

# WESLEY NEWS

## MAY DIARY DATES

### Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> EASTER 4

Acts 2:42-47 Ps 23 1  
Pt 2:19-25 Jn 10:1-10

### Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> EASTER 5

Acts 7:55-60 Ps 31:1-5, 15-16  
1 Pt 2:2-10 Jn 14:1-14

### Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> EASTER 6

Acts 17:22-31 Ps 66:8-20  
1 Pt 3:13-22 Jn 14:15-21

### Thursday 21<sup>st</sup>

#### ASCENSION DAY

Acts 1:1-11 Ps 47 or Ps 93  
Eph 1:15-23 Lk 24:44-53



### Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> EASTER 7

Acts 1:6-14 Ps 68:1-10, 32-35  
1 Pt 4:12-14, 5:6-11 Jn 17:1-11

### Sunday 31<sup>st</sup>

#### DAY OF PENTECOST

Acts 2:1-21 Ps 104:24-34, 35b  
1 Cor 12:3b-13 Jn 20:19-23  
or Jn 7:37-39



#### MUSIC @ WESLEY

Choir Practice - in recess.

#### ARTS @ WESLEY

Patchworkers & Quilters  
in recess.

#### WESLEY IS HOME TO

Young Adelaide Voices  
Adelaide Harmony Choir  
Metropolitan Musical  
Theatre Company  
Monteverdi Singers

## MINISTERIAL MEANDERING

There is a sadness arising in my soul at the loss of the ANZAC march this year. Unlike most of the other holidays, people really seem to take this one seriously.

Some years ago I led the dawn service for the Prospect RSL and I was astounded at the attendance – there were at least two or three hundred people of all ages and for them to get up well before dawn to attend was an achievement in itself. There were also people from a number of ethnic groups, Vietnamese, Italian, Greek and especially Turks with a representative of the Turkish consulate laying a wreath.

When you think about it, ANZAC is probably the most spiritual holiday celebrated in Australia. Easter and Christmas are now significantly advertising-directed and the spiritual nature is lost in the hearts of most people who see the break as a time to get away with the family rather than spend it at Church or celebrating a religious experience in their hearts and souls.

And then non-religious weekends like the Queen's birthday and the Adelaide Cup weekend are almost without value and purpose to most of us. I mean, I like the Queen, but I am certain that celebrating her birthday is of little value either to her or to us.

I hope we get back to celebrating ANZAC quickly so that we do not lose any of its meaning for us as individuals or as a country, and I hope we each managed to spend some time thinking about the celebration even though we didn't attend the marches.

Blessings, Alex

## ANZAC DAY 25<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2020



## WIMALA PRESBYTERY

Since 2005 in South Australia, all the churches have been part of one presbytery. Last year there was a move to have multiple presbyteries. Wesley Uniting Church Kent Town is now part of the "Wimala" Presbytery. (This name still has to be endorsed by the Synod Standing Committee).

Wimala is an Adnyamathanha (First Peoples of the Northern Flinders Ranges) word. We have permission of the Elders to use this word as our Presbytery name. Its use and the subsequent conversations continue to put into practice our covenantal relationship with the First Peoples. Wimala, at its simplest, means "business ground".

The more complex definition defines Wimala as a place where people gather to make decisions together. Each family (or in our case, each congregation) participates and ALL are included. Wimala ensures the gathering is community focused (outreach) and has a collective leadership approach. This has many deep connections with how we operate as a Presbytery!

## CARING FOR YOUR CHURCH IN TIMES OF NEED

Thank you to the members of the congregation who responded to the plea for help with finances during this period of closure and reduced income. A number of people sent offerings by EFT and this assistance is greatly appreciated.



Wesley Uniting Church Kent Town  
27 Grenfell Street, Kent Town



## COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS - STAY CONNECTED

By the time you read this, we will have experienced a month of lockdown. We have had to adapt.

We were used to the Sunday morning preaching and worship pattern, where the people came to the church and met one another, shared in worship together and gathered for morning tea and a chat afterwards. Those of us in the choir gathered to practise our singing each Wednesday evening, the quilting group gathered each Monday morning,



the Church Council could gather to consider the affairs of the church and we could visit one another in our homes or meet for lunch whenever we wanted.

All that suddenly changed, and even though we know it is best for the health of all of us, it is difficult.

We are finding new ways to connect, however and to worship. When one door closes, another always opens.

Feedback indicates that people have been appreciative of receiving weekly worship material from Rev Alex Rodgers and Rev Mac Macdonald and have enjoyed hearing news of others.

We will continue to communicate with you all in this way. Please send your news. Some good news stories would be great to cheer us up - maybe you have a special birthday or anniversary coming up. Photos would also be much appreciated.

Please also let me know if any of our congregation has some special needs so that we can try to help out. We can also ask for prayers of support to be made.

I can be contacted by phone on 0400 279 684 or by email at [doug-jenny-stewart@bigpond.com](mailto:doug-jenny-stewart@bigpond.com).

**Jenny Stewart**

### CONTACTS

**Minister:** Rev Alex Rodgers

Mobile: 0400 888 386

Vestry: 8362 8844

Home: 8524 6640

Email: [sregdor2@outlook.com](mailto:sregdor2@outlook.com)

**Minister in Association:** Rev Mac Macdonald

[ravensrock@adelaide.on.net](mailto:ravensrock@adelaide.on.net) 8332 7669

**Organist & Choir Director:** Graham Bell

[ghb59au@outlook.com](mailto:ghb59au@outlook.com) 0422 073 436

**Church Council Chair:** Dr Mark Symons

[mark.symons@tpg.com.au](mailto:mark.symons@tpg.com.au) 8331 9816

**Church Council Secretary:** Jenny Stewart

[doug-jenny-stewart@bigpond.com](mailto:doug-jenny-stewart@bigpond.com) 0400279684

**Church Office:** Closed at present

**Website:** [www.wesleykenttown.org.au](http://www.wesleykenttown.org.au)

## MESSAGE FROM WESLEY KENT TOWN

Normally, on Maundy Thursday each year, Prince Alfred College holds an end of term service in our church. This year this was not possible but the Headmaster of PAC, Mr Bradley Fenner, delivered an Easter message from within the church. If you would like to watch this, visit the PAC Facebook page. Scroll down until you find it and click to view. It shows some beautiful footage of the church.

## ANZAC DAY

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April was ANZAC DAY. This was another day in which we were unable to participate as we have in past years but we were able to remember in the privacy of our own homes, or as we were invited to do, on our driveways.

Here is an extract from an article written by Rev Mark Dickens, Chaplain PAC. Mark is also an Australian Army Reserves Chaplain with 13 years of service.



### THERE ARE NO WINNERS IN WAR: Rev Mark Dickens

“Marking the landing of Australian and New Zealand soldiers on the Gallipoli Peninsula on the morning of 25 April 1915, the name Anzac Day had been officially given by the time of the first anniversary. The Gallipoli campaign exacted a significant toll on both sides of the battle lines over a period of eight months. Over 8,000 Australian soldiers were killed. It was the first major military action which involved Australian and New Zealand troops during the First World War. The day came to be one on which all those who died throughout the war were remembered.

With the passage of time, Anzac Day has come to serve as the occasion to commemorate the lives of Australians killed in all military operations since, both in wartime and during peacekeeping operations.

I have long approached Anzac Day as one to be commemorated rather than celebrated.

The day draws people into contemplation of the actions of those who served, the conditions and environments they found themselves in, and remembering those who died. It is not about celebrating war, or its victors.

In my mind, there are no winners in war. Invariably, each ‘side’ is left to count the cost once the weapons of war have fallen silent.

The cost is not counted by simply totalling the number of people killed, or adding in those wounded in action. There are unseen wounds that lie within the psyche of many of those who return.

Without doubt, when 25 April comes around there are many, young and old alike, who take the time to pause and remember those whose lives have been lost in war. At the same time we remember, too, the effects of war on those who return.

**As Christians we are called to be people of peace. Sadly, history reminds us that conflicts and war have punctuated world affairs throughout the ages. As we commemorate Anzac Day, it is my prayer that we continue to strive for peace and justice, holding on to the hope that weapons of war may sound no more”.**