



The Anglican Parish of
**Holy Trinity Lara with
Christ Church Little River**

**Reports to the Combined Annual Meeting
for the year 1st October 2015 to 30th September 2016
for the**

Parish of Lara with Little River

**held on Sunday 27th November 2016
at 11:00 am**

Holy Trinity

Lara



with



Christ Church

Little River

“Encourage one another and build each other up”



**Holy Trinity Lara with
Christ Church Little River**

Reports for year ended 30th September 2016

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"Encourage one another and build each other up"



HOLY TRINITY LARA

Names Recorded on Electoral Roll as at 31st October 2016

June ARMSTRONG	Barbara THOMPSON
Marjorie BARROWMAN	Val TONKIN
Rosemary BASCOMB	Robert TONKIN
Libby BATE	Lee-Allan URBANSKI
Ian BROWN	Lesley WALLIS
Anne CHASE	Peter WALLIS
Joan COHEN	Annette WENDLEMAN
Rev'd Vernon COHEN	Robin WENDLEMAN
Brenda DARCY	Joan WILKS
Anne FAITHFULL	Gwynith WILSON
Helen GLARE	Wes WILSON
Liz HUNTER	CHRIST CHURCH LITTLE RIVER
Jenny KELLY	Jenny CUNNINGHAM
Marie KEOWN	Ivan FAIRCHILD
Sam KEOWN	Garry GREEN
Ian KERIN	Peter JONES
Bev LECHMERE	May McCaw
Joy LEGGO	Brenda SIMS
John LEEK	Chrissy YORK
Wendy LEEK	Stephen YORK
Lola LEWIS	
Vicar – Rev'd Shirley LITTRAS	
George LITTRAS	
Kay MCCARTHY	
Gaye MANNOCK	
Ellen MARSH	
Dennis MARSH	
Diana MARSH	
Valerie MAWSON	
Gregory MEDWELL	
Wendy O'BRIEN	
William O'BRIEN	
Patricia PEARL	
Cynthia ROSEBURH	
Carol RUMBLE	
Rev Warren RUMBLE	
Denis SCOTT	
Doris SMITH	
Helen SMITH	
Ebony SMITH	
Georgia SMITH	
Phillip STARKS	
Coralene STEWART	
Dawn TEESDALE	
John THOMPSON	



The Anglican Parish of
Holy Trinity Lara with
Christ Church Little River

VICAR'S ANNUAL REPORT 2016

Recently I have been reading a book called “The Hidden Lives of Congregations” by Israel Galindo in which he states that “The mission of the church, simply put, is to be the Body of Christ in the world participating with God in the redemptive work of restoring all people to unity with God and each other in Christ. This redemptive mission is tied into the biblical mandate for the Church (1 Peter 2:9-10; Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 26:18; Ephesians 4:12-13; 15-16). The mandate and mission of the Church, in turn, inform the essential functions that every congregation must provide: worship, fellowship, education, proclamation, and ministry.” (Galindo, 2004, pg 47)

Moreover, “While all churches share in the same mission, congregations are not monolithic. Each congregation has a distinct identity, resides in a particular context at a particular time in history, and is a unique embodiment of the body of Christ.” (Galindo, 2004, pg. 42)

However, “In their busy-ness churches continue to engage in tasks-activities, programs and so forth – with little critical thought as to whether those tasks are helping to achieve the aims that a church strives for.” (Galindo, 2004, pg. 44) Thus highlighting the importance of pausing at the close of yet another church year to reflect upon those tasks that we undertake as the people of God in the community of Lara and Little River.

In addition it also accentuates significant work of the Mission Action Team under Philip Starks’ direction, to continue to explore and develop with consultation with the Parish our Mission Action Plan. For when a church takes time to discern God’s call on its life it will end up doing a few things and doing them well.

WORSHIP:

The essence of who we are as God’s people is expressed each week as we gather at either of our designated place of worship, in God’s sanctuary, in God’s house of praise, for the purpose of worship, to praise the Lord. We show our love through worship—by showing up for the principle event in the life of the church, hopefully with a degree of regularity.

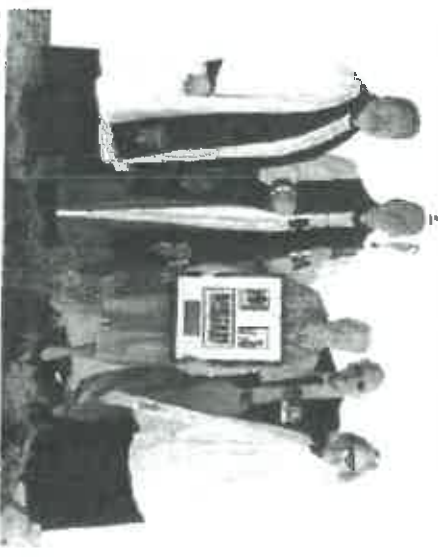
Once again this year on the first Sunday of the month we have continued with the practice of themed services of Prayer, Praise and Proclamation with Healing at Holy Trinity, assisted by Kieran Murphy on the piano, with Holy Communion at Christ Church. Also our worship at Holy Trinity has also been enhanced on the fourth Sunday of the month with the very much appreciated assistance of the gifted musicians from the Lara Uniting Church. Once again I would like to express my personal thanks (Marian Couch, Judy Plowman and Alan Bradley) for their ministry to us. The midweek service at Holy Trinity on a Wednesday, still continues to be a small gathering.

Be still and know that I am God: Psalm 46:10 In mid-May a Contemplative style of worship was established with a variety of themes, on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month in the

“Encourage one another and build each other up”

evening for half an hour, was introduced. These services which went into recess during my leave will resume again in early 2017 if there is a need.

In December we held a service to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of Reverend Walter Dexter a previous incumbent of the Parish leaving Gallipoli. This service was attended by the Archbishop Philip Freier, the Archdeacon of Geelong Neil Hicks and members of Reverend Dexter's family. A commemoration tree was planted by Reverend Dexter's son, Mr Mick Dexter and daughter Lady Geraldine Currie at Holy Trinity, another tree has been purchased also for Christ Church. Thank you to all who assisted in making this service such a great celebration.



Archdeacon Neil Hicks at Geelong, Archbishop Philip Freier, Lady Geraldine Currie, the Miss Dexter and the Revd Philip Starks after the tree planting.

A necessary component of our ministry is to St Laurence Park where we have held 39 public services throughout the year. These services also include services held by Philip Starks on the first Sunday and the fifth Sunday in the month in the hub at Costa House.

FELLOWSHIP:

We commonly think of the Christian life from an individualistic or, at best, an organizational perspective, but rarely from a communal one. One of the characteristics of flourishing larger churches is that they make a considerable use of small groups. They have found ways of building the value of the small into the structure of the large, thus enabling them to operate as a community. This highlights the importance of such groups in our Parish as The You Yang walkers, the craft group, *S.A.L.T serving and learning together*, the book club, the youth group and the Social Committee.

The Social Committee works like a well-oiled machine, they seemed to have everything down pat. Once again throughout the year they provided a number of Social functions which not only raised valuable funds for the Parish but also provides such an important opportunity for fellowship. At Little River we were once again blessed with seasonally good weather for the Shrove Tuesday pancakes, with great food and conversations, once again it was a great success.

Thank you to the members of all these groups for all the hard work throughout the year by the both at Holy Trinity and Christ Church.

EDUCATION:

The Apostle Paul reminds us in the New Testament, as the people of God we need to read and study the word so that we are not blown about by trickery and wind of false doctrine, so that we teach what is consistent with sound doctrine. That self-control, godly behaviour derives from an understanding of scripture. Therefore, in *S.A.L.T. serving and learning together*, throughout the year we have undertaken a number of bible studies, one in which we combined with the Uniting Church Lara where we reflected upon a study in the Pilgrim series on the Eucharist.

In June we had the pleasure to host Mikhael Sihotang a Theological Student from Indonesia whom Bishop Philip invited to visit our Diocese for 3 months. Mikhael visited our Diocese as part of his Theological study to experience Christian Ministry in a different culture. Whilst

“Encourage one another and build each other up”

in the Parish Milkhael attended the Youth Group, preached at a Chapel service at St Laurence Park and at both Sunday services Holy Trinity and Christ Church, he visited Trinity College, spent the day with Bishop Philip amongst other day to day activities in the Parish. I would like to thank the O'Brien family and the Rumbles for their hospitality to Milkhael during his stay with us.

As part of my training for Area Dean I have undertaken a Certificate course in Family Systems which I am part way through. I have a number of requirements to complete which includes supervision and a two day seminar in Sydney, June 2017. Throughout this study I have seen the emphasis the Family Systems theory places upon the impact leaders, (parents, and society leaders such as clergy) can have on society by understanding and applying the theory to themselves.

PROCLAMATION:

Over the five Sunday's in July both Philip and I preached on the 5 Marks of Mission of the worldwide Anglican Communion as these 5 Marks form the grid guidelines for all that we do, 'To proclaim the good news of the Kingdom of God.' These 5 Marks are:

1. To teach, baptise and nurture new believers
2. To respond to human need by loving service
3. To seek to transform unjust structures of society
4. To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and to sustain and renew the life of the earth.

One of our major outreach programs of the year was the Combined Churches of Lara Carols held a Pirra Homestead on the Sunday 20th December. As this is a significant outreach opportunity with the ever expanding population of Lara (which has an average age of 33) highlights the necessity of providing accessible, no cost, quality entertainment for young families.

This event also supplies an opportunity for creative outlet for members of the community being involved in the choir. The local schools and music schools are approached to provide opportunity for their choir(s) to perform plus local musicians were invited to perform solos. This year we hired Jeanette Bence to coordinate the 2015 Carols, who brought her own flair and managerial expertise which made this once again such a successful and enjoyable event.

MINISTRY:

Loving service is measured by one's response to neighbor—not to self. It's pretty easy to say we love Jesus, isn't it? Wherever there is hunger, we are called to feed. Wherever there is destruction, we are called to rebuild. Wherever there is hurt, we are called to bind wounds. Wherever there is oppression or injustice, we are to speak and act. Whenever someone needs the love of Christ, we are to point the way. Jesus is a shepherd king who led by example. He walks along that path and waits for us to follow. Just as he spent his time on earth with those society looked down upon, with those who most needed him, Jesus expects his sheep to do the same.

The Lara Food Relief coordinated by Helen Glare, supported by a team of volunteers continues to operate out of the Hall on a Monday from 10:00 am – 1:00 pm. This outreach ministry has continued to reach out to a number of individuals in our wider community, providing them with quality food parcels and guidance, sometimes as a once off, and others on a more regular basis when they experience difficulties in meeting everyday demands. This program has received huge support from the wider Lara Community, through the Lara

“Encourage one another and build each other up”

CWA, Meredith Masonic Lodge, Lions Club of Lara, The Laureatetau Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi, Lara Community Bank, Lara Quality Meats, Second Bite, the Local Chemist and private donations.

St Laurence Park provides another important area of ministry within the Parish with the Chapel of St Clair 9:30am on the fourth Thursday in the month, the Chapel at St Catherine's 11:00 am on the first and third Thursday of the month and 6:30 pm on the first Sunday of the month in the hub. I would like to take this opportunity to thank those members of our Parish who assist with these Chapel services, at St Catherine, St Clare's and a special thank you to Philip for taking and leading the worship on the first Sunday and the Reverend Graeme Perkins ministry during my Long Service/Annual Leave.

Each year the Parish Opportunity Shop continues to generate an amazing income, this year being no exception with a total income of almost \$74, 000. Due to the generosity of the community through donations of goods and the regular band of volunteers, under the direction of our Op Shop Co coordinator Dawn Teesdale, Robert Hanlon and the Op Shop Management Committee.

Although we often mark the success of this ministry by the profit it produces, this is but a tip of the iceberg as stated in the Diocese recommend guide of management of an Opportunity Shop, "Op Shops are not just about buying and selling and making money, Op shops are about people, they offer more than goods for sale- they also offer hospitality, they build community and they practice social inclusion."

Moreover, Op shops are a great point of contact with the local community. In many cases they are the face of the Church and are ideal opportunities for us to engage with people for our community.

This highlights the significant part the Op Shop plays in the Ministry of the Parish and how it has grown and evolved from its humble beginnings in May 2005, in the Education Block to the Shop that it is today.

The Lara Youth Group led by a dedicated group of young adults has continued to meet Friday nights 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm throughout the school terms. Throughout the year the Youth Leaders have worked together to discern and develop a program that is relevant and engaging for the youth who attend. Thank you to the leaders and to those from the Parish who have supported them and the youth by providing them with supper each night they have met.

Lastly I would like to thank Reverend Graeme Perkins for his time as Locum during my Long Service/Annual Leave, the Parish Council and Parishioners for their work and commitment throughout the year. I pray that we as a Parish will continue to depend on God's guidance, provision, gifts, and power so as to bear lasting fruit for his Kingdom, in the place where he has called us.

Many Blessings



The Reverend Shirley Littras

Incumbent

The Anglican Parish of Lara with Little River

"Encourage one another and build each other up"

PARISH STATISTICS for 2016/17
(October 2015 - September 2016)

Please complete a form for each church in parish - if applicable. Combined parish figures will be accepted

Parish of

LARA WITH LITTLE RIVER

Church: **HOLY TRINITY LARA WITH CHRIST CHURCH LITTLE RIVER**

Please return to the Registry by 15 DECEMBER 2016

Most of the responses received from parishes are included in the statistics section of the Diocesan Yearbook and are used by various people. In other instances, the information is used in research projects carried out by the diocese. Your co-operation is sought in completing the data being collected. In instances where records are not maintained, your best 'guessimate' would be appreciated.

WORSHIP

1 a	162	Number of public services wherever held* <i>excluding weddings, funerals, private baptisms, services in residential facilities</i>	3 a	2653	Total Acts of Communion in public services* <i>excluding private ministrations and services in residential facilities</i>
b	104	Number of public Sunday services wherever held <i>excluding weddings, funerals, private baptisms, services in residential facilities</i>	b	2242	Total number of Sunday Acts of Communion <i>excluding private ministrations and services in residential</i>
c	39	Number of publicised services held in residential care facilities	c	251	Total Other Acts of Communion <i>Including private ministrations and services in residential facilities</i>
2 a	3453	Total yearly attendance at all Public services ** <i>exclude weddings, funerals, private baptisms, services in residential facilities</i>	4 a	1389	Total attendance at Christmas Day/Eve services (Christmas Eve means after 5:00 pm)
b	2797	Total yearly attendance** at all Sunday services <i>excluding weddings, funerals, private baptisms, services in residential facilities</i>	b	82	Total number of Acts of Communion at Christmas Day/Eve services (Christmas Eve means after 5:00 pm)
			5 a	99	Total attendance at Easter Day/Eve services
			b	85	Total number of Acts of Communion at Easter Day/Eve services

* Include weekday and Sunday services
** Include children and Non Communicants

MEMBERSHIP

6	65	No. on Church Electoral Roll presented at the Annual Parish Meeting	13 a	10	No. of continuing home/small groups
7	2	No. of Baptisms	b	62	Total No. of persons in continuing home/small groups per week
8		No. of children admitted to Communion			
9		No. of persons received into the Anglican Communion			
10	3	No. of Confirmations	14	Estimated no. of frequent attenders - including at weekly programs/worship services (excluding CRE)	
			a	1	Pre-school (0 - 5)
11	No. of funerals conducted:		b	2	Primary School
a	1	In the churches of the parish	c	14	Secondary School
b	3	elsewhere	d	4	Post Secondary (under 25)

12 No. of marriages conducted:

a		In the churches of the parish
b	1	elsewhere

**Anglican Parish of Lara with Little River
Profit & Loss
October 2015 through September 2016**

	<u>Oct '2015 - Sep 2016</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Bequests	2,000.00
Carols	5,482.00
Christmas Envelopes	226.50
City of Greater Geelong	1,100.00
Direct Credit	
Payment for leave-locum	13,741.73
Total Direct Credit	13,741.73
Donations	10,758.46
Envelopes	40,810.10
Fund raising	10,548.60
Hall hire	2,872.00
Interest income	1,096.70
Malbourne Cleaning Cloths	1,041.80
Mission donations	1,797.05
Open plate	16,880.53
Payment for LSL to Minister	10,278.06
Stn Text	155.35
Sundry income	270.30
Votive candles	67,994.20
Weekly sales	3,602.33
Work for the Dole Programme	190,660.71
Total Income	190,660.71
Gross Profit	190,660.71
Expense	
Accounting services	720.00
Assessment	17,651.00
Bank charges	83.00
Candles	403.61
Church chattels	
Books	299.59
Sanctuary furnishings	250.00
Church chattels - Other	288.56
Total Church chattels	838.15
Energy expenses	
Electricity	3,743.88
Gas	1,895.11
Water rates	1,098.10
Total Energy expenses	6,727.09
Fire equipment maintenance	250.73
Food cupboard expense	4,591.43
Food Relief Donation	200.00
Fund raising expense	731.73
Funeral catering	124.55
Hall Key Bond Refund	430.00
Insurances	
Building	6,013.20
Sickness and accident	540.00
Stipend continuance	1,486.48
Total Insurances	8,039.68
Interest charge on loan	7,294.69
Kitchen	158.14
Lara Carols	7,554.91
Lara Pharmacy	330.66
Maintenance equipment	182.55
Ministry expenses	
Study expenses	80.00
Ministry expenses - Other	247.27

**Anglican Parish of Lara with Little River
Profit & Loss**

October 2015 through September 2016

	Oct 2015 - Sep 2016
Total Ministry expenses	327.27
Mission Payment	100.00
Mission Trust Funds	3,804.65
Motor expenses	
Fuel	942.38
Reg and insurance	654.45
Repairs and maintenance	265.00
Total Motor expenses	1,861.83
Office expenses	
Photo copier	1,974.45
Secretarial	295.90
Office expenses - Other	334.68
Total Office expenses	2,605.03
Op shop equipment	3,368.39
Op shop expense	840.95
Parish	1,965.00
Petty cash	900.00
RACV	418.35
Rates - Church Property	2,321.03
Repairs and maintenance	
Garden	1,731.83
Repairs and maintenance - Other	7,389.37
Total Repairs and maintenance	9,121.20
Solar Panel Refund	
Stipend	2,590.00
Allowances	
Benefit Account	10,278.06
Locum	31,669.02
Long service leave contribution	3,959.32
Parish super contribution	1,480.00
Vicars super contribution	8,435.76
Stipend - Other	17,623.80
Total Stipend	17,828.95
Taxi fares	91,274.91
Telephone	51.91
TMA	1,247.43
Travel and conferences	352.00
Uncategorised expenses	888.00
Wafers	118.30
Waste collection	30.00
Wine	296.55
Youth Group	122.87
Total Expense	180,987.59
Net Ordinary Income	9,673.12
Net Income	9,673.12

Anglican Parish of Lara with Little River

Balance of Accounts at 30th September 2016

ADF Access Cash 05009178	\$ 16,321.10
ADF Appd Build Fund 05009120	\$ 2,386.01
ADF Lt River Invest 443008659	\$ 3,392.98
ADF Parish Giving Acc 05005195	\$ 155.06
ADF Vicarage Upgrade 05004543	\$ 5,936.75
Carols Account 157805193	\$ 1,252.33
Lara Food Relief 152286019	\$ 2,232.90
Op Shop 137905048	\$ 7,661.55
Parish of Lara 137904702	\$ 4,321.57
Total Funds	<u>\$ 43,660.25</u> CR

ADF Parish Loan Acc 444000637 \$ 136,957.80 DR

Opportunity Shop

Income

Weekly sales	\$ 67,994.20
Sth Text & MCC	\$ 1,197.15
Work for the Dole	\$ 3,602.33
Fund Raising	\$ 1,189.00
Total Income	<u>\$ 73,982.68</u>

Expenses

Shelving	\$ 1,855.18
Air Conditioner	\$ 1,850.00
Nungalinga	\$ 1,500.00
General Op Shop Exp	\$ 920.19
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 6,125.37</u>

Net Income

\$ 67,857.31

Lara Food Relief

Income

Donations \$ 3,407.20

Total Income \$ 3,407.20

Expenses

Food Cupboard \$ 3,404.15

Lara Butchers \$ 728.83

Apco Petrol \$ 100.00

Lara Pharmacy \$ 330.66

Total Expenses \$ 4,563.64

Net Income

-\$ 1,156.44

Combined Churches of Lara Carols

Income

Income from Lara Churches \$ 3,400.00

Sales \$ 1,015.00

Total \$ 4,415.00

Bendigo Bank Grant \$ 2,500.00

Total Income

\$ 6,915.00

Expenses

Jeanette Glass \$ 3,279.16

GlowStix \$ 948.38

Goodway Printing \$ 495.00

S Stavenhuter \$ 1,650.00

Bishop Audio \$ 83.00

Clockwork Video \$ 440.00

Total Expenses \$ 6,895.54

Total Income

\$ 19.46

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Churchwardens and Parish Council of the Anglican Parish of Holy Trinity Lara with Christ Church Little River.

I have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of the Anglican Parish of Holy Trinity Lara with Christ Church Little River (The Parishes), which comprises the Profit and Loss Statement for the year ended 30 September 2016, and other explanatory notes and information.

My audit excluded a review of the assets and liabilities of the Parishes other than a review of the various Bendigo Bank and Anglican Development Fund accounts.

Churchwardens' Responsibility for the Financial Report

The Churchwardens of Holy Trinity and Christ Church are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and have determined that the accounting policies, which form part of the financial report, are appropriate to meet the financial reporting requirements of the *Parish Governance Act 2013* and are appropriate to meet the needs of the users.

The Churchwardens' responsibility also includes establishing and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

An auditor's responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on an audit. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used are appropriate to meet the needs of the users.

I conducted the audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that I comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment; including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error.

In making those risk assessments, an auditor considers internal control relevant to the Parish's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Parish's internal control.

An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

The financial report has been prepared for distribution to the Parishioners for the purpose of fulfilling the Churchwardens' financial reporting requirements. I disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates, to any person other than the Churchwardens, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Independence

In conducting my audit, I have complied with the independence requirements of the Australian professional accounting bodies.

Auditor's Opinion

In my opinion the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of The Parishes as at 30 September 2016 and of its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies mandated by the Anglican Diocese of Melbourne.

Basis of Accounting

The special purpose financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the financial reporting responsibilities under the *Parish Governance Act 2013*. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose.

Yours faithfully,



Alistair Horne FCPA
Melbourne
2nd November 2016

Treasurer's Report 2015/16

Holy Trinity Lara with Christ Church Little River

It does not seem all that long ago that we were looking back over the church year of 2014-2015 but here we are, another year has come to a close.

Our people have continued to support many and varied missions. We have generously contributed to CMS with money boxes, NCCA through the Ration Challenge and ABM money boxes, Mission to Seafarers, Samaritans Purse's Operation Christmas Child, Anglicare and Gason through Transition, Bushikori and Nungalinga, through the Op Shop. The local groups such as the Lara Secondary, School Breakfast programme, Lara Food Relief, the Combined Churches Carols, the Spiritual Centre at Barwon University Hospital have benefited from your generosity as well. All were very thankful for your giving, both monetary and prayerful.

Our weekly giving and "one of donations" whether it is through direct deposit to the bank accounts, the envelope system or the open plate has increased from the previous year. Our special fund raising events, organised by the Social Committee and Little River, have also helped in raising much needed funds to keep our loan to the diocese gradually decreasing. At the end of this financial the loan balance was \$136,957.80DR compared to the previous year of \$152,863.11DR. The impressive Stewardship programme in September 2016, under the watchful eye of Joy, should see our contributions increase giving us more funds to give to where it is needed most whether it is in mission giving or towards the paying off our debt. Many thanks Joy.

The Op Shop, under the management of Dawn and her loyal band of volunteers, has helped enormously in curbing this debt because without them we would not be in the healthy financial position that we are today. The income from the Op Shop has increased from the previous year due to the fact that there is now a regular pick up of our oversupply of garments, more goods are priced, and we have participants on "Work for the Dole" programme supplied by Karingal and St Laurence Employment Services. We receive a payment, as we provide training for the participants helping them to be gainfully employed.

A special thanks needs to go the Bendigo Community Bank, because without their most generous donations to the Lara Food Relief and the Lara Combined Churches Carols, we would need to dig even deeper into our pockets!

Last but not least, I would like to thank, Rev. Shirley, the Church Wardens, parish council and parishioners for the trust you have placed in me to carry out the position of Treasurer of the Parish of Lara with Little River.



Lee Allan Urbanski

Treasurer



Holy Trinity Lara with
Christ Church Little River

Meeting Minutes of the Combined Annual Meeting for the Year 1st October 2014 to 30th September 2015.
For the

Parish of Lara with Little River

Held at Holy Trinity Church Lara at 11am on 8th November 2015.

1. **Opening:** with prayer lead by our Vicar Reverend Shirley Littras
2. **Welcome:** Reverend Shirley Littras to set the mode of the meeting. Any Items for General Business: Name & item of business please: Tricia Peart (Clean up Australia Day), Philip Starks (future Parish Mission), Helen Smith (air conditioning in the Parish Op Shop sorting area), Kiren Murphy (new families to Lara area).
3. **Reading of Notice of Annual Meeting:** Agenda has been on Church doors for 8 weeks. Read out at the commencement of this Annual Meeting by Vicar's Warden Gregory Medwell
4. **Reminder to all present to please sign Attendance Sheet:** requested by Patricia Peart Parish Secretary and Rev Shirley Littras.
5. **In attendance were:** (In no particular order)- LeAllian Urbanski (HT) , Josh Barrowman (Under 18 HT), Marj Barrowman (HT), Marie Keown (HT), Moya Ling (HT), Bill O'Brien (HT), Wendy O'Brien (HT), John Leeke (HT), Wendy Leeke (HT), Peter Wallis (HT), Lesley Wallis (HT), Brenda Darcy (HT), Philip Starks(Authorised Lay Minister), Jenny Kelly (HT), John Thopson (HT), Gregory Medwell (HT), Gwyneth Wilson (HT), Wes Wilson (HT), Patricia Peart (HT), George Littras (HT), Jenny Medwell (HT), Joan Cohen (HT), Vernon Cohen (HT), Sam Keown (HT), Libby Bate (HT), Peter Jones (CC), Lola Lewis (HT), Gary Green (CC), Ellen Marsh (HT), Gaye Mannock (HT), Jenny Cunningham (CC), Helen Glare (HT), Cynthia Roseburgh (HT), Georgia Smith (HT), Ian Brown (HT), Bev Lechmere (HT), Kiren Murphy (HT).

6. **Apologies:** (In no particular order)- Rosemary Bascomb (HT), Ivan Fairchild (CC), Denis Scott (HT), Joy Leggo (HT), Rob Tonkin (HT), Val Tonkin (HT), Barbara Thompson, Coralene Stewart (HT), Ebony Smith (HT),

- A. **Confirmation of previous minutes** of Lara Parish with Little River Annual Meeting 16th November 2014 as stated by Parish Secretary Patricia Peart

Accepted: Brenda Sims 2nd: Helen Glare

- B. **Reception of Electoral Roll** of the Parish of Lara with Little River
Pauline Simpson right amendment

Accepted: Gave Mannock 2nd: Cynthia Roseburgh

- C. **Reports circulated prior to meeting, exemptions being:**
- Lara Food Relief

Reports in Booklet tabled as read, any parties wishing to speak briefly to their report?
Motion adopted: Cynthia Roseburgh 2nd: Gave Mannock

D. Annual Reports on Proceedings the financial affairs of the Parish by the Parish Council: Current Treasurer spoke to the page 16, Accounts have been audited but letter not received in time prior to report being published, Colilla trust, Op shop funds, other mission donations \$6,909.00, Donations of funds received are used for the food cupboard and the Church, Audit and accounting services are the same, the John Henry account has been closed due to repairs at Christ Church at Little River. **Adopted:** Lee Allan Urbanski 2nd: Helen Smith (Thank you lead my Bill O'Brien for the great job Lee Allan has done over the last 9 months as stepping as Treasurer).

E. The annual report of the Parish Wardens for the year ended 30th September 2015.
As per Booklet refer to page 27

F. The Audit accounts of the Parish Wardens for the year ended 30th September 2015.
Still to come.

G. The Budget approved by the Parish Council for the year. Budget still to be done by new wardens.

H. All other reports by the other Parish Groups (as per in the annual meeting booklet). Mission action plan, Phillip Starks has handed out the Parish Surveys, to take home and think about your answers and collection boxes will be placed at both worship centres. This is required for any applications to grants at the Diocese. (To be returned by the end of the November 2015). Vicar, spoke to her report across both Centres numbers down of baptism, funerals, worship by 10%, so how do we and can we develop options for outreach. Phillip Starks no questions to him regarding his report.

I. Vicar, Thank you to Members that served as Wardens and Parish Council in the past year, for those that stood in leadership roles in our Parish, and support to Rev Shirley
Notice of Motion: (refer final page in report booklet) Representatives: Election/Appointment of Wardens (3)/Parish Council (12 Including Wardens) /incumbency (1x Warden, 1x Lay):

- Appointment of 2x Church Wardens (only 2 nominations therefore no election)
Peter Jones – Christ Church Little River
Helen Smith – Holy Trinity Lara

- Appointment of Vicar's Warden: Cynthia Roseburgh (HT)

- Appointment of 7x Parish Council members plus Appointment of Vicar's Parish Council Members (x2): (only 9 were nominated therefore Vicar wishes to include those 2 extra as the Vicar appointments) therefore no elections.

Jenny Cunningham, Brenda Sims – Christ Church Little River
Ian Brown, William O'Brien, Patricia Peart, Lee-Allan Urbanski, John Leeke, Georgia Smith - Holy Trinity Lara
Phillip Starks- Lay Minister.

All accepted by all presented at this Annual Meeting and to support to those members is encouraged.

- Appointment of 2x Incumbency Committee (only 1 was nominated therefore no election): Patricia Peart and a Warden to yet to be nominated from forth coming Wardens meeting.

J. **Notice of Motion: Appointment of an Auditor.**
Appointment of Auditor for the ensuing year: LeeAllan Urbanski : spoke to this,
An auditor or a financial examination of the annual accounts (someone has been approached but no reply as yet, and they are a member of our Parish)
To appoint an examiner Moved: LeeAllan Urbanski 2nd: Helen Smith
All in attendance is giving full support to these Wardens for their selection.

K. **Belatedly during this meeting a parish council member offered themselves for Election of Lay Representatives to the Parish incumbency committee: all in attendance accepted the nomination of Jenny Cunningham (CC).**

L. **General Business: Any other matters of parochial or general church interest:**

a. **Mission Group Representative Phillip Starks - Parish Mission Focus continues for 2015/16(Busikor)?** As our Parish Mission focus is usually for a two year commitment, therefore 2015 is the first year and 2016 will be the second year of support.
Accepted: By all in attendance

b. **Clean Up Australia Day raised by Patricia Peart - Confirmation of support to Clean up Australia Day 2016, for registration site for Lara and Little River areas. Good to continue for the township of Lara and Little River areas.**
Accepted: Bill O'Brien 2nd: Ian Brown

c. **Parish Op Shop Air conditioning raised by Helen Smith - Air Conditioner in the sorting area of the Parish Op Shop, Shop is cool and the sorting area is where the work is and when roller door is lifted all the cool air is lost. To help the Volunteers by installing a split system, John Thompson will look into the type and location, best suited for the required need and submit a quote to Parish Council and Ian Brown has contacts also, so a quote will be sort... To start the process into seeking quotes but final discussions and decision will be from Parish Council and the Wardens.**
Accepted: Helen Smith 2nd: Phillip Starks

d. **New Families outreach raised by Kiren Murphy - New families into Lara, welcome packs to invite them to the Church. To be distributed via the real-estate agents. Lola Lewis suggested could also be distributed via the food relief but it is for the community rather than to build congregation numbers. Helen Smith suggested could also be distributed via the Lara Network Meetings which have been represented by Helen Smith and Patricia Peart, which informs what we do in the Parish. Suggest being a quest speaker at the Lara Chamber of Commerce 2nd by Gaye Mannock. Welcome packs are distributed by the Little River Lions Club Moved Kiren Murphy, 2nd Helen Smith**
Libby Bate suggested the Church Hall for one of the dinner venues for the Lara Chamber of Commerce.

e. **The Lara Carols responded by Rev Shirley Ultras** to questions raised at this meeting – Jeanette whom is coordinating the event, COGG was approached about the skate park amphitheatre, but it is too small for expected numbers, therefore Lino Bisenella happy to support with the Pirra Homestead venue. Also available at this event is “The live nativity” for family photos in costume with live animals, coffee vendor and the cold drinks and battery operated candles. Alternative venue what to do if poor weather, since donations have been provided and professional aspects paid for, it would be very disappointing if event was cancelled. The secondary College is still our best option if it is available. Other comments from the floor of the meeting were, last year the screen was not high enough, and too many concert singing at and not enough community singing along with the Christmas Carols. Rev Shirley explained that a new techno expert for the data screen and more community participation with the audience for example some carols with men singing a verse and then the ladies singing an alternative verse.

The Annual Meeting closed with the Grace at 12.25pm
Meeting minutes by Retiring Parish Secretary Patricia Peart.

NB: A short Parish Council Meeting will follow immediately after this meeting to appoint the following office bearers.

In attendance was:

Wardens: Helen Smith HT, Cynthia Roseburgh HT

Jenny Cunningham CC, Brenda Sims CC, Ian Brown HT, William O'Brien HT, Patricia Peart HT,

Lee-Allan Urbanski HT, John Leeke HT, Georgia Smith HT and Philip Starks

Apology: Warden Peter Jones CC,

Secretary: Nominated by the Parish Council:

Nomination: Bill O'Brien

Nominated by: Patricia Peart

2nd: Brenda Sims

Treasurer: Nominated by the Wardens:

Nomination: Lee Allan Urbanski

Nominated by: Cynthia

2nd: John Leeke

Tabled the list of Holy Communion assistants. Refer to list attached.

With no other names, all approving and this will be sent to the Bishop.

Next meeting of Parish Council will be: 5pm Wardens meeting and 5.30pm Parish Council 3rd Sunday of the Month.

Next meeting In Dec at the Vicarage. 13th December 2.30pm

At conclusion of this meeting, newly appointed Parish Secretary will distribute the formal Parish Council meeting minutes, therefore this is a summary only.

Church Wardens Report 2015/16.

We are so lucky to have our wonderful facilities – Op Shop, Hall and Church. Of course with this comes the need for much upkeep and maintenance.

I would like to thank all those who volunteer for our rosters -- Sacristan, flowers, cleaning, gardening, Op Shop duties, cooking for functions and morning teas, rubbish disposal and maintenance.

I particularly would like to thank Sam Keown for his amazing maintenance work – even making an artificial finger for an Op Shop model -- with a modelled finger nail no less!

A very special thank you to all those who volunteered on Monday mornings to staff our Food Relief Centre. Your efforts have been much appreciated, especially by those in receipt of the food parcels.

CHURCH CHATELS

I would like to report that all the church's furnishing and ornaments at both centres are in good condition.

Christ Church has installed a hand rail to make walking easier to and from the communion rail.

This year our main endeavours have been trimming of trees in the vicarage yard, crossovers to the car park at Lara, an air conditioner in the Op Shop sorting room and fire minimization programmes at both centres.

I would like to thank Shirley for placing her trust in me to be her Warden. This has been an interesting, challenging and large learning curve for me.

To this end, I would like to thank Bill O'Brien who has been a great asset to me with helpful and insightful advice.

Lastly, I would like to acknowledge the wonderful contribution made by our Treasurer Lee-Allan Urbanski. She carries out duties splendidly.

Cynthia Roseburgh.

Parish Council Annual Report 2015-2016.

Parish Council has been a hard working unit under the leadership of our Chairperson Reverend Shirley.

This has been the second year that we have had a Parish Council whose job it is to look after the interests of both Lara and Little River Churches.

Morning Teas have become a delight after our Services. We now enjoy a well lit and comfortable space. Thankyou to those who supply morning tea so generously. This ministry is very much appreciated. Morning Teas at Christ Church after church are also a highlight!

Thankyou also to the people who fill the other rosters be it readers, communion assistants, servers, prayers, sidespersons, welcomers etc. What you do is welcomed and appreciated!

A special thankyou to Brenda Darcy who quietly and efficiently beautifies our worship area providing flowers throughout the year.

Another special thankyou to Tricia Peart who seamlessly fills the role as Sacristan.

Significant improvements were made to the land scaping around our buildings through a series of Working Bees. There are also a few quiet Angels around the church who see a need to get a job done and just do it! Jobs like: window cleaning, vacuuming, sweeping, pruning, mowing, taking loads to the Recycling Centre etc. Thankyou Angels!

Our July Mission Month was both informative and well supported.

In September we had our Stewardship Programme. Thank you to Joy Leggo for the challenges that she presented.

Improvements to the Op Shop were carried out by providing additional air conditioning, new racks and concrete crossovers.

Even the church was a little warmer this year, due to the installation of reverse cycle ceiling fans.

Plastering and painting was completed at Christ Church and a much needed hand rail installed.

Bill O'Brien

Parish Secretary

Authorised Lay Minister's Report

This year marks three years as your authorized lay minister. As the appointment is for three years, my licence needs to be renewed in December for a further three years.

My three areas of responsibility are preaching, conducting a monthly service of evening prayer at St Laurence Park, and leading bible studies. I preach on the third Sunday of alternate months. My aim is to convey a sense of personal response to the gospel message and to encourage you all to explore further who you are in relationship with Christ.

Evening services at St Laurence Park are my turn on the first and fifth Sundays. Numbers are between 8 and 12 each time. Services are based on the Sunday evening daily office with a short homily preached and four hymns accompanied by piano and clarinet. Individual prayer is available for any who want it as I go round the room asking each person, and most do.

Three bible studies were run during the year: Turning to Christ and Eucharist from the Pilgrim series, and Patience. My aim in running studies is to encourage discussion and reflection on matters of faith and Christian life that is challenging and stimulating in a weekly group setting.

This year I helped form a steering group for our parish's mission action plan, and am the group's coordinator. We have had several meetings together including two with the Archdeacon in his role as mission advisor for parish renewal and partnership within his group of parishes. We have also surveyed the congregation for views about what they would like to see in a mission action plan. A month of sermons was preached by the vicar and myself in July covering the five marks of mission of the worldwide Anglican church as a lead up to the group's work. I note in this year's Synod reports, the Parish Renewal and Parish Partnership programs of the diocese are undergoing further refinement. As these progress, further resources and training for parishes in the coming year will be available to help them form their own mission action plans.

I am grateful for Revd Shirley's support and generosity in sharing her pulpit with me, and for the congregation allowing me to minister to them in the way I do.

Philip Starks

Authorised Lay Minister.

Op Shop Annual Report 2015/16.

This year has been a good one for the Op Shop.

We have 25 or more shop volunteers on board that work together harmoniously. Thankyou to each and everyone who have worked so hard and made the shop perform so well!

Our shop was open for 50 weeks during the year, and, in addition, to our usual shop hours we had two "Nights at the Op Shop" which were very successful.

The total income generated by the Shop amounted to almost \$74000.

The breakup of that income follows:

Melbourne Cleaning Cloths	\$1041.80
Sothern Textiles	\$155.35
Fashion Parade	\$1189
Weekly Sales	\$67994.20 (this included 2 NOTOS).
Work for the Dole	\$3602.33
GRAND TOTAL	\$73982.68

There is no shortage of clothing and other donations from the Lara Community, in fact in January we had to stop accepting donations for a period of three weeks, because we had so much more than we could process!

Clothing excess to our shop needs is on sold to Melbourne Cleaning Cloths, who replaced Southern Textiles in February, when Southern Textiles stopped payments.

New racks were fitted in January which was a vast improvement! Many thanks to Alan Sullivan who made these racks for us. An Air conditioning unit was added to the sorting room.

New concrete crossovers constructed in September have made car parking easier.

We have an additional band of volunteers who provide training for staff, take unsellable items to the tip, look after banking, repair toys and clothing, provide our own Op Shop News etc. Thank you to each and every one of you for making these things happen!

We attended two Area Networks Meetings at East Melbourne and Corio where ideas were exchanged with other Op Shops!

Again my thanks to our wonderful volunteers.

I am confident that the year ahead will be a good one!

Dawn Teesdale

Shop Co ordinator.

Annual Report for the Op Shop of the Parish of Lara with Little River for the Op Shop annual meeting held on 16th November 2016

The Op shop has continued to trade well over the past 12 months with a total being transferred to the Parish account of \$56,500- from 1 October 15 to 30 September 16.

The annual report from the treasurer, that has been audited, shows an income of \$73,982., with expenses totalling \$6,125-. The difference between the amount transferred across to the Parish account and the actual income made, shows in the balance at the beginning and the end of the church financial year with considerable funds in the account at the close of September.

Over the past 12 months there has been an air conditioner purchased for the sorting room making it much cooler for the workers in the heat of the summer months. Hanging racks were made which has extended the space for more clothing to be displayed and last Christmas we had to use a skip bin to remove some of our excess, so another cost to the shop.

Southern textiles no longer picks up the excess clothing as there was no payment from them for over 2 ½ months with them owing the Parish in excess of \$1000-. Melbourne Cleaning Cloths now picks up on regular basis though their pricing is lower than Southern Textiles but at least we are now receiving payment for our unwanted bits and pieces. The parish is very fortunate to be involved in the government's "Work for the Dole" programme providing us with much appreciated funds, adding an extra \$3600- to the shop income. It was decided at one of the monthly meetings not to hold our special Christmas stall for the 2 weeks that we had done previously as the time and effort involved was not worth the extra little money made so we had a Christmas decoration and gift stall at one of our nights at the Op Shop, both excellent nights bringing in a total of \$2194-.

The Op shop continues to support Nungalinga College in the Northern Territory and the payment to the college was increased to \$1500- from \$1000-.

We are most blessed for the generosity of the local people of Lara. We need to be good stewards of the goods donated, selling them at reasonable prices, and if we did not have these donations we would not be in the reasonably healthy position we are in today. Volunteers have tried to price goods before they are placed on the shelves making it easier for customers, so they don't have to ask how much goods are and then being disappointed. And also making it easier for those on the till, not needing to make the decision on the spot.

Management and volunteers need to be congratulated on a job well done, and to see the shop grow as it has, over the past 12 months has been wonderful.

Lee Allan Urbanski

Treasurer

ANNUAL REPORT – JENNY CUNNINGHAM

MONDAY MORNINGS IN THE YOU YANGS

Monday Mornings are very special – the weather is always kind, as we meet for an hour traipsing through nature's landscape. The air is fresh and stimulating, with a hint of eucalyptus.

The Spring has been spectacular, abundant rain has revitalised all the trees and plants. With the blossom of the wattles and gums, superb. Bees are busy gathering nectar.

Koalas are few. I believe they have all headed to the ranges beyond Anakie. There the bushland is more dense and the surrounds are secluded.

The kangaroos, mothers with joeys in their pouches are numerous, along with the small black swamp wallabies. They stand and stare as we pass, holding their paws in front, knowing they are safe, away from shooters with their dogs.

One morning we noticed a brown pot shaped nest in a tree, made from clay and fibre.

It belongs to the Chough, other names Apostle Bird, Black Jay, Black Magpie or just plain Jay.

This nest is very solid; it can be used for many breeding seasons. One may be seen at the information centre.

Newcomers are very welcome, come along when you can

Jenny Cunningham

52 822 687



Mission Interest Group

Jesus told His disciples, "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; AND YOU WILL BE MY WITNESSES IN JERUSALEM AND IN JUDEA AND SAMARIA, AND TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH." Acts 1:8.

It has always been the aim of the M.I.G. to deepen its knowledge of how the church is still spreading the Christian Message world-wide today and how we can support, especially through prayer. We have always aimed at keeping the congregation informed and involved in fulfilling "mission", especially overseas and in cross-cultural situations. This remains our aim.

This was also the purpose behind the Sermons (from Rev. Shirley and Philip) preached during our July – Mission month – "The Five marks of Mission." Can you recall what these five marks are?

The Parish responses included:

- 1) The support (through monetary donation, etc.) of Bushi-Kori Christian Centre, Uganda over the last two years.
- 2) ABM and CMS boxes regularly filled and collected, as well as used stamps gathered.
- 3) Morning Tea donation to "Act of Peace" – Refugee Ration Challenge (both at Christ Church and Holy Trinity).
- 4) Caring and generous response to Operation Christmas Child (shoe boxes of children's gifts. (Samaritan Purse).
- 5) The Op Shop continues to sponsor Nungalinga College in Darwin (\$1000 annually).

This is now the end of our third year of monthly meetings of M.I.G. and we thank the Cohens for their gracious hospitality. We began with six members, and our Vicar. Due to health issues, holidays, etc. the number of members has decreased and we are currently "having a break", but will resume in the new year -- and all are invited to attend. Dates, times and venues to be advised.

Meanwhile, suggestions to Parish Council which ultimately decides on the Bi-annual Support Destination, 2017 and 2018 are:

1. Bush Church Aid (Outback Australia)
2. Africa Inland Mission – personal support to one family (Rob and Tianne Varicek).
3. Bible Society -- (Translation, production and distribution of Bibles).

Wendy O'Brien

M.I.G. Member

Social Events Committee Annual Report 2016

We enjoyed an active and fun year!

The church year began with a great Christmas Dinner (on 21st November) at which Parishioners honoured our fabulous Opp Shop workers.

A week later we sold lucky jars and cakes at the Lara C F A Market.

We started the calendar year on Feb 6th with a "Country Style" dinner. It was well received.

A few days later we enjoyed the hospitality of Little River Pancakes Night!

Early March we had a Movie Night at St Mary's where we enjoyed the movie "Boy Choir"

In April, there was the first of two "Nights at the Op Shop". Thank you to all those who made these nights so successful!

On May 1st we held a very successful "High Tea".

Then we held in June a Breakfast with the Speaker being Rev. Rosemary Maries (Barwon Health).

Our Op Shop Fashion Parade followed on July 21st. It was again very successful. The models were glamorous.

A Sunday luncheon titled "A Ploughman's Lunch" was held on 21st August. The food was divine!

The second "Night at the Op Shop" was held on September 29th. It again proved successful.

To round off the year in October we held another Movie Night at St. Mary's where we saw the excellent movie titled "Woman in Gold".

My sincere thanks to all on our Committee who worked so assiduously!

Thanks also to all our wonderful Parishioners who attended our functions, and/or provided help with providing most delicious "tucker" over the course of the year.

William O'Brien

Secretary

52nd Synod Report

For what seems most of the last week, Philip Starks and I attended the 52nd Synod with 700 others.

Synod was held at St Pauls Cathedral on four days or nights. It runs very much on the Westminster System there being two houses the house of the clergy and the house of Laity. For legislation to be enacted it has to pass both houses.

The major bill that we considered was the Professional Standards Uniform Act (which could be better named "the procedures to be followed when someone alleges bad behaviour in the Anglican Church".

That bad behaviour might come in the form of:

Excessive personal criticism	Ridiculing a person
Threatening or intimidating a person	Ignoring a person
Behaving in a hostile way	Sexual misconduct etc.

This has been a problem for some years and up to now the major investigation role has fallen to Bishops . Some Bishops have not done very well with this responsibility!

This Bill which was passed yesterday sets up a procedure that can be seen to be fair and reasonable.

It is a procedure that will show to the Royal Commission the church is fair dinkum about addressing this issue.

I should mention that this is not a problem limited to the Anglican Church, or the broader church, but also the scouts, prestigious schools, swimming clubs, in fact most walks of life.

This new procedure will be costly in terms of time and money as it looks to Heath Professionals for assistance.

Some other matters discussed included:

A problem right across the Diocese of under Insurance of Churches. It is very hard to assess the correct insurance value on say a church built 75 years ago with say heritage implications.

This will take a few years to correct and will no doubt lead to significantly higher insurance premiums.

So endemic is the problem that the Diocese has taken out insurance for the under insurance. This first step will increase our insurance costs by \$500 virtually forthwith!

Another piece of news is that It is intended by the Diocese to remove the burden from Treasurers to paying directly the Vicars stipend. Next year they hope that all Vicars will be paid centrally. Of course, we will still have to provide the money!

Finally, Peter Jones (Little River) has faithfully served as our Synod Rep for the last number of years, however because of an age limit in the Synod legislation, he was not allowed to continue. That is how I got the job!

Well Synod voted yesterday to remove the age limitation as it was deemed to be discriminatory. They deemed that persons over seventy two can have valuable contributions to make to the church, which is a relief don't you think!

Philip and I thank you for the opportunity to serve on the 52nd Synod and thoroughly recommend, if, in future years you get the opportunity to serve on Synod, that you will grab it with both hands.

Thank you.

Bill O'Brien

LARA BOOKWORMS

This has been another very good year of reading and we have had some excellent books and some very animated discussions. We decided to try our local Library book club books this year with moderate success. We have 14 members most of whom have been with us since the Lara Bookworms started 10 years ago with Rev. Elaine Ryan. Next year we will be returning to the CAE Book club reads as we were never able to have enough books to go around from the Library, which was somewhat frustrating.

The year started with a very dry but well researched history of Australia and its indigenous people. Interesting but most of us failed to finish reading and decided it was not a book really suitable for book clubs. March's read was the novel "Room with a view" which was quite a good read. That was followed by "The Secret Electric Constable," a fascinating crime story and very cleverly written. "Jasper Jones" was another who did it novel with an Australian background, and then the haunting tale of "We need to Talk about Kevin," which several members found too confronting. "Women in Black" was an hilarious tale of shopkeepers at a fictional shop in Sydney, but was actually a marvellous take on "Georges of Collins Street" in its heyday. There were many laughs and old memories recalled. Our most interesting book just read was "The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks". A true story of the very sad life of an American negro wife and mother, who died from cervical cancer in 1951 aged 31. Henrietta had the most unusual cells, which multiplied faster than anything scientists had previously been able to achieve. These cells have gone on to form many vaccines such as the Salk vaccine for Polio, the cervical vaccine for teenage girls and still today are the subject of continuous research. Not a book we would read again, but the book that has produced the most interesting discussions this year.

We celebrated the 10Year anniversary with a dinner in June and look forward to our end of year celebration in November. We also thank Freda our secretary for all her work this year, which has been somewhat more difficult, and for getting the books each month from the Library. Thank you Freda.

LARA FOOD RELIEF

Lara Food Relief has been able to assist many families and individuals throughout the current year. It is sad to see how many people in our community are struggling to make ends meet and how grateful they are to find help and understanding through this Outreach Programme, which is so wonderfully supported by the whole Lara community. We are open on Monday Mornings between 10.00am and 1.00pm and at other times by appointment or urgent need. I am very grateful for the help and support of the Volunteers and Leaders who run this programme every week and thank them most sincerely for their time and efforts.

Lara Food Relief wishes to thank the following organisations in Lara who give so generously to this programme. Without your support we would not be able to achieve the amount of help we are currently able to give. Not only do we supply a wide variety of food, but we also give \$10.00 Petrol Vouchers in an emergency and Pharmacy scripts for medication when needed.

Thank you to: -

Bendigo and District Bank

Andrew at Lara Quality Meats

Second Bite

Beta Sigma Phi, Laureate Tau Chapter

Lara CWA

Lara Curves

Meredith Lodge

Lions Club of Lara

All who give Private Donations in money or food.

We are enormously grateful for your support of this very worthwhile and needy service.

Helen Glare

Coordinator

Lara Food Relief

Youth Group Report 2016

Lara Youth started a year ago with about 3-4 regular youth attending and has now grown to about 7-10 regularly attending, aged between 12 and 16. Normal activities consist of "Clan Nights" where the focus is mainly on team building and strengthening bonds through fun activities, and on alternate weeks, "Kickstart", focusing on talking through life skills, personal issues and sharing the Word of God.

We attended three Geelong United Events of Christian music and evangelism. At one of these events one of our youth gave their life to The Lord. We believe this is an amazing opportunity for our youth and in the future expect to continue attending every term.

We wish to thank the many volunteers from this church who have made each youth meeting so much more enjoyable by providing a meal every week.

We plan to continue with these activities into the future, by God's grace.

Ruth Murphy, Jennifer Ratcliffe, Georgia Smith and Keenan Fry

Dear Rev. Shirley, Holy Trinity Lara Parish, and Christ Church Little River Parish,

I'm writing this short essay to convey how grateful I am for having you and your parish as places for me to study about ministry. It was all very great from how you and the parishioners organized my visit and programs for me to follow in order to introduce me to how Anglican Church runs their programs. Also, it was all challenging for me to study these all new stuff from your church and the people. But the greatest thing I have found in your church is the greatest love we have to give to stranger. Not to show the stranger that we have higher position but to show the stranger the God's love that breakthrough every border we have in society.

Once again, thank you for loving so abundantly. I am feeling so loved by your presence during my internship period.

Hasta la vista. Till we meet again.

Blessings,

Mikhael and Family

Nominations received so far for Parish Council:

Jenny Cunningham

Philip Starks

Lee-Allan Urbanski

Peter Jones

Wardens

Patricia Peart

Garry Green

Incumbency Committee

Peter Jones

Patricia Peart

Please note the Electoral Roll is not the same as the Parish Roll, your name needs to be on the Electoral Roll to vote at the Annual Meeting

