

What sort of society are we becoming?

< Rev'd Carol Palmer

In an overflowing hall on 11 June 2006 at a Soundings forum in Sydney, sociologist and writer Hugh Mackay explored the kind of society we are becoming.

We find it easy to reflect on events of the past; we can reflect on what is happening in the present, but how easy is it to predict what kind of society we are becoming? Hugh Mackay spoke of four 'revolutions' in our recent history.

1. The gender revolution

Every part of our lives has changed: marriage, the birthrate, family life, the workforce and the political scene. Woman vote and most expect equal rights with men both in the domestic scene and in the workforce. The result has been anxiety for many males.

2. The economy

The economy has changed and new industries have evolved. Statistics on unemployment are not accurate: men and women in their late fifties and early sixties cannot find work because of age discrimination. Other workers are made redundant, while whistle blowers are silenced with 'gags' and payouts. People no longer have job security. The gap between the 'haves' and the 'have-nots' has widened. Our society is becoming stratified. This provokes anxiety.

3. Information technology

Since the invention of computers our lives have been transformed in the same way that the industrial revolution changed people's lives forever. Many people communicate via email often dubbed 'soulless letters.' We used to talk about Generation X and Generation Y. Today there is no mention of Generation Z. Its replacement is Generation I for Internet. Lack of authentic face-to-face communication causes anxiety.

4. Cultural revolution

The term 'multiculturalism' in common usage a decade or so ago, has been superseded by the words 'diversity' and 'pluralism'. Our young people take change in their stride and keep their options open, avoiding commit-



ment. Many parents are both overconcerned and overindulgent, while 'dinks' (double income, no kids) enjoy their hedonistic lifestyle.

What is the result of these four revolutions through which we have lived? Hugh Mackay believes that they have made us less secure, causing Angst. The impact on this existential anxiety is that people have become introspective, inward looking, focusing on self rather than on others. The result is that people lack trust, they protect their boundaries and each other. Young people find security in peer groups while older people seek community clubs and organisations.

What sort of society are we becoming? Increases in anxiety and depression are common. As the German classical poet Rainer Maria Rilke wrote: "Perhaps in living the questions we shall find the answers." By being present to the moment without being too introspective, and by connecting with others in friendship and community groups, our Angst will be replaced by Affirmation.

Source: Alice Oppen, "What Sort of Society are we Becoming?" from a Soundings Forum on 11 June 2006, published in Contact Magazine (September 2006), p.3.



Woodburn-Evans Head RSL Club

Welcome to the RSL Club's monthly article which lets you know what is happening and has happened in your Club.

A lot has been going on in your club over the last few months. Texas Holdem Poker is now on Tuesday Nights with registration at 6pm and the game starting at 7pm. Results are available on the Club's website, leading the pack at present is Stewie Cowie, then comes Mick Gilhooly, Aiden Donnelly, Roger Dodgy Donlon and in fifth place is Lucky Phil alias Phil Wernicke. Cost is \$10 and you are ensured of a great night.

Our Chef Glen now has in place a flame griller so you can be assured of great flame grilled steak. Tuesday Steak night is proving extremely popular, \$9.95 gets you Rump cooked to your liking and either salad or chips and for a few dollars more you can have both. Many comments I am getting from visitors is that the food is fantastic, and very reasonably priced, so forget the pots and pans at home and come down to your club for a great feed. Please note that the Sunday Smorgasbord is finished and that the bistro is closed on Mondays this has been done as it is not financially viable to continue.

The Sub-Branch have to be congratulated on the work these boys do around the club, the grounds look fantastic and inside it is nice and clean. They do this work out of the goodness of their hearts for our club; this in turn has saved the club a small fortune and with times tough as they are will prove to be valuable for the 08-09 financial year. Well done men!

Sports night is kicking along with the Dart Crew recruiting a few new players, one to mention is Kira, and she is extremely keen to learn

the game and is most welcome to the team. Good to see the card players and indoor bowlers fighting it out for the chook, I watch the bowls in between darts and the quality is great with John Ramsay putting down some good bowls, great to see good competition amongst this bunch. Not to forget the Euchre players who also get down to it with a good game of cards.

On the entertainment front we have a bit of bad news, the Disco on Saturday nights has been canned as there was an incident in the car park after one such event with the police being called. This is a pity as the club tried to get something happening in town for the younger generation. The fishing Classic is coming up from the 17th to the 24th July, our club sponsors this event with a cash hand out of over \$12,000, on the 18th there will be free entertainment with music from the 60's to the 90's by Montana Duo, then on the last night of the classic another free show will be on as a finale to the Best Fishing Classic in Australia. The Frank Spencer Tribute show will be held on the 14th August and the cost is only \$10 a head, we advise that you book now to avoid disappointment. Morning Melodies has proved a huge hit with big numbers turning up, a light meal is available from the Bistro for a modest \$6, and you cannot beat that.

Another feature we have on the club's website is "info2me", you can join the database of people and you will be e-mailed all the info to keep you up-to-date of what is happening in your club, so get onto our site www.woodburnevansheadrsl.com.au and join now.

Seeya at the club
Steve Cselka (<°))><

Dedication invitation

On Sunday 23 August 2009 at 3pm at the Anglican Church of St. Barnabas at Wardell there will be a special Eucharist and Dedication of the new stained glass window by The Right Reverend Keith Slater, Anglican Bishop of Grafton.

The window, which depicts the crucified Christ on the cross with three figures at the foot of the cross and the scriptural words from John's Gospel: "I am the Way and the Truth and the Life", has been generously gifted to the parish by Mr Henry Rigby of Lismore, in memory of his parents. His father was an ordained priest and canon of the church.

service times

St. Joseph's Parish

Serving the communities of Coraki, Woodburn & Evans Head.
Mass Times Next Weekend
Saturday, Woodburn 5.00pm; Sunday Evans Head 7.30am; Coraki 9.15am
Weekday Mass Times
Tuesday, Evans Head 5.20pm; Wednesday Woodburn 8.30am; Wednesday Mass 1st & 3rd Coraki Church 9:00am; Wednesday Mass 2nd & 4th Coraki Village 9:30am

Anglican Parish of Mid Richmond

St John's, Evans Head
First Sunday of month 7.30am, second, third and fourth Sundays 9.30am.
St Mary Magdalene's, Coraki
First Sunday 9.30am; third Saturday 5.00pm (Followed by a shared meal, indoor bowls)
St. Barnabas Wardell
First Sunday 5.30pm; second and third Sundays 7.30am.
St Alban's, Woodburn
Second Sunday 5.30pm; fourth Sunday 7.30pm. When there is a fifth Sunday, we have a combined service.
For further details, contact Rev'd Carol Palmer 66825226 or 0411 463 635

Presbyterian

Connect, Grow, Serve.
Church Service 9.15am every Sunday. A service for people of all ages.

Youth: Connect Youth Friday - every second Friday 7.30pm; every second Sunday 4pm.
Children: Kid's Church - every Sunday at 9.15am. Play Group: Mum's and Bub's - every Wednesday at 10am.
Craft Group: First, third, fifth Thursdays at 9.30am.
Growth Groups: (Small groups that learn about loving Jesus and each other more). Tuesday evenings - three mixed groups, one blokes' group and one youth group.
Thursday mornings - one KYB women's group. More information contact Paul McKendrick on 6682 4976.

Wellspring Church

Cafe Church worship is every Sunday morning at 10.30 am at 26 Woodburn st. Evans Head.

Prayer group meets every Monday at "the look out" on Goanna Headland where we pray for the needs of our community, our church and our nation.

The Connection group is held every Tuesday at 10.15 at the Connection centre.

Ladies Morning is held at 10.00 am Every Thursday at 33 Sunderland St.

Cell Group is held Thursday night at 7.30 pm at 33 Sunderland St.

Pastor Dan Upston

marketguide



WEEKLY

Rainbow Region Organic Markets
Lismore Showground, Every Tuesday, 8am-11am

Lismore Farmers Market
Lismore Showground, Every Saturday, 8am-12pm

Uki Markets: Community Centre, Every Saturday

Bangalow Farmers Markets - 8am-11am
Saturday mornings, Bangalow Hotel car park.



1ST WEEKEND OF THE MONTH

Lismore Car Boot Market
Lismore Shopping Square. 1st & 3rd Sundays

Brunswick Heads, Memorial Park, 1st Saturday

Byron Bay Community Market: 1st Sunday

Iluka: 1st Sunday



2ND WEEKEND OF THE MONTH

The Channon Craft Market
Coronation Park

Alstonville Market
Apex Pavillion, Alstonville Showground
2nd Sunday

Lennox Head Lakeside Market
Lake Ainsworth Foreshore, 2nd & 5th Sundays (Except Xmas school holidays at Ballina Site)



3RD WEEKEND OF THE MONTH

Nimbin Market
Nimbin Community Centre, Cullen St
3rd & 5th Sundays

Mullumbimby Museum Market
Stuart St, 3rd Sunday

Uki Buttery Bazaar
Uki Village Buttery, 3rd Sunday

Ballina Markets
Circus Ground, Canal Rd, 3rd Sunday



4TH WEEKEND OF THE MONTH

Evans Head Riverside Markets
Recreation Reserve near Silver Sand (Except Xmas school holidays at Stan Payne Oval Booyong St), 4th Sunday

Bangalow Village Market
Bangalow Showground, 4th Sunday

Yamba Community Market
Yamba Oval, (Behind Bowling Club), 4th Sunday