

# ANZAC DAY PICNIC

## When?

10.30 am Wednesday, 25 April 2018

## Where?

Auburn Community Picnic Area Auburn. (Entry: Killeen Street, Auburn)

## What is happening?

Games, lunch, singing and time to catch up

## What to bring?

Salads, desserts, and an appetite for fellowship

## What is provided?

Sausage sizzle, coffee, tea and games

Organised by Eastside church of Christ

**Contact: Peter Mandalidis 0439 877 643 or Grant McFarland 0435 840 886**

## Worship Roster April 2018

Date	Worship Leader	Prayer	Lord's Supper	Scriptures	Adult Class	Morning Tea
1st	Bruce Bartley	Nick Pearce	John Stone	Jacque Krause	Stuart Penhall	Helen Lilley
8th	David Mowday	Scott Brown	John Drennan	Jacque Krause	Stuart Penhall	Sharon Upton
15th	Dan Mowday	Phil Drennan	Greg Hastings	Jacque Krause	Special Service	Joy Mowday
22th	Kevin Brown	Greg Hastings	Andrew Hastings	Jacque Krause	Andrew Hastings	Mel Mowday
29	Dan Mowday	John Stone	Scott Brown	Sebastian Krause	Stuart Penhall	High Tea

### Meeting at Lisarow Seven Day Adventist Building

Sunday worship 9:30-10:30 am

Sunday classes 10:30-11:00

Morning Tea 11:00—12:00

**Elders:** John Drennan - 0431 235 212  
David Mowday - 0411 284 685  
Stuart Penhall - 0417 465 867

**Email** enquiries@gosfordchurchofchrist.org.au

**Internet** www.gosfordchurchofchrist.org.au

**Mail** PO Box 552, GOSFORD NSW 2250



# The Beacon

A weekly newsletter of the



25th March 2018

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## THE REASON WHY

Helen of Troy is sometimes described as "the face that launched a 1000 ships" referring to the war her relationship with Paris of Troy began. While the story is known as a dramatic love epic, it also serves to illustrate just how great the consequences of one action can be. Indeed it is only in this "aftermath" that we come to see the significance of the often apparently inconsequential event which caused it.

*6 The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. 7 They brought the donkey and the colt, placed their cloaks on them, and Jesus sat on them. 8 A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. 9 The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Hosanna in the highest!" Matt 21:6-9*

Sometime in the spring of 29 AD Jesus, having entered Jerusalem along with 1000's of other pilgrims for the Passover feast. Jesus asked his disciples to get a donkey for him. This act, insignificant in itself, began a chain reaction which would lead to an unimaginable triumph at an equally unimaginable cost.

The triumph would be salvation: the forgiveness of sins for eternal life and the cost would be the death on the cross of Jesus. As terrible as such a cost is, it was only the beginning of the sacrifices needed to make this salvation available to the world. Helen's relationship with Paris might have started a war but Jesus' ride into Jerusalem on a donkey produced a result which caused "1000" ships to pale into insignificance.

The question can then be reasonably asked, what made him do it? He knew what he was doing and he knew what it would cause. He had known this all along and his awareness extended beyond his own sacrifice to the certain knowledge that those whom he loved would also have to suffer the same fate, sometimes exactly the same fate, as he would.

So what made him do it? It would be easy to simply say that it was love but that is too general to allow us to appreciate Jesus motives. Why did Jesus get on that donkey?

**Obedience** – When we read OT prophecies we see them and their fulfilment as confirmation of the authority and authenticity of the Scriptures, but when Jesus read the same prophecies he was reading

### Last Week

**Attendance:** 61

**Giving:** \$1,863.70

**YTD Av:** \$1,447.93

**Budget:** \$1,500.00

about himself. Some believe that Jesus simply had all the details of his task "down loaded" into his head at some point but it is more than likely that he "learned" about what God expected of him from the very "messianic" Scriptures we hold so dear. That he was prepared to follow them to the letter is testimony to his willingness to obey God even to the point of death. It was obedience to God that caused Jesus to get on that donkey.

**Courage** – As ANZAC day approaches we are reminded of the courage and heroism of those who have fought and, in many cases died for our country. One of the interesting aspects of their bravery is that it is almost always associated with the chance of survival. Solders going "over the top" in WW1 knew that death was likely but still believed that there was a chance they would survive. Jesus courage transcends such bravery as he knew there was no chance of survival, no possibility that a "miracle" would occur. It was a very special kind of courage which caused Jesus to get on that donkey.

**Fear** – You might think that courage would exclude fear but this is not the case. People can be brave in spite of their fear and Jesus was no exception. Where Jesus was exceptional is in the fact that his fears compelled him to act rather than inclining him not too. To us eternal separation from God is a concept which we cannot really comprehend. Going to hell is a terrible thought, but the best we can do is to associate it with the bad things that happen here on earth. Jesus knew better, he knew just what "being lost" meant and he knew just what Satan is really like. He was "afraid" for us and that fear put him on that donkey as surely as did anything else.

When these and similar motivations are considered, it is not all that difficult to see why Jesus was prepared to get onto the donkey and ride into Jerusalem. The apparently rapturous reception he received did not alter the reality of what was coming. Jesus would need all the obedience, courage and fear he could muster in the coming days so that what he had so willingly begun would come to the desired conclusion – his death on the cross bearing the weight of our sins.

Stuart

### This Week in Prayer

Please pray for the following in your private prayer time. Some are petitions and some are an offer of thanks.

- **Lyn Kendall** who was back in St Vincent's last week due to nose bleeds which the blood thinning agent she is taking proved very difficult to stop.
- **Steven Dines** continues to experience the side effects of the on going treatment of his cancer. This along with the fact that he is still unable to eat is making life difficult indeed for both Steve and the whole family, especially Annette.
- **Linus Kummer** seems to be only a few weeks away from his operation on April 18th. Please also continue to keep the rest of Linus and Margaret's family in your prayers as they deal with several health issues.
- **Colleen Bartley** remains very restricted in what she can and cannot do as she continues to recover.
- **Winston Smith's family** are mourning the loss of Winston after a long battle with cancer. Winston's funeral service was held last Tuesday.

### Daylight Saving Ends

Next Sunday the clocks go back an hour giving us an extra hour to get ready to come to worship! Please don't forget to adjust your clocks.

### Rock For Brain

Rock for Brain is a Music Trivia event being hosted by Andrew Kilpatrick on Saturday April 14th at Woodbury Community centre from 2pm—4pm. All proceeds will go to Brain Injury Australia. Tickets are \$5.00 and can be purchased from Ticketebo. See Andrew for further details.

### ANZAC Day Picnic

ANZAC day is only a few weeks away and this year the annual picnic will be hosted by Eastside congregation. Please see the back page for further details.

### Worship Roster for the second quarter, April–June

Please let Stuart know if you will be away in the April—June period as he is constructing the roster at present.

### Thursday Morning Class

The class has decided to continue meeting in the Community Centre as the trial period has proven successful. Thankyou to all those who have given me feedback on this issue.

### The "Great Race"

Andrew Hastings has had a number of people volunteer to assist with this youth activity however he is still in need of additional assistance especially with the various challenges which make up the activity. If you can help please let Andrew know.

### Travelling

Helen Lilley is on holidays up in Queensland and will return tomorrow . David, and Joy, Stuart and Lyn will be travelling up to the APEDS conference in Brisbane tomorrow. They will all be back next Friday.

## Coming Events at Gosford & Beyond

Please let David, John or Stuart know of any activities conducted by or in which the congregation can participate.

25th March—High Tea.

27th –29th March—Elders and Deacons Seminar.

April 18th— "Rock for Brain" Trivia afternoon

April 18th—"The Great Race" youth event.

April 25th—ANZAC Day picnic

May 25th—May 27th—Camp Soul at Southwest.