



Keeping connected — between members of Gloucester Uniting Church on a weekly basis

## Covid-19 crisis *Messenger*

*Then I heard the Lord say, "Whom shall I send? Who will be my messenger?" I answered, "I will go, send me!"*

## Zoom together again this Sunday

Nineteen of our church members linked into the Zoom get-together last Sunday morning in a first-ever inter-active on-line "morning tea" to simulate our social gathering after the regular church service.

This, of course, will never replace the face-to-face togetherness of our after church morning teas, but it is a permissible step towards normality in the present Covid-19 crisis.

While to date we have been unable to provide Zoom services from our own church, there are a number of other services we can link to, including the Mid North Coast Presbytery service at 9am each Sunday.

The people who last Sunday connected were Rhonda Merchant, Jenny Shaw, Claire & Collister Reynolds, Sandy & Bob Tebbet, Sue Thomas, Kerry & Bruce Chisholm, John & Cathy Hoskin, Jeff & Hilary Kite, Barbara Reichert, Joan Harwood, Peter & Shirley Hazell and John & Anne Williamson.

To those who were not connected last Sunday, John Williamson is the expert to connect you in the future if you feel you want to.

The linkup was so successful it will be held each Sunday morning for another seven weeks until June 14 when it will be reviewed.

### The link for next Sunday

**So this is the new link for the scheduled "Church Morning Tea" Zoom meeting:**

Topic: Church Morning Tea

Time: May 3, 2020 10:30 AM Canberra, Melbourne, Sydney, Every week on Sun, until Jun 14, 2020, 7 occurrence(s)

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/75757429855>

Meeting ID: 757 5742 9855

Sunday's reflections, prepared by Rev Dr John Hoskin, will be sent as a separate email on Friday.

## Some snippets of news from our church people:

Valerie Viertel of Scone and formerly of Gloucester thanks our church for the weekly Messenger emails. They are greatly appreciated, she said. "So best wishes to all my friends at church over in Gloucester. Hope to visit after all this virus upheaval has been resolved," Val says.

*The Hazell family had a surprise visit over the Anzac weekend, not from a family member, but from a turtle! The turtle turned up for a visit, and after free overnight accommodation, he or she continued slowly on his or her way.*

**The death has occurred of Lillian (Nash) Isaac, late of Bowman River Road, aged 86, she will be remembered by all who knew and loved her. She is a sister-in-law of Shirley Hazell.**

Claire Reynolds has mature lettuce (or lettuces), more than she can eat in a couple of weeks, and has them to give away. You can even have them delivered by ringing her on 0428 852 966.

*Shirley Hazell is trying to give away crocus plants, bulbs and all. She will also deliver by ringing 0400 489 265 or pick up from 87 Barrington Street.*

**This is the place to advertise for free spare flower and veggie plants, or any surfeit of vegetables or flower bulbs you want to give away. Give Peter a ring on 0400 489 265.**

Gardening seems to be a popular activity in this Covid-19 isolation period, so we are this week presenting a "What to do in the Coming Winter months" segment which is organised and presented by the Gloucester Garden Club:

Watch out for frosts in case you need to cover tender plants or spray with Envy.

Cut back watering on indoor plants as they are generally tropical and don't like really wet feet. Having said that, if they are in a heated room they will dry out quickly. Not a bad idea to take them out once a week, when the sun has

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## GLOUCESTER UNITING CHURCH

**Ministers: Every member of the congregation  
Phone Secretary Kerry Chisholm 6558 4206**

## Project Reconnect

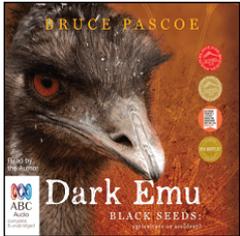
The sermons from Project Reconnect are now available free of charge on their Facebook page or website each week. Just go to [projectreconnect.uca.org.au](http://projectreconnect.uca.org.au) and click on "Sunday Messages for the COVID 19 Emergency" and you can view them.



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### Worthwhile reads

*By John Hoskin*

I'm in the middle of reading Dark Emu by Bruce Pascoe and echo Bob's comments.

While it is quite text-booky I think the methodology works, because by seeing the writings of the early European explorers and settlers we can see their record of what they saw/experienced but also appreciate the cultural lens and bias that shaped their view of the significance of what they saw. Pascoe's gift is that he is making the lens and bias very obvious.

I have also just finished reading the autobiography of Archie Roach, "Tell me Why: The story of my life and my music".

It is simply written, straightforward to read, and tells an unvarnished story of what it like to grow up Aboriginal in Australia in the time I also grew up (we are roughly contemporaries).

One effect was that it had me recalling my own very different story in parallel with his and had me reflecting on the privilege, opportunity and supports from which I benefitted.

While his style is not preachy, the message is clear. His reflecting on life, faith, mystery, love, family is both uplifting and challenging. For me it was a very worthwhile read.

### CHURCH ELDERS

- **Chairperson:** John Williamson
- **Secretary:** Kerry Chisholm
- **Treasurer:** Jenny Shaw
- **Elders:**
  - Sue Thomas
  - Colin Charles
  - Collister Reynolds
  - Bob Tebbet
  - Jeff Kite
  - Allan Cornish
  - Megan de Witte
  - David Collett

### Gardening tips for the coming winter

*(Cont. from overleaf)*

warmed up, and give them a hose. This also removes house dust and gives them some fresh air.

Now is also a good time to begin bigger jobs such as new garden beds etc.

Make the most of autumn leaves, either in the garden or compost bin. For those who complain about them, remember, they are God's free fertilizer.

Time to spray lawns for bindii. You might need a follow up spray if more seeds germinate towards the end of winter. Once the seeds are formed, it's too late - you have a new crop for next year. Also keep winter weeds out of the garden before they seed.



You could now be growing peas and broccoli (above) and your beans are now finished as they are a summer crop.

*Do your part to silence gossip — don't repeat it!*

*Button up your lip securely*

*"Gainst the word that brings a tear*

*But be swift with words of comfort,*

*Words of praise, and words of cheer. — Loucks.*



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