



UNITING CHURCH IN
AUSTRALIA
**BREMER
BRISBANE
PRESBYTERY**

P O Box 70 Booval Fair 4304
admin@bremerbrisbane.org.au

If you have something you would like to share in the February 'BB Connex', please e-mail – We would love to hear from you.
admin@bremerbrisbane.org.au

Moggill Uniting Church

BOOST

Sunday 31st January

Moggill Uniting Church (corner Kangaroo Gully and Moggill Roads)

6pm Start for Worship and Dinner (\$5)

New Beginnings
From Passivity to Action

For more information contact Steven Fincham
sfincham001@hotmail.com or 0449 901 985

www.moggill.unitingchurch.org.au

Presbytery Dates 2016

- **2nd February – Ministers Lunch**
- **9th February – Standing Committee 4pm**
- **9th February – PRC 7pm**
- **20th February – Presbytery Meeting – Centenary UC**
- **Brian Hoole on leave - 21st Feb – 7th March inclusive**

Bremer Brisbane Presbytery office hours

Monday 9.30am – 2.30pm
Tuesday 9.30am – 2.30pm
Thursday – 9am - 11am
Friday 9.30am – 2.30pm

BB CONNEX

No. 4

January 2016

Brian's Blog

What a great weekend it has been. I have had the privilege of being present at Peter Taubner's induction, at the morning worship service at Oxley where Harry Thompson celebrated 50 years as a lay preacher, a baby was welcomed into the life of the church and two leaders were commissioned, and then met with the Kenmore church Council as they discussed some possibilities for the future. In all of these I realized how fortunate I was to be able to share with such talented, passionate and committed people who are serving their Lord, and their church in such a variety of ways. Each of these occasions was different but each reflected differently what it means to be a part of the church and how people offer service and leadership within the life of their local congregations.

It also reminds me of the opportunities we have coming up. This Sunday we farewell Rev Tino Scanlan as he moves to retirement and also induct Rev Kath Hobson into her role as Community Minister in the Ripley Valley. People are welcome to attend either or both of these events. Presbytery is fast approaching for 20 February so please try and attend if you can.

As we think about mission, ministry and discipleship can I encourage you to think about the **Mission Shaped Ministry Course** being run this year, building on last years successful course. The material is used world-wide but is presented by local people who adapt it with a local flavour. Based on the concept of fresh expressions it is one of the best courses around in helping congregations engage better with their community. Information will be at Presbytery or look on the website at www.msmqld.com. The Presbytery is committed to it so we are subsidizing the cost for lay people to cap the cost to \$200 for the whole course. Ideally it would be great for 2-3 people from the same church to attend. There is the opportunity for 2 people to share the course but ideally it is better for people to get the full benefit of the whole course. It is a great course I commend it to you.

Brian

Personal Profile – Rev Peter Taubman (Rosewood-Haigslea UC)



What's your earliest childhood memory?

I remember my Dad proudly bringing home a step-through motor scooter when I was around five or so, and putting me behind him on the seat wearing a huge helmet, much against my mother's appealing, but we just sort of did laps of the long driveway and around the front yard.

What's the best thing that has happened to you?

Without hesitation, seeing my two daughters and two nieces grow into beautiful young women, pursuing study and careers that they are well suited for.

Tell me about someone who has influenced your life.

A number of clergy down through the years, and lay people, who offered encouragement for me to take on a role in ministry, first as a Youth Worker and then on to Ordination as a Minister of the Word. One that comes to mind was Rev G.T.A. Phillipson, who at the time was my local Minister in the Toowong Methodist Circuit.

What might we be surprised to know about you?

My two daughters, mentioned briefly above, are helping to schedule my holidays for the next couple of years. Hayley lives and works in Alice Springs. She is a social worker, on secondment from Qld Gov't to the NT Gov't, working with indigenous groups to improve their standard of living. Candice teaches English and Humanities to secondary school students at an ex-pat International School in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. Both central Australia and S.E. Asia are therefore on my holiday wish list.

What do you do for fun?

I enjoy being an armchair sportsman but try to play tennis or golf as often as I can. There are a couple of colleagues and friends in Bremer Brisbane whom I have occasionally offered service to as loser on the golf course. Maybe this disparity can be addressed.

Describe for us your faith journey?

I consider my faith to be a strong and vibrant part of my whole life. I view corporate times of worship as an integral part of my ministry task and also as an opportunity to offer worth and response to God for the goodness and grace in my life. I have experienced the struggle of marriage breakdown and divorce; known the loneliness of being a 'single'; and also the isolation in a rural area; had time out of ministry to re-charge and re-focus after being 'burnt out'; and have also seen what true Christian friendship and support can mean from colleagues, family and friends. All these parts of my personal history are reflected in my approach to ministry as a vocation and as an individual disciple of Christ.

Describe for us your ministry path and the spiritual markers along the way.

1980's - Youth and Education Assistant's (Y.E.A.) Course at Alcorn College with part-time field work in Fassifern (Boonah area) and in Coffs Harbour, NSW (the first interstate opportunity for field work). Full-time Youth Worker Placements followed at Uniting Churches in Ipswich Central and Holland Park, Brisbane.

1990's - Youth Worker full-time at St Barnabas Anglican Church, Sunnybank; and part-time Youth Worker role at Mudgeeraba UC. I was Accredited as a Youth Worker within the UCA in 1994. Then, a part-time Placement as a Lay Parish Assistant in the Stanley River UC (Kilcoy area) when I was exploring some options for the future.

2000's - Half-time Youth Worker at Beenleigh UC until Candidating for MoW studies at Trinity Theological College. Field Placement was at Peak Crossing + Kalbar UC. MoW Intern Placement in CQ Presbytery in the Dawson Valley UC (Moura/Theodore) .75 + Callide Valley UC (Biloela area) .25. Ordained in Beenleigh UC on 6.7.07.

2010's - Accepted Call to Isis UC (Childers area) in Mary Burnett Presbytery and concluded 5 years of ministry there in Dec 2015.

Accepted Call to Rosewood-Haigslea UC in Bremer Brisbane Presbytery from January 2016.

What has God been teaching you recently?

My experience with packing and unpacking this time allowed me the chance to do a lot of 'cleaning out' and tidying up things that perhaps rural life and the need to be self-reliant for resources etc had built up. At the same time, a 'spring clean' of my personal faith, deficiencies and requirements, have all been given a fresh opportunity to be stretched and challenged.

What prayers have you seen answered?

In recent weeks, I have seen the personal will and strong faith of a good friend facing death shine through, and the presence of God in his life, and that of his family, has been great to observe and experience. A sense of humour; courage in the face of treatment and pain; linked to an assurance of his salvation and a place in heaven, have been the hallmarks of his recent journey, and although our prayers will eventually not provide us with a positive outcome, they will have brought to us this extended time with him; and I, for one, will be grateful for that.

Where have you seen God working in your ministry?

This is both easy and difficult to answer. In many situations, events, conversations and meetings, the silent gentle work of God can be acknowledged. Strengthening the resolve of lay people to respond to their giftings; bringing positive outcomes to activities that seemed unlikely to succeed; helping folk in times of need during family stress, community turmoil or regional disaster; and working with people to discover the style and approach to worship that brings most satisfaction – all of these things are times when I have seen God working.

What are your hopes and dreams for the future?

To become settled in the Rosewood area and to seek out not only church based tasks but community links that I can develop and be a part of. To do my part and find my place as one of the Ministry agents in the Bremer Brisbane Presbytery and to offer my set of skills, talents, gifts and experience to the wider Church, my colleagues and those areas that might need some extra encouragement.

Tents Needed

Rev Russell Reynoldson has recently come upon an organisation that homes the homeless in tents. They require more tents for their ministry. If anyone has a 4 man tent or larger please advise Rev Russell Reynoldson Minister, Forest Lake Uniting Church M: 0429 472 567.

Boonah offers a special weekend country experience.

A weekend in the country has a special appeal and the little township of Boonah, nestled among the mountains of the Scenic Rim, has lots to offer – breathtaking scenery, quaint country shops, and a friendly welcome. *Fassifern congregation are inviting people from Bremer-Brisbane presbytery to visit Boonah over the weekend of 16 and 17 April and experience it all for themselves.* “We are holding a weekend of faith building and renewal,” explains a committee member, “where people can learn new skills, be reinvigorated and meet people from other churches.” Visitors can enjoy some or all of the planned programme. Saturday features speakers and workshops. The Keynote address will be on the theme



“Power Potential Possibilities” exploring challenges and opportunities facing Christians in 2016. Speaker at the informal evening dinner will be Mark Gladman, Christian comedian and experienced presenter. On Sunday, an interdenominational church service will be followed by a country morning tea. Afterwards, visitors are invited to bring their lunch to Mt French to enjoy the amazing views. Limited billets will be available. Get in early for these. Early bird registration costs \$20.00 for the day which includes food. Later registrations will cost \$25.00. Dinner is also \$20.00. For more information or to register contact Heather Stewart on 54635091.

Happy Birthday Elizabeth



Photo above: Jazz Band

Elizabeth celebrated her 65th birthday on the Kookaburra Queen in December. “Thanks so much for your loving birthday wishes. It was a wonderful lunch time on a most memorable birthday! I am walking more freely and standing with balance and expect to be driving again at the end of the month. Blessings and thanks”

- Elizabeth Nolan



HELP YOUNG PEOPLE IN RURAL QLD GROW IN FAITH!



subsidise registration and accommodation fees (\$340 per attendee) for young people from rural and remote Queensland to attend the 2016 Easter Madness camp and carry on the baton of the Christian faith in the Uniting Church. Donate online at missionpossible.ucaqld.com.au or give by cheque/money order or over the phone with your credit card on (07) 3377 9777. Thank you for your support!

Growing Ministry training days

Save the dates !

Growing Ministry training days

To grow the ministry with Children and Young People in the Moreton Rivers Presbytery .

Dates: Tuesday 15th March
Thursday 2nd June
Tuesday 23rd August

Where: Moreton Rivers Presbytery , 22 Ashgrove Av, Ashgrove

For further information: www.moretonriverspresbytery.org.au or
Jill Bow : adminsUPPORT@moretonriverspresbytery.org.au
Ph: (07) 3366 0236




Moreton Rivers Presbytery

Alison Cox, Peter Armstrong and Rob McFarlane have been working to develop some ministry training opportunities specifically designed with our youth, children's and families pastors in mind. These days have a specific youth and children's and families ministry focus. A significant part of each day is also some time deliberately set aside for relationship building, sharing and networking.

We would also welcome any others who are interested to the first part of the morning ie 9-12pm. We have designed the 12 – 2.30pm time to be about the Pastors only.

Charity Begins at Church

After the church service, seven year old Brian said to the preacher:

"When I grow up, I'm going to give you some money".

"Well, thank you", 'the preacher replied, "but why?"

"Because my daddy says that you're one of the poorest preachers we've ever had".



Give young adults like Katelyn (14 years) from Chinchilla UC and Nick (12 years) from Emerald Fernlees UC the same opportunities as their friends in the South East corner, to benefit from a life-changing experience to walk through the Easter journey. Every donation will

Growing Ministry training days



Purpose: To grow the ministry with Children and Young People in the Moreton Rivers Presbytery through leadership-existing ministry staff development, encouraging and equipping next generation of ministry staff.

What the Growing Ministry Training Days will look like:

9.00 am—12.00 pm	Training (2 options, open to all)
12.00 pm—12.30 pm	Y & C ministry staff only
12.00 pm	Lunch
1.00 pm	Process training... So what ? What if
1.45 pm	Networking + sharing
2.30 pm	Finish



Moreton Rivers Presbytery