

FUNdraising News

Bush Dance



The second of our two major events for the year was the Bush Dance on **21st July**. Our congregation is committed to raising \$5,000 each year for the **Asylum Seeker Welcome Centre** for projects not covered by other sources of funding. In the July Olive Branch we reported that the funds raised in 2017 were used the Development of the ASWC Community Edible Garden, Safe Food Handling Course participation and Refugee Week activities. Andi Jones, Asylum Seeker Programs Manager, had planned to come along to the Bush Dance but woke up very unwell that morning. Ian Ferguson spoke about the work of the centre and our relationship with them to ensure that we all knew why we were coming out to dance on a cold winter's night.



The **Bush Dance**, the whole focus of the evening was loads of fun, successful both as a FUNdraiser and a community event. It was absolutely delightful to see people of all ages joining in the dances especially in the earlier part of the evening with lots of young children learning the steps alongside the adults. We enjoyed the Circassian Circle, Heel & Toe Polka, Virginia Reel, Hokey Pokey, Jubilee Jlg, Opera Reel, Scottish Man o'War and Pride of Eri. We particularly enjoyed the hilarity of messing up the steps and, in typical BUC fashion, problem solving along the way to keep the dances moving.



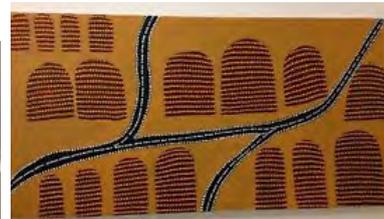
The **Sausage Sizzle** before and between the dancing was hugely popular. Many thanks to Ray Cameron and Chris Emanuel for spending most of the evening out in the cold cooking sausages & onions for our enjoyment. Thanks also to Chris for donating all of the supplies.



Our iconic **BUC Pop-up Op Shop** was a mutually beneficial experience, allowing people to clear out their cupboards and providing the rest of us with the opportunity to snap up some bargains during the evening and in the following Sundays. Many thanks to Helen Burnham for her enthusiasm for the Op Shop. Saide's preserves were popular as always.



The **Silent Auction** gave local businesses the opportunity to support the ministry of the ASWC. Saide sought and received donations from Bus Stop Shoe repairs, Woolworths, Cinema Nova, La Manna Fresh, Mind Games, Pental Soaps, Anamaya Health, Brunswick Health, Emma's Unisex Hair Salon, Royal Nut Company, Lush Cosmetics, Commuter Cycles and Pet Love. See [bush dance businesses here](#). We also received donations from members of the congregation; our thanks to Tim Hoffmann, Julie Perrin, Jenny Cook, Jenne Perlstein and Saide Cameron. We are particularly grateful to Rosalind Smallwood for the donation of the painting 'Eight Warriors of Bedford Downs' by Aboriginal artist Maria Malay, from the Halls Creek area in the Kimberley which was offered for live auction on the night but passed in and subsequently purchased the next day during lunch.



Thank you to the **Bush Dance band** - Natalie Sims, Shawn Whelan, Catherine Leslie, Alistair Hunter and Elaine Potter. Thank you also to Alistair for moving furniture, setting up the hall and packing everything away late into the night after we'd all gone home. Special thanks to our caller Teresa Connelly. And finally thank you to Daniel Whelan for the stunning bagpipe medley offered towards the end of the evening. We all wanted more and I felt very sorry for everyone who left early and missed out on this very special treat.



Together we raised \$3,493.50 for the work of the Asylum Seeker Welcome Centre, not quite our target of \$5,000 - but wait there's more ...



Brooch Lovers Big Day Out

Anyone who was on our property on the morning of the Bush Dance would have noticed the buzz of Brooch Day in the hall. Julie & Peter McKinnon's daughters Kate and Sharni organized this extraordinary event

which saw people from across Australia gathering to share their love, passion and enthusiasm for brooches. Kate & Sharni decided that they wanted to support the ASWC and offered to donate \$800 if we could provide four or five people to help serve morning tea and lunch. We are grateful to Amelia Ware, Emily Evans, Amanda Lees, Maggie Haines, Ann Soo and Leanne Salau for so generously giving of their time in this time. However there was a twist to come in this initially simple plan. Kate decided to run a raffle to raise the money. The prize for the community of brooch enthusiasts was that the winner would be allowed to shop for a whole hour before the doors opened. The raffle raised \$2,676 with the winner flying all the way from Perth with her mother to enjoy this privilege. And on top of this the brooch makers generously donated ten brooches each, the sale of which was further donated to the ASWC. The end result of all this abundant generosity will be donated for the work of the ASWC. Watch out for the final total in the next week or so. We offer our thanks to Julie, Peter, Kate & Sharni for their support of the Asylum Seeker Welcome Centre in this very unique way.



Looking ahead ...

The FUNdraising team will only be running two major events this year instead of three. Each event is a significant undertaking in terms of time, effort and energy. We are a very small team with many other commitments and, with all the varied ways our congregation gathers and the vast array of activities we engage in, it is always very challenging to attract assistance to run the events. So for the remainder of the year we look forward to

- an after worship stall for **World Week for Peace on 23rd September** - you will be invited to make and donate your favourite cake, slice or biscuits, write a story about why it is your favourite and then buy another person's contribution to take home
- a **Backyard Band party on 11th November** for the Olive Arts Collective
- and the **Christmas Bowl Appeal Stalls** after worship on the **first two Sundays in December**.

Saide Cameron