

You're invited to come and explore  
the work of Rev Dr Peter Blackwood  
and Rev Sandy Brodine.



PART OF THE HOW  
GREAT THOU ART FESTIVAL  
OCTOBER 4 - 6, 2024

# *icon* EXHIBITION

*'Peter Gunn would be appalled...  
an icon exhibition by two former  
Scots Ministers.'*



Sept 22 - Oct 31

**SCOTS UNITING**  
187 Burgundy St,  
Heidelberg.

*free entry*

For opening hours contact:  
**[banyuleuc.org.au](http://banyuleuc.org.au)**



## **Peter Gunn would be appalled:**

### **An icon exhibition by two former Scots Ministers.**

#### **Icon Catalogue**

Peter Gunn would be appalled. The Rev Peter Gunn was a missionary from Wick in Scotland to the Gaelic speakers of the Heidelberg district of Melbourne. He was the first minister of the Scots Church in Heidelberg, located then at a barn in Bulleen, from 1843-1845. Portrait photos of previous ministers of the congregation until 2017 hang in the new 'gallery space' behind the Sycamore tree: all except for Peter Gunn. Gunn came from a generation of Presbyterians who took so seriously the command that there should be no images of the invisible God that this injunction should also include any depiction of humans, for they are created in the image of God.

Even if Peter Gunn could get over the iniquity that all his collegial successors agreed to have their images displayed in his church it is difficult to imagine the apoplexy he would suffer on learning that not one, but two of his successors painted icons in the tradition of the Eastern Orthodox churches. One of whom, Rev. Dr Peter Blackwood, teaches iconography under the tutelage of two Russian iconographers. Another, Rev. Sandy Brodine, is proud to call Peter Blackwood her teacher.

Times have changed, and our understanding of the nature of icons and how they can aid us in our spiritual connection to the Divine have grown. Come on in and explore!

**Below is a guide to each Icon in the Exhibition. To view the icons in the order below, begin on the left and follow the exhibition clockwise.**

St Brendan	c. AD 484 – c. 577	Irish Celtic Saint who travels to Greenland and the Americas <a href="#">St Brendan's SPACE</a> Artist: Rev Sandy Brodine
Theresa of Avila and John of the Cross	1515-1582 1542-1591	Spanish Carmelite mystic who collaborated with John in reforming their order. They wrote about prayer and the spiritual life. <a href="#">Theresa of Avila's SPACE</a> Artist: Rev Dr Peter Blackwood
Mother Theresa	1910-1997	Mother Teresa was an Albanian-Indian Catholic nun and the founder of the Missionaries of Charity. Artist: Rev Dr Peter Blackwood
Mary the Theotokos		Mary the Mother of Jesus, often known as the “Godbearer” or “Theotokos” in Greek. <a href="#">A Magnificat SPACE</a> Artist: Rev Sandy Brodine
Mary Magdalene		Mary Magdalene was a follower of Jesus. She is the first witness to the Risen Christ in the Gospel of John: The Apostle to the Apostles. Artist: Rev Sandy Brodine
Fred Mckay	1907-2000	Succeeded John Flynn as superintendent of the Australian Inland Mission. Artist: Rev Dr Peter Blackwood
Jesus and the Beloved Disciple		Friend of Jesus, and one of his closest disciples. The “Beloved Disciple” is a key character in the Gospel of John. Artist: Rev Sandy Brodine
Florence Nightingale	1820-1910	English social reformer and founder of modern nursing. <a href="#">A Healing SPACE</a> Artist: Rev Dr Peter Blackwood

Holy Trinity	c. 1425	Painting of the hospitality of Abraham by Andrei Rublev. Artist: Rev Dr Peter Blackwood
Julian of Norwich	c.1343 – 1416	English anchoress of the Middle Ages whose writings, now known as <i>Revelations of Divine Love</i> , are the earliest surviving English-language works by a woman. <a href="#">St Julian's SPACE</a> Artist: Rev Dr Peter Blackwood
The woman at the well		Woman who has been married five times who Jesus meets by a well. Artist: Rev Sandy Brodine
The Resurrection		Jesus rises from the tomb and is witnessed by Peter and Mary Magdalene. Artist: Rev Dr Peter Blackwood
Mary McKillop	1842-1909	Sister Mary was an Australian Josephite educator and social reformer. Artist: Rev Dr Peter Blackwood
The Greeting		On the day of resurrection Christ greets the two women outside the tomb. Artist: Rev Dr Peter Blackwood
Hildegard of Bingen	1098-1179	Benedictine abbess and polymath active as a writer, composer, philosopher, mystic, visionary, and as a medical writer and practitioner. <a href="#">Hildegard's SPACE</a> Artist: Rev Dr Peter Blackwood
St Cecilia	180-230	Patron saint of musicians. Artist: Rev Dr Peter Blackwood
Anthony of Egypt	251-356	The biography of Anthony's life by Athanasius of Alexandria helped to

		spread the concept of Christian monasticism. <a href="#">Anthony of Egypt's SPACE</a> Artist: Rev Dr Peter Blackwood
Alan Walker	1911-2003	Methodist minister and founder of Lifeline. Artist: Rev Dr Peter Blackwood
The Crucifixion		Jesus dies on the cross, as Mary the Mother of Jesus and the Beloved Disciple Watch on. Artist: Rev Dr Peter Blackwood
St Francis and St Clare		Francis and Clare of Assisi recognized for their deeds of care and generosity, and by care of creation. <a href="#">Frank and Clare's SPACE</a> Artist: Rev Dr Peter Blackwood
Helen Mackenzie	1913-2009	Medical missionary and educator to Korea Artist: Rev Dr Peter Blackwood
Oscar Romero	1917-1980	Salvadoran Roman Catholic archbishop who was a vocal critic of the violent activities of government armed forces, right-wing groups, and leftist guerrillas. Artist: Rev Dr Peter Blackwood

### **Additional 'Saintly' SPACE Services.**

Although these services are not based on the icons in the exhibition, they will help you to reflect prayerfully on other biblical characters and 'saints' in the Christian Tradition.

Hannah		<a href="#">Hannah's SPACE</a>
"Woman Wisdom"		<a href="#">Woman Wisdom's SPACE</a>
Zac's SPACE		Based on the Holy Habit of Hospitality as told in the story of

		Zacchaeus in Luke's gospel. <a href="#">Zac's SPACE</a>
Mary of Egypt		<a href="#">Mary of Egypt's SPACE</a>
Christina of Markyate	c.1096-1098	<a href="#">Christina of Markyate's SPACE</a>
St Aiden	died 651.	St Aiden was an Irish Monk who became the Abbot of Lindisfarne Abbey in Northumbria. (a collaboration with Mark Berry) <a href="#">St Aiden's SPACE</a>
Vincent Van Gogh		<a href="#">Van Gogh's SPACE</a>
John Wesley		<a href="#">John Wesley's SPACE</a>
Thomas Merton		<a href="#">Thomas Merton's SPACE</a>

## The Beauty of Holiness

An Exhibition of Icons and Religious Art  
of the Uniting Church Icon Schools

October 2024

The Centre for Theology and Ministry  
College Crescent, Parkville



Exhibition launch - 2.00pm Sunday 29 September

Some exhibits are available for sale.

# IN HIS IMAGE

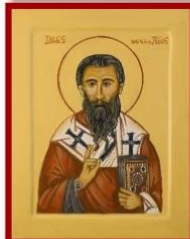
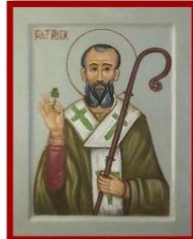
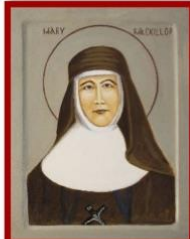
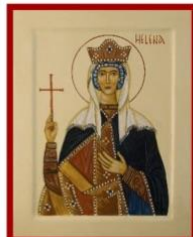
Icons that taught me to paint

Peter Blackwood



Since his retirement in 2013 Peter Blackwood has painted icons. Peter was invited to help lead the Uniting Church Icon Schools. His lack of confidence and competence for coaching others in the craft of painting Byzantine icons drove him to find professional teachers and to increase his skill by painting icons of the people of faith listed in the Uniting Church's *Calendar of Other Commemorations*.

The result is a collection of photos of over 100 icons and an account of a journey of discovery made over twenty years of painting icons in egg tempera.



***Available from author - \$40***

***Available online - \$55***



## The Artists



**Rev. Dr Peter Blackwood** is a retired minister who served 25 years in congregations including Heidelberg-East Ivanhoe. He began painting icons while serving in presbytery and synod placements. From 2013 Peter has volunteered as administrator and teacher with the Uniting Church Icon Schools. He has been a student of two iconographers from St Petersburg (now living in exile in Georgia), Philip Davydov and Olga Shalamova.



**Rev. Sandy Brodine** is a minister in the Younger Generations Team of the Synod of Victoria and Tasmania. She was previously a Minister in the Banyule Network of Uniting Churches. Sandy enjoys all things creative and has a passion for encouraging people to engage creatively in their faith. She has been painting icons for 7 years under the instruction of Peter Blackwood. Sandy is married to Brendan and has a thirteen year old daughter, Sophia.

## Our Venue

This Icon Exhibition is on display at Scots Uniting Church in Heidelberg, which is part of the Banyule Network of Uniting Churches. The Banyule Network is made up of Uniting Church communities of faith following Jesus and working together to love and serve God in our neighbourhood and beyond. If you're looking to explore faith, share in worship and find community, this could be a home for you. Find out more on our website.

