

Elevation Talk – how I got to this point (November Retreat - 2023)

I understand my journey to this point as beginning at the turn of the Century and being marked by some very specific events, some of which I would like to share with you now.

It actually began in earnest, in 2003, but that is a part of the story that I won't share here and now – time does not permit.

Skip to 2006

2006 – Deloraine – First Encounters with a group of FP's

In 2006 I planned a trip to visit John and Annette Pattenden in Deloraine in Tasmania.

My dear friend Stephen asked me to deliver Rev Colin's chalice into the custodianship of JR whilst I was there.

As it turned out, JR was going to do a New Year reading in Tassie at that time...

John and Annette invited me along and, in a private meeting with JR and Melody, the chalice was delivered.

After handing over the chalice, with appropriate pomp and ceremony as I recall, Melody asked me about my ordination (I mumbled something in reply) and then she boldly announced something along the lines of ... we haven't finished with you yet!" I left, none the wiser and a little befuddled.

Deloraine was my first encounter with a group of Free Priests and the New Expression that JR and Melody were working to bring into manifestation.

FAST FORWARD TO 2018 – (retirement and WyseArt)

In 2018 I retired and moved to the country – I was now living in a very alien landscape – no contacts, no support mechanism, couldn't even work out which way was north! A perfect set-up for deep reflection, soul searching .. naval gazing?#!! To ensure that this was exactly what happened I managed to have lots of accidents, with physical injuries that ensured that I did stay still and ponder deeply!!!

This was also the period when I commenced WyseArt ...!

Moving on to 2019 – (Ordained)

I was ordained by JR with the assistance of Melody and John and Annette Pattenden and dearest Grace.

With this ordination I gained an overwhelming sense that what had been set in motion years beforehand (specifically 2003 in Rye with Stephen) had finally found completion.

... and, I was still working on WyseArt!!

In 2020 -The Pandemic ...

– there is so much that I loved about the Pandemic, particularly the stillness and quiet .. and space for Spirit to move!!! And move it most certainly did!!!

The possibility of Elevation niggled at me a bit but I finally dismissed it as something I probably didn't need to do this lifetime!! My work as an ordained priest was already taking on new dimensions. I was sort of 'comfortable'!

(2021 – Advent_ - Stephen and Helen come to visit)

We now come to Advent 2021 – the pandemic has moved mountains (so to speak)
the world has shifted !!! my very dear friends Stephen and Helen came to visit me for what turned out to be a very lengthy catch up!! Those of you who know Stephen well will appreciate what I mean by 'lengthy'!!! (I love him to bits)

From this meeting, and after more deep reflection (I was getting good at this now thanks to WyseArt – and JR's infinite patience!!) I gained a much clearer understanding of what my Free Priesthood was about (and what it wasn't about!).

With this understanding came a clearer view of the purpose of my life (to date) – the threads in the tapestry of my life were doing their thing, the pattern was beginning to reveal itself.

Advent 2022 and onwards –

12 months later, in Advent 2022, Covid caught up with me – a most unwelcome visitor!!!

I just sorted that out when, 6 months later, I came down with a mystery virus that laid me up for ages whilst giving me some glimpses into some very interesting worlds! And no, I didn't have a fever, just Spirit at work!!

I thought my tapestry was about to unravel but no – it was just the old and irrelevant threads being removed and new vibrant living threads being added and woven in.

WyseArt – Underlying current & Tsunamis

In this brief tale you may have noticed an underlying current (punctuated by a few tsunamis). For me, that current was and still is WyseArt. (the tsunamis, to me, reflect Spirit at work)

I started WyseArt because, as an educator and curious curriculum developer, I was intrigued to know what it was about this course that brought about profound changes in souls who engaged with it.

I had completed years of study at the ICA and although the material looked similar I knew something was different.

If I was to sum up my WyseArt experience I would say it was a long slow and very challenging journey of self discovery and gradual unveiling of the deeper mysteries of my life... it has been an essential part of my journey to here and now.

My gratitude goes out to JR and Melody - for WyseArt ... and for all the material, wisdom and inspiration you have shared so freely.

I also acknowledge the members of the Brotherhood, both in the flesh and in spirit, who have assisted in bringing me to this point in my life.

To close:- a want to share with you a poem that Fabian sent both Margaret and I when our Elevation was first announced

Fabian Billerwell

*Upon my steed I sit and wait
I've been called to arms at the gate
A rattle of sword, a clink of iron
No longer free to look behind*

*The battle it waits ahead we see
And in that moment we pray our need
No longer slaves at other's bequest
We give our hearts to what's coming next*

*And so the stirring fires flare
As I sit upon my mare
Still for now just waiting quiet
A holy moment in the night*

*This night when it has come at last
And to my Lord my fears I cast
And tremble quietly within my breast
To face it all and give my best*

I pray that I may have the strength and courage and wisdom and insight to answer the call, yet again. To the Christ I give my all

So shall it be