



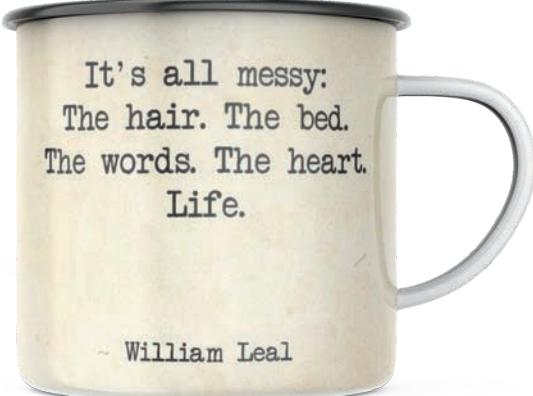
GOLDEN
GROVE
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

Life in the Vine

THE MAGAZINE OF GOLDEN GROVE LUTHERAN CHURCH

MAY 2023 | VOLUME 29, ISSUE 1

WELCOME TO THE LATEST EDITION OF LIFE IN THE VINE.



Does the above quote resonate in your life? Plenty can be said about the challenges and difficulties we all experience in our lives everyday, but this quote is a good summary. It's all messy.

Messiness is not something new to our generations. Even Jesus had to answer questions relating to life's messiness. He answered "*Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?...But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.*" (Matthew 6:25,26,33,34)

In this edition we see plenty of messiness from strategic planning to school activities, new jobs and programs to trials including the challenge of housing our own Pastor. Some of our activities within our community have been complex and intricate to the point we have even included "messy" in some of the titles of our ministries.

But when we stop worrying about our messiness, God's generosity and love shines through. Remember, God keeps on loving us no matter how messy our lives are. God is Love!

His generosity and love is witnessed in each article of this edition and hopefully, God's love will shine to you through this Life In The Vine - Happy Reading!

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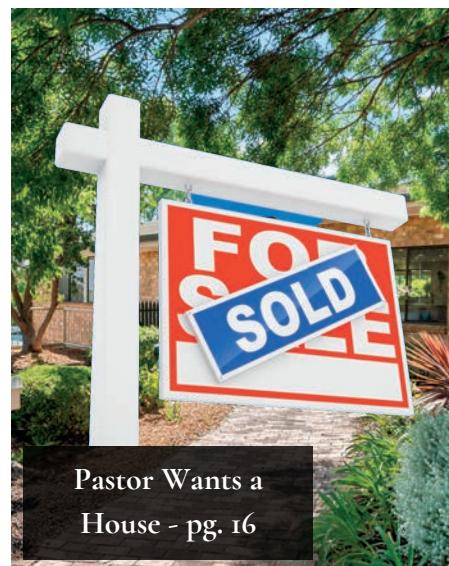
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PASTOR GREG SHARES

BY PASTOR GREG FOWLER



Don't Worry, Be Happy

So do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.
Matthew 6:31-34

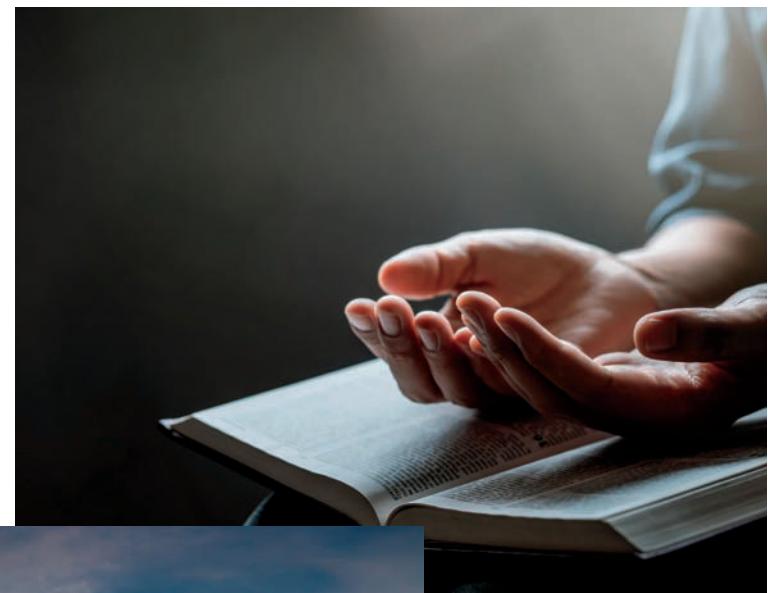
As you know, the last few months have been a little uncertain for Connie and me. It has been a weird feeling as we witnessed the house we live in marketed and sold, and new premises sought in an unusual property market. Trusting others to make decisions that materially affect us was not always easy as all of us would prefer to be in control of significant life events. For us it was just somewhere to live; our heart goes out to those who face health issues, financial issues or relationship troubles that they couldn't have foreseen and are life changing.

“Trusting others to make decisions that materially affect us was not always easy...”

Jesus has wonderful words of comfort for all of us in uncertain times. He encourages us to trust God our Father for all that we need because God's concern for us encompasses all aspects of life. Our Lord is not simply interested in our spiritual well-being; he is active in the most mundane parts of our life. Jesus says we shouldn't be worried about our material and physical needs since the incarnate Lord came into the world to be with us in all our struggles.

Of course it is a bit of a futile exercise to try to compartmentalise different parts of our lives. Everything affects everything else. Our spiritual welfare impacts our physical just like our material wellbeing impacts mental health. When Jesus asks us to trust him for our welfare he means all of life. It is hard to rest in Christ when we're under stress. But God asks us to look to him, seek his presence and do what we can in our power. The rest we leave to him. We know God's nature and his love. May his Holy Spirit lead us to the still waters of our Good Shepherd.

“When Jesus asks us to trust him for our welfare he means all of life.”





HIGHLIGHTS FROM CHURCH COUNCIL

BY JON SCHUTZ
GGLC CHAIRPERSON

“The manse sale and purchase has taken an interesting turn - see the Pastor Wants a House article...”



I have been writing Highlights from Church Council for many years - and as true as it is that every moment of Church Council is a highlight - no doubt some of the routine business of governance has not been given as much press as it deserves. Lately there has been a lot of focus on our mission, vision and values development as part of our strategic planning, which is the forward-looking component of governance. However, governance is also about looking to the current and past to monitor and review activities for the purposes of continuous improvement of what we do, and accountability to other bodies such as governments, LCA, Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) to which we have various obligations through our constitution or legislation. At every meeting, we receive a report (written or verbal) from each of the ministry or administrative areas - Pastor, School Principal, Worship, Pastoral Care, Christian Education, Youth/Young Adults, Property, Communications, Fete, Safe Church and Finance - plus any significant projects such as (currently) the sale of the manse. As anticlimactic as it may sound, quite often the reports pass with a nod and a thankyou and nothing more, which is good, as it means that activities are progressing in line with expectations. Sometimes issues are raised for consideration and action. Either way, the reporting is an essential part of the machinery of governance and just occasionally deserves to be given “highlight” status.

Other recent highlights to note:

- After quite a few years in the job, Dave stepped down from the Pastoral Care lead role and Allen has taken over and is stamping his own brand on it;
- Christian Education Team is continuing to kick goals with Sophie Gerrie's second installation on the series "The Biblical Story for Everyone" and following up with the launch of Messy Church;
- Young adults, youth and junior youth engagement continues to be strong;
- The Treasurer role is vacant at the moment but we hope to address that at the AGM or soon after - anyone interested in taking it on, please get in touch as soon as possible;
- With shiny new mission, vision and values statements to work with, we are moving on to the next stage of strategic planning and considering actionable goals;
- Organisation for the 2023 fete has started - Joel is leading and we are currently looking for sponsors;
- The manse sale and purchase has taken an interesting turn - see the Pastor Wants a House article elsewhere in this edition;
- Soaring insurance costs continue to frustrate - year on year increases since 2020 have been 5.5%, 9.3%, 9.9%, 13.5%;
- Offerings this year so far have been in line with budget;
- Greg has only had 2 calls so far this year, and thankfully declined both.

Finally, for its noticeable absence from the Church Council agenda, hopefully for the last time I can mention the COVID-19 pandemic - as something that has taken a lot of Church Council energy since the beginning of 2020 - we are glad to see its prevalence fade and council business return to the routine highlights.

Our
Mission

Growing with God in a Loving Community

The Mission of Golden Grove Lutheran Church is to provide:

- worship opportunities at times and in styles that best suit our members
- Christian Education and spiritual nourishment in an age-appropriate form from birth to senior
- pastoral care through fellowship, visiting, prayer and physical care
- outreach through Café Connect and community-oriented activities
- a safe environment for members of all ages to serve God according to their gifts, with a focus on the Golden Grove area, and to intentionally grow the relationship with Golden Grove Lutheran Primary School to support our common ministry.

"Lately there has been a lot of focus on our mission, vision and values development as part of our strategic planning..."

Our
Vision

To be a Christ-focussed centre that connects with our local community and excels at worship, caring, growing faith through prayer and study of God's word, and serving our Church and wider community.



NEWS FROM GGLPS

BY WILL WALLACE
PRINCIPAL

It is hard to believe that the first term and part of the second seems to have already flown by! There was so much that we enjoyed as a part of it, and so much to celebrate! It certainly made a huge difference having a 'normal' (as in not COVID-affected!) start to the school year with the children enjoying welcoming new friends and settling into their class groups and school routines quickly.

We started the year with great excitement as we watched Sam Brooks paint our long-awaited mural - and it was definitely worth the wait! An amazing landscape of the Golden Grove area and the Adelaide Hills unfolded before our eyes over a matter of weeks, incorporating some great reminders of the Christian faith on which our school is based, and a great visual of what our school looked like before the area was developed. A huge thank you to our P & F for all of their efforts on this project, as it has certainly brightened and lifted our main courtyard space!

We enjoyed inducting our School Captains, Vice Captains, House Captains, Year 6 leaders and Student Representative Councillors into their roles and have enjoyed the wonderful leadership they are providing the student body.



"We started the year with great excitement as we watched Sam Brooks paint our long-awaited mural..."

We also welcomed Joel Schiller to the school as our Chaplain for one day each week, and Eve Dunn as our new Finance Officer. We wish Vanessa Duns the very best with her move to Good Shepherd Lutheran Primary School.

It was great to see our school community back together at Parent Information Night, P & F Drinks, our Foundation Welcome Evening and, of course, at Middle of Term Breakfast where Alan-Howard-Jones presented our school with a Peace Pole on behalf of Rotary Modbury-Golden Grove.

We look forward to a formal ceremony to install and bless the Peace Pole on Monday 29 May. As the Peace Pole has 'may peace prevail on Earth' inscribed on each of its sides in English, Kuarna, Japanese and Tok Pisin (Papua New Guinea dialect of our link community in Asaroka), we look forward to welcoming representatives of each of those communities, alongside Rotary, for the occasion.

Our Junior Youth and Youth groups started with wonderful activities and great momentum, and thanks to Joel and Lauren and our volunteers for their efforts with these. Harmony Day was again a special day, celebrating each of the 42 different nationalities and cultural background that students have across our school. Well done to Mrs Zadow who arranged amazing drinks from many of our countries to share on the day. The students looked phenomenal in their traditional cultural costumes!

We have enjoyed a range of sporting opportunities with hockey, athletics and Norwood Aussie Rules clinics for the students, weekly PE lessons and the summer basketball season continuing, as well as our golf programme. We had a number of students who were amazing representatives of our school at SAPSASA Swimming and SACSA Athletics. Endeavour College students in year 10 visited us to hold sports clinics with our year 5 and 6 students. Ahead of us, we have winter basketball and lacrosse in Terms 2 and 3, with opportunities in Futsal and Netball in the pipeline.

Audrey and Jacob, our 2022 School Captains, were privileged to attend a reception with the Governor-General of Australia, His Excellency David Hurley, and Lady Hurley in February, where they were received a School Aid award recognising the efforts of our students and school community over many years in service learning, social justice and philanthropy. It had been a long awaited occasion of Audrey and Jacob after being rescheduled from 2022, and they were great ambassadors for our school.

Congratulations to Endeavour College on their wonderful fair to celebrate their 25th anniversary earlier this term - despite the weather it was an amazing day which was well attended by many from Golden Grove Lutheran Primary School and Church and a great testament to the wonderful educational opportunities and school community at Endeavour. Thank you to Peter Pearse for the excellent leadership he has provided to Endeavour College as acting Principal where he has done a sterling job and been fantastic to work with. Peter moves back into the Deputy Principal role next term as we welcome Richard Baird as the new Principal at Endeavour. Richard is a highly experienced and dynamic school leader who has previously held the role of Principal and has worked across a number of states including South Australia, and brings a wealth of experience to Endeavour. we look forward to welcoming Richard to the Connected Schools community.



Of course, any reflection on the year thus far would be incomplete without acknowledging Sports Day, which is always a brilliant day on our school calendar. Well done to all of the students who competed in a great spirit and enjoyed each of the activities on the day. The students looked great in their house colours, and we loved being able to share the day with so many of our parents, grandparents and families. It was lovely to see the joy on the children's faces as they were running, hurdling, throwing discs, jumping and all of the rest! Thanks to Mrs McCusker, Kuno and our staff team for their efforts with the day.

Progress with our building works for the new Foundation classrooms where the current transportables (Music Room) are located continues smoothly, and we are working to finalise and accept a tender to then commence the build.

We do still have some places available in our mid year 2023 and 2024 Foundation intakes, so please feel free to share the great news with your friends who may love to join our school community. Families enrolling for mid year Foundation this year or across each year group in 2024 will be offered a 25% reduction in their tuition fee for the first year of enrolment at the school.

Our school board have begun the process of renewing our school strategic plan for the next five years with Peter Bleckly, an experienced external consultant in this area. Peter has begun the process of meeting with the school board, our leadership team, students and school families, as well as analysing a range of existing data. There will be continued opportunities for all stakeholders, including staff to engage with the development of our strategic plan throughout the year as it takes shape for implementation from 2024 onwards, and certainly engagement from our church community is most welcome as part of that process.



Supporting the Community

- ONE TERM* **FREE!** (new 2023/2024 enrolments)
- Guarantee Your Child's Reception Place
- Free Private Bus Service Direct To & From Mawson Lakes
- Priority Entry to Endeavour College*
- New Reception Classrooms Open For 2024

*Conditions apply - refer to website for details

CALL US NOW!
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www.goldengrove.sa.edu.au





NEW CHAPLAIN

BY JOEL SCHILLER



On a Wednesday afternoon in mid-January, I was driving back from the Barossa (at that time I was working up on a farm in Angaston), when I got a phone call from Will that the chaplain role at GGLPS had opened up and ask whether I'd be keen for it. I was in shock as I have been interested in combining the Youth role in the church and the Chaplain role in the school. Obviously, I said yes!

The opportunity was certainly orchestrated by God; as in November last year I began a Diploma in Applied Social Science, specialising in school chaplaincy. By starting this course I was able to be considered for the role.

I work in this role only on Mondays, but coupled with the youth coordinator role I can be in the school a whole lot more than if I only had one of the roles.

So far this year I have seen a lot of opportunities open up, particularly around spending time with students and getting to know them personally, which I wasn't really able to do as well in the youth role previously. So far this year I have been on the 5/6 camp at the start of this term, and by the time this LITV is released I would have been on the 3/4 camp. These camp opportunities have proven to be super beneficial for me to build relationships with the students and just to have fun, and when I walk around the school yard, I can call each student by name.

I can also encourage year 6s to come to youth, get to know and support staff, and ultimately build more of a connection between church and school.

I would like to thank all those who have been supportive throughout the entire process, you know who you are.

On a side note I have recently started a Pastoral Care Worker role through Schools Ministry Group, at Tanunda Primary School. I am in that role 2 days per week.

“...super beneficial for me to build relationships with the students...”

BY RUTH ZIMMERMANN

Teaching Saturdays were introduced to provide Congregational members with the opportunity to study God's Word in greater depth. We have been privileged to have numerous guest presenters over the years who have led insightful and thought-provoking sessions.

Early last year Sophie Gerrie from Tabor agreed to lead 'The Biblical Story for Everyone' for three Teaching Saturdays in 2022 and 2023.



Sophie is the Head of Undergraduate Studies for the Faculty of Ministry Practice, teaching in both Biblical Studies and Practical Theology. She is a previous student of Tabor, having completed both a Bachelor of Social Science and Master of Divinity. Sophie is passionate about the interplay between what we learn about who Jesus is and the way it shapes how we live.



The Biblical Story for Everyone is one of the subjects that Sophie lectures in. It provides an overview of the big story of the Bible from Genesis to Revelation. The series of sessions are based on the work of Bartholomew and Cohen in their book, **The Drama of Scripture**.



At the Teaching Saturday in July last Sophie began the day by introducing us to the importance of Narratives (Stories) for our lives as Stories help give us a sense of place. She shared the following with us:

Stories stir our imaginations and help us to experience love, betrayal, hatred, and compassion that might be otherwise foreign. They prepare us for experiences like love or help us process things like sorrow and suffering. The way that we understand our lives, our relationships, our past and future is all tied up in story. Your past is not only a set of facts. It's also a story you tell... your future, too, is a story, but it isn't built upon memory. It's a story of anticipation, of hopes or fears that seem imminent and likely.



We actually live our lives in terms of stories. Everyone has at least two key, interrelated stories: 1. Personal, individual stories This story is not just 'history', it shapes who we are, how we think, and how we live. 2. Larger, universal stories ('worldviews' or 'meta-narratives') Whether we are conscious of it or not, these stories have a profound effect on our lives. For example, people who have different meta-narratives will have different responses to various 'controversial' topics. I would argue that the Bible itself is a meta-narrative which offers a way of making sense of the world. An Overview of the Biblical Narrative Bartholomew and Goheen (and others) suggest that it is possible to think of the biblical narrative in terms of a dramatic play that consists of six distinct acts.

Below are the six distinct acts that Sophie has been using to share, The Biblical Story for Everyone.

- Act One (Genesis 1-2): **Creation** - Provides us with the essential background information There is a God who sovereignly creates the universe and has a purpose for his people.
- Act Two (Genesis 3-11): **Rebellion** - Introduces the conflict/crisis that will require resolution throughout the story. Although created by God, humans turn their back on their maker and go their own way.
- Act Three (Genesis 12-Malachi): **Promise** - This is where the main action of the drama takes place • The beginning of God's plan to deal with the problem of sin is the story of Israel. The people called to be part of the solution are human and thus part of the problem, so things get messy.
- Act Four (Matthew-John): **Redemption** - The climax and turning point of the story. It is the incarnation, life, teaching, death, and resurrection of Jesus which leads to the defeat of evil, and resolves the problems created by human sin and disobedience.
- Act Five (Acts-Revelation 20): **Mission**- The resolution, in which the implications of the climactic act are worked out for all the characters who have been involved in the drama. The story of the church from its beginnings right through to today. This is where we come into the story.
- Act Six (Revelation 21-22): **Renewal** - The stability that began the drama is restored. The whole of creation will be renewed and restored - see Revelation 21: 3-4.

During the sessions Sophie has also involved us by providing questions for discussion as well as asking, 'What questions are you still pondering?'.

Sophie will be sharing the final 'acts' of **The Biblical Story for Everyone**

on August 5, 2023. I have found the previous sessions highly engaging as well as informative. Feedback from others state that they wished that Sophie could have presented the three half days in quicker succession as they want to hear the end of the story!

The following resources were suggested by Sophie and are available in the Church Library.

- The Drama of Scripture by Bartholomew and Goheen
- Bearing God's Name: why Sinai still matters Carmen Joy Imes
- Masada (miniseries) DVD starring Peter O'Toole and Peter Strauss (see next page for introduction & review)

TEACHING SATURDAY

Biblical Story for Everyone

PRESENTED BY SOPHIE GERRIE

SATURDAY 5 AUGUST 2023
8.30AM-12.30PM

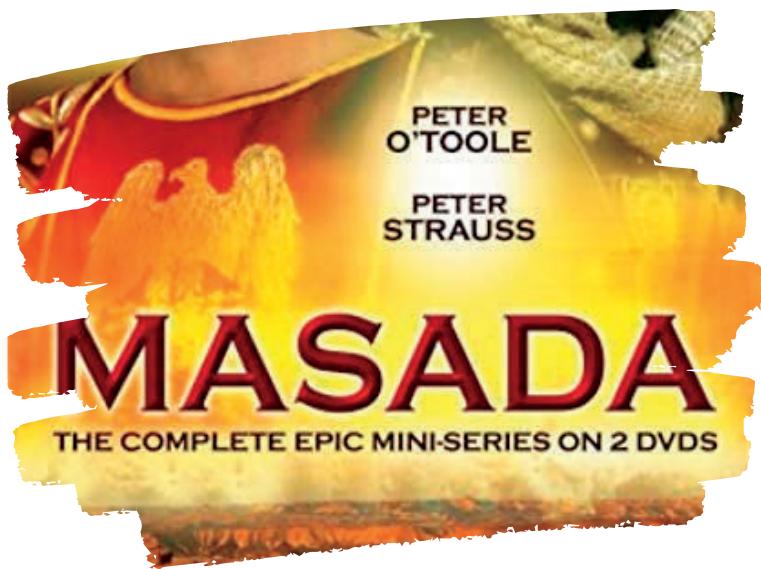
**COST:\$20 PER DAY PER PERSON
PAYABLE AT EVENT
PLEASE REGISTER TO ASSIST WITH
CATERING FOR MORNING TEA
REGISTER ONLINE AT
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 gglc.org.au [\(08\) 7200 0090](mailto:office@gglc.org.au)
21 -23 Richardson Drive, Wynn Vale, SA, 5217

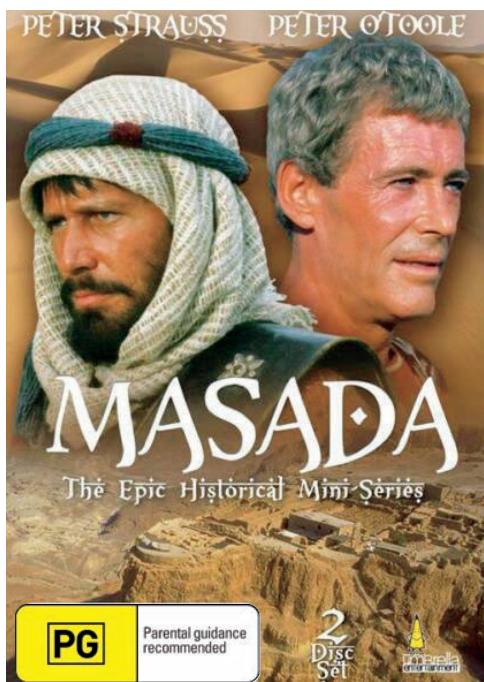
 **cafeconnect**
CAFE CONNECT OPEN
8AM AND FOR MORNING TEA!!

"Sophie will be sharing the final 'acts' of The Biblical Story for Everyone on August 5, 2023"



DVD INTRODUCTION & REVIEW

INTRODUCING A NEW DVD TO GGLC LIBRARY COLLECTION. AVAILABLE TO BORROW OR RESERVE.



MASADA

In the first century A.D. Flavius Silva (Peter O'Toole), commander of the Roman Tenth Legion in Palestine, leads his forces in combat against the remaining Jewish Zealots who have taken refuge in the seemingly impregnable fortress of Masada. There, the engineering and military might of Rome faced the passion and ingenuity of Eleazer ben Yair (Peter Strauss) and his people. Based on the novel *"The Antagonists"* by Ernest K. Gann, *Masada* is a stunning account of that famous siege.

Presented in the unabridged television miniseries of *Masada*: a total of 6 hours running time over 4 parts. *Masada* features a strong cast of character actors (including David Warner and Anthony Quayle), formidable sets and breath-taking action scenes.

Review from IMDb



Masada is amazing, in part, because it is a true story and also because it is truly a fascinating drama. Originally filmed as a mini-series, at 6 plus hours, it has been released in short (movie length) form but don't bother with that edition. Even though this DVD (the six hour set) is quite long, not one minute will bore you. It is a story of the military in a battle of wits against (Jewish) patriots. The cast is superb, with Americans playing the Jews and British actors as the Romans. The lowly soldiers speaking in "middle class" dialect while the officers sound more aristocratic...a really nice touch. Peter O'Toole has never been better in his role as Flavius Silva commander of the Roman regiment dispatched by Rome to capture the Jews holding out at Masada...a huge, almost impregnable mountain fortress. Anthony Quayle and David Warner also do some of their best work ever. Peter Straus as Eleazar, leader of the Jews is passionate in his convictions and the rest of the cast shines also. The mind games they utilize on each other are fascinating and make for engrossing drama. It is truly one of the best mini-series, or historical epics ever put to film. The viewer will feel it is time well spent.



MESSY MUSIC

MESSY MUSIC (FORMERLY MAINLY MUSIC)

BY LAUREN NEUMANN



“We are exploring different landscapes and what lives in there...”

This year we have changed directions with our Friday morning playgroup. We are now running Messy Music. Whilst this is essentially a similar program, it allows us greater flexibility with the music we choose and highlights the messy sensory play.

Last term we explored the natural world and did ‘teddy bears picnic’. Our theme for this term is ‘welcome to our house’. We are exploring different landscapes and what lives in there – from the city, to the artic and all things in between!

Our sensory play continues to be a highlight with playdough a regular occurring item. The children have thoroughly enjoyed the space outdoors and have been using the sandpit for lots of digging, sandcastles and exploring.

The music sessions have taken a slightly different slant too. We are incorporating more nursery rhymes into the music sessions and including a basic musical concept. Last term we focused on fast and slow while this term we are exploring high and low.

Our numbers continue to be steady, and we are seeing lots of new mums coming along which is lovely to see.

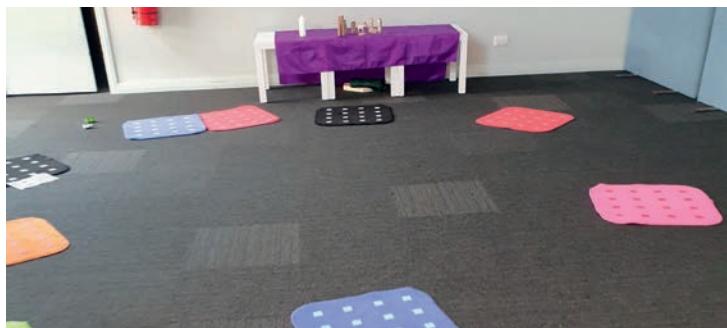
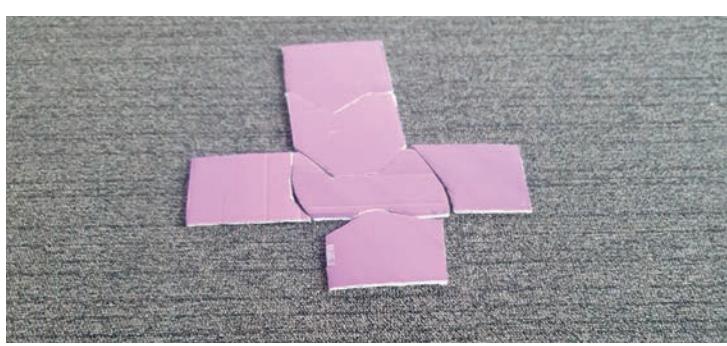
Of course, none of this is possible without the support of my volunteers! Without them, the program would not be success that it is.



GODLY PLAY

GODLY PLAY

BY LAUREN NEUMANN



This year we have begun Godly Play on the 4th Sunday of every month. This is an opportunity for children engage with a variety of sacred stories and parables in a calm and quiet manner. After the story the children have time to 'work'. This is a quiet time where children choose what they work on. There is a variety of materials including Lego, sand, playdough paints, coloured pencils, paper, glue, scissors, loose paper, beads, and a variety of other craft materials. The purpose of this is to allow the Holy Spirit to touch the children as they process the story and work.

At the end of each Godly Play session, we engage in 'fellowship time' together. In any Godly Play session, this is the most important part as it allows children to connect with each other and talk. We have a snack during this time as we talk about our week and anything that may be happening. The children really enjoy this quiet time and look forward to hearing the different stories each week.

We were fortunate enough to receive a grant from Blueprint Ministries to purchase the Holy Family Set. This is a focal point of the Godly Play room and allows children to see that the Holy Family is present with us in the room at all times of the year, not just Christmas and Easter.



MESSY CHURCH

BY LAUREN NEUMANN

This year we are embarking on a new format of Church –

Messy Church

What is Messy Church?

Messy Church is church for anyone who may not find other forms of church appealing and who don't yet belong to a church. It is typically held once a month, includes hands-on creative experiences, a celebration and a meal. It does not prioritise either the needs of children or adults but intentionally welcomes and provides for all ages. Messy Church values are about being Christ-centred, for all ages, based on creativity, hospitality and celebration.

A yellow flyer for a Messy Church event. At the top left is the Messy Church logo. To its right, the text "Theme: New Beginnings" is displayed in large, bold, black font. Below this, the date "Friday 16th May" and time "4:30 - 6:30pm" are given. The location "Golden Grove Lutheran Church Worship Centre" is listed, followed by the invitation "Come along for fun, fellowship and dinner". A small graphic of a hand holding a small plant is on the left. In the center, there is a link to register: "register at; <https://forms.gle/zpcM2A66v7cyQCZRA>". At the bottom left, the text "All Ages Welcome!" is written in pink. To the right of this text is the Golden Grove Lutheran Church logo, which features a stylized cross and grapes.

Our Messy Church will run once per term and is an all-ages event where we can come together for fellowship and fun.

Our first Messy Church is themed 'new beginnings'. There will be a variety of activities to come along and be part of for all ages.

There will then be time to come together for worship before we break for dinner.

We can't wait to see you there!

PASTOR WANTS A HOUSE

BY JON SCHUTZ



GGLC Manse early days front yard



GGLC Manse early days back yard

“Selling the manse that has been in the congregation for 35 years was on no-one's agenda...”

How many committees does it take to sell a manse?

You might have thought that a witty punchline was to follow, but in fact it was a simple rhetorical question where the answer is one, the Manse Team. Well, two if you count the involvement of Church Council. OK three if you count our various advisers, who were not so much a committee as, well, advisers. And let's not forget the working bee team... and Roger the Property Committee... and the LCA SA/NT District Holdings Company who also need to be involved...and the conveyancer. That's all. Ah, but since we're buying as well there's also the bridging loan application which goes to the General Church Council first, who sign off and send it to the LLL, who will run it past their risk committee and discuss it with the SA/NT District Office. That's it. I think. Maybe.

Selling the manse that has been in the congregation for 35 years was on no-one's agenda... until suddenly it was. Key motivations that put the purchase of a new manse on the agenda were that the existing 2-storey manse was proving impractical and unsafe, with incidents of slips on the spiral staircase which become particularly worrisome with toddlers in the house; also the downstairs room was not needed as an office and was not serving any other use. Further, there was potential to recover some capital and wipe out a proportion of the existing church loans, which in turn would make the recurring budget more sustainable.

The manse was built at the time that the Golden Grove Lutheran Fellowship and Golden Grove Lutheran Primary School were established. The tender for construction was accepted on March 9, 1987. The downstairs section was double brick - being built toward the end of the era where double brick was still quite common - and upstairs brick veneer. The manse was dedicated on May 1, 1988.

Unsurprisingly, the manse looked a lot like a house. The one visible feature to mark it as something more was the Ixous (fish) mosaic, which is believed to have been installed during Pastor Alex' tenure (1997~2005).



The process of selling the manse from under the pastor turned out to be relatively straightforward; well, Greg and Connie might not have felt it was so easy - moving house is known as one of the most stressful life experiences - and we do thank them for their patience. Hopefully, they will be rewarded by living in a shiny new manse... one day.

It helps to have a real estate agent on your side - Luke Wachtel teamed up with Brenton Dowden from Next Step Real Estate and provided the church with an exceptionally favourable agency agreement. After the working bee some of the furniture was shifted to storage and the rooms professionally styled. So what we see in the real estate photos may or may not be how Greg and Connie live every day.

There were four open inspections, with 58 groups going through in total (around 45 different groups, not counting repeats). In the space of about two weeks, this generated three offers, two of which were very competitive. After a few rounds of negotiation, an offer of \$772,000 was accepted, going to a family who turned up to three of the open inspections and showed great enthusiasm for the property.

With this success under our belts, the Manse Team set out on the next stage, to buy a new manse, to meet the LCA requirements of 4 bedrooms, bathroom and ensuite, double garage (a "4-2-2"), bedrooms 1-3 having built-in robes; plus our own requirements that it be single storey, within about 10 minutes from the church, and without a pool. After taking account of changeover costs, our limit was \$750,000 but to make the whole process worthwhile we were hoping for something around \$700,000. Looking at recent sales in the area, \$650,000 to low \$700,000s was entirely feasible.

Then something odd happened. Someone shifted the dial. The first house that we were prepared to make an offer on, we didn't - we felt it should be valued in the high \$600,000s and would have offered accordingly, but according to the agent, the vendors already had a string of offers above \$700,000 and we shouldn't waste our ink on anything less. So we saved our ink. (The property eventually sold for \$700,000 exactly...).





"It helps to have a real estate agent on your side - Luke Wachtel teamed up with Brenton Dowden from Next Step Real Estate... what we see in the real estate photos may or may not be how Greg and Connie live every day."

On attempt number 2, we made an offer - a conservative offer but something to ensure that we were in the race when it came to best-and-finals (and then the best-and-final after the best-and-final and then the really final offer, which is generally how the offer process tends to go). But this time the agent had finger trouble and we never received the SMS inviting updated offers. That one sold for \$755,000 so was somewhat above our comfort zone in any case.

Attempt number 3 - sold for \$750,000.
 Attempt number 4 - was an auction. We went to it thinking it might be a bit out of reach but the agent had given advice that \$700,000 was around the mark. He may have meant "starting mark" as the first bid was \$725,000 and the property sold for \$870,000.

If the online statistics are to be believed, there are currently 12 four bedroom houses on the market in Golden Grove and 1680 buyers. Similar strong demand and limited supply numbers are seen in adjacent suburbs as well. For those of us who have been keenly tracking realestate.com.au, the rate of new properties coming on to the market certainly has been very slow. As it turns out, not everyone lives in a 4-2-2. Certainly in this area, three bedrooms houses are much more common, and as we go out to adjacent suburbs that were built up before the Delfin development, ensuites are fairly rare. Thus the supply of houses that match our specifications is quite tight.

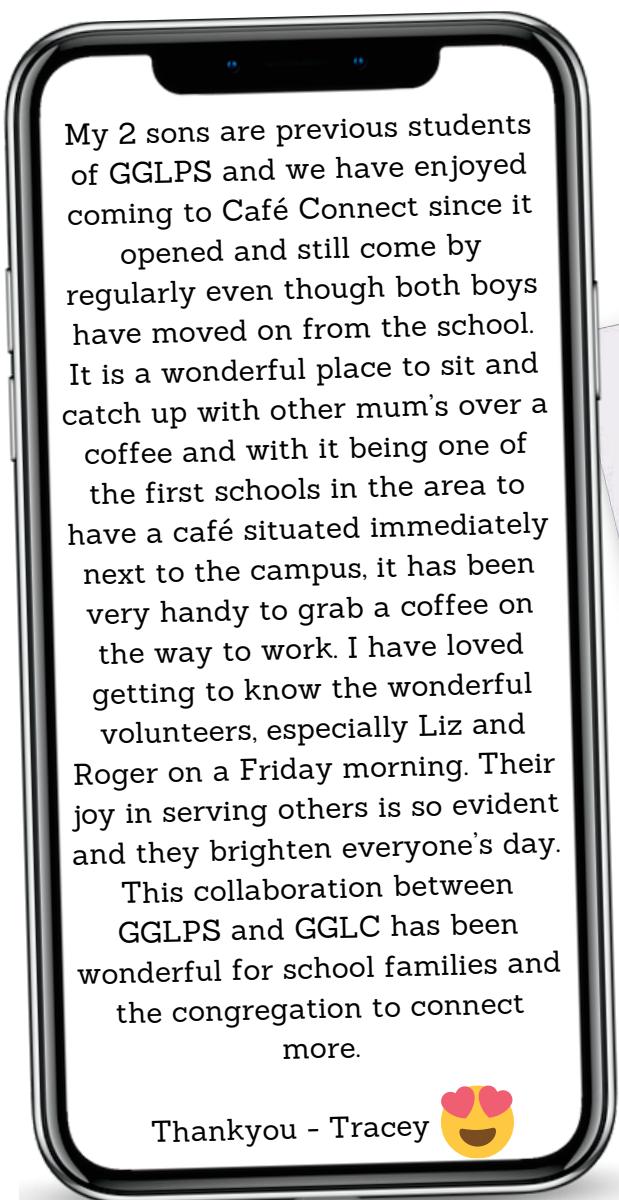
Right now we have a mass of cash about to hit our bank account but we can't buy a house. Greg and Connie have to leave the manse by May 26 and have no new manse to go to. Will they be out on the streets, fridge on the kerbside and waterbed under a Grevillea?

What mysterious turn of events is set to unfold? To find out, stay tuned for the next episode of "Pastor wants a House" in the next edition of Life in the Vine.



CAFE REFLECTIONS

National Volunteer Week occurs in May every year. The week-long event recognises the vital support that the millions of volunteers in our country provide to their communities and encourages people to consider volunteering. Here we acknowledge and thank all our café volunteers through some reflections from our loyal customers

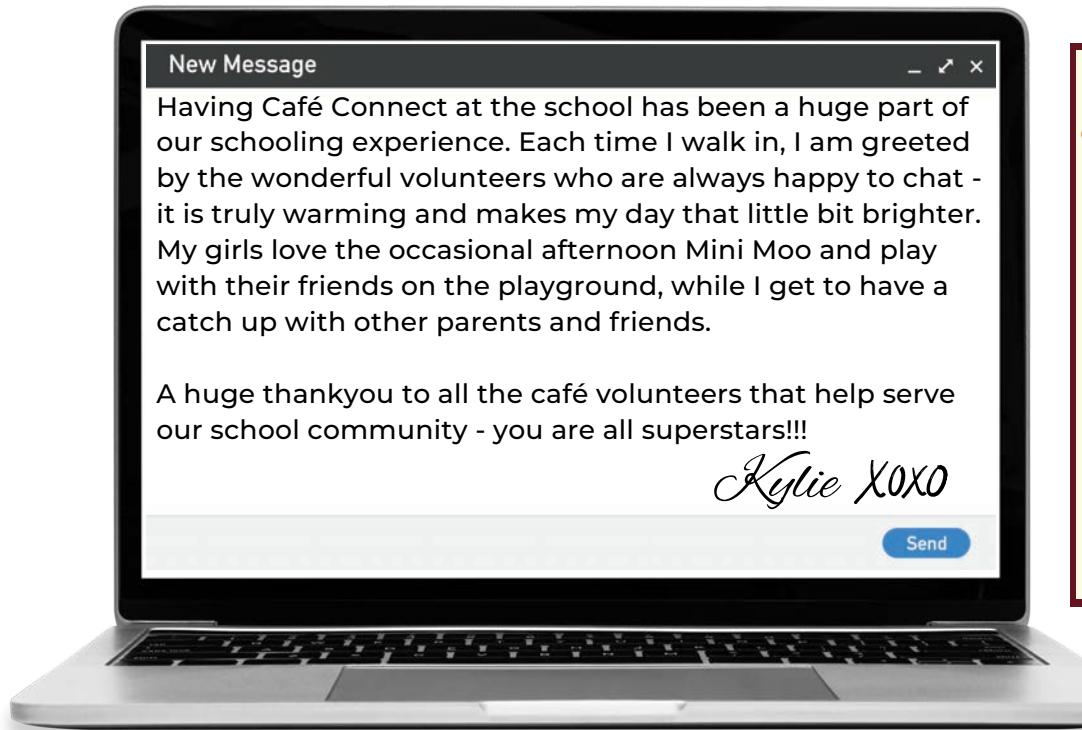


NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK
15-21 MAY 2023
THE CHANGE MAKERS

Café Connect is an amazing small business who offer great quality coffees, lattes, iced milk drinks and food. The wonderful service you receive by their volunteers is outstanding. They go above and beyond to accommodate our needs and we are very grateful to have them close by for delicious treats and great coffees.



Dympna Davies
Front Office Manager
Wynn Vale R-7 School



cafeconnect

OPEN
8 to 11am
2.30 to 4pm
Mon - Fri
School Term Days

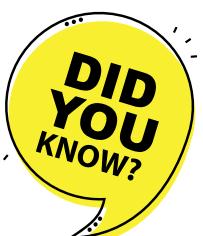
Line in or
takeaway

Hot & Cold Drinks, Toasted Sandwiches & Other Snacks.

Take Away & EFTPOS Available

A place where relationships, friendships and our community can grow whilst sharing the good news of Jesus Christ over a simple cup of coffee

Thank you to all our wonderfull volunteers!!



CAFE CONNECT NEEDS YOU!

**Would you like to help in our cafe?
Join our team today and become a volunteer!**



We are flexible:

- ~morning shifts
- ~afternoon shifts
- ~weekly
- ~fortnightly
- ~casual

Training provided

For more information please see
Robert in Church Office or Pastor Greg

Your time, effort, and presence as a volunteer
will make a world of a difference throughout
the Golden Grove Lutheran Community!

Café Connect is into its fifth year as a volunteer operated business. Since opening in 2019, we have served up more than 15,000 hot and 5500 cold drinks. Even more surprisingly, we have sold more than 4000 novelty biscuits. These face and teacup biscuits are all individually handmade by volunteers in our community.

HOWEVER - Café Connect cannot operate without volunteers!

WE NEED YOU!



If you feel you could help us out and have some time to commit, come on in to Café Connect and let us know.

GGLC

Youth

YOUTH REPORT

BY JOEL SCHILLER
YOUTH COORDINATOR



Opening Games Night



BBQ Volunteers

We are in full swing for youth ministry in 2023!

We kicked it all off with an Opening BBQ and Games night where Ignite flowed into a meal and then into youth. The event, as always, is a great way to start off the year where we are brought all together as a community. Thank you to all the congregation members who assisted with the event.

Ignite (Foundation-Year 5) had a water night and a wheel's night in term 1. The wheels night is a crowd favourite and we had to reschedule it for this year after last year's event was cancelled because of rain. The school and church community has continued to get behind this program and I am keen for what this year holds with the beginning of Messy Church, with the first one on June 16. We are looking for volunteers to assist with this event, but also if you're a family come along and join in on the fun.



Opening BBQ



Wheels Night

Youth (Years 6-12) has started off strongly, we are continuing our 2 weeks on, 1 week off structure with games one week and a normal youth event the following week. We have had a few year 6s from the school attend this year so far, which has been great. Events have included a board game gauntlet, massive water night (combined with another local youth group), and our Where's Next scavenger hunt event. Topics covered include Adam & Eve, Laws, Noah's ark, and a brief look at Acts. These topics, along with drawing them on a whiteboard have deepened our youth's knowledge on biblical events.

Our Night to Remember tradition continued on Maundy Thursday, where we stopped and reflected on the Easter story. This year we started at 5:30pm so all youth could attend. This then flowed into the 7pm service, and afterwards the 10-12s stayed on overnight. Church bingo was played during the Good Friday service where Pastor Greg said the word 'cross' at least 19 times.

We have some great events lined up for the rest of the year, and I look forward to God growing and developing our youth over the rest of the year and beyond.

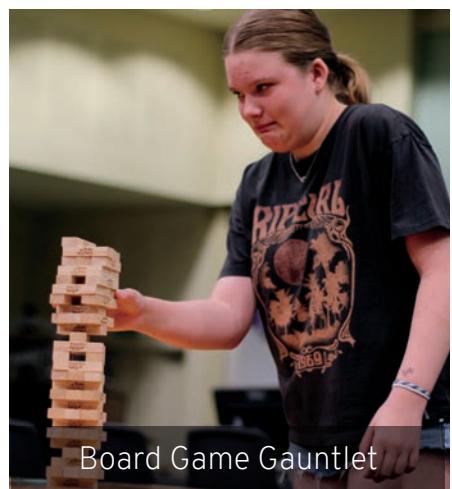


Night to Remember

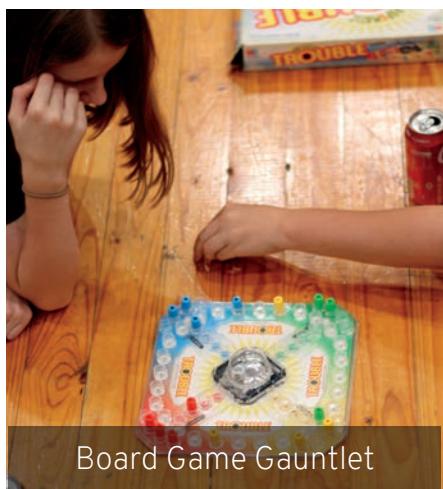


Morning After Night to Remember

“...Pastor Greg said the word ‘cross’ at least 19 times.”



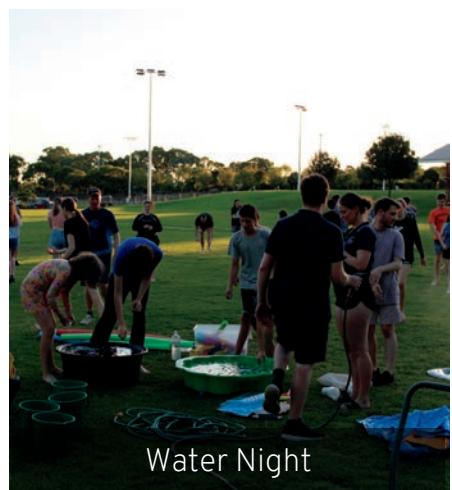
Board Game Gauntlet



Board Game Gauntlet



Bible Study



Water Night



Water Night



Tie Dye Night

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING IN OUR COMMUNITY?



GGLPS Staff Installation & Blessing ~ February



Manse Working Bee ~ February



Cake Stall At GGLPS Sports Day ~ March



Easter Services ~ April



TIGHT LINES

GOLDEN GROVE AMATEUR FISHING

Mission Statement: Giving all people opportunities to fish in a Christ centred environment

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – Sunday 5th February

Following tabling of reports from the President and Treasurer the following members were re-elected unopposed to the Committee this year:

President – Graeme Hoklas

Vice President – Peter Van Loggem

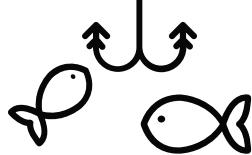
Secretary – Christine McCulloch

Treasurer – Chris Simanis

Other Committee Members – Ian Zimmermann, Geoff Hill, Peter Van Loggem, Keith Scott and Mark Caldicott.

Annual Membership:

Seniors remains at \$20 Juniors (under 16 yrs) \$5

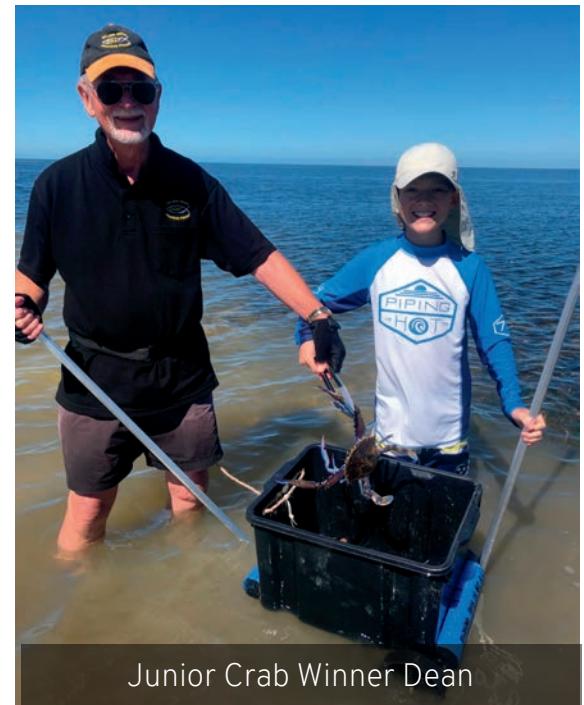


EVENTS PROGRAM for 2023

New to the program this year are Stansbury for the annual camp and Wallaroo North for the midyear trip – both on Yorke Peninsula. Due to the River Murray flood a river trip has been delayed to August at Ramco. The club revisits Ardrossan and Port Noarlunga Jetties. The annual cockling trip to Goolwa was cancelled due to closure following evidence of e.Coli bacteria. Cockling has since been reopened.



Crabbers at Webb Beach



Junior Crab Winner Dean



Cooked Crabs

PROGRAM of EVENTS -

5th June (Monday) -

Tackle Night 7.30pm at GGLPS

30th June– 3rd July (Fri-Mon) –

Wallaroo North Beach Holiday Park

12th August (Saturday) –

Ramco Point (River Murray) 10am-4pm

10th September (Sunday) -

West Lakes 9am–2pm

20th – 22nd October (Fri-Sun) –

Annual Camp at Stansbury Caravan Park

29th October (Sunday) -

Community Fete 11am at GGLC/GGLPS

18th November (Saturday) –

Presentation Night at GGLC 7pm

Note: Events may be subject to change.

CRABBING AT WEBB BEACH – Saturday 18th February

The weather for crabbing was perfect for the 44 crabbers attending GGAF's first outdoor event of the year. Blue Swimmer Crabs were more plentiful than the previous 2 years with a total of 98 legal crabs raked by those who ventured out. The biggest haul of 16 was captured by Lou Goegan followed by Graeme Hoklas with 13. Senior winners were Graeme with the largest male crab and Roger Glaetzer with the largest female crab. Junior winner was Dean Sweeney. All crabs were pooled for 2 cook ups in Zimmo's gas copper. All present participated in eating these crustacean delicacies. Thanks to Zimmo and Ruth for also preparing a nibbles platter and watermelon for all to enjoy.

PORT NOARLUNGA JETTY – Saturday 4th March

Port Noarlunga was the new venue due to the cockling ban at Goolwa. 32 people attended on an excellent day weatherwise. The jetty was very popular and all were eager to catch a few of the hundreds of garfish which were present for most of the day. The gar however were not hungry and only a few were inquisitive enough to bite. Overall 23 legal fish were caught by GGAF members – a mixture of garfish, leatherjackets, king george whiting, tommy ruff and wrasse. Senior winners were Bev Murdock and Peter Van Loggem who both caught leather jackets with identical weights of 370gms. Bev caught the most fish with 7. Junior winner was Letty Sweeney with a 230gm leather jacket. 11 members stayed back for a meal at the Port Noarlunga Hotel.



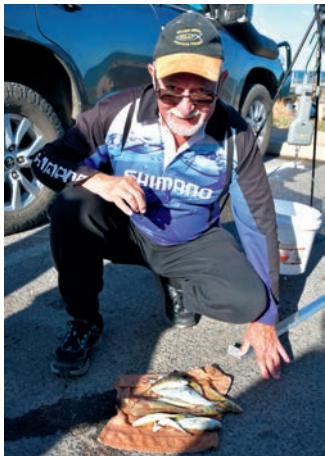
Fishers at Port Noarlunga



Bev with Leather Jacket Double Header



Ray with King George Whiting at Noarlunga Jetty



Chris with Winning Ardrossan Catch

ARDROSSAN JETTY – Sunday 2nd April

Perfect jetty fishing weather greeted 21 fishers to Ardrossan. 28 legal fish were caught including tommy ruff, trumpeter, red mullet, weedy whiting and chow. Senior winner was Chris Simanis with a 150gm red mullet included in his total catch of 16 fish. Graeme Hoklas landed catch of the day - a 56cm 1.8kg dusky morwong – which however could not be counted for competition as it was caught in a crab net and not by hook. Graeme also caught 2 squid. Blue swimmer crabs were scarce and only 2 legal crabs were netted.



Graeme with Dusky Morwong at Ardrossan

WAITPINGA BEACH – Saturday 6th May

Whilst the weather outlook was not promising the 18 fishers attending only had to contend with 1 shower for the day which included some light hail. On a successful day 34 legal fish were caught including salmon, salmon trout, mullet and tommy ruff with total weight of 8.5 kg. Lou Goegan was the Senior Winner with a 2.04 kg salmon (58.5cm). Chris Simanis landed 15 fish followed by Lou with 12. A number of members later dined at the Victor Hotel at Victor Harbor.



Chris Waitpinga Catch



Lou with Waitpinga
Winning Salmon

Website:

[https://www.gglc.org.au/church/
index.php/ministries/ggaf](https://www.gglc.org.au/church/index.php/ministries/ggaf)

Enquiries to

**Graeme Hoklas 0419 828 091 or
hoklasgr@gmail.com**



pinq-ponq-a-thon

serve up
some justice.

August 18 - 19, 2023



Growing with God in a Loving Community

“I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.” John 15:5