

WESLEY NEWS



JULY DIARY DATES

-
- Sunday 1st at 10.00 am**
Rev Alex Rodgers
TARTAN SUNDAY
PENTECOST 6
- Sunday 8th at 10.00 am**
Rev Alex Rodgers &
Rev Mac Macdonald
Holy Communion
PENTECOST 7
- Wednesday 11th, 12 noon**
Alma Hotel
COME-TO-LUNCH
- Thursday 12th at 2.00pm**
CHURCH COUNCIL
- Sunday 15th at 10.00 am**
Rev Alex Rodgers
PENTECOST 8
- Wednesday 18th July, 2.00pm**
WINTER/SPRING
CONCERT
- Sunday 22nd at 10.00 am**
Rev Alex Rodgers
PENTECOST 9
- Friday 27th - Saturday 28th**
PEDAL PRIX TEAM VISIT
- Sunday 29th at 10.00 am**
Rev Alex Rodgers
PENTECOST 10

MUSIC @ WESLEY

Choir Practice
Wednesday night, 7.30pm

ARTS @ WESLEY

Patchworkers & Quilters
Monday morning
Contact Pat, 8331 9816

WESLEY IS HOME TO

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

A MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER

Ministerial Meanderings

A hundred years ago this month the Australian Army in France were very much involved in the events that brought the war to an end a few months later. A Great German offensive against the British Army which nearly defeated them had petered out and the Germans did not have the strength to keep attacking. From July, British and Empire forces, French and American troops began to slowly but surely force the Germans back toward Germany.

General Sir John Monash was appointed commander of all Australian Forces in France – the first Australian born soldier to command an Australian force – and he was in great part the initiator of the tactics that all allied forces would use from that time on. However the Battalions of the 5 Australian Divisions in France which should have contained a thousand men at a full complement were down to a few hundred. There were few replacements from Australia and Prime Minister Billy Hughes’s attempts to introduce conscription through 2 referendums failed dramatically so it was not likely that this lack of recruit would change.

In September 1918, the decision was made to amalgamate some of the smaller Battalions. The ordinary diggers were not happy with this, and in their terms, they ‘went on strike’. Soldiers kept everything in their battalions going but they refused to obey the order to go ‘on parade’ the official mustering of the Battalion to go on active service.

To the senior officers this was purely and simply an act of mutiny. Earlier in the war the French Army mutinied and when the mutiny was over the ringleaders were executed. The Australian Army held the death penalty for mutiny and many argued that it should be applied. But Monash and the Australian government felt that it was too extreme a punishment, so no troops were executed. The mutiny was soon over and the amalgamations went ahead, and the Australians were in the vanguard of the fighting till the end of the war.

It has always struck me as very enlightened of the Australians not to execute their men like the other armies did. The Diggers felt that they were being employed by the army to fight the war, in the same way they might be employed as a miner or a bank clerk back home. They felt that they had ‘rights’ as volunteers and that if they were not happy with something they could complain and in extreme cases withdraw their labour. In many ways it was this pride in being different that made the Australian soldier so effective in war.

Blessings
From Alex

Wesley Uniting Church
Kent Town



TARTAN SUNDAY HISTORY

Three million Australians are either Scottish or of Scottish descent. **International Tartan Day in Australia** is celebrated on a local basis in most states on **July 1**, the **anniversary of the Repeal Proclamation of 1782, annulling the Act of Proscription of 1747**, which had made wearing tartan an offense punishable with up to seven years' transportation. According to Scottish House secretary Moyna Scotland, the tendency to disguise Scottish associations was mirrored in Australia: 'Scots did what they were told to do when they came to Australia, assimilate and integrate and they almost disappeared', and consequently one aim of Tartan Day is to help Australians reconnect with their Scottish ancestry. A tartan revival started in 1822, and now many of the Australian States as well as the Commonwealth of Australia itself have their own tartans. [In February 2018, the South Australian Government officially adopted a **State Tartan for South Australia** (see photo)].



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tartan_Day#Australia
https://www.scottishtartans.co.uk/Act_of_Proscription_1746_-_The_Tartan_Ban_-_Fact_or_Myth.pdf

TARTAN SUNDAY (cont:)

SCOTLAND In 1989 the Scottish Australian Heritage Council began to encourage Australians to wear tartan on July 1, when more than half a million Australians gather for a celebration of Scottish heritage, combining nostalgia with Australian citizenship ceremonies, and fund-raising for charitable causes such as drought assistance. Australians without a family tartan are invited to wear the Royal Stewart tartan or the military tartan of the Black Watch.

Since 2001, the Scottish Australian Heritage Council and Australian branch of the Scottish National Party have petitioned Canberra for federal recognition of International Tartan Day to celebrate the Scottish contribution to Australian history.

The Act of Proscription, passed in 1746 following the defeat of the Jacobites at the battle of Culloden in April 1745, was *'An act for the more effectual disarming the highlands of Scotland; and for the more effectual securing the peace of the said highlands; and for restraining the use of the highland dress.'* It banned the wearing of Highland Dress except by the military. It didn't ban tartan cloth per se but, because the Highlander was forced into Lowland Dress, the everyday link with tartan was irrevocably severed which resulted in a later perception that tartan itself was banned.

WINTER/SPRING 2018 CONCERT SERIES

The first of our popular series of concerts will be held on **Wednesday, 18th July 2017 at 2.00 pm**,

and features saxophonist, Jaime Grech and organist, Andrew Ampt. Tickets are available at the door for \$15. Afternoon Tea will be available in the Mark Symons hall following the concert.



COME-TO-LUNCH

The next **Come-to-Lunch** will be held at the **Alma Hotel** on **Wednesday, 11th July at 12 noon**. Please let **Jenny Stewart** know if you plan to be there.

WATTLE RACING PEDAL PRIX VISIT

The **'Wattle Racing'** pedal prix team will be staying in our halls again at the end of the month. The June visit was very successful. A group of 27 young people came for the races which were held at Victoria Park. The girls' team won, and in a very close finish, the number 1 boys' team managed to cross the finish line 3 seconds ahead of the second placed team. They will stay in the halls on **Friday 27th July** and **Saturday 28th July**. Members of the congregation are invited to share a barbecue tea with them on the Saturday night, as we did last time.



NEWS OF OUR PEOPLE

Johanna & Wayne Myers' beautiful baby daughter was delivered safely by caesarean section on the 5th June. They have named her **Waylee Ruby Myers**. Juan, Nakiah and Isabella are delighted to have a new little sister.



We were pleased to see **Beryl Kennett** at Church again recently and looking so much better. We had missed her.

In July, **Deborah White** will be travelling to Italy where she has a small villa in Umbria. Deborah spends a few months there each year and enjoys attending the many music festivals held at this time of the year. **Pam & David George** have headed up north for a few months caravanning. **Penny Maynard** enjoyed her holiday in Switzerland and Amsterdam. A highlight of her trip was a visit to Anne Frank House. **Catharina & Robert Corbett** drove to Melbourne recently, taking the driving in turns and resting when needed. The main purpose of the visit was to see a new great granddaughter. (They now have five great grandchildren, two in England, one in Melbourne and two in Adelaide). Robert saw his cousins and together they saw their son and family. Catharina really enjoyed catching up with two school friends, sisters, with whom she went to school in the Netherlands from 1939-1945. They migrated to Australia in 1950 with their parents. Catharina came in 1959 to marry Robert and the friends and parents came to the wedding. **Penelope Hackett-Jones** is enjoying some very hot weather in Athens, Greece. She is about to meet her daughter Mary with the 2 youngest grandchildren, Arthur (3) and Frederick (1). Penelope reports that Athens is full and that it is hugely difficult to get a hotel room because American and Chinese families visit every year and book whole hotels from one summer to the next. Next, they are going to the island of Kefalonia, now considered the home of Odysseus, rather than Ithaca. Apparently Ithaca was attached to Kefalonia and broke off during an earthquake in about 1000 A.D. Penny hopes there isn't another earthquake while they are there!

It was with deep regret that we received the sad news that **Frank Bryant** passed away after a protracted illness. His wife **Naomi** has also been ill. Our thoughts and prayers are with her at this very difficult time. Frank and Naomi have formerly been very active members of this Church.

JUST A THOUGHT

Life is like riding a bicycle; to keep your balance you must keep moving.

Albert Einstein

CONTACTS

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