



A NEWSPAPER FOR THE CANBERRA & GOULBURN DIOCESAN COMMUNITY

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# ANGLICAN NEWS

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## Ordination: *what do clergy do?*

### □ Paul Black's sermon outlines some challenges of a priest's ministry

By Lewis Hitchcock

Preaching at the ordination of three priests in St Saviour's Cathedral on Saturday November 29, the Rector of St John's Canberra, Paul Black, drew on a book entitled *What Clergy do - Especially When it Looks Like Nothing*, to illustrate some of the challenges of priestly ministry.

During the service Jonathan Cole, Samuel Gregory and David McLennan were ordained as priests, by Bishop Stuart Robinson.

Paul Black said that the ordination service spelled out the job description of a priest quite clearly: "to live and work as a priest, a pastor and teacher; you are to encourage and build up the body of Christ, preaching the word of God, leading God's people in prayer, declaring God's forgiveness and blessing and faithfully administering the sacraments and so on."

"Now, that's a pretty clear job description," Paul Black said. "However, one of the complex and frustrating realities for clergy is that many people – and dare I say many parishioners – are not too sure about what it is that clergy actually do!"

He explained that English priest Emma Percy, author of *What Clergy do*, used the metaphor of mothering to explore

the role of a priest and name the skills needed in ministry.

She claimed that, like mothering, the role of a parish priest does not fit into many of the modern ideas about work and professionalism. It is a commitment that does not lend itself to targets and easy measurable outcomes.

A tired mother, she says, can get to the end of the day and say, 'I got nothing done', when she has in fact been actively caring for her baby all day. In a world of productivity and tangible outcomes this kind of hard work is in danger of going unremarked.

Parish clergy, according to Emma Percy, can also find it hard to find the right words to describe all the business of sustaining church life. However, central to ministry is the building up of relationships, the quality of incidental encounters, the time spent praying for people, the care given in walking people through difficult circumstances and the witness that all of this is connected to the love of God known through Jesus Christ.

Such things are hard to quantify, she writes, and often the outcomes of such encounters are not obvious in the short term, and may never be recognized this side of heaven.

Paul Black also cited the Old Testament reading used in the service (Jeremiah 1:4-10), in which Jeremiah describes his calling as a prophet in Israel.

"We are told that Jeremiah was not too sure about his calling.



**CONGRATULATIONS:** (above) Following their ordination, and holding the symbols of their new office, David McLennan, Samuel Gregory and Jonathan Cole receive the warm applause of the large congregation.

**JOB DESCRIPTION:** (right) Guest preacher for the ordination, Paul Black, pointed out that few people understand just what a priest actually does.

'But Lord', he said, 'I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy.'

"Jeremiah would become one of God's greatest spokespersons. But before God could use Jeremiah he had to deal with those three deadly words, 'I am only ...'

"In fact, God must have

known that Jeremiah would say those three words 'I am only' even before he spoke them out loud. You see, God knew Jeremiah better than Jeremiah knew himself.

"God said to Jeremiah, 'Before I shaped you in the womb, I knew all about you. Before you saw the light of day, I



had holy plans for you: A prophet to the nations – that's what I had in mind for you.' (*The Message*).

"Prior to those words, Jeremiah thought of himself as the son of his father Hilkiah, but **(continued on page 3)**

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## THE REGIONAL BISHOP'S COLUMN

# Advent: a time for pruning and change

In the season of Advent, it is worth asking ourselves: what does it mean to be prepared?

In light of the 2014 Synod Bible Studies which I had the privilege to give, the short answer from Jesus' Upper Room discourse is: pruning, change.

I am the true vine and my father is the vine grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. John 15:1-2

Jesus says it up front - things are not going to stay the same. In fact, they cannot stay the same. Change is part of the deal. Those branches that bear no fruit will be removed. Even those that do bear fruit will be pruned so they can bear more fruit.

That's important to keep in mind with the season of Advent reminding us afresh of the coming of Jesus, as we live out the dream Bishop Stuart continues to share with us. If we want to be in the business of where the love of Jesus is transforming lives and communities, then be prepared

for change ourselves. Prepare to submit to the pruner's knife - as individuals and as a church.

The irony is as a church, if we are honest, we find it very hard. We are very slow-moving when it comes to change, especially change which involves pruning.

I was at a NSW Provincial Standing Committee a couple of years ago in which the then Archbishop of Sydney, Peter Jensen, invited someone to speak to us about Shared Services. Tongue in cheek, Peter made the point that here we were as Dioceses in the 21st century, with a lot of our practices belonging in the 19th century and the 20th century seeming to have passed us by.

We struggle with change in our parishes.

One of the things I have done as Regional Bishop is call together a small group of people, an intent group, for what I have called a Wagga City Conversation.

The intent group is made up of clergy and lay people from the four parishes in Wagga.

People who between them also have a strong knowledge

of the four different agencies in Wagga: Anglicare, The Riverina Anglican College, St Martin's Residential College (a partnership with CSU) and the one residential aged care facility we are still involved with as a Diocese (and that's another story really about the Diocese grappling with change), The Forrest Centre, a partnership with the Catholic Sisters Little Company of Mary.

***"It is not for the church to survive but to proclaim Christ. If we do that the church will survive."***

Our question: How can the Anglican Church in Wagga be effective in our mission, our ministry? We've set 2030 as a marker which helps us to be a bit more courageous in our thinking - 2020 feels a bit too close now! It is blindingly obvious change is needed. I offer just three comments from our conversation to give you an idea:

- ♦ Wagga is a younger town but with an ageing church;
- ♦ there is a rapid expansion of the city but we are not there;
- ♦ to survive and thrive many things will need to be done differently.

We are now at the point of communicating more widely and engaging others in the process.

If we are honest, we know that Wagga is not the only place in our Diocese where pruning is needed. Roads have changed - dirt roads have become tarred roads. The car is now the mode of transport and often it is driven in the opposite direction to which the horse was ridden.

Therefore communities have changed in character. What may have borne fruit in the past does not now, simply because life has changed.

The Archbishop of Canterbury recently commented when in Australia that one of the great blessings of the parish system is its generous hospitality.

I think following on from that we have to ask ourselves: what does that mean when the community which the parish is a part of has changed - dramatically at times. How does that translate into changing networks not just defined by geography? The English church grapples with the same issues (minus the challenge of distance.)

The flip side of the generous hospitality of the parish system is that it was as much about economic realities or economic pride - a community, a village being able to say we can afford to be a parish. As the Archbishop also said, it is not for the church to survive but to



Bishop  
Genevieve  
Blackwell

proclaim Christ. If we do that the church will survive.

Change is imperative. We all know it. We can't just keep doing more of the same, sticking with what is not bearing fruit rather than encouraging the encouraging, exciting shoots that are there.

Come Lord Jesus

+Genevieve

## Vale: E G Whitlam

**By Bishop George Browning**

EG Whitlam is perhaps the most prominent of all old boys to have graduated from Canberra Grammar. He was dux in two successive years, the only student to have achieved that extraordinary honour.

He had a tenuous link with the Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn which I can convey through the following story.

We met on many occasions, often in the Parliament as a significant visitor or occasion was being honoured and celebrated. He almost always approached me with "My Lord" (I am not sure it was preferable to 'comrade' which was his fallback position, a greeting with which I was sometimes embraced. He insisted the greeting was my due because "the title is yours by virtue of the Diocese being established through Letters Patent of Queen Victoria". I have since discovered that Letters Patent were invalid in a territory which had at the time established its own legitimate government).

"My lord", he asserted, "You know I am one of yours". I was somewhat taken aback and rather cheekily responded,

"Gough, it doesn't show". Not to be put off he went on, "Yes, when I was a student at that school of yours (referring to Canberra Grammar) we were trooped off every Sunday morning to St Andrews (Presbyterian Church) for one of those interminably long Presbyterian sermons. The word around the school was that you could get a quick one from the Anglicans. So I went to my father and said "I feel a conversion coming on". "He acquiesced and I was confirmed by Bishop Ernest Burgmann". (Subsequent investigation proved the validity of his claim. He was indeed confirmed by Burgmann as the records at St John's Reid testify.

He then went on: "But I have never been baptised". "But that is completely irregular" I spluttered, "I know, nice isn't" he replied.

Then, as was often the case, he delivered his coup de grâce revealing he knew far more about the faith than most regular Church goers. "I have always been a Constantinian you know". Don't leave it too long I responded.

I would love to know if he was baptised on the night of Monday 20 October 2014.

## Clergy moves and appointments

- ♦ **The Reverend Dr Sarah Bachelard** will continue as Locum at Holy Covenant Jamison until 18 February 2015.
- ♦ **The Reverend Dr Wayne Brighton** has been elected Area Dean for Central Canberra by his peers. Congratulations Wayne and our thanks to the Reverend Vicky Cullen who has fruitfully undertaken this role for the past three years.
- ♦ **Mr and Mrs Brian and Ali Champness** will commence as Joint Directors, Families and Children Ministry, the F5 community, Goulburn in February 2015.
- ♦ **The Reverend Jonathan Cole** has been ordained priest and appointed Assistant Priest at Crookwell Parish.
- ♦ **The Reverend Samuel Gregory** has been ordained priest and appointed Assistant Priest at Kaleen Parish.
- ♦ **The Reverend David McLennan** has been ordained priest and appointed Assistant Priest Canberra Parish.
- ♦ **The Reverend Adam Mannion** has been appointed Priest-in-Charge South West Slopes Ministry District.
- ♦ **The Reverend Michael Pailthorpe** was inducted as Rector of Bungendore on Tuesday 25 November 2014.
- ♦ **Ms Natalie Milliken** and **Mr Graham Morrison** have received Lay Minister licences, Parish of Berridale Snowy Mountains.

## Anglican News

**A newspaper for the Canberra and Goulburn Anglican Diocesan community**

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# Introducing our new priests

The three priests ordained in St Saviour's Cathedral on Saturday November 29, David McLennan, Sam Gregory and Jonathan Cole, each prepared brief biographical notes for the occasion:

## The Reverend David McLennan

David McLennan (38) was born and raised in Toowoomba, and studied political science at the University of Queensland. A career with the public service brought him to Canberra, where he worked for ten years (mostly in the intelligence community).

David also served in the Army, deploying to East Timor in 2000 as an infantry soldier.

While David was raised in a church-going home, he and his family came to a deeper understanding of their Christian faith when he was in his teens. David felt a sense of call into the ministry at an early age, but it took some time before he felt ready to pursue ordination.

Lying behind his eventual change in direction were several deepening convictions: that the world's greatest need is to know the God who has revealed himself in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus; that new life in Christ, though hard, is more wonderful than the empty pursuit of money and comfort; and that the Anglican worship tradition helps us articulate, understand and experience this new life in community with others.

David is enjoying ministering in the parish of St John's, Canberra, supported by his wife (Catherine) and children (William, Anna, Maggie and Jack).



## The Reverend Samuel Gregory

Sam Gregory is training to be a Defence Force chaplain with the Australian Army. Sam and his wife Adele have had postings across Australia in Melbourne, Townsville and Canberra and are both passionate about ministry among Defence members and their families. Adele has recently completed a PhD in linguistics and is working at the ANU. Their daughter Eleanor joined their family in June this year.

Sam completed his theological training at Ridley in Melbourne before returning to Canberra. He was ordained Deacon at St Paul's Chapel in 2012 by Len Eacott, then Bishop of the Defence Force, and commenced his curacy at St Matthew's Wanniasa in 2013.

Under God's providence it has been a joy and a pleasure for Sam, Adele and Eleanor to be part of the family at St Simon's Kaleen and Giralang this year. Sam will complete his curacy with them next year and return to the Army in 2016.

Sam is thankful that God has placed a great number of people in the various stages of his life to encourage him on this journey.

He has expressed his thanks to his family, Godparents, his home church and youth group in Hamilton (Ballarat Diocese), the Fellowship of Christian University Students, numerous Defence Force ministries and chaplains, the staff and students at Ridley and countless brothers and sisters in Christ at parishes along the way. May God return His blessing on them all richly.



## Ordination: what do clergy do?

*(continued from page 1)* from now on, that was no longer to be the case. He could no longer say, 'I am only the son of Hilkiah'.

"Why? Because, before Jeremiah was born God had chosen him to be a special messenger to his people."

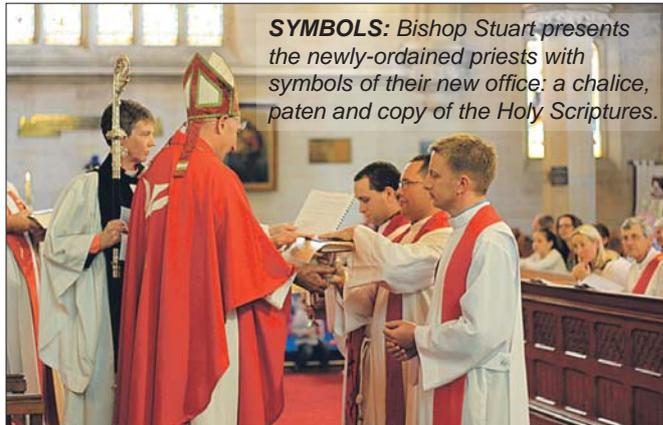
He reminded David, Jonathan and Samuel that they had been "called and chosen to serve the people of God in a world of great beauty, splendour and holiness; a world that God created and continues to love; a world where there are shining examples of

people who love unselfishly and give generously".

However, he also acknowledged that it was a world of "violence, human sin, war, greed, poverty, individualism, environmental degradation and terror".

"We live in a world where people are searching for meaning, for purpose and belonging – a world where the Christian faith has profound things to offer people. We live in a world where messengers are needed to be God's person in the world for the sake of others," he said.

**SYMBOLS:** Bishop Stuart presents the newly-ordained priests with symbols of their new office: a chalice, paten and copy of the Holy Scriptures.



## The Reverend Jonathan Cole

Jonathan Cole is very grateful for the faithful ministry of the body of Christ in this diocese.

While he cannot remember a day that he did not know Christ as his Lord and Saviour, thanks to the discipleship and fellowship he has experienced, he has grown in his understanding of what that looks like in his life.

He finished high school at Canberra Grammar School and graduated from the Australian National University with a Bachelor of Arts with honours.

While in Canberra (his father was a diplomat) he attended St Matthew's Wanniasa and was involved in children's and youth ministry there as well as with Scripture Union.

Throughout that time he was challenged to think about what gifts God had given him and how to use those gifts to serve God and the community.

In consultation with others, he came to the conclusion that God was calling him to be a teacher of the gospel.

He studied a Grad. Dip. Ed at Canberra University and then taught French and History/Geography at Burgmann Anglican School. In 2009, he moved to Sydney to study at Moore Theological College and graduated with a Bachelor of Divinity.

Jonathan married Elysha at the end of his first year at Moore, and they now have two young children. Following his ordination, Jonathan will be finishing his curacy at St Peter's Weston and starting his second curacy at St Bartholomew's in Crookwell.

Jonathan loves teaching and learning more about Jesus, spending time with others (especially his wife and children), reading books, watching films, playing computer games, board games, other nerdy pursuits and rugby union.



DIOCESAN NEWS

# Anglican News to go electronic

## Diocesan newspaper enters digital age

From the beginning of next year, *Anglican News* will be produced as an electronic newsletter.

Bishop Stuart Robinson made the decision to change to an electronic format at a recent meeting with Diocesan Registrar Trevor Ament and *Anglican News* Editor Lew Hitchick.

The new format will mean a significant saving on printing and postage costs, and will also mean shorter lead times between production and delivery to the readers.

The 'paper' will in future be produced in A4 size and distributed as a PDF file, which will be easily readable on tablets such as ipads or other computers with an internet or wi-fi connection. Initially the PDF file will be sent to parishes, and the parishes will be asked to distribute it to their own parishioner email lists.

However, in conjunction with Diocesan Media,

Communications and Research Officer Wayne Brighton, the editor is also exploring the possibility of some form of automated email alert to subscribers, via the diocesan website.

The new publication will, of course, continue to be published on the diocesan website, from where it can be readily downloaded. It is expected that the newsletter will normally be available a few days before the first Sunday of each month, although circumstances might occasionally necessitate a change in this schedule.

In making the change, Canberra-Goulburn Diocese is following the example of Bathurst Diocese which switched to an 'e-news' style at the start of 2014. However, while the Bathurst publication is typically only four to six pages per issue, the Canberra-Goulburn newsletter will typically run to at least 12 and possibly 16 pages.

Reader response to the change in Bathurst Diocese has generally been very

positive, although some have not been able to access the newsletter in electronic form. Some parishes have chosen to print paper copies and hand them out to anyone who is not able to access the online version.

"We recognise that for some of our readers, this new approach to the production of *Anglican News* might mean the diocesan newspaper will not be as readily available as it has been," Bishop Stuart said. "We'll be encouraging parishes to try to identify people in this situation, and to print a few hard copies to meet this particular need."

Bishop Stuart has also asked that the Advent and Easter issues of *Anglican News* continue to be published in print, and distributed through churches and ministry units as in the past.

"Christmas and Easter offer great opportunities for us as a church to tell people what we are doing, and by publishing *Anglican News* in its traditional form for these celebrations we are

maintaining a connection with many Anglicans who might not read the online newspaper," Bishop Stuart said. "The hard-copy issues can also include coverage of the Priests' Ordination at the end of November and the Deacons' Ordination in February, providing the ordinands with a souvenir of the occasion."

The change in format might involve some

rationalisation of content, as the reduced page size will mean that there will be slightly less space available.



**GOING DIGITAL:**  
A mock-up of *Anglican News* in A4 size, ready for electronic distribution.

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### Keynote Speaker

#### The Rev'd Alison Morgan

Alison Morgan works as a thinker and writer for ReSource, a Church of England charity dedicated to serving the church in renewal and mission. Alison is a member of the Archbishops' College of Evangelists. She works widely in the UK in teaching and training, and she is also the editor and director of ReSource's discipleship programme for Africa which is used in 15 countries.

"I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth! Go to the people of all nations and make them my disciples. Baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and teach them to do everything I have told you. I will be with you always, even until the end of the world."

Jesus  
(Matt 28:18-20 CEV)

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# National gathering for Cursillo

□ **Make a friend, be a friend, bring a friend to Jesus**

By Lewis Hitchcock

These three steps, familiar to anyone who has experienced a Cursillo weekend retreat, were the topics for three addresses given by Bishop Bill Ray at the national Cursillo gathering in Coffs Harbour on the weekend of October 25-26.

The National Ultreya attracted more than 150 people from Anglican Dioceses as far afield as North Queensland, Perth and Bunbury, and followed a meeting of the National Secretariat of the Cursillo Movement in Australia, held in Coffs Harbour's Anglican Church.

Canberra-Goulburn Diocese was represented by Crookwell parishioners Peter and Sylvia Cullen and Lyn Lyon from Queanbeyan. However, the C&G connection seemed much stronger with Bishop of Grafton Sarah Macneil on hand for most sessions, and Bishop of Bathurst Ian Palmer attending in his capacity as National Episcopal Advisor to the Cursillo Movement.

Bill Ray, the Bishop of North Queensland, introduced himself by telling the gathering he had made his Cursillo at "Men's 8, Bathurst, 1989, on the table community of St Luke". At the time, he had been serving as Education Officer in the Diocese of Gippsland.

"What sort of friend are you?" he asked in his opening address on 'Be a friend'.

"Are you friendly? Or selectively friendly? Do we put ourselves out to befriend

someone who is on our patch, who we do not know? It's hard work," he acknowledged.

"Each of us is a seed-sower, as well as a living Bible" he claimed, referring to Jesus' statement that "unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit" (John 12:24).

"What is it in my life that's got to die, to produce a harvest?" he pondered.

Bill Ray cited research claiming that we needed "21 meaningful contacts" with a person before there will be a change. "That's commitment," he said, adding that his own experience had shown this claim to be accurate.

Addressing the topic of "Be a friend", he highlighted the importance of asking appropriate questions in the early stages of a friendship, to encourage people to give meaningful responses.

He cited the account of Philip's conversation with the Ethiopian eunuch (Acts 8), when Philip asked the eunuch whether he understood what he was reading from the Book of Isaiah.

"How can I, unless someone explains it to me?" replied the eunuch, inviting Philip to travel with him.

"We need to ask, 'What can we do to help you understand better?' – we need to determine where people are at, and start there – and move very slowly," Bill Ray said.

In his final address on the topic of 'Bring a friend to Jesus', he spoke of "connecting transformatively" with friends.

"The church is changing," he claimed. "The Christendom model is gone – most people are no longer come to church."



**CANBERRA - GOULBURN CONNECTIONS:** Peter and Sylvia Cullen from Crookwell parish caught up with Bishop Sarah Macneil and Bishop Ian Palmer, both of whom had served as priests in this diocese.

Reminding his audience of Jesus' final instructions in Matthew's Gospel, to 'go and make disciples of all nations', he said this was still a constant task before the church.

"Do we really want to make disciples? It will mean change," he said, explaining that when any new people come into a group – even a family group – it causes change.

"But I don't think God is interested in change," he asserted. "Change is just tinkering at the edges – I think God's interested in transformation!"

He said such transformation would involve "walking with people and answering the questions they are asking – not just the questions we think they should be asking".

In the Cursillo tradition, the audience was split into table groups with about nine people in each group, and the program allowed about half an hour's discussion time after each of the addresses.

Groups were invited to submit questions or comments to a forum comprising Bishops Bill Ray, Ian Palmer and Sarah Macneil.

Bishop Ian also addressed the gathering as the pre-dinner speaker, describing some of his experiences in walking the 800-kilometre Camino de Santiago pilgrimage in Spain.

He explained that pilgrimage changes the pilgrim, and the experience of a Cursillo weekend pilgrimage should change those taking

part. However, he stressed that the Cursillo retreat should be primarily for the new Cursillistas, adding that there had been a tendency in some places for team members to think the weekend was for them, and if a few new people turned up then they could fit in as well.

He also suggested that Cursillo might have to make some changes to appeal to younger people, pointing out that the original Cursillo retreats in Spain in the 1940s had been primarily aimed at young men.

"The world has changed quite a bit since the 1940s," he added.

## Diploma of Counselling at St Mark's

St Mark's Registered Training Organisation (RTO) is expanding to offer a Diploma of Counselling in Canberra in 2015.

The two year part-time course covers aspects of counselling, case management and interview skills to prepare students for a counselling career.

RTO Manager and trained psychotherapist Peter Dyke (right) recently joined the staff at St Mark's in July and is behind the new initiative.

"The course is an integrated

blend between training for professional practice and Christian faith. We've had good feedback from students studying the course in Sydney, Melbourne and the Central Coast," he said.

"It was a natural fit to offer it in Canberra where many students currently come to study theology," he said.

Mr Dyke has 15 years in the profession as a psychotherapist, supervisor and trainer, and is passionate about counselling.

"One of the most rewarding aspects of counselling is seeing

people set free from unhelpful thinking patterns and being liberated to grow in new directions.

"I'm wanting to help lay and ordained workers in churches in Canberra develop their effectiveness in Christian communities," he said.

"This course will help Christians grow from being listeners to counsellors," he said.

Applications are now open on the website until January 20, 2015.



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# Holy Covenant farewells Susanna Pain

## ☐ Baptisms, Confirmations, a party and a farewell

By Katherine Rainger

*There's a time to let go of trying to express whatever remains beyond the way of words and simply to be present delighting in the gift of each other!*

These words by Noel Davis are from the poem, *To simply delight in each other*.

They were part of the words of farewell which the Rev'd Susanna Pain left us with as a Parish at her final service as Rector. They also capture something of the mood and happenings at Holy Covenant in recent weeks.

There has been much delight over the past fortnight and also a sense of something special taking place which is difficult to fully express in words.

## Baptism, Confirmation and Reception into the Anglican Church

On the 26th October Rev'd Susanna baptised: Darcy Allen, Alissa Barber, Layla Barber, Constance Chen and Denis Golubeff.

Bishop Stuart confirmed: Darcy Allen, Constance Chen, Angela Golubeff, Denis Golubeff, Isobel James and Tracey Matthews. Pat Bonnett, Danni Ellis, James Ellis and Tim Shao were received into the Anglican Church.

Jo James and Grahame Bonnett also participated in the confirmation journey which was led by Susanna and the Rev'd Dr Sarah Bachelard. Each of the participants had a story to share

about their life and faith and it was a gift to be part of this significant occasion in their lives.

Isobel wrote: "I have really enjoyed being part of such a supportive and great group. The members have taught me a lot about what it means to believe in God. This has been so important to me because it makes me feel much closer to God and I feel this is the right time to confirm my beliefs."

For Constance one of the Gospel stories became more meaningful, "The story of the poor widow who put in two very small copper coins for offering is always in my mind during my spiritual journey. She put in all she had to live on for the offering which represents not only her money but also her heart and mind in this matter."

The Gospel reading contained a great exhortation to those who were to be baptised and confirmed.

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbour as yourself" (Matt 22:37-39).

I don't think anyone in the congregation will forget the dramatic Gospel reading that day which the youth group presented which included a hipster Jesus! Nor will we forget the homily by Bishop Stuart which encouraged us to live lives of love and service to God and each other.

Bishop Stuart spoke of Caitlin Lance, a clinical psychologist volunteering in Kolkata, India, where she is working with organisations which care and empower vulnerable



**CONFIRMEES:** On a busy morning, Bishop Stuart confirmed six members of the Holy Covenant congregation and received four others into the Anglican Church.

women and children. Caitlin is an example of someone reminiscent of the widow in Luke's gospel who has given their all. Caitlin is our mission partner at Holy Covenant.

As a Parish and as individuals we have supported her to enable her to do the work that she does. Our Gospel calling of love of God and neighbour is a communal one which we welcome our recent recipients of the sacraments of baptism and confirmation into wholeheartedly.

## Farewell and thank you Susanna and Nikolai

After nine years of faithful service Susanna Pain and Nikolai Blaskow have been called on from Holy Covenant. We farewelled them on Sunday 2nd November, the day we also remembered All Saints' Day.

It was a day of mixed emotions with many tributes, a moving liturgy of laying down the symbols of ministry and a farewell. Rev'd Sarah Bachelard noted that, "Our celebration of All Saints' Day this year coincides with our farewelling Susanna and Nikolai, and the closure of their ministry in this parish.

It feels like a significant and appropriate conjunction of events. For a defining feature of Susanna and Nikolai's ministry is the way they have empowered and nurtured the ministry of others – the free-flowing of the gifts of 'all the saints' at Holy Covenant. So, as Susanna always insists, the ministry

here is not just centred on the rector, but belongs to the whole church.

At the same time, Susanna and Nikolai have blessed us deeply by making visible in their own lives the Christian vision of holiness, the human shape of sanctity.

This does not mean (thank God) being always perfect, picture book 'saints'. In the Beatitudes Jesus teaches that true sanctity or blessedness, is about living and letting ourselves live simply as human beings, humble, real, dependent on and responsive to God."

At the farewell lunch following the service Tamara Batherham sang Leonard Cohen's Hallelujah as a gift for Susanna.

At each chorus the whole congregation joined in.

What a powerful symbol of the life of the communion of saints, in heaven and on earth, singing together in praise to God as we walk the journey together.

*Hallelujah, Hallelujah  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah*

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



**HEROES, SAINTS AND ANGELS:** *The Cowardly Lion, Dorothy, the Scarecrow, Princess Elsa and Princess Anna, Saint Francis, and many other characters came to Holy Covenant for a party at the end of October, when members of the youth group hosted a fabulous carnival of activities.*



## Be Blessed



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# F5 aims for families and children

## Goulburn church plant to employ two specialist ministers

By Lewis Hitchick

Goulburn's Fellowship at Five (F5) congregation will be employing two specialist family and children's workers next year, to work in Goulburn and the Southern Tablelands.

Bishop Stuart Robinson has announced the appointment of Alison and Brian Champness, both ordained Assemblies of God pastors who have been working for the Church of England in Weston, in the UK, for the last four or five years.

Their work has particularly focussed on children and families ministries, both in rural communities and in larger rural and regional cities.

They also have been working with the New Wine group in the UK, an organisation involved in renewal both in adults' and children's ministries.

"This means the Champnesses work with very small groups, through to many hundreds of boys and girls, and they specialise in SRE, kids' clubs, breakfast clubs, ministry especially to marginalised children and families with a view to creating ministries which are inclusive of that group so they can know and understand how much they're loved of God," Bishop Stuart said, "so we're greatly blessed to have them."

He added that the couple had also worked in Australia, in the Hunter region for many years.

"They were planning on

moving back to that region until we had a conversation with them, and a number of other people in the UK also suggested, believe it or not, that they link with the F5 congregation. So we thought that may well have been a God thing!"

Bishop Stuart said that the leaders of F5 had pledged to pay for the Champness' salary in full for the first year of the three-year appointment, "and then we'll see how we go".

Since its launch just over two years ago, F5 has grown a congregation of anywhere from 30 to 70 people, with about a hundred members all up. The target group has been people Bishop Stuart describes as the 'open de-churched', those who have had some contact with Christianity in their past and who are still open to an invitation.

"We're increasingly enjoying the company of the friends of those people, so we're now reaching 'un-churched' people because of the 'de-churched' who have been coming back again and reconnecting," Bishop Stuart said.

The church has now sent several people on short-term overseas missions – a team of three took part in a recent SOMA mission to the Solomon Islands, and in late November 17-year-old Nathaniel joined the Sharing of Ministries Abroad (SOMA) youth mission to the Seychelles.

Incidentally, the six-member SOMA team, led by Bishop Ian and Jill Lambert, also included two who have been



**BLESSING:** At the conclusion of the F5 service on Sunday evening, November 23, the congregation gathered around Bishop Stuart and Jane to pray God's blessing on their two-month visit to England as the Bishop takes sabbatical leave.

doing the Bishop's Gap Year program in 2014.

"This trip gives young people an experience of mission in a completely different context, which I think will be foundational for them and for their future," Bishop Stuart pointed out.

F5 was also planning a mission to a rural community in 2014, but for various reasons that did not go ahead. However, such local missions are still very much part of the F5 agenda.

"Because we will now have employed staff for the first time,

it will afford us an opportunity for a range of possibilities for ministry that we have been hitherto unable to take on," Bishop Stuart explained.

He said that as well as their own resources, the Champnesses are "brilliantly networked".

"They're working already with the Soul Survivor people, they'll connect with our own Synergy Youth people, so they're the kind of folks who will work very hard on working with pre-existing ministries as well."

## Christmas can be an everyday event

Staff and volunteers at St Benedict's Community Centre in Queanbeyan were deeply touched by the generous gift by five-year-old Matthew.

Matthew has been saving some of his pocket money to be able to give it to help other people in need.

He has been learning about caring for the poor through attending a Messy Church in Kippax.

With the \$26 donated, Elaine Lollback, the coordinator of the

Centre, will be able to buy enough milk for two days. St Benedict's provides free hot meals five days a week, and can have up to 80 guests on any day.

St Benedict's is a cooperative initiative of local Queanbeyan churches - Uniting, Roman Catholic, Anglican and Baptist, and has been operating for over ten years.

It aims to provide practical support and advocacy for people in need in Queanbeyan.



**GENEROSITY:** Matthew hands his savings to Elaine Lollback, Coordinator of St Benedict's Community Centre in Queanbeyan.

## Heritage maintenance in Tumut

### From the parish

A recent application by the parish of Tumut for a small heritage grant was successful and we are now in the position where a beginning can be made on the restoration of some of the worst of the brick and mortar damage on the external surface of the building.

One of the major elements of this work is to be done by the people of the parish, as volunteers who respect the need for investment in the building's future.

In mid-October a small working bee made a beginning when a few parishioners learnt, under advice from our heritage consultants, how to approach the initial cleaning of the external brick work. This cleaning results in removal of mould, lichen and accumulated dirt in order that some sealing of the surfaces against further corrosion can be undertaken.

The next stage of reworking some of the mortar and replacing severely deteriorated bricks will be the responsibility of specialised tradesmen engaged specifically for those tasks.

In the meantime, a start has been made on a small portion of the surface area and this work can continue as and when people are available to do it.

All Saints' church was designed and built by



**CLEAN-UP:** Jeff McAlister scrubs the buttresses from a ladder, Ralda McAlister cleans a wall at the foot of the ladder while Jon Stanford prepares to hose off the soap suds.

our forefathers to the greater glory of God and as an expression of their commitment to their faith, and has continued and will continue as the same symbol throughout each generation that follows.

Maintenance of the physical structure is essential and continuous.

(Reprinted from *The Spire*, the magazine of All Saints' parish, Tumut)

## MISSION NEWS

# Love came down at Christmas

## From ABM

Christmas wouldn't be Christmas without carols.

It would be hard to choose a favourite as there are so many but one of the most beautiful is entitled, *Love came down at Christmas\**. It reminds us that the greatest gift of all, was the Incarnation.

Being born in a smelly cattle stall in a backwater province of the Roman Empire, God took on human flesh and became one with us: the little baby at Bethlehem.

This great gift to humanity is the reason that we exchange presents at Christmas. The custom is a reflection of God's never-ending love for each one of us.

As we head towards Christmas, ABM is asking that you consider making another gift – a gift in response to all the blessings in your life over the past year.

You can show your thanks by helping one of three projects:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth through ABM's Reconciliation program. This project aims to show God's love by lowering suicide rates.
- Gender Action Groups in Zambia to target 6,000 villagers. This project aims to show God's love by working to reduce domestic violence against women and children and by promoting basic life skills.
- The Anglican Church of

Kenya to provide Christian formation to children. This project aims to show God's love by building young children's faith and encouraging them to develop a conscious and intimate relationship with God.

With your donations, ABM can make sure that love comes down again this Christmas – Love all lovely, Love divine.

Donate at [www.abmission.org](http://www.abmission.org) or phone 1300 302 663.

Working for Gender Social Justice

ABM supports the Gender and Governance Initiative in the Senanga area of western Zambia, to raise awareness about domestic violence and promote basic life skills.

A new Gender Action Group will be formed in the Lui Namabunga area to help raise awareness about harmful cultural practices that impact on women and children, and promote life-building skills.

This group and the Lui River Gender Action Group will target 6,000 villagers with their outreach through indigenous songs, dance, story-telling, poetry, drama and discussion groups.

The new volunteers will be trained in how to promote positive cultural practices, as well as learning skills needed to start an income generation project.

A core focus of this project is to raise awareness about the inappropriate tolerance of gender-based violence in local communities.

In 2007, the Zambian



**GENDER ACTION:** Women in the Gender Action Group will target 6,000 villagers in Zambia through indigenous songs, dance and story-telling to raise awareness of gender issues. Photo copyright ABM / Lina Magallanes 2013.

Demographic Health Survey showed that 46% (5,235) of women between 15-49 years of age have experienced some form of physical violence. One in five Zambian women reported that they have experienced sexual abuse violence at some point in their lives.

Please support ABM's Appeal and help communities stop domestic violence against women and children and up-skill villagers to lead

a sustainable future. Give at [www.abmission.org](http://www.abmission.org).

The Anglican Board of Mission (ABM) is the national mission agency of the Anglican Church of Australia.

For over 160 years ABM has been assisting people all over the world to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ, provide health and education services, improve agricultural practices and strengthen the Church.

\* Full carol text (by Christina Rossetti, 1830- 1894):

Love came down at Christmas,  
Love all lovely, Love divine;  
Love was born at Christmas,  
star and angels gave the sign.

Worship we the Godhead,  
Love incarnate, Love divine;  
worship we our Jesus:  
but wherewith for sacred sign?

Love shall be our token;  
love be yours and love be mine;  
love to God and all men,  
love for plea and gift and sign.

## A UK PILGRIMAGE

“CATHEDRALS, CANTICLES AND CHORISTERS”

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## Anglican Diocese of Riverina Registrar



The Diocese of Riverina is seeking to appoint a Diocesan Registrar to exercise responsibility for managing the administrative, marketing and support of the mission and ministry of the Anglican Church in Western New South Wales.

Relevant accounting experience using MYOB and appropriate management expertise would be required.

The successful applicant will also be responsible for the development and content management of the Diocesan website and digital platform and as such, demonstrate knowledge and experience in working with a range of digital software including 'Content Management System' (CMS).

We encourage communicant members of the Anglican Church to apply.

The Diocesan Registry is located at Narrandera.

Copies of the position description may be obtained by contacting The Right Reverend Rob Gillion on (02) 6959 1648 (Registry) e.mail: [rividio@bigpond.com](mailto:rividio@bigpond.com)

Applicants should send a covering letter and resumé, marked confidential by the 12th December addressed to:

The Right Reverend Rob Gillion  
Bishop of Riverina  
PO Box 10  
NARRANDERA NSW 2700

## NEWS FROM THE WIDER CHURCH

# Interfaith climate group challenges G20

## ❑ Fossil fuels not the answer to global poverty at G20

By Thea Ormerod

In the lead-up to the G20 Leaders' Summit in Brisbane, faith leaders called for climate change to be on the agenda and given serious attention.

The Australian Religious Response to Climate Change (ARRCC) urged the political leaders to take every opportunity to address this urgent problem in the lead-up to the all-important talks in Paris at the end of 2015.

The ARRCC comprises representatives of Jewish, Christian, Hindu, Muslim, Buddhist and Indigenous groups.

"Economics cannot reasonably be treated as somehow separate from the environment on which all life itself depends," said Right Rev'd Professor Stephen Pickard of the Centre for Christianity and Culture, Charles Sturt University and an Assistant Bishop in the Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn.

"We must transition quickly to ways of living which respect the physical limits of the natural world. To do otherwise will result in unthinkable suffering, first among vulnerable people of the developing world, then among ourselves, our children and grandchildren."

"This means a concerted effort, even in developing countries, to shift boldly to solar, wind and other forms of renewable energy," Bishop Pickard said. "But this is being thwarted by government subsidies for fossil fuel companies, giving these companies an unfair advantage. Governments are essentially providing incentives for

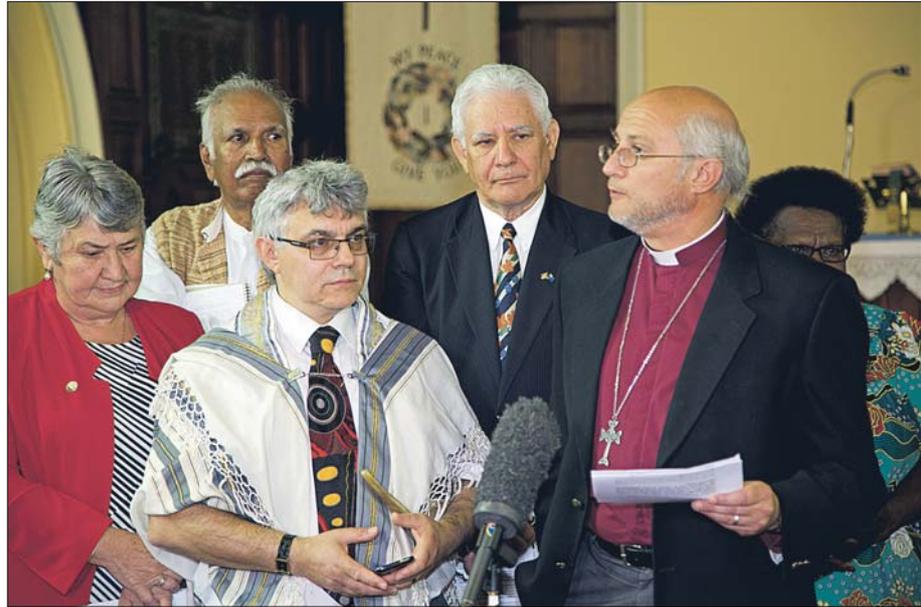
companies whose products are destroying the biosphere."

The fossil fuel lobby, including the Minerals Council of Australia, are strenuously resisting the call for change. Their most recent campaign message is that fossil fuels are an indispensable necessity if developing countries wish to lift their people out of poverty. "This is a biased view of an industry fighting for its own survival," said Bishop Pickard.

At their press conference they put forward a case for developing countries to "leapfrog" straight to renewables. They noted that fossil fuels take up large amounts of increasingly scarce water resources, and that burning coal is already causing poor air quality and significant health problems in places such as China and India and certain parts of Australia.

The price of renewables has come down so dramatically that they offer more cost advantages than coal, oil and gas. They also lend themselves to small-scale, decentralised energy delivery systems which means they're more locally accessible to impoverished communities. The Australia Institute's recent research shows that, even where fossil fuel companies are assisting with energy poverty, it is in the form of solar power and off-grid technologies.

The religious leaders further went on to address the question of Climate Finance to assist developing countries to adapt to the impacts of global warming. Bishop Pickard said, "Australia is only the worst example of wealthy countries stepping back from their obligations in this regard. While wealthy countries



**CONCERN:** ARRCC members Sr Geraldine Kearney, Raja Jayaraman, Rabbi Keren-Black, Kim Hollow, Bishop Pickard and Auntie Rose Elu voice their concern over carbon emissions prior to last month's G20 meeting in Brisbane (photo: Alison Martin).

are spending \$50 – 90 billion USD annually on subsidies for fossil fuels, most are failing to put more than the most basic amounts on the table to meet their Climate Finance commitments. This is an up-ending of priorities. Wealthy countries must take a new direction if we are to have the binding international agreement the world so desperately needs."

On the same day as the faith leaders released their open letter and held a press conference, President Obama and Chinese leader Xi Jinping struck an historic deal in which each increased their ambitions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

China committed for the first time to cap its emissions by

2030, or earlier if possible, and to increasing the share of non-fossil fuels to 20% of the country's energy mix by 2030. The US will cut its emissions by 26 to 28% below 2005 levels by 2025.

The ambition is insufficient but the significance of this is the spirit collaboration, and the buy-in at the top. This is very different from the stand-off at Copenhagen, and subsequent negotiations being conducted largely by delegates. This creates the foundation for greater ambition in the near future when climate change will be biting harder.

The implication, of course, is that Australia is being left well behind when countries

with which we have important relationships are forging ahead, albeit slowly. Our 5% emissions reduction target is looking increasingly out of step.

ARRCC indeed holds it is deeply irresponsible, especially for a nation which is relatively wealthy and whose population has one of the highest carbon footprints per capita in the world.

The open letter, signed by prominent faith leaders in a range of traditions, is available at: <http://www.arrcc.org.au/open-letter-to-leaders-of-g20-in-brisbane>

**Thea Ormerod** serves as President, Australian Religious Response to Climate Change.

# Garry Weatherill to chair Anglican Board of Mission

By Elizabeth Baker

Bishop Garry Weatherill has been appointed as the new Chair of the Board of Directors for the Anglican Board of Mission – Australia (ABM).

Bishop Garry is currently Bishop of the Diocese of Ballarat in Victoria. He has been a member of the ABM Board for the past six years, first as the SA representative and more recently as the House of Bishops' Representative.

Bishop Garry is also the Chair of the ABM Partnerships Committee. In his spare time, he is Chair of the Liturgy Commission of General Synod and also chairs the Advisory Council for Anglican Religious Life in Australia.

Bishop Garry said, "I am very excited to take up this new role within ABM. The commitment of our young staff, the dedication of our traditional

supporters, growing links with new supporters and the rich relationships with our partner churches are really life giving."

"I am honoured to work with such talented, faithful and committed people as we seek to discover how God invites us to share in God's mission that the whole world might know love, hope and justice."

As the national mission agency in Australia, ABM is constituted by a Canon of General Synod, the governing body of the Anglican Church of Australia.

The Standing Committee of General Synod met on November 23 and appointed Bishop Garry for a term of three years.

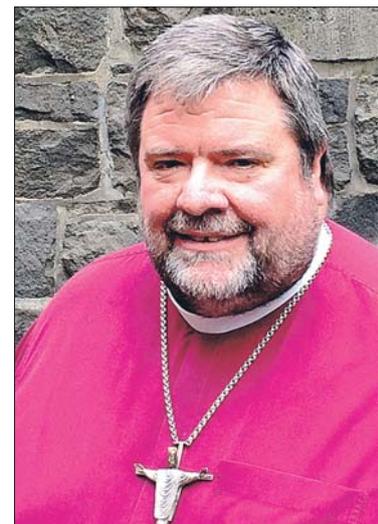
ABM's Board has 13 Directors comprised of provincial representatives

and skills base. A complete list of directors can be found at [www.abmission.org/board](http://www.abmission.org/board) and a history of ABM can be found at [www.abmission.org/history](http://www.abmission.org/history).

The Anglican Board of Mission (ABM) is the national mission agency of the Anglican Church of Australia.

For over 160 years ABM has been assisting people all over the world to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ, provide health and education services, improve agricultural practices and strengthen the Church.

**CHAIR:** (right) Bishop of Ballarat, Garry Weatherill, brings a long association with the Anglican Board of Mission (Australia) as he takes on his new role as Chair of the missionary agency.



## HISTORY

# Forward in Faith

## □ Centenary to Sesquicentenary in the Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn (Part 2)

### By Bill Wright

Ordinary, everyday events are the background to an understanding of the vicissitudes of life in the last 50 years. In 1964 the moon had not been stepped on by human feet, we were buying and selling goods in pounds, shillings and pence, measuring distance in miles, or in yards, feet and inches, gauging fluids in gallons and pints, being weighed in stones and pounds and reporting rain in inches.

Television was in black and white; God Save the Queen was the national anthem, and it was played at the end of movies at the cinema and when radio stations closed at about 11 pm. Town lights were extinguished at midnight. Cars had no seatbelts. Banks and Post Offices were open on Saturday mornings. Children in isolated areas received correspondence lessons. . Once familiar telephone poles and wires along roads have nearly all disappeared. Modern communication has brought many benefits with the electricity grid now embracing the countryside.

The duplication of the Hume Highway has significantly transformed the landscape and livelihood of the diocese leaving twelve towns and villages by-passed.

The long term benefits, now widely accepted, only came after periods of upheaval and distress to many. In one town in which there were five motor traders employing up to a hundred people (sales, repair, fuel), there are now none.

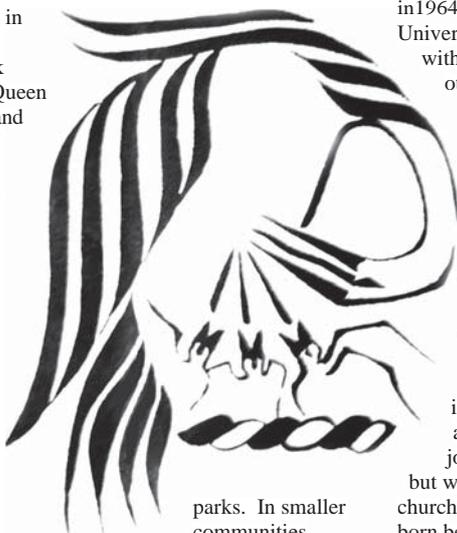
The Snowy Mountains Hydro Electric Scheme, completed in the 1970s, brought about transitions in the population, culture and economy of a number of communities in the diocese.

On the coast the dairying and fishing people have been joined by holiday makers, and retired people who choose to live by the sea. This has increased prosperity and also a greater understanding between coastal and inland people.

In country towns, business activity usually developed on, near, and along a main street. Typically you would find an emporium (large department store), bakery, butchery, clothing and shoe shops, cafes, hotels, garages, dentist, doctor, auctioneer, solicitor,

accountant, rural produce store, banks, court house, police station, post office, town hall, picture theatre, a war memorial, churches and a park.

Many of the buildings were architecturally impressive in style and proportion and still exist. Other buildings, like picture theatres and department stores, have been demolished and redeveloped as shopping malls and large car



park. In smaller communities whose population has declined, where they once had a police station, a post office, school, church, hotel, shop and garage, they now have only partial service or none. Some of the significant buildings in villages have been sold and converted to weekend homes, galleries or other use.

Anglican children living in isolated places in the diocese were able to have weekly Sunday School lessons by post through the Church Mail Bag School (CMBS). Two Goulburn ladies, Eva Rapley and Nellie Motte, conducted the greatly-appreciated school which in 1960 enrolled its 10,000th child. It closed in the mid-1970s after 40 years of service when the isolation of children was overcome by school busses.

In areas of growing population new parishes had small beginnings. Often a local school would be available for Sunday worship. As Canberra grew, town centres were established to serve the new outer suburbs. The Canberra Churches Centres was an ecumenical enterprise formed by the major Christian denominations providing facilities for worship and other church purposes. Centres were established in Woden and Belconnen in the 1970's and

later in Tuggeranong. Having served a very useful purpose the arrangement came to an end as the various denominations formed congregations and built their own churches in the surrounding suburbs.

In the Bicentennial year 1988 the Australian Parliament House was opened by Queen Elizabeth II.

The Australian National University was the only university in the diocese in 1964. Now there is the University of Canberra, along with the campuses of several other universities in the ACT. In addition there is the Charles Sturt University at Wagga Wagga and the NSW Police Academy at Goulburn.

Of a different kind are the modern Correctional Centres in the ACT and Junee.

The changes mentioned may appear insignificant but they affect not only our life's journey and situation,

but what happens in the church. Readers of this article born between 1980 and 1995, and aged between 34 and 19 (approximately) are known as Generation Y. In 2064, when our Diocese will celebrate its bi-centenary, the Generation Y's who are still alive will be aged between 84 and 69. The Generation Y's will be able to reflect back over their 50 years in a way similar to this article, which features the last 50 years. What is regarded as modern and trendy now will be seen then as quaint and out of date.

There is no way of knowing what the world will be like in years' time, but present day lifestyles and actions will have an effect. It is likely that human curiosity will explore deeper into space revealing greater meaning to the words of Psalm 19, "the heavens declare the glory of God". The often-used words of Jesus, "the kingdom of heaven is like ..." (e.g. Matthew 13: 24,31,33) provide plenty to reflect on in facing the challenges to our planet.

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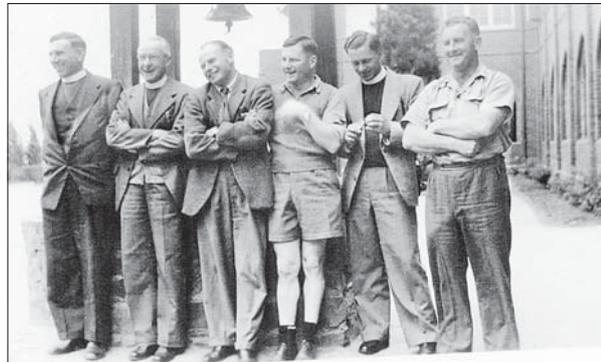


## FORWARD IN FAITH

### Centenary Prayer

*Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, we give thee humble thanks for the lives and work of those who, by the power of thy Holy Spirit, have laboured before us in this Diocese; Grant that we, who enter into their labours, may be inspired by the same Spirit to work with faith, constancy, and hope; Help us to see and correct that which is amiss in the Church of our day, and to extend and build up thy work of love, that all men may know thy peace, and thy name be praised for ever; Through Jesus Christ*

## Historybytes by Robert Willson



**WHO ARE THEY?** This photo was taken at Canberra Grammar School, but the details are unknown. We invite readers to suggest names, likely date, and perhaps even to name the occasion that brought the group together. (The Editor's guess is early 1950s, and could the man in shorts be Ken Crossley?)

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# Narooma parish opens doors to refugees



**SUPPORT:** The parish of Narooma rallied in support of a family of Sri Lankan refugees, seeking Anglicare's help to enable them to survive on the restricted benefits available to refugees.

## By Ian Coutts

A Sri Lankan Tamil family - Selva, Juliat, Lawrence and Maria - has been overwhelmed by the support from Narooma parish since arriving in Australia four years ago as refugees.

The family experienced extreme horror and trauma in their homeland. Selva witnessed close members of his family being killed, civilians being shot and was tortured himself on three occasions.

He still bears the physical

and psychological scars.

They fled Sri Lanka by boat. The journey took 27 days, the last four without food or water.

John Mordike, a member of St Paul's, an Anglicare supporter and a member of Amnesty International believes that this boat journey was a measure of their determination to find safety and a better life.

As a professional fisherman, Selva felt Narooma on the NSW South Coast offered the best possibility of work but after four years he is still

still waiting to receive his work visa, leaving him in limbo.

In a bid to help Selva feel part of the community, the parish approached Anglicare for a grant so he could grow a vegetable garden.

He did this but the ongoing strain of not being able to work, the limited availability of medical and support services in Narooma and escalating mental health issues meant that the family made the difficult decision to return to Canberra.

With the family on benefits

(refugees only receive 80% of the benefit rate) it was difficult to find an affordable rental property in Canberra.

Narooma Rector Carol Wagner put out an SOS and it was received.

A generous man offered his townhouse to the family for the same rent they were paying in Narooma.

The parish assisted with the move providing funds for a used car, new school uniforms and the hire of a truck to help move.

The family recently hosted a Sri Lankan feast to show their appreciation to the parish.

Carol Wagner said that the family coming to Narooma has benefited the parish community as it has deepened their understanding of the difficulties that refugees face.

The situation not only evoked compassion but also a sense of injustice and a desire that more could and should be done for refugees.

## Jamieson Apartments ready for occupancy by Christmas

The Jamieson Apartments at 43 Constitution Avenue, Reid ACT are approaching completion, with some residents planning to occupy their apartments before Christmas.

Phil Davies, Anglican Church Property Trust representative on the project, said that the completion has been "slower than we would

have liked, mainly due to inclement weather".

He pointed out that with the scaffolding now gone, the exterior finish is particularly pleasing with the sandstone and polished concrete façade providing a sympathetic finish within the St John's precinct.

"The interior finishes show a very high standard and attention

to detail," he added.

The Project achieved a Four Green Star accreditation from the Green Building Council of Australia, the first multi-residential building in the ACT to achieve this level of sustainability, and Phil Davies said that residents will reap the long term benefits of this work.

"I believe that this is project of which the Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn can be proud."

The redevelopment of the former Jamieson House site began three years ago, following a decision by the Synod of the Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn in 2010 to investigate options for the site. This investigation found that the land could be better utilised as a residential apartment development.

Sale of the residential units will provide an investment that will result in an ongoing income stream to help fund the mission of the diocese.

**INSIDE VIEW:** The interior of one of the apartments.



## POSITION VACANT



## St Luke's Anglican Church Enmore, NSW

Vibrant, inclusive, multicultural, inner west Sydney Parish - distinctive liturgical tradition, with traditional and contemporary elements, seeks a Rector. The current

Rector retires January 2015. Parish Profile available at [www.stlukenmore.org.au](http://www.stlukenmore.org.au), or on request to nominators at:

**E-mail:** [mjholle@bigpond.com](mailto:mjholle@bigpond.com)

**Tele:** Moya Holle 02 9660 3007

Ruth Champion 0400 166 941



**NEARING COMPLETION:** Some residents are planning to move into their new units before Christmas.

# Sharing the benefit

## Open the door to care for those locked into poverty

By Hannah McQuiggin

Throughout Lent in 2015, Anglicare will be hosting its second *Share the Benefit* (STB) event, a partnership experience between Anglican Parishes and Anglicare to bring home the meaning of poverty.

STB has two main aims. The first is to raise awareness of what it is like to live on government benefit rates and the second is to raise money to support the work of Anglicare.

"Share the Benefit allows us, in a small but powerful way, to experience the restrictions endured by many as they live with poverty" says Rev'd Ian Coutts, head of Parish Partnership Projects.

More information on STB can be found on Anglicare's website via: [www.anglicare.com.au](http://www.anglicare.com.au) or you can phone (02) 6245 7100.

Any funds raised will be wholly used for supporting parish based initiatives that address the needs of the people Anglicare serves across the Diocese.

Anglicare recently caught up with Braidwood Parish priest Peter Malone, who spoke about his experience of participating in Share the Benefit earlier this year.

**ANGLICARE:** Can you please tell us a little about yourself?

**PETER:** My name is Peter Malone and I was ordained a Deacon in the Canberra/Goulburn Diocese in February 2014. I serve in the Braidwood Parish and have a wife and two adult daughters.

**ANGLICARE:** How did you first hear about Share the Benefit?

**PETER:** I first heard about Share the Benefit from Anglicare CEO Jeremy Halcrow. We met at our local annual St Andrews Parish dinner where he was

the guest speaker and he subsequently emailed me about it.

**ANGLICARE:** Why did you decide to get involved?

**PETER:** I thought that it looked interesting and so I spoke with others in our congregation about it. We basically started from there!

**ANGLICARE:** Can you tell us what it was like participating in Share the Benefit?

**PETER:** It enabled me to reflect more deeply on those in our community who are really doing it tough. It opened my eyes to the everyday struggles of those who don't have access to sufficient funds to buy food and petrol and the many other things we take for granted. It made me think about how we can connect with these people more. I also thought that the Share the Benefit Bible Studies provoked good discussion and they enabled us to connect biblically with what we were doing as a social justice exercise.

**ANGLICARE:** For one week you had to live on a Newstart allowance; how did this affect your weekly spending?

**PETER:** It certainly reduced it! I was cutting costs and I had to be very conscious of the kind of foods and brands that I could afford. I even had to give up on chocolate! I also had to give up on the better quality foods and purchase the Homebrand equivalent of an item.

**ANGLICARE:** What would you say to

**SHARE THE BENEFIT**

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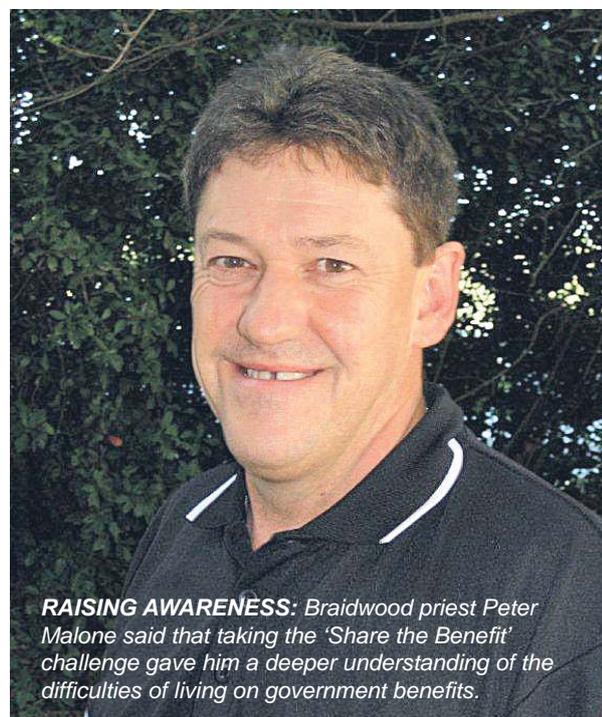
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**RAISING AWARENESS:** Braidwood priest Peter Malone said that taking the 'Share the Benefit' challenge gave him a deeper understanding of the difficulties of living on government benefits.

someone who is thinking about getting involved in Share the Benefit?

**PETER:** Share the Benefit is really worthwhile doing! It is an opportunity to open one's eyes to what the real needs are in the community.

**ANGLICARE:** Any final thoughts?

**PETER:** One of the significant benefits to me from Share the Benefit is, that having reflected on poverty in my own town, I was able to think about what I could do about it and how I could act differently. We have a charity that has been set up for emergency financial support for those in need. Share the Benefit really helped me to connect more with the people we assist each week and have more sensitivity towards their needs.

## Synergy contacts

**Synergy Youth:** [www.synergy.org.au](http://www.synergy.org.au)

**Synergy Youth Director:** Andrew Edwards, ([Andrew@synergy.org.au](mailto:Andrew@synergy.org.au); 6245 7101).

**Bathurst Youth Officer:** (vacant)

**Riverina Youth Officer:** (vacant)

**Synergy Youth Chairperson:** Ruth Edwards (contact via 62457101)

## CAMP PELICAN SUMMER 2015

**Camp Pel Years 5 & 6 - 11 to 16 Jan 2015**

Manna Park Merimbula  
\$330 covers camp and transport from Canberra  
For more info visit [www.synergyc.net/camps](http://www.synergyc.net/camps)

**Camp Pel Years 7 & 8 - 11 to 16 Jan 2015**

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**Camp Pel Years 11 & 12 - 4 to 9 Jan 2015**

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\$330 covers camp and transport from Canberra  
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