

Walkabout Ministries Report

Last half of 2023

In June I received the following email from the Parish of Manuka:

Dear Gloria,

I am writing to confirm that the Parish of Manuka would like to invite you to accept the honour of being a member of our Parish Hall of Fame featuring First Nations role models. This is an initiative of the NAIDOC week people for 2023 which we were pleased to act upon. In line with the 2023 National NAIDOC Week theme of 'For Our Elders', we acknowledge that across every generation, indigenous Elders have played, and continue to play, an important role and hold a prominent place in their communities and families. Our Mission in Action Committee embraced this theme to honor those Elders who have inspired us. We congratulate you on your work over many years and many different groups you have supported in your various communities. You have been a wonderful role model for those communities and for us in Canberra.

With your approval, we plan to announce your acceptance of this offer during the 9.30AM service on 2 July 2023 which is during NAIDOC Week. You are welcome to join us for that service if possible. Should you not be able to attend, you might be able to watch the service on YouTube where we will live stream the service. We will give you the details of how to watch that service. It would be good for parishioners to know that while you are not with us, you will be watching our announcement of your joining or Hall of Fame.

I accepted this invitation and due to my commitment to lead a service in Warren was unable to attend the service in person, I did view it later. This was a great privilege to be one of the first people inducted in the inaugural Parish Hall of Fame and I am grateful to the Manuka parish for its continued support.

I travelled to Coonabarabran (258km one way) in August to conduct a wedding on the Burra Bee Dee Mission (located around 12km outside of Coonabarabran). The bride had a connection to the Mission, and they were blessed with nice weather for the outdoor wedding.

In September Eddie and I attended several events for NAIDOC week:

We cut the cake to officially open NAIDOC week in Nyngan at the Winangali Walk Meeting Site.

We attended St Joseph's Catholic School NAIDOC Liturgy and celebration. Eddie performed a smoking ceremony and we both spent time with the kids talking about our lives in Nyngan when we were younger.

Eddie also performed a smoking ceremony for unveiling of the signage acknowledging the massacre which took place on the Bogan River in October 1841 as well as information on local flora and fauna. The Bogan Shire Council and Nyngan Local Aboriginal Lands Council worked together on the project with 'the hope of uniting the community by recognising the event and fostering an understanding and hope for the community to move forward as one and to allow spiritual healing for the people of Wangaaypuwan Country.

The Elders group in Nyngan continues to meet fortnightly and is growing, the group in Dubbo continue to meet weekly. They continue to have health professionals visit as well as other community members calling in to do craft or have a yarn. Both groups also continue to remain active in the community. The Nyngan group held their Christmas party on the 6th of December and have now finished for the year. I travelled to Dubbo on the 19th of December for the Elders Christmas party there. Both groups meet in the local parish halls. I am thankful to Rev Brett Watterson who has been available to the Dubbo Elders group for support when I have been unable to be there.

The Reconciliation lunch was held in Nyngan. Once again Ken Phillis from Dubbo did an excellent job as MC and our guest speaker for the day was Aunty Raylene Weldon. 'A proud Wiradjuri, Wailwan and Gomeroi woman, who became involved in Aboriginal Education and Aboriginal Affairs at a very young age. She provides advocacy and consultancy to the community, and interagency within the Nyngan area. She is also the Vice President of the Nyngan local and Western 2 Regional AECG and a part of the associate management committee of the NSW AECG for 2022 and 2023'. The Nyngan Elders group helped with the catering for the day and a group of dancers from the local school provided entertainment.

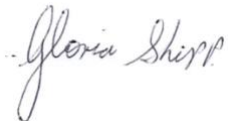
I continued taking Sunday services in both Warren and Nyngan once a month until November when I had a brief stint in hospital.

I also baptised eight children (4 in Warren, 1 in Nyngan and 3 in Dubbo) during July to September.

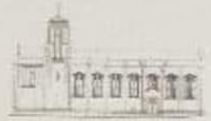
Once again ill health prevented me from travelling to the NATSIAC Gathering this year, however as a life member I continue to keep up to date with its activities.

Jen and I continue to work from our own home offices, staying connected through email and phone for ministry matters.

I continue to be thankful for all the support given to this ministry from ABM which enables these programs to continue.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gloria Shipp".

Rev Gloria Shipp



ST PAUL'S
 ANGLICAN CHURCH
MANUKA
 & ST DAVID'S, RED HILL

Hall of Fame



Photo by Kerwin Bishop

The Reverend Gloria Shipp



FOR OUR ELDERS

2-9 JULY 2023

*Across every generation,
 Indigenous Elders have played,
 and still play, an important role
 and hold a prominent place in
 their communities and families.*

The 2023 National NAIDOC Week
 theme is 'For Our Elders'.

The Reverend Gloria Shipp

Gloria is a Kamilaroi woman who was born in Nyngan, NSW and moved to Dubbo in the 1980s. She was ordained a Deacon in 1994 after studying theology at Nungalinga College in Darwin. She became the first female Aboriginal Priest in 1996 and returned to the Diocese of Bathurst.

There she set up Walkabout Ministries supported by the Anglican Board of Mission (ABM). Her ministry included Chaplaincy to the Orana Juvenile Justice Centre in Dubbo. She is no longer Chaplain but maintains a close interest and involvement with the boys there. Gloria has been an Honorary Priest Assistant in the Dubbo Parish. Each year she organises a Christian rally in Dubbo, a Reconciliation Luncheon, Women of the Bible studies, camps for men, women and families and outreach trips to other communities. An Elders outreach group is held weekly, involving craft, fellowship and guest speakers. Another part of the ministry is a broad run, answering to families in need. This ministry has been extended from Dubbo to include Nyngan and since 2021 Gloria has divided her time between Dubbo and Nyngan.

Gloria is a life member of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Anglican Council (NAISIAC) and its chairperson over many years.

In 2022 Gloria was commissioned as a Companion of the Company of the Good Shepherd. Each month she ministers in the parishes of Nyngan, Warren, and Cobarr in turn as each parish is currently without a parish priest.

Gloria prefers the term "partnership" to the term "reconciliation" as it applies to her work. In her own words: "If we want to understand, we must learn to listen. We need to learn to live together in Australia and learn about one another's culture by listening."

The Parish of Manuka has helped to support Gloria and the Walkabout Ministries in Dubbo and Nyngan through donations to the ABM over a number of years.

Gloria has embraced the challenges of being a pioneer, being both Indigenous and a woman seeking ordination in the Anglican Church. We admire her courage, empathy and perseverance and consider her a very worthy member of the Parish of Manuka Hall of Fame.

NAIDOC Week, July 2023.

Initiated by the Parish Mission in Action Committee in NAIDOC Week, 2023,
 to honour First Nations Role Models with a connection to the Parish.

Reconciliation Lunch



St Joseph's Catholic School



St Joseph's Parish School, Nyngan

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St Joseph's celebrated NAIDOC 2023 yesterday. It was a wonderful day of activities honouring the rich culture of our First Nations people. Many thanks to Uncle Eddie who began our liturgy with a smoking ceremony. To Maddie Hodgetts who taught our children traditional dance, to Uncle Eddie and Auntie Gloria who enriched the day with their stories of days gone by and to Mrs Waterhouse and the students from Nyngan High who helped out with the TIG games.



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NAIDOC Week

More photos inside...

Elders Aunty Glorie Shipp, Aunty Lesly Ryan, Uncle Billy Leigh and Uncle Eddie Shipp cut the NAIDOC Week cake at the opening.

By Abigail McLaughlin

'For Our Elders' is the theme of the 2023 NAIDOC Week, which was officially opened on Monday, September 11, 2023 with Aunty Glorie Shipp, Aunty Lesly Ryan, Uncle Billy Leigh and Uncle Eddie Shipp cutting the cake after a community ceremony at the Winangali Walk meeting spot in Nyngan.

Students from Nyngan Public School, St Joseph's, Nyngan High School, Nyngan Preschool and Herrisdale Public School took part in the opening.

Cultural leader Janis McLennan led the Wakakiri Dance Group as it performed a series of dances and at the end of the ceremony invited all community members present to participate.

It was an inclusive ceremony held at the new Winangali site, near the Nyngan cemetery. Emerging elder Amber Dutton was the master of ceremonies and gave the Welcome to Country in language, before inviting a group of Nyngan High School students to sing the Australian National Anthem - also in language. The high school stu-

dents also performed the Indigenous version of the song 'We are Australians'. Students from each school were invited to give a short address and Bogan Shire Council mayor, Glen Neill, also spoke.

The Aboriginal, Torres Strait and national flags were also raised with Uncle Billy Leigh, Maree Johnson and Sophie Johnson being asked to do the honours.

Throughout this week there were cultural showcases at the local schools and preschool, and on Friday there is a Community Cultural Day at Larkin Oval.



Signage for the Massacre Site



Western Community Legal Centre visit



Jarah Maraschio with Vicki Cluderay, Norma Hall, Dawn Meldrum, Chris Simpson, Dooreen Brooksby, Audrey Nipperess, Gloria Shipp at the Nyngan Seniors Social Club. Western NSW Community Legal Centre solicitor Mr Maraschio recently visited Nyngan to provide free legal talk to community groups. He visited the men's shed and then enjoyed lunch in the Nyngan Senior Citizens Rooms where he spoke to the social ladies.

Wedding at Burra Bee Dee Mission



Baptism in Dubbo



Elders Christmas party in Nyngan





Elders Christmas party in Dubbo

