



THE OPEN DOOR

ALL SAINTS' ANGLICAN PARISH
NEWTOWN & GEELONG WEST

MARCH 2020 ISSUE

Message from Philip Trowse

Dear Friends,

As I write, this is my last week with you, and the Corona Virus emergency is emerging. It is bizarre to see the changes that have come upon us within the last week, as though we are now on a 'war footing'. It has, of course, affected our meetings and services, so my last Sunday with you is likely to be rather low key, and this letter may be my only chance to express my love for you all and to say farewell.

I announced my retirement recently (earlier than I had anticipated) because I believe the task I was called to do here, has been done. Three years ago, you welcomed us into your lives, and we welcomed you into ours. We have found many new friends here and been blessed by the warmth and affirmation you have given us.

Though I came here with no great agenda to 'change things', I realise that my presence has been a change in itself. Many of you have said that I have been a "breath of fresh air" for you, and I am incredibly humbled and grateful for this. Any sense of new life which comes to us, is a sign of the Spirit's work, for which we can all be thankful.

Geraldine and I feel grief in leaving you, but we are also grateful to you and to God for the growth that has happened in us, as we seek to walk with the Lord through all life's turns. As we move on, we look forward to finding new ways to serve God and his people. May you also find God's path, as you continue to "grow in kindness, generosity and grace."

Now comes a time of change for All Saints', an opportunity to think about how the church community will find new life. This is a time for prayer and seeking God, so that we may please him and be shaped as his disciples, reaching out to others with love. With challenge and change always comes

new life: this is the message of the Christian Gospel, where Christ's resurrection gives us hope and life.

Peace be to the whole community, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Grace be with all who have an undying love for our Lord Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 6: 23- 24

May God bless and keep you.

Philip Trowse

Easter
2020

Palm Sunday

5th April 10am service

Maundy Thursday

**9th April 5pm service
7pm Eucharist and watch**

Good Friday

10th April 9am service

Easter Day

**12th April 6am Vigil (Incense)
10am service (no Incense)**

Goodbye and thank you from Christine

As most of you are aware, I am leaving All Saints' mid-April. It will be a slow transition out as I will be finishing up on a Tuesday on the 24th March and will continue to be in the office on a Wednesday only until the 8th April. I am going to work 3 days per week at my other current job- an offer too good to refuse!

I can honestly say that I really am so grateful to have been part of your Parish for the past 3 1/2 years. I have learnt a lot from many of you and have loved being able to assist you within many areas of the Parish (always something new to learn!!).

Thank you to those who have sent their good wishes, it will be difficult to say goodbye. Thank you to the wardens (several over the years) and to Philip for your kindness, care and flexibility shown to me and my family over the years- it really is appreciated. I will look back at my time at All Saints' fondly and send you all best wishes.

Christine

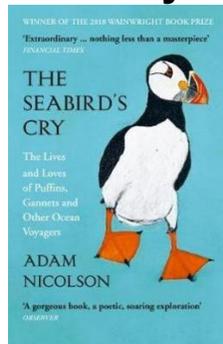


All Saints' Tennis Club presents The 25th Annual Art Show, incorporating the Wine, Cheese, Jazz and Art Night.

The Art Show Launch is on Friday 19th June and will continue over the weekend. Also included this year will be an art show extension in the Church. More

details to come in future Weekly Bulletins.

A book you might enjoy from Helen Modra



NICOLSON, Adam (2017) *The Seabird's Cry: The lives and loves of Puffins, Gannets and other ocean voyagers*. London, Collins. 400 pp., drawings, photographs, maps.

Adam Nicolson is a multiple award-winning British author. He's the son of Nigel Nicolson and grandson of Harold Nicolson and Vita Sackville-West, who created the world-renowned garden at Sissinghurst Castle in Kent. He has written many marvellous books about history, literature, the

natural world and the sea.

In 1937 with the help of a bequest Nigel Nicolson bought three tiny islands, The Shiants, in the Inner Hebrides off the north-west coast of Scotland. Adam's eventual introduction to the place, in the 'sixties when he was eight, was life-changing. He observed that "It became a baseline and touchstone for me of what the world might be". (He inherited the place when he was 21.) Since his youth, the author has spent decades studying seabirds all over the Atlantic, entranced and inspired by his early experiences in those remote islands.

In this book, a splendid blend of personal travel and observation, history, environmental science and poetry, Adam Nicolson gives us "the lives, habits and destinies" (and mighty seasonal migrations) of ten birds and groups of birds that belong to the vast Atlantic region of the Northern Hemisphere. Seabirds, I was surprised to find out, never having thought about it, are "the only animals at home in the sea, on the sea, in the air and on land".

Nicolson, to my delight, knows and loves poetry. He quotes the Irish poet Seamus Heaney, who asked:

"What came first, the seabird's cry or the soul
Imagined in the dawn cold when it cried?
"How habitable is perfected form?
And how inhabited the windy light?"

The author responds to the poet:

"There are no answers, only questions and suggestions, but in that Platonic vision Heaney's imagined soul-seabird is not only the great boundary-crosser, but linked to the emergence and genesis of things. The seabird's cry comes from the beginning of the world."

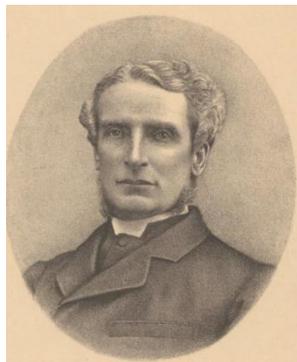
FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Rev G W Torrance (1835-1907)

The Fourth Vicar of All Saints' Newtown 1877-1878

(b: 1835 Rathmines, Dublin– d: 1907 Kilkenny, Ireland)

Background of the Diocese of Melbourne The Diocese of Melbourne was founded in 1847, having been created out of the Diocese of Australia. At that time it comprised the whole of the District of Port Philip, now State of Victoria, and as such remained under the episcopate of Bishop Perry until 1875, when the Diocese of Ballarat was founded.



The Revd G W Torrance , All Saints' Newtown 1877-1878

The following notes are from the archives held at All Saints' Newtown and Geelong West

1 Parish Report for 1876

It was noted that the 'Bishop has appointed The Rev G W Torrance, MA., (Late of St John's Melbourne [*Lonsdale Street*] to the vacant incumbency of All Saints'). (*This report for 1876 was*

written in early 1877 - JN)

2 Parochial Minutes for 22 January 1877

It stated that Mr May resigned due to the state of his health, 'requires immediate removal from Geelong.' (*The Revd J. H. May 1871-1877*)

(This is interesting as the following note from the next month, February, indicated the Revd G.W. Torrance had already been appointed. JN)

3 Parochial Minutes for 12 February 1877

It was recorded, 'correspondence with the bishop and registrar relative to the appointment of the Rev. G. W. Torrance as incumbent of the church was read.'

4 Meeting of Parishioners - Minutes for 12 February 1877

'It was reported that the late incumbent had not accepted the offer of the committee of retaining the parsonage for three months.'

5 Parochial Minutes for 26 February 1877

A decision was made for a 'stipend of £325 per annum and £12 for the poor fund.'

6 Parochial Minutes for 9 July 1877

'A letter was read from the Incumbent as to the insufficient light in the church and also as to a lectern and offering box placed by him in the church.

It was moved that the committee is of the opinion that the lectern should not have been placed in the church without the committee having been first consulted.

7 **Parochial Minutes** for 13 August 1877 (*Contained in a letter from the incumbent to the parochial committee regarding the two Sunday Schools in the parish, was his expression 'after an experience of 6 months'. This suggests he had arrived in either February or March 1877. JN*).

8 Parochial Minutes for 10 September 1877

It was written up, 'Letter to the Incumbent conveying the sympathy which the congregation felt for him under his recent bereavement.'

9 **Parochial Minutes** for 19 December 1877

'A letter was read from the Incumbent stating that the living of Balaclava had been offered to him by the bishop on the nomination of the trustees and that he had accepted it and has resigned the Incumbency of All Saints.

(This would suggest that the incumbent had been in the parish for less than one year. JN)

10 **Parochial Minutes** for 8 July 1877

It was written 'that the Incumbent be authorized to purchase two dozen Hymn Books for the use of the church and get two surplices made.

(It is not clear who the incumbent is. I suspect it is the Revd J. C. Love [1878-1880], the successor to the Revd G. W. Torrance. JN)

Fatal Accident at Newtown

The following notice was published on page 2 in the Geelong Advertiser on Monday September 3, 1877.

'On 1st September Gerard Vaughan aged 3½ years, son of Rev. G. W. Torrance, All Saints Geelong. The funeral will leave the parsonage for the Eastern Cemetery, this day at 9 o'clock.

Jenkins & Benn Undertakers 115, Moorabool Street

Elsewhere in this edition, of the Geelong Advertiser, is a full report of the Inquest held at four o'clock in the afternoon at the Argyle Hotel. The accident had occurred that morning at about 11 o'clock. The fatal accident happened at the intersection of Pakington street and Retreat Road Newtown. The boy had been sitting with the vehicle driver, lost his balance while playing with the driver's whip, and fell such that 'the wheel passed over his head, inflicting such fearful injuries that death resulted in a few minutes.' 'The jury returned a verdict of "Accidental death."'

Notes about The Reverend G. R? Torrance 1877-1878 were written for the booklet '*All Saints Newtown 1862-1987*' – the booklet prepared for the 125th Anniversary. Some parts of the article were '*The Reverend G. W. Torrance was described as 'the well known musician and composer' and was awarded the Honorary (sic) degree of Doctor of Music from the University of Dublin. During his time he introduced Hymns Ancient and Modern into use and recommended that the choir and organ be moved from their present position to the east end of the church. He also established the Literary and Debating Club, the Needlewomen's Relief Society for the relief of the deserving poor and the choral class for the practice of church music. The reason for his early resignation is not clear but it may be that the death of his small son in a fall from a Hansom cab provided memories which made Geelong too painful a place.*'

He was in Australia 1869 – 1895 and served in the following places Christ Church South Yarra, St John's Melbourne, Acting Principal Trinity College, The University of Melbourne, All Saints' Geelong, and Holy Trinity Balaclava.

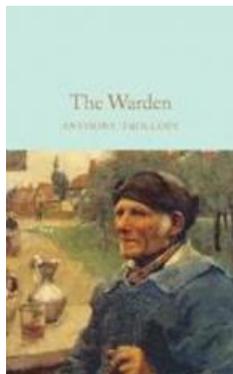
For further information on the life and work of the Revd G W Torrance see the *Australian Dictionary of Biography, Vol 6 (MUP), 1976.*

Dr John Nelson

Book Group

2020 sees the Book Group entering its 18th year. The first two meetings are scheduled for 10 March and 16 June, in LaMP at 2.00pm.

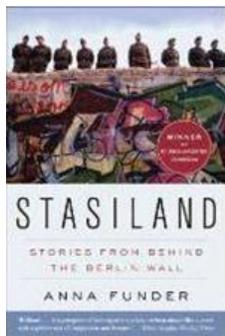
Meeting 62



The Warden' by Anthony Trollope

Trollope's witty, satirical story of a quiet cathedral town shaken by scandal - as the traditional values of Septimus Harding are attacked by zealous reformers and ruthless newspapers - is a drama of conscience that pits individual integrity against worldly ambition. In *The Warden* Anthony Trollope brought the fictional county of Barchester to life, peopled by a cast of brilliantly realised characters that have made him among the supreme chroniclers of the minutiae of Victorian England. It is the first book in the *Chronicles of Barchester*. (*Barchester Towers*).

Meeting 63



Stasiland by Anna Funder

Anna Funder delivers a prize-winning and powerfully rendered account of the resistance against East Germany's communist dictatorship in these harrowing, personal tales of life behind the Iron Curtain--and, especially, of life under the iron fist of the Stasi, East Germany's brutal state security force.

If you are interested in talking about either of these books, please free to obtain copies and join the Group for lively and wide-ranging discussion.

John Nelson for the Book Group.

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Sports Section: Tennis Club Report

Courtside comments by Nigel Wilson



Summer season for Juniors and Seniors began in mid-October and hopefully will culminate with the Grand Final on 21 March. But in these currently challenging and quickly moving times we do not yet know whether Grand final matches will be played.

As in last Summer season, 2019-2020 Summer season continued to be challenging for the All Saints' Senior teams, but to their credit they didn't stop trying all the season. In the Juniors, all five teams played well, with two making it to the finals. The Section 7 and Section 10 Girls missed the finals, the Section 14 Boys were eliminated in their Semi-finals whilst the Section 10 Boys are due to play off in the Grand final, if it goes ahead.

The fifth All Saints' team was in the new Orange ball competition, where the younger Juniors played on modified courts and used Orange dot (reduced pressure) balls. They played in two seasons, one in Term 4, 2019, the other in Term 1, 2020 and all of these younger players enjoyed a great learning experience.

The All Saints' Ladies Mid-Week team began their Summer season on 4 February and have made a slow start to the season. After such a great finish to the Winter season, ending up with a Premiership, it is unfortunate that they currently sit near to the bottom after round 6 of the Summer season.

Winter season for Juniors and Seniors is due to begin on 2 May, but this is very much up in the air, due to COVID-19. We hope to enter three Junior teams and one Senior team, but it is again disappointing that there is only one Senior team.

The Crazy Whist night on 22 February was a fun event, although the attendance this year was disappointing, however half were young adults and we enjoyed each other's company. A big thank you goes to the parish family who gave their support to the night. The proceeds from the night will be shared between the parish and the Tennis Club.

Currently, our Coaches are working on four nights of the week, but the prospect of holding a Junior Coaching Clinic over the April School holidays is currently most problematical.

Vietnam Veterans social tennis days took place over the Summer holidays, with good numbers and they continue on regular basis. The Tennis Club's night-time social tennis continues each Thursday night. If you would like to be a part of this, please come along on any Thursday night at 7.30pm for a social hit.