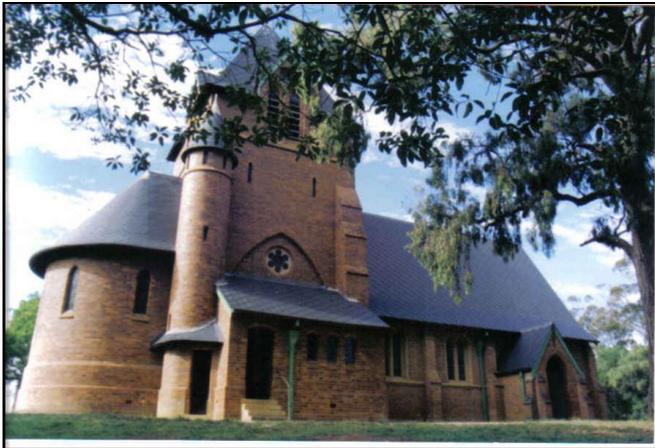


THE MENANGLE NEWS

VOL 22 NO 4

APRIL 2012

St James – *the light on the hill*



Minister: Steve Davis
Enquiries: Ph. 4633 8594

SUNDAY Church Services

8.30am: Traditional Service
10am: Family Service and Sunday School
6.15pm: Evening Service

Kids Club: 4:30-5:30pm Fridays
[yrs 2-6]

Youth Group: 6:30-8pm Fridays
At the Rectory – 5 Sulman Place

What's On at St James

BELL RINGING PRACTICE

Wednesday evenings from 7 to 8 PM
New members welcome.

ALPHA

Explore who Jesus is
Begins in May

Tue morning or Wed evening course

Ph Alicia 4633 8006
or Steve 4633 8594



PUBLIC NOTICE

Menangle RFS AGM
at 7.30 24th April
at the fire station.
All welcome.

St. Patrick's Church



Mass: 1st Sunday of each Month at 6pm.

Birthdays

4th Clayton Butler
5th Andrew Black
5th Michelle Campbell
6th Carol Redmond
11th Nancy Caffyn
12th Margaret Ritchie
14th Christine Hughes
19th Vicki Blight
21st Brittnie McFarlane
23rd Emily McFarlane
23rd Monica Symons (nee Charles)
24th Nikita Reece
27th Paul Shipley
29th Katie Mealing
30th Peter Gordon



Anniversary

1st Jason & Brenda Kyle-Brown
4th Troy and Katie Mealing
17th Robert & Melissa Lamrock-George
23rd Geoff & Christine Hughes

Are you disappointed that your birthday or anniversary
is missing from this list?

Act now – send an email to

bpeacock@virginbroadband.com.au

Or leave a note in my letterbox at 10 Station St.

RAINBOW REFLECTIONS

As the leaves of the deciduous trees begin to lighten into their autumn look, a change sweeps through our gardens. I love living in this little corner of the world where each season wears different colours.

Autumn is the Southern Hemisphere season when Easter traditions are celebrated. The Northern Hemisphere of course is entering Spring, the time of planting, and so many of the Easter traditions still reflect the ancient rituals believed to produce fertility in the soil and farm animals: e.g. chickens, eggs, rabbits - the chocolate representations of which rake in huge profits for our supermarket chains.

But there is something richer and smoother than even Belgian chocolate, something more desirable than baskets full of Easter eggs: and that is the kilojoules-free peace of God that guards hearts and minds in the midst of real life.

As Jesus hung on the cross in Israel all those years ago, He passed judgement on people – and His judgement was that PEOPLE DESERVE MERCY! That is Good News!

Jesus said “Father FORGIVE THEM, they don’t know what they are doing.”

I don’t know if you have been told that God hates sin and punishes sinners – if you have then you have been given a wrong understanding.

God actually loves sinners, and has ALREADY FORGIVEN every single one.

Jesus holds His nail scarred hand out you and to me and says: “I have forgiven you for every wrong, every shortfall, and every omission. I love you. If you will accept My hand of friendship you may enter into a whole new way of life and I will teach you how to love God, love yourself and love other people.”

Nothing compares to knowing the goodness of God in the land of the living!

May all that is represented in the celebration of Easter be a doorway for you into a relationship with God that will last forever.

Sue Peacock

POETS’ CORNER

Carol Heuchan is an International horse judge who published her first book in 2003 and, as a result, virtually overnight found herself in the world of Bush Poetry. Four top selling books and award winning CDs later, she is a professional entertainer, writer and speaker, twice Australian Champion Bush Poet and seven times Laureate winner and has just returned from her third U.S. performance tour. She is the 'Voice of the Show' at various Agricultural shows and is the Main Arena commentator at the Royal Easter Show.
www.carolpoet.com.au

Former Menangle resident, Marg Greenhalgh has been lucky enough to see Carol perform live and says that her books and CD's make fabulous presents for people who love all things Australian. Below is a ‘taste’ of one of Carol’s poems... more next month...

The sacrifices of war are many and varied. The historical facts in this poem are shamefully true...

Rosie

c@carol heuchan 2005

We grew up together, Mary Jacoby and me.
Although so very different, soul mates always we would be.
My Mum had died a long while back when I was barely grown;
They gifted me their family and they took me as their own.

So we were just like sisters, Mary Jacoby and me,
As opposite as chalk and cheese but close as close could be.
She was motherly and caring from the day that she was born
She played house and nursed her dollies while I rode from dusk till dawn.

Mary did the household chores, was always Mum’s right arm
While I headed for the horses with our Dad, out on the farm.
Our horses were the best around, on stations far and wide.
A horse with Jacoby blood the pride of any who would ride.

They’d chase a beast or jump a log and carry quite a load
And pull a cart on Sundays down the winding churchyard road.
They could live on next to nothing; they were strong and fleet and fine
And when I came of age, the gift was one I knew was mine.

A scrawny, feeble filly by our legend colt, ‘The Lair’
And she grew into a corker, did my ‘Rosie’, chestnut mare.
We won at Picnic races and we worked and pulled our share.
It was always me and ‘Rosie’ for no fellow could compare.

Now, Mary married early, had a baby right away,
The only one she’d ever have, though wish as much she may,
But Billy was a bonny lad, adventurous and free.
He filled her waking moments as the horses did for me.

So life went on and Billy worked the land and rode the fences
But far away a rumbling grew – Australia called defences.
There were good times when the Government bought our horses by the score
And bad times when it hit us that the world was now at war.

The bleakest day was yet to come. Bill left to fight the foe.
Mary held him dearly though she knew he had to go.
She gave her country all she had and smiled through her distress.

I reached into my heart and wondered how could I give less?

I will publish the whole poem next month.

DOWN MEMORY LANE

As attempts are made to retain the school and its surrounds as a heritage centre and 19th century model school I am taking this opportunity to reprint some excerpts from the “Menangle School 90th Anniversary” booklet that was produced for the celebrations on 4th November 1961 [the full booklet may be viewed on the Menangle Community website www.menangle.com.au]

GENERAL HISTORY

As clearing of the land progressed and production increased, Captain John Macarthur employed more and more labour on the Estate until several families were domiciled in this portion of his property. With the continued increase of population and acquiring of properties by settlers arriving from overseas, the need for a school arose. From the records made available by Camden Park Estate it appears that an application for a school was granted to Mr. Jas. Macarthur on 17th November 1849.

A plan of the locality shows the site of both local churches, St James' Church of England and St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church.

As the above-mentioned school was a church school various influences arose which desired and brought about the establishment of a public school. This came about during the years 1869-1871 when, at last, the present site was selected.

The school first opened in May 1871 with Mr. Henry Mills as the first teacher.

MENANGLE PUBLIC SCHOOL

An application for a public school was lodged with the Council of Education in October 1869 and aid was granted in the same month. The next year plans were drawn up for a school and it was completed in 1871.

The school opened in the same year with an enrolment of 43 pupils. Up to 1874 the continuity of education at the school was affected by Mr. Mills' transfer from the school and his re-appointment. Repairs to the extent of £150 were effected during 1876: again in 1878 Captain Onslow urged extensive painting and repairs to school and residence, which stood on a site bounded on the south and west by land belonging to Sir William Macarthur and on the east by the railway. Toward the end of the same year further improvement was effected by the building of a two-roomed weathershed, which, in view of the many absences caused by wet weather, was sorely needed. Mrs. Mills, the teacher's wife, died during this period and the teacher requested that his housekeeper, an elderly lady, be appointed sewing mistress.

Rather extensive renovations were effected to the residence and the school in 1886 by Mr. William Craft for £25. All woodwork was painted, guttering replaced and window panes renewed. At the same time the slabs in the weather shed were replaced and the boundary fence restored. Mr. Robert Harper assumed control of the school in 1890 and in the next year mapping, drawing, writing and illuminating work of pupils was exhibited at both Camden and Picton Shows. In November 1891 school work was on show for parents and on the evening of Arbour Day money was raised to establish a library, buy tools for gardening and lamps for school use. An area of land on the western side of the school ground with a frontage of 200 feet and a depth of nearly 436 feet was

required by the Department. The owner, Mrs. Onslow, refused to sell for less than £200. Messrs. Richardson and Wrench Ltd. valued the land at £118.

Mr. Harper stated that while the district suited his health, Mrs. Harper's health had deteriorated. In addition the school attendance was decreasing and he applied for removal. He was loath to move because of the beautiful surroundings and claimed that he was happy there. However, he was not transferred. Instead extensive repairs, necessitating the closure of the school for two weeks, were carried out in 1892, which no doubt helped to make life more comfortable for the teacher's family. Meanwhile the school and residence were in urgent need of replacement and in 1904 the owners of the Camden Park Estate were prepared to offer half an acre on the west side of the school ground to the Department free of cost on the understanding that a building would be erected. This kind offer was accepted but no attempt was made to build upon the site. The Menangle Progress Association, in July, 1905, believing the school and residence unfit for use, appealed to the Director of Public Health for their assistance. The District Inspector recommended that new buildings be erected but lack of funds had prevented any positive action. At last tenders were invited, and during 1906 the successful tenderers, Hindes and Farindon, erected a school designed to hold 50 pupils as well as a residence for £564/16/6. Early in 1907 a new fence was erected round the building and with material from the old building, two new rooms were added to the teacher's residence.

In 1949-50 there were 43 children attending the school.

In 1960 the school building was renovated and repaired, reroofed and painted both internally and externally. New brick toilets were erected, the shed renovated and painted, and a concrete assembly area and paths were laid down. A new 40 ft flag pole was also erected. The whole of the above work cost in the vicinity of £3,000.

Also in 1959 a survey was made of the condition of the residence. After two days of intense investigation and tabulating of defects it was found that the cost of repairs would be very great. At the teacher's suggestion consideration was given to the erection of a new residence in lieu of repairs to the old one. This was agreed upon, firstly for a timber building, but later changed to brick veneer and brick garage.

Thus it comes that the opening of the new residence coincides with the 90th anniversary. The function on 4th November 1961 brings about reunion of old and present pupils of the school, to each of whom we offer heart-felt and joyous wishes for a happy association.

CAMDEN WALK OF WITNESS

Good Friday marks the annual date for the enactment of the walk which Jesus took along the Via Dolorosa carrying His cross in preparation for His execution. The actors from Camden Uniting Church gather in the early hours for makeup to be applied to depict the wounds that Jesus received from the scourging with whips, the beatings and the crown of thorns inflicted by the Roman soldiers.

As the drama begins about 8.30am with the drum beat, Jesus lifts up the cross and carries it amidst the jeering and heckling of cruel religious leaders and the derision and whips of cruel soldiers.

For the walkers leaving the show ground, walking up Argyle Street then left along John St, it is a time to focus and reflect on the courage of Jesus, and the goodness of Jesus in the face of cruelty and injustice. As we walked past the courthouse I was reminded that Government IS upon the shoulders of Jesus. How absolutely, breathtakingly wonderful that Our Saviour God reigns!

This is an event worthy of an annual place in your diary!



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CAMDEN AGLOW APRIL MEETING

Wednesday 18th April meeting will be at the
Ironbark Room Narellan Library
\$10 cover charge All Welcome
Contact Sue Peacock 4633 8261

MACARTHUR LEARN TO SWIM

2/53 Cawdor Rd Camden
ph. 4655 7735

BABYSITTING

Laura Howard - Menangle Area
Hourly Rate: \$8; ph 46338543
References available

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