

AUTUMN FRIENDSHIP CLUB ANNUAL REPORT 2011.

During the past year, the Autumn Friendship Club has continued to pursue its goal of providing companionship, support and occupation to the older members of the parish and the Whitehorse community.

Our "at home" activities included fund-raising afternoons and lunches, several musical afternoons, Bingo, clothing and jewellery sales, Oaks Day lunch, gentle exercises, a day of reflection with Liz and Christmas Dinner provided by parishioners. We had a talk on "Seniors' Rights"; and a very enjoyable afternoon with "The Bellringers" who brought both bells and chimes and played music on them.

Our excursions included a visit to St. Francis in the city for mass and lunch, film lunches, a picnic and lunch at various venues, usually to mark the end of each term.

Through lunches and raffles, we raised money for the Cancer Council and for Katie Blundy, a parishioner working in a remote community in South Africa.

We were very grateful to receive a grant of \$250.00 from Whitehorse Council, which enables us to subsidise the cost of some of our activities e.g. coaches and cinema lunches.

We were very sad to farewell Liz Clark, when she retired from her position as pastoral associate, last July, and hope her retirement is rewarding. This year we have regretfully farewelled Father Anthoni and Father Ben, and welcomed Father Peter McGrath and Father Peter Tran.

We are most grateful for all the support we have received from the parish – from Fathers Anthoni, Ben, Bob and both Father Peters, from Liz Clark, Monique Waring, Di Hardy, John Short - who sets up the hall for our meetings - Marlene Coulthard, who gently encourages us to exercise, John and Therese Parker who entertained us with music and encouraged us to join in; and all who helped provide the wonderful Christmas Dinner and entertainment.

We welcome all parishioners and members of the Whitehorse community and their friends to our functions and are always open to suggestions for further activities.

Judy Reid, Secretary.