

# INTERSECTION

SEPTEMBER 2011

By Shona Weston

## ST MICHAEL'S DAY

September 25<sup>th</sup> 2011 is St Michael's Day. St Michael's Day is a day that is celebrated all around the world and by all religions.

This day, in Melbourne, will begin at 7.45am with the **St Michael's Day Breakfast**, with special guest speaker Rachel Lowry. Rachel is the Director of Wildlife Conservation and Science at Zoos Victoria and she will be speaking on 'Fighting Extinction.'

**At 9.30am the Rocks Ceremony** will begin in the gardens on Collins Street. This year we will be honoured by His Eminence Zimwock Rinpoche, from the Jamchen Buddhist Centre, who will perform an animal blessing at the Rocks. Music will be provided by Fuefukuro, the vibrant young Japanese trio of flutes and taiko drum.

The Sunday Service will begin as usual at 10.00am and **Dr Macnab will speak on 'From fairy tales to animal farm. How we can be more human in an animal kind of world.** We do

need a New Faith.'

As a part of St Michael's day, each year St Michael's Uniting Church presents two people with "The St Michael's Medallions." The award is designed to recognise their work in the prevention of

violence, trauma and destructiveness or the promotion of growth, health and well-being.

This year our two recipients will be Dr Helen McCracken and Prof Paul Hemsworth. Helen McCracken is currently the Senior Veterinarian at Melbourne Zoo.



Helen is recognised as an authority on the diagnosis and

management of mycobacterial infections in zoo animals, and has produced many important studies on animal disease and medicine. Prof Hemsworth is the director of the Animal Welfare Science Centre. He has built a research career studying the behaviour and welfare of farm and companion animals, particularly examining the influence of the social and physical environment on farm animal behaviour.

After service all are welcome to join us for The Colonnade Reception, where wine and cheese will be served in the courtyard and tea and coffee in St Michael's Hall.

But wait there's more! **At 12.15pm, Ken Gosbell will present a special presentation**, in the Waratah room, on 'Living on the Edge – The tenuous Life of shorebirds.' This will be an enthralling presentation in which Ken will speak of his enthusiasm and passion for small birds of the world.

The day promises to provide something for everyone, so come along to this prestigious occasion!



## GUIDE DOGS ON PARADE

On Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September, we have planned a gathering of guide dogs and puppies from Vision Australia, their carer's and trainers in the colonnade from 12.00pm.

Vision Australia is the leading provider of blindness and low vision services in Australia. They in partnership with Australians who are blind or who have low vision, and are passionate about providing these people the opportunity to pursue their life goals despite their impairment. This fits the 'Animals' theme of St Michael's week 2011. The gathering will move into the Hall



at around 12.15 for a presentation by Vision Australia's community education team, introduced by Dr Macnab.

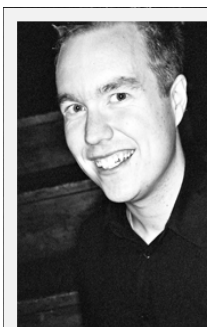
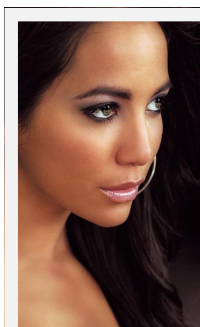
Vision Australia will speak about the training and selection of dogs and guides for the blind, the role of puppy carers and the history of their program. There will be an opportunity for you to ask questions and to meet some of the puppies and guide dogs.

This event will be free and is open for everyone to attend! Please RSVP to

[debra.campbell@stmichaels.org.au](mailto:debra.campbell@stmichaels.org.au)

## CONCERT

On Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> of September at 12.30pm, violinist Sally Cooper will make a warm return to the St Michael's stage. Performing with pianist Leigh Harrold, Sally will kick off the St Michael's week celebrations with what promises to be a brilliant concert! Tickets will be \$20 for adults and \$10 for concessions and all proceeds will go towards the Save Cambodian Children Fund Australia.



## SPECIAL VOICE AND ORGAN RECITAL

On Thursday 22nd September, Soprano Greta Bradman will make a much welcome return to the St Michael's stage in a thrilling performance at the lunchtime organ recital. Greta will be accompanied by Rhys Boak on the St Michael's 1866 Hill & Son Grand Organ and the Yamaha Grand Piano.

Greta has just released a new album, 'Grace', which is a tribute to how music connects with our passions and dreams. 'Grace' is in stores now.

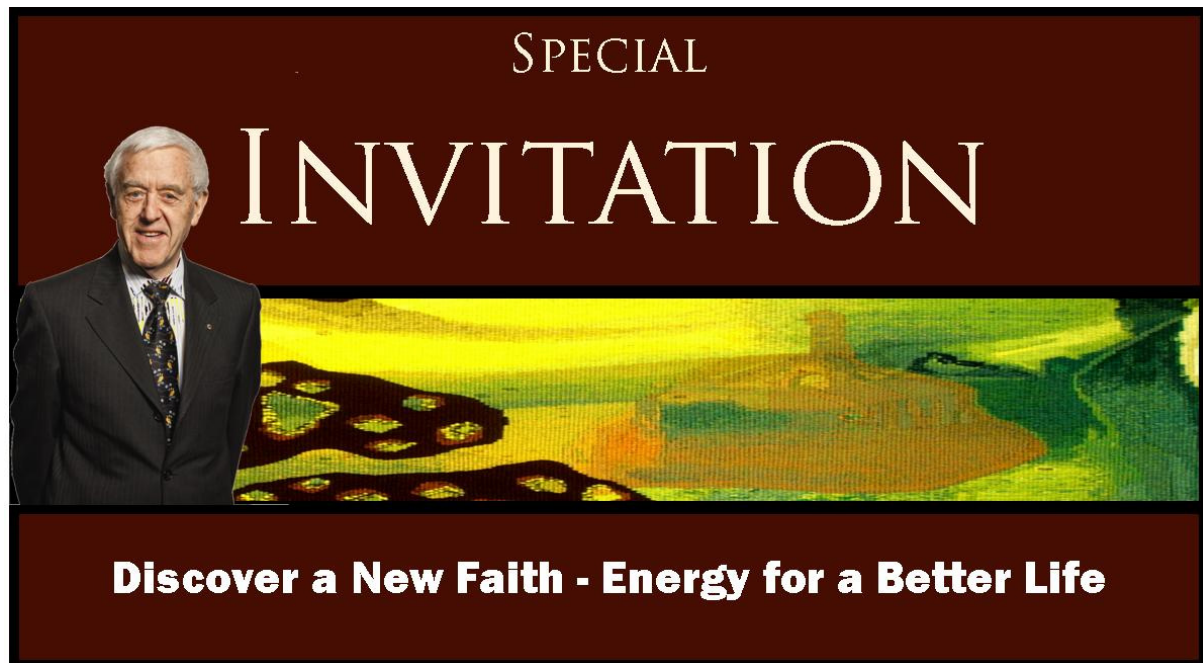
If you haven't yet been delighted by Greta's sublime sound, you



will surely not want to miss this event! You can visit our website to listen to some radio interviews with Greta and hear her sing.

(Events page under September 22nd.) Entry will be free, and any donations will be given towards the Cairnmillar Children's Trauma Program.

## DISCOVER A NEW FAITH - BOOK LAUNCH



On Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September, Dr Macnab's new book 'The New Faith' will be launched at St Michael's!

When Dr Macnab created a stir about The New Faith many were very shocked, though Dr Macnab had been saying these things for more than 40 years. His new

book about 'The New Faith' will give the written version. It contains his two New Faith lectures, the questions and answers of 'The Witness Box' and several of his addresses.

The book launch will see the release of a special edition of the book, 'The St Michael's

Anniversary Edition' in which the Tapestry will grace the cover.

All are invited to attend this occasion which will begin at 7.00pm in St Michael's Uniting Church for a presentation by Dr Macnab. Afterwards you will be able to buy a copy of the book and have it personally signed by Dr Macnab.

We would be delighted if you would join us at St Michael's Centre for the Melbourne launch of Francis Macnab's book on "The New Faith."

This event is part of the 40th Year Celebrations at St Michael's

**Date:** Wednesday 21st September

**Time:** 7.00pm, St Michael's Uniting Church, for a presentation by Dr Francis Macnab.



FRANCIS MACNAB WILL SPEAK ON HIS

### "40 YEARS"

- ... 40 years of building a city church from very little, to an organization of 90 vigorous committees
- ... 40 years of working through religious 'mumbo jumbo'
- ... 40 years of conversations with thousands of people
- ... 40 years of conversations between psychology and a 21st Century Religion

We can look back 40 years. Do we dare look 40 years forward?

BE PART OF THE EXISTENTIAL IMPACT OF "THE NEW FAITH"

[www.stmichaels.org.au](http://www.stmichaels.org.au)



## BHUMETHAN HEALTH CENTRE FUNDRAISER

You will remember that back in the July *Intersection* we published an article about the Bhumethan Community Health Centre in the Ramechhap district of Nepal. The Health Centre was started to provide basic health care and information to the local villagers who are isolated from hospitals. During their last fundraiser, St Michael's donated \$2,000 towards this cause and as such has developed a relationship with the health centre.

A new fundraiser is currently being organised for Saturday 19th

November 2011, at Kew Secondary School. The event will be a multicultural food and entertainment event, whereby local and international talents will perform. The fundraiser will specifically aim to raise funds for the provision of



free public health camps for the marginalised and isolated members of the Nepalese community, including women and children, who are illiterate.

This will be a great event to attend and a great opportunity to contribute your support to a community that truly needs it.

For more information about this event please email

[bhumathan.chc@hotmail.com](mailto:bhumathan.chc@hotmail.com) or visit

[www.bhumethancommunityhealthcentre.org](http://www.bhumethancommunityhealthcentre.org) for more information about this project.

## MUSICAL MORNINGS

On Tuesday 22nd September Magical Musical Mornings with Jonathon Welch AM, will kick off their second series of performances at St Michael's.

This performance is entitled 'The Great Tenor Classics.' It will be a tribute to all the great Tenor classic songs that made the great Tenors famous.

This concert will begin at 11.00am in St Michael's Church. Tickets will be available at the door or email

[musicforthepeople@hotmail.com](mailto:musicforthepeople@hotmail.com).



## THANKS TO ST MICHAEL'S

The following letter was recently published in 'Crosslight' - the Uniting Church in Australia's monthly newsletter.

'Once or twice a year we cross Bass Strait to visit or pass through Melbourne. Whenever possible we seek to include at least one worship experience at St Michael's UCA in Collins Street. This is, for us, an essential component of our spiritual diet and always a time of blessing which helps sustain us through whatever may come. A recent visit was, as always, a highlight of our visit and a boost for our souls. Of course part of the benefit can be attributed to the simple act of joining several hundred people in

worship in a large city house of God. Life in the provinces has many positive features however worship in a greater assembly is always an encouraging experience. Built onto that is the sense of excellence we find at St Michael's. Thank you, to Dr Macnab and the community of St Michael's, for once again sharing with us the excellence of God through excellent worship.

We are rather glad that a group of former Tasmanians elected to go and establish a village in Victoria. We shall most certainly return.'

***Ian and Diane Farquhar Swan Bay, TAS***

## JAMES MACREADY-BRYAN FOUNDATION



The James Macready Bryan Foundation were instrumental in getting a National Disability Insurance Scheme at the top of the Agenda for the Twenty-Twenty Conference three years ago, and have worked tirelessly to keep it on the political agenda.

The National Disability Insurance Scheme aims at addressing the problem of the lack of appropriate facilities for young people with severe Acquired Brain Injury. Because of this lack of facilities, over 6,000 young people are destined for Nursing Homes.

The James Macready Bryan Foundation was established to provide support for the rehabilitation of James Macready Bryan and

others who are in similar circumstances. James incurred life changing injuries to his brain as a result of a fall in which he hit his head. As stated by the James Macready Bryan Foundation website 'when he fell, he also fell through a gap in our social support system, which provides very limited funding for the care and rehabilitation of acquired brain injury patients.' The foundation aims to raise money and public awareness of the plight of many young people in the community who find themselves, through their disabilities, confined to unsuitable accommodation and with the inadequate opportunity to receive appropriate rehabilitation and care.

After three years of campaigning, the Council of Australian Governments has finally listened! Last year, James was installed in the first such building. The fundraising committee for JMBF raised \$50,000 last year, which went towards providing a special sensory room with equipment for the 10 residents. Two more such facilities are on the way in the Western suburbs and JMBF has high hopes to raise a further \$50,000 towards this cause.

St Michael's has always been very supportive of the JMBF and so have assisted in the campaign for a NDIS and the appropriate facilities. Thank you to all who have supported this cause and who participated in signing the petition for a National Disability Insurance Scheme.

## ANNUAL BREAST AND PROSTATE CANCER TRIBUTE SERVICE

Now in its fourth year, St Michael's will host its annual tribute service to honour and remember those affected by breast or prostate cancer.

Five of Australia's pre-eminent cancer organisations will unite to bring together supporters and friends alike to celebrate survivorship, and also to remember those lost to cancer.

Led by Dr Macnab, join the National Breast Cancer Foundation,

Breast Cancer Network Australia, Cancer Australia (formerly known as National Breast and Ovarian Cancer Centre), The McGrath

Foundation and Prostate Cancer Foundation in honouring those affected, as we celebrate life through song, readings and reflection.

A church service of this kind has these vital ingredients;

1. A celebration of life and people;

2. A reminder of the strengthening and consoling power of human support and connectedness;

3. An awareness of how deeper positive, emotions of our inner spirit can be a strong healing and inspirational influence at the critical turning points of our life;

Commencing at 2pm on Sunday 2nd October, the service will be followed by afternoon tea.



## SAGE

### SUCCESSFUL AGEING, GROWTH AND ENHANCEMENT

FRIDAY 23RD SEPTEMBER

Why try to look 20 years younger? What really matters is your personality now.



*With Dr Francis Macnab*

**Time:** 11 am to 1 pm  
**Where:** St Michael's Hall  
 120 Collins St,  
 Melbourne, 3000  
**Cost:** \$18 inc. Lunch

## mingary

### COUNSELLING SERVICE

Professional, confidential counselling for a broad range of personal issues.

Low cost service  
 Female and male counsellors  
 Monday - Friday: 9 am - 5 pm

Due to popular demand,  
 free memory testing continues  
 to be available.

Consultations by appointment only.

**Please call 9654 5120**

**www.mingarycounselling.com.au**  
**St Michael's Place**  
**120 Collins St, Melbourne 3000**

### Creating Successful Life Events (CSLE)

## mingary

WORKSHOP PROGRAM

These interactive small group workshops are for people who want to create their own happiness and enjoy a brighter future.

Next workshop: Friday 7th October

**'Difficult people. Dealing with the toxic terrors in your life.'**

We know that certain kinds of obsessions can be irrational and unhealthy. Productive obsession is quite different and involves putting yourself wholeheartedly into a meaningful passion. Are you suffering from boredom or experiencing your life as lacklustre? Join Dr Lynette Kramer for this interactive program and find out how to become more engaged in your life.

The next title will be;

**Fri 11th Nov** - Missed opportunities, perseverance.

**Cost:** 10.00 per session (includes materials and refreshments)

**Time:** 11.00 am to 12.30 pm

**Location:** Waratah Hall, 1st Floor, St Michael's Place, 120 Collins Street.

**Contact:** Dr Lynette Kramer  
 No bookings required.

## EVENTS TO WATCH OUT FOR AT ST MICHAEL'S!



**Sunday 18th September**

Sally Cooper and Leigh Harrold Concert.

**Monday 19th September**

Guide Dog Parade

**Tuesday 20th September**

Magical Musical Mornings  
 "The Great Tenor Classics."

**Wednesday 21st September**

Launch of Dr Macnab's book  
 'Discover a New Faith.'

**Thursday 22nd September**

Greta Bradman and Rhys Boak recital.

**Friday 23rd September**

S.A.G.E

**Sunday 25th September**

St Michael's Day

**Sunday 2nd October**

Breast and Prostate  
 Cancer Tribute Service

For more details please see the events page of our website.

# ST MICHAEL'S

ON COLLINS - MELBOURNE

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