

Dear Congregation,

Thank you again for the way you have cared & shown your love & support to us as a family. The flowers were just beautiful. Also the way the ladies lovingly prepared the sandwiches & rolls, & drinks. Your thoughtfulness has been very much appreciated. We found all what you did, was so helpful.

Peace be with you all.

Love Fay & family



A tribute to
Russell Broom,
who died recently

A REFLECTION FROM TOM AND DORIS BOYD

Russell was born in Maleny and came with his parents, Ray and Celia Broom, to Currumbin Valley when he was only 3 or 4 years old. The Brooms lived in a Queenslander near Nicholls' Crossing, Currumbin Valley.

Russell was born with a disability and he only had one eye. After schooling, Russell didn't have any work. Most days he would stand on Nicholls Bridge or at their fence line and wave to passers-by. One day a miracle happened! Bill Freeman, one of the Valley banana growers, stopped and asked Russell would he like to spend the day with him. Bill lived at Palm Beach and drove to his plantation each day. Russell agreed, and Bill taught him many skills such as packing bananas and driving a 4-wheel drive jeep through the banana plantation. Russell helped Bill in the bananas for 34 years.

Bill used to call on me a couple of times a week on his way home to get a billy of milk. And he had Russell with him. Bill was a bit of a tease, and one day he said to Russell, "Tell Tom what happened to you this week." After a while, Russell's eye glowed and he said, "I was baptised." Russell's mother attended the Palm Beach Anglican church and it was there that he had been baptised.

Russell always came to the Currumbin Valley church. At the Christmas Eve service; he wore his big red top hat and Christmas T-shirt.

We all loved Russell. He lived on his own in latter years and started coming to Elanora Uniting Church. When we asked him why he didn't come to church sometimes, he said that he got a better morning tea at the Angos, which was the PB Anglicans.

We usually had a daily phone call from Russell, and sometimes up to four times

a day. We will miss those calls.

We could write a book about Russell. He was happy and he would say it was because he was full of the Holy Spirit. He will be with Jesus now.

---oOo---

A REFLECTION FROM ROB BOYD

I have known Russell all my life, him being a Currumbin Valley local and of recent years living in Elanora. Most people called Russell, Big Russ. Big Russ was not only big in stature, but he was big in living life to its fullest.

Big Russ loved trains and he could tell you anything that was needed to know about trains. He was super excited when the light rail went in as he would drive to Broadbeach and travel the light rail for the day, and would ring me that evening as he did every evening and would say, you would not believe what I have been doing today? Big Russ, also had a passion for his VW Beetle, and would be seen motoring around the local area, dropping in on different local identities and was a regular appearance at The Pines shopping centre, waiting to have a laugh with someone he knew.

Big Russ loved the footy and was a passionate Broncos supporter and Qld Maroons fan. I have taken him to Suncorp stadium many a season to see Broncos games and also to see the Titans play. We included him on any family gatherings we had and special birthday celebrations; his highlight was coming over to my place to watch the very first game of state of origin with all my family and friends. He would join us also for the grand final, and we celebrated many a Broncos win in the early years.

Big Russ would ring every night, and if he didn't then I would have to ring him as I would be concerned for him. He would tell me almost every day that he loved me and Leanne and my family to the moon and back. Big Russ loved his Lord and Saviour, and when you asked him why he was so happy, he would reply, it's because I am full of the Holy Spirit. He also loved his church families and would go to and from Elanora Uniting and the Palm Beach Anglican. When I would enquire why he was going to the Angos, his reply would be, they have a better morning tea and I get five more kisses there.

Big Russ was a character, and lived life to its fullest despite his disabilities, he was in every sense of the word, a Mate. He is going to be sadly missed, love you, my mate.

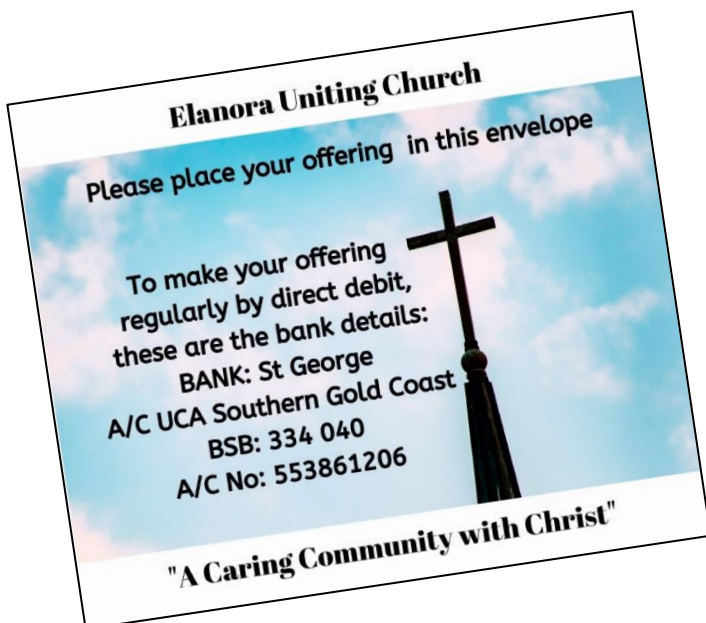


Church Council is
working with Synod on a
**RESUMPTION OF SERVICES
PLAN.**

Watch this space!

Rhonda Coleman
Chair of Church Council

Our church office is open on **MONDAYS** from 9am – 10:30.
Shirley Lord will be happy to receive your offering, Papua Piggy money, or donations for Blair Athol – food, targeted donations, or winter clothes you may no longer need. More details about any of these from the office 5534 5817.



Rev Catherine Solomon 0438 557 677
Rhonda Coleman 0478 630 826
church@elanorauniting.com.au
<https://elanorauniting.com.au>

