



## HAVE YOU AN HOUR TO SPARE?

Kew Council's Social Development Department are concerned to ensure that older, more frail people are not forgotten during the summer holidays.

Meals on Wheels and the Mini-bus will continue to be in operation throughout January, 1982. But many of our volunteers are taking a well earned rest during that period.

Anyone who has an hour or two, even half a day to spare in January is invited to phone Pat Grydzyn on 861 7308 or Irene Renzenbrink on 862 2466 as soon as possible.

## KEW LIBRARY EXTENDED OPENING HOURS

Mon.-Thurs. 10.30 a.m.-9 p.m.  
 Friday - 10.30 a.m.-6 p.m.  
 Saturday - 9 a.m.-12 noon

### As from SUNDAY 6th DECEMBER

Sunday- 2 p.m.- 5 p.m.

## APOLOGY

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the Citizens' Advice Bureau will not be available at the Copy Shop on Friday afternoons or Saturday morning as indicated in last month's Kewriosity Sheet. We apologise for any inconvenience to anyone who wished to call in.

The Bureau is still opening in their office at the Civic Centre from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday to Friday and for free legal advice 7.30 p.m.-9 p.m. Tuesday as usual. For further information, please telephone 861 5244.

# HISTORIC LOCAL CHURCH CELEBRATES ITS 125th ANNIVERSARY

On November 15th and 22nd the Kew Baptist Church, situated in Highbury Grove, will celebrate its 125th Anniversary with special services of worship, followed by fellowship times when old friends may renew acquaintance. The church warmly invites any local residents who are interested, to join in these services of thanksgiving.

### Sunday, November 15th

10.30 a.m. Preacher: Principal D.M. Himbury, M.A., B.D., B. Litt.  
 Principal of Whitley College.

7.00 p.m. Rev. J.D. Williams, B.A., B.D.

President General Baptist Union of Australia.

### Sunday, November 22nd

10.30 a.m. Rev. A. Wilkins, A.O.

7.00 p.m. Rev. P.D. Manton, M.A., B. Ed.

### Beginnings . . .

The church is one of the earliest in the district. It traces its origins to a service held in the home Rev. J. Foy on 10th April, 1853. Mr. Foy had migrated in 1851 from Somersetshire, England and settled first in Collingwood. Later he moved to the small village of Kew and built a weatherboard house in a clearing in the bush. It was situated on the rough track which today is busy Wellington Street, near the present intersection of Edgevale Road.

The first recorded religious service in the area was held at the home of Mr. James Venn Morgan on Prospect Hill in January, 1853, and the preacher was Mrs. Thomas, a distinguished and eloquent temperance advocate. It was soon after this that Mr. and Mrs. Foy opened their home for worship. A contemporary historian and Kew resident (James Bonwick) wrote in 1858:

"A Baptist friend, Mr. Joseph Foy, most laudably commenced Sabbath morning and evening service at his house in the then wild bush, south of Cotham Road . . . No place of worship existed within two miles of it. The form of service was a Prayer meeting followed by an address from Mr. Foy . . ."

Protestants of many denominations attended and soon the numbers increased so much that the congregation overflowed the house and many listened and joined in as best they could from outside. It became clear that a place of worship was required and accordingly land on the corner of Cotham Road and St. John's Parade was purchased for £95.12.6 Here the first small wooden chapel was erected. It was opened in September 1854 with a public meeting, followed by a tea meeting - the first of its kind ever held in the district. It was such a novelty that a large crowd attended.

James Bonwick wrote of this first building: "Its neat appearance, surrounded by wattles, is attractive to the passer-by." Mr. Foy commenced a small private day school for boys, using the chapel as a school-room on week days. It continued for a few years.

By 1856 the congregation had increased to the extent that it was decided to take formal steps towards its constitution as a church. On 17th November, 1856, it was constituted an open-communion Baptist Church, the sixth Baptist Church to be established in Victoria.

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# HYDE PARK FELLOW- SHIP

The Fellowship meeting will be held on Wednesday, 4th November at 2 p.m. in the Hyde Park Uniting Church, Pakington Street, Kew. All are asked to bring along their favourite poems, interesting stories (serious or funny) or little snippets of information that may be of interest to others. We hope everyone will take part in telling their stories, etc. so that we can share each other's interest and have an enjoyable time together. All are welcome, gentlemen as well as ladies, to join in our Fellowship. Afternoon tea will be served at the conclusion of the meeting.

Next Meeting - A.G.M. - Wednesday, 2nd December.

## 65th CHURCH Anniversary

In 1916 a small Church was established in 152 Pakington St., Kew under the name of HYDE PARK METHODIST CHURCH.

On November 15th next, the 65th Anniversary of this Church - now under the banner of the Uniting Church - will be celebrated.

A happy day is anticipated with Mr. Ralph Davies, O.B.E. taking the 11 a.m. service - being assisted by singing from the Tongan Christian Singers.

At 2.45 p.m. a PLEASANT SUNDAY AFTERNOON will be held when the celebrated **Oakover Singers** (formerly (Oakover Road Methodist Choir) will bring a musical treat.

Afternoon Tea will be served in the hall.

**Old and new friends are invited to help celebrate this auspicious day.**

**You will be welcome.**

# What's doing in KEW for NOVEMBER

- Sun. 1 OPEN MAYOR'S ROOM - 10.30 a.m.  
2 North Kew A.L.P., cnr. Hale St. & Windella Ave. - 8 p.m. Enquiries, 859 6494.  
Lioness Club of Kew - Business Meeting at St. Martin's Auxiliary Room, Ropely Ave., Balwyn at 8 p.m. Enquiries - 859 8593.
- 3  
4 Uniting Church East Kew - Afternoon Missionary Fellowship Annual Meeting commencing at 1.30 p.m. All welcome. Contact Mrs. Barnard on 848 5212.
- 5  
6 Rotaract Meeting in Auxiliary Room, Kew Civic Centre at 8 p.m.  
7 Uniting Church East Kew - a.m. - Paper collection. Crazy Whist at 8 p.m. in Meeting Room. Contact 859 6241.
- Sun. 8 Uniting Church East Kew - 10.30 a.m. - Morning Worship Service during which several Elders will be commissioned.
- 9  
10  
11 Uniting Church East Kew - 8 p.m. Evening Missionary Fellowship Annual Meeting. All welcome. Contact Mrs. Holland on 859 1220.
- 12 Save the Children Fund Meeting - Auxiliary Room, Kew Civic Centre at 10.15 a.m.
- 13 Uniting Church East Kew - 6.30 p.m. Youth Group Bar-b-que. Contact John on 859 2579 or Don on 380 1612.
- 14 Sale of Asian Goods - Highbury Grove Uniting Church Hall. Proceeds towards Mission work of Uniting Church of Australia.
- Sun. 15 Mayor's Neighbourhood Barbeque - Foley Reserve - 12 Noon. Uniting Church East Kew - 10.30 a.m. Stewardship Challenge - Service preceded by morning tea.
- 16 Uniting Church East Kew - 8 p.m. The Fellowship meet and Norman Bartel will show Feature slides. All welcome. Contact Mr. Clark on 849 1229.  
Lioness Club of Kew Dinner Meeting and speaker at "Angelucci's", Walpole St., Kew. \$5.00 per person - 7 - 7.30 p.m. Enquiries 859 8593.
- 17  
18 Uniting Church East Kew - 1.30 p.m. Ladies Guild Annual Meeting. All welcome. Contact Mrs. Roberts on 859 3625.
- 19  
20 Rotaract Meeting in Auxiliary Room Kew Civiv Centre 8 p.m.  
21 St. Paul's Church of England, Windella Avenue, East Kew Annual Fete commencing 9 a.m. Fete at Rossbourne House, 131 Power Street, Hawthorn at 9.30 a.m.
- Sun. 22 Mayor's Neighbourhood Barbeque Eglinton Reserve - 12 Noon.  
Uniting Church East Kew - 10.30 a.m. Stewardship Commitment Service followed by morning tea.
- 23  
24 OPEN COUNCIL - 8 p.m.  
Uniting Church East Kew - 8 p.m. Rowan Club Annual Meeting. Contact Mrs. Sharp on 848 8205.  
Rheumatism & Arthritis Association of Victoria Self-Help Group - 10.30 a.m. - Auxiliary Room, Kew Civic Centre.



- 25  
 26 Save the Children Fund Raising Morning in Auxiliary Room, Kew Civic Centre at 10.15 a.m. A "Gift Parade" by Group Presentation. Ideas for Christmas. Donation \$1.00 including morning tea. A welcome to you.  
 27 Uniting Church East Kew - 7 p.m. Youth Group will go on an "Observation Hike". Contact Russell on 859 2021 or James on 859 4096.  
 28  
 Sun. 29  
 30

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By the end of 1859, the chapel had been enlarged to cater for the still expanding congregation and a baptistry and vestries were also added. Mr. Foy continued as pastor for a total of twenty-seven years. In April, 1879 he was forced to resign owing to ill health and a month later, on 3rd May, he died. He was buried in the Booroondara Cemetery, where twenty years earlier he had conducted the first burial service (that of Mrs. John Quick) just after the reserve had been declared for that purpose and before it had been enclosed. His friends erected a tombstone in his memory and when his wife died on 3rd September, 1890, her name was also inscribed on the stone.

In 1882 the church opened a new brick building for worship - it faced Cotham Road at the corner of St. John's Parade. This was followed by a Sunday School building in 1890. As the Sunday School increased more buildings were added (a Primary Hall in 1905 and a Beginners' Hall in 1927). Eventually the entire property was used for Sunday School (which by the 1920's exceeded 300 scholars) and a new sanctuary for worship was erected in Highbury Grove in 1923. The inconvenience caused by this separation of the property increased as the years passed and the growing traffic of Cotham Road made the street a formidable barrier between the two properties. In 1969, the St. John's Parade property was sold to a branch of the Pentecostal Church and the new church Halls sited in Highbury Grove to the north of the church building.

The church has always been interested in the local community. Two of its members have been Mayors of Kew (Cr. F. R. Ratten in 1914-16, Cr. J. Woolcock, 1923-24). Two of its members have been Head-

masters, (Mr. H. G. Steele, foundation Headmaster, and Mr. V. F. O. Francis) and Mr. K. A. Lyall is currently Principal of Strathcona. The establishment of the aged people's home "Karana" in Walpole Street in 1959 was in large part due to the vision of a former minister, Rev. A. Wilkins and the enthusiastic church members who supported him. The church services are relayed to "Karana" each Sunday and a bus brings many residents from the home to worship. In 1964, the historic home "Rangeview" in Mary Street was purchased from Mr. M. Cody and a Youth Hostel commenced. Forty-five young people, mostly from country areas live there. Many are studying at nearby tertiary institutions or completing apprenticeships.

Today the church is still flourishing, with a wide and varied ministry.

In May this year, Rev. Nguyen Huu Tin was appointed an Associate Minister of the church to conduct a specialist ministry amongst the many Vietnamese people living in Melbourne. In addition to Vietnamese, a number of families from other Asian countries also attend the church and the congregation is pleased to see this evidence of our increasingly multi-cultural society being reflected in a small but growing way within its own fellowship.

Rev. P. D. Manton, the present minister, is the thirteenth in the history of the church. In November this year he will have completed thirteen years service in the district.

In association with the November Anniversary celebrations, there will be an Historical Display Mounted in the church Halls and all local history enthusiasts are warmly invited to inspect it. In addition a history of the church has been published to mark the occasion. This will be available through the church office (861 6309).

## MAYORAL NEIGHBOUR- HOOD GATHERING

The Mayor, Cr. Martin Solomons has planned a number of Neighbourhood Barbeques to be conducted throughout Kew.

The Barbeques will be held in each of the five Wards on the following dates:

### **College Ward**

Sunday, 25th Oct., Kellett Reserve

### **Studley Park Ward**

Sunday 15th Nov. - Foley Reserve

### **North Ward**

Sunday 22nd Nov. - Eglinton Reserve

### **Central Ward**

Sunday 6th Dec. - Victoria Park  
(High St. & Adeney Ave.)

### **Prospect Ward**

Sunday 13th Dec. - Hay's Paddock

**Time** - 12 noon to 4 p.m.

**Mayor to Provide** - Barbeque facilities, Fun Games Trailer, Ice Creams, Soft Drinks, Trestle Tables and Chairs, Mobile Toilets if required.

**Families to Bring** - Own food and other refreshments, additional picnic facilities as desired.

**All residents are welcome to attend.**

## Christmas Special

East Kew Uniting Church is holding a Christmas Special, commencing at 7.45 p.m. on Friday, 4th December in our Hall and concluding with supper at approx. 9.30 p.m. (this means not too late for the oldies and also the very young). During the evening there will be music, carol singing and above all **FELLOWSHIP**.

On this occasion we will also be saying our official farewells to Deaconess Elsie French, who has been an active member of our congregation during her appointment at Otira, Miss Glenis Dyason our 1981 Student Assistant and another member of our congregation who will be the "lady of the Manse" at Dimboola from January, 1982.



# The Great Feast in Kew

by Elizabeth Mackie - Kew Historical Society

On the old 1875 Map of Kew is the note - Great Feast 1867 in the grounds of Kew Mental Hospital. The special occasion for this al fresco banquet was the very first Royal Visit to the Colony, made by Prince Alfred, Duke of Edinburgh, Commander of the H.M.S. Galatea, and second son of Queen Victoria.

On Thursday 27th November, 1867, the 1st Great Banquet was laid out for the people of Melbourne, civic dignitaries lined up, the clergy were invited for their "soothing influence" on the population, lavish tables of roast meats and puddings were provided with even more lavish fountains of wine to satisfy the hunger and thirst of the populace. The meal was to take place on the Yarra Banks not far from Princes Bridge. The Feast was protected from the crowds by ropes, but as the crowds became more restive, and when 2 o'clock passed without the Royal visitor turning up, the guests strained at the ropes. The crowd was described as "a great sea of pent-up waters", and a trooper was despatched to Government House to tell the Royal Party that the mood of the mob was uncertain and fears were held for the Prince's safety.

When at 2.30 p.m. it was announced that the Prince would not be present to open the Banquet, the mob's patience was at an end; the

ropes broke and the crowd swept down to the tables like an Assyrian on the fold, and as "The Argus" reported "a frightful Saturnalia such as we shudder to recall" occurred. In the melee legs of lamb flew through the air, fights with sodden bread dipped in wine broke out, the hoses leading to the wine fountains were slashed and drunk indiscriminately. Later as darkness fell and the debacle ended, people descended from the trees like "drunken possums" and trudged homeward. The Feast was immortalized in the poem "Marvellous Melbourne".

The following day when a 2nd Great Feast was held in Kew, far more seemly conduct prevailed. "The Argus" refrained from indignant and sarcastic comments, no legs of lamb or sodden bread flew through the air and the reporter wrote enthusiastically that it had been "an evening of joy and order".

This time the Prince appeared and was highly amused at a colourful banner draped over the entrance of the Kew Lunatic Assylum which ambiguously said "Welcome to our Royal Guest"!

The local people from the small rural village of Kew, the shopkeepers, tradesmen and pioneer farmers all joined in a welcome to a Prince of the Blood and enjoyed their festive picnic in the paddocks of Kew.

## THE LIONESSE CLUB OF KEW

The Lioness Club of Kew was established 4 years ago and now has over 30 member.

For many years wives of Lions Club members could be associated with work done by the men, but other women were entirely excluded. Since Kew did the pioneering, other clubs have been founded in various areas of Melbourne. So now there is

an opportunity for service minded women to take part in the activities of a world-wide organization.

Two meetings a month are held by the Kew branch, as shown in the Calendar in this newsheet. Fund raising and social functions are arranged from time to time. Women of any age are eligible for consideration as members.

## FETE

The Rossbourne House School are having a Fete on Saturday, 21st November from 9.30 a.m. onwards.

They will be selling cakes, books, bric-a-brac, clothing, craftwork, plants, etc.

A barbeque and Devonshire tea will also be available.

**Come along, browse and buy - and help this special school.**

## FOURTH KEW SCOUTS

A scout troop provides training, fun and worthwhile activities for boys aged between 11 and 15. Presently there are 26 boys in the 4th Kew Scouts, and it has 5 leaders, some of whom are parents, others are ex-scouts. The troop is open to virtually any boy and at the moment the troop has six vacancies.

Some of our activities so far this year have included sailing and water-skiing camps, weekends at the snow, Easter and Christmas camps, a bike hike at French Island, visits to fire stations and hospitals, plus weekly meetings ranging from first-aid, stunts to nights with the guides, badge work, scavenger hunts, games, etc. Activities planned for the rest of the year include an Air Activity weekend complete with plane flight, a Yarra River bike ride, and Art weekend and a Christmas camp.

**The scout troop meets at the Glass Street scout hall on Wednesday nights at 7 p.m. If you are interested give the scout leader, Bradley Miles a ring on 80 1788 or the group leader, Arthur Spurgeon on 857 6918.**

## LA VERNA OPEN DAY

An Open Day at Franciscan Retreat House, "La Verna", 39 Sackville St., Kew will be held on Sunday, 13th December to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of the coming of the Franciscan friars to Victoria. For 50 years La Verna has been an oasis of quiet and peace where people of all walks of life have been coming to spend a few days in prayer.

The house and grounds will be open for inspection from 10.00 a.m. until 6.00 p.m. Everyone is most welcome. Perhaps after experiencing the serenity of the place, you may plan to return for a live-in weekend. At 11 a.m. there will be an outdoor Mass followed by a BYO picnic barbecue.