

# THE ADELAIDE UNITARIAN

Monthly Newsletter of  
The Unitarian Church of South Australia Inc,  
founded 11 July 1854

Minister: Rob MacPherson  
Minister Emeritus: The Rev. Allen Kirby

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Services held every Sunday morning at 10:30 am, and  
at Shady Grove at times and dates as advertised.



December 2017 and January 2018

Issue No. 1034

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## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### NOVEMBER

Sunday 26 at 10.30 am • Service of worship\* at Norwood given by John Hall  
Address: "Unpacking Desiderata"  
Musical offerings by Schrödinger's Cats

Sunday 26 at 12 noon • **Annual General Meeting** (until approx. 1 pm) (see this item on page 2)

Sunday 26 at 12.30 pm • LGBTQIA Welcoming subcommittee meeting (until 2.30 pm) (see this item on page 5)

Wednesday 29 at 6.00 pm • Lectio Divina worship (until 7 pm) (see this item on page 4)

Thursday 30 at 4.00 pm • *Stream-of-Life* Terrace Singers (until 6 pm) (see this item on page 7)

Thursday 30 at 7.00 pm • An Introduction to Buddhist Philosophy (until 8 pm) (see this item on page 5)

### DECEMBER

Friday 01 at 5.30 pm • *Stream-of-Life* Meeting-in-Style (until 7.30 pm) (see this item on page 6)

Sunday 03 at 10.30 am • Service of worship at Norwood given by Minister Rob MacPherson  
Address: "Doing December Differently"  
Musical offerings by Brendan Moyse

Sunday 03 at 5.00 pm • Vespers service\*\* at Shady Grove given by the Rev. Jo Lane  
Address: tba

Monday 04 at 9.30 am • Shady Grove cemetery clean-up (until 12 noon) (see this item on page 7)

Wednesday 06 at 6.00 pm • Lectio Divina worship (until 7 pm) (see this item on page 4)

Thursday 07 at 4.00 pm • *Stream-of-Life* Terrace Singers (until 6 pm) (see this item on page 7)

Thursday 07 at 7.00 pm • An Introduction to Buddhist Philosophy (until 8 pm) (see this item on page 5)

Sunday 10 at 10.30 am • Service of worship at Norwood given by Minister Rob MacPherson  
Address: Annual multifaith service and lunch, featuring contributions from members of the  
Multifaith Association of SA (Note: Please bring a plate of food to share)  
Musical offerings by Margaret Lambert

Wednesday 13 at 6.00 pm • Lectio Divina worship (until 7 pm) (see this item on page 4)

Thursday 14 at 4.00 pm • *Stream-of-Life* Terrace Singers (until 6 pm) (see this item on page 7)

Thursday 14 at 7.00 pm • An Introduction to Buddhist Philosophy (until 8 pm) (see this item on page 5)

Sunday 17 at 10.30 am • Service of worship at Norwood given by Minister Rob MacPherson  
Address: "A Celebration of Christmas", featuring choral pieces, carols, and readings with a  
difference  
Musical offerings by Margaret Lambert and the Terrace Singers

Wednesday 20 at 9.30 am • *Stream-of-Life* Cooking for St Vinnies (until 2 pm) (see this item on page 7)

Wednesday 20 at 6.00 pm • Lectio Divina worship (until 7 pm) (see this item on page 4)

Thursday 21 at 7.00 pm • An Introduction to Buddhist Philosophy (until 8 pm: final session) (see this item on page 5)

Sunday 24 at 10.30 am • There will be a presence at the Meeting House (See message from the President)

Sunday 24 at 5.00 pm • Christmas Eve Vespers service\*\* at Shady Grove given by the Rev. Jo Lane  
Address: tba

Wednesday 27 at 6.00 pm • Lectio Divina worship (until 7 pm) (see this item on page 4)

Sunday 31 at 10.30 am • Service of worship\* at Norwood given by Jennie Dyster  
Address: tba  
Musical offerings by Alex Tsioulski

### JANUARY

Wednesday 03 at 6.00 pm • Lectio Divina worship (until 7 pm) (see this item on page 4)

Friday 05 at 5.30 pm • *Stream-of-Life* Meeting-in-Style (until 7.30 pm) (see this item on page 6)

Sunday 07 at 10.30 am • Service of worship\* at Norwood given by John Eaton  
Address: tba  
Musical offerings by Brendan Moyse

Wednesday 10 at 6.00 pm • Lectio Divina worship (until 7 pm) (see this item on page 4)

Sunday 14 at 10.30 am • Service of worship at Norwood given by Minister Rob MacPherson  
Address: "Torda at 450, and what it means for us"  
Musical offerings by Margaret Lambert

Wednesday 17 at 9.30 am • *Stream-of-Life* Cooking for St Vinnies (until 2 pm) (see this item on page 7)

Wednesday 17 at 6.00 pm • Lectio Divina worship (until 7 pm) (see this item on page 4)

Friday 19 at 1.30 pm • *Stream-of-Life* Ruggers Group (until 4 pm) (see this item on page 7)

Sunday 21 at 10.30 am • Service of worship at Norwood given by the Rev. Nicholas Rundle  
Address: tba  
Musical offerings by Dr Tony Rogers

Wednesday 24 at 6.00 pm • Lectio Divina worship (until 7 pm) (see this item on page 4)

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Sunday	28	at 10.30 am	• Service of worship at Norwood given by Minister Rob MacPherson Address: "Annual ingathering service--Water Communion and Blessing of Children's Bookbags" (Note: Please bring 100 ml of fresh water from, or representing, where you took your summer holidays.)	Musical offerings by Schrödinger's Cats
Wednesday	31	at 6.00 pm	• Lectio Divina worship (until 7 pm)	(see this item on page 4)
<b>FEBRUARY</b>				
Thursday	01	at 4.00 pm	• <i>Stream-of-Life</i> Terrace Singers (until 6 pm)	(see this item on page 7)
Friday	02	at 5.30 pm	• <i>Stream-of-Life</i> Meeting-in-Style (until 7.30 pm)	(see this item on page 6)
Sunday	04	at 10.30 am	• Service of worship at Norwood given by Minister Rob MacPherson Address: tba	Musical offerings by Brendan Moyse

(\* denotes a service arranged through the worship subcommittee, \*\* by Shady Grove members)

**The date for the December Committee of Management meeting will be decided following the AGM.**

## PUBLISHED SERVICE ADDRESS TOPICS

Please be aware that the topics shown are notional and subject to change at the Minister's or presenter's discretion.

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## MINISTER'S WORKING ARRANGEMENTS AND CONTACT DETAILS

(Subject to occasional variations)

**Sundays** from 8 am to 2 pm

**Mondays to Thursdays** 9 am to 3 pm

Phone contact (during those hours and out-of-hours/emergencies):  
0419 550 543

Email address: [robmacpherson1@hotmail.com](mailto:robmacpherson1@hotmail.com)

### Minister's Leave Arrangements

The Minister will be taking his annual 'on-call' leave, together with some days 'in lieu', from 24 December through 10 January, then from 15–25 January.

He will still be available during these period for any pastoral emergencies that arise.

## OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR'S AVAILABILITY AND CONTACT DETAILS

Office Hours: The office is normally open **Tuesdays** and **Fridays** from 10 am to 2 pm each week.

Our office administrator is Jenny Warner  
(personal mobile 0411 523 544)

The office landline telephone: (08) 8332 2803

The church email address: [unitariansa@bigpond.com](mailto:unitariansa@bigpond.com)

## STREAM-OF-LIFE CONTACT DETAILS

Coordinator: Jenny Warner  
Mobile phone: 0411 523 544

## Notice of 2017 AGM

Members are invited to attend the 2017 AGM on Sunday 26 November. The meeting will commence at 12 o'clock following the Sunday service. Only 2016/17 financial members are eligible to vote on issues such as new members for the COM.

### Service to our community

An ideal opportunity exists for members who would like to give a small amount of time to give a valuable service to our community as a member of the Committee of Management. There are four positions available this year. If interested please speak to President Jennie Dyster or a current member of the Committee.

## Note: Special Services for December & January

**1. Annual Multifaith service and lunch, 10 December**  
As in years past, this happy occasion features a service with contributions from many of the major faith traditions in our community. Please bring a plate of food to share, bearing in mind that many of our guests will be vegetarian

or halal in their dietary practices.

### 2. Doing December Differently, 17 December

This will follow a traditional Christmas format "Carols and Lessons for Choir and Congregation". However, The Terrace Singers will offer contemporary arrangements of seasonal music by Karl Jenkins (he of 'Adiemus'), and non-traditional readings will be offered on seasonal themes.

### 3. Torda at 450, 14 January

This marks the 450th anniversary of the Edict of Torda, the founding document of religious freedom and the inception of our Unitarian tradition.

### 4. Ingathering, 28 January

We ask that all members and friends of the church make a special effort to be present for this once-a-year service. On this day, we will formally draw summer holidays to a close and begin the new children's school year with two Unitarian rituals: *The Water Communion* and *The Blessings of the Bookbags*. To participate in the water communion, please bring 100ml of FRESH water from wherever you took your summer holidays (even if that was the back garden). The blessings of the bookbags is an opportunity for the whole church community to wish our younger members well as they begin their new year of schooling. Children are asked to bring their bookbags for this part of the service.

## MINISTER'S MESSAGE

### Marriage Equality, Religious Freedom, and Torda

Thrilled, relieved, joyful, and encouraged as most of us are by the results of the recent plebiscite on Marriage Equality (and rightly proud of the long UU tradition of standing up and advocating for this equality), I am compelled to point out that this battle may have been won, but the war against discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation is far from over, and has indeed been opened on a new front--half-baked ideas about freedom of religion. And it is on this new front that Unitarians (and Unitarians uniquely) can offer advocacy and leadership that comes from the very roots of our free church tradition.

450 years ago in the edict of Torda, our inception document, Francis David articulated for the first time in the early Reformation the concept of religious freedom:

*"... in every place the preachers shall preach the Gospel according to his understanding of it, and if the congregation like it, well. If not, no one shall compel them for their souls would not be satisfied, but they shall be permitted to keep a preacher whose teaching they approve. Therefore none of the superintendents or others shall abuse the preachers, and no one shall be reviled for his religion by anyone ..."*

That's right, Unitarians pretty well invented the idea of freedom of religion at a time when civil laws burnt people alive for differing views about their shared faith. However, that broadly liberal notion of freedom of religion is, here and now, being hijacked and twisted into freedom to discriminate against same-sex marriage and couples. Certain parliamentarians and commentators, in thrall to (or in the pockets of) certain constituencies, are seeking to introduce amendments to the bill that will virtually nullify the gains in acceptance and equality endorsed by the vast majority of the public in the recent plebiscite.

For who knew there were so many pious bakers, florist, and civil celebrants out there, and that they had such massive pull in domestic policy? Won't someone think of the pious Catholic florist, whose freedom of religion means that, to obey the God of their choosing, they are compelled to deny goods and services to a gay couple seeking flowers to beautify the altar of their marriage? Or to adorn the funeral casket of one of them? But isn't that exactly what "Freedom of Religion" says we should all accept and allow--'no one shall be reviled for his religion by anyone.' So no civil suits against the pious florist...in the name of freedom of religion. Which hardly seems right, if same sex marriage are indeed equal in law. What a tangled knot...

A simple swap reveals the unjust (and irreligious) logic of this. What if the issue were freedom to deny inter-racial

couples goods and services with the simple rejoinder: "Hey, don't oppress my religious beliefs, man." Why is one's sexual orientation any different from one's skin colour? For some few tortured souls, homosexual orientation is believed to be a choice...and a wicked, dirty, impious one. That's the real driver underlying this push for protection of religious freedom, and it is time such folks sought therapy, rather than public policy protection for their difficult feelings, if their personal distaste for homosexuality is encouraging them to treat LGBTQIA folks as less than equal.

Religious liberty does NOT mean religious license ("I can do whatever I want in the name of my faith"). By this logic, suicide bombing is an expression of religious freedom. What utter, and potentially dangerous, rot.

The suicide bomber, the pious Catholic florist, the Orthodox Jewish baker who won't serve Muslims or Gentiles, are of course free to have whatever private thoughts and feelings they have about what God wants for them and others (however dark those thoughts and feelings may be). No one wants to see the "Thought Police". But when it comes to how you behave toward others in the public sphere, there is no politically correct way to oppress others on the basis of personal belief in supernatural mandates. Torda was a civil edict, prepared for and endorsed by a king. In effect, it prioritized civil peace and justice for all over private belief. Long may that continue.

Freedom of religion does not mean freedom to discriminate, does not mean freedom to treat others with less equality, worth, and dignity than we ourselves would be treated. Those who strive to find ways to use their religion as a stick with which to beat others have missed the entire ethical point of any religion worthy of the name: to treat others as we ourselves would be treated. That's is the foundation of civil society. That is true freedom, and those who don't know that are those who haven't yet tried it.

ANZUUA will shortly be calling on our representatives to do the right thing, yet again. And so the fight for the soul of the nation continues.

See you in (our free) church!

ROB MACPHERSON

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

How many shopping days more till Christmas? My family's answer to that one was DKDC (Don't Know Don't Care). What is actually exercising my mind right now is the AGM at the end of November and the services from Christmas Eve through to February. Adelaide Unitarian ministers have traditionally taken three weeks off in January as it coincides with lowest church attendance and matches family holiday times in Australia.

This year Christmas is on Monday and so Christmas Eve is on Sunday. Shady Grove do a carols and readings service and you are encouraged to attend. But, as not everyone can get to Shady Grove, we will have a presence at Norwood. This will take the form of sharing thoughts or reminiscences, instead of having a service with an address. We will have a meditation time and candles of joy and concern but in place of the address we invite people to bring a poem, a piece of music, an instrument or an artefact to prompt a story. Afterwards we will serve some wine and Christmas treats as well as the usual tea and coffee.

On New Year's Eve I will most probably conduct the service. I will take a leaf from Tim Minchin's book and unpack why, perhaps, you should not raise the bar with New Year resolutions. Do you really need to have a dream or tot up a record list of achievements in 2018?

There will be services on January 7th and 21st with guests in the pulpit, but on the 14th Rob will conduct a very special service to celebrate the 450th anniversary of the Edict of Torda, which enabled the foundation of Unitarianism. From the 28th Rob will be back in the pulpit.

I enjoyed Rob's address on the subject of institutions last week. He explained why people who value our church life need, at some time, to take on Committee of Management responsibilities and why it's not a good idea to just let anyone interested to join the governance team. The role of CoM member isn't for everyone. Our constitution guarantees turnover as there is a limit of three years for ordinary committee members. Treasurer and Secretary are appointed annually, and the minister and assistant treasurer are ex-officio members. This produces a constant injection of new blood, and since I have been president, a nice balance of old and new, young and old church members. The meetings are monthly and last 90 minutes.

In the meantime, before Christmas, we have some special services to look forward to. The Terrace Singers are rehearsing Karl Jenkins carols for the service on 17 December and we have our usual Multifaith service on 10 December with a shared meal to follow.

Just before finishing I would like to reflect on the results of the postal survey conducted by the Bureau of Statistics. An amazing 80% response, with a clear result in favour of marriage equality as predicted by polls but with a few wonderful ironies. Electorates like Tony Abbott's well above the 60%, and traditional Labour strongholds leaning into 'no' territory. Not all that surprising when you look at educational and wealth levels. The more privileged you are the more freedom you have and want. I taught in areas of social distress and deprivation and noted a much higher level of social conservatism.

One great injustice I think was wreaked on Muslim communities of Sydney and Melbourne, especially by right wing commentators, who took them to task for being 'socially regressive' and out of step with 'Australian values'. This was disingenuous as these commentators were insistent that the issue was addressed by the community at large rather than by the parliament! The Muslims themselves never conducted a 'no' campaign. The Christian lobbyists that did spearhead the 'no' campaign were mostly Baptists and Pentacostalists and they have not been criticised for that by these same commentators. The Lutherans officially stated that it was a matter of conscience and many Anglican and Catholic and Uniting Church clergy did the same although some clergy did distribute pamphlets and parish letters outlining official church teachings on the subject. It was, of course, their right to do so and there is little point in having a survey if only one response is acceptable.

Hopefully, the need to deal with the matter swiftly will mean amendments designed to extend existing religious 'freedoms' are blocked for the time being. After all, traditional churches are already free to deny church ceremonies to divorcees and assorted riff raff. The definition of marriage needs to be passed simply. The bakers who will happily put two chaps or two sheilas on top of a cake will take the business from those who are squeamish about their decorations and the sky will very likely stay where it is and not fall down.

Happy holidays! Happy Christmas! Happy New Year!

Warm regards, JENNIE DYSTER

### COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT MEETING

Summary of the meeting of the Committee of Management held on Tuesday 21 November 2017.

- Reviewed quotes for removal of tree and fixing of gutter
- Discussed proposal for establishment of annual Catherine Helen Spence Oration
- Planned archives working bee
- Agreed to take out membership of Trees for Life to build bushcare skills and knowledge
- Reviewed correspondence from Mt Barker Council, First UU Melbourne and Barbara Willow

December's meeting date will be decided following the election of new committee members at the AGM.

*Full minutes of proceedings together with copies of reports will, after approval, be posted on the noticeboard in the library.*

JENNY WARNER (Acting Secretary)

### LECTIO DIVINA ALTERNATIVE WORSHIP

These additional worship sessions based on deep listening will continue on Wednesday evenings, 6–7pm.

ROB MACPHERSON

### ADMINISTRATION

Please note that the office will be closed from Wednesday 20 to Tues 26 December (incl.) and on Tuesdays in January but will be open as usual on Fridays from 10 am to 2 pm.

JENNY WARNER, Administrative Assistant  
[jswwow@gmail.com](mailto:jswwow@gmail.com) | 0411 523 544

### NEW FINANCIAL YEAR - fees due now

The church financial year ended at the end of September. Membership fees for the 2017–2018 year are due now. These fees are \$35 for full membership and \$20 for members with a concession card.

You are encouraged to think about how much you might contribute financially to our church during the next year.

- a) using the envelope scheme. If you would like envelopes please let me know and I will supply them
- b) through the offertory collection
- c) by electronic funds transfer
- d) directly to me. Please place in an envelope with your name on the outside. I will receipt and send to you

Every commitment will help to increase the vitality of the church.

Our bank account details are:

BSB: 633 000

Account Number: 155743792

Account Name: The Unitarian Church of SA

HELEN HALL, Assistant Treasurer

### COMMUNITY GARDEN

We are anxiously awaiting the result of the voting for grant monies. Thank you to all who voted for The Alfred Street Community Garden project.

JENNY WARNER

[jswwow@gmail.com](mailto:jswwow@gmail.com) | 0411 523 544

### VISION 2020 - A FLOURISHING CHURCH

Would you like to help promote the flourishing and development of our church? The Vision 2020 committee works to do just that. And we need new members! Upcoming items include marking the 450th anniversary of the Edict of Torda and exploring becoming an LGTBQIA Welcoming Congregation. Express your interest via outgoing convenor [Jenny Warner](mailto:Jenny.Warner).

#### Vision 2020 Team

JENNY WARNER (former Convenor/Chair), DAPHNE TRELOAR, PAULINE ROONEY, RICHARD MAYO and DAVID FREESMITH

## SUNDAY CLUB

### Christmas play

The children are preparing a short Christmas play to be performed during the service on 26 November. If your child would like to participate please advise Darren and [Kate Searson](#) asap if you haven't already so that they can assign a part and help to arrange a costume. Participating children should arrive early at 9:30 am on the 26th for rehearsal.

### Programme

Children's religious education will be offered at three age levels on 26 November. The pre-school group are participating in a music and movement programme with Brenda Coulter. The primary school group are working on preparing for Christmas as a time of giving with Kate Searson, and the middle-school group are learning about assertiveness and bullying with Janet Whitham. On other Sundays, less structured play and fellowship sessions will be offered by our assistants. There are plans afoot to create a scarecrow for the community garden and to decorate peace cards to send to a fellow congregation in Canada.

### 2018 Sunday Club leadership

If you know of an appropriately qualified and experienced person who may be interested in leading Sunday Club in a paid capacity in 2018, please pass on their details to [Mary](#). Conditions attached to the role are negotiable. Church background is not required.

### Volunteer assistants

We are very fortunate to have the regular assistance of several adults from the congregation. But we need more to run our programme. Can you help from time to time as an assistant? Please contact [Mary](#) to join the roster and [arrange your police clearance](#).

DAVID FREESMITH,  
MARY CHASE [mkchase2@gmail.com](mailto:mkchase2@gmail.com)  
Sunday Club Coordinators

## SOCIAL JUSTICE

### LGBTQIA Welcoming Congregation

A working group is considering ways our congregation might move towards becoming an [LGBTQIA Welcoming Congregation](#). If you are interested in joining the working group, please contact convenor [Stacey Roy](#). Congratulations to all those involved in campaigning during the recent postal survey campaign on the decisive result. The result was celebrated last Sunday at church with rainbow cake.

### Weekly vigil for refugees

Unitarians continue to support a [weekly vigil](#) calling for the compassionate welcome of asylum seekers held in Australian Government offshore detention. The vigil is now in its 63rd consecutive week and will continue until all refugees held on Manus and Nauru are free and safe. Join us every Friday 4.30–6.30pm on Parliament House steps.

DAVID FREESMITH – Social Justice Coordinator  
[dfreesmith@gmail.com](mailto:dfreesmith@gmail.com) | 0403 933 857

## INTRODUCTION TO BUDDHISM

Introduction to Buddhist Philosophy continues during December on Thursday evenings at 7–8 pm in the annexe, the final component of the series being on 21 December. Each component is complete and while it would have been preferable to take the whole course, Jenny Opie advises that each topic will be of individual interest.

JENNY OPIE

m. 0428 828 005 | [beachbabe@internode.on.net](mailto:beachbabe@internode.on.net)

## PERSONALIA



VALE ELVA MAY BURKE  
(13.6.34–26.10.17)

Elva was a long-time member of our Church, and was loved and respected by her many friends in the congregation, by the local community, and the overseas community where she worked in her early twenties. She was a multitasking and intelligent lady who easily made friends and fitted into many scenarios. Those who knew her were saddened by her loss, aged 83, at the Highercombe Residential Facility, Hope Valley.

Elva was born on 13 June 1934, at Gawler. She was the daughter of Reuben and Blanche Appleton. Her childhood was spent on the fringes of Adelaide and the Barossa, helping her father make and deliver cakes and lunches.

In her early years Elva contracted polio which affected her ability to walk with ease, and caused her stress. She entered nursing school in the late 1950s and soon after graduated top of her group.

Under the Australian Government Colombo plan, she moved to Malaysia in her early twenties to work as a nurse at a mission hospital in Malacca for about a year.

In the early 1960s Elva met and married Jack Burke (now deceased), who worked in the armed services and a few years later their children Lynette and Sean were born. Lynette's boys were members of our Sunday School for a while.

Elva had a variety of occupations, as a nurse, as a manager of service stations and as a real estate agent.

Sadly, Jack died in 1984 as a result of his exposure to the atomic testing at Maralinga. Jack played an important role in bringing the governments of Australia and the United Kingdom to account. Many years later, at Parliament House, Elva met those families whose plight had a light shone on it by Jack.

In 1984, the first of Elva's four grandchildren were born, followed by six great grandchildren. She loved her family members and they all loved her—she would either be working or caring for them until a late age. She taught them two things; first, that you don't need a lot in life to be happy, you just need to treasure it, and second, don't worry about what everyone else will think.

Elva certainly knew how to cook and, with Allen Kirby, provided sumptuous church dinners that raised a considerable amount of money at a time when it was really needed. Some years later she had triple bypass heart surgery. Her energy was often sapped for the rest of her life by the effects of her surgery.

Only in later life did Elva take up painting and she showed quite a talent in this area. She began an art class at the Church, which was very much appreciated by her students. We remember their works that were displayed in the Church annexe.

In the past few years, after moving to Highercombe from her home of many years at St Peters, her health was in steady decline and she quietly passed away on 26 October 2017. Elva's funeral was held in the chapel of Berry's Funeral Home, Norwood, followed by her committal in the Lyndoch Cemetery, Lyndoch, on Friday 3 November 2017. Rest in peace, Elva.

MAUREEN KOWALICK



VALE KEVIN FISHER  
(17.11.24–28.10.17)

Kevin was born in 1924 and grew up in Colonel Light Gardens, one of seven children born to Leo and Molly Fisher. His family knew hard times during the Great Depression of the 1930s but his father, Leo, always managed to earn enough from his odd jobs to keep up with the mortgage and feed the family. Leo was also a terrific pianist and mother, Molly, a beautiful singer. Kevin remembered there always being music in the house. Kevin made his public singing debut at his local parish school where he attended with his brothers and sisters after encouragement from one of the nuns. He never stopped singing from then on.

After attending Christian Brothers College for a short period, Kevin left school at age 14. His first job was as an errand boy and general help in a chemist shop in the city. He had many jobs over the years but was never out of work and, whatever job he took on, he handed over his pay packet to his mother.

Kevin and Ivy met each other at a dance in their local church hall when they were in their teens. During World War II, Kevin joined the Royal Australian Air Force, training in Ballarat, Victoria, as a wireless operator/gunner. When he arrived in England in 1943, however, he joined a Lancaster crew as tail gunner, with his crew being part of the RAF Bomber Command. Thankfully, and despite the odds, Kevin survived the war and returned home in 1946, becoming engaged to Ivy within a few months of his return.

Ivy and Kevin married in 1949 and had four children: Stephen, Ken, Shirley and Mary. In 1972, together they started their business, KD Fisher and Co Pty Ltd, in which both continued to work until their respective deaths. Both were active in their community, playing tennis and lawn bowls, and with membership of various book groups or clubs and associations. In 2007, Kevin was awarded an Order of Australia Medal for his work with the Airforce Association and veterans' communities. He was also a life member of the Adelaide Male Voice Choir and, indeed, sang solos at the last choir concert held just a number of weeks before his death on 28 October 2017.

Kevin grieved deeply when Ivy died in late 2013, shortly before their 64th wedding anniversary—they had had a wonderful and loving life partnership. Ivy and Kevin were wonderful parents, grandparents, great-grandparents, relatives and friends and both were dearly loved.

SHIRLEY FISHER

We are still looking for a Personalia Correspondent – please feel free to put your hand up to help us out!

EDITORIAL TEAM

**WOMEN'S DISCUSSION GROUP**

The Women's Group will recommence meetings in February 2018. Subject TBA.

LIZ LOVE | 8332 1425 | [lizlove@adam.com.au](mailto:lizlove@adam.com.au)

**BIRTHDAYS**

We wish the following people a very happy birthday.

**December 2017**

2 <sup>nd</sup>	Marcus Hamilton-Smythe	19 <sup>th</sup>	Jenny Opie
5 <sup>th</sup>	Sandy Schultheis	22 <sup>nd</sup>	Christine Mason
19 <sup>th</sup>	Justine Whitham		

**January 2018**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Barbara Willow	17 <sup>th</sup>	Robert Pedlow
11 <sup>th</sup>	Janet Whitham	28 <sup>th</sup>	Luke Harris

*The way to control your life is to control your words and thoughts. No one thinks in your mind but you.*  
Louise Hay"

If you are a member and would like your birthday included, please let me know.

Some members may no longer want to receive a card in the post. Please contact me if this applies to you.

JENNY OPIE

[beachbabe@internode.on.net](mailto:beachbabe@internode.on.net)

**CAIM GROUP**

*'Caim' – a Gaelic word meaning sanctuary, an invisible circle of protection drawn around the body with a hand, which reminds you that you are safe and loved even in the darkest times.*



We are a group of like-minded people who want to support each other to weave contemplative and prayerful tradition into our busy lives. Currently we meet fortnightly on a Thursday night in one of the member's homes.

More details from NEIL UNDERWOOD on 0430 411 369

or [nellynoos@adam.com.au](mailto:nellynoos@adam.com.au)

**FAIR TRADE**

CHOC HORROR!!! Why is our Fair Trade chocolate so expensive?

Human rights groups have been reporting for some years now that the chocolate industry is linked to child labour and even slavery in those parts of the world where cocoa is produced. In an interview on Radio National on Good Friday Sister Sarah Puls, a Sister of the Good Shepherd, said that most of the chocolate we eat in Australia is made using cocoa beans produced in West Africa. "There is not a lot of money to employ people in those areas so labour, including child labour and children who are trafficked for the purpose of picking cocoa, are used. "If these producers were paid a fair price they could afford to pay for labour and contribute to economic development in their communities.

Fair Trade chocolates, tea and coffee are available after the church service.

We chose to sell Oxfam products because we trust them and because we support Oxfam in its fight against poverty and injustice in developing countries. And there is the added bonus that the products are produced organically. Oxfam sells to us at a discount and we sell at the recommended retail price, giving the Church a profit of 20%. This money funds the Church's Stream-of-Life Outreach programme, in particular the monthly Cooking for Vinnies.

JENNY WARNER

**STREAM-OF-LIFE (SoL)**

**Adelaide Fringe 2018**

SoL has agreed to support our musicians if they wish to be part of Adelaide Fringe 2018.

JENNY WARNER

**Meeting-in-Style**

SoL will host the December meeting (1/12). Everyone in the Church community is welcome to come. 5.30 pm in the Annexe. Wear festive attire. RSVP (0411 523 544) OR bring a plate of finger food.

Fridays, 1 December and 5 January, 5.30–7.30 pm. For further details contact Judy Viner on 0402 922 445.

**St Vincent de Paul cooking days**

Cooking for St Vinnies is on the third Wednesday of every month, 9.30 am to 2 pm or until we have made enough. Next dates are 20 December and 17 January.

Many thanks to the loyal cooks taking part in these sessions every month. St Vinnies staff are always very appreciative.

DAAPHNE TRELOAR

**Stream-of-Life Ruggers**

We have just received almost 300 knitted squares and are desperate to find helpers to sew these into useful wraps!!! Can you help? We will take a well-earned break in December but wish all our many supporters a wonderful Christmas and New Year. When we meet again on 19 January (the 4th Friday being Australia Day) we will continue to make 2018 another memorable year.

You are welcome to join us in the manse for work and conversation, usually on the fourth Friday of each month 1.30 to 4 pm.

VALERIE WEBB AND THE UNITARIAN RUGGERS TEAM  
[kandvwebb@bigpond.com](mailto:kandvwebb@bigpond.com) | mob. 0413 955 565

**Terrace Singers (a women's choir)**

On 14 November some of the Terrace Singers, led by Catherine Lambert, sang at the 50th Anniversary of the 9 RAR\* at the Keswick Barracks. Not only was our State Governor present, but also Sir Peter Cosgrove, the Governor General, and his wife. Sir Peter was previously a member of the 9 RAR in Vietnam. The Singers received many accolades and thanks at the conclusion of the celebration.

The Terrace Singers will sing a collection of Christmas carols, some composed, some arranged, by Sir Karl Jenkins at our church at our service on Sunday 17 December.

In December the Terrace Singers will rehearse at the Meeting House 4–6 pm on Thursdays 7th and 14th. They are in recess during January, and resume rehearsals on 1 February.

New members are always welcome to join the Terrace Singers in their musical pursuits.

For enquiries about the Terrace Singers please call 8269 1883 or 0407 797 795.

MARGARET LAMBERT

\* 9 RAR – The Ninth Royal Australian Regiment

**SHADY GROVE CONGREGATION****News**

Congratulations must go to those involved in the organisation of the ANZUUA conference. Several Shady Grove members were pleased to attend the Friday night presentation by Hugh Mackay at Norwood Concert Hall, and more were present to welcome the many visitors from interstate and New Zealand to our beautiful Shady Grove and the wonderful bushland for the Sunday lunch.

Our November combined Service led by Rob MacPherson provided us with a thought-provoking study on the 4th of our 7 Principles.

The 'once for this year', Social Justice table earned \$50 thanks to our generous buyers, and this has gone to the Christie Downs Domestic Violence Support Centre in the form of two Target/Coles \$25 vouchers.

**Shady Grove Congregation Dates****Sunday 3 December at 5 pm**

(Vespers service)

Leader: the Rev. Jo Lane  
Address: tba  
Wardens: Jill and Murray Dunn

**Sunday 24 December at 5 pm**

(Christmas Eve Vespers Service)

Leader: the Rev. Jo Lane  
Address: tba  
Wardens: everyone attending

**There will be NO Service at Shady Grove in January.**

Note: events at Shady Grove are subject to our hot weather policy ([see below](#)).

Formerly there have been three combined services at Shady Grove each year [first Sundays of March, June, December]. We have found the December combined service has needed cancelling several times due to hot weather. It has now been agreed to hold the combined services as follows:

March  
May  
November

NB: Shady Grove will not be operating the Bring & Buy table until further notice. Although it has been a successful venture, raising quite a lot of money over time, interest seems to have been waning, so we are thinking of possible alternatives for 'down the track' to raise money again for Social Justice causes.

PAT SIMPSON

**Shady Grove Cemetery Clean-up**

Next working bee will be Monday 4 December from 9.30 am until 12 pm.

DAAPHNE TRELOAR

**Shady Grove Bushcare**

I am planning to work in the bush at Shady Grove on Tuesdays/Wednesdays/Thursdays in January (weather permitting). If anyone wants to help, contact me on 0411 523 544 to check times.

We had five students from Mt Barker High School (Year 10) working in the cemetery during November. They did an excellent job removing annual grasses ('before' and 'after' photos below).



JENNY WARNER, Coordinator  
[jswow@gmail.com](mailto:jswow@gmail.com) | 0411 523 544.

For Hills/Shady Grove weather information please phone Yvonne Barrett on 0409 637 938.

**The hot weather policy will apply as we progress through summer, namely ...**

Our **hot weather policy** which applies during the summer season is that ... *if the temperature forecast for the day on which a service or event is scheduled, predicted on ABC Radio 89.1 AM the night before, is for 35C degrees or higher, then the service or event will be cancelled. If the service cancelled were to be one of the three morning services planned for the year, then that service will be held instead at the Norwood church at 10.30 am.*

### IPAN Independent Peaceful Australia Network

I attended the second meeting of a group of people particularly interested in linking in/becoming a part of a national group called the Independent and Peaceful Australia Network (IPAN). Members are from different organisations, similar in their desire to promote Peace and to do what they can by joining forces with others.

At this meeting a decision was made by our group to use the national title IPAN and add SA—IPANSA—making that our name. A committee was formed. I was asked to become a member. The first meeting was held on Tuesday 21 November to commence solidifying the aims and objectives of IPANSA.

CHRISTINE MASON

### ANZUUA NEWS

#### 2017 ANZUUA Conference, 20-22 October, Adelaide

*Unitarianism in our Region – Flourishing in the 21st Century*

This year's conference offered a vibrant programme, an opportunity for public outreach and lots of Unitarian sharing and networking from around the region. While a number of people contributed to its realisation, Jenny Warner was undeniably the linchpin who brought it together and we extend our gratitude to her. We also thank the many musicians whose spirit-raising performances punctuated the weekend. Congratulations to Rob MacPherson on his election as ANZUUA President during the conference.

The keynote lecture by Hugh Mackay received print media and radio coverage beforehand, which attracted several dozen members of the wider public. Mackay addressed the topic "Religion in Australia: Decline or quiet revolution?". 150 people in total attended at the Norwood Town Hall. A large amount of Unitarian literature was taken by attendees on the night. Saturday's programme included presentations and workshops on four different topics related to the conference theme: Worship, Social Justice, Outreach and Child and Youth programmes. Derek McCauley, representing UK Unitarians, addressed the conference theme from a UK perspective. On Saturday evening a meal was enjoyed at the Sfizio restaurant. Rob MacPherson led a challenging Sunday service on the future of the church in the antipodes. Many conferees journeyed to Shady Grove afterwards for an historical tour and shared lunch with the local congregation.

View resources from the conference at these links:

[photographs](#)

[tinyurl.com/ya4zaqob](http://tinyurl.com/ya4zaqob)

[Hugh Mackay \(part 1 of 2\)](#)

[youtu.be/RYaJUB1ShWg](https://youtu.be/RYaJUB1ShWg)

[Hugh Mackay \(part 2 of 2\)](#)

[youtu.be/3PURJZoxdC4](https://youtu.be/3PURJZoxdC4)

[Derek McAuley](#)

[youtu.be/m\\_U9XNfxmOc](https://youtu.be/m_U9XNfxmOc)

[Rob MacPherson](#)

[youtu.be/1q\\_eaqt2i0M](https://youtu.be/1q_eaqt2i0M)

[other conference presentations \(part 1 of 2\)](#)

[youtu.be/qdbk6sRTj4o](https://youtu.be/qdbk6sRTj4o)

[other conference presentations \(part 2 of 2\)](#)

[youtu.be/HCG23Ji4vWo](https://youtu.be/HCG23Ji4vWo)

[workshop reports](#)

[youtu.be/YUp8C61Nslg](https://youtu.be/YUp8C61Nslg)

[workshop findings](#)

[tinyurl.com/y7zu5vok](http://tinyurl.com/y7zu5vok)

DAVID FREESMITH

### ICUU NEWS

#### Upcoming Conference

#### International Council of Unitarians and Universalists Biennial Conference February 2018

The next International Council of Unitarians and Universalists Conference, 11–15 February 2018, will be in the Khasi Hills of North East India. We will explore the multifaceted nature of our global faith and strive to better articulate what our shared faith is. We will hear from several keynote speakers, each speaking not only to the unique expression of Unitarian/Universalism in their faith community, but also about how we bridge the differences of our faith expressions to become a stronger, more united voice for religious freedom in our world. Participants will gain experience in multicultural religious conversation and explore how to then share those conversations with their faith communities. The early bird registration fee is US\$250.00 and of course there will be your own travel costs and accommodation in India. There will be pre- and post-conference touring organised for interested participants. For more details on this please contact me at [paulinerooney@bigpond.com](mailto:paulinerooney@bigpond.com) for a registration link.

PAULINE ROONEY

### Jane Brooks' 70<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations





Sunday Club fun



Christmas kindness with Kate



Learning rhythm with Brenda



Learning tone with Brenda

## The Unitarian Church of SA invites you to a new Adult Enrichment course “An Introduction to Buddhist Philosophy”



When: Thursday evenings from 7–8 pm  
September 21st through  
December 21st (14 weeks)

Where: 99 Osmond Terrace, Norwood

Cost: Donation

Taught by: Jenny Opie

**JENNY OPIE** has followed the Buddha’s teachings for forty years after being inspired by Lama Yeshe at a month’s course in Kopan Monastery in Nepal. She has taught meditation to inmates of our prison system and was instrumental in changing the exclusively Christian chaplaincy to multifaith in the 1990s. She was the first Buddhist chaplain in South Australia. Jenny is the author of *Simple Truths*, an overview of Buddhist wisdom.



### ANZUUA CONFERENCE 2017



### ROSTER of Sunday Service Participants

Date	Leader	Reader	Story	Musician
Dec 3	Minister	Bev Berry	Helen Hall	Brendan Moyse
Dec 10	Multifaith	Multifaith	Jennie Dyster	Margaret Lambert
Dec 17	Minister	Barbara Willow	Christine Mason	Margaret Lambert & The Terrace Singers
Dec 24	Presence at the Meeting House			
Dec 31	Jennie Dyster	David Binenbaum	tba	Alex Tsiboulski
Jan 7	John Eaton	Daphne Treloar	Jenny Opie	Brendan Moyse
Jan 14	Minister	Richard Mayo	Peter Whitham	Margaret Lambert
Jan 21	Rev. Nicholas Rundle	Annette Taylor	Sandy Schultheis	Dr Tony Rogers
Jan 28	Minister	tba	Jo Vabolis	Schrödinger's Cats

## ROSTER

	GREETER	WARDEN	COFFEE	FLOWERS	SOUND SYS
NOV 26	J Brummitt	R Brummitt	J Vabolis & D Binenbaum	M Madden	J Eaton
DEC 03	D Treloar	R Mayo	S Schultheis & J Opie	B Berry	J Brooks
DEC 10	C Mason	J Warner	R Mayo & M McCann	M Lambert	H Lambert
DEC 17	R Mayo	V Webb	J Vabolis & D Binenbaum	V Webb	J Eaton
DEC 24	J Brummitt	R Brummitt	R Mayo & J Opie	M Madden	J Brooks
DEC 31	V Webb	D Treloar	S Schultheis & B Berry	J Brummitt	H Lambert
JAN 07	R Mayo	C Mason	D Treloar & D Binenbaum	B Berry	J Eaton
JAN 14	C Mason	J Warner	D Binenbaum & R Mayo	M Lambert	J Brooks
JAN 21	V Webb	D Treloar	J Opie & S Schultheis	V Webb	H Lambert
JAN 28	C Mason	R Mayo	S Roy & J Vabolis	M Madden	J Eaton
FEB 04	J Brummitt	R Brummitt	S Schultheis & M McCann	J Brummitt	J Brooks

**ATTENTION** all those who look after coffee and flower rosters, and dispose of kitchen waste. Please note there are three bins now provided for the rubbish. There is also a calico bag down the eastern side of the church for all flower rubbish. Please do not use the manse wheelie bin.

**ROSTERING** - If you are unable to take your turn on the rostered date, please contact another person on the same roster and arrange to interchange dates.

## NEWSLETTER TEAM

Hugh Lambert, Sandy Schultheis, Jo Vabolis - Editors, whips  
 Editors, Vicki Sobczak - Proof reading  
 Vicki Sobczak - Rostering  
 To be advised - Personalia  
 Jenny Opie - Birthday correspondent  
 Daphne Treloar, Jenny Warner - Preparing and addressing envelopes and printing  
 Daphne Treloar, Bev Berry - Hard copy Distribution  
 Editors - Electronic Distribution

## ROSTER of Sunday Service Participants

Please see page 10.

## COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

Below is the composition of our Committee of Management (CoM) following elections at the AGM on 20 November 2016. President, and Vice President and positions were elected at the CoM meeting on 13 December 2016. The Acting Secretary was appointed at the CoM meeting of 21 February.

The filling of the one-year positions of Secretary, Treasurer and vacant three-year and other duration committee positions will be enacted at the AGM on 26 November 2017, and unfortunately will not be known before the publishing of this newsletter.

*servicing until*

Rob MacPherson	<i>The Minister, ex officio</i>
Jennie Dyster	<i>President 2018</i>
John Hall	<i>Vice President 2018</i>
Jenny Warner	<i>A/Secretary, ex officio</i>
Richard Mayo	<i>Treasurer* 2017</i>
Jean Foster	<i>2017</i>
Elizabeth Love	<i>2017</i>
Sandy Johns	<i>2019</i>
Alex Tsiboulski	<i>2019</i>
Susie Brooke-Smith	<i>2019</i>
Jo Vabolis*	<i>2017</i>

\* These are one year appointments.

Helen Hall *Assistant Treasurer\*\**

\*\* *This is not an official Committee position*

We thank present, past and future Committee of Management members, and members serving subcommittees, for their efforts on behalf of the Church.

**Church Officers** at time of publishing the newsletter

**President**

Jennie Dyster  
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 BRIDGEWATER SA 5155

[jendyster@gmail.com](mailto:jendyster@gmail.com)  
 Ph. 0428 820 658

**Acting Secretary (ex officio)**

Jenny Warner  
 2 McLaren Street  
 ADELAIDE SA 5000

[jswwow@gmail.com](mailto:jswwow@gmail.com)  
 Ph. 0411 523 544

**Hon. Treasurer**

Richard Mayo  
 39 Mann Drive  
 BROMPTON SA 5007

[rmayo@atrad.com.au](mailto:rmayo@atrad.com.au)  
 Ph. 0438 927 926

The **DEADLINE** for copy for the **FEBRUARY 2018 NEWSLETTER** is **SUNDAY 21 JANUARY 2018**

Please be sure that our newsletter editor for this edition, Sandy Schultheis, has your **WRITTEN** items (preferably transmitted via email as in-line text or an attached WORD97–2003 or later version file to [sandykay@y7mail.com](mailto:sandykay@y7mail.com)) by (preferably before) this date.

Our Church's admin office **email address** is: [unitariansa@bigpond.com](mailto:unitariansa@bigpond.com)

Our Church's *Stream-of-Life* **email address** is: [cdwunitariansa@bigpond.com](mailto:cdwunitariansa@bigpond.com)

Our Minister's **email address** is: [robmacpherson1@hotmail.com](mailto:robmacpherson1@hotmail.com)

Our **Church's website** is: [www.unitariansa.org.au](http://www.unitariansa.org.au)

"Like" our **Church's Facebook** page: [SA Unitarians](https://www.facebook.com/SAUnitarians). Our **Minister's Facebook** page is: [Rev Rob MacPherson](https://www.facebook.com/RevRobMacPherson)

Our **Twitter** account is: [@saunitarians](https://twitter.com/saunitarians) (follow this and share Tweets)

Our **Minister's Blog** page is: "Will Preach for Food" [robmacpherson1.blogspot.com/](http://robmacpherson1.blogspot.com/)

The **ANZUUA website** - [www.anzuua.org](http://www.anzuua.org) - has links to Australasian and other Unitarian Universalist Church websites.