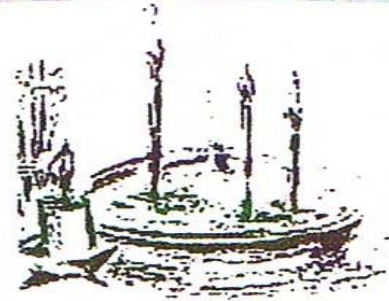


TAPER

TRAVELLING ON



A usually monthly bulletin to keep you informed as we **Travel On**.

What is **TAPER**? We are **TAPER**. It is an acronym for **The Anglican Parish of Eltham and Research**.

A taper is also a slim, beeswax candle that we use in the sand tray in church as an outward sign of our prayers.
Light a taper for TAPER.

Heavenly Father,

At this Lenten season,
Help us to be aware of our own failings,
To be open to the needs of others,
And to follow your example of
Finding the strength to meet life's challenges,
By staying close to you and acknowledging
Your Spirit within us.

LENT

prayer • fasting • almsgiving

WALKING TOGETHER
AND MAKING A
DIFFERENCE

IN OUR OWN LIVES

AND THE LIVES OF
OTHERS

Shrove Tuesday

Tuesday 20th February – became a wonderful opportunity for *Pancake Lovers* to feel they had emptied their pantries in preparation for lent.

The day started with St.Margaret's Anglicare providing their annual splendid Pancake Morning under the cloisters. Then around 6pm our friends at St.Faiths welcomed many of us for their this valuable time of transition.

Pancake Dinner. Something one of their members was heard to say he had been involved in for 35 years and probably would consider his 36th year, when we are all together.

Being together for the beginning of the Lenten period, sharing friendships and good will continues to strengthen.

Helen Robertson

Bequests will bring future blessings

Many of you will now be aware that we have been blessed with two recent bequests. The first was from the estate of the late Dorothy May Britten. The Britten Family were, in the past, the donors of the door of the church at the right of the altar. Under Dorothy's will, St Margarets received over \$42,000.

Not long after that pleasant surprise, we were blessed a second time with advice that St Margaret's was a beneficiary from the estate of the late Mrs I A Cracknell of Panton Hill. Mrs Cracknell was a parishioner of St Margaret's (at Panton Hill), until the parish of Panton Hill was separated from the parish of Eltham. The amount of this bequest is an astounding \$356,000.

It would be easy to say whacko! And start to spend our windfall, however the wardens have decided that this largesse should not be dealt with hastily. Accordingly, and in line with one of our parish plan objectives, the amounts are currently invested with a view that the total will fund initiatives identified in that plan. The precise way or ways in which those initiatives will manifest is currently under consideration by the wardens.

For the moment, we give thanks for these blessings. In due course, when decisions are made as to the use of the funds, we will report back to you.

Graham Carew (for the Wardens)

Vestry Planning Day 2007

The Eltham Little Theatre open space foyer provided a lovely setting for our annual planning day.

Fortunately everyone was able to attend and engage in good discussion, fellowship and food for the body and the soul. Our focus this year was on clarifying our own Parish 5 Year Plan now into the 4th year. Looking at ways to be more efficient with the recourses we have, e.g. more efficient meetings, clarifying responsibilities, and organizing our Parish Structure. We were encouraged by the blessing of the bequests, and the way the amalgamation process appears to be quietly moving along. We also need to keep in mind the journey that the St. Faiths Congregation are taking in the process and to be mindful and

support them in this process when ever we can. The day ended with Libby leading us in a floral centred (and scented!) Eucharist.

Sandra Brown Holt

Updating Our Memorial Book

Our *Memorial Book* needs updating to fix double and incorrect entries and to change the layout from monthly to weekly. A memorial book is the register of interments in the Memorial Garden, so it is like the equivalent of the headstone on the grave. You will remember that during the 1990's a number of names have been added of people not actually interred in our garden. Catherine Pearson and Helen Coutts have begun checking all the entries and making enquiries in order to update the book. We need to do this now so that we are ready to integrate another 80 names when the Montmorency Garden is relocated to Eltham. We will begin another list to be included during the intercessions, for Remembrance of people who are buried elsewhere.

Rev Libby Delbridge

St Margaret's Inventory Group

In preparation for the Amalgamation, there is a sub-group working on the contents of the St Faiths building and considering what might come to Eltham and what will be "on offer" and how that process will be handled. The Wardens and Vicar realised that a similar group to that at Monty, needs to be making an inventory at the Eltham end. So that as we integrate some of the contents from Monty, we are able to make clear decisions about parting with duplicate items from Eltham and are able to plan for the implications.

Libby convened the *St Margaret's Inventory Group* comprising Shirley Burns, Ian Collis, Sandy Hitchins, Jean Taylor and Michael Tucker and they met for the first time on Thursday 15 Feb. Currently they are enthusiastically documenting all the items on the site and would appreciate any information you might know about the dates of procurement, stories and history of items. Please give information to any of the above people for inclusion in the inventory. Thanks.

Liturgical Student Placement

It is a long time since we had a student placement at St Margaret's. What follows is part of really exciting news in a year of great change.

Deidre Ragless will be having a *Liturgical Student Placement* with us this year and will be supervised by Rev Stephen Delbridge for both her liturgical placement and her pastoral placement (at the hospital).

Deidre has, of course, been a regular parishioner with us as often as possible. She has been training in Melbourne although her home is in Adelaide. Part of Deidre's placement will involve taking a leadership role in the liturgy, so sometimes she will replace the Liturgical Assistant for particular services. They will be given advanced notice of her schedule and she will be involved in all weekend service times here and at Monty.

Deirdre will have a field committee to assist in her ministry with us. Please all join in welcoming Deidre in her new role.

Harry Watson

Reporting to Vestry Reports in 10 days before meetings

At vestry planning day it was recognized that this year of transition would inevitably involve more activity than in previous years, particularly because of the extra work on amalgamation and more. As a result a concerted effort has been put into planning streamlined Vestry meetings so that they may finish before 10.30 pm.. To assist in meeting these objectives all reports will be taken as read. Normally only recommendations from committees will be considered at Vestry although points of information about the body of any report can be raised. For all members to be confident about giving reports due consideration *please* could all reports be submitted to our secretary Helen Barnes (or via Diane Crow) if ahead of the **10 day deadline**.

Harry Watson