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St Paul's Burra – 150 at last!



Honouring the Past, Embracing the Future

During the weekend of 19 and 20 May 2018 the community at St Paul's Anglican Church, Burra gathered to celebrate 150 years of serving the region from the (now fully restored) little stone building on Old Cooma Road.

A bit of history ...!

St Paul's is situated on a parcel of land gifted by the Campbell family in 1853. Construction of the church commenced in 1867 and it is understood that the Bishop of Goulburn, the Right Reverend Mesac Thomas, opened the church on 18 May 1868. The establishment of a village at Queanbeyan during the first part of the 1800's provided the focus for local businesses as well as church and community organisations. In the early years the church at Burra served a growing farming community attracted to the region, which promised good pastoral or agricultural land.

Consecration – after 150 years, really?

Yes, having served the local community in its own inimitable

style for 150 years, the building has, until now, never had the honour of consecration. Not that this has posed a problem for its congregation – and never fear this does not mean that prior to this weekend the baptised are unbaptised, the wedded unmarried or the deceased not really so – serving the community is not limited to the status of the bricks and mortar.

However, the 150th anniversary was seen as an ideal opportunity to correct this oversight. A weekend of celebrations was scheduled, starting with a garden party on Saturday 19 May in the grounds of the church as a way of acknowledging the involvement of the broader community in its rich history. A cool but sunny autumn day dawned and around 150 people were welcomed for afternoon tea with folk representing past and present connections with St Paul's and the Burra region. Many descendants of early settlers of the region travelled from near and far to attend, as well as folk who had other connections to the church. Also in attendance were descendants of the Right

Reverend KJ Clements (former Bishop of Canberra and Goulburn), and descendants of Reverend Kenneth Crossley (former Rector of Queanbeyan), both of whom led the centenary celebrations in 1968 at St Paul's.

A foggy start to Sunday 20 May didn't discourage upwards of 140 people packing into the church or taking up seating outside to witness Bishop Trevor Edwards

and Reverend Ruth Walton lead the congregation through a service of consecration. By strange coincidence it seems that the reading selected, from 1 Peter 2:4-10, was also the passage used in the very first service in 1868 led by Bishop Mesac Thomas.

Following the service a lunch was provided at The Anglican School Googong. Huge thanks to St Paul's parishioner and Burra resident Kate English who had the vision and talent to coordinate events on both days, supported by the local community and the St Paul's congregations. And you should have seen the cake (take a look at the photo!).

May 20 2018 has finally seen the oversight remedied, but it would seem that this will make little difference – the people who gather at St Paul's will continue, as always, to get on with the job of being the church in our community – honouring the past and embracing the future.

by Reverend Ruth Walton

1. If you are interested in reading further on the history of 'St Paul's Burra', Peter Johnston has written an excellent article which can be found in the Anglican Historical Society Journal No. 18 (October 1994).



Bishop Trevor writes...

Maintaining Unity

Coping with divisive conflict within a Christian congregation is a debilitating experience. Moreover it vitiates any sense of being the good news of the love of Jesus for the broader community. As a bishop ordained to be a focus and agent of unity I have sadly had to intervene in a number of ministry units to try to restore peace and harmony. While our trust in Christ means we are in the process of being inwardly transformed by the Spirit of God, our ongoing brokenness still asserts itself in many ugly ways which constantly threaten our unity as the body of Christ and mar our witness.

It was like this in New Testament times. In Corinth, for example, there were parties ranged around different teachers: the rich did not care about the poor and those with more spectacular gifts looked down their noses on those with less obvious contributions. Since Christians are no dif-

ferent now to then, we will face the same pressures. If they were tempted to polarise around different teachers with particular emphases, we might also create unhelpful factions. If they succumbed to the temptation to regard some members as more important than others, then we might do the same. If they turned legitimate devotional practices into mandatory practices as touchstones of orthodoxy, we will face the temptation to build theological mountains out of biblical molehills and so be suspicious of those who have come to different conclusions before God about things which don't ultimately matter for eternal destiny. The examples can of course be multiplied as we experience the clash of different personalities and perspectives in our congregations.

We therefore need to heed the strong command to keep on sparing no effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of



peace (Ephesians 4:3). In God's sight we are already one through our faith in Jesus, whose death has broken down the racial, social, sexual and generational barriers between us. However, this unity needs to be constantly realised in our daily living by cultivating Christ-like attitudes and behaviour towards each other.

If there is to be peace in our relationships we need to, above all, imitate the humility and gentleness of Jesus. These two despised ancient qualities were transformed by him from vices into virtues. Humility is recognising the worth and value of others above mere self-interest. It is placing a high value on what is best for others. While gentleness is the controlled strength of people in whom self has died and whose life is fashioned by the Spirit, so they are not easily

provoked, accept hurt from others without bitterness and do not insist on their rights.

These two attitudes produce patience and loving forbearance. Patience is the spirit which refuses to retaliate. I like the story of the Year 1 teacher who had just finished putting the last pair of galoshes on her thirty pupils, when the last girl told the teacher they weren't hers. So the teacher removed them only to hear the little girl say they belonged to her sister who had lent them to her. The teacher quietly and without fuss put them back on her pupil. Now that's patience! It is the spirit which bears the sheer foolishness of others without irritation. It is longsuffering towards aggravating people just like God-in-Christ has shown us. All these relationship words culminate with bearing with one another in love. We need to remember Christ's love for us was unselfish, uncalculating, forgiving and accepting. It was costly self-giving service.

In short, if we are to maintain the unity of Christ's body every one of us needs to seek God's help to act like Christ to each other.

+Trevor

Clergy Moves

The Reverend Mark Beresford has resigned as Rector Charnwood to join the team at Mosaic Baptist Church in Belconnen.

The Reverend Peter Blundell has resigned as Rector of Tumut to take up an appointment in the Diocese of Bendigo.

The Reverend Alison Champness has been licensed as Hon. Assistant Priest Ginninderra Parish.

The Reverend Brian Champness has been licensed as Rector Ginninderra Parish.

The Venerable Paul Cohen has been licensed as Archdeacon North Canberra and will be installed in that role at the Cathedral at an appropriate time.

We congratulate *The Reverend Dr Ian Coutts* who has been elected as the 10th Bishop of Bunbury, WA.

The Reverend Owen Davies has been granted an ATO.

The Reverend Jill Elliott has retired as Chaplain Bill McKenzie Gardens.

The Right Reverend Dr Sarah Macneil has been granted an ATO.

The Reverend Tracey Matthews has been licensed as Pioneer Priest linked to the Parish of Kaleen-Giralang-Lawson (part time).

The Reverend Steve Nation was ordained priest and licensed as Assistant Priest Wanniasa.

The Reverend Neil Percival has been licensed as Rector Young District Anglican Church.

The Reverend Andrew Taylor was elected by his peers Area Dean, Belconnen Deanery, and has been licensed accordingly.

The Reverend Murray Woolnough has been licensed as Senior Chaplain, NSW Police Force Academy, Goulburn.

Contributions to Anglican News are very welcome

We love to hear stories of things happening in your parish that highlight our dream of a Diocese in which the love of Jesus transforms people and communities. If you have a story to submit please send it to: alison.payne@anglicands.org.au.

Embracing Ministries Visits Gundagai

On 3 June Andrea and Deb, from Embracing Ministries, came to Gundagai to help our parish conduct our very first Family Service. Andrea preached at our traditional 9.00 am service and then opened their treasure boxes for our Family Service at 11.30. They had lovely, appropriate crafts for the children to do, gorgeous lively songs, prayers for the children and adults and ways for everyone to join in. It was a delightful service and I know that it has inspired us for our ongoing ministry.

In the afternoon members of our local Baptist Church joined us for a workshop led by these talented women on Inclusion in our Churches and Children's

Ministries. It was a great blessing and I know that it made me identify those who already attend our church with special needs and think about ways to include them even more effectively. After the workshop our team felt encouraged and equipped to continue these services. We are already looking forward to when Embracing Ministries returns to give us even more tips and encouragement.

This visit was perfectly timed not only to coincide with our first Family Service but our new disabled-access door which was started this week, so we hope to be even more inclusive in the future.

by Reverend Wendy Bloomfield

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

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Latest Update from the EENC



Dear friends in Christ,
The Episcopal Election Nominations Committee (EENC) has now completed the consultation phase and the Diocesan Profile and Episcopal Selection Criteria.

During the consultation phase we conducted eight workshops across the Diocese, in Canberra South, Cooma, Bega, Batemans Bay, Canberra North, Goulburn, Young and Wagga Wagga. 294 parish members participated and at each workshop members of the Committee were present. In addition, an online survey was available to all parishioners from 20 April to 14 May to which 444 people responded. The Reverend Sandy Jones, who is acting as a consultant to the Committee, facilitated the workshops and the survey and provided a summary of the outcomes.

We most gratefully acknowledge the time and thoughtfulness which all participants devoted to this consultation process. The outcomes, together with interviews with Diocesan leaders, Diocesan agencies and retired

and serving bishops, have been used to prepare the Diocesan Profile and the Selection Criteria. We have earnestly and prayerfully evaluated the many and wide-ranging opinions and messages, carefully taking note of whether particular views were expressed by a small minority or by a range of respondents. We believe that the result fairly represents the input given and will prove helpful to all parties involved in this process.

The Diocesan Profile and Selection Criteria have been circulated to members of Synod and are now available on the Diocesan website. On 2 July 2018 Members of Synod were invited to propose the names of persons for consideration as Prospective Nominees. We are thankful for your prayerful support for the Committee in its work and encourage you to continue to pray for the Committee, the Synod and Prospective Nominees as we work together towards a successful Electoral Synod in November.

I close with one of the prayers

prepared by the EENC:

*Heavenly Father,
We thank you for your steadfast care of your people.
Guide us by your Holy Spirit as we seek our next Bishop,
One who should be, as your Word teaches us, above reproach, hospitable, self-controlled, prayerful, and eager to seek your will.
We pray for one who holds firm to your Word and to the doctrines of your church.
We thank you for each ministry unit of this Diocese*

Thank you for the people of our church and in our local communities.

Let us be prepared to partner with our new Bishop in proclaiming the gospel in word and deed.

Help us also to love each other and, together, seek lives and communities transformed by Jesus' love.

*In whose name we pray,
Amen.*

Yours in Christ
*The Venerable David Ruthven
Chair*

Fledgling Arawang Stretches its Wings



The newly amalgamated Parish of Arawang (St Stephen's All Souls') has stepped out in faith to play its part in community outreach. With its own financial stability yet to be determined, the Parish has made a conscious decision to deploy a share of its resources to support marginal ministries and the needy. So far this year, the Parish has made substan-

tial funds available to Alexander Maconochie Centre chaplaincy, Canberra Hospital chaplaincy, Anglicare and the Tathra bushfire appeal. Trusting God to ensure the Parish future, this outward focus is a deliberate statement of confidence in the Parish's ability to bless its community. We praise God for His many blessings.

by Denis Riley

Bev Cameron Retires From Young District Anglican Ministry



Gathered at Bev Cameron's farewell L to R: The Reverends Ian Marshall, Peter Edridge, David Hill, Canon Bill Pryce, Bev Cameron, Canon Peter Bertram and the Right Reverend John Parkes

On the 15th of April Bev Cameron was farewelled after 32 years as Parish Administrator

in Young District Anglican Ministry. Many Parishioners and Clergy who have served

with her gathered to celebrate her significant ministry. Her retirement plans include travel and time with family and friends, as well as continuing as a part of the St John's community.

Clergy who have served in the Parish sent their thanks, good wishes and prayers to the farewell and some travelled to personally wish Bev a happy retirement.

Former Rector, Bishop Jeffrey Driver, wrote:

'In Anglican ministry it is usually expected that the clergy will model dedication and spirituality. In the Parish, then ministry district of Young, as clergy have come and gone, there have been others who have

modelled that same dedication and spirituality. Bev Cameron has been one of those very special people. She has done her administrative work diligently and well. That is almost taken for granted. But beyond that, she has been a figure of pastoral continuity, quiet care and commitment over many years.

As Bev retires, my prayer is one of thanksgiving for all that she has been in the parish and community of Young, and in retirement that she may experience rich satisfaction, continuing deep relationships and more than a tad of fun.'

Those gathered heartily agreed!
by Reverend Ian Marshall

Camp Pelican Needs Your Help



Camp Pelican's campsite, Wambiri, is out of action due to the bushfires in Tathra earlier this year. This means we need to move venues this coming Summer and that brings a significant increase in our costs for camp.

These are costs we simply cannot meet on our own. We need your help to enable our camps to operate this coming summer.

Camp Pelican has a long history (nearly 40 years!) of creating spaces where young people can meet Jesus and hear the Gospel. Every year we have the opportunity to share Jesus with more than 120 young people through our camping ministry who either meet Jesus for the first time or are strengthened and encouraged in their faith.

We're seeking to raise at least \$7,500 to cover the rise in camp costs for food, accommodation, transport and activities for a 5 night/6 day camp and keep prices affordable for campers to attend.

Would you please partner with us through our 'Sponsor A Camper' campaign to enable us to run our summer camps?

If you would like to give directly you can do so by:

Bank Transfer

BSB: 702389 Account: 05209871
Name: Donations
Reference: Your Name

Credit Card online

www.synergy.org.au/sponsor-camper

Parish Giving

Mark your envelop 'Camp Pelican' and place your donation in your church offering.

All support is welcome, including donations from individuals, families and from parishes, as well as anyone who'd like to champion our cause by sharing our need with their parish and organising a fundraising event.

A video and support resources are available to help you share our need with your church community and ministry connections. These are available on our website at www.synergy.org.au/support or by contacting Andrew Edwards at andrew@synergy.org.au or 0437 883 122.

If there is anything I can do to help you, please be in touch. Thank you so much for partnering with us to create spaces where children and young people can meet Jesus!

Andrew Edwards – Director of Synergy Youth and Children

Anglicare Winter Appeal Help Warm the Hearts of those in Need!



Just after Christmas, Ashlie's partner left, leaving her alone with her young children. She struggled to meet the costs of getting the kids ready for the new school year as well as the everyday challenges of living and parenting. 'I didn't want to ask for help but I had to. It was amazing how Anglicare got me through. The kids got what they needed when I couldn't provide for them on my own.' When all seemed lost, Anglicare's local community centre provided Ashlie and her children with food as well as practical and emotional support.

Community Centre Manager, Roanna, knows first-hand the vital role Anglicare plays in vulnerable communities. "There is a desperate need for emergency food assistance. We meet around ten requests for food every week at our centre – that's all we can do right now, due to funding limitations ... But if we had more

funding, we could assist more families. There are kids out there that are hungry because their parents cannot afford to feed them. There definitely are. When I think about some of the clients we have assisted, they say – "My kids don't have any school food. My kids haven't had any breakfast. My kids haven't been fed for two days. I need help."

Anglicare urgently needs donations to meet the needs of vulnerable families through the cold winter. Your donation can now have TWICE THE IMPACT thanks to our Gift Matching Fund. Two generous donors are so committed to making a difference, they have agreed to match incoming donations, dollar for dollar.

If you give today, you will know that your donation is doing twice the good! Donate online at www.anglicare.com.au or call 6278 8400.

What's On

To see other events, including a singalong at the Cathedral, and also positions vacant in the Diocese visit the Diocese web page at: <http://anglicancg.org.au/news-and-events/>



Join us for a screening of For the Love of God, followed by Q&A with two of the film-makers: John Dickson and Natasha Moore.

Tuesday 18 September 6:30pm - 8:30pm
Capitol Cinemas, Manuka, Canberra
citybibleforum.org/city/canberra/event/love-god-canberra

The Real **Australian** Mission Conference
Saturday 11 August 2018
9am – 3pm
Village Church, Annandale

To find out more or book visit
bushchurcaid.com.au/conference

Hear from
The Very Revd Kanishka Raffel
Dean of Sydney
& BCA Field Staff from across the country

Saturday 11 August 2018
9am - 3pm
VILLAGE CHURCH
Cnr Johnston and Booth Streets
Annandale

\$45 per person
\$40 for students which includes morning tea and lunch.

Reaching Australia for Christ since 1919