



MY VIEW

'Don't they know its Christmas?'

This well-known expression was used by Bob Geldof a few years ago, when he was making a valiant effort to raise awareness of the problems faced by the population of many African nations as the result of wars or famine. He ultimately got his message across and stirred a lot of interest in many of his peers and improved life for many in desperate need, with money raised by his efforts.

A 'Holy' Day or a 'Holiday'?

It would appear that we are having the same bewildering outlook by some people in positions of authority in local government in our own country. They think that Christmas should not be celebrated as a Christian festival, pointing out that less than 10% of the population is involved in any Christian activity. Therefore, the holiday break at the end of December should be just that, and no mention of Christ or a display of anything that celebrates the Holy birth in any fashion.

Well, this is a minority view, but if any local council wishes to take this further they would be better arranging another celebration at another time of the year and let those with faith do as they have always done.

Victorian Christmas Events

Having got that off my mind, it is surprising, or so it seems, that Christmas is here so quickly. Time does fly and even more will have flown in by the time this appears in print. Just in time to introduce you to the start of our efforts here to bring Christmas into focus. In fact we are going back in time with a Victorian Christmas Weekend starting on Thursday 3rd December through to Sunday 6th December starting with a 'Christmas Carol' recital, then a Come Carolling Concert, a Victorian Christmas Fayre and concluding with a service with a difference on the Sunday. All these are being more thoroughly explained elsewhere in this issue and we look forward to seeing as many of you as possible supporting some or all of these events.

Church Fabric

Our church building has had an eventful year, demanding a considerable effort in maintaining it and also being quite costly. However progress has been made and we are now seeing our stained class windows to full advantage with the cleaning

and repair work carried out so expertly. Dry rot on the north tower was more extensive than anticipated but this repair was completed successfully and the new disabled ramp up to the door of this tower has now made the entrance for wheelchairs less strength demanding, and the design blends in well with the surrounding area. As stated, all this work is costly and some of the money being raised by various methods will help tremendously. Being a listed building the church will have some success with grants to ease the cost of repairs and this is now being pursued.

Attention is now being turned to the projection and viewing screens, microphones and ancillary equipment to make them more user friendly and improve viewing and hearing from all areas of the kirk.

Christmas Blessings

So as we make our way into another year, we thank God for what we have received and will continue with his blessing in doing what is expected of us.

Bill Smart



Christ is 'The Reason' for the Christ-mas Season!



CHRISTMAS CARDS & Gift Tags

Now available
in
The Fellowship Room
before and after morning service

Want something more personal?
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to be made to order?

Contact Doreen
📞 716240
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All proceeds to
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