

Redcliffe Community HUB News Nov 2019



A quick update followed by a bit of inspiration!

- The DA process with Moreton Bay Council continues as expected. The hope is that soon the public consultation will open so we can complete this milestone before Christmas. [Happy Christmas!]
- We're hoping DA will be complete Feb 2020, then we enter into the detailed design stage to get us to the tender point by June 2020, and 'turning the sod' around Sept 2020.
- This gives us a very nominal opening mid 2021, but you know how these things are!

A key value of our project is partnerships. We have so many great partnership already with ROPE, Uniting Care, Dept of Communities, MBRC Legal Service, MBRIT, etc, etc. **BUT**, if you have been quietly watching, **now is the time to come forward so your organisation can be part of the detailed design phase.** This is an amazing opportunity to design space in the new facilities specific to your needs! Let us know if that is you!

I'm going to leave you with some words from one of our Committee members. Delivered at our last congregational meeting. It was a meeting that was certainly abuzz with anticipation of what God is doing among us.

Paul Clark - Lead Minister



The below is an extract of a speech given by Kerri-Anne Dooley at the last Congregational meeting. Kerri-Anne has worshipped at Redcliffe Uniting since she came to faith as a teenager. Kerri-Anne describes herself as 'married to Redcliffe' – with a heart and passion for serving her community, born from her faith. She is highly engaged with the community, in politics, and in her profession as a Nurse. She helped establish Hummingbird House, Queensland's only children's hospice as Vice-President of Palliative Care Queensland. Kerri-Anne is on the HUB Steering Committee.

The Need, or *Why are we building a Community Hub?*

I don't think it would take too much convincing to argue the widespread needs of our community. As someone who was born on the peninsula and has served the community since the age of 16 years – Chair of Redcliffe Crime Stoppers, Chair of Redcliffe Special School Chaplaincy Committee, Founder and Chair of the Moreton Bay Dementia Alliance, on the board of the Way Back Suicide Postvention Program, former Board member of ROPE, White Ribbon Day committee – I have an intimate knowledge of the social needs here on the peninsula. I listen to teachers, parents, nurses and police speak about complex needs and the challenges faced to address them.

Redcliffe has one of the highest suicide rates in the Moreton Bay Region, domestic violence is on the rise, mental illness, youth unemployment, youth drug use and crime is epidemic, with children now as young as 10yrs experimenting with drugs. The police are now reaching out to the Church for help as nothing else seems to be working.

The Opportunity, or *What can we do?*

As the Church we have a great opportunity to meet the growing needs of our community by expanding our services, building a Hub that can meet some of these needs; providing counselling through Uniting Care, supporting parents through playgroup and Uniting Care Children and Parenting Program, women in abuse situations receive the care they need. Uniting Care's Men Choosing Change Program where perpetrators of DV get a chance to change. Our Indigenous yarning circle, children needing foster homes get placed and protected, through a Café, we can provide employment opportunities for young adults living with disability to find purpose and meaning. The opportunities are endless and I see this as a great opportunity that we can't afford to miss to create the Welcome, the Experience, the Belonging and the Becoming we want Redcliffe Uniting to be. *"Whatever you did for one of the least of these, you did for me."* - Jesus

The Legacy, or *Seeing beyond today.*

"Don't store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and rust destroy" – rather leave a legacy, be part of building the kingdom here on earth.

We all want to be a part of something that is bigger than us. To know that long after we are gone, there is something that we have left that leaves a legacy, continues to help others. I believe this is The Hub – the Community Hub will continue to reach into people's lives, be a place of belonging and hopefully healing and hope long after all of us are gone. If we get it right, we can all be a part of leaving a legacy that will bring a taste of heaven to those who desperately need it.

I believe in the Hub, I'm investing my time, skills and money to make it become a reality. We need it yesterday, as the need is so great. I count it a privilege to be on the Steering Committee with the calibre of people committed to seeing it become a reality. My hope and prayer is we can do this TOGETHER, seeing it's value and opportunity now and into the future.

As a palliative care nurse, many of my patients have death bed regrets – wished they'd taken more risks and loved more. To some, The Hub may seem a risk. It is a risk worth taking, one we don't want to miss and regret; Our act of love for the community of Redcliffe.

Ed Note: Kerri-Anne is active politically, which we applaud. We want to acknowledge that our congregation and community have a diverse range of political views [which is our strength] and we are pleased that the HUB project has support from all sides of politics.