

SPECIAL EVENTS MARCH / APRIL 2017

2nd Monday	7.30 pm	Christ The King, Maryborough
1st Wednesday	4.00 pm	Diocese Executive, All Saints, Mitcham
4th Wednesday	8.00 pm	St. Andrew's, Rosanna
2nd Thursday	8.00 pm	Lancefield/Romsey
2nd Thursday	2.00 pm	St. Matthew's, Cheltenham
3rd Thursday	1.00 pm	All Saints, Mitcham
2nd Saturday	8.30 am	Breakfast with Lay President, Holy Trinity, Oakleigh
4th Sunday	5.45 pm	Basket Tea followed by Evensong, St. James' Old Cathedral

SPECIAL EVENTS MARCH/APRIL 2017

Sunday 26 th February	4.00 pm	AGM Bill Brady Welfare and Council Meeting St James' Old Cathedral
	5.45 pm	Basket Tea
	7.00 pm	Evensong
Saturday 11 th March	8.30 am	Breakfast with Lay President Holy Trinity, Oakleigh
Friday 17 th March		Sausage Sizzle for Welfare Bunnings Box Hill.
Sunday 26 th March	5.45 pm	Basket Tea, St. James' Old Cathedral
	7.00 pm	Evensong
Saturday 8 th April	8.30 am	Breakfast with Lay President Holy Trinity, Oakleigh
Sunday 22 nd April	5.45 pm	Basket Tea , St James' Old Cathedral
	7.00 pm	Evensong

ANZAC DAY SERVICE

Tuesday 25 th April	7.00 am	Service followed by breakfast
Venue: St. Alban's Church, 12 Reynard St. Coburg West		

If you would like to be involved in the Sausage Sizzle for our Bill Brady Welfare Organisation please contact Warren 9873 1512

Corrections: The list of events dates and times shown are correct to the best knowledge of the Editor. There may be changes made to your program. Branch Secretaries should advise the Diocesan Secretary where changes are necessary in future issues of the Bulletin.

Matter for AMS Bulletin: Closing date for items for the next issue of the Bulletin 1st of the month preceding publication. Members are invited to contribute matters of interest, such as Branch reports, news items, letters to the Editor, etc. The next closing date is 1st April 2017

AMS BULLETIN

The Official Publication of
THE ANGLICAN MEN'S SOCIETY
In the Province of Victoria
ABN 88198393434
P.O. Box 2534 Cheltenham 3192

ISSN 0175-9045



No.: 469

☎ 03 9551 5718
✉ vans7@bigpond.com
🌐 www.amsnational.org.au

📄 leonarde-

💰 Donation \$10.00 p.a.



MARCH / APRIL 2017

Inside this issue:

Acting Lay President	3
Order of Australia, Ivan Holt & Warren Cole	4
Bill Brady Welfare Organisation	5
Letter to the Editor	5
From your Editor	6
Article -Blast from the Past	7
Notice - ANZAC Day Service	7
Article - Our Lady of Vladimir	8 - 9
The Swan Family News	10 - 12
Donations	13
Max Coomer	13 - 14
Prayer Page	15
Special Events	16

PRAYER & PRAISE PAGE

I have promised 'in the power of the Holy Spirit' to pray to God every day, to be a faithful communicant and by active witness, fellowship and service, to help forward the Kingdom of Christ'. O God allow us to hope and pray for peace.

God of the nations, have mercy on our broken and divided world. Shed abroad your peace in the hearts of all people and banish from us all the spirit that makes for war - that all races and people may live as one family and in obedience to your law of love. Amen.

A meaningful Christian life.

1. Do you have a special time each day for personal Bible study and meditation?
2. Do you have a quiet time spent in prayer every day?
3. How many Christian books or tapes have you read or listened to in the past three months?
4. Do you have spiritual goals for your life which you update periodically?
5. Do you share your faith with others in a Bible study or prayer group?
6. Do you have ill-feelings towards someone and feel guilty about confessing them?
7. Do you have a specific sin that you have not confessed to God?
8. Is your worship time a time of seeking God and is the centre of your worship?
9. Is there an area of your life that needs changing? Maybe something you are reluctant to give up?

Pray for the sick and suffering and those who mourn. Remember in your prayers those of our members and families who have suffered bereavement. Pray for the family of Max Coomer. There are others for whom we should pray. God knows all by name and our needs. Remember too that the brethren seek you out through the power of the Holy Spirit. To ask for the blessing of God's healing power.



Max and Margaret would also welcome parishioners into their house in Thompson Drive for a meal as part of the popular progressive dinners.

Each year St. Andrew's celebrated St. Andrew's Day at the end of November. Max would volunteer to provide the ice-cream which was made at his daughter's Jenny Bowen family dairy at Lakes Entrance. In fact the ice cream was so yummy that we would all hope that Max had over catered and there would be some ice cream left over to take home.

Max was an active member of the Anglican Men's Society regularly attending meetings, Men's breakfasts, annual dinners and service's at St James Old Cathedral. Max also enjoyed helping out selling books at the Book Fair or cooking sausages at Bunning's for AMS.

Max's health was declining over the last 12 months but Max was still very active in getting out for lunches or dinners, attending meetings or going to church on a regular basis. One of the hymn's sang at Max's service of Thanksgiving is very appropriate "Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed thy hand hath provided; great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!"

In summary, Max was a much loved and respected parishioner who will be sadly missed by us all.



Greetings from the Acting Lay President



Melbourne Diocese Council.

Dear Friends

Happy New Year to you all and may 2017 be a positive year.

I have nothing to report regarding the position of Lay President. Several men have been approached but for various reasons are unable to commit themselves at this time. We must continue to pray and hope that someone will step forward to fill this important role.

The Diocese of Melbourne Council Meeting and the Bill Brady Welfare Annual General Meeting will be held at St. James' Old Cathedral commencing at 4.00 pm. Followed by a basket Tea at 5.45 pm then Evensong at 7.00 pm. on Sunday 26th February. It would be great if you could attend to boost morale and be involved in discussing the future of the

Melbourne Diocese Council. Hope to see you there.

May God Bless us all.

Yours in W.F.S.
Warren Cole.

ORDER OF AUSTRALIA MEDAL

Congratulations to Warren Cole and Ivan Holt on being honoured in the Australia Day Awards. Both for Service to the community through social welfare organisations.

Warren's Service includes involvement in the Anglican Men's Society in the role of Executive Member of National Council, Provincial Chairman Victorian Council, President Bill Brady Welfare Organisation, Committee Member, Tyler House Trust, until recently Church Warden All Saints' Anglican Church Mitcham, Assistant Program Coordinator "Mainly Music". Treasurer Nunawading Branch, Neighbourhood Watch, 1985 - 2009 and Zone Representative since 1985 and Recipient, State Award of Honour 1999. Honorary auditor, Combined Probus Club of City of Whitehorse, for many years.

Ivan's Service Includes involvement in the Anglican Men's Society in the role of National Secretary. Victorian Secretary AMS, Committee member Mitcham Branch A.M.S. Executive member, Bill Brady Welfare Organisation inc. Chairman Tyler House Trust. Treasurer Whitehorse Combined Probus Club, 2011 - 2016. Foster Parent, Victorian Social Welfare Department 1974 - 1980.

Editor We have some great members in AMS. Warren & Ivan are typical examples, apart from the official citation they have many other activities that take up their time. inside and outside of AMS

Members of AMS are extremely proud of them. Warren & Ivan now join up with Stan Boreham OAM. They do not do anything in halves at Mitcham, the 'Three Amigos' are all previous Lay Presidents of AMS.

DONATIONS

Wycliffe Bible Translators -P& G Swan	\$2,500
Australian Centre for Mission Aviation	\$ 526
Kairos Outside for Women	\$ 500
Royal Flying Doctor Service	\$1,026
Open House -Ivanhoe	\$1,000
Anglicare	\$1,000
OAC Ministeries Australia	\$1,000
Prison Fellowship	\$ 500
Bush Church Aid	\$ 500
Delgarno Institute-COADE	\$ 500
TOTAL	\$9,052

SYMPATHY PAGE

Max Coomer

Max was born on the 11th March 1928 in Caulfield. The family moved to New Zealand when he was very young to be closer to some Coomer family members. However the isolation of the area saw the family move back to Melbourne after a short time settling in Coburg. His father passed away when Max was seven and with his mother suffering ill health 2 aunts looked after Max in Coburg. These early years were tough. Max attended Coburg High and his first job experience was at a local hardware store. This is where Max first developed his renowned building and carpentry skills. Max met his wife Margaret at a local dance in Coburg and married in 1952. This started a very happy relationship with a family of 1 son and 3 daughters. Max was involved in School committees, working bees and social activities.

Max's first real employment started when he was one of an intake of approximately 120 into the Victorian Railways. His next job was with BP and it was from this job that he retired when he was 70.

Max spent many family holidays in Wilson's Promontory. He also took the family to Queensland and to the US visiting LA, Disneyland, San Francisco and Yosemite National Park.

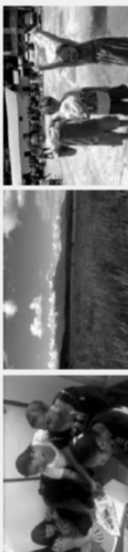


and a book of local stories. I am working on getting Bible study questions for the Joseph story finalised, and we are part-way through a team check of the whole of Luke. I am also checking Agnes' draft of Genesis (she's doing a great job!). **Pray that God's Word would find good soil** in each of us as we work at translating, and that it would bring transformation in lives and communities.



Last month some team members ran a workshop training Sunday School teachers to use the first set of Sunday School materials in Papuan Malay (above). **Pray that God will continue to equip** the twelve ladies who attended (two from Nimboran!) with all they need to teach the gospel well. One of the ladies said, 'Oh, now I understand! This is a real language! I'm not going to stop my kids speaking it

Philip & Guinevere, Soren, Reuben & Autumn Swan | philip.guinevere.swan@wycliffe.org.au | facebook: Guinevere Swan / Firman Tuhan dalam Melayu Papua | skype: guinandphil
Post: Philip Swan, d/a YIMP3, Kotak Pos 376, Sentani 99352 Papua, Indonesia | Mobile: +62 81344028811 (P) +62 81344368811 (G) | www.wycliffe.org.au



any more.' **Pray for Agnes and me** as we work on the memory verses for the second set of materials.

And in other news...

Before we returned to Papua in August, Philip decided that he would be spread too thin across two language groups as well as part-time study. So, that's why you haven't read about the Kemtuik this time. For now we're praying and waiting to see what happens and what help they ask for of their own initiative. Phil has now completed two subjects of his Masters in Linguistics and is continuing with one subject at a time.

We're thankful that Soren and Reuben are doing very well, enjoying school, soccer, trumpet and piano (Soren) and ukulele (Reuben). All three children are growing in their relationship with the Lord; **we covet your prayers for wisdom and diligence** to parent them well.

Praise God we are currently receiving 95% of the financial support we need to work here. (If you'd like to give regularly click [here](#)). We're pleased to have sold our troublesome old van, and we've bought our friend's car, with working AC! (If you'd like to contribute click [here](#)). **Please pray** we can source some rare parts for Phil's motorbike and 4WD and get them back on the road soon.



After 2+ months of struggling with school and many emotionally hairy days, one day Autumn quietly announced, 'I like school now'.

Please pray she would keep getting braver in using Indonesian and grow in her friendships.

As always we're incredibly thankful for your generous prayer and financial partnership in what God is doing here in Papua, and we hope that you are blessed by being a part of it!

Have a wonderful celebration of all Jesus is to us this Christmas,

Love Philip, Guinevere, Soren, Reuben & Autumn.

STOP PRESS! Read Philip's article on translating the Lord's Prayer in WYCLIFFE TODAY magazine [online](#) or download the [PDF](#).

AMS BILL BRADY WELFARE ORGANISATION INC.

Annual Report for 2016.

I am pleased to report on the activities of the organisation for 2016
We were able to give financial support to 10 charities equating to \$9,052 This has been achieved by a generous bequest, a donation from Tyler House Trust the sale of snowballs and individual donations which were gratefully received. A Bunning's Sausage Sizzle is planned for 17th March which will boost our funds.

Thankyou to Geoff our Treasurer and Len our Secretary without whose dedication the Welfare Organisation would struggle. A big thankyou to Stan for opening his museum and all our supporters for their donations

In the past 30 years B.B.W. has donated approximately \$275,000 to many charities, an average of approx \$ 8,000 per annum.

If you know of anyone struggling financially, let us know, as funds are available in this situation to ease their burden.

May God Bless us all.

Yours in W.F.S.

Warren Cole - President BBWO.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Len

Many thanks for sending the AMS. Bulletin for so long now. Happy Christmas to you. Enclosed is a card, not quite the traditional card for the season, but the image of the Madonna and Child, St. Peters' Eastern Hill still conducts Icon painting classes which our founder, Bp. John Bayton calls writing.

The Icon School was started by Bp. John 30 years ago when he was at St. Peters'. He is now in Brisbane with his wife Anne. Retired of course but closer to his family. There were about 10 Icons blessed at St. Peters' this year so we were pleased with this result as it takes on average a year to complete an icon.

Cheers and God Bless. Frank Upfill.

Editor: We congratulate Frank on the fine icon painted by him and the story behind it, it makes interesting reading. We have men of many talents in our ranks of which Frank is only one. He is a Diocesan member and has been for many years. See else where in the Bulletin his Icon and the story behind it.

FROM YOUR EDITOR

A Happy New Year to all our members and friends of AMS

Here we go for another year of fun, and laughter. Only God knows what lies ahead for AMS and individuals, member numbers are declining mainly due to ageing of members which is inevitable, however we still have a band of committed leaders who bind us together acting out our motto of Witness, Fellowship and Service.

Many years ago when Bishop Ralph Wicks was National President of AMS the perennial subject of Promotion was being discussed. he made the statement "That if you have a **Uniform - Wear It**" in a church context he was referring to C.E.B.S. uniforms, AMS Badge, Tie and clergy, referring to him self wearing his Bishop attire, In AMS circles it is pleasing to note that at National Council meetings a large majority of members do wear their name tag with the AMS badge attached to it. This applies also in Melbourne at Diocesan Council Meetings, St. James' Old Cathedral, Breakfast with the Lay President and branch meetings etc.

A couple of years ago at St Matthews' Cheltenham a man turned up one Sunday wearing a AMS badge in his lapel, this caused much excitement among its members, it turned out that he was from Queensland and always wore the badge on the suit he wore to Sunday church, he was made very welcome and joined the branch.

The reason for this article was recently I had to have a hearing test and when I had to sign a document I used an AMS Centennial Pen, the specialist saw the pen with the printed AMS on it and said are you a member of AMS? It turned out that he was James Mc McMullen a son of Neil McMullen member of the National Council from Newcastle, James attended the National Conference in Adelaide - This proves the point that if you have a **Uniform Wear It**.

Assisting communities toward discipleship through engagement with the Scriptures in appropriate languages and media

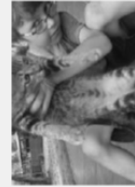
Sometimes working together can be challenging though — **please pray** for good communication and division of tasks and openness to others' ideas.

We managed to revise and reprint the picture dictionary for the Grimi Valley Cultural Festival 21-24 October. **Praise God** we had a 'Local Languages' stand, and sold over 100 Nimboran, Papuan Malay and Kemuik books and DVDs. Then someone ordered 80 Papuan Malay "Freedom in Christ" brochures to distribute at an inter-regional youth camp—woohoo!



Praise God also that 40 people came to the Nimboran Language Day on 29 October (eating together, above) and that the spelling system is now finalised—an important step as Nimboran speakers are keen for written Scriptures.

We're printing a revised edition of the Nimboran *Birth of Jesus* Bible narratives for Christmas, this time as a 'diglot' with Nimboran on one side and



Papuan Malay on the other (for younger people who speak PM), and a simple Bible study method.

Please pray as we deliver the books and accompanying recordings and some PM material to distributors in 25 villages; that each would be as enthusiastic as Rev. Paul in Singgri village, who said he'd been waiting eagerly for the books to arrive and thanked the team for helping him to minister more effectively to his Nimboran congregation.

Pray that many will buy the materials and that the Holy Spirit will use the stories in their language to penetrate hearts and minds (Heb 4:12).

'Nothing is impossible for God' Luke 1:37



This is the Papuan Malay team motto displayed on our office wall (above). One of our biggest challenges is to reach the 1-2 million speakers who live all around the coast of Papua with the written/oral/audiovisual materials we produce. For two years my colleague Lenice and I (Guin) prayed for

someone to work full-time on church relations and distribution. **Praise God**, Soon-Beom (Wycliffe Korea) has now joined our team to focus on just that! But, there are plenty of obstacles to things getting underway in the other major coastal cities. There has also been some team tension due to one member being difficult to work with—**please pray** for clarity and godly wisdom.



Praise God that sales for the PM Scripture portions and resources are going well and a shipment of new books just arrived from the printer (left), including a comic version of Jonah and Ruth and four beautiful Lion children's Bible stories. We recently spoke with and sold 100+ books to a bunch of very enthusiastic and interested seminary students (above). We've just ordered a reprint of Ruth (revised edition) with Bible study questions, a resource about HIV/AIDS

Christmas is upon us—the Muslim call to prayer intermingles with the sounds of traditional Papuan music and Mariah Carey carols blaring out of the 'Christmas huts' that are popping up around town. We hope you're enjoying the anticipation as we are. A highlight has been showing the Jesus Film in Papuan Malay at a neighbourhood Christmas event. Due to universal acceptance of what is known as *jam karet* ('stretchy time'), the preacher was an hour late and the film didn't start until



There was none of the usual chatter—70 people, from 3 year-olds to the elderly, watched intently! 9pm. But people really engaged and we had many comments like this: 'This is so great! Everyone can understand this, even the kids, because it's in our language.' Many people try to

hide behind religion, made easier when the Bible and church is in formal, religious language. No doubt some found it confronting to watch and hear the words of Jesus clearly, but many were delighted, especially when he healed the sick and confounded the religious leaders. We didn't advertise, but a few asked to buy copies—one so she could play it at an upcoming event, another to take to Papuan interior villages where some don't speak Indonesian at all. At the end of the film the narrator asks, 'Now, who wants to follow Jesus?' and leads the listeners in a prayer of repentance and forgiveness. One man called out, 'I do!'. **Pray that many will come to faith through the film.**

'Blessed are the peacemakers' Matt 5:9
Two hundred years ago a rape and a series of gruesome retaliations led to a group of Nimboran men burning and killing four entire villages of the neighbouring Yokari tribe. Two months ago Philip took a visiting prayer team into the area. Two chiefs relayed how, ever since the event, they have felt a curse over their clans, which are dying out and haven't been able to move forward. The chiefs repented on behalf of their ancestors. Then God told them in a dream they needed to make peace with the Yokari tribe too. So last month Philip was invited to witness the two tribes reconcile, and their head chiefs signed a peace treaty. **Give thanks** for God's work in their lives **and pray** that God will bring restoration to these people.



Elders from both tribes shake hands after the ceremony and commit to 'everlasting peace'

More from Philip & the Nimboran team...



Praise God for the commitment and different skills of Nehemia, Regina and Agus, and that they represent three Nimboran dialects—so important as we write things for the whole language group!

BLAST FROM THE PAST — BULLETIN 229 DECEMBER 1974

JACK CEMS DIARY

Well, Bill will say to me, "And have you made your New Resolution?" I must have a better answer prepared for him this year. Why does anyone make New Year resolutions? Are they the result of over-indulgence at Christmas? Are penitential resolutions of better value than those made in the full flood of success? I pondered these questions, and then came to an important realisation, namely, that New Year resolutions are really a pagan form of renewal of life - a renewable which is available to us every time we receive the Sacrament.

My resolutions are made at much more frequent intervals than every twelve months - as they rightly should be. The man who, unaided by the Holy Spirit, can keep a good resolution for a year is indeed remarkable; I doubt if one exists. For us lesser mortals our aspirations to improvement in our personal qualities can only be attained by more frequent recourse to that one great resource available to us - the Power of God.

It is sometimes funny the people who recognise that CEMS badge I was on top of Australia Tower in Sydney, playing tourist, when a perfect stranger, who had just read some scandalous story in his Sunday paper in which a clergyman played some prominent part, turned to me and asked for my opinion. He paid me the compliment of assuming that, as a wearer of the badge, I would naturally be an informed layman of the Anglican Church. The Sunday paper story is inconsequential: the importance of the CEMS badge is not.

The moral of this story is If you have a **Uniform Wear It !!**



ANZAC DAY SERVICE

The 85th Annual Breakfast & Service will be held at St. Albans Church. 127 Reynard St. Coburg West. Commencing with a service at 7.00 am followed by a scrumptious breakfast cooked by young people of the church under the guidance of senior members. We thank Revd Kate Heath for continuing this fine tradition.



OUR LADY OF VLADIMIR.

The icon of the Virgin of Vladimir is also known as "Our Lady of Tenderness", It is one of the most venerated of all Russian icons. It was "written" in Constantinople and taken to Russia near the city of Vladimir, then to Moscow around the year 1400 A.D.

This sacred icon of the Virgin and Child has escaped many wars, fires and plundered over the past six centuries, and is regarded as the Holy Protectress of Russia. On August 26 in 1395 during an attack against Russia by Tamerlane the icon was solemnly transferred to Moscow. On this very day Tamerlane retreated and left the territory of Moscow.

The beautiful Russian icon of the Theotokos, or God Bearer, expressed an idealized type of woman. The Virgin holds the child Jesus in her right arm and points to him with her left hand, while the Child puts His left arm around her neck and presses His cheek against hers in an affectionate manner. This type of icon is known in Greek as Eleousa or Compassionate icon. Although the gestures indicate a close relationship, the Virgin's face has a slightly melancholy appearance, as if she foresees Christ's Passion. Mary's almond shaped eyes, the narrow nose, the dark olive shadows in the face appear to indicate that she is contemplating the mystery of God, stressing the Divine.

Mary's left hand is at the centre of the icon. It is over her heart and pointing to Jesus. Her hand also centers the whole image to become an expression of Mary's song: "My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, and my spirit exalts in God my Saviour." (Luke:1-46)

Our Lady of Vladimir is revered as the holiest icon in all Russia. Although steeped in the Byzantine tradition there are touches of naturalism to be seen in the image. For example the artist's use of light on the Virgin's face as well as on the face of Jesus. However, this effect has a certain intimacy about it which only enhances the image. This unconventional addition of facial illumination has fascinated the church's Faithfull over the centuries, as it has become one of the worlds most enduring and much loved devotional icons.

This remarkable icon has been copied many times but is generally accepted as the finest of the few remaining Byzantine icons to survive from its historical period in its original state. According to most art historians the Theotokos of Vladimir is regarded as one of the most outstanding religious paintings of the world.

Frank Upfill. 2016.