

April 2017



Cherry Church

An Active Witness to Jesus Christ in Cherry Gardens

Newsletter

Welcome to the April 2017 edition of our Monthly Newsletter. It is our prayer that this publication will provide news of the Cherry Church along with information about the many activities and events in the life of the small but vibrant congregation of the Cherry Gardens Uniting Church.

This Church has been a place of constant Christian worship and witness since the first service took place back in March 1849. As current members of the congregation we are committed to maintaining a place of worship and an outreach within the local Cherry Gardens community.

From the Pastor:

As Anzac Day approaches, our thoughts turn again to the special services held throughout the country to pay tribute to all who served, and are still serving, in times of conflict, remembering especially those who paid the ultimate sacrifice, and those who still bear the scars of war in many different ways.

We are all familiar with "The Ode", recited every Anzac and Remembrance Day.

These words are the fourth stanza of a longer poem "For the Fallen", written just after the start of World War 1 by British poet and art scholar, Robert Laurence Binyon.

Moved by the high number of British war casualties in such a short space of time, Binyon wrote the poem on a visit to Cornwall; it was published in "The Times" on 21st September 1914.

As we gather to remember this Anzac Day, may we be mindful of the words of Jesus in John's Gospel:

"Greater love has no-one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends."

*With God's richest blessings,
Margaret*



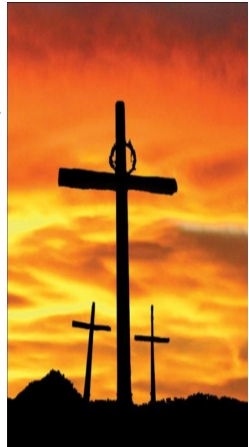
News around the Church

EASTER - Hot Cross Buns, Easter Eggs, Holidays, Football ??

What does Easter really mean to you? For many it is a time to share with family and friends; a time to catch up with jobs to be done.

To Christians throughout the world, as they celebrate Easter, it is a time of sadness AND joy. A time when we recall the agonising death of the Crucifixion of Jesus Christ, put to death and nailed to a cross. It was a time when the man, who was born to save the world, was taken from us and sealed into a burial tomb. But much more than that it is the time when Jesus rose from the dead and showed the world that in and through our loving God we have eternal life. It is the empty cross and the Risen Christ that is Easter. Yes even Hot Cross buns and Easter Eggs (which represent the cross and the new life of the resurrection). It is the Promises of God given through the death and resurrection of His Son, Jesus, that are Easter.

So come on - let's celebrate. *(But not too much chocolate!!)*



ANZAC DAY

8:30am Service

at the Cherry Gardens Soldiers' Memorial Gardens

and afterwards

Morning Tea in the Memorial Hall

Our church is delighted to once again be involved in the community celebrations as we remember Anzac Day in Cherry Gardens.

We will be providing tea/coffee/Anzac biscuits, music, bugler, and the sound system in the hall.

Let Us Pray

O Lord, we come to you with heaviness in our hearts for the many people throughout the world who grieve. We pray for those who were killed or hurt in the recent attack in London. We pray also for those who suffer the tragedy of famine and starvation. We pray especially remember for those who have lost loved ones due to war and hostility; and we bring before you the needs of refugees and the responsibility of those who must care for them. Lord, cannot understand how the atrocities wrought on mankind can happen, but we know that Your heart breaks for the suffering of your people - whatever the situation and wherever in the world. We thank you for the care, love and attention of those who take on the task of caring for people in need. Help us Lord to know what we can do to help.

We pray also for those who are known personally to us. We think of Alan Dubé as he recovers from heart surgery, and for his wife, Prim and for their family; We pray for those within our congregation who are facing care problems for elderly parents; for those grieving the loss of loved ones; and for healing for several members of our congregation. Lord, we pray that these people - and others that are in need - will know the joy, peace and happiness that your love provides as you enfold each of us in your outstretched arms. We ask that you be with each them in their time of need.

Help us to stay vigilant to the needs of others at all times; and to be prepared and ready to help when called upon. As the people of the Cherry Gardens Uniting Church we pray that you will continue to give us the inspiration, guidance and strength to do your will here in this place - and beyond. Amen

About Those Words

For the Fallen

Written on a cliff top overlooking the Cornish coast the poem "*For the Fallen*" is the outpouring emotion of English poet Laurence Binyon. Being too old to enlist for military service Binyon volunteered at a British hospital in France during the war where he cared for casualties of the conflict. Here he was to witness first hand the horrible truth of war and the ultimate sacrifice made by so many. The powerful words in verse 4, now known to many as "*The Ode*", have been used in commemorative services throughout the world since 1921.

As you read these beautiful words take a moment to quietly reflect on those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice.

With proud thanksgiving, a mother for her children,
England mourns for her dead across the sea.
Flesh of her flesh they were, spirit of her spirit,
fallen in the cause of the free.

Solemn the drums thrill: Death august and royal
sings sorrow up into immortal spheres.
There is music in the midst of desolation
and a glory that shines upon our tears.

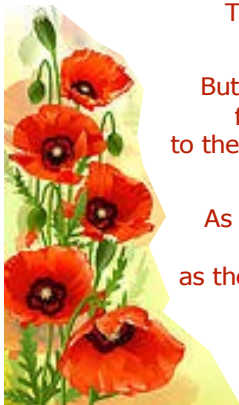
They went with songs to the battle, they were young,
straight of limb, true of eye, steady and aglow.
They were staunch to the end against odds uncounted,
they fell with their faces to the foe.

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
we will remember them.

They mingle not with their laughing comrades again;
They sit no more at familiar tables of home;
They have no lot in our labour of the day-time;
They sleep beyond England's foam.

But where our desires are and our hopes profound,
felt as a well-spring that is hidden from sight,
to the innermost heart of their own land they are known
as the stars are known to the Night;

As the stars that shall be bright when we are dust,
moving in marches upon the heavenly plain,
as the stars that are starry in the time of our darkness,
to the end, to the end, they remain.



WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS MONTH

Sunday 2nd April

We thank **Bob Ricks** for leading our worship today. We will share Holy Communion together.

Sunday 9th April - PALM SUNDAY

Sandie Crayton from Clarendon Uniting Church leads our worship today.

Friday 14th April - GOOD FRIDAY

We welcome **John Howland** back to Cherry Gardens to lead this year's Good Friday service.

Sunday 16th April - EASTER SUNDAY

We celebrate Easter Sunday and share in worship under the leadership of **Max Winter**.

Sunday 16th April - Ironbank Faith Community

The 7pm worship service will be led by **Paul Crayton** and follows the 6pm shared meal.

Sunday 23rd April

Our own pastor, **Margaret Seyfang**, will lead the morning's worship service.

Tuesday 25th April. - Anzac Day

8.30am at Cherry Gardens Soldiers' Memorial Gardens, followed by breakfast at Cherry Gardens Memorial Hall.

Sunday 30th April

We will join the congregation at Upper Sturt Uniting Church to worship together at their 11am service. **REMEMBER:** There will be NO service at Cherry Gardens Uniting Church on this day.

SOME MORE DATES TO PUT IN THE DIARY

Sun 28th May. Our next fellowship event we will be a shared lunch at the beautiful Heights Village in Bellevue Heights. Organised by Jenny and Max Winter, this social time of fellowship is an important part of the life of our church. Please put the date in your diary. More details will follow.

Sun 25th June. Our Church AGM. This is a very important meeting in the life of our church. Please keep this meeting in your prayers.



In hospital, doing his morning rounds, the doctor stood beside the little old lady he had been treating for asthma. He checked her over, asked a few questions and listened to her croaky replies.

"What about the wheeze?" he asked.

"Oh, fine," she replied. "I went three times last night."

Contact Details

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