

**BULLETIN****From David: Memories**

One of my strongest memories from childhood was spending the whole of Monday during school holidays at the Cambridge Cattle Market. It was a huge piece of land on the edge of the city where rural life intercepted city life. Farmers gathered each week to sell and buy livestock – anything from chickens to enormous bulls. Well, they looked huge to a 10 year old.

A group of us would meet early in the morning and because the operators of the market had got to know us, we would be invited to share a breakfast of fresh rolls, butter and cheese. **Sometimes even a pickled onion at 8.00 am.** The farmers were very down-to-earth with big hands and friendly smiles. Always keen to introduce us to the animals and encourage us to help them prepare the big beasts for auction. I particularly loved the big shire horses. So big and so patient. The farming women always kept a thoughtful eye on us and would ‘temper’ some of the men’s expectations. “Don’t forget they are not used to being around animals like these”. Auction time was always an exercise in excitement. Especially when one of the big bulls was not keen to parade around the ring - you could almost feel his disdain for the man leading his 1 ton mountain of muscle around the arena by the ring through his nose. The other challenge was trying to make out what the auctioneer was saying in the strange language they have developed for just this purpose. Unintelligible to most listeners. At the end of the day, as the farmers’ trucks rolled out through the gate, we would jump on our bikes and head home.

**Memories are great ‘places’ to visit but I wouldn’t want to live there.** Not only because I’m not 10 anymore, but because things change, they move on. We change, we move on. When I was last in Cambridge, the cattle-market was gone; re-zoned and now a huge housing estate. The 10 year old has grown up and is not nearly as naïve as he was back then. That delightful period of innocence has been overgrown by a lifetime of experiences; some of which I’d hoped would have faded from memory by now.

**But you know, something of that time has not been lost. I can still look at the world through the eyes of a 10 year old. The magical world of nature and all its diversity still holds me in its spell. I thank God for that, especially at this time.**

**Where did this story come from?**

**Well, I’ve just finished eating a pickled onion!**

**Peace**

**David**

**SUNDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> MAY 2020.** Tomorrow we will continue our encounter with *The Week After Easter* by trying to imagine what it might have been like through the eyes of one Jesus's closest disciples – Peter.

- ❖ We will also share in Communion and do online what we usually do when we are together in one place – we will eat bread and drink wine ‘to remember Him’. So please, have on hand a piece of bread and a glass of ‘wine’ and we will share this simple meal in cyber-space.

See you on Sunday at 10.30 am

Shalom

David

### **WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY - The Book of Revelation: session 3**

This coming Wednesday I will be hosting session 3 of this series. Shortly after starting I will hand over to my colleague Robert Hoskin who has prepared a very interesting study of Psycho-analyst Carl Jung's insights into Revelation and other Apocalyptic material. Should be a very interesting session.

**If you are not already on the invitation list for our study group and would like to join the session, let me know and I will send you an invitation to the Zoom meeting.**

Best wishes

David

### **Bits and Pieces:**

- The **Uniting Church Assembly** <https://assembly.uca.org.au> has some interesting items of interest on their website this week:
  - A newly released **seven-day devotional resource** from the President and the six Uniting Church Synods: *What Sustains Us* is a collective reflection on faith and spiritual practice shared with love and hope.
  - **Breaking the Fast Together** - building harmony virtual IFTAR on May 13<sup>th</sup>
  - **Back to School – Strike4Climate**. Virtual rally.
- **UnitingWorld: Response to Covid19** Our partners in Asia, Africa and the Pacific are providing emergency food, access to clean water and sanitation, care for those at risk of violence in locked-down communities, and loans to support long-term income recovery. **Funds raised through this appeal will support UnitingWorld's transformative relief and development work with local partners in the Pacific, Asia and Africa.** <https://www.unitingworld.org.au/actnow>

If you are in need of pastoral care, please contact David Pargeter 0412 334 334

Please visit our website: [www.stkildaunitingchurch.org.au](http://www.stkildaunitingchurch.org.au) It is updated on a regular basis by Petra.

Mary (treasurer) would like to say ‘thank you’ to everybody who has kept up their commitment to financially support the church during this difficult time – it is very much appreciated. If you would like to make a contribution, the best way is through bank transfer: 013 427. Acct 3108 34465. The only identification needed is ‘offering’ . By mail: PO Box 385, Balaclava 3183

Contributions to these bulletins welcomed – please send to [desleighk@ozemail.com.au](mailto:desleighk@ozemail.com.au)

(photos, articles, poems – anything you would like to share with others)