

Newsletter



Term 2 Week 2

10 May 2018

My Mum turned 81 this year.

She grew up as the eldest of six children (the youngest of whom is only a dozen or so years older than I am) on a farm property near the rural Victorian town of Kerang.

In order to arrive at school, they had to travel about 12 kilometres, and this was done either by horse, pushbike or on foot. She was considered fortunate for her time, as she completed Year 10 and then went on to further study at the Sydney Adventist Hospital and the Queen Victoria hospital in Melbourne, becoming a midwife.

Once my two younger sisters had started school, Mum started working again, initially on Saturday nights, before moving to a local hospital where she worked Tuesday and Wednesday nights consistently for many years. Mealtimes on Wednesday and Thursday nights were often discussions between her and Dad about what had happened at the hospital. For us discussions about blood and medical items were nothing unusual during a meal!

Mum has a practical bent, and is rarely seen, even today, without her knitting in her bag. She knitted numerous cardigans, jumpers, scarves and beanies for us while we were growing up. Then she did it all over again for the grandchildren. She has also knitted baby clothes for a number of our friends over the years.

I moved away from home when I was 17, and have only been back to Melbourne as a visitor, and usually I head back to the same house that I grew up in, which is where Mum still resides.

While Dad, when he was alive, was an enthusiastic adopter of new technology, Mum tolerates more than embraces. She has always disliked emails, although she will occasionally send one now. She still prefers

the landline to the mobile, although she has become quite proficient at sending text messages over the last couple of years.

A few years ago she discovered computer games, and became hooked on one called Sherlock, a logic puzzle game. More recently, she has taken to the iPad, introducing herself to social media using that. With her children living in Hobart, near Brisbane and Christchurch, any way to make the world smaller is of benefit.

During her retirement she has kept busy doing things for others, primarily through church based activities. She is part of a friendship group and often travels to Shepparton to work with a group that knits clothes and sends them overseas for charity. She has previously worked in an Op-shop.



Mum, pictured with my two sisters on a cruise for her 80th birthday.

God has always been important to Mum. When we were growing up, each morning would start with worship. She supported Dad through many Pathfinder camps, often doing the cooking. She still plays for the children's divisions at her church.

This weekend we honour our mothers. In many ways, we are who we are because of the love and influence that this person has had on our lives.

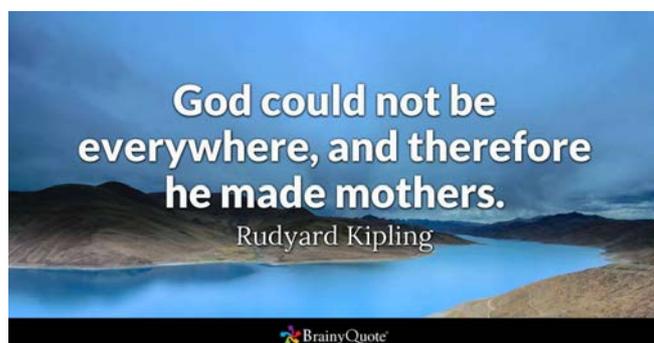
When I open my Bible, I see stories of special mothers, like Mary, the mother of Jesus, and Hannah, the mother of Samuel. I also see that one of the commandments particularly directs us to honour our mother and father.

God also likened the love that He has to that of a Mother's love and in Isaiah 49:15 God claims to love us more than our Mother does.

This week, as we celebrate Mother's Day, let's take the opportunity to let Mum know that she is loved, and maybe as well look for ways to do it on days other than just Mother's Day.

Best wishes

Steve Littlewood



My parents, brother and family all live in Brisbane, but for the past two weeks, both Mum and Dad have been here to visit us in Tasmania. It's such a joy to have them here; just their presence is enough to lift my spirits.

The other night, during family worship time, one of our tasks was to affirm someone else in the room. My daughter chose my mother. My daughter said, "I love how Nanna tells me stories of when she was a little girl in Samoa." And in that moment, I was reminded that Mothers carry an influence that reverberates through generations.

Proverbs 31 is popularly titled "the Virtuous Woman". The mother of King Lemuel is offering her son priceless advice and from verses 10-31 she describes to him the virtues of a good wife. She begins by asking the question, "who can find a good wife? She is worth far more than rubies." And as you read you begin to realise that the mother is talking about a woman who pays close attention to her family.

My mother was once such soul. I would often see her praying privately in her room. I remember the perpetual demands to "clean your room!" which was arguably Mum's greatest piece of advice for life. And the many times she offered a kind word and generously gave to others. She set the standard of what a virtuous woman is and she also gave me advice much like King Lemuel received advice from his mum. The role of a mother should never and can never be underestimated.

Thank you to all our mothers and women who are caring for the children at Hilliard Christian School. Please know that you are appreciated and that all the painstaking work, and late night/early morning efforts will show it's fruit. Maybe in the words of your grandchildren?

The mother of King Lemuel ends her counsel with these words, "Reward her for all she has done. Let her deeds publicly declare her praise." (Proverbs 31:31, NLT)

Pr David

Winter Uniform Notes

Thank you to those people who have made the effort to look smart in their winter uniform. Unfortunately, our stock in the uniform is low, and our suppliers have informed us that this is because of the cyclone in Fiji earlier this year. We are hoping to have the situation rectified before the weather turns really cold.

High School Swimming Times

High School swimming finishes this week, and then the carnival for all students is next Thursday.



NAPLAN is Next Week

Our Year 3, 5, 7 & 9 students will be sitting the annual NAPLAN tests during of next week. (Week 3). These tests are part of our compliance requirements for the government.

The tests will be sat on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, with Friday being a catch-up day.

The NAPLAN tests provide a snapshot of progress in literacy and numeracy. All students are expected to sit them. However, parents do have the option to withdraw their child should they wish to do so.

If you wish to do this, please contact Mr Littlewood, as there are forms that need to be completed to ensure that this happens.

IT Updates

Over the school holidays the IT infrastructure at Hilliard Christian School was updated. We are now utilising a fibre link between the main building and the server, and have installed a Wi-Fi router in each classroom that uses enterprise authentication. This means that each teacher and student has an individual login to the Wi-Fi.

We also have separate networks for the iPads (although this has not been completely setup as yet) and provision to put the new Smart TVs directly onto the network to facilitate the use of YouTube videos, for example, in teaching. At present the only one installed is in Room 13, but over the next couple of weeks we will be installing one into each primary classroom and the main secondary classrooms.

Swimming Carnival Information

The Swimming Carnival is taking place at YMCA Clarence Aquatic Centre on **Thursday, 17th May 2018**. The carnival will take place from **11:30am to 1:30pm**. Students will be travelling to the aquatic centre on school buses. The canteen is not open on the day, so students **must bring a packed lunch** to eat at the aquatic centre. Students must also wear sports uniform for the day unless they are in their swimmers. House colours may also be worn, however please do not use body paints/sprays as these may leech into the pool.



Students in Year 3, 5, 7 and 9 will be completing NAPLAN at school prior to departure so please ensure your child is at school at the regular time that day.

Parents are encouraged to come and support their children. We look forward to a great day together.



A New Bus

Yesterday a new bus went into operation, meaning that one of our older buses has been retired. This is exciting for Karen, our driver, and the students who are travelling on that bus, which does our southern run.

Included on this bus are seatbelts, which are required to be worn. It doesn't have the Hilliard Christian School painted on the outside as yet, but I did see a big smile on Karen's face when she picked the students up yesterday afternoon.

Parent Surveys

This week you should have received a letter from the school, along with a login code from InsightSRC, giving you the opportunity to participate in a survey that is being conducted about Hilliard Christian School.

This survey gives us an opportunity to obtain feedback about the school, as well as to provide a comparison between other Seventh-day Adventist schools (who are all completing the survey) as well as other Christian schools around the country.

Please take the time to go online and complete the survey. It will take you around 15 - 20 minutes. We value this feedback as we strive to make the school better. We do not find out who has completed the survey, nor what anybody writes in the survey.

(And thank you to the three parents who have already completed the survey).

Happenings

30 April - 11 May	High School Swimming
15 - 17 May	NAPLAN Tests
17 May	Swimming Carnival
2 June	Collinsvale Church Service
11 June	Queen's Birthday Public Holiday
12 June	Moderation Day (School closed)

Remember to return your forms with your email address so that we can email the Newsletter directly to your inbox.



Go as far as you can see; when you get there you will be able to see further

— Thomas Carlyle

10 – 20 May 2018

FREE



THE LAST EMPIRE

DISCOVER REAL HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

Venue: Seventh-day Adventist Church – 518 Main Road, Montrose TAS 7010

**Powerful TOPICS that
could change your life:**

- 10.05.18 at 6pm - Who can you trust?
- 11.05.18 at 6pm - Monkey Business
- 12.05.18 at 11am - Good God, Bad World?
- 12.05.18 at 6pm - The Jesus Myth?
- 13.05.18 at 6pm - The Price of Freedom
- 17.05.18 at 6pm - The Doomsday Clock
- 18.05.18 at 6pm - Law and Order
- 19.05.18 at 11am - Circaseptan Rhythms
- 19.05.18 at 6pm - Death do us Part?
- 20.05.18 at 6pm - Where on earth is Hell?

Speaker:

Cristian Copaceanu

When he's not having fun with his family (1 queen, 2 princesses, 3 goldfish), Cristian devotes his time and passion to sharing the greatest news ever told with anyone who will listen and empowering others to do the same. He enjoys all things tech related, especially the fruity variety, most sports (playing, not watching) and losing all sense of time and space with a good audio book or two. Cristian is grateful for the opportunity to serve the Adventist Church in Australia in the areas of Personal Ministries, Sabbath School and Stewardship.

