlement was taking place, and many of these immigrants had very strong work ethics and believed that education and religion were very important to their community.

In those early years, a number of the local settlers united to build a split slab building near the site of the present Oxley State School. This was for use as a multi-denominational church and also served as a school.

One of the first services in this building was conducted by William Gray, who had already been conducting Presbyterian services in his barn on the high ground above what is now Corinda Railway Station. Gray acted as pastor, doctor, lawyer, and was always available to assist anyone in need.

In 1867 Sherwood Presbyterian Church was established on land donated by Mr John McDiarmid. He considered the use of instrumental music in church as "unbecoming". He and Mr William Brodie were the first Elders, and were responsible for "raising the tune". Oxley Golf Driving Range is on what was then called Brodie's Flats.

All of these church groups had strong views about the damaging influence of alcohol and went to considerable trouble to have people sign "The Pledge". "Signing the Pledge" became a phrase in the language, but not everyone was aware that it was a formal document.

LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION

IT IS GOOD NEITHER TO EAT FLESH NOR TO DRINK WINE NOR ANYTHING WHEREBY.

THY BROTHER STUMBLETH OR IS OFFENDED OR IS MADE WEAK

PURITY. TRUTH. LOVE.

Temperance Pledge.

By Divine assistance I will abstain from all Intoxicating drinks as Beverages and discontinue all the causes and practices of Intemperance

NAME *Arthur Dunlop*

RESIDENCE *Oxley*

DATE *11/5/88* WITNESS *Wm J. ...*

DELIVER US FROM EVIL