



Uniting Church of Australia BOLWARRA

Newsletter

15 November 2024

There will be a combined service at [Rutherford](#) this coming Sunday 24 November commencing at 10am to celebrate the life and history of the congregation and its work in the community. This will be the last service at Rutherford. Please note there will be no service at Bolwarra on this date. If you need a lift, please contact one of the Leaders.

Our Spring Fair was held on Saturday 9 November and it was another great day. The weather was perfect, and the free jumping castle proved very popular with the children. So many members of the congregation worked hard to make it a success – thank you! As usual we had a wide range of plants, cakes, crafts and second-hand books for sale. Many people admired the Teddy Bears on display and prizes were handed out to the owners who entered the competition. Bolwarra has a great reputation for our delicious Devonshire Teas which were served in the church hall. We really appreciated Rev Dr Rod coming out to help us and for purchasing lots of goodies. A huge thank you to Rev Neil who put his face on the line and allowed us to throw wet sponges at him, all to raise a few extra \$! We also extend our thanks to the community and those from the other Maitland congregations who came along to support us.

Unfortunately, we held our last “Cuppa & Chat” morning tea on Tuesday 12 November. We were not getting the patronage we hoped and accordingly, we have decided to not continue. Huge thanks to Wendy Eade and her helpers who worked hard to get this initiative off the ground.

June Godwin sadly passed away earlier this week. June, and her husband John, were members of our church for many years and were loved and respected by all. The funeral will be held at Bolwarra Uniting Church on Monday 25 November at 11am.

On Sunday 29 December at 10am [Bolwarra Uniting Church](#) will host the next combined Maitland Uniting Churches service celebrating the end of the year. This service will also be a farewell to Rev Neil’s Smith as he is finishing up at the end of December and there will be a celebratory morning tea after. Neil has been with us since 1 July 2023 and has provided many of us with a lot of support. The Leaders have appreciated Neil’s input and guidance. He will be greatly missed. Rev Gary Derkenne will be joining us from 1 February 2025 as supply Minister for 12 months. We welcome Gary back and look forward to supporting him in his role with us.



The Devonshire Teas were popular at the Spring Fair



Lorna Middis throws the first wet sponge at Rev Neil



Children enjoyed the free jumping castle



Some of the Teddy Bears on Display