

# ANGLICAN NEWS

a magazine for the Anglican Community of Canberra & Goulburn Vol. 34 No. 4 April 2017

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# Renew Begins in Greenway



Renew Anglican Church publicly opened on 19 March 2017. Steve Boxwell shares, "Ever since I was 18 I've been praying for Canberra. I've been praying for the Anglican diocese and I've been praying for a movement of the gospel in this city, such that 10% of Canberrans would be part of gospel-hearted churches of all denominations in my lifetime. That looks like a quintupling of the churches in this city. At the time I had no plans of living in Canberra, or being in ministry in Canberra... But here we are! With a stellar team, a small army of prayer backers and an excited mother church, Renew Anglican church has been birthed into South Canberra."

Renew Anglican Church's vision is to see Canberra transformed by the love of Jesus. Reverends Steve and Anna Boxwell gathered a team to start the church, which has been meeting and praying for the past 18 months. Most of the team members come from Lanyon Valley Anglican Church in far south Canberra, which was itself started 11 years ago by St Matthew's, Wanniasa.

The team has been learning more

about Tuggeranong, listening to the community, and considering their hopes, dreams, and fears. Anna Boxwell comments, "It's normal for all of us to pursue safety, security and purpose in things other than God's love for us in Jesus, but that will ultimately be futile. In light of what we're learning about our local community, we're seeking to shape each aspect of our church to demonstrate how the good news of Jesus meets all our deepest longings. The



love of Jesus brings supreme safety, joy, hope, and transformation."

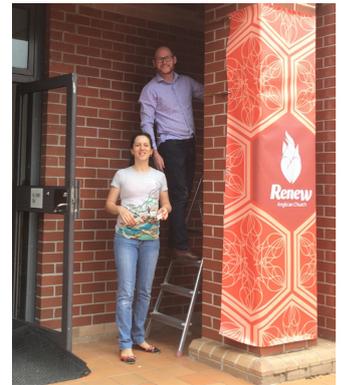
On launch day Steve preached on 2 Cor 5:16-6:2, noticing Jesus' loving death in our place and our ambassadorial response to a message

that extraordinary. Steve comments, "This has been a special passage for us as we've thought about starting a church for Canberra. Renew Church is an embassy of the Kingdom of God in the midst of a diplomatic town."

At the first public gathering Renew had about 40 adults and 20 kids. The new church is meeting in Lake Tuggeranong College in Greenway, right on the banks of Lake Tuggeranong, and has been having BBQs after church to raise awareness amongst Tuggeranong's dog-walking and active-wearing public.

As well as meeting together on Sundays, Renew has three Community Groups so far. These smaller groups meet weekly in homes, caring for one another, studying the Bible and praying, and seeking for God to use them to share the love of Jesus. Renew are also running a three-week introduction to what Christians believe, and a partnership course for people who would like to be part of the church.

Members of Renew, Tim and Marion McLaren (pictured top right), share about their involvement with this new venture: "We love and are also daunted by being involved in setting up a church and shaping



its culture. What a challenge and privilege! Renew is close to where we live, so inviting our friends and neighbours works quite naturally. We love how our kids enjoy church and feel a sense of ownership; we love our church family; and we are so excited to see Canberra transformed by the love of Jesus, because it's like nothing else in existence."

Renew is supported by the church planting organisation, City to City Australia.

Find out more: [renewchurch.org.au](http://renewchurch.org.au)

Please join Renew in prayer:

- We've begun our first intro to Christianity evenings using the course called 321. Please pray that those attending would hear the gospel, see it 'lived in' and come to faith.

- Pray for our church – that we'd be frank and fearless in holding out the message of Jesus' love.

- Thank God for the team of people who have counted the cost of starting our new church and are working at it with all their heart. Pray that God would sustain our efforts and we'd be quick to disciple others into service, for God's sake.

by Reverend Anna Boxwell



BISHOP STEPHEN PICKARD WRITES

# Forty Great Days



The period between Easter Sunday and the Ascension Day is traditionally referred to as the great 40 days. During this period the risen Christ appeared on numerous occasions to his followers. Ten days after Christ's ascension the disciples and friends were gathered for the celebration of the Jewish harvest festival 50 days after the Passover (Pentecost meaning 50). At this time the gift of the Holy Spirit became a living reality for the fledgling church.

The earliest recorded appearances of the risen Christ occur in altogether ordinary circumstances; you could easily miss the moment if you didn't have your wits about you, or more importantly, if you had not been moved by the Spirit to recognise the visitation of God. Two of my favourite appearances come immediately to mind. First, Jesus cooking fish on the beach as recorded in John's Gospel. His disciples eventually come ashore and are struck dumb, unable to believe their eyes. Jesus says 'come and have breakfast'. No fanfare, no glitz; not in the big city Jerusalem but down by the lake where no one will notice. The other appearance that I have an abiding love for is the Emmaus Road. Two dejected disciples trudging home; downcast and in grief because they had pinned their hopes on Jesus to deliver them and he had been crucified. A stranger comes alongside, engages them in conversation and is invited to stay. As the bread is broken at evening meal, the guest vanishes. In that

same moment the scales fall from their inner eyes and they now see with Easter eyes. Their hearts had been 'strangely warmed' (as John Wesley might have stated), or more accurately their 'hearts had burned within them'.

I imagine there were numerous other appearances of the risen Christ. Only a few have been recorded. Perhaps some have been missed altogether. Of course it is so easy to miss God's appearing. The reason is simple; we are dealing with the God of surprises. The great forty days are considered great not because they received top media coverage, or because something spectacular occurred in the public space, or because the manner of God's appearing was outrageous and demanded recognition. Rather the forty days are great because the same God who came to a stable among smelly animals and the subclass of society (shepherds), appeared again at the beach for a morning breakfast and on a road with some weary travellers. The days are great because they revealed

one who did not cling to equality with God but humbled himself and pitched his tent within the ordinary things that bind human beings together: conversation, food, homes, outdoor gatherings; as well as the disappointments, griefs and suffering of life. The great forty days are great because it was a time when heaven erupted in the ordinary.

The time between Easter and Ascension is a time to see the world through Easter eyes; to join with the risen Christ for the common good; to work for the well being of others and the life of the planet. We will need more than forty great days for this post Easter journey. On this journey God will continually take us by surprise. This is why gratitude and thankfulness are the bedrock for Christian discipleship.

*Bishop Stephen Pickard  
Executive Director  
Australian Centre for Christianity  
and Culture*



**Our Diocese is committed to holistic Safe Church Ministry. This means: we commit to our pastoral, duty of care, legal and insurance obligations; with the goal that all ministries are spiritually, emotionally and physically safe; based on the premise that Diocesan parishes and ministries should be person-valuing and respectful places free from abuse and harm, for ministry to God's glory.**

The Creating Safe Ministries program assists us to fulfil this commitment. Details of these can be found here: [www.anglicancg.org.au/pages/safe-communities-training-and-workshops.html](http://www.anglicancg.org.au/pages/safe-communities-training-and-workshops.html)

In May the Diocese will have access to an *Online Version* of the Creating Safe Ministries workshop through OpenLearning. Once the Online Course is ready to go, the Safe Communities Unit will be in contact with all parishes to give them information on how to access the course.

**Reporting Abuse Hotline: 1800 070 511**

AnglicanNews is a magazine for the Anglican community in Canberra and Goulburn.

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## Clergy Moves

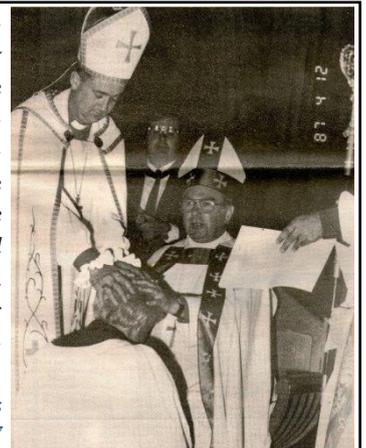
*The Reverend Michael Dasey* is retiring from Gungahlin Parish effective from 19 August 2017.

*The Reverend Colin Walters* is retiring from Batemans Bay Parish effective from 16 July 2017.

*The Reverend Jenni Willsher* has been appointed to the position of Rector at Woden Parish and in so doing has resigned as Head of St Martin's College, Wagga Wagga.

Thirty years ago, on Palm Sunday 1987, the first female clergy for the Anglican Church in the Province of NSW were deaconed in St Saviour's Cathedral. The three women were *The Reverend Ruth Mills*, *The Reverend Margaret Streatfield* and *The Reverend Daphne May*. This was an historic day for our Diocese and the wider Anglican community.

*The Reverend Ruth Mills  
being ordained in 1987*



# The Battle for Radford College



Photograph taken by Radford College student Amelia Meyers

Radford College, the third Anglican school to be founded in Canberra, was opened more than thirty years ago and is now strongly established. It was named after the fourth bishop of our Diocese, Lewis Bostock Radford.

Radford was born in 1869 and educated at St John's College, Cambridge, where he showed great intellectual promise. He was a convinced Anglo-Catholic in theology and his doctoral thesis was on Cardinal Beaufort.

Radford came to Australia as Warden of St Paul's College in the University of Sydney and in 1915

was elected Bishop of Goulburn. His first official act in Canberra was to consecrate the burial place of the late Major-General Sir William Bridges at the Royal Military College, Duntroon. His episcopate then saw the opening of Parliament in Canberra in 1927 but he had to resign a few years later due to ill health and died in Britain in 1937. His son Denys taught me classical history in the 1950s at Scots College and sometimes spoke to me about his father.

From the beginning Bishop Radford dreamed of the day when Canberra would be the See

city and he saw plans drawn up for a national Cathedral, dedicated to St Mark, the saint of Anzac Day, April 25. He was also determined to have Church Schools and in 1927 he dedicated the first section of the buildings of St Gabriel's School on Melbourne Avenue, Deakin, now the heart of the Canberra Girls Grammar School.

When a new Anglican school was being planned in Canberra in the 1980s the name of this fine scholar bishop was an obvious choice, but there were problems. Bishop Warren was not particularly enthusiastic about this project. An even larger problem loomed when various Trade Unions became alarmed at the growth of non-government schools and put a black ban on the site. For weeks the Canberra Times' Letters column was dominated by this controversy.

The then Chairman of the School Board, Dr TB Miller, made a fighting speech worthy of Winston Churchill. He said that if necessary the members of the Board would defy the black ban. He said that they would take off their coats and clear the site with

pick and shovel, but they would build the school! Some readers may remember what came to be known as the Battle for Radford College, more than thirty years ago. Eventually the bans were lifted and the school went ahead.

Today about half of all students in Canberra are educated at non-government schools and the two systems work happily together. Christians have an evangelistic mission to all schools.

REFERENCES: *The Canberra Times* 1983-1984 (on Trove search); Paul Radford, *A Scholar in a New Land*, Flinders University, Adelaide, 1979.

by Father Robert Willson



## Restoration of the monument of Bishop Christopher George Barlow Third Bishop of the Diocese of Goulburn, located at the General Cemetery, Goulburn



The grave a) before, b) after cleaning, c) after restoration.

By Archdeacon Emeritus John Gibson, President AHS

The late Mark Wagland, a member of our Anglican Historical Society, researched the life and work of Bishop Barlow and this was published in April 2015 in our publication *Journal No 59*. Our Honorary Diocesan Archivist, Mrs Diana Body, planted the seed for us as a Society to consider a new venture – the restoration

of Bishop Barlow's grave, referred to as a monument, and we are delighted that we responded with a unanimous "yes" to initiate and pay for this to happen.

The work was carried out by B & RK Doyle Stonemasons, Crookwell. Their professionalism and attention to detail has been of the highest quality and the work was completed within the time frame given to us. Work

included cleaning, repairing and re-dowelling the monument and re-pebbling the middle of the grave with weep holes to divert the water away.

The lettering which was in remarkably good condition and which was 'touched up' as required reads:

**CHRISTOPHER GEORGE BARLOW**  
 BORN DECEMBER 9TH 1859  
**BISHOP OF NORTH QUEENSLAND 1891-1902**  
**BISHOP OF GOULBURN 1902-1915**  
 A MAN OF RAREST SYMPATHY  
 AND MOST QUICK UNDERSTANDING  
 HE DREW MEN BY LOVE  
 BOTH AS PRIEST AND BISHOP  
 HE LABOURED ABUNDANTLY  
 TO BRING ALL MEN TO HIM WHOM HE LOVED  
 JESUS CHRIST  
 INTO WHOSE REST HE ENTERED  
 AT COOMA  
 ON AUGUST 30TH 1915.

# Empowering Missional Discipleship at St Simon's



In 2016 St Simon's (Kaleen/Giralang/Lawson) agreed to support a new model of pioneer ministry led by Assistant Minister Reverend Tracey Matthews. This was made possible through a small grant from the Pelican Foundation as it seeks to promote the development of Missional Discipleship across the diocese. This new model of

ministry is entitled *Engage* and builds on Tracey's ministry experience and academic research in recent years.

In 2015 Tracey was awarded the Beatrice Robinson Scholarship at St Mark's where she was completing a Master of Theology. This enabled her to research emerging models of missional discipleship in both the US and UK and con-

nect with a range of innovative communities.

This has culminated in the *Engage* model of missional community which she has been cultivating over the last six months. The model of mission is underpinned by the two great commandments that lie at the heart of the Christian way: to love God with heart, soul, mind and strength; and to love one's neighbour as one's self (Mk:29-31).

As Lesslie Newbigin said, "what the Lord left behind Him was not a book, a creed, nor a system of thought, nor a rule of life, but a visible community". Missional Discipleship is not a program or a method but a way of life.

*Engage* is underpinned by three core pillars of practice. **Transformative Spirituality** that changes, renews and restores us

to God from the inside-out. **Authentic Community** where we come as we are to share and live out our common life in Christ. **Prophetic Action** where we use our gifts to strengthen justice, healing and social transformation in our world. Held together, these three pillars promote a holistic faith that helps us to live out the two great commandments.

As part of this project around 20 parishioners have commenced a seven-month 'missional discipleship' journey. Tracey has designed a program that brings together contemporary missional theology and practice with a deep missional spirituality. The action/reflection model will empower parishioners to embody the gospel through missional discipleship that is contextual and conducive to everyday life. This will build on existing ministries at St Simon's and identify new pathways for incarnational mission.

*by Reverend Tracey Matthews*

## What's On



### alt-Jesus?

the Jesus you never knew

**Cross-city mission events with Dr. Sam Chan June 2-8**

Organiser: City Bible Forum  
Details: [www.altjesus.org](http://www.altjesus.org)

A series of events across Canberra designed to make it as easy as possible for believers to invite non-believers to a safe place where some of their issues can be addressed and the gospel presented.

### BOARD POSITIONS EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST INVITED

Expressions of interest are sought from people around the Diocese who are interested in serving on a Diocesan Board or Committee. If you have skills, expertise or interest in Education/Schools; Property Development/Management; Finance/Banking/Business; Trust Management; Risk Management; Environment; Social Justice & Welfare then we would like to hear from you.

If you are interested in serving the Diocese in this way please forward your name, contact details and an outline of your relevant skills/expertise/interest to the Registrar's Executive Assistant: [emma.body@anglicands.org.au](mailto:emma.body@anglicands.org.au).



### Diocesan Synod 2017

Our Diocesan Synod will be held from 6-8 October 2017 in Goulburn. This is owing to General Synod being held in early September 2017.



### Come Holy Spirit

A retreat inspired by songs and prayers of Taizé  
2 - 4 June 2017, Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville NSW

Surrendering to God's love is at the heart of the Christian experience. Come and spend this Pentecost in song, prayer, silence and sharing...where we come to a deeper awareness that our source of hope is in surrendering to 'a God who simply loves and can do nothing else, a God who never stops seeking us.' (Brother Roger of Taizé).

Cost: \$230.00 (discounts and concessions available).

For more information: Annemarie (0421 492 554) for the weekend's programme and carpooling options.

Bookings: Mount Carmel Retreat Centre - 02 8795 3400 or visit <http://carmeliteretreats.com.au/>