



The Companion

The newsletter of the Ballarat Regional Healthcare Chaplaincy ministry

April 2022 Ed. 2

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About The Companion:

The Companion (TC) will be the semi-regular newsletter. Although it won't look as fancy as some newsletters, its job is to let you know about dates, events, resources, and other things pertinent to the healthcare chaplaincy ministry across Ballarat & the Presbytery.

It will be available on the Chaplaincy website, in your email inbox or as a hard copy in your letterbox.

Taking its name from our tagline – ‘a companion on the journey when you're far from home’ – and the Andy Gault painting in the dining room at BPCCC, the intention is for this newsletter to be your companion and guide for dates and news. It will hopefully reduce the volume of emails you get from Chaplaincy ... and that is always a good thing.

If you would like to contribute an article, advertise a church event, or share something for ‘The Final Word’ section, get in touch. For now, though, on with the newsletter...

The busy months of February & March:

Chaplaincy was busy across the first couple of months of 2022. February was spent reconnecting with various teams of volunteers and setting direction for the remainder of '22. Plans are underway to lock in dates, speakers, and topics for Assistant Chaplains training. February finished with a Chaplaincy Commissioning Service, attended by almost 50 people from each of Ballarat's UC congregations and hosted at Brown Hill UC.

Chapel services continued at BPCCC in February and during March, Chapel came to most of Ballarat's UC venues. Across March, Chapel went on the road – ‘Songs of Praise’ style – minus Aled Jones. Chapel services were recorded in the church buildings of Ballarat Central, Brown Hill & Neil Street. Each place had a different feel, but we managed to keep the smaller feel of chapel. A big thank you to each congregation

and Church Council for hosting Chaplaincy. We'll have to wait until April 26 to visit Skipton Street UC. Our visit there was delayed due to the break-in in mid-March.

Out of the conversations in February, Chaplaincy will follow up on:

- Intentional discussions with other denominations to explore an ecumenical approach to providing pastoral care in healthcare.
- Forming a small choir to perform & video-record hymns & songs for use in Chapel and other video/online applications. (Contact Andrew or Lyall if you want to be part of this.)
- Staying across opening dates for visiting and other associated restrictions.

Switching Back On:

There is a cautious sense of optimism around the hospitals and aged care venues. There are whispers that external volunteers such as Worship Teams and Assistant Chaplains may be allowed back in for pastoral visiting and church services 'soon'. That's the good news. The uncertainty though, is that we don't know when 'soon' is.

However, the aged care venues of Kelaston, Kirralee and Talbot Place have allowed church services to recommence. After Easter:

- **Kirralee – 1st Wednesday each month @ 10:30am**
- **Talbot Place – 2nd Wednesday each month @ 10:30am**
- **Kelaston – 2nd Thursday each month @ 11am**

Contact Andrew or Lyall if you would like to be involved in these services. If we hear word of other venues allowing volunteers back in, we'll let you know ASAP.

Chapel Roster April & May 2022:

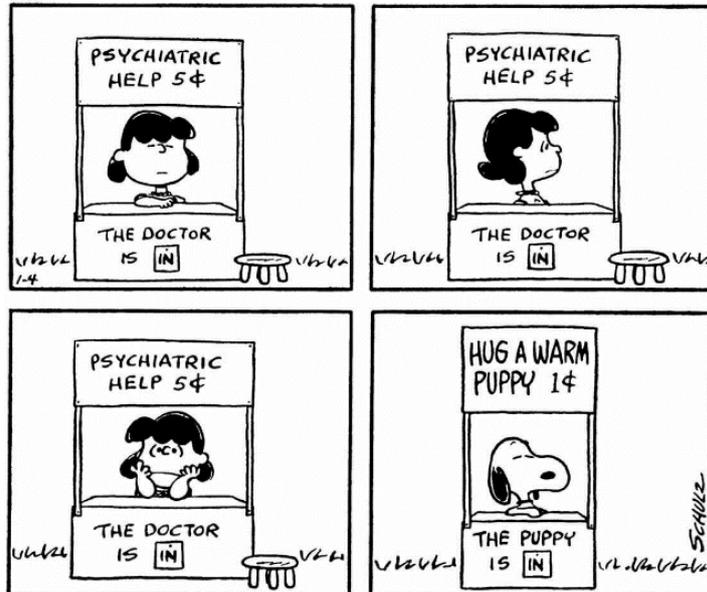
April 5 – Chaplaincy
April 12 – Ballarat Central
April 19 – Brown Hill
April 26 – @ Skipton Street
May 3 – Chaplaincy
May 10 – Ballarat Central
May 17 – Brown Hill
May 24 – Skipton Street*
May 31 – Neil Street



- During April & May, Chapel Services will be recorded at BPC.
- NB. April 26 will be AT Skipton Street UC. The Chapel Service for April 26 & May 24 will be recorded on 26/4.
- Chapel Services will continue to be recorded on Tuesdays at 2pm (unless otherwise arranged) and available for viewing on our YouTube channel by 2pm Wednesdays.

The Final Word...

Maybe that's all we need, right?



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Our YouTube channel (just click):

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCei1wxWQZXW0tnzN9lJEROQ>