

Toorak Uniting Church

Update 16 September 2018

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www.toorakuc.org.au

Phone: 9829 0300
Sunday services 9am & 10.15am

Still Thinking -- Creativity— Christopher Page

Creativity



I recall a conversation I had some years ago with a church Office Manager on the topic of Creativity. “*This is my creativity,*” she said, “*I try to I run the office and complete the task I have to do each day creatively.*” She was right. We can often have too narrow a view of creativity when we see it as expressed exclusively through the Arts. But to be creative is to draw from

the well of imagination, inspiration and innovation that is within each of us.

I like what Steve Jobs, the co-founder and late CEO of Apple said about creativity; *Creativity is just connecting things. When you ask creative people how they did something, they feel a little guilty because they didn't really do it, they just saw something. It seemed obvious to them after a while. That's because they were able to connect experiences they've had and synthesize new things.*

The ability to make connections being those “things” in our lives that are not presently seen as connected is creativity. New ideas, innovations or expressive works of art most often come from what is known and move toward what is not known. Albert Einstein said: “*The secret to creativity is knowing how to hide your sources.*” That is because we all stand on the shoulders of others. Truly creative people have no difficulty acknowledging the contribution others have made in their own creative process.

Most important is to see our everyday life as the place where we express our creativity. This may be done through writing, painting, building or gardening. But it is also seen in our problem solving, conversations with friends and strangers, doing the routine and at times monotonous chores around the house. In the 1990's Edward de Bono wrote in his book *Serious Creativity* that;

Creativity is a great motivator because it makes people interested in what they are doing. Creativity gives hope that there can be a worthwhile idea. Creativity gives the possibility of some sort of achievement to everyone. Creativity makes life more fun and more interesting.

While creativity is vital in daily life there are at least four obstacles that get in the way of every day creativity they are:

Perfectionism – this is not a virtue but a delusion. If we are fearful of getting it wrong, that will get in the way of creativity.

Tidyism – Creativity is frequently messy. The creation of the earth, we know through its evolutionary history, had plenty of false starts and was/is very messy.

Shyness – Creativity does call us out of our comfort zone. And that can be

challenging. But have you ever felt the exhilaration of doing something that took some courage? I have found this quote from Piero Ferrucci helpful: *Eliminate something superfluous from your life; break a habit; do something that makes you feel insecure; carry out an action with complete attention and intensity, as if it were your last.*

Busyness – I'm too busy to be creative! Remember it is not something you do it is something you are!

We are born as creative beings. This is possibility the *Imago Dei*, the Image of God the creator that is formed in each of us. So no excuses, live life creatively!

Christopher

Kinross Arts Centre - Message of Thanks and Farewell from Lyndel

As many of you know I am moving on to a new position as Director of Duldig Museum where I will lead a specialist team. This is a house museum with a collection of sculpture and ceramics and reflects the life of Karl and Slawa Duldig who emigrated from Austria to Australia in the 1940s. I have found my time working at Kinross Arts Centre very rewarding and enriching. Together with UAT, Rev Chris Page, Kinross Volunteers and many individual congregation members we have delivered some great events, exhibitions and outreach work. Highlights have been the 64th Blake Prize in 2017, the Many Houses, One Village Community Ceramic Project; Scottish Dance Fundraiser; boutique concerts, art excursions and community exhibitions such as "Women of Spirit". Thank you for the interest, friendship, ideas and support you have given the Centre during my time as Manager. It has been a privilege to bring arts, hospitality and spirituality together in a public realm for thousands of visitors and I commend this work into the future. I remain a part of the TUC and Kinross community and I look forward very much to staying in touch.

Warmest wishes, Lyndel.

In our thoughts and prayers

Barbara McKinnon, recovering with a broken leg.

Noel Waite, following the death of her husband, Bruce Gandy, who was Treasurer of Kinross for many years.

Reading the Bible in the 21st Century

In various ways, Jesus communicated the Kingdom of God is present in the here and now. His first words were "The time has come; the kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!" (Mk. 1:15) There is a new kingdom and a new realm of time and space revealed. There is a radical paradigm change in how we engage and perceive life. It is the Eternal Now of the Kingdom of God.

Thursdays 7:30–9:00pm in **Kinross House**. All welcome.
Sep. 07, 14, 21 and Oct. 12, 19, 26. (No cost.)



MORNING GROUP 10am Thu. 20th: "Wood, Paint, Glass & Stone: To the Glory of God in faraway places". Illustrated talk by Christine & Garry Brown. All Welcome.

Chris is on leave for the next two Sundays. During that time Rev John Edwards will lead both 9am and 10:15am worship and is available for pastoral care.



Retreat: Exploring our Inner Landscape

The Retreat will centre on Parker Palmer's approach in a Contemplative Circle, providing space for reflection, meditation, silence, activities, quiet and conversation.

At The Centre for Ecology & Spirituality

183 Burns Rd Glenburn Vic 3717

(Burns Rd is 2km past Glenburn on the right off the Melba Hwy)

9:30am Sat. October 20 – 3pm Sun. October 21

Cost is \$250 (Sat. only \$80)

Payments through WellSpring: 9885 0277

Incl. meals, materials, accomm. in modern rooms, linen, towels. Bring comfortable clothes & walking shoes.

Enq: Chris P. cpage@netspace.net.au / 0417506338

Kinross Cafe Update

The Sugar Bear



Bear

catering

group are set to commence in the week starting September 24th 2018. Richard Kersley and Ashley De'Hartman and their team will be on site setting up very soon. I know everyone is looking forward to having coffee and conversation in the Cafe once again! The Sugar Bears will keep us informed of details.

Diary Dates

Tue	18 Sep	4.30pm	Management Team meeting	Office Annex
Thu	20 Sep	10.00am	Morning Group—C & G Brown	Faichney Rm
Thu	20 Sep	7.30pm	Reading the Bible in 21st Century	Kinross
Sat	22 Sep	11.00am	Memorial Service for Robin Boyd	Wesley Uniting
Thu	27 Sep	7.30pm	Church Council	Faichney Rm
Fri	28 Sep		OFFICE CLOSED for PUBLIC HOLIDAY	

Welcome to Toorak Uniting Church

We welcome all people irrespective of race, religion, political views, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, or age. Wherever you are on your faith journey, wherever you have come from and wherever you are going to; whatever you believe, whatever you do not believe, you are welcome here at Toorak Uniting Church.

Please come and join us after the service for fellowship and a cup of tea or coffee.

Toorak Uniting Church has been a proud member of the Toorak Ecumenical Movement since signing the Ecumenical Agreement in 1980. We pray for our partner churches: St Peter's Roman Catholic Church, St John's Anglican Church and the Swedish Church.

Toorak Uniting Church, Sunday 21 October 2018, 2:00pm

Illustrious Women from Around the World

French composer Nadia Boulanger was notable for having taught and influenced many of the leading composers and musicians of the 20th century such as Aaron Copland, Astor Piazzolla, Virgil Thomson, and Daniel Barenboim. Boulanger taught in the most famous institutions around the world. Her longest stint teaching was from her apartment in Paris until her death at the age of 92.

Grammy award-winner Libby Larsen is one of America's most performed living composers. With over 500 works spanning virtually every genre from vocal and chamber music to massive orchestral works and over 15 operas, she is constantly sought after for commissions and premieres by major artists, ensembles, and orchestras around the world. She is a vigorous, articulate advocate for the music and musicians of our time.

Join us with organist Elizabeth-Anne Nixon for a program dedicated to five illustrious women composers including Nadia Boulanger and Libby Larsen. Ms Nixon is Director of Music at St George's Anglican Church, Malvern. After completing her Bachelor of Music degree in Brisbane, she undertook extended studies with John



Elizabeth-Anne Nixon

O'Donnell (Melbourne) and Lorenzo Ghielmi (Italy), Daniel Roth (France) and David Sanger (England). Elizabeth-Anne has divided her time principally between teaching, accompanying and organ performance.

Tickets at the door:

\$20 / \$15 (student) / U18 free

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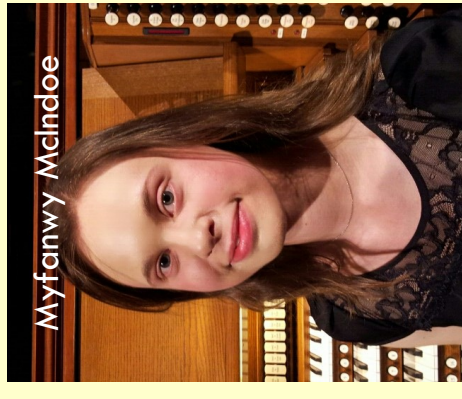
Train to Heyington Stn (Glen Waverley line) **Tram** 58 to Stop 136

Toorak Uniting Church, Sunday 11 November 2018, 2:00pm

Notable women of the keyboard

Clara Schumann was considered one of the most distinguished pianists of her time. As a composer, she created a substantial body of work. She wrote: "composing gives me great pleasure... there is nothing that surpasses the joy of creation, if only because through it one wins hours of self-forgetfulness, when one lives in a world of sound".

Myfanwy McIndoe will perform a program with Marian melodies* used in compositions by J.S. Bach and Nicolas de Grigny, as well keyboard works by notable female composers. McIndoe completed her undergraduate studies at The University of Melbourne, studying organ with Douglas Lawrence and harpsichord with Elizabeth Anderson. In 2015, she gained her Master in Organ Performance with distinction at the Conservatorium of Music Würzburg, Germany with Prof. Christopher Bossert, as well as an exchange program to the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna, where she studied organ with Prof Wolfgang Capek. Myfanwy is currently Director of Music at St Patrick's and the Holy Angel and St John Vianney's Mentone-Parkdale.



Myfanwy McIndoe

*Marian hymns are used in services, commonly in Christian traditions. The Magnificat is one of the eight most ancient Christian hymns.

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