

ANGLICANNEWS

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SWAC HOLIDAY KIDS KLUB



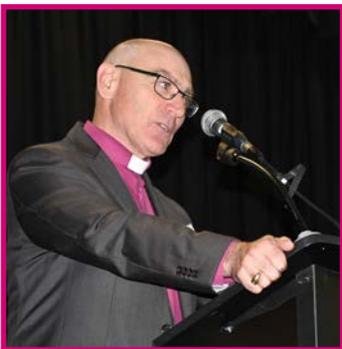
SWAC turns into a Hero Academy for their holiday kids club

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Bearing Fruit at Synod



Bishop Stuart opened the first session of the 46th Synod, after a reading from Colossians 1:1-14, by stating that he can say with great confidence that his dream, our dream, to see the love of Jesus transforming people and communities, has become a reality in so many contexts. He noted that, in accord with Colossians 1:6, the gospel is bearing fruit and growing then shared many stories of personal transformation and conversion from across the Diocese.



Bishop Stuart also acknowledged the hard work of parish ministry, that great endurance and patience is required (see Colossians 1:11), and in recognition of the ground being so exceedingly hard in so many places he reminded the gathered Synod of his simple strategy of 3 Ds that has been brought to the three

sessions of the 45th Synod – deployment, debt and development.

We heard of the 56 clergy ordained throughout the last five years who have grasped the truth that God has 'rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the Kingdom of the Son he loves in whom there is redemption and the forgiveness of sins' (Colossians 1:13) and are actively promulgating this, as evidenced in the stories of transformation shared. Bishop Stuart then provided a sobering overview of the debt owed to the survivors of historic abuse and the measures underway to address it, including the creation of the Property Development Commission to generate an income stream from the development of historic assets.

Following the Bishop's Charge, Trevor Ament, Registrar of the Diocese, presented the Bishop-in-Council overview and report of the ADS operations, focussing on professional standards and the work being done in response to recommendations from the Royal Commission, the work underway to identify and assess the various risks facing the Diocese and the mitigation strategies in place, the consideration being given to the need to expand the pool of those willing to serve on Diocesan Boards and an

update on the Anglican Diocesan Services and its activities.

Bishop Matt then elaborated on the theme of bearing fruit in his section of the Bishop-in-Council presentation, and how the Diocesan dream is progressed in the parishes, chaplaincy units, exploratory ministries and community chaplains throughout the Diocese with each of these diverse agencies collaborating to reach a great number of different people. He outlined some of the ways people are being nurtured in the Diocese through training to maintain safe communities and in the ways that we might move beyond viability to growth through the development of leaders, by maintaining presence in areas where ministry is difficult to sustain, by exploring new models of ministry, addressing debt and making our structures work for us. Synod heard stories of the parish partnership between Lanyon Valley Anglican Church and Anglicare, the strength



of collaboration in Arawang and of parish renewal in Temora, as examples of how fruit is being borne in our diocesan life.



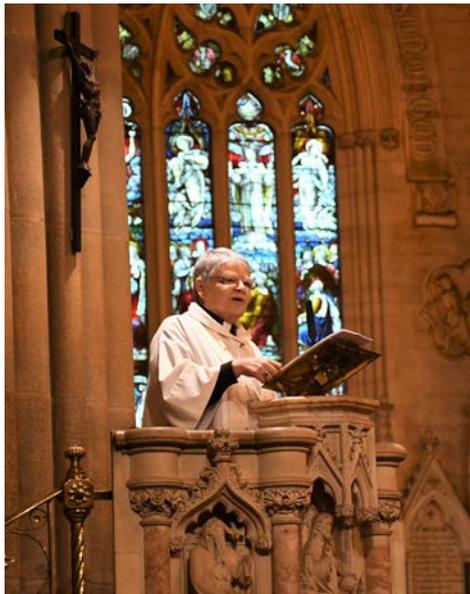
In the final section of the Bishop-in-Council presentation Archdeacon (Emeritus) Anne Ranse spoke on the Episcopal Task Force on Older People and Ministry, informing Synod that the work of the task force has heightened the awareness of the needs of our older people both in the gathered faith community and in our parish community around us and across the diocese.

From Ven (Em) Anne Ranse:
'Just as God asks us to be his means of hearing the cries of the poor, so too he wants us to hear the cry of the elderly. We must re-awaken the collective sense of gratitude, of appreciation, of hospitality, which makes the elderly feel like a living part of the community ...'

Anne reported to Synod that for future action, in response to the



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women who were ordained to the Priesthood 25 years ago, The Reverend Canon Gill Varcoe preached the sermon at the Friday evening Synod Service. The sermon text was Colossians 1:15-29, and Canon Varcoe shared the wonder that God himself should bend to come among us, that we have been rescued from the power of darkness and welcomed into the Kingdom, invited into relationship with this King of kings and Lord of lords who holds all creation together, and challenged the congregation that what Jesus, who doesn't get to be our Saviour unless he's also our Lord, is seeking from us is deeper trust and dependence. We were further exhorted that God invites us, reconciled to him, to join Him as he works to reconcile others to himself.

main recommendation of the task force, a person will be appointed by the Bishop to convene a team of people committed to this ministry. This team will continue to work on those recommendations that still require attention and to safe guard the work of the Episcopal Task Force on Older People and Ministry and progress the awareness of the needs of us all to be welcoming places of community that offer to all spiritual support, care and love.

In recognition of the ordination to the Priesthood of a those

Two recently-Priested women, The Reverend Judy Douglas and The Reverend Emma Street, led the bible studies on Saturday and Sunday morning. The Reverend



Judy Douglas taught from Colossians 2:1-9 and highlighted that Christian maturity is two-fold and seen in a growing knowledge and understanding of Christ and his gospel and also in bearing fruit in good work and character, in lives abounding in thanksgiving. The Reverend Emma Street shared from Colossians 2:8-15 and reminded us all that the life of the disciple centres primarily around fellowship, expressed in word and deed, principally with Christ and, flowing out of that relationship, with one another, and urged that we forsake false

teaching and pale imitations of spirituality for the wonder of the 'real thing' in Christ.



In line with the resolution passed at Synod 2016, a new *Episcopal Election Amendment Ordinance 2017* was presented to Synod and a new process for electing a Bishop was agreed to by this ordinance. This and other Synod ordinances, as well as other material referenced in this story and yet to come can be found on the website at <http://anglicancg.org.au/our-diocese/governance/synod/synod-2017/>



Three New Honorary Lay Canons of the Cathedral in 2017

This honour is conferred by the Bishop on up to three lay persons in the Diocese each year in recognition of their outstanding service to the Church and Diocese. The recipients this year are:

Dr Ian Grant for outstanding leadership and service as the founding Principal of The Riverina Anglican College (1998-2016) and to Anglican education.

Mrs Jill Hodgson for some 20 years of outstanding leadership and service with the Anglican Historical Society as a Committee Member and the Tours Officer and in rural parishes especially Boorowa and Young.

Mr Garry Thorpe for over 30 years of outstanding leadership, mentoring, advocacy support and development of online services with youth and young adults particularly in establishing Basement Ministries, Synergy Youth and participation with Camp Pel.

Lay Canon of St Saviour's Cathedral Responsibilities Expanded

Bishop Stuart endorsed the appointment of Lay Canon of St Saviour's Cathedral, *Mr Robert Arthur*, and appointed him Canon Liaison Officer between the Cathedral and Anglican Diocesan Services in all matters financial and material.

Clergy Moves

The Reverend Paul Baxter has been licensed as Hon. Joint Chaplain, F5 & F10 Community, Goulburn from 15.10.2017.

The Reverend Robyn Baxter has been licensed as Hon. Joint Chaplain, F5 & F10 Community, Goulburn from 15.10.2017.

The Reverend Canon Paul Black has been licensed as a Canon in Residence at St Saviour's Cathedral, Goulburn from 6.10.2017.

The Reverend Andrea de Vaal Horciu has received an Authority to Officiate with specific responsibilities for 'Embracing Ministries and Chaplaincy work with Anglicare' from 19.09.2017.

The Reverend Rebecca Newland has been elected by her peers Area Dean, The Coast, from 27.09.2017.

The Reverend Doug Newman has been appointed Rector, Batemans Bay and will be inducted into that role on Thursday 14 December by Bishop Trevor.

The Reverend John Thomas has resigned as Rector Young Parish effective from 26.11.2017.

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

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St George's Pearce Celebrates 50 Years



Irene Copping cutting the anniversary cake, with Minister Jason Clift looking on.

Nobody minded discussing their age on Sunday 20 August, as St George's Anglican Church celebrated its 50th birthday, with special guest Bishop Stuart Robinson.

It was a happy occasion with thankfulness to God for the last 50 years, and a growing sense of anticipation for the future. Testimonies were heard from children who have become Christians through the ministry of the church, and from former members who are now mission-

aries. Photos covered the walls of memories from the past. Bishop Stuart preached from Hebrews 12 about always looking to Jesus. 'Great is your faithfulness' was sung with great gusto.

In 1967, the church began meeting in school halls, and moved in 1983 to its present building in Pethebridge Street, Pearce. A special anniversary cake was cut by the oldest member of the church community, 97-year-old Mrs Irene Copping.

St George's has three Services

a week: a contemporary family gathering on Sundays at 9.30 am; a traditional Communion Service on Wednesdays at 10 am; and a Dinka language service (for South Sudanese) on Sunday afternoons.

A growing 'Kid's Church' runs each week for pre-school to year six children in school terms, as well as 'On Point' for High Schoolers. Popular 'Super Saturday' kids outreach events draw together primary-aged kids for a fun afternoon of activities and stories about Jesus. Support is given to mission overseas (Peru

and locally through SUPA club, CEIS, a playgroup and craft group making items for Operation Christmas Child. St George's also holds a 'Christianity Explored' course for people interested to investigate Jesus, as well as the Alpha 'Marriage course'.

The St George's vision is to show Christ in the community, so that he is honoured as Lord and Saviour. We pray that our activities may continue to express and fulfil this vision.

by *The Reverend Jason Clift*
For more information, contact: jason@stgs.org.au, 0410185565



Ageing with Grace in Holbrook



"Everyone gets older: plan to do it well." This was the tagline for an information day called *Ageing With Grace*, held by the parish of Holbrook on 8 September. This is now the second year the parish has run the conference, with last year's inaugural event proving so successful that it won the Murrumbidgee Local Health District's Chief Executive's Award, edging out a number of other worthy contenders.

The day covered various aspects

of ageing including legal, accommodation, government support, home help options and more. A variety of speakers from Holbrook and beyond gave helpful presentations, and other organisations had information stalls and handouts. The day was well supported by the Greater Hume Shire, with the Mayor giving a formal welcome and the Shire paying for all advertising. Reverend James Coats was heavily involved in planning and organ-

ising the day, as well as emceeding the sessions and giving a presentation on Ageing and Spirituality. The day was a resounding success with all speakers doing a fantastic job and nearly fifty attendees enjoying informative and entertaining presentations (not bad for a town of 1400, although last year we had over seventy!). Feedback from participants was thoroughly positive, including a number who particularly valued the spiritual input.

We are grateful to God for the wonderful success of this day

and the magnificent example of the church being able to instigate such a positive event in the community. We are grateful for the good that was done in helping people learn more about the many issues related to ageing and the services that are available. Most of all, we thank God that people were able to hear the good news of Jesus and the importance of knowing him. Please pray that this might sink in, such that people would truly age with (God's) grace.

by *The Reverend James Coats*



**Safe Ministry
eTraining Induction**

The online Safe Ministries eTraining course is now here. This course is an alternate way of completing your Safe Ministries Workshop.

For more details on completing your workshop online visit: <http://anglicancg.org.au/safe-ministries/safe-communities-unit/safe-communities-training-and-workshops>

Commissioning of The Reverend Michael Palmer



The Reverend Michael Palmer and his wife Petra have exchanged the parish of Vaucluse in Sydney for a new multi-tasking role in Eden.

Michael will be a Uniting Church Minister of the Word for two days a week, a Mission to Seafarers Chaplain one day per week, and an Anglicare Rural Chaplain for two days per week on the Sapphire Coast, joining The Reverends Lou Oakes and Anthony Frost. This rural chaplaincy position is being

sponsored by Anglicare to help support the work of Emergency Relief in Eden and Merimbula and a ministry among vulnerable young people and homelessness in Merimbula. This was the Commissioning and Welcome Service for Michael and Petra at St. John's Anglican church, Eden on 30 September. The picture is of Michael holding his licence from Bishop Stuart, which was handed over by Archdeacon Carol Wagner on behalf of the Bishop.

by The Reverend Ian Coutts

SWAC Hero Academy Holiday Kids Klub

During the last school holidays South Wagga Anglican Church was transformed into the SWAC Hero Academy, with more than 50 children participating in our annual Holiday Kids Klub. More than 30 volunteers from our parish, and eight members of Dapto Anglican Church (from the Illawarra) joined together to offer the three-day program that connected with families, many of whom don't normally attend our church. The children learned about Jesus, the true hero, who had the power to heal the sick, calm the storm and even conquered sin and death itself.

During each day of the holiday club we held a pop-up café to allow parents to connect and enjoy some time out. On the Sunday we turned our normal worship ser-

vice into an all-in family service where the children were engaged through drama, memory verses and the story of the gospel. We finished off our Sunday celebrations with animal balloons, face painting, jumping castle and a BBQ.

This adventure is an important part of our parish vision to connect with children and families in ways that are meaningful to them. We want families to be able to see church as a joyful and Christ-centred community that provides everyone with a place to belong. And we want to ensure that there are clear pathways of connection for every age group to connect with Jesus and the church.

by The Reverend Scott Goode



The Diocese and Anglican Diocesan Services have an updated website where you can find news and information. Visit us at: anglicancg.org.au

What's On

Leaning into the Spirit

discernment, decision-making and reception

4TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON RECEPTIVE ECUMENISM

6 - 9 NOVEMBER 2017, CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA

For more information visit the ACC&C website



St Mark's Open Day

LEARN MORE ABOUT STUDYING AT ST MARK'S

Online and On Campus

ONLINE: Wednesday 1 November, 12pm to 1pm
ON-CAMPUS: Saturday 4 November, 9am to lunch

ONLINE OPEN DAY

We're hosting an Open Day that you can attend — right from the comfort of your living room!

Come join us online as we take you through a tour of St Mark's. Take a virtual tour of our Canberra campus with our resident guide, speak to lecturers, learn about our courses and find out how you can deepen your faith and enhance your work and ministry by studying with us.

PLUS, you'll get to have a feel of what it's like to attend lectures and study online by attending this Open Day using our learning platform, Adobe Connect.

ON CAMPUS OPEN DAY

Join us at our annual Open Day, where you can interact with staff and learn more about studying with St Mark's

Each year, we fling open our doors so you can learn more about studying at St Mark's.

Come take a tour of our serenely beautiful Canberra campus with our resident guide, speak to lecturers, learn about our courses, and find out how you can deepen your faith and enhance your work and ministry by studying with us.

Busy family day? Bring everyone along! Children are absolutely welcome.

For more details and to RSVP, visit stmarks.edu.au or call 02 6272 6252

