



A NEWSPAPER FOR THE CANBERRA & GOULBURN DIOCESAN COMMUNITY

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ANGLICAN NEWS

VOL. 31
NO. 3
May 2014

Anglican 150 reaches finale

Commemoration of Bishop Mesac Thomas' arrival in Goulburn wraps up year of celebration

By Wayne Brighton

The crowd of over 100 marchers was ebullient on the walk to St Saviour's Cathedral on Sunday April 6, retracing the footsteps of the first Bishop of Goulburn, Mesac Thomas, through the streets of the city.

With parish banners fluttering and some members in period costume, it was a fitting climax to the diocese's 150th anniversary celebrations.

The celebration service of evensong according to the Book of Common Prayer (1662) recreated the worship that greeted Bishop Mesac on his arrival in the diocese.

Mesac was appointed Bishop of Goulburn by Her Majesty Queen Victoria on 14 March 1863 and consecrated in Canterbury on 25 March. It would prove to be almost a year later that he and his wife Mary would arrive in Sydney and make the journey to Goulburn.

He soon came to love deeply his diocese, which at the time was considered remote, sparsely populated and greatly under-resourced. He worked tirelessly in what he recognised to be a new missionary frontier across much of south-western New South Wales.

Evensong worship for

the anniversary service was provided by the Cathedral choir and led by the choirmaster, Dr Greg Oehm.

The cross was laid before the altar, which featured the unique antique Lenten frontal supplied by the Cathedral's first dean, William Sowerby (1839-1875) and his wife Hannah in memory of their daughter, Mary.

The Old Testament reading was poignant, a reminder that God's mission often involves struggle. The congregation heard how Pharaoh not only refused the request for freedom but made working conditions immeasurably more difficult by requiring the Israelites to collect their own straw when making the god-king's palaces.

The New Testament reading recalled Paul's unlikely status as an Apostle, the thorns that afflicted his ministry and his determination to boast only in the grace of Jesus Christ.

The people were then led in prayer for the Queen's majesty, the Royal Family, the clergy and the people by Archdeacon Elizabeth Dyke.

Bishop Stuart drew the service to its high point, preaching that as God's people we are always dependent on God's grace. Bishop Stuart recounted how his predecessor may have lacked the material resources of money and sufficient clergy remained firmly engaged in God's mission to Goulburn and beyond.

As bishop, Mesac had his share of thorns too from law suits, congregational divisions, closed minds and hard hearts that refused to embrace his vision for evangelism.

Mesac knew, as the Lord said to Paul, 'My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness' (2 Cor 12.9, KJV). Such weakness still remains in the church, as Bishop Stuart reflected on the recent bishops' conference and the revelations emerging from the royal commission into institutional responses to sexual abuse.

He said it was such weakness that encourage us to rediscover grace, the undeserved and unmerited kindness of God expressed in "God's outstretched, nail-pierced hands welcoming all who seek his love and forgiveness".

This is what has sustained the saints of every age, including Mesac, for while he was a flawed person, his preaching was filled with the notion that God's grace is sufficient for us in the face of adversity and seeming insurmountable odds.

"With Mesac, I dream of and serve with a diocese where the love of Jesus transforms people and communities," said Bishop Stuart. "It is a place where grace is grasped and embraced and where weakness continues to be the crucible for the outpouring of God's strength and God's purposes to God's glory."



COMMEMORATION: Jane Robinson accompanies Bishop Stuart in leading the commemorative walk from Mandelson's Guest House to St Saviour's Cathedral.

The afternoon concluded with a comprehensive display prepared by the diocese's Historical Society. This included pictures of Goulburn and the Cathedral's construction, which was overseen by Bishop Mesac.

It also included newspaper articles from the bishop's time in the diocese and a copy of Queen Victoria's Letters Patent by which Mesac was made bishop and Goulburn proclaimed to be Australia's first inland city.

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An ethical
investment alternative



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Dark clouds for jobless young people

For young people in our region, jobs are increasingly hard to find. Over 11 percent of young Canberrans are unemployed and the Canberra employment market is far tighter for entry level jobs than comparable capital cities.

This is why Anglicare is so concerned that our Youth Connections programs have been earmarked to be cut by the Federal Government. Youth Connections keeps young people engaged in school.

As our Youth educational support coordinator Shyanne Watson told the ABC's 7:30 Report earlier this month, without the funding in the ACT, the future prospects of between 300 and 350 young Canberrans are at risk.

As Shyanne explains, youth workers are equipped to assist these young people re-engage in education, complementing the teaching skills of the educators. This youth worker support is key because these young people have a range of complex experiences that stop them from going to mainstream schools including child care, homelessness and food insecurity.

Federal MP for Fraser (ACT) Andrew Leigh recently spoke about the potential defunding of our Youth Connections program. Following is the text of his speech to Parliament:

"I rise today to applaud Youth Connections, a national youth education program which is delivered in my electorate by Anglicare and to urge the Federal Government to continue to fund it. At this stage it is uncertain whether

there will be funds beyond this year for the Youth Connections youth education program to continue. Youth Connections is designed to keep young people engaged in high school. It offers a flexible service which keeps them in school and on the road to meaningful and decently-paid work.

"Take the story of Alice. When Alice moved with her family to Canberra at the age of 12 she found it difficult to make friends at school. She was bullied severely and eventually stopped going to school. Suffering from depression, she started taking harmful drugs, ran away from home and fell pregnant. She found safe shelter in a refuge. Faced with the prospect of becoming a young mother, Alice sought help from Youth Connections. She joined the program, and they provided essential baby items, helped to transport her to medical appointments and—after the birth of her daughter—assisted with domestic violence issues and court proceedings.

"Alice persevered and graduated with the Youth Connections program, and then enrolled in a Certificate IV in Youth Work. Evaluations show the program is successful and Alice's story helps to inspire young people."

In response, the Federal Government would say that economic growth is the answer to increasing job opportunities for young people. A key plank in their plan is to reduce Federal Government spending. They argue that smaller government leads to reduced taxes which, in turn, boosts jobs growth.

Some conservatives go even

further, arguing that smaller government results in better outcomes for organisations like Anglicare and the people who rely on charities for support. As conservative think tank the Centre of Independent Studies put it: "shrinking the size of government will also stimulate the charitable sector, foster personal responsibility, and reforge the community ties that once bound our society together."

I am fairly sceptical about

'More could be done to speak into the lives of individual young people struggling to seek work in a tightening job market'

such claims, particularly if it's a smokescreen for harsh and deep budget cuts this year. As a recent OECD paper on the "Politics of fiscal austerity" noted: "as many European countries are finding today, [budget] cuts only deepen short-term economic woes", which means more people out of work.

The Federal Government

says it is working on a more grounded employment policy from 2015, and will ensure that Job Services Australia effectively addresses the needs of young Australians seeking work. But more could be done to speak into the lives of individual young people struggling to seek work in a tightening job market. Keeping them engaged in meaningful education and training, which increases their employability, is very important if they are going to thrive as adults.

So in the lead up to the May budget, Anglicare is urging the Federal Government to do two things.

Firstly, continue to fund Youth Connections—a program whose successes are well evidenced. In January 2014, nearly 670 of the 835 young people who participated in the Youth Connections programme in 2012 were found still to be engaged in education or employment 18 months later. More than 300 of these young people were engaged in either part time or full time employment including traineeships and apprenticeships.

Secondly, Anglicare calls on the Federal Government to ensure sufficient funding to employment brokering services so they can



Jeremy

Halcrow

Anglicare CEO

provide the level of support that matches the level of need. For high needs groups, such as at-risk young people, this would be a wrap-around service that deals with issues such literacy, homelessness and child care that are barriers to finding and maintaining employment.

Jeremy Halcrow
CEO, Anglicare NSW South.
NSW West & ACT

Anglican News

A newspaper for the Canberra and Goulburn Anglican Diocesan community

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Advertising:
enquiries to the editor

Deadlines:
Editorial & advertising
18th of the month prior to
publication.

Anglican News is printed by
Capital Fine Print, Fyshwick,
ACT. Post Print Publication
No. 299436/00093

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Anglican News is a member
of the Australian Religious
Press Association.



Missional Paradigms Conference in Goulburn

Bishop Stuart Robinson will be hosting a one-day Missional Paradigms conference at St Saviour's cathedral in Goulburn on Wednesday May 7, through the Diocesan Centre for Lay Ministry and Mission.

Guest speakers Paul Griffiths and Dr Martin Robinson will cover topics including:

- ♦ **Questions people ask** about life and religion
- ♦ **Spirituals journeys** - how people come to faith
- ♦ **Equipping your lay people** for mission
- ♦ **Living between the paradigms** (why mission is both difficult and still possible)
- ♦ **Key issues** for missional leaders

Martin Robinson is Principal and Chief Executive of the UK-based Springdale College: Together in Mission, and has written several books on the broad theme of mission, including *Faith of the Unbeliever* and *Invading Secular Space*.

Paul Griffiths is an evangelist and Director of Ugly Duckling Company, a group dedicated to developing unique and differentiated approaches to evangelism in contemporary culture. He is also a member of the Archbishops' College of Evangelists.

Registration: Download the brochure at http://www.anglican.org.au/data/Brochure_Missional_Paradigms_2014.pdf

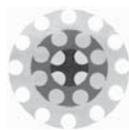
Cost: \$45.00 adults; \$35.00 pensioners and students. This includes morning and afternoon tea. Please make your own lunch arrangements.

Venue: St Saviour's Cathedral Goulburn, Corner Bourke and Church Streets, Goulburn.

Time: 9.30am-4.30pm.

Date: Wednesday May 7, 2014.

Who should come: Lay people, church staff.



The Australian Research Theology Foundation Inc

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Further information regarding the Foundation and detail of the application process can be obtained directly from our website www.artfinc.org.au

Applications and all inquiries should be emailed to artfinc@gmail.com

Applications must be received by the 31st of May. Notification of Grants will be made from the end of July.

Anglicare's team at Calwell ECC

A prospective parent, Teegan Jeffs, sent the following heartfelt letter to Rebecca Burgess, Director of Anglicare's Calwell Early Childhood Centre last month:

"I spent about an hour in the nursery room with Mel, Joanne and another very lovely assistant," Teegan wrote.

"In that hour I saw all three staff members interact with all the little ones in a very loving, caring and parental manner, which was beautiful to see in a day care. [I] have been to several centres over the past two months and have yet to observe such care towards the children ... I really feel the need to let you know how absolutely wonderful I think your centre and staff are ... thank you so very, very much for providing a professional, clean, safe, educational, kind and loving day care."

Anglicare's Calwell Early Childhood Centre is developing a reputation for 'thinking outside the square' to enhance its quality and innovative educational practices. On a recent visit I was particularly impressed by the colourful,

interactive and engaging classrooms displays.

The community-based long day care centre has redesigned its playground and classrooms to incorporate items donated by The Green Shed, a facility contracted by the ACT Government to offer the public an alternative to depositing their unwanted items to landfill.

Calwell ECC Centre's Director, Rebecca Burgess and Assistant Director, Melissa Johnston visited The Green Shed and found a timber boat, stainless steel industrial kitchen, baskets, furniture, and toys to bring back to the Centre.

The items have been transformed into play areas promoting exploration, discovery and challenge with an understanding for the natural world. One of the highlights of the project has been the reaction from the children who are keen to role play as fishermen and pirates on the boat and use the sink as a mud kitchen.

"We were overwhelmed with the amount of good quality items people were recycling," Rebecca Burgess said. "We were looking around for a boat



EXPLORATION: Thoughtful use of discarded materials such as this old boat has helped provide play areas that encourage exploration, discovery and challenge for the children at Calwell Early Childhood Centre.

for so long and we were amazed when we found one."

Supporting disadvantaged families and working closely with care and protection, the Centre is licensed for 67 children daily including 58 permanent places and nine occasional care and emergency

places. The opportunity to link sustainability education into the Early Years curriculum has instilled values about caring for the environment, and understanding the principals of ecological development with the young children.

We want to encourage other

Anglicare services to consider using The Green Shed. The Mitchell Resource Centre and Mugga Lane facility employ almost 40 staff members including more than half from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Helping prisoners to become better parents

Anglicare is helping jailed Aboriginal parents improve and enhance their family skills at Goulburn Correctional Centre. It's the first time the Positive Parenting Program has run outside the normal outreach structure as part of the recently established Winhangarra Gibarra Project.

"I don't think they (the inmates) realised they could work on their parenting skills in jail," said Toni Reay, Anglicare Family Services Co-ordinator. "It resulted in more contact visits and teleconference calls between fathers and kids."

The twelve-week project has run three times since June last year in partnership with other service providers including TAFE NSW and Corrective Services NSW. Around 30 minimum security inmates have benefited from the program. The men were taught skills to develop a better relationship with their children.

David Robinson elected 12th Bishop of Rockhampton Diocese

David Robinson will be consecrated as Bishop of Rockhampton at 7pm on Tuesday 2 September in St Paul's Cathedral, Rockhampton.

Coincidentally, he is also the twelfth priest who has served in this diocese, to be elected as a Bishop since 2000 (see the March issue of Anglican News).

David Robinson is currently the Ministry Formation Coordinator at St Mark's National Theological Centre in Canberra and manager of the Centre's registered training organisation. He has played a critical role developing and delivering training for clergy in over seven dioceses in Queensland, Victoria, New South Wales and Western Australia.

"I am surprised, delighted and honoured by my election," said David Robinson.

"Rockhampton is such a wonderful and diverse diocese, capturing everything from outback towns to 24/7 mining operations and coastal towns for people wanting a sea change."

The Administrator of Rockhampton Diocese, Archdeacon Cameron Venables, said of the election, "We give thanks to God that David has accepted the call to be the twelfth Bishop of Rockhampton, and look

forward to his leadership at this critical time in our life together."

David brings to the role of bishop not only extensive pastoral experience in country ministry but also a deep interest in church growth, education and leadership formation and cross-cultural-work experience with indigenous people.

In response to the announcement, the Rev'd Dr Geoff Broughton, acting Director of St Mark's said the election was "a strong endorsement of David's contribution at St Mark's National Theological Centre".

"David has exhibited the godly leadership, strategic decision-making and practical wisdom the Anglican Church needs from its bishops. We will miss David as a close colleague but look forward to continuing our partnership in theological education, Anglican formation and gospel ministry with the Diocese of Rockhampton," he added.

Bishop Stuart Robinson said that David and Jan Robinson were "a remarkably able and gifted ministry couple with experience in rural, urban and cross-cultural contexts".

David Robinson was born in the UK and emigrated to Adelaide in 1970 where he worked with the South Australian government.



MOVING NORTH: Jan and David Robinson will be heading north shortly, following David's election as Bishop of Rockhampton.

He moved to Canberra in 1991 to study at St Mark's National Theological Centre, and was ordained in 1994.

He has served in the Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn in a variety of settings. He is married to Jan and has two adult children and six grandchildren. He enjoys walking, photography and travel.

Letters to the Editor

Anti-slavery action

Dear Sir,

I was surprised and delighted to learn of Andrew "Twiggy" Forrest's formation of an anti-slavery network. He began the work after an encounter with a twelve year old girl who had been trafficked. Read the full story at <http://www.smh.com.au/national/andrew-forrests-dream-to-stop-all-slavery-20140317-34y2g.html> or <http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/breakfast/twiggy-forrest-joins-religious-leaders-to-fight-slavery/5327286>.

This is interesting on so many levels. This is an act of social justice, of trying to work politically and at a structural level to stop structural sin, as Wilberforce did when he freed the slaves in the British Empire. Christians in the last 100 years have moved away from acts of social justice, preferring acts of compassion, despite the fact that social justice is such a strong theme in the Bible.

Forrest's daughter had volunteered in an orphanage in Nepal and Forrest, a Christian, met the girl there. Rather than opening more orphanages to deal with the problem after the abuse Forrest has chosen a social justice path, working with companies and governments with whom he has influence to see that they do not deal with slavers. That of itself is unusual.

Rather than falling for the "all Muslims are evil" line so often peddled he has sought to work with all faiths to achieve a common goal. The initial group is Pope Francis, The Archbishop of Canterbury and "the Grand Imam of al-Azhar, Ahmed al-Tayyeb, one of the highest scholarly authorities in Sunni Islam", who is from Egypt. This is an example that many in the church could learn from.

He has asked the church leaders to participate because, as he said: "the holy texts, no matter which one you turn to, has ambiguity in it around slavery. ... That, we knew, was being used as justification by slavers all over the world." The Bible does not condemn slavery, rather, it regulates it. St Paul told slaves to obey their master.

So, to free the slaves, you have to go beyond naïve proof texting and selective literalism to a more mature hermeneutic.

You can quote proof texts for as long as you like but at the end of the day you won't have freed the slaves or helped stop slavery happening. You have to look at overall biblical principles. This is interesting because the same principle applies for the issues of women in leadership and homosexuality.

Yours sincerely
Keith Binns
Goulburn

Prayers for Monarchy

Dear Sir,

Rev. Robert Willson (letters March, 2014) risks getting the Anglican Church improperly embroiled in a contested political issue.

He advocates the reintroduction into the Anglican liturgy of the prayers that used to be routinely offered for the Queen as sovereign and for other members of the Royal family.

IT would be wrong for the Church to be seen as taking sides with the monarchists in the continuing debate on Australia becoming a republic. It is true that this issue has become relatively quiet lately, but certainly it is not dead.

Mr Willson's letter in the March issue is at least his second foray into the Anglican News' Letters pages on the republic issue, and he is of course entitled to his views.

As for the prayers, there is nothing to stop him, and any others who wish to do so, from offering their own quiet prayers for the Queen as our sovereign: they could do so in quiet moments during Services and/or any other times they like.

But why should those of us of a republican persuasion (some half of the community) have those words inflicted on us as a usual part of Services? I, for one, would be deeply offended and upset if I were to be put in the position during regular Services of choosing whether or not to say "Amen" to those offensive words which acknowledge the monarch of a foreign country as Australia's Head of State.

This is surely not a church doctrinal issue. Does Mr Willson have a mission to disengage republicans from the Anglican Church? Let me add that I admire and respect

Her Majesty, but in this day and age she has no place as our Australian Head of State.

I would also hasten to add that were she in some special need of prayer occasioned by sickness, injury, etc., as with others whom we remember during the intercessions, I would, of course, have no difficulty.

When it was decided some years ago to drop these prayers from the liturgy, those wise people in authority who made that decision may well, for all I know, have been mindful that their retention had a political effect, and would be divisive. Were Mr Willson or someone else now to argue that their decision to omit them was political, I would say that the church leaders were ensuring the church was seen to be completely neutral. These leaders may also have reasoned, as I now have, that those who wish to do so could offer their own prayers privately. Hopefully, the present leaders would now reason that reintroducing these prayers after their earlier removal would be about the worst thing they could do in this regard. I trust that the church hierarchy will ignore Mr Willson's efforts.

Yours sincerely,
Brian Cox
Bruce, A.C.T.

Clergy training

Dear Sir

In the last issue of Anglican News the Bishop asked us to pray for Dr Andrew Cameron and his family as he concludes his

Letters ...

Anglican News readers are invited to respond to articles and raise new issues of concern through the 'Letters' column.

Letters of 250 words or less will be given preference.

Long letters may be edited for reasons of clarity or space. Name, address and a contact phone number (for verification) must be supplied. Letters will not normally be published without the author's name.

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work at Moore College and comes to be Director of St Marks in Canberra.

We should also pray for the whole issue and direction of clergy training in this diocese. In recent years St Mark's has welcomed many ordination candidates from other Australian dioceses.

In this day and age, when the Christian churches are under critical scrutiny in the secular world and the media as never before, the training of future priests and bishops is a complex issue.

Men and women going into parish ministry face challenges unknown to earlier generations, and they need our prayers.

Rev'd Robert Willson
Deakin

Revive@StJohn's

Dear Sir,

Recently I experienced a wonderful Taize service at St John's, Wagga Wagga.

Twelve people attended this first evening and there was a very positive buzz as we left the church. I understand this will be a regular event and I certainly hope this is the case.

Fr Michael created a prayerful atmosphere with low lighting, swathes of red fabric, masses of candles and a truly beautiful icon as the centrepiece. The technology wasn't intrusive and was operated remotely.

The service was informal, yet structured. We were invited to kick off our shoes and sit on the floor, but chairs were provided if this was preferred (or necessary). We could sing along with the chants or just listen; we could close our eyes or view the projected visuals.

This is something which soothes the soul and draws us deeper into the divine. It deserves to be celebrated and supported. Thank you Fr Michael!

Kate Dunn
Wagga Wagga.



Christians for an Ethical Society

Working Group of Churches Together NSW-ACT
Associate Member of ACT Churches' Council Inc
President - Bishop George Browning

www.ces.org.au

Public Forum: Paul Porteous
Executive Director, Centre for Social Leadership
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Tuesday 13 May, 7:30 pm

Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture

Blackall St (corner Kings Ave), Barton, ACT

\$5 donation requested to cover hall costs - Contact Information: Bill Bush 6257 1786

MISSION NEWS

Camping weekend a resounding success

□ Inaugural event well supported

Numbers exceeded expectations at the inaugural Diocesan Camping Weekend held at the Riverglade Caravan Park in Tumut on the last weekend in February.

Blessed with beautiful weather and in an idyllic setting under towering trees on the banks of the Tumut River, 58 campers and cabin-ers from around the Diocese enjoyed fellowship, rest and the chance to learn more of the opportunities for service around Australia provided by the BCA (Bush Church Aid) Nomad program.

Coordinators of the BCA Nomad scheme Doug and Frances Orr spoke of the mutual benefit which flows when nomads offer their skills and willingness to serve God's people in remote parishes: a chance to get alongside the locals, learn of the

special places to see, and, at the same time, use their expertise to carry out vital property repairs, run craft courses or assist with administration work, amongst many other things!

An extra blessing on Sunday was the opportunity to gather for worship with the Anglican Church family in Tumut.

The outing was voted a resounding success, and planning is underway for our next Diocesan gathering in 2015. To register your interest and receive information please contact John Jenner on 0428 680930 or email jjenner@mac.com

PROMOTION: *As well as providing a great opportunity for friendship and fellowship, the inaugural Diocesan Camping Weekend helped promote the work of BCA Nomads.*



Planting the seeds of hope

By Katherine Rainger*

The essence of what makes the Good Samaritan "good" is that he is indiscriminate with his care. He sees a human being in need and he acts to help in whatever way he can regardless of the personal cost.

Moira Kelly AO strikes me as a contemporary Good Samaritan. Moira has dedicated her life to helping children in war-torn countries receive medical care and life-saving surgery. Her love for her neighbour has stretched to Kolkata, Iraq, Bosnia, Nigeria, Namibia, East Timor, Papua New Guinea and many other places.

Moira is a woman of deep faith, hope and love. She is the foster mother of Emmanuel and Ahmed who she met in an orphanage in Baghdad. You may also remember Moira as the guardian of Krishna and Trishna, conjoined twins from Bangladesh. Moira organised the 32 hour operation to separate them at Melbourne's Royal Children's Hospital.

Moira was in Canberra recently to launch her newest initiative, "Global Gardens of Peace" at Parliament House. This project will establish gardens in places where beauty, rest and refuge are hard to come by.

The inaugural garden is planned for Gaza. In 2004 Moira and her humanitarian organisation, The Children First Foundation, were on a medical rescue mission in Gaza where they identified many Palestinian children in need of medical treatment and rehabilitation.

Moira and her colleagues also

heard story after story of daily despair, poverty and suffering. Moira writes, "In the midst of this bleak picture, the children were still being children. They could be seen on the war-torn streets playing with rubble from bombed buildings with makeshift toys made from broken bits of metal and rubbish."

She noticed that the only place with trees and grass was a cemetery maintained by the British War Commission. It was the only green space Moira encountered in what is one of the most densely populated places on earth. Moira thought, "If you can do this for the dead, why can't you do this for the living?"

And so the seed was planted. The seed was watered in a meeting with the late Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the Palestinian Liberation Organisation, who in a meeting with Moira asked her what could be done for the children. She replied, "Find me some land and I will get the Australian people to come build them a safe garden."

This seed grew further in 2007 when Moira was given the title to 20 000 sqm of land for the Global Garden of Peace. Moira was stunned when this occurred and responded, "I don't even have land in Australia, how could I have a title of land in Gaza?" The project had to be put on hold as Moira was in the middle of caring for Trishna and Krishna who required acute care after their operation. Finally, in 2012 the board was established and the project got underway. The final stage now is for the funds to

be raised ("please God!" as Moira said) and for construction to begin.

The plans look amazing and include places to play, to exercise, to have family gatherings and to enjoy the beauty of the natural environment (something we in Australia take for granted). They are the result of collaboration with a team from Gaza and Australia. Consultations with the Royal Botanic Gardens in Melbourne and the Botanic Gardens in Jerusalem have also been significant.

As one of the speakers at the launch articulated, we may wish for significant changes in Israeli control of Gaza and the West Bank but in the meantime we can help the children. Moira spoke of the way humanitarian work breaks down barriers and she described the Israeli support she had encountered for the project.

Being present on that afternoon in Parliament House was extremely inspiring. I was representing Bishop Philip Huggins from the Anglican Diocese of Melbourne who had met with Moira and her team in Melbourne where Moira was based and was unable to be at the launch. Moira echoed her hero Mother Teresa when she said, "all works of kindness are works of peace."

After my pilgrimage to Israel and the West Bank last year I was left feeling that separation and discrimination is deeply entrenched in the Holy Land. My prayer is that kindness, along with justice, will lead to peace. As Moira says, "all you need is a sense that there is no such thing as



GARDENERS FOR PEACE: Katherine Rainger with Moira Kelly at the Global Gardens of Peace launch at Parliament House in Canberra.

'no' and everything is possible."

To learn more about Global Gardens of Peace visit www.globalgardensofpeace.com

***Katherine Rainger** serves as Youth and Children Worker at Holy Covenant, Jamison.



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All Saints College breaks new ground

□ Ainslie's student accommodation project launched

By Wayne Brighton

On Thursday 13 March 2014, All Saints College was formerly launched by Bishop Stuart Robinson and an agreement signed between Ms Betsy Dickson, Chairperson of Parish Council and Professor Ingrid Moses, Chairperson of the All Saints College Council.

When complete, All Saints College will provide 26 self-contained rooms for students, each with their own bathroom and cooking facilities. The College is funded by parish through the Anglican Investment Development Fund along with funding from the Federal and Territory government's National Rental Affordability Scheme.

The college is an initiative of the parish of All Saints, Ainslie, which its rector Fr Michael Faragher, describes as "an adventure in stewardship".

The parish is no stranger to adventure. It took some vision to bring the original mortuary building from Rookwood and erect it stone by stone when Ainslie was on Canberra's northern extremity in the 1950s. Ainslie is now on the edge of CBD, surrounded by high-density housing.

David Holmesby, parish

warden and the College's secretary, said that the parish had canvassed a variety of models.

"We looked at childcare, aged care and offices for not-for-profit agencies," Fr Michael explained, adding that the idea of student accommodation proved strongest for several reasons.

"As a parish, we're regularly contacted by Anglican families whose children are coming to study in Canberra and are looking for accommodation, after all we're nearby the Australian National University and the Australian Catholic University. Also St Mark's National Theological College has no accommodation for theological students.

"A small college in a leafy suburb next to a church is likely to appeal those looking to belong to a community. With a grand piano and a beautiful organ available, it's likely to appeal to music students as well as those from St Mark's looking for that added pastoral dimension.

"We've looked at it from a missional perspective too," said Mr Holmesby, 'as the college will be open to anybody.' 'The missional part is really about us, we're doing this because we're called by Christ to offer hospitality,'" said Fr Michael who is keen to see the College become a part of parish life.



PROGRESS: Ainslie Rector Fr Michael Faragher, Frank Barbaro (a sub-contractor working on the project), Anglicare Chair Professor Ingrid Moses, Parish Warden David Holmesby and Bishop Stuart Robinson inspect the building site (photo courtesy Robert Arthur).

"The parish has been splendid. Some of the most extraordinary reactions have been by the older members of the congregation who are delighted to see the parish moving ahead. Having 26 young people living on site is going to be a brilliant adventure. Although it will change the precinct, to a person they have been supportive and enthusiastic about it all."

"The ACT Government were also very supportive and recognised that service to the community is a large part of what church is about," said Mr Holmesby.

The project is being managed by Construction Control and is estimated to cost \$3.9 million. The project will be substantially complete by June 2014 and open to students from mid-December.

"There are a lot of congregations like us that are asset rich but cash poor," said Fr Michael. "We hope that this might give folks a bit of impetus to think about what they could do to build the Kingdom. We tend to think of church real estate as being about church halls but there are all sorts of opportunities out there."

Tenth Birthday party for Anglicare Wagga base

Anglicare Wagga and the Anglican Parish of Wagga have celebrated a ten year partnership co-vacating at St John's Church.

Bishop Genevieve Blackwell, Father Michael Armstrong, Anglicare General Manager Brad Addison, staff and members of the St John's parish marked the milestone with a special morning tea and cake.

"The Church is called to be the face, hands and feet of Jesus, and as such to reveal God's love, compassion, mercy and justice. It is when we work together that this is best able to be done, and our work with Anglicare has allowed us to reach out to many people, and reveal that face to them, especially those in need," Fr Michael said.

The Anglican Church's long history of community service originated in 1957 with the Bungarimbil Boys' Home located in Tumarumba.

"Seeing the expansion of our services to assist vulnerable individuals, families and communities in the Wagga region has been humbling," Mr Addison said.

One of Anglicare's longest serving employees, Managerial Assistant

Carol Stevens says she feels proud to "work with so many passionate, caring and dedicated people and have also been able to meet and talk with the wonderful foster carers we have."

Since the early days, Anglicare has continued to grow and develop. A variety of new programs have commenced, including work with Indigenous communities, and financial counselling. These sit alongside the traditional delivery of foster care and residential services.

The not for profit organisation has assisted many thousands of residents through the commitment of volunteers, staff and supporters. Some of the key highlights have included the strong partnership with St John's clergy and parishioners and assisting affecting communities during the 2012 Riverina flooding crisis.

"A personal highlight is seeing community members who we saw come through the doors at the Ashmont Community Centre over the years grow and develop," Mr Addison said. "They've now returned to the Centre as volunteers to assist and mentor others in need."



BIRTHDAY PARTY: Wagga parish priest Michael Armstrong, Anglicare General Manager Brad Addison, Managerial Assistant Carol Stevens and Parish Treasurer James Hamilton prepare to cut the cake. All except Michael Armstrong were present at the establishment of the partnership ten years ago.

NEWS FROM THE PARISHES

150 years of witness in North Goulburn

□ Sesquicentenary celebrations at St Nick's

From the parish

This year, St Nicholas' Anglican Church North Goulburn is celebrating 150 years of witness in Goulburn and surrounds since it became a separate parish from the Cathedral in 1864.

The celebrations were launched with a bush dance and barbecue on Saturday 15 February. The hall was decorated with borrowed bales of straw after the dance was moved inside due to the very welcome rain.

The music group plus extras provided toe tapping music for the crowd whose ages ranged from nine months to over 80. The dancing started with a polka and ended with Strip the Willow.

The young people particularly enjoyed the Chicken Dance and the Hokey Pokey but some of the more

adventurous ones also joined in the other dances. With a lot of help from our caller and our demonstration couple, even the least nimble footed were able to complete the sets and provide entertainment to those who preferred to watch. Those who took part seemed to thoroughly enjoy the evening, and we should all be more expert next time.

During a break from dancing, a small group presented a melodramatic interpretation of the holdup of our first rector, Canon Richard Leigh, by bushrangers. Canon Leigh was a good horseman and had several encounters with bushrangers. When returning from a wedding, he was held up on Governor's Hill, probably by the Clarke brothers.

Further celebrations

We are planning more events for the year. On Saturday 24 May from 11am to 4pm, there will be an open day in the church hall with displays of



TOE TAPPING: The St Nick's Music Group recruited a few extra members to provide some toe-tapping music for bush dance to celebrate the 150th anniversary.

memorabilia, entertainment and Devonshire teas.

In the evening, Bishop Stuart Robinson will be the guest speaker at a dinner in the Great Hall at Trinity Catholic

College. On Sunday 25 May there will be a church service followed by morning tea.

We would like to hear from anyone who is interested in attending. Contact Rev Ross

Hathway ph 48214976, info@stnicholasgoulburn.org, or write to 17 Kinghorne St, Goulburn 2580

Cobargo parish celebrates 125th anniversary

From the parish

Over 90 joyful parishioners, families, friends and well-wishers gathered at Christ Church Cobargo on Sunday 30th March to celebrate 125 years as a Parish in the Diocese of

Canberra-Goulburn.

Rev'd Joy Harris conducted a thanksgiving service, accompanied by Archdeacon Matthew Brain who gave a most thought-provoking message inviting all present to think of the

journey of previous generations and the marks of faith they have left for us to follow.

His challenge was for us to think of what we will be leaving behind from our walk. Prior to this, Archdeacon Matt assisted by Rev. Joy entertained us with a children's talk. Dressed as Captain Amazing Man complete in red cape and mask, a Super Hero who ran out of pace to save the world-unlike Jesus who is always there for everyone at the end.

Amongst the well-wishers was Archdeacon Anne Rance whose father, Rev. Frederick Dau had been rector in the Parish during the early 1940's. Anne was actually born in Cobargo, and her mother Audrey began Mother's Union in the parish at Bermagui in 1941.

Also present was Rev'd Gail Tabor, a past rector and one of the first female priests to be ordained in the Diocese; the Rev'd David Oliphant and his wife Angela. David has cared for our parish in recent years.

An unexpected surprise on the day was a painting of Cobargo Church by, and presented by, the Rev'd Stephen Rigby, who also recently cared for us as a locum priest.

Following the service a lemon tree was planted to mark the occasion and in the hope of bearing much fruit.

An informal lunch followed in the Church, where many memories were shared.

During the celebratory cutting of the cake, it was discovered that Fiona Kotvois, who has so meticulously been researching and compiling the Parish history, was celebrating a birthday, as well as Max Harris, husband of Joy Harris!

More congratulations followed when it was discovered that Rev'd Joy and Max were celebrating 28 years of marriage!

Many thanks to all who attended, and all who helped to organise what was a great day of thanksgiving for the memories of all who were pioneers in this Parish, and for the more recent memories.

It is the people who make history. Fiona is still collecting photos and recording stories, so if you have something to share please contact Fiona, 64936080, or Fiona.kotvois @bigpond.com



CHURCH PLANTING: Archdeacon Matt Brain, Cobargo priest Joy Harris and Margaret Goddard planting a lemon tree in grounds of Christ Church Cobargo to mark the 125th anniversary of the church.

HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION

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Historybytes

by Bill Wright

Memories of Queen's first visit

In the March issue of *Anglican News* the Rev'd Robert Willson spoke of the excitement created by the visit of Queen Elizabeth and Prince Phillip in 1954.

The visit held special significance to the diocese with the Royal couple staying in the National Capital for five days.

After visiting Wagga Wagga in the morning of Saturday 13 February, the Royal couple flew on to Canberra. An excited crowd in Civic Centre watched

the aeroplane carrying the royal visitors fly low overhead. A short time later the visitors arrived to a joyful and tumultuous welcome by the huge assembly.

Next morning the Royal couple attended the service of Morning Prayer at St John's Church, Canberra. The service was "not a part of the official Sunday programme of the Royal Tour, but simply the ordinary Sunday activity of a Queen, who has shown herself both in her speeches and in her

personal living to be a sincere Christian." (*Firm Still You Stand*, A H Body).

The church could only accommodate the comparatively small local congregation. However seating for a thousand people was provided in the church grounds, in particular for groups from parishes throughout the diocese.

It was estimated that about 4,000 people gathered around the church for the service.



CROWD-PULLER: (above) Some parishioners from Taralga were among the crowd of more than 4,000 as the Queen left St Johns Church after the service in 1954. From left to right: Bishop Arthur (face partly hidden by foliage); Chaplain; child Charles Bradbury; Teddy Lee; Rev'd John Brain; Mrs Lee; Mrs Mavis Brain; Bishop Burgmann; Mrs R Croker (obscured by bishop's staff); Mrs Nancy Bradbury; top right (above Mrs Croker and Mrs Bradbury): their husbands Reg Croker and Charles Bradbury, senior (both partly obscured). Some of these people still live in the Goulburn area. (Photographer unknown.)



REVISITED: Near the same place; the Queen accompanied by the Rev Paul Black, rector, arrives for Morning Prayer at St John's Church on 23 October 2011. Photo courtesy Bill Wright.

Meaningful ministry in the Bungendore community

❑ A country church explores ways to make more significant connections

From the parish

Meaningful ministry is essential for any living Christian community – ministry that forms part of our individual and collective walk with God, and ministry that reaches out to our wider community.

Without meaning, our ministry does not grow, our congregations remain stagnant, and the wider community does not notice Christ's followers huddled in one corner of their local community each Sunday. God's grace calls us to express His love, to live His promise and to act to spread the good news.

Recently, Bungendore Anglican Church has been exploring various ways to expand our ministry to both the regular parishioners and to the wider community. God's hand has been busy guiding us, directing us and blessing our efforts to show His unconditional love and to fulfil His works.

We have established a monthly Kids' Family Church (KFC) service for young families not necessarily familiar with, or relating to, the more 'traditional' practices of a Sunday service.

This has complemented our Scripture in Schools ministry, and has allowed families to explore what we are about, with many families now regularly returning to each KFC service.

A jumping castle purchased by the parish, together with stories, craft and other activities focused on the worship theme, have encouraged many to see that church is 'meaningful'.

Elaborate morning teas and brunches provide times for establishing community and serve as an expression of the parish's unconditional love for the wider community.

Youth and Family ministry

In 2013, a Pelican Trust grant permitted the part-time employment of a Family Youth Worker, who now leads the Kids' Family Services. In addition, our Family Youth Worker has instigated a new youth group for teenagers, which is slowly growing in number and in the faith of those regularly attending.

The Bungendore Anglican Church stall at Bungendore's

annual late night shopping event a few weeks prior to Christmas included a free jumping castle, a magician with a message, helium balloons, a bookstall and information brochures and people to chat with.

This, and the carols at the local pub, made our church community become a bit more evident and relevant within the wider community – some meaning to our ministry.

The wider Bungendore community is starting to see that communing with God can be contemporary and relevant – God is indeed at work.

In addition to meaningful ministry extending beyond the church doors, regular study groups and times of fellowship complement the Sunday worship time. These assist in building and strengthening the body of Christ, and provide opportunities for parishioners to grow in their Christian journey, and focus on the meaning of their ministry.

The wider Bungendore community is starting to see that communing with God can be contemporary and relevant – God is indeed at work.

Alpha course

In 2014, an Alpha course will be added to our ministry opportunities. Not only will this provide opportunities for parishioners to explore the nuts and bolts of their faith, but allow those from the wider community who may have 'noticed' activity and love emanating from the doors of our old stone buildings to come and see what is driving this.

Our mission is to maintain meaningful ministry – ministry that grows, does not stagnate and where Christ's family is noticed by the local community. Please join us on our journey – details located at www.bungendoreanglican.org.au and on the Bungendore Anglican Facebook page.

DIOCESAN NEWS

Incoming St Mark's Director aware of 'people's anxiety'

By Graham Downie

Dr Andrew Cameron will begin as Director of Canberra's St Mark's National Theological Centre on July 1, conscious his appointment is controversial.

He will come to Canberra from Sydney where he is senior lecturer in Christian Thought at Moore Theological College.

"I understand people's anxiety," he said in a lengthy interview. "There is a history between these two dioceses. I guess in a sense there is a part of me that wants to really thank people for their bravery in giving me a go."

He said it was difficult for people to take a chance on someone who is new to them.

"I want to respect that.

I don't actually believe in exacerbating those tensions. I want to try to do my bit to assist healing them."

Dr Cameron insisted he would assist women training for the priesthood.

"I have made it very clear to people that I think the role of the director is to assist every woman who comes, and to help them in whatever ministry God has in store for them. I know that is the polity of the diocese. I have no interest in questioning it or changing it. It seems to me that is a matter which has long been settled and it is very important for me to respect that. It has been important for me to try to assist women in my own context here (Moore College) as I have been able and I just want to continue to do that."

Asked, "Are you comfortable with, or indeed do you support women as priests and bishops?" he replied, "I have made it really clear that if a woman was to be a bishop over me that I would respect that and I would work with her. I will be respecting any women in orders. I will be going to their churches and listening to them teach and preach and learning all I can from them about how things are done in Canberra and Goulburn."

Question: "Have you changed your mind about whether it is right for women to be priests and bishops?"

"I find it really hard to sum up my 20 years of thinking on this. It has gone through a lot of stages. Rather than to delve into all of the intricacies of all of that theological debate I really just want to assure people that



NEW DIRECTOR:
Dr Andrew Cameron

I will be working with women and not questioning any of the arrangements in the diocese at all."

Dr Cameron said he really hoped he could have an influence to redress the decline in church attendances.

"We have to keep considering what it is about our message that isn't connecting with modern Australians.

... I think we need to keep encouraging clergy to be able to find ways of reconnecting with the community."

Often, at the most elementary level, people just had not had the nature of a Christian service explained to them. Explaining why Christians did what they did was easier than many people believed.

"Sometimes it is appropriate to amend what we do so it is a little bit more accessible to people. At a deeper level I think we are inviting people to reconsider how they live their lives and think about faith. So there is always going to be something which is new to them when they come to church or else there would be no point coming."

He is completely in favour of the connection between St Mark's and Charles Sturt University. He said the great thing about a university was that it enabled freedom of inquiry.

"It enables a safe place for people to test their thoughts and to read out of their comfort zone and to debate with others who are not like them. It is a place where we get to break down our prejudices and our tribalism and it is where we get to rediscover things. I am a fan of that way of doing theology."

Jamieson Apartments complex taking shape



PROGRESSING: In recent weeks the concrete has been poured for the top floor of the Jamieson Apartments, giving a clearer impression of the size of the building. Construction is scheduled for completion by the end of the year.

The upgrade of 43 Constitution Avenue in Reid will bring a central component of Walter Burley Griffin's vision for Canberra to life.

The 2½-kilometre stretch connecting London Circuit in the city to Northcott Drive in Russell will be transformed into a leafy, mixed-use corridor, and the Jamieson Apartments will be the avenue's first residential development.

The site, beside the historic St John the Baptist Church, graveyard and Schoolhouse Museum, was previously occupied by Jamieson House, the former headquarters of the Anglican Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn.

The old building was run down and in need of refurbishment, so the diocese decided to relocate its headquarters and use the site to develop the residential complex.

"We engaged Cox Architecture," diocesan development representative Phil Davies said. "They were familiar with the block. They had developed the masterplan of the whole precinct."

Part of the brief was for a high-quality, sustainable building.

Hindmarsh began construction on the nine-storey building in mid-2013,

and it will have the highest energy-efficiency rating in a residential building in Canberra, with an average rating of eight. The architects had to ensure the building would fit in with its surroundings, including the church built in 1845, long before Canberra was founded.

Architect Robert Morton, of Cox Architecture, said Walter Burley Griffin envisioned Constitution Avenue as a mixed-use boulevard, and the Jamieson Apartments needed to set the benchmark.

"We see this building as a precedent," Robert Morton said. "One of the principal characteristics was the integration of the building with the site.

"The building had to respond to the precinct and the church. We're using lots of sandstone. The sandstone responds not only to St John's itself, but also to the war memorial. It's being done in a modern, contemporary form."

Natural materials have been used inside and out, including timber and stone finishes. The kitchens are fitted with high-quality fixtures, such as stone benchtops and stainless-steel appliances.

The development is surrounded by Reid and

Campbell to the north, the lake to the south, and the city to the west, ensuring spectacular views. On the ninth floor, a shared viewing deck will take in the expansive panorama across the lake.

There are 89 apartments in the complex, and 47 have been sold.

Independent Property Group City principal Wayne Harriden said all four units on the penthouse level had been sold and a mix of studio, one-bedroom and two-bedroom apartments remained.

"They're aimed at live-in owners and most of the buyers have been local residents of Reid, Ainslie and Campbell. Many are looking to downsize," Mr Harriden said.

Construction will be complete at the end of the year, and an onsite display unit will be available for viewing in early May.

The studio apartments are 44 square metres (\$380,000+), the one-bedroom apartments are 56 to 66 square metres (\$435,000+), the one-bedroom-plus-study apartments are 73 square metres (\$520,000+) and the two-bedroom-plus-en-suite apartments are 80 to 100 square metres (\$570,000+).

Phone Independent Property Group Civic, 6209 1700, or see thejamiesonapartments.com.au



Surviving Year 12

Supporting teens and their parents through the final year of school

By Anna Boxwell

The final exams. The end of school. The gateway to Uni, TAFE, work, success, fame, stardom.

This. Is. It.

The final year of school is possibly our most hyped up, stress-inducing, joyless, infuriating rite of passage we dutifully put ourselves and our youth through.

How can we look after those who are facing down these exams?

How can we parent well during this year?

As a Director of Youthworks HSC Study Conferences, of course I think you should register your teen for one of these camps! But what else can you do?

I want to suggest some things to help you navigate a wise and Godly path through your child's final year of school: here are three to start with!

1. You're not parenting alone

You and your teenager need backup and, ideally, in the church, you have it. You need a few people who you can talk to about parenting (not necessarily fellow parents or the same age as you); people who will listen, encourage you from the Bible, and commit to praying for you and your children. If you only had this kind of support when your children were babies, or if you've never had these kind of relationships, talk to a pastor and seek it out.

You don't have to experience the struggles

and fears of parenting by yourselves. You don't have to feel like your success as parents will be determined by how well your child does at the end of school. What a privilege that we have one another and the Lord Jesus. Have a look at Hebrews 4:14-16, and consider Jesus, who is able to empathise with our weaknesses, and through whom we can approach God the Father with boldness, finding

While Year 12 can bring a lot of stress, it's also a great time to encourage students to be trusting in God when life gets challenging.

mercy and grace.

2. Your child is not alone

Your son or daughter needs the support of someone who isn't their peer and who isn't their parent. A friend who has seen a couple of teens through the HSC recently said to me, "having significant others outside parentals is pretty much crucial." One of the greatest joys of being part of a healthy church community is the opportunity for intergenerational friendships and support.

Can you think of someone, perhaps in their 20's or 30's, who might be able to invest some time your teen's life? This could be a youth leader, a single or married person. Ideally, it should be someone (or a couple) who loves Jesus, who will listen, encourage

from the Bible, and commit to praying.

If your year 12-er is spending all their time with peers, then they are missing out on the opportunity to grow.

3. We're all in this together

Something happens when a student enters their final year of school: adults stop talking to them about anything but their final year of school. Ask any 17-year-old which three questions every adult asks them and they will tell you:

1. "How is the HSC going?"
2. "What subjects are you doing?"
3. "What do you want to do next year?"

We can do better! How are our youth going to believe us when we tell them this school year isn't the defining moment of their life, if it's the only thing we ask them about all year? Can you think of some other things to talk about?

How about the sermon you just heard at church? Or that blog link they just posted? Or the footy game from last night? Or what they learnt at the youth camp they just went on?

Get to know what is going on in their life and what they are passionate about, other than the addition of surds or the second act of King Lear. In your conversations, figure out how you can encourage them to keep trusting Jesus in day to day life, or, if they're not a Christian, to actually start trusting in Jesus.

While Year 12 can bring a lot of stress, it's also a great time to encourage students to be trusting in God when life gets challenging. Learning to do that will be even more helpful later in life than getting a good result in their exams!

Anna Boxwell studied at Moore College and currently lives in Canberra where she is part of Lanyon Valley Anglican Church. She has directed five Youthworks HSC Study Conferences, and will be leading another one in July.

This article is part 1 of a two-part series originally published on the website 'Growing Faith': <http://growingfaith.com.au/parenting/surviving-year-12> and Part 2: <http://growingfaith.com.au/parenting/surviving-year-12-part-2>

Part 2 offers further guidance with the topics: Guard against idolatry; Set the tone at home; and Doing one thing at a time.

Youth Ministry Begins with YOU

Ministry to young people is an interesting process. On the surface it seems to require a grasp of the current: technology, music, arts, and a bucket load of energy. Yes you do need portions of the above because that's often the environment young people inhabit, but it's not the core of the matter.

At its core, ministry to young people is about time taken, quiet spaces, deep conversations and a sense of belonging. Ministry to young people is all about relationship; in fact it's all about YOU.

No matter your age, your stage in life, where you live, what you do for a living, youth ministry begins with YOU. You can make a lasting difference in a young person's life simply by caring. Do you believe that God wants to use you to minister to the next generation?

Yes their music is different, they dress funny and seem to be surgically attached to their mobile devices – but just like you and I, young people crave an emotional connection and sense of belonging. Young people want to know that someone cares about them for who they are, without an agenda.

No one likes it when they're approached by someone with an agenda (just look at our attitude towards telemarketers), however when we know that someone is genuinely interested in our lives; who we are and how we're travelling, it opens up a world of possibilities!

Think back to when you were a young person (or a young Christian), can you remember those older in the faith that built a relationship with you? Can you see them, hear them, those faithful men and women who made it a priority to get to know you, encourage you and help you grow in your faith? It's time to follow their example and pass on what we have learnt to the next generation.

How can YOU practically minister to young people?

1. Say hello! Sounds simple, but it's often the hardest thing to do! Never underestimate the power of a hello, an introduction and a smile.



Andrew

Edwards

Director,

Synergy Youth

2. Be consistent. Building relationships takes time. Make a point to seek them out, say hello and have a short conversation. As time passes you both become familiar and friendships form. You'll be surprised at how quickly bonds form with a simple hello and short conversation.

3. Share life with them. Your life experience will be a blessing to young people. Yes young people want to blaze their own trail but they are also looking for advice. They need to know that they're supported, being cheered on and that help is there when they need to pick up the pieces. As your relationship grows so do the opportunities to offer advice, practical assistance and most importantly of all, to share your faith.

4. Lead by example. It doesn't need to be formal, simply lead and witness by example, never miss an opportunity to encourage them, pray for them, nurture them and just be there for them.

5. Pray. Prayer is the most powerful resource we have – a direct line to our Almighty God who loves and cares for this young person. Pray for your young people, ask them how best to pray for them, let them know that you have been praying and encourage them to see God at work in their lives.

Our young people and children need YOU now more than ever. In a world that is constantly clamouring for their attention, feeding them every message under the sun, they need men and women of faith to help nurture and grow their faith, so they in turn can nurture and grow the generations that follow.

How can you say hello to today?

For more information on how you can support Synergy, please contact Andrew Edwards at andrew@synergy.org.au or through the Diocesan Office.

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Synergy contacts

Synergy Youth: www.synergy.org.au

Synergy Youth Director: Andrew Edwards - Andrew@synergy.org.au

Synergy Youth Chair: Ruth Edwards (contact via 6232 3613)

ABM launches Emergency Appeal for Solomon Islands

From ABM

ABM has launched the Solomon Islands Flood Response and is seeking urgent support to raise \$20,000 to provide emergency relief to the many displaced families and individuals.

On April 3 flash flooding hit the Solomon Islands causing major destruction. After many days of rain, rivers burst their banks and destroyed homes and bridges, leaving thousands of people displaced.

There have been 19 confirmed deaths and an estimated 52,000 people affected across the Solomon Islands, around half of which are children. (According to OCHA - UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.)

George Kiriau, former General Secretary of the Anglican Church of Melanesia, gave an account of the situation.

"I live in Honiara for most of my life and I have never seen such heavy rain. Today, the weather improved with the sun starting to show though there was some dark clouds still hovering. It was announced tropical cyclone developing to the south of the country. As a result of the heavy rain, there was heavy flooding along the rivers in the capital especially



DEVASTATION: The force of the water is evident in this photo of a house at Koa Valley, which was dislodged by floodwaters.

along Mataniko River.

He reported that several Anglican villages, Koa Village and the Lord Howe settlement were affected amongst others, and that the old Mataniko Bridge was washed away.

Mr Kiriau said, "The village's church, St John Baptist Church, had only its roof showing in the river."

Evacuation centres have been set up by multi-agency teams across the islands for the thousands displaced. There is an urgent need for basic supplies such as water, clothing, blankets, mosquito nets and

cooking utensils.

In situations such as these where large areas are flooded, there is concern that contaminated water supplies will lead to increased risks of infection and outbreaks of water-borne and vector-borne diseases.

Forecasters are also warning that the storm in the South Pacific islands could develop into a tropical cyclone.

Donate online at www.abmission.org or phone 1300 302663. Please remember all who have been affected by this disaster in your prayers.

London priest elected Bishop of Riverina



EVANGELIST: Bishop-elect of Riverina, Rob Gillion, and his wife Janine. Rob Gillion is a member of the Archbishops' College of Evangelists.

An evangelist and former actor, who is currently the rector of a central London church, has been elected as the Bishop of Riverina.

63 year old Alan Robert (Rob) Gillion is Rector of Holy Trinity, Sloane Square, and St Saviour, Upper Chelsea, in the Diocese of London.

He is a member of the Archbishops' (of Canterbury and York) College of Evangelists and a contributor and advisor to the BBC for religious broadcasts, taking part in radio programmes such as *Pause for Thought*.

The new bishop-elect trained as an actor at the University of London and worked as an actor and theatre director for twelve years before training for ordained ministry.

Prior to ordination he

studied at the Theological College of Salisbury and Wells.

Bishop-elect Gillion was ordained in 1983 in the Diocese of Norwich and has served also in the Dioceses of Southwark and Hong Kong before returning to London in 1999. He is married to Janine who he met when they were both drama students. They have two sons, one of whom lives in Melbourne.

Since the resignation of Bishop Doug Stevens in December 2012, the Diocese of Riverina has been administered by Archdeacon Ed Byford.

The new bishop was elected at a special synod on April 4, and will be consecrated and enthroned as Bishop of Riverina on Friday 15th August 2014 at Saint Alban's Cathedral, Griffith.

Walk of the Cross 2014

(Continued from page 12)

The following weekend brought light showers as the Bishop, with about 30 supporters including a group of intercessors from Sydney and beyond, walked through Yass to a park where he again spoke of the completed work of Jesus on the cross, and again invited people to accept Jesus' invitation to life with Him.

Then it was on to the scattered rural parish of Binda, where parish priest Rick Lewis had arranged visits to the schools in Binda and Bigga. Incredibly, Police and SES stopped the traffic in the main streets of each community while the Cross Walk team walked down the road from the church to the school.

Many in the community accepted the invitation posted on the school notice boards, to join the activities.

April 12 found the Cross Walk team walking down the main street of Taralga to

Goodhew Park, where local priest Sallyanne Hart had arranged a community event that led into a simple open-air service.

"I preached on Christ's death and resurrection and invited people to turn to Christ," Bishop Stuart said, "and a number indicated that they had done so."

A few days later it was Crookwell's turn, with a crowd of about 80 people following the cross to the Roman Catholic, Presbyterian, Anglican and Uniting Churches (stopping to pray, and gathering more walkers at each point) before proceeding up the main street to the park for an open-air service. Again, Bishop Stuart gave an evangelistic sermon, invited people to give their lives to Jesus and handed out copies of the New Testament.

The walk reached its conclusion in Goulburn on Good Friday where Bishop Stuart met with a keen and happy band of walkers on the 'Cathedral

Common' at 10.45am and made their way, taking turns in carrying the cross, to Belmore Park via Auburn Street.

Here a substantial group from across Goulburn and Canberra churches, supplemented by people passing by, gathered for a simple service. Robyn and Paul Baxter organised the singing and the Bishop preached a simple Easter message on the theme, *It is finished*.

"People who wanted prayer or who had committed their lives to Christ 'came forward' at the end," Bishop Stuart said. "We also gave away 150th anniversary New Testaments. It was a wonderful way to draw our diocesan 150th celebrations to a close. God be praised!"

He has also expressed his deep appreciation to Canon Gill Varcoe and all who helped plan and implement the Walk of the Cross this year, and particularly to those who have supported the venture in prayer.



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Walk of the Cross 2014

□ Bishop's pilgrimage through the north-west of the diocese carries the cross and its message of life

"It has been a remarkable six weeks," said Bishop Stuart. "I believe eternally significant Kingdom gains have been made as a result of the 2014, 'Cross-Walk'."

The Bishop recorded the comments on his blog on the Diocesan website after his Lenten trek from the north-western extremity of the diocese, through at least a dozen communities to reach St Saviour's Cathedral in Goulburn on Good Friday.

Bishop Stuart made the commitment last year to undertake a Walk of the Cross from a parish on the fringe of the diocese to the Cathedral, each year for three years as part of the commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the Diocese.

This year's walk began in Temora on Wednesday, February 26, where the itinerary included a civic reception, a dinner, ecumenical worship, visits to the Rural Museum and the Aviation Museum and a walk with the cross through the main street including visits to shops and prayers for shop owners.

At every opportunity the team walking with the cross handed out copies of the commemorative 150th anniversary edition of the New Testament.

In Junee eight days later the schedule engaged with the

two local Primary Schools and the Junee Correctional Centre before a barbecue at the church followed by a worship service and an evangelistic address by the Bishop.

He spent the weekend (March 9-10) in Cootamundra where a group of about 90 people met him at the outskirts of the town to join the walk through the main street to the park in what the Bishop described as "a very, very powerful witness to a packed town of Saturday shoppers".

"Parishioners commented on how the activity served as a fillip for their ministry to the community," Bishop Stuart said, "and I must say, I too have been abundantly blessed by ministering this way!"

Again, his address to the crowd after lunch included an invitation to people to come forward and give their lives to Christ, and again the team handed out Bibles.

A visit to a nursing home was followed by dinner at the parish hall, and another evangelistic sermon which encouraged a number of people to turn to Christ.

The walk continued in Gunning on Saturday March 22 where an enthusiastic group of supporters took turns in carrying the cross as they walked the length of the main street and around to St Edmund's Church



INVITATION: Bright sunshine greeted the crowd that gathered in Goulburn's Belmore Park when the Walk of the Cross arrived on Good Friday. As he did in each community along the way, Bishop Stuart delivered an evangelistic address and invited people who had committed their lives to Christ, to come forward for prayer.

for a service followed by a meal. Once again, a challenging sermon led into an invitation for people to come forward.

"The response was deeply moving," commented Bishop Stuart.

In Harden-Murrumbah the following weekend the Bishop arrived aboard a fire engine, complete with siren and flashing lights, to a range of family-oriented activities in Newson Park: face painting, gum-boot throwing, tug-o-war, treasure hunts, parachute games, a sausage sizzle and a splendid '150th' cake to cut and enjoy.

After being received by the Mayor, Chris Manchester, Bishop Stuart proceeded to the nursing home and a hostel, where he and his team of local supporters visited individual residents and shared in a 'reminiscing service'.

Again, the day ended with a dinner followed by an evangelistic address, with quite a few more Bibles being handed out.

(continued on page 11)

Transforming communities: a brief story

After the call to come forward to receive Christ on Good Friday in Goulburn a ten year old boy, 'Jack' did just that. Jane Robinson immediately went with him back to his mother (to get her permission to contact him); the mother was just as excited as we were.

Bishop Stuart phoned the family the next day and the mother told him that 'Jack' had taken one New Testament for himself and two more for his friends. He was visiting these friends to tell them his story and give them each a New Testament.

"Did I mention he's just ten!!" commented the Bishop.



ANNIVERSARY CAKE: After arriving in Harden on a fire engine, Bishop Stuart joined a gathering at Newson Park for a sausage sizzle followed by some energetic games, and the cutting of a 150th anniversary cake. Parish priest Beth Dimmick and Zac Sommer lent a hand to cut the cake.



CARE: The 'Walk' through Temora included a visit and worship service at a local nursing home, as well as a tour of the Temora Aviation Museum - including the opportunity for Bishop Stuart to sit in the cockpit of a World War II Spitfire fighter (and the Editor of AN could only look at the photo in envy!)

