

## “LIFE THROUGH THE LENS”



### GROWN WITH CARE

There it was in the flower garden; a wheat plant. Then Neil, our kind neighbour who had cared for the garden while we were on holidays wandered over. Indicating the wheat plant, he commented, “It just came up. I know it doesn’t belong there. I was going to pull it up. Then I thought, you might be able to use it in your Standard column. I left it there and watered it.”

He was right. I looked at it, I thought of the people we often think are in the wrong places and need “pulling up and throwing on the dump.”

The parent, not doing so well at parenting. The teenager, always in trouble. The politician I don’t agree with. The drunk who says, “I’m giving up the booze” and doesn’t. The neighbour who will not agree with me. Those who call themselves “Christian” but are not so good at following the example set by Jesus. The example of forgiving; caring; supporting; speaking truth in love and not condemnation. Me.

Neil cared for and watered the struggling plant and it survived to fulfil an unexpected purpose. When we care for; help another who might appear to be in a “wrong place;” to grow, no one knows who they may grow into.

God said of Jesus “He won’t brush aside the bruised and the hurt; he won’t disregard the small and insignificant, but he’ll steadily and firmly set things right. He won’t tire out and quit”.

Could he say the same of us?

Thanks, Neil.

Kevin Schrapel