

Remembering Barry Marshall

□ Biography of inspirational Bush Brother to be launched in Dubbo this month

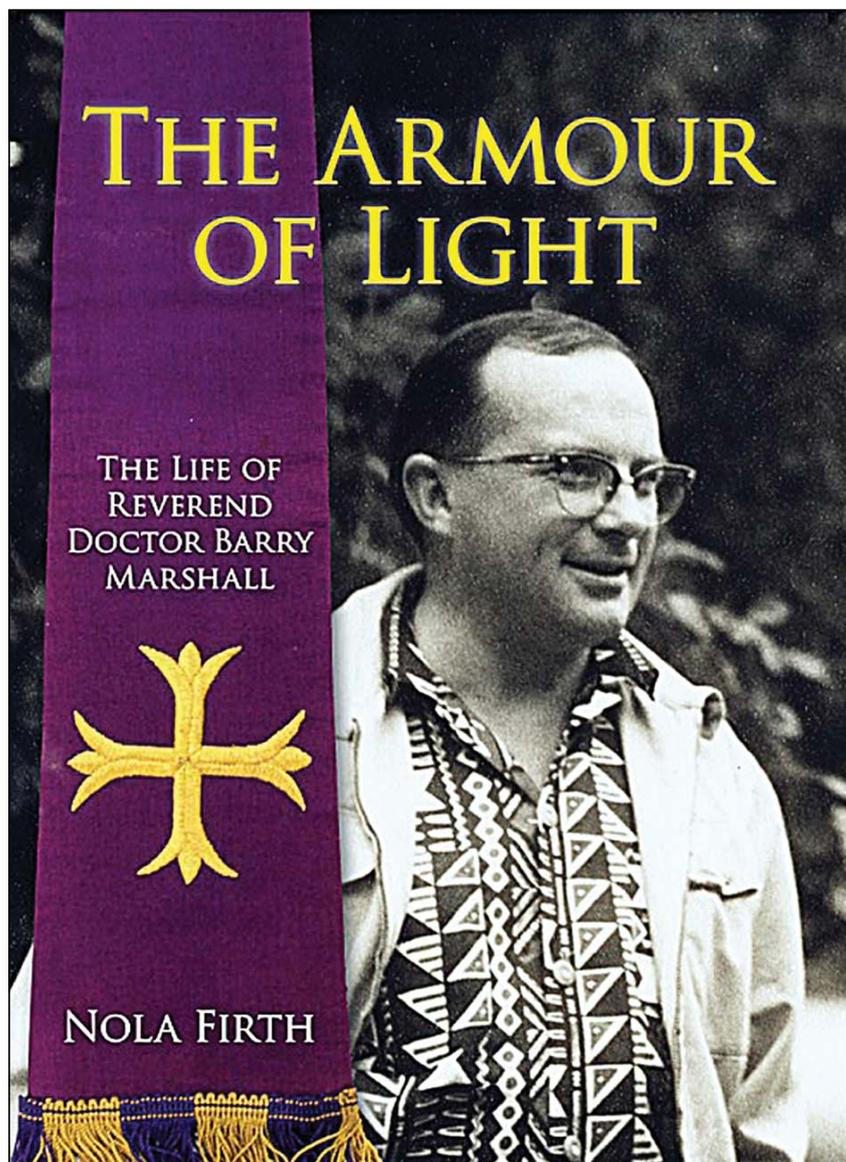
The Armour of Light: The Life of Rev. Dr. Barry Marshall, written by Dr. Nola Firth, will be launched by Bishop Graham Walden at the Brotherhood Room, Holy Trinity Church Dubbo on May 21 at 3pm.

Bishop Graham Walden is well placed to launch this biography. He was a fellow Bush Brother with Barry Marshall (Brother Timothy) in the Brotherhood of the Good Shepherd. Barry and he also spent time together in Oxford.

At the time of his tragic death in 1970 Barry Marshall was probably the most well-known Anglican priest in Australia. He predicted in the 1960s that if the church did not lose its complacency it would be irrelevant in a generation. His total dedication to priestly life, his work as a Bush Brother in Dubbo and Bourke, and his mixture of erudition, playfulness were legendary. To the consternation of his bishops, Barry campaigned against infant baptism. He maintained it was a socially accepted practice rather than a serious commitment to Christianity and as such was a harbinger of the demise of the church. Described by some as a saint, his church rattling alienated others.

A grant from The Australian Theological Research Foundation enabled Nola to conduct interviews with those who knew Barry throughout Australia and in Oxford. For example people in Bourke shared their memories of Barry as their Bush Brother priest in the 1950s. One person remembered that Barry sent out invitations to the Greek cafe owners in Bourke to Midnight Mass. To their astonishment, the invitation was written in Greek and contained the assurance there would be an icon in the church so they could conduct their customary devotions. The archives of the Brotherhood of the Good Shepherd in Dubbo yielded further treasure such as copies of *The Bush Brother*, the magazine of the Brotherhood, edited by Barry and containing excerpts in appropriate (or inappropriate) places from *Alice in Wonderland*. On visiting the archives housed in the venerable, dark-wood furnished library of Pusey House in Oxford Dr. Firth also saw the stone stairs where, a few weeks before his investiture as the first Australian Principal of Pusey House at Oxford University, Barry fell while changing a light globe.

Four decades after his death the influence of the Christian church as an institution has indeed greatly diminished in western society. Despite enormous technological progress and modern development, our society harbours high levels



of depression and suicide, and many are seeking meaning in their lives. Barry Marshall's prophetic view of such things remains relevant.

Dr. Nola Firth's previously published academic work has been in the field of education. She has also published essays and poetry and she was a winner of the Rhonda Jancovic Literary award for social justice in 2015.

Research and publication of the book has been enabled by the support of Trinity College, The University of Melbourne.

For further information about the book and to RSVP for the launch see: firtharmouroflight.com.au

Book price is \$40:00. Twenty percent of the proceeds of all books sold at the launch (cash sales only) will go to the charity Australians for The United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR).

Reconciliation Week: May 27-June 3

May 27, the beginning on National Reconciliation Week, this year marks the 50th anniversary of the 1967 Constitutional Referendum in which the Australian people voted by an overwhelming majority in every state to amend the Constitution so that Aboriginal people were counted in census figures and the Federal Government was given power to make special laws for Aboriginal people.

While it was another five years before any laws were passed to bring real change, the referendum is seen as the beginning of the movement towards equal rights.

The referendum is widely thought to have given citizenship and voting rights to Aboriginals, but in fact these rights were granted in 1949 (although voting rights were conditional, only applying in states which had granted similar rights).

In recognition of the 50th anniversary of the Constitutional Referendum in 1967, *Anglican eNews* features three brief profiles of Aboriginal people with a strong Christian faith, who have made significant contributions to our nation.

David Unaipon

1872 - 1967:

□ the man on our \$50 note

How many of us realise that we have a banknote with an image of a country church? On the left of our \$50 we see the small country church near the mouth of the Murray River where David Unaipon grew up and for years was the church organist.

Unaipon first became famous as an inventor and the \$50 note shows his improved type of handpiece for mechanical sheep shears that he patented in 1909, before electric shears.

He applied for patents for nine other inventions and in 1914 realised that if we fix three boomerangs on the top of a spinning vertical axle we could get lift off, the helicopter effect.

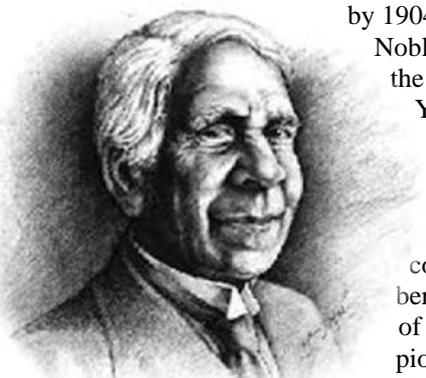
He was not only committed in his Christian beliefs but at the same time proud of his Aboriginal heritage. As early as 1912 he led a deputation to the South Australian government emphasising that the state was failing in its duty to Aboriginal people because their education and progress was left to the voluntary donations that kept missions going.

When he died at the age of 94, Australia lost a great Christian and significant leader.

Angelina Noble

□ a remarkable woman!

This talented Aboriginal woman was born in an Indigenous community somewhere in Queensland around 1879. Abducted as a young girl by a white stockman who renamed her 'Tommy' and dressed her in boy's clothes, she was forced to live with him for many years.



She was finally freed by Queensland police and taken to Yarrabah mission 53 km by road east of Cairns. Angelina thrived at the mission school and by 1904 had married James Noble, a leading layman in the Anglican Church in Yarrabah. She showed outstanding ability to learn new languages. From 1908 to 1910 this Aboriginal couple were key members of the first group of six missionaries who pioneered an Anglican mission on the Roper River which forms the southern boundary of Arnhem Land. Three were 'white fellas' from Victoria and the other three missionaries were Aboriginals from North Queensland.

Angelina, her husband and the Aboriginal Christian carpenter, Horace Reid, were 'missionaries' in every sense of the word as they went to live among people of a different culture, speaking a different language and living in a different, drier climate.

Reverend Michael Gumbuli

□ A leader who is both thoroughly Christian and fully Aboriginal

Michael Gumbuli has been a leader and parish priest for over 40 years in Ngukurr, a remote Aboriginal community on the banks of the Roper River in southern Arnhem Land.

The thousand or so people there have worked together to build their own basketball stadium and swimming pool and many worship together in their Anglican church.

He speaks English and two of the Arnhem Land languages but his greatest contribution has been his challenge to his people to translate the whole Bible into



MICHAEL GUMBULI: *Translating the Bible into Kriol.*

Kriol, the language that is being increasingly used across northern Australia.

Through the 1980s and 1990s, people at four Arnhem Land communities would be sitting on their verandahs and under trees, translating the Bible using pencil and an exercise book, then entering their drafts into a computer.

The first edition of the full Bible in the Kriol language was launched in 2007, a team effort but also a personal triumph for Gumbuli's vision and leadership.

Anglican

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The views expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the policies of the Anglican Diocese of Bathurst.

Wellington celebrates 150 years

□ Bishop John Parkes returns to preach at anniversary service From the parish

It is wonderful to be able to celebrate 150 years of continuous praise and worship in St John the Baptist Church, Wellington. We praise God for His provision of this building and the fact that it has been a home for His people to gather and come together as His church.

However, Church of England services had been held in Wellington for many years prior to the building of St John the Baptist Church

So the weekend of 8-9 April 2017, almost 150 years to the day after the Church was first used, was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate what God has done and will continue to do in the Wellington Anglican Parish.

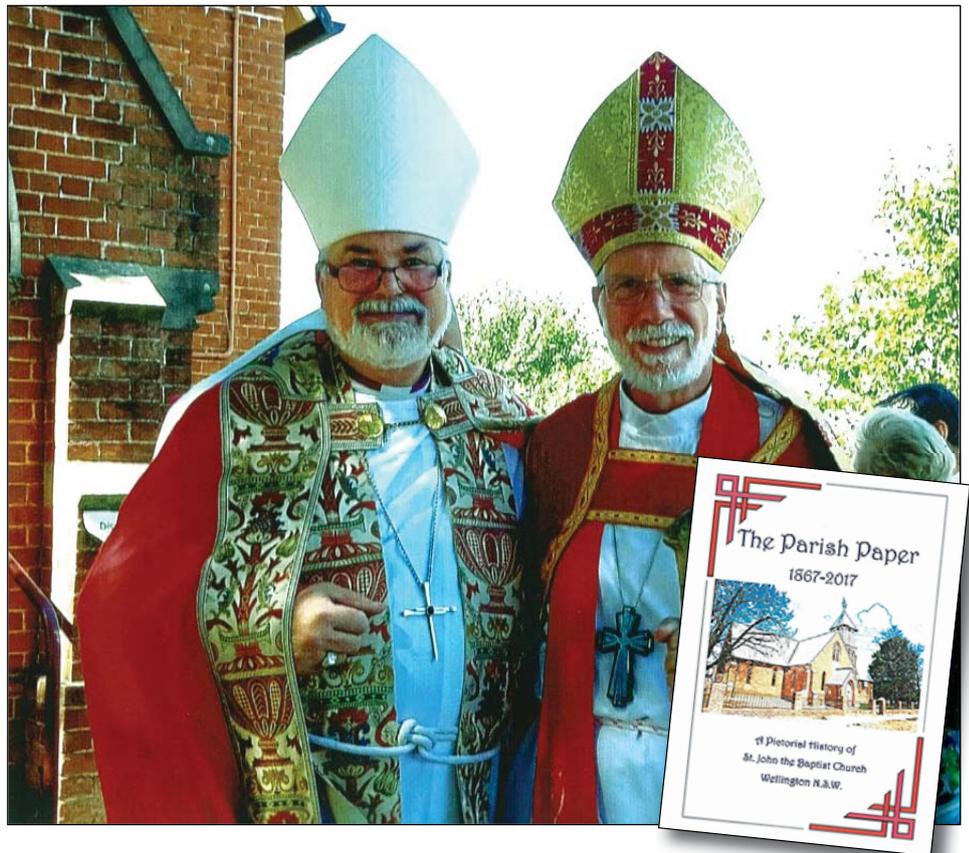
The weather was beautiful for the whole weekend and many visitors enjoyed the various activities on offer.

On Saturday, the mini-fete was an outstanding success, especially the morning teas under the trees at the front of the church. A display of photos in the hall attracted a lot of interest, with the wedding photos being a favourite. Visitors to town found the hall was "the place" to catch up with old friends and reminisce over old photos.

The concert on Saturday afternoon

Key dates

- ♦ 1865 – Laying of the Foundation Stone
- ♦ 7 April 1867 – A licence granted under Episcopal Seal authorising the Minister, Rev Stack, to use the church prior to its consecration.
- ♦ 29 April 1867 – William Cowper appointed Church Warden by the Lord Bishop to serve until Easter Tuesday next ensuing.
- ♦ 15 May 1867 – W.W. Forwood and J.N. Marsh appointed as Church Wardens for the same term.
- ♦ 19 September 1869 – The Lord Bishop Frederick Barker, Metropolitan of Sydney, visited Wellington and consecrated St John's using the accustomed form in compliance with a petition to that effect from Reverend Stack and his parishioners.



HAPPY RETURNS: former Rector of Wellington and now Bishop of Wangaratta, John Parkes, preached at the sesqui-centenary service on Palm Sunday, at which Bishop Ian presided.

INSET: A pictorial history of St John's Church was published for the anniversary.

was outstanding and a very enjoyable afternoon of music. All those who performed were Wellington locals and they demonstrated the immense talent in this town. The performers were: The Stray Notes, Ruth West, Jack Broome, Charlotte Frankham, Millie Mills, Noel Grimes and Rachael Melhuish.

Following the concert, the performers and audience enjoyed afternoon tea in the hall where the chatter and laughter continued until late in the afternoon.

The Celebratory Service at 10am on Palm Sunday was very well attended and it was a bit of a coup to have not one, but two bishops in church at the same time.

We were blessed to have our former Rector, now Bishop of Wangaratta, John Parkes (at Wellington 1993 – 1995) preach at the service and have the Bathurst Diocese Bishop, Ian Palmer lead the service.

The Craft and Friendship Group (comprising of Karen Melhuish and Lynn Beggs) prepared lunch for seventy five people. As well as being a lovely meal, it was also a lovely time of fellowship for all who attended! The church birthday

cake was made and decorated by Sue Owens and cut by our oldest parishioner, Mrs Nida Eade, aged 103 years.

It was so good to catch up with John and Margaret Parkes, and also Philip (Rector 2002 – 2009) and Denise Hanlin, to find that none had really changed all that much – maybe just a bit greyer. Both John and Philip brought their singing voices and it was such a joy to hear them once again in St John's.

A beautiful book called *The Parish Paper 1867 – 2017* was compiled by Leonie Parker-Lee. The book is a wonderful written and pictorial history of the 150 years of St John's, Wellington. Thank you to Leonie for all her hard work in producing such a quality and informative book.

Copies of the book are available for \$5.00 plus postage on the Parish website www.wellingtonanglican.org.au

The Parish would also like to acknowledge the outstanding contributions of Karen Melhuish for her tireless work in organising so many aspects of the weekend's celebrations.

Waterhole retreat at Perthville in July

❑ Liz Palmer to facilitate exploration of 'Finding my own I am in the great I Am'

Parkes-based ecumenical women's group *The Waterhole* is once again holding a retreat at Vale Lodge in Perthville, just out of Bathurst.

And following the warm response to last year's retreat, the organising team has once again invited Liz Palmer to facilitate the proceedings.

Running from Friday evening, July 21, to Sunday afternoon, July 23, the live-in retreat will not be 'silent', but will allow time for quiet personal reflection and contemplation in a peaceful and relaxing setting.

A qualified Spiritual Director, Liz Palmer said her interest in this field grew out of her attendance at many retreats at St Mary's Towers, Douglas Park, south of Campbelltown.

She currently serves as Treasurer of the Australian Network for Spiritual Directors, and is also a member of the Australian Ecumenical Council for Spiritual Direction.

With her husband, Bishop Ian Palmer, Liz has twice walked the 800-kilometre

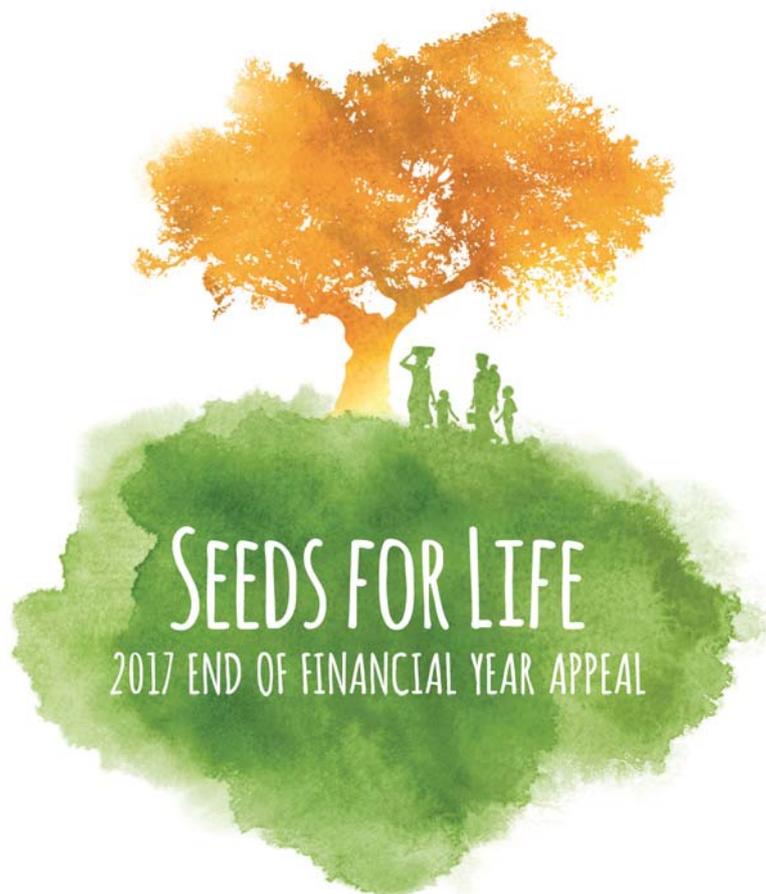


ON RETREAT: Liz Palmer (4th from left), shown here at last year's *Waterhole Retreat*, has been invited to lead the event again this year.

Camino de Santiago - experiences which exercised and developed spiritual as well as physical muscles.

Having run retreat weekend since 2004,

Liz said she has become passionate about "the process of journeying with people as they discover how much God loves them and desires to work in their lives".



The theme for this year's End of Financial Year Appeal comes from the parable of the mustard seed in Matthew 13. We are all familiar with the phrase 'from small things, big things grow', or the many variants of it.

This year we are celebrating the many ways in which the work of our partners overseas is like the mustard seed growing into something bigger than its beginnings. Over the years we have worked with Anglican and like-minded partners to provide the smallest of 'seed' investments in projects. We have continued to work with them in the belief that God's generosity will nurture these initiatives in unexpected ways.

The aim of our development programs at Anglican Overseas Aid is to work with communities to try to build them up. We are thankful for the generosity of people like you. This support really does make a difference. Your donation to our End of Financial Year Appeal will help us to continue to sow new seeds.

HOW TO DONATE

- 1 Online: anglicanoverseasaid.org.au
- 2 By phone: 1800 249 880
- 3 By post: 2017 End of Financial Year Appeal
Anglican Overseas Aid
PO Box 389, Abbotsford Vic 3067

All donations of \$2 and over are tax deductible
Anglicord: ABN 39 116 072 050