

OLIVE WAY HAPPENINGS



The Olive Way, an outreach of Brunswick Uniting Church

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In Memorium

By Peter Blair

Dave 'Dicko' Dickson

The first time I met Dave he came into Olive Way blind drunk. He was wanting to use the computers but they were already being used. Dave was getting a bit agitated and was pacing up and down, swearing and making a bit of nuisance of himself. I eventually asked him to leave and after a bit of too-ing and fro-ing he eventually left without much incident. The second time I met him he was sitting in the back yard on a hot summers day with a few mates, a cask of wine, and a large bag of weed. I politely informed him that that was not allowed on the property and, after a bit of grumbling he left with his mates. I had come across Dave many other times since then (in varying sates of sobriety), and got to know him just a little. I heard that he had no permanent abode, but he had a loyal group of mates that regarded him well and cared for him.

In one of those times we shared our appreciation for fishing. It turned out that one of my favourite fishing spots back home in Queensland was one that Dave was familiar with and had fished a number of times before. I enjoyed his company, when he was sober, and we had good chats when he was up to it.

Dave died a couple of months back whilst in the city. Once again, it was Dave's loyal group of mates that gathered around him at the end and saw to his funeral arrangements. In all these situations we are always left the wish that we could have had a last opportunity to say goodbye.



Arts and Performance “Let the Earth Speak” Friday 27 Sept - Sunday 6 October

Climate Change is very much on everyone's mind right now.

Some of us have been busy preparing arts works for the upcoming Brunswick Uniting Visual Arts Exhibition on the theme of “Let the Earth Speak”. Participants in ArtStop Arts Access on Wednesday and the Olive Arts Collective on Thursday have submitted works to the exhibition.

Please come along to enjoy browsing and being inspired by over 50 art works on Wednesday 2 October and Thursday 3 October between 11 am and 2 pm on both days.

If you enjoy a night out, come along to the Opening Night on Friday 27 September at 7 pm and our gala performance evening on Friday 4 October at 7 pm.

Free Admission to all events.

Volunteer Profile

By Julie Perrin

Bev Evans

Bev began at the Olive Way in February last year. She's pretty experienced in hospitality, and volunteers in the kitchen every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Bev is very much at-home in what she does, she says, "I'm doing a lot of things I was trained to do." She had forty years as a teacher of home economics, art and science. She taught in Warrnambool on the south coast and she remembers the kids after school would all ride off down to the beach with their surfboards on their bikes, "That was before the days of mobile phones", she says.

Later Bev came to Melbourne and taught in schools up here in Broadmeadows and Brunswick. It's not hard to imagine what a friendly helpful teacher she would have been, her smiling face is so welcoming. Bev's been known to bring in home-made cakes to share and she's a cryptic crossword genius. Every week she works on the crosswords, both the quick and the cryptic, with Pete-the-cook and Sergio; they have to explain the questions to me!

At her home Bev loves to grow plants from seed and has lots of things growing in pots in her small garden. She also visits her elderly mother in Glenroy and supports her to keep living in her own home. Bev is enjoying working in the art room on Wednesdays and Thursdays, and says she feels she can come in as a learner. Actually I think Bev will always be a teacher, she teaches gentleness and kindness just by the way she is.



From the Olive Way Pastor Peter Blair

I will be heading off for three weeks from the 20th September. I will miss you and the usual Olive Way shenanigans whilst I travel. Keep an eye out for a postcard. In the meantime, Olive Way is in good hands with our amazing volunteers and staff. Be safe and see you all soon. Peter

SROC – Our next Performance “In the Waiting Room”

By Damian Coleridge

Are you ever been ‘In the Waiting Room’? Each Thursday, 11.30am at the Olive Way that’s where we are for an hour or so – at the hospital, at the doctors, at Centrelink, at a clinic, at the airport, on the phone, wherever. We write about our experiences and make performance scripts of them. Then we perform them. There’s lots of songs and plenty of laughter as we do so. You don’t have to be a ‘star’ to be in the show, you don’t have to have performed before, just come along if you’re interested and see what we’re doing. Come along if you have a story to tell. Even if you don’t want to be a performer you can make a contribution to the show. What’s it like at the hospital, at Centrelink? What’s your longest wait? Have you ever had to wait longer than 4 hours? We’d love for you to share your experience... In the meantime, here’s a little song we wrote:

Song: Waiting in the Room
(to the tune of ‘Singin’ in the Rain’)

I look up at the screen,
At a glossy magazine,
Got that wonderful feeling,
I’m waiting again.

I gaze round the room,
Have a little daydream,
I’m waiting,
I’m waiting in the roo...oom.

Love to see you there. Any Thursday, 11.30 am in the hall room, at the Olive Way.

Public Performance in October. Watch out for the date to be announced.



PHOTOS are from our last Performance –
“Get Rid of It”. Always Fun – Never boring.

Get Growing!

Do you want to grow something but don't have the space?

Do you want to learn some gardening tips?

The church has granted some garden space for Olive Way punters to try their gardening luck and test their green thumbs. If you are keen please let us know.

The more we have involved the more successful our gardening endeavours will be.



This bare space will soon be developed into a garden. What will we grow? Vegetables? Flowers?
All suggestions welcomed.
Time to put on those gardening gloves and become a Green Thumb.