

Spicer

Matters



February 2016

From Judi



Adelaide has recently been inundated with lycra. Professional and enthusiastic amateur bike riders have taken to the streets of Adelaide during the Tour Downunder. I have watched some interviews with stage winners. They have all credited their team mates with helping them win. As well as their team mates who ride with them, there is a whole group of people working behind the scenes keeping the bikes and their bodies in optimal condition.

Then there are the techies, the local communities and all the other people working together – each using their own skills to make this important event in the South Australian calendar such a success.

This reminds me a bit of the church. At Spicer, we are involved in many mission activities as well as worship, pastoral care, children's and youth ministry, bible study and fellowship activities. These things happen because members of Spicer contribute their gifts and talents, their time, energy and financial resources. Each person contributes in their own unique way – and the contribution of everybody is important and valued. I would love to hear from you if you are able to be involved in any area of Spicer's life that may be new to you.

2016 is now well underway. I look forward to our time together – worshipping God, caring for each other, celebrating life in all its fullness and sharing God's love with the community.

Blessings

Judi



RAD Update

2016 has started with a surprise that we weren't counting on!

Late last year white ants were found in the Mark room in several locations in the floor and cupboards.

On close inspection our little friends caused considerable damage to the jarrah floor in at least two locations we know of at the time of writing this article.

More will be revealed when the carpet is removed and the whole floor area can be inspected.

As a result of the initial discovery we commissioned the services of a Jims Pest Control who carried out a thorough inspection of the site.

The good news is no other evidence of white ant activity was found.

An extensive environmentally friendly baiting system in the affected room and around the entire perimeter of the buildings was installed.

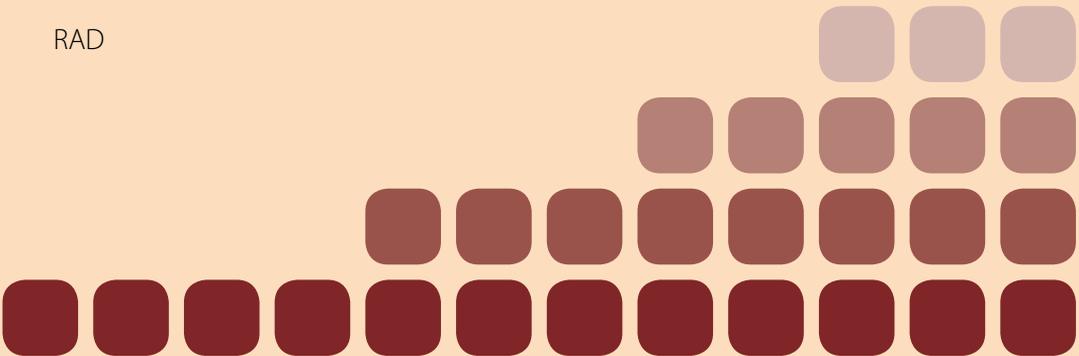
The treatment was effective and the repairs are scheduled to be completed by Friday 29th of January.

Thank you to Malcolm Germein for all the work he has done in obtaining advice and quotes, and for coordinating the repairs in such a timely manner to eliminate any disruption to Spicer and hirer activities.

Let's hope this is the last of any significant unplanned expenditure for the year!

Brenton Niven

RAD





Spicer Community Lunch

The Community Lunch Held on December 17

This was our usual monthly lunch combined with Christmas festivities. The unusual feature was the weather of 40 degree heat. The menu reflected the spirit of Christmas – mince pies, rich tortes, roast chicken etc, all supplied by the participants. In addition, table decorations featured bon bons and party hats supplied by Margaret Prescott. The meal was made more entertaining by the fact that each participant wore the image of a famous person on their back, also provided by Margaret Prescott, and their task was to guess the name of that identity by asking their neighbour for clues, with the neighbour's response being restricted to 'yes or no'.

The devotions were led by Jane Horgan who read from a special Advent Book. Apparently, around 750 BC the prophet Micah foretold the birth in Bethlehem of the Messiah. It is indeed faith enhancing that this prophecy, made so long before the event, turned out to be so accurate.

Following the lunch we retired to the air conditioned Meeting Room to hear and view a presentation by Meriel, entitled 'Share Christmas'. This dealt with the

Christmas Appeal of 'Act for Peace', the international aid agency of the National Council of Churches in Australia, sponsors of the 'Christmas Bowl'.

Much of their aid is directed to serving 200,000 refugees from South Sudan who have fled to Ethiopia, which is herself one of the world's poorest countries. The obvious need is for clean water and soap which dramatically reduces the risk of spreading disease such as hepatitis. For only \$30, 25 families can be provided with soap, while \$75 pays the monthly salary of a Hygiene Promoter. And \$285 provides a toilet for a refugee community, thus preventing disease at its source.

We were presented with useful information on ways to support the Christmas Bowl appeal: hand out 'giving envelopes' to the Congregation; hold a special fund raising event; organise an ecumenical Carol Service. It was gratifying to learn that over 100,000 Christians have participated in these ways.

The meeting ended with the singing of carols accompanied by Ann Overall and a light hearted game of Charades in which two competing teams silently acted out Christmas songs and carols.



Carols in the Amphitheatre

Carols in the Amphitheatre is one of our church's Christmas gifts to God. It's also our gift to the community because it involves sharing the story of how God breaks through to a world in need of good news.

The last Sunday before Christmas saw a couple of hundred people gather at dusk in the amphitheatre at Dunstone Grove to hear the good news through stories, songs, scripture, some acting and even a quiz. We heartily sang some favourite carols to the accompaniment provided by Enfield Brass and our own band. Kids dressed as angels and shepherds played out the story of the first Christmas – the Nativity – and plenty of photos were taken. Our guest soloist, Erin McKeller, entertained us with a couple of beautiful songs and Judi, our Minister, told us a story about another Nativity play when the main actor fell asleep!

The weather was beaut and there was plenty to eat and drink from the free barbeque. Thanks to all who participated and made the gift happen.





Church Council

It was a great joy for Church Council (CC) 2015 to have so many mission projects.

- Playgroup has been a Spicer mission since the early '90's. We were blessed with the leadership that Katrina Johnson was able to provide in 2014, but when she was no longer able to lead we thought that we might have to close the Playgroup. But we were greatly fortunate when Margaret Just agreed to give it a go, and has stayed on. Judi's regular report on Playgroup is that it is "going gangbusters". CC is grateful to Margaret with her energy and creativity in making Playgroup so successful and are pleased that she is able to continue in 2016.
- The new mission initiative which was so enthusiastically embraced by so many at Spicer was the soup making for the Adelaide Day Centre. During the colder months a large group met once a month on a Monday night and each time made about 30 litres of soup. Thanks to Carmen for coordinating the making and then delivering, and thanks to the many at Spicer who donated veg and other ingredients, chopped and stirred on the night, and packaged and delivered to the ADC. And thanks to those who were able to help put together Christmas hampers.
- Messy Church continues to grow, and in this increasingly secular world is such a vital link into the "non churched" community to spread the Good News. Thanks to all who volunteer to help with the craft, the story and the tea.
- Judi is the support person for the East Adelaide Primary School (EAPS) pastoral support officer, and this vital connection allowed us to donate to food hampers for the needy at that school. Judi then spent a very long day sharing the Christmas message to a large number of the children at

the school. Forging a relationship with EAPS has been an aim for CC for a considerable number of years.

- Carols in the Amphitheatre is a massive undertaking, and with so many unfamiliar faces at the 2015 performance can also be counted as a great success in mission. We look forward to providing the other great service of spreading the Word with Easter Sights and Sounds in 2016.
- Early last year we put on a Meet the Neighbours BBQ, and invited all the people who live in "our" street. A large proportion of our neighbours accepted the invitation and enjoyed a simple BBQ and great conversation. It is important that we can show that we are good neighbours.
- The forum on Depression came out of a need to help the afflicted and their families, friends, and colleagues from the Lenten study Andrew lead in 2015. It was very well attended, which was very gratifying to the group who took on the leadership role for that. A similar format on the issue of Dementia is being considered.
- The community lunch is another outreach/fellowship opportunity which is of great value.

Pastoral issues, which are usually of a confidential nature, always take a large part of every CC meeting. CC is grateful that we are blessed with a minister in Judi who so conscientiously and with great compassion cares for so many in our congregation who have crises or are in need of her help.

A new Sunday school curriculum was implemented during 2016 and the youth programme is also being reviewed, by discussion with the parents and youth.

Each meeting also has an agenda item of "the next 3–5 years". It is vital that we do not stand still but look ahead to future needs and hope for growth for Spicer.

CC was pleased to welcome Jill Miller late in the year, and look forward to her contributions.

Spicer is blessed with a conscientious CC who work hard to support Judi, RAD and to maintain oversight of all of the mission and other programmes at Spicer.

Pam Mc Ewin

Secretary, CC



Gingerbread 2015

Once again this event was a great time of family enjoyment!

Approximately 200 people came to the event spread over 3 days. The Saturday afternoon proved popular with many of the younger children.

Our record remains unbroken – everyone takes away a standing house.

Thankyou to all those who helped in this event, with special thanks to Marilyn Cowley and Jane Allen for helping with the making of the kits and Michelle for organising the cellophane. Thanks also to Darien for helping set up the hall.

It was a joy to be involved in another Gingerbread event!

Marg Just

For your February calendar

Tues 2	Playgroup Lunch	10 am 11.45 am
Tues 9	Playgroup Lunch	10 am 11.45 am
Wed 10	Just COS (Mark room)	10 am
Sat 13	Eat Pray Care	10 am
Mon 15	RAD	7.30 pm
Tues 16	Playgroup Lunch	10 am 11.45 am
Wed 17	Church Council	7.30 pm
Thurs 18	Spicer Community Lunch	12 noon
Fri 19	Neighbourhood BBQ	5.30 pm
Tues 23	Playgroup Lunch	10 am 11.45 am
Wed 24	Just COS (Mark room)	10 am



Ministry Team

Minister

Rev Judi Hartwig
c/- Office
judi@spicer.org.au

Office Administrator

Helen Lloyd
c/- Office
helen@spicer.org.au

Music Director

Rod Ennis
rod@reszound.com

Youth Leader

Steve Bottrill
youth@spicer.org.au

Pastoral Care Coordinator

Anne Wilson
0419 816 097
sarnia@internode.on.net

Playgroup Coordinator

Margaret Just
0417 475 383

Children's Ministry Coordinator

Church Council

Jane Allen
Warwick Jarrett
Julia Lloyd-Jones
Pam McEwin (Sec)
Melanie West
Michael Whitehead (Chair)

Spicer Matters

Anne Wilson
sarnia@internode.on.net

44a Fourth Avenue, St Peters 5069

p/f: 8362 3771

e: office@spicer.org.au

w: www.spicer.org.au

hrs: Tue–Thur 9am–3.30pm; Fri 9am–2.30pm



Deadline for next issue

Please have all articles to Anne by Sun 21 February