



# Annual Report

## 2012 – 2013

Annual General Meeting  
Sunday, 30 June 2013  
Anglican Church of the Holy Cross  
56 McLean Street  
Melville WA 6156



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## Rector's Report

The last year has been a catalyst in the church for growth and new starts as we have revisited what it means to be a loving community for Christ that endeavours to remain true to the Gospel. We are continuing to see growth spiritually and recently numerically as well which is a real blessing. It has been a year of settling, evaluating and embracing some change as following our last Annual Meeting we moved from two Sunday services to one. I am delighted to say the new service time of 9:00 am has been welcomed by our members and proved to be a good decision for Holy Cross. We have become even more united as we have worshipped together as one congregation and our fellowship after the service over coffee and sometimes even breakfast has been greatly valued.

My thanks to all who serve on rosters and support the ministry of the church, to Jill Bowman our church warden, our church council, the media team, the mainly music team, the Kids Plus+ team, the jumble team, the tennis team, the gardening team, the roster team and all who have done such a fantastic job in keeping our church and grounds running so smoothly and looking so good. We have proved that we work well in teams and this is a real strength of the church. If you do not yet serve on a roster as part of the team please consider joining in, you will not only be welcomed with open arms but you will surely experience Gods blessing as you offer your gifts and serve in this way.

I would also especially like to thank Peter Bowman for not only stepping up to take on the role of Treasurer for another year but for doing it so well and keeping us aware of the financial challenges in the church and to Betty Smith Gander for auditing our church books.

## **Rector's Report (continued)**

The church is in a healthy position spiritually and we have some great resources that we can build on over the coming year with regards our people and church buildings but it is clear that as part of our Christian duty and response to Gods blessings we will need to look closer at our finances in the weeks and months ahead. In examining the books and looking at the trends of financial giving it came to light that during the building of the new worship centre some eight years ago there was an overspend of \$200,000. Having sold off the rectory we then, two years later, had to rent a property for me when I arrived. These decisions set us on course for a continuing and substantial deficit budget. Even though we no longer have the cost of renting a property since Wayne and I purchased our own home, we are still not coming close to covering our weekly expenditure through our weekly offerings.

We cannot change the decisions that were made in good faith all those years ago and there is no use trying to go over old decisions especially as most of those who were present on council at that time the decisions were made are no longer here, however we do need to seriously look at what we will do now and in the future to turn our finances around. We must implement a giving program that puts us in the black and enables us to continue reaching out with our ministry projects.

Our financial offering to Holy Cross is something that we all need to reconsider, we can no longer leave it to others but must take on our own responsibility for what we can offer to ensure that Holy Cross is here into the future and is also able to fulfil its mission for today. I am aware that many church members give sacrificially of time, talents and finances but it is also clear that many of our members have not yet made the link between our weekly offering and how the church is able to run from week to week.

## **Rector's Report (continued)**

The fact is that without your financial giving we cannot take care of our church building let alone pay the rates, insurance, electricity, heating, phone, diocese and all other bills, etc. as well as support a minister or fulfil our mission and ministry. Things must improve substantially this coming year if we are to be serious about our mission and ministry, we cannot put it off any longer. If people continue to offer just \$5 or even less, the price of a cup of coffee each week we will be in serious financial trouble beyond the coming year. The bottom line fact is that we cannot survive on this level of giving from so many people in the church.

Therefore each of us needs to be praying and seriously considering if we can increase our own financial offering to Gods church and in support of the mission of the church. These are hard words to hear, but a reality. We are a church which has been blessed with the abundant grace of God, we are a loving community and a family of Gods people and just as any loving family pulls together to meet the household bills we need to pray hard and work together to turn our deficit budget into the black. Our prime focus in serving God needs to be able to turn from worrying about the finances of the church and how we will meet our budgets to doing the work of God in our mission to Gods people and this is only possible if our bills are taken care of by our members offerings. We cannot expect this deficit to be recouped from fundraising alone as none of us has the desire or energy for such frantic fundraising activity. So it is left to us, our conscience and God to provide a monetary solution.

Over the last year we have been involved in some great ministry, fundraising and fellowship events. We have also enjoyed three wonderful weddings in the parish, almost unheard of before, as well as some delightful Baptisms.

## **Rector's Report (continued)**

The church has also excelled itself in the numbers of people regularly supporting the studies and courses that we have put on throughout the year including 'The Power of a Whisper', by Bill Hybels, 'The Apprentice' by Steve Chalke and Hilary Brands Lent course based on The Kings Speech entitled: 'Finding a voice'.

Our festival services throughout the year, excluding the Midnight Communion, were also very well attended and the Christmas Eve Service last year themed, The Grumpy Innkeeper, was said by many to be the best ever. How we are going to follow that this year I do not know but we will try. The Christmas social Happy Hour was also much appreciated and enjoyed by all who came along my thanks to the organisers.

Our mainly music group continues to thrive and I'm pleased to say is still attracting new members. The special LOVE event put on at Easter was a triumphant success and has set a new standard for us to reach in the coming years. Another new group called Kids Plus+ was born this year from our mainly music group and is ably led by Mums and Grans from the mainly music families as well as some help from GFS, this group caters for children up to approximately age 7 and is going really well. Three young girls have recently shown interest in coming to help with our children's work so our prayers are being answered.

Our jumble sales and fete have continued to be popular community events and good sources of income for the parish. Some work is being done by council at the present time to alleviate the problem we have with the storage of jumble items and a grant has been applied for to help with this issue.



## **Rector's Report (continued)**

As we look to the future we will continue to work with Bruce Houston to establish our mission Action Plan which will help us prioritise the work and ministry that we need to focus on this coming year.

To end my report I would like to express that for me this year has been a real pleasure to belong to Holy Cross, I have enjoyed being a part of your journey and seeing you blossom in spirituality. I have also been delighted with the way you have welcomed with open arms people of all ages into the church it has been an inspiration. Please let us all keep working on this and continue to guard against apathy, the growth of the church is coming about because of the way we are being moulded into the likeness of Christ and the way in which we are happily sharing this with others.

Let the God in us touch the God in others as we seek to provide for His mission and grow Gods kingdom together.

With love & blessings  
Revd. Debbie

## Wardens' Report

All our buildings continue to be free of any significant maintenance issues and the gardens and grounds have continued to be well kept and tidy. The lawn mowing roster is being supported by two visits per year from a contractor and the gardening donations pay for a gardener to attend to the garden on a needs basis. An unexpected expense this year was a service on the lawn mower.

We have continued to benefit from both the Church and the Church hall being used by others which brings the community to us as well as a source of income. A few changes to the storage arrangements have given more room to move equipment from the hall to the end storage room. It is envisaged that these changes will encourage other users group to hire the hall, producing more income.

A maintenance matrix has been posted on the pinup board. The ongoing maintenance of the building will ensure the church buildings continue to provide us with a safe comfortable worshipping space.

The very good state of the gardens and buildings are in are a credit to us all. To keep it this way we need to continue to support each other. God has blessed us in so many ways, maintaining the church building is a small way we can give thanks to the Good Lord.

Jill Bowman  
Warden

## Secretary's Report

I attended and recorded the Minutes for eleven of the Church Council meetings and was an apology for one as I was away on vacation. All were confirmed as a true record of events taking place, signed by Rev. Debbie and filed in the Minute Book.

“Mainly Music” was recorded at each meeting as being extremely successful and in February 2013 a new innovation called Kids Plus+ was launched. This programme is for 5 – 7 year olds, is a Christian group affiliated with Girls' Friendly Society.

Unfortunately in July 2012 our hard-working Church Council member Joy Millard resigned due to other commitments.

The matter of finances, or lack thereof, was discussed at several meetings during the year and several courses of action were discussed.

A very successful Children's' Service was held on Christmas Eve, however the Midnight service was poorly attended and will be discontinued.

As I have just been 'filling in' as Minutes Secretary for the last 18 months, I would like to extend my best wishes to Revd. Debbie, the incoming Parish Council and hopefully a new Minutes Secretary.

Jenny Stone

## Treasurer's Report

I am pleased to be able to present to the congregation the Financial Accounts for the The Anglican Church of the Holy Cross for the period 1 May 2012 to 30 April 2013.

Expenses have been reduced. Comparing the 2012/2013 financial year expenses with the 2011/2012 financial year there has been a 6% reduction in expenses, after allowing for extraordinary items (these relate to an insurance claim & the subsequent purchase of a photocopier). The Parish Council is ever mindful of the need to watch our expenditure and look for value for money in any expenses incurred.

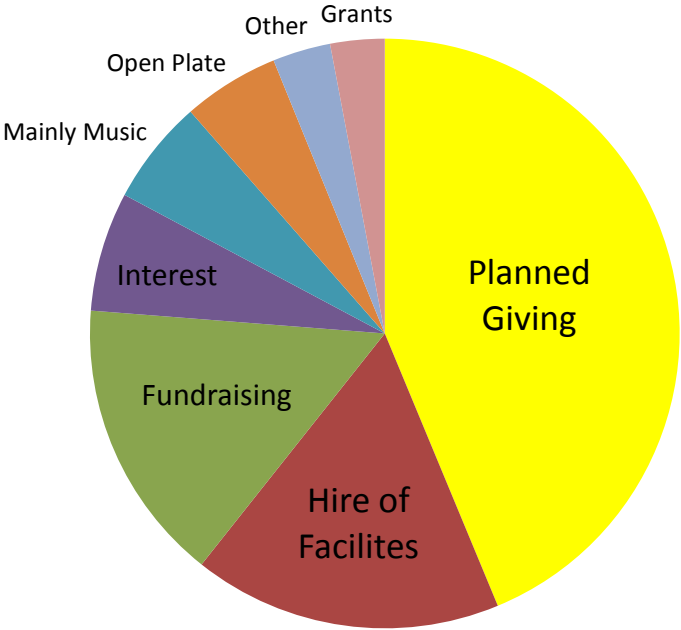
However, our income has declined. After allowing for extraordinary items, income for 2012/2013 has fallen 11% compared to the income received for 2011/2012. Lower receipts from pledge envelopes and a 7% net reduction in the money raised at fundraising events, after allowing for fundraising expenses, are some of the reasons for this drop in income.

On a more positive note, our church has considerable assets, in its land and buildings, equipment and very significantly, in its parishioners. Suggestions of how we can better utilize these assets are welcomed.

The following two charts summarise, graphically, the income and expenses for the parish for the 2012/2013 financial year.

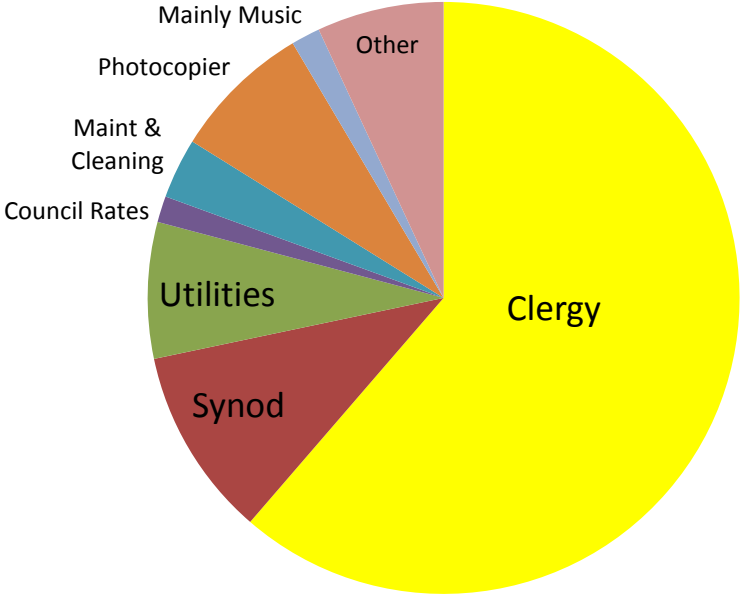
Peter Bowman  
Treasurer

# Income



Total Income: \$ 73,950

# Expenses



Total Expenses \$ 128,780

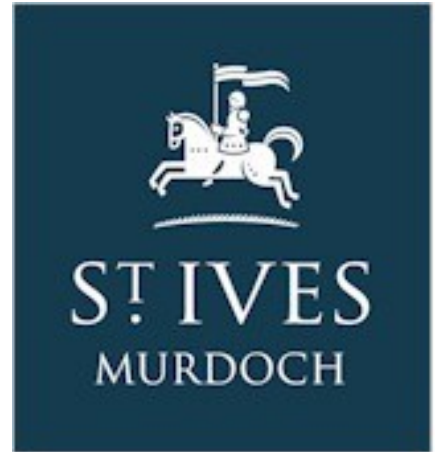
## **Bible Study Group**

### **Tebbutt's Bible Study Home Group**

Unfortunately this group has been in recess due to circumstances beyond our control, however it is our intention to recommence bible studies in June providing there is enough people interested for us to do so. It will be on a Tuesday morning commencing at 9:00 am to 10:00 am followed by morning tea provided by everyone.

## St Ives Communion Service

Beryl and I continue to take Holy Communion into St Ives twice a month on the first and third Mondays at 2:00 pm. This service is valued by the approx. 9 - 12 regular members who attend and over the years we have developed good relationships with both the staff and residents. We always receive a warm welcome and there is usually good conversation following the communion service. We also on occasion discuss the bible readings together during the service and share our insights. An offering is taken and this financial contribution goes to Holy Cross Church.



At Christmas we provided a special Christmas Service in the main lounge and more residents were able to attend this service. They especially enjoyed singing the Carols and hearing the Christmas Gospel reading.

The residents look forward to us visiting and we enjoy sharing communion with them, they are always interested to know what has been happening at Holy Cross church and I often share with them what we have been doing on the previous Sunday in Church, they especially like to hear about what the children have been doing and receiving our church magazine. This is a valuable and much appreciated service that we offer and it is important that we continue to reach out to our brothers and sisters in St Ives.

Revd. Debbie May

## Jumble Sale Report

Jumble Sales continue to be a significant fundraiser for the parish raising approximately \$3,360 in the last financial year.

On the Friday before the jumble the tables have to be set up and the merchandise put out. This usually takes about two hours (or less if there is a good turnout). On the Saturday of the jumble there are signs to be put up, customers to be served and a tidy up afterwards. This takes about 3½ hours, from 8 am to 11:30 am. So if you can help, it would be most appreciated.

I'm sure that some new blood would re-invigorate this valuable parish institution. It's a great practical service and good fellowship.

There are six categories of sales that make up our Jumble:

1. White Elephant
2. Books
3. Clothing
4. Cakes
5. Morning Teas
6. Plants

Each category making an important contribution to the jumble as a whole. To those that assist with each of these categories, a big thanks.

Please, if you are making a donation of goods for the jumble remember, we can't sell electrical items.

Peter Bowman

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## Melville Kids Plus+

Melville Kids Plus+ is a new group which started in February this year. Kids Plus+ takes place on Thursday evenings between 4:00 pm – 5:30 pm throughout the school term and our aim is to reach children aged 4 - 7. The group has started well and has about 10 - 12 children on the books with approx. 8 - 10 children attending weekly. Our initial idea was that we would start small so that we could iron out any problems and tweak the way we run before attempting to grow larger. This has been a good exercise and now we are feeling ready to start attracting new members. We charge \$10 enrolment fee per child which gives the child membership to GFS and then charge just \$5 per family per week to cover costs. (All of the income will be ploughed back into the group). We were fortunate to be awarded a grant from the Anglican Youth Ministries Foundation Inc. for \$1,000 towards resources.

The groups aim is to provide the Christian message in a safe environment and all our leaders have Police Clearance and WWC cards. Two of our leaders have completed a Senior First Aid course. We try to do things to the best of our ability and provide good quality resources for the children because they are special in the sight of God. This also means they are special to us too and we want them to know and feel this.

Sometimes helpers have struggled to attend because they have their own children who fall outside the age bracket of the group but we feel it is important to keep within the age boundaries for the safety of the children and because of the age appropriate activities that we provide. Parents can still help by preparing craft activities at home even though they may not be able to be present on the night.

## **Melville Kids Plus+ (continued)**

We have five helpers who turn up on the evening to assist (four of these are mums and grandmothers who we got to know through our mainly music programme; Yvonne, Penni, Judith, Carole Lynne & Emma,) along with myself but we are still looking for an overall leader and we are praying for God to bring the right person forward to take over this role.

We are a committed group and excited about the new possibilities of reaching children with the gospel message and nurturing them on their Christian journey as well as planting some fresh Gospel seeds. Our leaders are keen and faithful and very adept at thinking on their feet, coming up with good ideas for extra games and crafts. We appreciate the work that Noeleen and GFS put into planning the draft weekly programme and are working together to establish a programme that will work best for our situation and context in Melville. We are pleased to be a part of the GFS / Kids Plus+ group and look forward to what God will bless us with this coming year.

We would greatly value your prayers as we settle down and seek to establish the group.

## Mainly Music Report



Mainly music has grown from strength to strength. Each week dozens of excited babies, toddlers & mums arrive for their weekly dose of music, dancing, chatting & fun. It is such a wonderful opportunity for our babies & toddlers to interact through the fun of music & movement. Learning to follow instructions, directions, body parts, use musical instruments, biblical teachings and the joy they experience as they dance under bubbles.

For many families they are there for so much more than the music. It is a chance to get out of the house & have some fun and make new friendships. It is a fantastic opportunity for many mums share and support each other through their parenting highs & lows of the week. So often we hear mums complain that they can't come when their children are sick – they often miss it more than the children!

Without our many willing volunteers there would be no mainly music. Special thanks to the team for leading us & to all the ladies who tirelessly work in the kitchen each week.

Kelly Cartwright &  
Leanne Bowman

## **Sunday Club Report**

Up until recently, we have endeavoured to keep the Children's Ministry active at the Holy Communion Service on Sundays at 9:00 am.

Our current attendance varies only slightly, but mainly involves 4 - 5 children per week (aged 6 & above), with 3 - 4 infants.

This has been a vital learning opportunity to the children of the parish to discuss not only aspects of the bible, but how it relates to our every day life within our family, school and community.

They learn about the teachings of Jesus, how to develop a loving and close relationship with Jesus and God, and how to apply Christian values in our thinking, whether we are interacting with others, or whether we are dealing with situations on our own.

The children feel secure and protected by the other parishioners, and are given a sense of belonging when welcomed back into the parish after Sunday Club teachings, and the fellowship displayed during morning tea.

They are given the opportunity to develop a sense of occasion and tradition when included in communion, and learn more of the parish workings and it's members when involved with the weekly notices and hymns.

As evident in other parishes with the closure of children's Sunday programmes, the survival of the church becomes a point of discussion. Families will seek churches that provide an environment for their children to learn about God relative to their age.

## **Sunday Club Report (continued)**

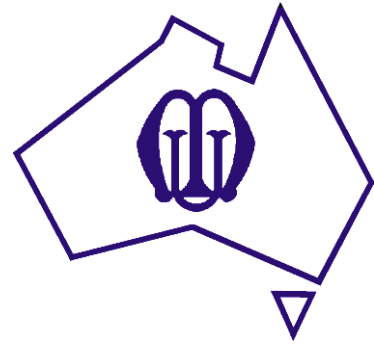
As agreed, I have attempted in Term 2 to create a weekly programme of hands-on activities to tie in with the sermon being given in the “grown up” service. I have, unfortunately, been unable to attend the last 2 weeks due to medical reasons, but I should be able to attend the final week before end of Term.

Placement for the Sunday School teacher is now open for Term 3 and 4 for the remainder of the year.

Emma Charlton.

## MU Australia – Melville Branch Report

MU members, besides being part of a 4 million strong worldwide movement are integral to all church activities at Holy Cross. Members are involved in:



- writing intercessions
- providing communion
- morning teas
- supplying baptism bibles
- altar duties
- flower roster
- birthday cards

This year the projects we have supported and raised funds for are:

- Overseas – Nyanmar Nursery – a parenting program in the Solomon Islands (\$80)
- Northern Outreach – support and training for all clergy in remote communities(\$50)
- Mainly Music – (\$50)

The project we like to focus on supporting is Mainly Music – several members volunteer each week. Members also attended the annual “Lady Day” service at St Johns Fremantle. We regularly attend council meetings and this year visited St Hilda’s School Chapel for a very pleasant outing.

Our membership consist of woman of different ages – not everyone can be active in the “doing” due to their life commitments and or stage of life – however everyone is able and does pray.

All members have a prayer partner who they support and pray for and members regularly pray for chaplains in the armed forces as well as undertaking the recommended annual bible study.

The group would welcome and encourage new members – you don't need to be a mother to join.

God's Blessings.  
Betty Rushforth  
Branch Leader.



## **Multi-Media Team & Church Website**

I am delighted to report that we now have a small but dedicated team that provide the audio visuals for worship at our Sunday services.

In previous years when we had two distinctive services it was easier to provide either contemporary or traditional resources as appropriate. The challenge we face at the moment is to combine the two and provide music and video that enables us all to worship. We work hard to achieve the correct balance but would welcome kind and constructive comments. One area that we would like to improve is in the control of sound levels, unfortunately the equipment we are using does not allow for this to be achieved easily. A small sound mixer would be very useful but at this stage the necessary funds are not available.

Our Website continues to be a valuable resource to our members and to the wider community; we are regularly being contacted through and receiving positive feedback about the site. We have recently changed the way the site is hosted which has not only saved the church money but enabled us to provide a more professional site and a mobile site for smartphones. In its first month the new website has had 90 unique visitors with 432 page loads from people in Nigeria, India, Belgium, South Africa, United States, The UK and all of the major cities in Australia.

On the website you will find details of the services and readings, an events guide, the Church Magazine, Audio copies of Revd. Debbie's Sermons, Photo Galleries plus a host of other features and information. There is also an exclusive member's area (see Wayne for password) which hosts our Members Directory, Church Council Agendas and Rosters.



Please have a look and let us know what you think.

We also post updates on Church activities on Facebook and Twitter.

If you feel that you may be called to serve on the Media Team please have a chat with one of the team members or the Rector.

[www.holycrossmelville.org](http://www.holycrossmelville.org)

[www.facebook.com/holycross.melville](http://www.facebook.com/holycross.melville)

[twitter.com/HolyCross6156](https://twitter.com/HolyCross6156)



# Chaplain's Report Order of St Luke Healing Ministries Perth Melville Chapter



**OSL** Healing  
Ministries™

The Order of St. Luke the Physician  
in Australia

## Services

- **Thursday 5th June 2012:** Address: Icons and Prayer presenter: Revd. Graham Manolas.
- **Sunday 14th October 2012:** First Inter-Chapter Service, St Andrew's Anglican Church, Shelley, refreshments were provided by Melville Chapter.
- **Thursday 1st November 2012:** OSL and the All Saint's Day Service conducted by Revd. Debbie May and Mrs Beryl Shooter, who preached.
- **Thursday 18th October 2012 –St Luke's Feast Day:** Service in St George's Cathedral, Perth Guest preacher, Dr Paula Gooder, (UK). Perth Melville Chapter well represented, members provided assistance with refreshments.

## Membership

- Thursday 2nd August 2012: Mr Michael Arnold, welcomed as an Associate Member.
- Sunday 14th October 2012: Mrs Betty Smith-Gander, Mrs Hazel Dagg inducted to full membership by Revd. Ross Fitzpatrick and Mrs Beryl Shooter, St Andrew's Church, Shelley.
- Mrs Val Collins retired following many years of faithful service, which included playing the organ, attending conferences inter-state.

## **Order of St Luke (continued)**

### **Lone Members**

There are three lone members in the Perth Melville area. All three have been contacted by the chaplain.

- One person wished to discontinue any further OSL association.
- Another person showed some interest, whilst the third has not been well enough for a chaplaincy visit to date.

### **Pastoral Visits**

- Pastoral visits to Mrs Greta Atkinson during her lengthy hospitalization.
- Mrs Val Collins in her retirement village.

### **Current Issues**

- Advertising OSL services: the local Community Paper, shopping centre, Diocesan Bulletin.
- Advertising will be added to Holy Cross Church website
- Plans in progress for St Luke Day Service, St George's Cathedral, Sunday 13th October 2013 at 5 pm.

### **Achievements**

- The W.A. State Banner has been found.
- Since June 2012, it is now displayed in Holy Cross Church, Melville.
- The Healing Ministry commenced following Sunday Eucharist, last Sunday of each month, Holy Cross Church Melville.
- All State Executive meetings, OSL Retreat June 2012, attended by chaplain.
- The chaplain: chose to fund all expenses incurred. Expenses excluding retreat fees are in excess of \$200.00.

## Order of St Luke (continued)

### Acknowledgements

- Hospitality: Melville Anglican Church, the support of Revd. Debbie May.
- Mr Wayne May offered to include the OSL flyer on Holy Cross website.
- Mr Wayne May: generously presented the chapter with a set of CD's of hymns.
- Mr Peter Bowman: photocopies OSL flyers and services.
- Convenor/Treasurer: Mr Roy Rigby, his friend Mr Croft, who has been honorary auditor.
- Secretary: Mrs Norma Tebbutt: retired following many years of faithful service. A pot plant was presented to Mrs Norma Tebbutt as a token of appreciation by the chapter.
- Mrs Hazel Dagg: welcomed as Chapter Secretary. We wish God's blessing upon her as she undertakes this responsibility.
- The support of all OSL members and associates.

The spiritual growth within the chapter provides the necessary encouragement for embracing a new year, with enthusiasm and with God's help.

Beryl Shooter  
Chaplain

## Parish Newsletter

Our old Xerox photocopier was damaged beyond repair in a storm in December 2011. Fortunately for the parish this loss was fully covered by insurance. A new Ricoh colour multifunction printer/copier/scanner was purchased with the insurance money in June 2012 and is now being used to print the monthly Parish Newsletter. The new machine not only allows us to print in colour (this feature is used sparingly because of the cost) but it also folds and staples the newsletters. Previously the folding and stapling were done manually.

We endeavour to produce the newsletter on a monthly basis but this is not always possible. The team responsible for the production of the newsletter is only small. If any of us are on holidays, sick, or otherwise unavailable, it becomes difficult to produce the newsletter. New team members welcome.

If you think you have an interesting story to tell, send us an article. If you have an important event to promote, send us an article. If you want to report on a recent function, event or meeting, send us an article.

Our newsletter is a medium for disseminating information within the parish. We usually print no more than about 60 copies, but at Christmas and Easter we print larger volumes and distribute these, via letterbox drop, to the local community. The magazine is also published electronically and can be found on the Church Website, where it reaches a worldwide audience.

<http://www.holycrossmelville.org/church-magazine-reports/>

Peter Bowman  
m: 0418 947 572  
e: [pbowman@bigpond.com](mailto:pbowman@bigpond.com)

## **Tennis Court Report**

The Tennis Court continues to be a good source of income for the Church. Although usage has reduced somewhat, the annual income is still about \$4,000.

The Court is used mainly during the day by groups comprising senior ladies, who are always looking for new members. Night tennis is nearly always available with only two nights booked regularly.

Coaching for young children still continues with 'Tiny Tots Tennis' on Wednesday afternoons.

Vacancies are available, so form a group and tell your friends.

Norm Kidd

# Notes

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