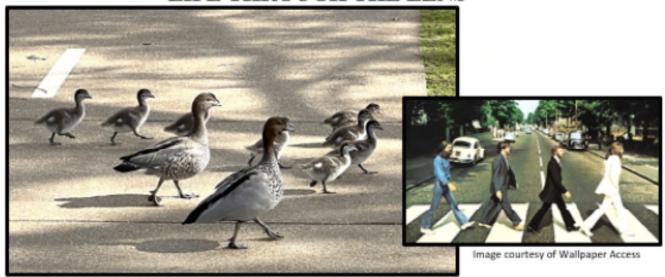
"LIFE THROUGH THE LENS"



ABBEY ROAD DUCKS

Seeing these ducks strutting across a path at Sturt Reserve, for some obscure reason, my mind immediately went to the iconic image of the cover of The Beatles album, "Abbey Road".

Then I thought, "Memory," a fantastic gift from a loving God. It is a gift we often don't even consider until one of the memory-destroying illnesses starts to afflict someone we know or the day when I can't find the breakfast cereal, and then later, there it is in the washing machine".

Then comes the question, "What do I prioritise in my vault of memories?"

Do we allow memories that pull us down, memories of hurts, to stop us from "moving on" and enjoying the life God wants for us?

Do you hold precious memories of friends or strangers whose actions or words inspired you when life became grey and cloud-covered? Memories that inspire and lift you time and time again because you can "remember".

Memories of when we supported or helped someone in need, we somehow felt fuller in ourselves and recognised that I am of value to others, something which can be God-inspired even if we don't always realise it.

We all have times when we wonder, "Has God forgotten me?" But then, through the gift of memory, God can stir a thought, a memory of maybe a previous time of blessing. Perhaps some words of reassurance come to mind, which gives us the confidence to say, "Yes, that's right, He has told us, "For I know my plans for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not evil, to give you a future and hope. "(Jeremiah 29:11) and "I will be with you always, even to the end of the world" (Matthew 28:20), or my favourite words from Jesus, "I have come that they might have life and that they might have it more abundantly." (John 10:10)

For just a minute, consider that if there was no god given gift of memory, the surgeon could not operate, the airline pilot would not know which buttons to press, we would all drive all over the road, we would all be strangers to each other, including family, modern technology (if it existed) would be an even greater question mark in our lives.

Most importantly, we would not know a great and loving God loves us, and do we remember to praise and thank him for giving us the gift of memory?

Many blessings to you,

Kevin.