



Dear Friends,

Those two mysterious men are back! Thank you to Alan and Aron who put up our '*All are welcome in this place*' banner again last Saturday!

I've been checking the BOM all week – hoping next Sunday's forecast ('*High chance of showers, most likely later in the day*') will change for the better – or be 100% accurate! But do not fear! The *All are Welcome Day* will go ahead rain, hail, sleet, or snow! We'll just switch to our wet-weather plan!

And the *All are Welcome Day* marks the start of May Mission Month for us - an annual, month-long initiative where Baptist churches across Australia focus on global and local mission, fostering prayer, partnership, and fundraising.

And this May we have an amazing line up of events at CBC!

Sunday, 3 May – *All are Welcome Day*

Bring your plate of food to share, but more importantly, bring a smile and a welcome as we invite all our centre users and local community to celebrate with us one year since our big welcome banner went up across the front of the church. As well as our big morning tea, there's a free sausage sizzle, a plant sale (you need to bring cash for this), church and garden tours, and info on all our church and centre groups.

Saturday, 16 May – *Walk on Country with Uncle Tyronne Bell*

As part of our commitment to reconciliation and building right relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, the CBC Weavers group have organised a walk on country on Saturday (16 May) 2pm in Stirling Park, Yarralumla. It costs \$60, but students and those on low incomes can attend for half price. Registration is essential and can be done [here](#).

Sunday, 17 May – *Thank Offering Sunday* with guest speaker, Baptist World Aid CEO Rev Melissa Lipsett

We continue to support, through Baptist World Aid, a project '*Improving the lives of people with*

disabilities in Bangladesh'. The project aims to empower people with disabilities, and the most vulnerable, so they become resilient and enjoy greater agency and social dignity. An updated report is available here – [Link to Project Report](#). Please give generously to our May Thank Offering! If you want a tax-deductible receipt, please use our web-based form accessible here - [LINK to THANKS OFFERING FORM](#)

Thursday, 21 May – *Biggest Morning Tea*

The Thursday Morning Study Group is again hosting the Biggest Morning Tea – 10:30am on Thursday (21 May) - to raise funds for the Cancer Council. Donations will help fund cancer research and support services for the 150,000 Australians who are diagnosed with cancer every year. The Study Group are recommending donations be made online (the link will be available in coming weeks), but if you are unable to make your donation online, there will be receipt books at the morning tea.

Thursday, 28 May – *Future Church Conference*

And what about the Church's mission in the future? Future Church is a conference asking those big questions and imagining what a more expansive and beautiful vision of the Church in Australia could look like. It is exploring questions around climate justice, intersectionality, AI and technology, and how to develop the kind of embodied faith and deep wisdom we will need to face the world of tomorrow. Speakers include Uncle Ray Minniecon, Tanya Riches, Sally Douglas, and Jione Havea. This year you don't have to drive to Sydney as there is a live-stream event at Holy Covenant Church, Jamison. You can attend just the day (9am to 5pm) or just the evening (7 - 9:30pm) or both! The cost in-person in Sydney is \$75 and by live-stream in Canberra is \$45. Register here - <https://events.humanitix.com/futurechurch26/tickets>

Finally, Steve is keen to hear from people who'd enjoy being 'Program Buddies' – being part of our community centre groups. It's a way you can put your faith in action, grow in your discipleship, and serve with and alongside others? To find out more you can [Click here](#) or speak with Steve Coster steve@canbap.org.

As I said, it is an amazing May Mission Month line-up! See you there! (& fingers crossed for a dry morning on Sunday!)

Grace and peace,

Belinda