

The Oyster

...Because Life's a Pearl Hunt.



Tanilba CRC Newsletter, November 2013

Ordinary People

by David Trounce.

Dunkirk. Once a sleepy Commune for Monks. In modern times it has become known as the place where one of the most dramatic rescues in Naval History took place.

The Spring of 1940 found Hitler's Panzer divisions mopping up French troops and preparing for a siege of Great Britain. The Dutch had already surrendered, as had the Belgians.

The British Army foundered on the coast of France in the channel port of Dunkirk. Nearly a quarter million young British soldiers and over 100,000 Allied troops faced capture or death.

The Führer's troops, only a few miles away in the hills of France, closed in on an easy kill.

The Royal Navy had enough ships to save nearly 17,000 men, and the House of Commons was told to brace itself for 'hard and heavy tidings.'

Then while a despairing world watched with fading hope, a bizarre fleet of ships appeared on the horizon of the English Channel.



Trawlers, tugs, fishing sloops, lifeboats, sail boats, pleasure craft, an island ferry named 'Gracie Fields', and even the America's Cup challenger Endeavour, all manned by civilian sailors, sped to the rescue.

Above, pilots of the Royal Air Force jockeyed with the German Luftwaffe in the sky over the Channel. Below, the ragtag armada of civilian ships eventually rescued 338,682 men and returned them home to the shores of England.

As Australia celebrates Remembrance Day on November 11th this year, it's stories like Dunkirk that remind us that our unexpected heroes often come in unexpected ways.

Why do we love these stories?

Like all good stories, Dunkirk is a Salvation story.

It's the story of a people stranded and surrounded, but then offered deliverance by the likes of ordinary fisherman and tax accountants lead by a Carpenter's Son.

Kill the Dragon, Get the Girl

“He took his vorpal sword in hand, Long time the manxome foe he sought --
So rested he by the Tumtum tree, And stood awhile in thought.”

Jabberwocky, Lewis Carroll

by David Trounce.

It is the story by which all other stories are measured. A Man, an Arch-Enemy and a Worthy Prize.

Whether it's Sleeping Beauty, the White Witch in Narnia, the people smugglers in Liam Neesons' "Taken", or Hugh Jackman's Jean Valjean in "Les Misérables", the stories we love and the stories we write all run along the same tracks.

It is this way because God is this way. He wrote the epic from which all other epics get their meaning.

The plot line throughout the Bible, and so throughout human history, is simply this, "Kill the Dragon, get the Girl."

If the Lord of the Rings had ended with Frodo and The Witch-king of Angmar walking off into the Sunset together, we would never have bought it (in any sense of the word). But when the Beamish Boy in Carroll's Jabberwocky slays the Dragon, the Father cheers, and so do we. Why? Because these fairy tales all resonate with something in us that we know to be true.

J.R.R. Tolkien in his essay, *On Fairy Stories*, said that,

“Fairy-stories are of tremendous value. They provide moments of joy and truth which are nothing less than rays of light. And the Gospel story, the story that God is telling us, and that we are a part of, is the Greatest of all Stories. It has the utmost inner consistency of reality because it has primary standing – because it is true. In the Gospel, Legend and History have met and fused.”

The Salvation Story, in all its forms, is so appealing to us because we want Salvation. And the heroes appeal to us because we really do need one. And so, the Stories we write and the stories we love are all pointing in some way to the True Story penned by God and lived out by us.

It's the true story of a Son who puts to death the enemy of all mankind, that Dragon Death, in order to win for Himself a Bride, to free her through His own sacrificial love from her joyless, selfish, self absorbed slavery to sin.



News, Views and Events

Tilligerry Festival. November 16th, 2013.

The Annual Tilligerry festival is a great way to stay in touch with your community. A fun day out for all the family with rides, stalls, community displays, entertainment, and a brilliant fireworks display at approximately 8.00pm on Saturday Night.



Taking a Stroll on the Links...

The Little Prince

by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry
Saint Exupery's classic tale can be read on many levels and enjoyed by readers of any age.

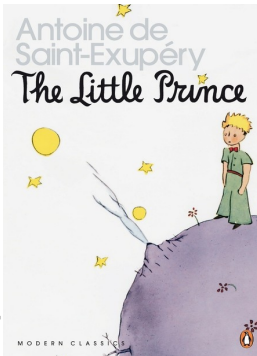
He tells the story of being stranded in the desert and meeting an inquisitive little boy – a Prince from another World.

This Little Prince proceeds to tell of his travels from planet to planet until he arrived on Earth and of what he has learned along the way. The most important thing he reveals is a secret that was taught him by a fox that he tamed:

'And he went back to meet the fox. "Goodbye," he said. "Goodbye," said the fox. "And now here is my secret, a very simple secret: It is only with the heart that one can see rightly; what is essential is invisible to the eye."

"What is essential is invisible to the eye," the little prince repeated, so that he would be sure to remember.'

Regardless of whether you read the story as simply a delightful children's fable or as an allegory, it is endlessly rewarding and a beautiful story of the things that matter most.



All Articles along with their citations are published on our website at www.tanilbacrc.org.au

Progressive Dinner

Friday, 1st November. All Newcomers Welcome to our November Ladies' Progressive Dinner.

Start time is 7pm.

Call Ella Burgoyne for more details on 4982 4507

Join the Choir

Each year our Peninsula gathers for a Combined Christmas Service at Tanilba Bay Public School.

Choir Practice begins on the first Sunday in November and we are always on the look out for new choir members.

If you would like to join the Peninsula Choir or find out more information, please call Don Burgoyne on 4982 4507.

Community Picnic

At the Mallabula Waterfront.
All Welcome. BYO.

Games. Food. Family. Friends.
5.30pm Friday 15th November.

About our Church Community...

Tanilba CRC is a Community Church that began on the Peninsula over 50 years ago. We believe in the Bible. We believe that Life is a Gift and we believe that God has created us to know Him and to live for Him in true family and community through His Son, Jesus.



If you would like to find out more about the Christian Church on the Tilligerry Peninsula, we invite you to contact us or attend one of our Regular Activities for more information.

Wednesday Prayer Meeting

At the church. 7pm.
All Welcome.

Social Groups

Make New Friends.

Soup Nights, Kite Flying,
Cricket, BBQ'S, Day Trips,
Family Games and more.

Join one of our Social
Community Groups in Lemon
Tree Passage or Tanilba Bay.
These Groups are open to all and
meet in February, May, August
and November each year.

Weekly Bible Study Groups

We run two Bible Study Groups.
Our Family Bible Study and
Supper Group meets at 4pm on
most Sundays at Mallabula.
Our Ladies' Bible Study Group
also meets at Mallabula on
Fridays at 10am.

Men's Breakfast

Come join other local men in our
Community for a Hot Breakfast
on the 1st Saturday of the month.

All are welcome and we meet
at 7.30am at Henderson Park,
Lemon Tree Passage.

Women's Social Group

This group is open to all women
and meets on the 1st Friday of the
month at 7pm at the church hall
in Tanilba Bay.

Come share a meal and a
conversation on a Friday Night.

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Christian Reformed Church
02 4984 5442
Corner of Tanilba Ave and Peace
Parade, Tanilba Bay. NSW.

Church Service: 9am Sunday

www.tanilbacrc.org.au