

What's On

April, 2026



27 27A TRA 400

Photographers
Geoff Edwards and
Mario Mirabile enjoying
our latest community
exhibition.

27 27A



The Meeting Place



MURRUMBEENA
UNITING CHURCH



From the Minister...

Andreana welcoming folk to the launch of the 'Coming Together' Community Exhibition in March.

I had a friend who argued that Easter in Australia should be moved to the springtime – like in the Northern Hemisphere, where it's all about blossoms and bunnies. Here, of course, where everything is upside-down and back-to-front, Easter happens when the leaves are turning orange and red, and the land is beginning to wind down for winter.

But I have come to love our autumn-time Easter celebrations, which make sense to me, here on Wurundjeri land. We have come through the hot, dry season of summer, and we wake to the relief of crisp mornings. We bask in a kinder sunshine that warms our shoulders instead of roasting our bodies. Easter falls somewhere between iuk (eel) and warin (wombat) seasons – a time when the eels get fat and become ready to eat, and the wombats start foraging in the wet earth. Easter, on Wurundjeri land, is a cool, sweet relief.

The world is going bonkers, and we in Australia are beginning to feel the pain. But as the season gives us blue skies and cool green growth, we can be reminded that Life has a way of carrying on. The creeks, for now, still fill with water, and the eels still rush down the rivers and go out to sea. We can find ourselves again, back on Country, where the Holy One dwells, stronger than chaos, stronger than death. That is the Easter story: and it belongs here, on Wurundjeri land, in autumn.

With love,
Rev Andreana Reale minister@murrumbeenauniting.org.au

Holy Week Services

Good Friday @ St Peter's Anglican Church, 371A Neerim Rd, Carnegie (Open-air, combined service), **10am**

Easter Sunday gathering here at The Meeting Place, **10am**

Clumsily, tentatively
we take these first steps
s t r e t c h i n g o u t
our new jewelled wings.

Born again

we open our eyes
to the world

as if
for the very
first time.



Sundays
10am



MURRUMBEENA
UNITING CHURCH
The Meeting Place

Coming Up in April

Learn Robotics!

Learn how to program a robot with experienced robotics teacher Francis Witwicki. This taster session is free (just turn up!), with an option of a 5-week course to follow (\$40). No experience needed.



Robotics Taster Workshop

Sunday 19 April, 2-4pm

In the taster session you will see two demonstration robots. One robot will be using touch sensors to navigate a maze and the other will be using a light sensor to follow a line.

You will get the chance to program a robot so that it dances across the floor. Learning how to control motors shows how simple it can be. Adding the sensors, as he'll do in the course, will show how complex it can become.

Parents/guardians will be required to stay with their school age children.

Robotics Course **Sunday 26 April to 24 May, 2-4pm**

Sessions will run for 50 minutes. First course from 2.30 to 3.20pm and second course from 3.40 to 4.30pm. You can book in to do either session. A limit of 4 students in each course.

One course suited for year 7 - year 10 students and one toward adults.

Community Meal

Saturday 24 April (Anzac Day)

5.30pm Kids corner, meal from 6pm

Held on the last Saturday of the month. Each night is different, depending on who comes along. We could have Games, Open Mic, but we always have good food and company!.

Bring some food to share for this Pot Luck Dinner!



'Coming Together' Exhibition

A huge thanks to everyone involved in our second Community Exhibition. It was an eclectic mix of artwork, something for everyone! Here are just a few images (more will be going on our website).



The launch was a joyous night with many of the artists present. Special guest speaker, Rosanna Blacket, talked about her art practice and people were invited to view her work currently suspended in our church.



Local artist Rachel Mackay holds a lot of knowledge about the art that permeates throughout The Meeting Place. Rachel gave an enlightening artist talks with attending artists and guided us on an art trail around The Meeting Place. Make sure you follow the trail next time you visit.

Cr Kay Rimbaldo



Congratulations to Sharon Mitchell (Shaz), for taking out the People's Choice Award for her work 'Trees of Life'. This was a new feature of the exhibition this year which proved extremely popular. Thanks to artist Louis Balis for donating the prize of two tickets to the Heide Museum of Modern Art.



Every Week at The Meeting Place

Monday

9.30am - 11.30am **Murrumbeena Playgroup**
Activities and play for parents, carers and children.
Contact: info@murrumbeenaplaygroup.org.au



4.15pm - 8.15pm **Grace Gymnastics**
Rhythmic gymnastics for primary and secondary age.
Contact: grace@gracegymnastics.com.au; 0466 902 857

7.30pm - 9pm **Co-Dependents Anonymous (CoDA)**
Support group for healthy relationships.
Contact: Christine 0414 370 658



6.30pm - 7.30pm **Soo Bahk Do (Martial Arts)**
A defensive Martial Arts Class.
Contact: sesoobahkdo@gmail.com

7.30pm - 9pm **Alcoholics Anonymous**
Support group for alcoholism recovery.
Contact: Barry - 0407 867 515



Tuesday

2 - 3pm; 6 - 8pm **JMDdance** (group & private classes)
Social dancing - Ballroom group classes
Contact: Jarrod 0410227803 or Sadhvi 0412802660

7pm - 8pm **Dance Be In It** (group classes)
Street Latin group classes
Contact: Kieren - dancebeinit@gmail.com

Wednesday

10am - 1pm **Knitting & Craft Circle**
Knit and natter, crochet and chatter!
Contact: murrumbeenaknitting@bigpond.com



10am - 12.15pm **Mini Maestros**
Music and movement for babies, toddlers and pre-schoolers. Contact: 9850 5566

12.15pm - 1.15pm **Wednesday Singing Group**
Fun and soulful community singing. No experience necessary. Contact: richard@richardlawton.com.au

2pm - 3pm **Line Dancing**
Easy-to-follow steps with great music and friends. No experience necessary.
Contact: modernlinedancinginc@gmail.com; 0433 076 225

Wednesday

2pm - 3pm

Creative Writing

Write and share - no experience needed! BYO pen/paper or computer. Contact: minister@murrumbeenauniting.org.au

4pm - 5.30pm

AM Dance Company

Ready Set Dance program for pre-schoolers - jazz, tap, hip hop, singing, music. Contact: visit www.amdance.com.au

4.15pm - 8.15pm

Grace Gymnastics

5pm - 6pm

Twilight Gardening

Connect with others over gardening in our community gardening. Contact: murrumbeenagarden@gmail.com

6.30pm - 7.30pm

Soo Bahk Do (Martial Arts)



Thursday

10.30am - 12pm

Mini Maestros

4.15pm - 8.15pm

Grace Gymnastics

Friday

9.30am - 11.30am

Murrumbeena Playgroup



10am - 11.30am

Friday Drop-in

A weekly gathering sharing conversation, great food & activities. Contact: connect@murrumbeenauniting.org.au

Saturday

9am - 12.15pm

Stonnington School of Dance

They teach expert tuition in all dance genres. Contact: office@stonnington schooldance.com.au; 0499 003 722

11.30am - 3.30pm

Grace Gymnastics

2pm - 5pm

Knitting & Craft Circle (*1st Sat. of month*)

5.30pm - 9pm

Community Meal (*last Sat. of month*)

Potluck dinner, kids corner and fun games. All welcome. Contact: 0411 169 723

Sunday

10am

Church Gathering

Gather, sing, pray, reflect. Children, LGBTIQ+ . All welcome! Contact: minister@murrumbeenauniting.org.au

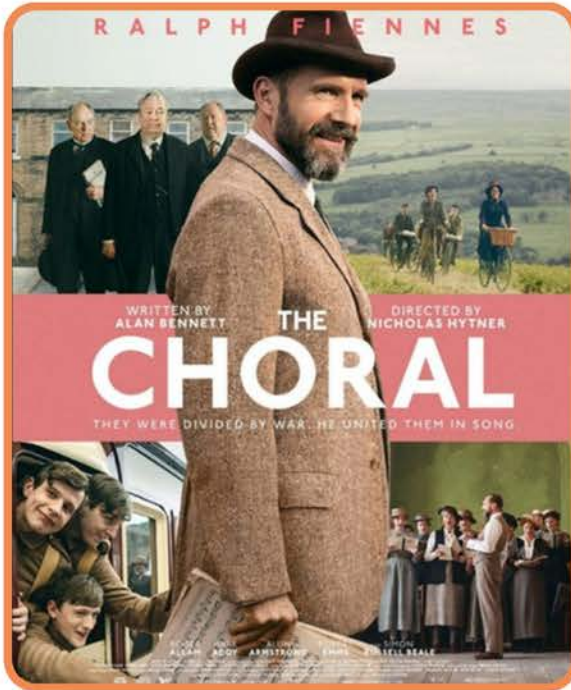


3pm

Melbourne Canaan Gospel Church

Mandarin-speaking congregation. Contact: Pastor Jimmy jimtian7@gmail.com

Group & Activity News



The Big Screen - Movie Thursday 30 April, 2026

The Choral

Doors open **1.30pm** for coffee and chat;
movie starts **2pm**

1916. War rages. The Choral Society in Ramsden, Yorkshire, has lost most of its men to the army. A grand musical production, The Dream of Gerontius, looms. Desperate, the society recruits a new choirmaster and local young males of dubious talent and suitability. The lads, too, have war on their minds.

- Free event
- Comedy-drama. Rated M
- 113 minutes.

If you have family or friends wishing to be contacted about our free movies coming up, send names and email addresses for our contact list to: gredwards49@gmail.com

Friendship Fellas/Mens Group

Saturday 11 April

Breakfast 8am at The Servedy, 5 Royal Avenue, Glenhuntly.

Wednesday 22 April

Friendship Fellas will meet for dinner in the foyer of The Meeting Place, 117 Murrumbeena Rd, at 5.30pm.

The breakfasts are on the second Saturday of every month at The Servedy, Glenhuntly at 8am. The dinners are on every second month. Feel free to contact the office for more information or just come along.

LIFT (Ladies in Fellowship Together)

Saturday 25 April at 9am

This month's LCM LIFT Ladies' breakfast will be at Cafe Omnia in Murrumbeena (486 Neerim Rd). We'd love to see you there to have a relaxing coffee and chat with our friendly group. Please see Nirsa if you have any questions. The church office can pass on her phone number.



Seasonal Art Display

With each change of season a new artwork appears on the wall in the main hall near the kitchen. This project is curated by local artist Rachel Mackay.

On display throughout autumn is 'Wisdom, 2026' by Heather Bradbury. This painting specifically reflects indigenous people finding life-giving water to newcomers on country.



Heather has worked in the media and graphic design industry for around twenty-six years, connecting with people from all over the world. She loves drawing and painting large photo realistic images inspired by nature, reflections and water droplets. She is former Managing Director and owner of KAPI ART SPACE, a Studio Gallery in the Dandenong Ranges where the mission is to bring individuals and groups fully alive in their creative dreams. Heather currently tutors painting online, and also in person - including locally at Bentleigh Uniting Church!

Heather has accepted a year-long position in central Australia managing a gallery supporting indigenous art” at the Cultural Centre Uluru (where touring royals Queen Mary of Denmark and King Frederik X have just visited).



This is a small section of the 'Wisdom' painting

See the artwork for more information or visit Heather's website: www.heatherbradbury.com/.

The Autumn display installed March 5th is due to be shown until the Winter changeover due Thursday June 4th.

Chinese Dumplings

When two faith congregations come together at The Meeting Place what do they do...they make Chinese dumplings!

The Melbourne Caanan Gospel Church started holding their services in January this year. As a get to know you exercise they generously provided a meal for some of us at The Meeting Place. First we were given a demonstration and opportunity to make the dumplings, then we all enjoyed consuming what we made!

We look forward to many more opportunities for us all to come together.



Community Garden

Garden Working Bee

Saturday 2 May, 2026

10am - 1pm

The Murrumbeena Community Garden is such a vital part of The Meeting Place. A committed number of garden volunteers put in hours each week in it's maintenance. There is always more to do and so we would like to invite anyone who would like to pitch in and get your hands dirty, to come along to this working bee.

We will have our regular BBQ to end our hard work.

For catering purposes, please RSVP by **Wednesday 29 April** to:
murrumbeenagarden@gmail.com

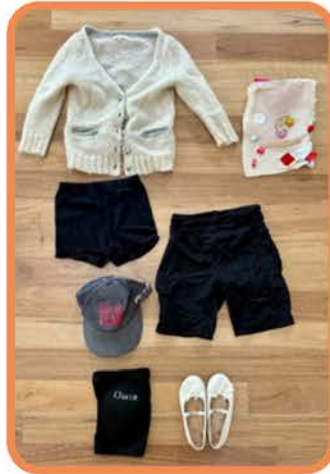


Lost Property

In case you were not aware, we have a lost property box. It is situated beneath the table and noticeboard, opposite Macdonald Hall.

There are quite a few items in the box. We have placed a flyer on the noticeboard showing these items (some items shown below).

At the end of April, any item not reclaimed will be donated to a local Charity Shop.



Care Fund Pantry



Our Care Fund program continues to provide local people with food vouchers and pantry items. In these difficult times we are seeing more people come through our doors seeking assistance.

We always need items such as:

- Sugar
- Cornflakes
- Cooking Oil
- 2-minute noodles
- Canned soup
- Crackers or Sweet biscuits

Join us at The Meeting Place

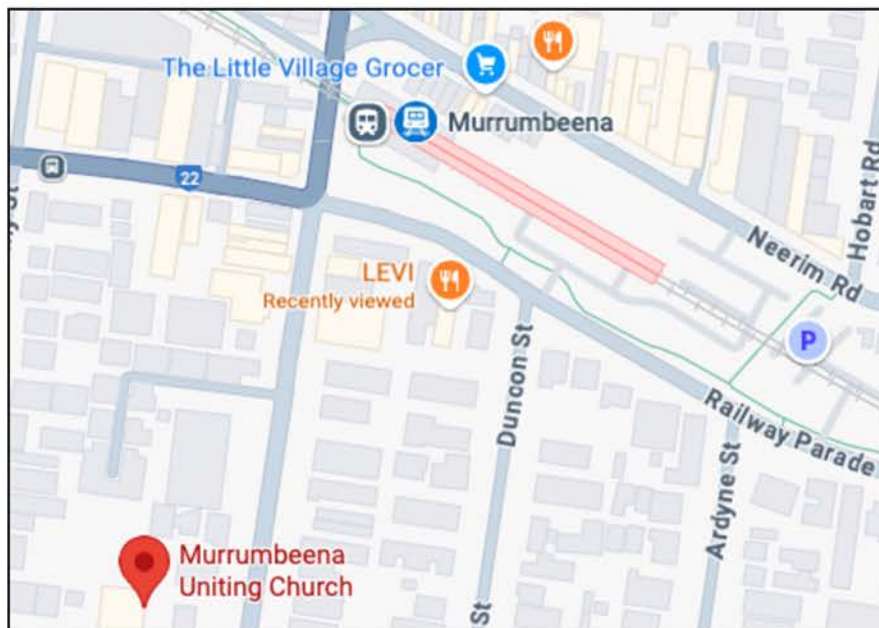
Gathering on Wurundjeri Land



Easter and holiday blessings

Whatever your plans are over this Easter period, we wish you all a blessed time together with your family and friends. Take time to slow down, reflect and do what you need to nurture yourself in these troubling times we find ourselves in. As we sit with the Easter message, may we take hope that there is always a new day, a new unexpected day ahead, and that darkness will not have the last word!

 117 Murrumbeena Road, Murrumbeena



 03 9568 8177

 office@murrumbeenauniting.org.au

 www.murrumbeenauniting.org.au

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 instagram.com/murrumbeenameetingplace