



GR Stirling Lecture 2016

The **GR Stirling Lecture** has been held annually since 1996 with the purpose of stimulating conversation about the identity and mission of the movement known as 'Churches of Christ'. This year's GR Stirling Lecturer is **Dr Merryl Blair**, Senior Lecturer in Old Testament at the Stirling Theological College in Melbourne. The title for Merryl's lecture is:

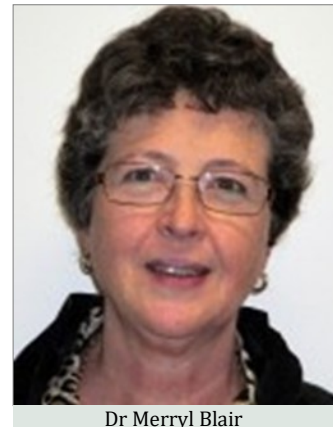
"Christians formed and transformed around the Lord's Table"

Coming together in communion at the Lord's Table has long been recognised as the 'central' focus of worship in our movement. We have assumed that this is a distinctive practice that identifies us specifically, among the wider expressions of Christian community. Certainly, our practice of 'open table' demonstrates an understanding of what the Lord's Table means (for example, in terms of 'host' and 'guest') that is very different from the traditions that practice a 'closed table'.

It will probably come as something of a surprise to many to hear that our movement has been involved in an International Dialogue with the Roman Catholic Church for around 30 years. For the past 4 years, this has focused on our joint, and different, understandings of coming around the table of the Lord. Ecumenical Dialogues are an important forum in which we not only learn more about other traditions, but also learn much, much more about ourselves, because we have to explain to someone outside our 'family' just who we are, and why we do the things we do. So much that we take for granted comes to life during this process.

Merryl Blair has been the Australian representative on this Dialogue for the past 9 years. She has learnt not only about who we are, and who Catholics are, throughout this

experience; perhaps more importantly, she has learnt the joy of sitting in the same room with people of different views; listening and being listened to respectfully; sharing experiences of God at work in the life of God's church; and what it means to be formed by the Lord's Table.



Dr Merryl Blair

Merryl will share some of this process of Dialogue with you in the Stirling Lecture. She will also share with you what she has learnt, from participation in the Dialogue, about being a community who is formed and transformed at the Lord's Table: being formed in faith in God's ability to provide nourishment; being formed to live through suffering and death, into a life of resurrection; being transformed as a people who must continually be open to God's future; and being sent from the Table to be the people of God in the world.

GR Stirling Lecture 2016

7.30pm on Thursday October 13
at Tabor College,

181 Goodwood Road, Millswood
[carpark access off Mitchell Street]

Sponsored by the
Tabor Churches of Christ Study Centre

Selfie Sunday: Be Part of the Big Picture

Selfie Sunday is nearly upon us... so it's time to respond to your Frequently Asked Questions:

What's Selfie Sunday again?

A day to take a snapshot your church community. Read the documents on the [Selfie Sunday website](#) to learn more.

What is the date of Selfie Sunday? The postcard doesn't say.

A recommended date is the 16th of October. However, you can use any Sunday in October that suits your church.

Is Selfie Sunday just for small churches? How do we take a photo of a lot of people?

Selfie Sunday is for churches of all sizes; a snapshot in time of the hugely diverse Churches of Christ family. Large churches might choose to take a photo the big sea of faces, or take photos of different segments of the church so that the faces are more recognisable. If you need to submit more than 10 photos, email contact@selfiesunday.org

Why are you asking for information about our church?

So we can get to know and learn from our wider church family. Selfie Sunday is also a snapshot in time for future historians, in the same way the [Jubilee History](#) tells us about the early days of Churches of Christ in Australia.

How do we submit photos and information?

Find the UPLOAD tab on the Selfie Sunday website. This will generate a profile for your church. If you have difficulty using this, you can email contact@selfiesunday.org

What do we do if we can't answer all of the questions?

Just do what you can! Don't miss out on your church being Part of the Big Picture.

What about privacy issues?

You will need to let your congregation(s) know their photo will be used on the Selfie Sunday website, and allow anyone to leave who doesn't consent to this. Check out the website for more information and forms.

Why is there an option to include names of people in the photo?

Selfie Sunday is a community building exercise. One of the fun things you will be able to do on the fully-formed site is search for the names of people you met on a camp in 1963, or who attended the same youth group in 1975, or who you met at State Youth Games in 1999 (etc).

Selfie Sunday will also create a historical resource for your children's children's children (etc). The information for Selfie Sunday will be stored forever! It will be interesting to trace Churches of Christ families over time.

If it is difficult to record everyone's names, (especially for large churches) a named photo of the church leadership team will be a helpful inclusion.

What do I do if I have questions or difficulties?

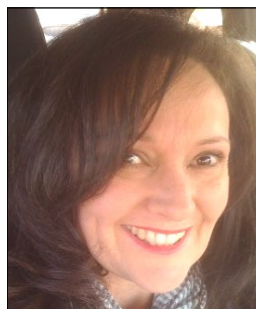
Please check out www.selfiesunday.org in the first instance. General questions can go to Janet Woodlock: jwoodlock@churchesofchrist.org or 03 9488 8800. Technical questions can be directed to contact@selfiesunday.org

Thanks for the interest and enthusiasm from so many in supporting Selfie Sunday. Make sure your church is Part of the Big Picture!

Janet Woodlock
Federal Coordinator,
Churches of Christ in Australia



Be Part of the Big Picture



CareWorks is very pleased to welcome **Karen Hoffensetz** to the team as our new Financial Counsellor. Karen will spend her time offering valuable assistance to people escaping Domestic Violence.

You can listen to Geoff Payne talking about CareWorks on Radio Adelaide.

www.radio.adelaide.edu.au/careworks-sa-caring-for-communities/



Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Girls' Night In

(Women of All Ages)

Marion Church of Christ

Cnr Marion Rd & Alawoona Avenue, Mitchell Park

Friday, 14th October at 7.30—9.00pm

Cost: \$5 (pre-purchase preferable for catering)

Bring: A donation of a small box of chocolates to acknowledge Carers as part 'National Carer's Week'.

Contact Marion Church of Christ: Ph 8277 7388 or email admin@marioncc.org.au



12th October:

Responding to Domestic Violence.
Facilitator: Helen Lockwood

7th December:

Strengthening Families and Protecting Children.
Facilitator: Jo Jarvis



Magill Church of Christ

61 St Bernards Rd, Magill

Saturday 15th October, 10am—4pm

Devonshire Tea, Korean Food, Sausage Sizzle,
Cakes & Slices, Jams & Preserves, Bric a-brac,
Pre-loved clothing & books, Jewellery,
Crafts & Gifts

Jumping Castle, Face Painting

Entertainment by One50 Dance, Sing Australia,
Korean Song n Dance Troupe, Chicago Band

Disability parking on site.

Churches of Christ in SA & NT Annual Convention

Living Hopefully



Friday Night Celebration

7pm on Friday 11 November 2016

at Marion Church of Christ
cnr Alawoona Ave & Marion Rd Mitchell Park

- A time for Worship and Thanksgiving
- Sharing stories of what God is doing among our churches
- 'Living Hopefully' – a challenge from Mark Riessen

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us **a new birth into a living hope** through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead..." [1 Peter 1:3]

Saturday Business and Reporting Sessions

9.30am – 4.00pm on Saturday 12 November 2016

at Marion Church of Christ
cnr Alawoona Ave & Marion Rd Mitchell Park

Before Lunch

'Living Hopefully' – a Keynote Address by Greg Elsdon

The things we do together: *Stories of faith and hope from*

- CareWorks
- Global Mission Partners/Indigenous Ministries Australia
- Churches of Christ Life Care
- The Tabor Churches of Christ Study Centre

After Lunch

Annual General Meetings:

- Churches of Christ in SA & NT Building Extension Mutual Fund Inc
- Churches of Christ in SA & NT Inc

Communion – led by Doug Walladge, Conference President





On Saturday 17th September we had an AMAZING day at the **Happy Patch Spring Fair**! God provided lovely weather all day and it only rained as we were in the final stages of pack up - God is faithful! Thank you to all who came along. We had between 2000 - 3000 people through the gate and all of you made this a day to remember!

Throughout the day people commented on the fabulous range of stalls, fantastic speakers, and great food. The free "Happy Trail" was a big success and it was great to see so many children walking around with their faces painted, carrying craft activities, paper pots and insect hotels!

The day would not have been possible without the support of the members of the Happy Patch Community Garden and Happy Valley Church of Christ; they have donated countless hours to make our day such a success. The day was also made possible by a community grant from the City of Onkaparinga. It is great to know that everyone went home with happy hearts and big smiles!

Beck Stevens - Happy Patch Community Garden Coordinator and member of the Happy Valley Church of Christ.



GMP & Indigenous Connections

There is an exciting opportunity, as part of State Conference, to explore together connecting in meaningful partnerships both in Australia and overseas. Featuring Nick Wight, Indigenous Ministries Australia Coordinator East, and Val Zerna, Global Mission Partners SA Partnership Coordinator. Come and join us as we share information, resources and ideas on engaging in indigenous and global partnerships.

Saturday morning 12 November 2016
Marion Church of Christ
Cnr Alawoona Ave & Marion Rd,
Mitchell Park



Jon Owen, Uncle Alan Palmer, Billy Williams, Jonathan Hermanwan, Nick Wight and Keenan on the anthill.

For further information contact Val Zerna – val@gmp.org.au or 8352 3466

Churches of Christ in South Australia and Northern Territory
114 Henley Beach Road, Torrensville
Phone: 8443 7572

PO Box 743 Torrensville Plaza SA 5031
Email: reception@churchesofchrist-sa.org.au

If you would like to subscribe to the Need2Know email, go to:
<http://www.churchesofchrist-sa.org.au/> then go to "subscribe", where you can enter your name and email.