



A NEWSLETTER FOR THE CANBERRA AND GOULBURN ANGLICAN COMMUNITY

ANGLICAN NEWS

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Bishop Stuart walks with the cross

□ 2015 pilgrimage will cover South-Western towns of Diocese

Bishop Stuart Robinson will visit a number of rural centres across south western New South Wales carrying a large wood cross as Anglicans get ready to celebrate Good Friday on 3 April (*see itinerary on page 2*).

The cross is both large and heavy, over three metres long and weighs 12 kilograms.

This year's walk will be the third in the Bishop's three-year program, and by Easter he will have walked through at least part of every parish in the diocese during Lent.

He said that, in a world where beheadings, bombing campaigns and innocent people sitting in cafe's are threatened with violence, such a walk is needed now more than ever.

Although these events can seem far off to those living in country towns, the pain of violence, poverty, suspicion and exclusion are a lived reality for too many people.

"The cross is a symbol of reconciliation and hope," said Bishop Stuart. "Jesus carried his cross to help humanity live in peace and make a fresh start."

"I meet too many people who feel overwhelmed by their pain and powerless when confronted by the suffering of the world. The Good News is that the light has overcome the darkness and life can swallow up death because Jesus died and rose again," he said.



PILGRIMAGE: Bishop Stuart, shown here carrying the cross into Temora during Lent in 2014, has begun a similar pilgrimage in the south-west of the diocese during Lent this year.

Anglican ministers across the south west have played a key role in organising community events. Christians from all denominations and those just curious to know more about Jesus are particularly welcome.

"Many people have lost touch with Jesus and see God simply as a fairy tale or a cruel monster. Walking with the cross along the streets allows people to reconnect, not merely with Jesus but their own hopes for peace and reconciliation with family members and

the community generally. I'm always amazed at who comes along and gets involved," said Bishop Stuart.

Bishop Stuart will be visiting many towns over a six-week period and is often joined by many people who walking with the cross through their town.

In many locations, people will also be hosting dinners and barbecues to which everyone is invited. These events usually culminate with Bishop Stuart letting people know about Jesus and what he has done for us all.

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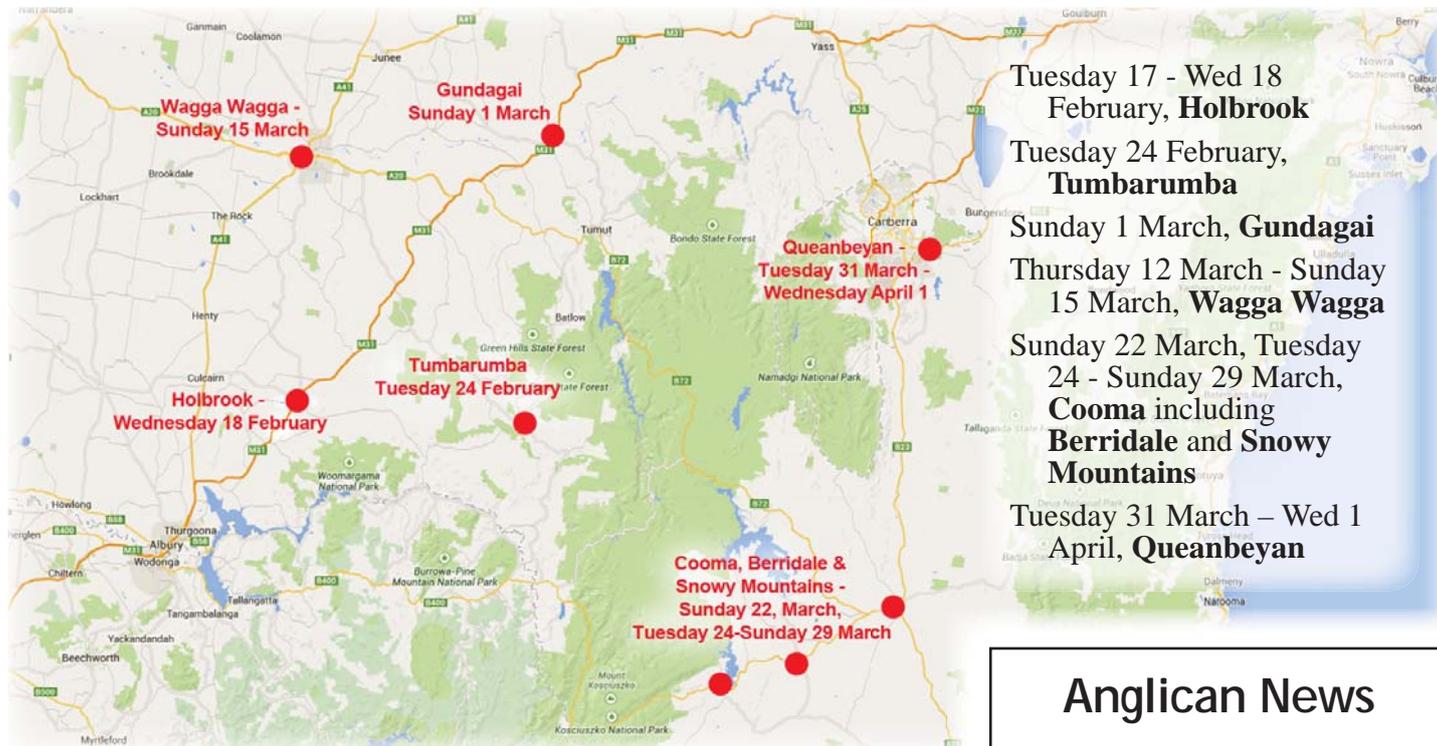
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Itinerary for Bishop Stuart's Walk of the Cross



Tuesday 17 - Wed 18
February, **Holbrook**

Tuesday 24 February,
Tumbarumba

Sunday 1 March, **Gundagai**
Thursday 12 March - Sunday
15 March, **Wagga Wagga**

Sunday 22 March, Tuesday
24 - Sunday 29 March,
**Cooma including
Berridale and Snowy
Mountains**

Tuesday 31 March - Wed 1
April, **Queanbeyan**

Clergy moves and appointments

- ◆ **The Reverend Theresa Angert-Quilter** recently has been selected as Area Dean Goulburn by her peers. We welcome Theresa to this role and thank **Canon Mark Cooper** for his outstanding contribution in that role for the past three years.
- ◆ **Mr Brian Champness** and **Mrs Alison Champness** have been appointed Joint Directors of Children & Families Ministry, F5 Ministry, Goulburn. Brian and Alison's Commissioning will be held on Sunday 15 March 2015 at the regular F5 Service, 5.00pm, St Saviour's Cathedral, Goulburn.
- ◆ **The Reverend Brad Lovegrove** has accepted the position of Assistant Minister, St John's Darlinghurst, Diocese of Sydney. Please do be in prayer for Brad and Louise as they embark on this very big move. They go with our blessing and warmest regards.
- ◆ **The Reverend Lynda McMinn** has been appointed Rector of Ainslie. Lynda's Induction will be held on Friday 10 April 2015, 7.00pm, All Saints' Ainslie.
- ◆ At the end of June, the **Venerable Bronwyn Suptut** will complete her term as Archdeacon of South Canberra. Bronwyn has been an outstanding Archdeacon and after three years in this role she will conclude this ministry (to focus on parish priorities) at the end of June.
- ◆ **The Reverend Dr Brian Douglas** has been appointed Archdeacon of South Canberra effective July 1. This is a part-time role. Dr Douglas will continue as rector, St Paul's Manuka.
- ◆ **The Venerable Paul Wallis** has been appointed Rector of Jamison Parish. Paul's Induction will be held on Thursday 9 April 2015, 7.30pm, Holy Covenant, Jamison.
- ◆ Please keep within your prayers the following people intended to be Ordained Deacon at St Saviour's Cathedral, Goulburn on Saturday 28 February 2015: **Ms Natalie Milliken, Mr Graham Morrison, Mr Andrew Robinson, Mr Craig Roberts, Ms Hazel Davies, Captain Judy Douglas, Mr Peter Kuot and Mr David Rajasekaram.**

Anglican News

A newsletter for the Canberra
and Goulburn Anglican
community

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F5 to host holiday Kids' Club

□ Goulburn's new Family and Children's Ministry team hits the ground running

By Lewis Hitchick

Brian and Alison (Ali) Champness have wasted no time in making a start on their new ministry of connecting with children and families in Goulburn at the beginning of February.

Appointed as Joint Directors of Family and Children's Ministry for the F5 congregation at St Saviour's Cathedral, the couple has already lined up a team of up to 50 youth leaders from Soul in the Bush to run an ecumenical, city-wide kids' holiday club in April.

The event also has the support of Goulburn Mayor, Geoff Kettle, who has booked and paid for Goulburn's new Veolia arena for the purpose.

"We want to reach thousands of boys and girls with the love of Jesus," Brian Champness said. "We feel God has opened up this opportunity, and we want to open the event to children from all denominations and show that Christian faith is fun and exciting."

Brian and Ali hail originally from Newcastle, and both have served as ordained pastors in the Assemblies of God Church. They had oversight of the AOG's Kids R Us program in the Hunter Valley for some years before moving to the UK in 2010 to take up a Children's and family ministry in an Anglican Church in Weston-super-Mare.

"It's a lively church with a very mixed congregation," Brian explained. "The vicar, Andrew Alden, has featured in the media as the Twitter Vicar, because he encourages his congregation to use social networking and particularly Twitter to share the gospel message with their friends."

In fact UK media outlets have quoted Andrew Alden as saying his congregations include "people from all walks of life ... doctors, dentists, a judge, entrepreneurs, police officers, convicted murderers, ex-pimps and working girls together with others who have been labelled down and out".

However, in the past decade the church has doubled its numbers, with



FAMILY-FOCUSSED: Brian and Ali Champness have made a running start in their new ministry with Goulburn's F5 congregation.

more than 400 currently worshipping in four different services.

As Assistant Pastors at St Paul's, Weston-super-Mare, the Champnesses worked primarily with children, both in schools and in a range of after-school and holiday projects - very similar to their present job description in Goulburn.

Brian and Ali have had a friendship with Bishop Stuart and Jane Robinson for many years - in fact Ali said she and Jane were school friends who have stayed in touch ever since.

"I met up with Jane last year in Sydney for a coffee, and when Bishop Stuart joined us the conversation moved to the F5 congregation in Goulburn, and then he invited us to join the team," she said. "We returned to England, where we considered the invitation and said that God would have to provide the money - and God opened the doors for us!"

Brian and Ali said that a number of Anglican Churches in the UK had been linking with the New Wine movement, a loose affiliation of churches which grew out of a number of conferences held in the UK by John Wimber in the late 1980s. When they asked about an Australian connection for New Wine, they were advised to contact "a person named Stuart Robinson".

"We took this as further confirmation

that this was the right move for us," Brian said.

As well as coordinating the holiday program in April, the Champnesses will be joining the ecumenical team of Scripture teachers in Goulburn to help take the Gospel into schools.

They are also planning playgroups for young families, an after-school kids bible club, and training opportunities to encourage and inspire other young leaders

In addition, they want to link with other churches around Goulburn, including small rural centres.

The F5 congregation has appointed the couple for a three-year term, with funding already pledged for the first year.

"We think it's exciting that the church has hired evangelists before pastors," Ali said. "We want to help develop the F5 congregation, to make it more family-friendly."

She quoted research showing that up to 85% of Christians had made a commitment before the age of 14: "This is our harvest field. In England we saw hundreds of children give their lives to Christ, and the church then continues to disciple these young people.

"Young people still have a heart for God," said Ali. "We just need to present the message in a new and relevant way."

FROM THE BISHOP

The cost of repenting and believing

Lent '15 began with the appalling news of the martyrdom of 21 Coptic Christians at the hands of their 'Islamic State' executioners in Libya.

The plight of our Coptic sisters and brothers was brought into clear relief and the world may finally be paying attention. These dear saints paid the ultimate price for – as Jesus enjoins his listeners in Mark 1 – repenting and believing the good news.

They died with the good news on their lips – that Jesus is Lord and Saviour; that the Kingdom of God has come near or is upon us. And in that I take great comfort.

The loving rule of God is being exercised in and through the Lordship of his Christ, our Saviour Jesus. Luke reminds us of this in Acts 8. The godly and righteous Stephen has been brutally murdered for his unwavering allegiance to Jesus and there on the side of the assassins is Saul - approving of all that he saw.

But the Kingdom is upon us. Saul is

transformed by his encounter with the risen Christ and himself embraces fully the cost of repenting and believing the good news. Or indeed as the Satan sneers and laughs on Friday, Sunday reveals that the Kingdom of God will not be thwarted and that Jesus is indeed Lord.

'As the Satan sneers and laughs on Friday, Sunday reveals that the Kingdom of God will not be thwarted and that Jesus is indeed Lord'

That's why I'm walking with the cross again this year (my third and final year). With clergy and local lay leaders and parishioners I'll be calling people on the streets and in pubs and schools to repent; to believe the good news.



Bishop
Stuart
Robinson

In Jesus, the Kingdom of God is upon us. And that is why I've invited Alison Morgan to lead our Lay Convention in May. Her task will be to inspire and equip members of our churches to live as effective disciples of our Lord and Christ and to invite others to repent and believe the good news.

I'm praying for a ground swell response. I'd like each ministry unit to be present with at least ten parishioners.

May the good news be on our lips, come what may, for the Kingdom – as evidenced by the Resurrection – is indeed upon us.

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SATURDAY 16 MAY 2015

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Session 1 - Called as disciples of Jesus
Session 2 - Living in God's story
Session 3 - Doing what Jesus did

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)

The Convention Costs are as follows:

Group of 5+ Registration (cost pp)	\$50
Full Convention Cost	\$60
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NEWS FROM THE PARISHES

Goulburn's *Messy Church* picnic

From the Cathedral Parish

The St Saviour's Messy Church Family had a fantastic picnic at Balmore Park in Goulburn on Friday 23 January.

It was a combined picnic for families from the Anglican Messy Church with Rev'd Theresa Angert-Quilter and the new family worker Razi Robinson together with the Uniting Church Messy Church under the care of the Rev'd Amy Kent.

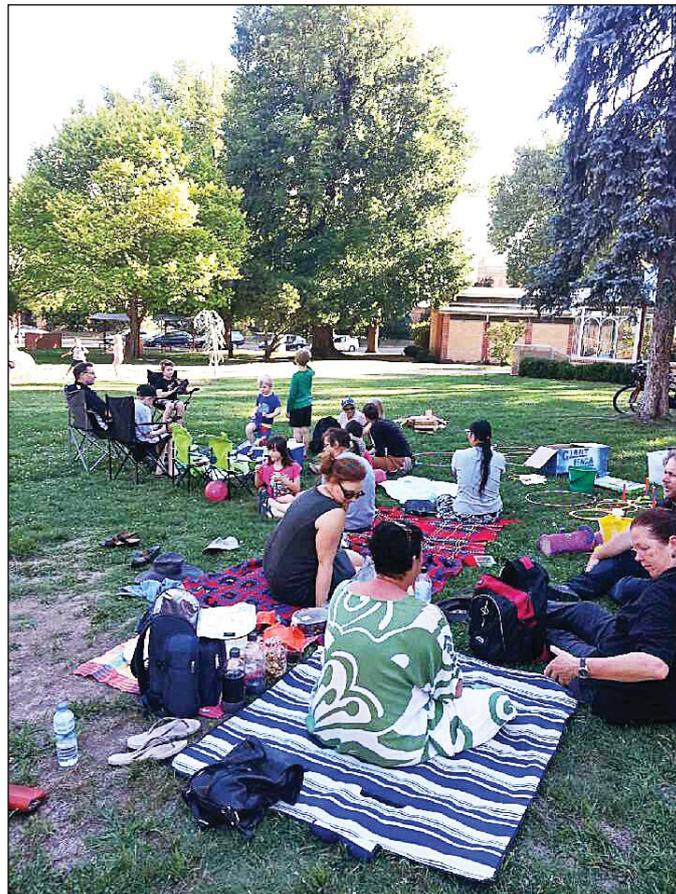
The idea was that during the summer when a lot of our families were away on holidays we would have a joint activity. The numbers were over 40 people and the congenial atmosphere was appreciated by all.

The children were remarkable in the way that they mixed and played with one another as if they had been friends for ages. In fact it is Goulburn and some of them are in school together.

Parents too had a great afternoon. While the parents didn't win the scavenger hunt, or drop the line of giant dominos or play the ball games, they sat around with their picnic baskets and discussed what is most near and dear to them: their children and their faith in a loving and good God who is always with them.

But if you looked carefully you would have seen a lot of parents blowing bubbles with as many as 50 big and little pots of bubble stuff, who would have thought we would have used them all. Messy Church started up again at St Saviour's on Friday 13 February from 4:30 to 6:30.

COMBINED PICNIC: (right) Messy Church groups from Goulburn's Uniting Church and the Cathedral combined for a picnic in Balmore Park.



A different approach to Christmas

From Murrumburrah Parish

What did Christmas conjure up in the minds of our community this year?

Gifts, shopping, end of year parties, Santa and the reindeers, making your list, snow-covered trees (in the Australian summer!), decorated houses, the anticipation and delight of Christmas morning – all exciting and part of our pattern of life.

The people of St Paul's Murrumburrah, trying to get closer to the reason for the season, held a different event on the Sunday before Christmas – a birthday party for Jesus.

On arrival, all children could choose to be dressed as characters or animals in a nativity scene, and joined the 'little baby lying in a manger' as Mary and Joseph, shepherds, wise men, donkeys, cattle and camels when their turn came in the tableau song.

The celebration included carols and Bible readings by the children and two quite wonderful stories – of Jesus' birth from the cranky Inn Keeper's viewpoint and of three trees who wanted personal greatness in their lives, but not achieving this, did in fact become part of a King's story in ways they could never have imagined.

After the celebration, a mountain of cupcakes, made by Mrs Joyce Powell, was lit with candles and everyone



JOINING IN: Children were invited to dress as characters (or animals) in the nativity story.

sang 'Happy Birthday' and shared these small symbols of our real celebration this Christmas – the gift of the Baby in Bethlehem who would save all people.

DIOCESAN NEWS

Franciscans focus on being in community

The year begins for the Third Order Society of St Francis in the Canberra region with our coming together and we each suggest and agree on our program and meeting venues for the year.

The focus is always on being in community so that in turn we can be strengthened and encouraged for all that we do within our families, parishes and communities.

Our threefold focus throughout the year is on worship centred on our Community Obedience and the Eucharist; following and interpreting Francis in our own time, so that we

can more effectively make Christ known and supporting and encouraging one another through the powerful bond of being members of a religious community while living and carrying out our normal occupations in our home towns/cities.

We will gather at St Saviours' Cathedral on Wednesday 25th March at 7.30pm for a Lenten study. This will be preceded by the Eucharist at 5pm followed by tea together. Our weekend retreat is set for Friday 10th to Sunday 12th April at the Gathering Place, Dickson A.C.T.

For those of us in the Wagga Wagga region we are planning to get together on Sunday 22nd March and as we go to press arrangements are being made.

Information and enquiries about our regional gatherings are available from Kathy and Graeme Dunn - email: katgrae47@ozemail.com.au or 'phone (02) 4822 1610.

For information about the Third Order email: minister.nswb@tssf.org.au or 'phone Fr John Gibson (02) 6161 2321

Anglican Historical Society autumn lecture

The Society will begin its 2015 program with the annual autumn lecture to be held at the Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture (ACC & C) on Sunday 29th March, 2015 at 3pm.

The lecture will be given by the Director of the Centre Rt Rev'd Professor Stephen Pickard.

Last year the Centre developed a vision, strategic plan and programs for

the coming years. The result is Four Pillars for the Centre to focus and revitalise the engagement of Christian faith with culture. The Four Pillars are: Wisdom through Civil Society; Creativity through the Arts, Sciences and Culture; Resilience in institutional life and ethical leadership; Peace through new religious engagements.

The afternoon will include a visit to the bible garden and afternoon

tea. The Society extends a warm invitation to you to join us. It will be a wonderful opportunity to see the Centre, hear about its exciting work and developments and a time to renew or meet new friends.

Enquiries and information about the Society is available from the Secretary, Alan Wilson. email: alan.wilson6@bigpond.com 'phone: (02) 6282 3213.

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Parish ministry role for Bathurst Bishop

□ Bishop Ian Palmer takes on part-time duties as parish priest to help meet Bathurst diocese' financial shortfall

By Lewis Hitchick

The Bishop of Bathurst Diocese, Ian Palmer, was commissioned as rector of the parish of Dubbo on Saturday evening, February 7.

Bishop Ian has taken on a half-time role as parish priest of the largest parish in the diocese, in addition to his responsibilities as diocesan bishop, because the diocese is no longer able to pay the full-time stipend of the bishop.

His commissioning service came at the end of a seven-day 'Pilgrimage of Prayer', in which Bishop Ian and his wife Liz walked the 200-plus kilometres from Bathurst to Dubbo.

Bishop Ian said that, while his trek had been inspired partly by the 'Bishop's Walk' from Dubbo to Bathurst undertaken by Bishop Ken Leslie in 1971 to raise funds for the completion of All Saints' Cathedral, his pilgrimage was not intended as a fund-raiser.

"Bishop Leslie walked *to* Bathurst, with a focus on the completion of the cathedral," he said. "Liz and I have walked *from* Bathurst, out into the diocese, as a symbolic gesture to show that the Diocese of Bathurst is there to serve and help the parishes as they serve the communities around them."

Arriving in Dubbo at 2.00pm



PILGRIMS: Bishop Ian and Liz Palmer on their 200-plus kilometre walk from Bathurst to Dubbo.



WELCOME: Archdeacon Frank Hetherington leads the Dubbo congregation in a round of applause to welcome Bishop Ian as their new parish priest.

on Saturday, the Palmers were both suffering sore feet and tired legs but still managed to walk into the grounds of Holy Trinity church with a spring in their step – and a great sense of relief.

In a service in the church four hours later, Diocesan Archdeacon Frank Hetherington commissioned Bishop Ian in his new parish ministry.

During the service, the Bishop also formally commissioned his recently-appointed Bishop's Registrar Karen Trafford, and licenced Darryl McCullough as Associate Priest in the parish. (Darryl had been serving as Priest Assistant in Dubbo since his ordination in September last year.)

In his sermon, Archdeacon Frank described the service as "a unique occasion": "It comes with a strong background of prayer and courageous action, shaped by the peculiar circumstances that we face in the Diocese of Bathurst at this time."

He pointed out that for the Bishop and Liz, one journey had just concluded and another one was just beginning, "not only for them but for this Parish and this Diocese".

He said that this journey was set against a background of the General Synod held in Adelaide in 2014, and particularly a document presented at

that gathering entitled The Report of the Viability and Structures Task Force

"This report is available to us all in print or electronic form," he said. "It provides uncomfortable reading. Section 8.035 states that *'The Diocese of Bathurst is beset with financial woes through over borrowing for schools. The future of this diocese is under a question mark. It may be able to keep going, but will it recover? Every diocese needs to learn from the Bathurst experience.'*"

"People are watching with us and praying for us. Our God is relational. We live within the Trinitarian experience of the God who Creates; the God who Redeems; the God who empowers through his Spirit.

"Is our experience through what we are doing tonight:

- ♦ a witness to that relationship?
- ♦ a witness to the Church?
- ♦ a witness to the community?
- ♦ a witness that we are people on pilgrimage with our Bishop?

"Are we rediscovering the meaning of service, rediscovering the meaning of our vocation, rediscovering, as Isaiah says, (Isaiah 40.31) that *'those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint'?*"

St John's reaches out to students

□ New evening service for 20-30 year olds

Students and young workers in their 20s or 30s are the primary target for a new Sunday evening worship service launched at St John's, Canberra, at the beginning of February.

Priest Assistant at St John's, David McLennan, said that the service is for those who are looking for something a little different. "Young people are often hungry for the liturgical flavour of Anglican worship, but also like a more interactive style of teaching than the traditional sermon," he explained.

Under the name of stjohs@6 is especially aimed at helping students and young professionals explore what being a disciple of Jesus is all about.

Offering a mix of traditional and contemporary church music, the services are "recognisably Anglican in their liturgical structure while providing opportunities "throw questions at the preacher" or discuss some of the issues raised.

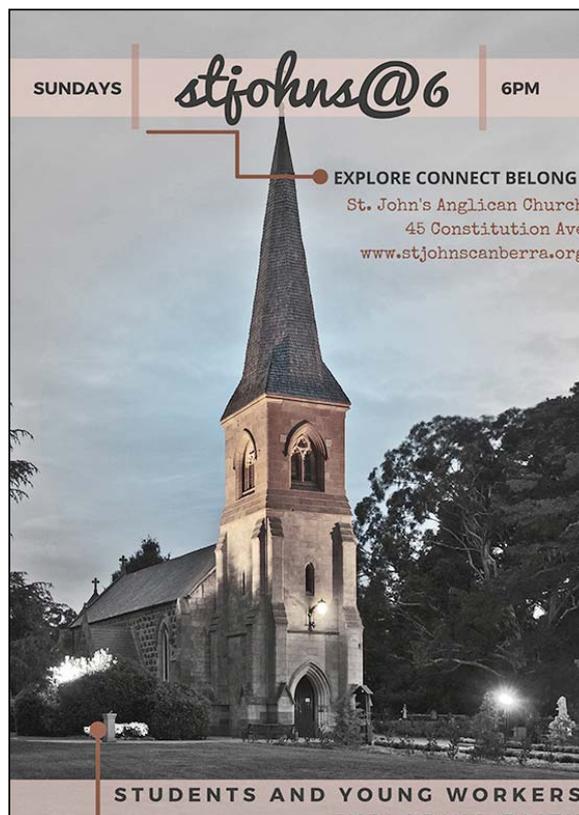
The service will also endeavour to develop a strong sense of community, through teaching centred on the life and message of Jesus.

The leadership team has already distributed flyers at the recent ANU Market Day, and is developing a connection with the ANU's Burgmann College.

"We'll also be encouraging young members of the church to spread the word through their own friendship networks," David McLennan said.

He pointed out that St John's is a highly visible church located in a central part of Canberra, attracting a lot of visitors and conducting quite a few weddings each year.

"The church has a magnetic pull for some young people, and this is what we want to build on."



PROMOTION: The parish has distributed postcards promoting the new youth-focussed service.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

St Mark's: more than theological training

Dear Sir,

Many years ago when I was Rector of O'Connor Parish we decided to have a Parish Council meeting in St Mark's Library.

For many members of the Council it was a revelation. They admitted that they had never visited St Mark's and were fascinated to inspect a rich resource founded by Bishop Burgmann more than half a century ago.

Four times each year the St Mark's Review is published and it should be much more widely read than it is. Does your parish have a subscription?

The latest issue, number 230, has a revealing collection of articles on "Preaching and sermons in Australian history since 1788". It is clear that many of these articles are written from

the perspective of the traditions of the Diocese of Sydney and of Moore College.

It is to be hoped that more study will be given to the theological traditions of the rest of the Australian Anglican Church. The sermons of Bishop Broughton and of Bishop Burgmann, at least those that survive, would make a valuable study. I attempted such a study 30 years ago but much more work needs to be done.

Father John Moses, professorial associate of St Mark's, has contributed a fascinating article on "David John Garland, Priest: 'A Triton among the Minnows'". Garland had an Irish "Bible-Believing" background and was converted to Anglo-Catholicism. This, according to John Moses, convinced

Garland that to be true to his ordination vow he must be a faithful minister of both word and sacraments.

Last year John Moses and George Davis jointly wrote a very valuable book entitled *Anzac Day Origins* in which Garland's role in the commemoration of the Anzac landing a century ago is studied in detail. This book was published by Barton Books. The article by John Moses in *St Mark's Review* is based on his extensive research into Garland and raises issues that Anglicans should think and pray about. Both the book and the article by John Moses are very timely.

Robert Willson
Deakin, ACT

Disciple-making in a busy world

□ When Jesus commissioned the Apostles to make disciples, he gave them a task with broad parameters. The one day clergy conference held early in February saw many leaders share some of their thoughts, initiatives and opportunities for disciple-making today.

Wayne Brighton reports:

‘Go out and train everyone you meet, far and near, in this way of life, marking them by baptism... then instruct them in the practice of all I have commanded you,’ were among Jesus’ final words to his followers (Matt 28.19-20 MSG).

Sometimes, instruction and not losing the faithful has been the overwhelming focus that the church has forgotten to go out to find the lost. At other times, it has been keen to go out but much less confident in how to train the people it meets.

In every age, culture and location, leaders find themselves exploring how they might deliver this great task among the people they live with.

The one-day clergy conference held earlier this month saw diocesan leaders share some of their thoughts, initiatives and opportunities for disciple-making today.

“One of the things that the Lord impressed upon my heart while I was away is that I personally need to be in the business of inviting people to know and enjoy God in Christ,” said Bishop Stuart, who returned from long service leave only a few days before.

“Only a day or two after I got back I was phoned by a reporter who asked me, what’s the plan for addressing decline around the church?” said Bishop Stuart. “I told him that three things were important: people, prayer and plans. The walk with the cross looks like a very odd thing to do but for me its afforded the opportunity to speak with people in the streets, pubs and even skateboard parks to take the Lord Jesus seriously.”

Bishop Stuart then spoke of some significant plans for the year ahead. “The Cathedral convention with Dr Alison Morgan (15 to 16 May 2015) is so important. We are the business of fulfilling the Great Commission and we need to do that in a creative and informed way. Alison is one of the most able disciple makers that I’ve ever met,” he said. “She’s passionate about people

coming to know Jesus.”

Bishop Stuart also indicated that more attention will be given to developing property around the diocese so that more income streams for ministry can be created. “When you hear me speak about development in the weeks and months ahead, it’s not because I’m excited about buildings but it’s so that we can release dollars for the sake of doing what the Lord has called us to do,” he said.



DIFFERENCE: Anglicare’s Ian Coutts challenged clergy to think about the difference they are making in the community.

Congregations can be reticent talking about discipleship because it sounds too dogmatic. Discipleship is not about control but people being able to engage with God and use their influence to shape the world accordingly.

Ian Coutts, leader of Anglicare’s parish partnerships program, challenged clergy to think about the kind of difference they’re making in the community. “I’m available to any parish that wants to think through these issues about how Anglicare can support parishes engage in God’s mission to those who are most vulnerable,” he said.

This was a view echoed by Matt Brain, the Diocesan Director of Parish Support, Chaplaincy and Mission, who spoke of Anglicare’s *Share the*

Benefit program that is now available to parishes. “It helps us look out into our communities and see what life is like for those who live with much less,” he said. Bible studies, liturgical materials and sermon tips are now available and over 20 parishes have signed up.

A critical but not necessarily obvious dimension for parish development is pastoral supervision. Peter Dyke, Manager of St Mark’s training organisation, explained that “supervision is not about power or management but learning how to work responsibly and competently. It’s about knowing how to equip others for ministry, especially pastoral care”.

Jonathan Holt, rector at Lanyon Valley, recently completed the course in pastoral supervision. He said it had helped by alerting him to the need to reflect on his own ministry, to be more intentional about his conversations and to provide guidance to help others in ministry.

Guerin Tueno provided an opportunity to reflect on the place of worship in discipleship formation by sharing some reflections from his doctorate about how Scripture is used by Anglicans in worship.

“The dynamic of Anglican services is one of conversation between God and his people. It is about God calling us and our response,” he said. Worship that uses this framework of invitation and response in Scripture lays the foundation for discipleship.

Scripture in Anglican worship extends far beyond merely using the lectionary. In a world where spontaneity is important and extemporary prayer is preferred, Anglicans are tempted to reduce the number of readings, drop the Psalm or cut Scriptural quotations from the service itself.

The worship event should “reflect the gospel of the Bible”, he said. “We are addressed by God, we confess our sins and are assured of forgiveness, we hear the Bible read, we respond in faith and then we pray for the world and the church, a permanent *lectio divina*.” If Scripture has the power to transform, the challenge is to present it, “in the most appropriate cultural forms,” he said.

Anglicare's role at new Googong school

❑ Innovative Anglicare and Diocesan partnership at the forefront of quality education

By Hannah McQuiggin

It was happy smiles all round as the Early Learning Centre (ELC) at The Anglican School Googong successfully completed its first month of operation.

The partnership between Anglicare and the Diocese of Canberra-Goulburn enables children to continue a high-quality education from as young as two-and-a-half years old until they finish school and marks the first ever Anglicare and Canberra-Goulburn Diocese partnership.

"The Diocese wanted to open an ELC alongside its new school and contacted us due to our experience in running ELCs," Anglicare Children's Services Manager, Sue Jennings said.

The Diocese has strongly supported Anglicare throughout the development of the ELC and members of the Diocese of Canberra-Goulburn were present at the opening; including Bishop Stuart Robinson who delivered the welcoming and closing prayer. While already strong, this partnership continues to grow.

"The relationship between the Anglicare ELC and the Diocesan school is just fantastic. It's a real partnership of sharing resources, conversation and training and it will develop overtime," Mrs Jennings said.

The ELC currently caters for 44 children in a variety of flexible care arrangements including before and after school care, vacation care, long day care and pre-school session for four



EXPERIENCE: The Diocese is drawing on Anglicare's ELC experience to set up the new facility at Googong School.

year-olds.

For more information please visit www.anglicare.com.au or www.tasg.nsw.edu.au.

Growing support for Lenten STB program

Ash Wednesday marked the first day of the 40 day Lenten fast and the start of Anglicare's *Share the Benefit* (STB) project.

Around 20 Parishes from areas as far apart as Broken Hill to Queanbeyan are already signed up and it's not too late to get involved.

Rev'd Ian Coutts, head of Anglicare Parish Partnerships Projects is encouraged to see Churches participate in the four week course which involves one week of living on a Newstart allowance.

"Share the Benefit allows us, in a small but powerful way, to experience the restrictions endured by many as they live with poverty," he said.

"I strongly encourage you to give this course a go."

There are a number of ways you can get involved in Share the Benefit:

1. Sign up as a group, family or individual: It is definitely not too late to get involved in *Share the Benefit*. Some parishes have even opted to participate later in the year, so you are more than welcome to choose a time which better suits you and your parish.

2. Encourage families and individuals: If you or your parish cannot get involved, please encourage families and individuals in your parish to participate. The Bible Studies even have different activities for families.

All money raised from Share the Benefit will be wholly used for supporting parish based initiatives that address the needs of the people

Anglicare assists across the Diocese.

If you would like to get involved in *Share the Benefit* or would simply like to find out more information please visit www.anglicare.com.au or contact Hannah via Hannah.McQuiggin@anglicare.com.au or (02) 6245 7119.

Newstart allowances for *Share the Benefit* 2015

Participant Category	STB Experience Week Budget**
Individual (Adult from 17 years+)	\$67.54
Couple (with no children)	\$110.36
Single parent with 1-2 children	\$74.28
Single parent with 3 or more children	\$76.32
Couple with 1-2 children	\$113.45
Couple with 3 or more children	\$115.50
Couple with 2 adult children (both on Youth Allowance of \$278.80 per fortnight)	\$167.64
For each additional adult at home, add	\$42.82

*This Newstart budget allowance has been calculated based on what would reasonably be left over for food after other expenses such as rent, transport and heating have been accounted for. Please note that this amount is correct for 2015.

Share the Benefit launched in Orange

❑ Parishes in Bathurst Diocese link in with Lenten compassion project

Several parishes in the Bathurst diocese have joined in Anglicare's Lenten *Share the Benefit* (STB) course following a promotion in Orange on February 3.

Ian Coutts, whose role in Anglicare NSW South, NSW West and ACT is to promote and develop partnerships between Anglicare and parishes, told a lunch-time gathering in Orange's Holy Trinity parish hall that STB was a Lenten program made up of four Bible studies followed by a week of living on welfare benefits.

"Those benefits are currently \$67 a week for a single person, or \$74 a week for a mum with two kids," he pointed out.

He explained that the idea of *Share the Benefit* had come from the Rector of the Sydney parish of Vacluse, who developed the concept as a way of helping his congregation connect with those who are most needy.

Ian Coutts said that six churches in Canberra – Goulburn diocese had tried the course last year, and "some were brave enough to actually try to live on the benefit – and for those who did, it was an absolute eye-opener".

"It's a really interesting experience to see what it's like to live on those particular rates just for one week," he added. "We'd be really interested to see how you get on with that, and to hear your stories about that."

However, he said the main reason for inviting people to 'share the benefit' was that it actually built compassion – "a word used by Jesus Christ many times in the gospels, a really powerful word".

"It's that understanding of what others feel like – we can't deal with a lot of things that professionals like Anglicare deal with on a day-to-day basis: some of the real heartaches and trauma, but this is one way that we can understand just a little



CHALLENGE: *Ian Coutts addresses the lunchtime gathering in Orange, encouraging individuals and small groups to take up the challenge of the Sharing the Benefit course. The course includes a set of Lenten Bible studies followed by a week of endeavouring to live on the welfare benefit.*

bit, some of the needs of some of the people who live here in this community."

The goal of STB is that any difference between the money that participants spend during their week of living on the welfare benefit, and the amount they would normally spend in a week, is given to Anglicare.

Ian Coutts said that Anglicare would try to ensure that any money raised would be returned to the areas it was contributed from, to grow parish/Anglicare partnerships or other creative projects that would help make a difference in the local communities.

He said that at that stage (two weeks before the start of Lent) about

20 parishes across the three diocese of Canberra-Goulburn, Bathurst and Riverina had committed to take part, "and we're delighted about that".

He pointed out that all Bible studies and resources for the program are available on the Anglicare website, making it very easy for any parish to join in.

Ian Coutts said that while the mission of Anglicare was to reach those who are most vulnerable and needy in our community, it was important that individual Anglicans and parish churches engaged in the process.

"As a church, we need to own our own sense of mission and responsibility," he said.

Author of *Good King Wenceslas*:

John Mason Neale's link with Mesac Thomas

By Robert Willson

Reading the life of Mesac Thomas, founding Bishop of this Diocese, I discovered that he was close friends with another Anglican priest, John Mason Neale, with whom he had studied in Trinity College, Cambridge.

They used to enjoy walking tours together in spite of the fact that Mesac Thomas was a traditional low churchman and John Mason Neale was one of the most advanced Anglo-Catholics in the Church of England. In spite of theological differences each respected the deeply Christian faith of the other.

Both men were members of the Cambridge Camden Society which Neale and a friend had founded in 1839. The aim of the Society was the study of ecclesiastical art. It soon began to issue a monthly magazine called *The Ecclesiologist*. The Society greatly stimulated interest in Church architecture and traditional Catholic worship and ritual, throughout the Anglican Communion.

Church Architecture

Mesac Thomas loved traditional architecture but very distrustful of ritual and ceremonial. When he visited Wagga Wagga in 1874, the local committee was planning a new St John's Parish Church and the Bishop spoke of his deep interest in church architecture, going back to his Cambridge days.

Church architecture is shaped by theological convictions and we cannot separate them. One only has to look at a Cathedral like St Andrew's in Sydney or St Saviours in Goulburn, designed by E T



Blacket, to see that the architecture speaks of the medieval Catholic tradition.

When we sing a great Advent Hymn like *O come, O come, Emmanuel*, (AHB 193), we should remember John Mason Neale, one of the finest scholars of the 19th century, a priest unjustly neglected today. In spite of poor health Neale ransacked the old libraries of Europe, searching ancient sources for fine Latin hymns such as *Christ is made the sure foundation*, (AHB 343), which he translated into magnificent English hymns. They are truly evangelical, helping to proclaim the everlasting Gospel. Neale also gave us that fine Christmas Carol *Good King Wenceslas*.

The Anglo-Catholic Revival

The Tractarian or Anglo-Catholic revival included people like Neale and Keble and Pusey. The work of such people transformed the

Church. We should never limit the term "evangelical" to just one party in the Church. The Anglo-Catholic revival has inspired missionary outreach all over the world and a deeper commitment to the Gospel, in a profoundly evangelical spirit. It is much more than just the wearing of the chasuble, as Dr Neale is wearing in this rare photograph.

In 1975 my wife and I drove to East Grinstead to see the grave of Neale, and the memorial to him dedicated by the Archbishop of Canterbury. There Neale had spent the last twenty years of his life as the Warden of Sackville College, an elderly men's home. His Bishop refused to give him any promotion and he was sometimes the target of riots by Protestant extremists. He founded a convent there known as the St Margaret's Sisterhood.

Professor Wesley Milgate of Sydney University wrote of Neale that one can only marvel at the achievements of this frail scholar, working quietly at the studies that unlocked the treasury of ancient liturgy and hymns which is the common heritage of all Christians. Sixteen of his hymns and translations are in the *Australian Hymn Book*. Neale also wrote a four volume commentary on the psalms, and a history of the Orthodox Church.

John Mason Neale, friend of our first Bishop in spite of their theological differences, died in 1866, aged 48. His memory lives on in his scholarship and in the hymnbook.

Further reading. St Mark's has some excellent books on this whole area and a search of Google will be very rewarding and informative.

Update on Bishop Ian Palmer

The Bishop of Bathurst, Ian Palmer, is expected to return to work next week after taking two weeks leave to recover following a surgical procedure in Orange Base Hospital on Monday February 16.

He had a stent inserted after an angiogram revealed a restriction in an artery in his chest.

The procedure followed what has

been described as a mild heart attack which he experienced two days earlier.

Bishop Ian has expressed his deep appreciation to all who have been praying for both him and Liz over the past fortnight.

He has also thanked people for not trying to contact him directly while he has been recuperating.

HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION

CALOUNDRA, Sunshine Coast,
beachside units, from \$300/week.

Phone 0427 990 161.

Mission begins in our own backyard

□ Young Anglicans share their visions for the church

From ABM

The Anglican Board of Mission has brought together young Anglicans from every state and territory in Australia to discuss their visions for the national church.

Trinity College in Melbourne hosted the group of 14 young people as they met together to pray, reflect upon the scriptures and share stories of mission from their local contexts.

The group also visited the intentional Christian community Urban Seed and spent time with the Brotherhood of St Laurence as they considered the long term legacy of Anglicans like Gerard Tucker, Frank Coaldrake and Eileen Heath.

Rowena Clark-Hansen who travelled from Tasmania to participate in the retreat said, "We came together in community to open our hearts to one another's stories and share our own. This has refreshed us for engaging in mission in our own communities and giving our lives to God by living them for others."

South Australian participant, Eric Smith said, "In previous years the church has been focused on far off places as recipients of mission, but we need to recognise that mission is about the church being actively involved in its own local communities."

According to ABM Education Missioner Brad Chapman, the retreat did not begin with any particular outcome in mind.

"Our intention was to create a space where young people within the church could listen to the stories of what God is doing in different settings within the national church. As we did that, we remained prayerfully alert to the possibility that God may be speaking to us through the insights that emerged," he said.

Among the themes that did emerge from the gathering was a powerful enthusiasm for Christian community. Questions were raised about how different groups interested in



SHARING STORIES: Retreat participants shared stories of what God is doing across the national church as well as praying and reading the scriptures together. Photo © ABM, 2015.

intentional Christian community might be linked together. Participants also spoke passionately about the need for churches to engage authentically with the broader community, with priority given to loving hospitality.

There was recognition of the importance of reflecting on the scriptures and praying together. The group lamented that sometimes the joy of God's presence can become muffled in the everyday activities of the church which accentuates the need to continue caring for one another and sharing the journey of discipleship together.

Many of the participants were alert to the decline of national conversations among youth in the Anglican Church of Australia, especially since the last National Anglican Youth Gathering in 2005. But despite this, a real sense

of hopeful enthusiasm was present throughout the retreat. The stories shared by each of the participants resounded powerfully with the words of the prophet Joel, that Sons and Daughters will prophesy and the young shall see visions.

ABM is keen to hear from young people who would be interested in contributing to a continuing conversation.

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.

Next issue of Anglican News

The April/Holy Week issue of Anglican News will be a traditional printed newspaper in tabloid format.

The deadline for copy will be Wednesday March 19, and the paper should be available in parishes by Palm Sunday.

As always, contributions from parishes, ministry units, agencies and individuals will be welcome.

REFLECTION

Study tour of Palestine with APAN

□ In January 2015 Claudia Hyles from St Paul's Manuka and Helen and Fred Rainger from the Cathedral Parish were privileged to be able to go on a Study Tour to Palestine with the Australia Palestine Advocacy Network (APAN). This is a national coalition of various groups including trade unions, Jewish groups, aid and development organisations, Palestine advocacy groups and churches. Bishop George Browning is President.

Claudia, Helen and Fred have each penned a short response.

Claudia Hyles

Gaza is a strange landscape. In green fields under the malevolent shadow of Israeli walls, shepherds tend their flocks in the same way as at the time of Jesus. Horse-carts vied with cars in crowded streets, cheerful men tended doner kebab rotisseries waving as we passed.

Then came the silence of the ruins, jagged concertinaed mounds of brutal concrete - homes, shops and businesses of innocent Palestinians reduced to rubble by devastating bombing. Even hospitals were reduced to this. The ruins breathed an unapproachable aura. Where would you start to salvage life and livelihood?

Saturday in Hebron was equally sobering - a city divided into two sectors after the Israeli army's 1997 withdrawal. 4,000 soldiers remain, explaining the continuing tension. Worshippers at the Ibrahimi Mosque must endure demeaning security checkpoints and parts of the old market precinct are closed to Palestinians.

Doors to ancestral homes have been welded shut, requiring occupants to scramble out back entrances and walk miles to shops or schools. Ancient olive trees, 2000 years old, have been wantonly burned. As a final indignity, Israeli settlers take weekly "walking tours", escorted by heavily armed soldier and overlooked by marksmen on nearby roofs. It is provocative in the extreme.

Helen Rainger

Having read much about Palestine and Israel in many different contexts, I felt that I would like to go to this troubled area and develop my understanding of various elements through seeing and experiencing, albeit on a limited scale.

Now, seeing parts of the wall and hearing details of its placement it is obvious that, as a feature of the Occupation of the West Bank, it is less about security and more about land. Palestinian individuals and whole villages and towns are cut off from agricultural land, much of which can end up in settler hands. The 4000 year old road from Jerusalem to Jericho is blocked just outside the city by the wall. The Good Samaritan parable would not now make sense; a certain man could not go down from Jerusalem to Jericho (without a permit - often not granted - and getting through the checkpoints).

I also very much appreciated visiting the Sabeel Ecumenical Liberation Theology Centre. Naim Ateek and others with him have been working for almost three decades towards "justice, peace and reconciliation in Palestine-Israel." Rev Ateek, whose written works I have enjoyed, celebrated the Eucharist with us on this day. The word Sabeel is Arabic for the way and also a channel or spring of life-giving water.



RUBBLE: El-Wafa Rehabilitation Hospital, Gaza - reduced to rubble by last year's bombing.

Fred Rainger

Al Haq is the Palestinian affiliate of the International Commission of Jurists. To understand more about the legal and strategic issues surrounding Israel's occupation of the West Bank including East Jerusalem go the Al Haq web site, www.alhaq.org.

Since 1948 millions of Palestinians have been displaced from their lands and homes. This means that four generations have lived in exile or in refugee camps in places such as Lebanon, Jordan and the Occupied Territories. In recent years tens of thousands of Palestinian Syrians have sought refuge.

After 1948 the United Nations Relief and Works Agency was set up to provide support to Palestinian refugees. It is funded differently from other UN agencies because it was not expected to be needed for very long! Sixty-seven years later its work is more crucial than ever but its funding is drying up and by the end of the year it virtually will have no money.

This is because some governments, including Australia, are reducing their funding to UNRWA and also because some pledges that were made after the Gaza war last year have not materialised. It is urgent that we all write to our Member of Parliament about this.

If UNRWA ceases to work, the spaces will easily be filled by militant organisations and because of the level of frustration among Palestinians they will find fertile ground for recruitment.

Is there a solution?

God bless Palestine. May the Spirit work, against all the barriers, to bring a just peace.

Too *fearful* to invite?

❑ Culture of fear is paralysing effective mission, says Back to Church Sunday pioneer

New research is being undertaken this year to shed light on why people do not invite friends or family to church.

And it is emerging that fears of rejection, losing a friend, or damaging a relationship prevent many from asking the question: "Would you like to come to our service on Sunday?" or even having a simple conversation about God.

Early findings of the research project, carried out by Christian Research, will be unveiled by Michael Harvey in a presentation entitled Developing a Culture of Invitation at Ridley Theological College Melbourne, on 4th March 2015 at 2000

"What we have discovered so far is that sublimated fears, perhaps related to previous rejections, are projected onto the church, with would-be inviters seeing it as unattractive, not 'fit for purpose' and unwelcoming," said Michael Harvey, who developed Back to Church Sunday – now part of the Season of Invitation initiative. Harvey, who describes himself as an "itinerant provoker", has held seminars around the world which focus on building a culture of invitation. He has written a book on the subject, due to be published in May.

Two themes emerge from Michael Harvey's research: the paralysing anxiety felt by Christians at the thought of rejection by friends if they invited



MUSCLE BUILDER: *Michael Harvey claims that the church has 'no muscle in the area of invitation and God conversations'.*

them to church and the number of Christians who do not recognise the Gospel imperative to "go to the people of all nations and make them my disciples" (Matthew 28:19).

"Over the past 11 years I have carried out more 700 focus groups (with at least 100 in Australia) and in the past 12 months 60 Season of Invitation training sessions around the UK, asking people why they do not invite," said Michael Harvey, a Research fellow at St John's College Durham. "I added a question – what is wrong with getting a "no"? I started to get answers revealing significant psychological reasons. It became clear that many people were

still dealing with previous rejection, not necessarily connected with church but life in general.

"We often see mission in terms of initiatives but unless we start to address that visceral fear we can do as many initiatives as we like and people will still be afraid."

Michael Harvey believes the environment is becoming much more hostile towards Christianity and that the Church has "no muscle in the area of invitation and God conversations" because it had little experience of actually doing it. However, he also believes the Church can change and adapt because many people could become solid inviters with support.

"I have found that more than two in every three people have someone in mind to invite," he said. "We need to better support the inviter – dyads, pairs of people working together to become invitational, is one area to develop. After all Jesus sent out the disciples in pairs, and let's face it, some of those had doubts."

Welcoming Michael Harvey to Ridley, Vice Principal Reverend Tim Foster said: "Many pastors have given up on invitation, thinking that it no longer works. But Michael has shown that it does, and he has some important strategies for overcoming the barriers and building confidence. Connecting people with our churches through invitation, giving them the opportunity to hear the gospel and see the life of the church is a vital evangelistic strategy."

A daily Bible reading blog for busy people

Are you too busy to do your bible readings every morning and night?

A free blog that will load on your mobile phone or direct to your computer might help to solve that problem. You can print it out and pop it in your bag or view it on your phone, tablet or iPad.

The project was developed by Lynelle Osburn, an Education for Ministry (EfM) student living in Harrietteville, Victoria, as a result of a theological reflection completed at an

EfM mentor training event in 2013.

It aims to bring the Common Lectionary to anyone so that people are all reading the Bible systematically, with a quiet time of prayer and reflection every morning and every evening - even with busy commuting and family lives.

The blog summarises the Bible readings for the day (including Sundays) and using a traditional collect form produces a prayer based on the readings. Each posting includes a photograph that

may assist with personal reflection.

In the last 12 months over 4,000 people worldwide have visited the site.

The blog is free, has no advertisements and requires no information about the readers.

It can be found at:

<http://www.morningeveningprayers.blogspot.com.au>

Or alternatively, the Education for Ministry Australia web page:

<http://www.efmaustralia.org>



Soul in the Bush coming to Canberra

Synergy Youth and Children is proud to be partnering with Soul Survivor ACT/NSW for *Soul in the Bush 2015* in Canberra from April 14-18.

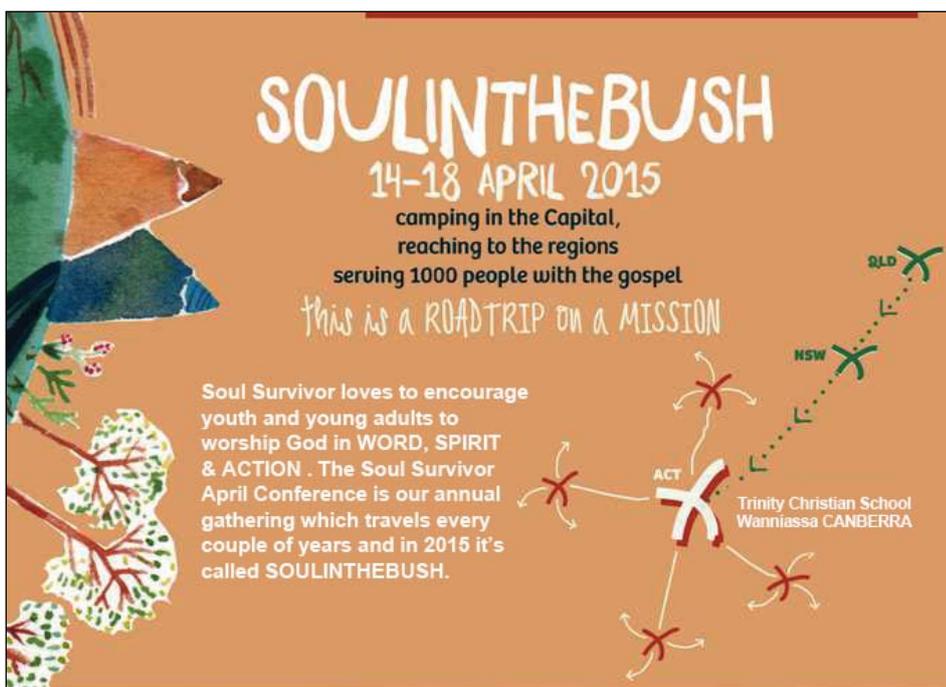
Wayne Brighton spoke with Deb Stanley to find out what it is and how Anglican youth from across the diocese are getting involved in this exciting movement that combines worship, service and teaching for young adults.

"*Soul in the Bush* is an opportunity for youth to get together so that they can share the gospel practically with rural communities. We've got service projects with churches alongside their young people to give them an experience of doing the gospel practically," Deb said.

Soul in the Bush will be camping in the capital using the oval at Trinity Christian School in Wanniasa to create a city of tents for some 500 young people from across New South Wales, Queensland and beyond. It targets people in their teens from Year 6 to Year 12 and there are lots of folks in their 20s involved, often as leaders.

A unique feature of *Soul* is that the event also includes social service. This year, this includes:

- ♦ building a boat shed in Wee Jasper for a ministry that runs camps for youth experiencing hard times;
- ♦ partnering with *beyondblue* to host



'blue runs' that will be fun and advocate help for mental illness including a run around Lake Burley Griffin;

- ♦ trips to Yass and Burra to work on a bunch of farming projects all designed to show God's love to a community.
- ♦ A combined kids holiday program in Goulburn.

"Good projects are all about relationships," explained Deb. "We want young people to be able to meet those they're serving and maybe pray for them. We want them to walk away with the names of people they've helped.

"The projects are also strategic, we want to help rural churches reach those they have a heart for and want to reach over the long term. Of course, people need to be able start and finish in three days so the kids feel like they've achieved something in their time with us."

Anglican Parishes across the Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn

have been instrumental in supporting and sourcing projects for this year's *Soul In The Bush* and Synergy is encouraging all our Anglican Youth to come along and be part of the camp.

"Our goal is to have an Anglican Youth presence at *Soul in the Bush* this year, we want to get as many young people as possible" said Synergy's Director Andrew Edwards. "It's an amazing opportunity to serve our community and share the love of Jesus and really make a difference!"

Registrations for *Soul in the Bush* close soon so don't delay joining in with Synergy and other Anglican Youth for this amazing week.

More information can be found on the Synergy website www.synergy.org.au by contacting Andrew at andrew@synergy.org.au or through the Diocesan Office on 02 6245 7101.

Registration Forms at <http://www.soulsurvivornsw.org.au/soul-conference/>



Synergy contacts

Synergy Youth: www.synergy.org.au

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

Synergy Youth Chair: Ruth Edwards (contact via 6245 7101)