



FROM BISHOP TREVOR



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OAKS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

Celebrating St Paul's Manuka's 80th Birthday



BY DARYL MORINI

Photo by Canon Paul Black

This day in the life of our parish felt at once momentous, triumphant and filled with the sounds of proverbial trumpets announcing the ineffable but definite quality of the historic in our midst. It was a day whose coattails you sought to seize, to grasp and pin down—though you weren't quite sure how or why.

In one of the sweetest moments of the morning, the Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, a gentle and elegant figure—whose stiff posture and familiarity with a shovel hinted at his years of service as an Officer in the Infantry—stooped down to playfully help barely-upright toddlers pour soil onto the roots of a timid sapling promising to one day grow into a mighty oaken giant.

As the Governor-General remarked prior to ceremonially 'planting' the meticulously pre-positioned sapling on the church lawn, oaks are cited numerous times in the Bible. In the Old Testament, the

oak is synonymous with strength and is rich with ceremonial associations. One of the most memorable references to the species is to be found in the prophet Isaiah's famed metaphor: 'They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of his splendour.' (61:3)

What are the qualities of those upon whom this title is bestowed by God? Upon closer reflection, their traits are not listed as specific virtuous qualities so much as actions. Righteousness, in this passage, is a verb. 'They' are called righteous who proclaim good news to the poor and the release of prisoners from darkness; comfort those who mourn; provide for the aggrieved; bestow joy upon those in despair; rebuild ancient ruins; and renew the ruined cities. In doing this, the said oaks of righteousness display not their own, but God's glory.

We may still wonder why oaks are the Biblical tree of choice in

this metaphor. The Reverend Mark Woods has a touching parable. He writes that, when it grows alone, the field oak becomes tangled, hunched over itself, close to the ground. In contrast, 'the woodland oak grows with other trees. Consequently, it doesn't spread, like its cousin in the field. It grows straighter and higher,

because it reaches towards the light. The oaks of righteousness are plural.' This reminds us that we, too, grow straighter together, as a parish community.

It was not a mere brick building or the arbitrary biological age of a community of fleshly bodies whose anniversary we marked. On this memorable day, we celebrated the foundation of a spiritual house made of living stones and a mosaic of the lives of the saints of the church, inspiring exemplars and heroes of the faith, a human arch bending backwards thousands of years towards Calvary—and extending ahead of us countless more. More than the church's unveiling, we commemorated a milestone in the local life of the universal Body of Christ.

Bishop Mark preached from the Gospel reading of the day, John Chapter 2, with the key verse 'Zeal for your house will consume me' and concluded by saying:

'May that same zeal inspire us, so that with God's help we continue to serve the true house of God, who shall endure long after even this beautiful building has passed away.'



Bishop Trevor Reflects

GROWING TOGETHER AS A DIOCESE

At our recent Synod I was asked to reflect briefly on how we have grown together as a Diocese in the time I have been privileged to be in senior clerical leadership in this Diocese. The question forced me to reflect on my initial impressions when I came to the Diocese in 2003.

As you know, newcomers can see things with a clarity which those who are already thoroughly immersed in any system no longer notice. The thing I noticed most about my new family of God was a distinct *lack of confidence*. For example, I detected signs of a lack of confidence in some quarters in the gospel of Christ to bring salvation to those who believed in him and also the usual Anglican reticence in proclaiming it and sharing it. I felt God wanted us to rediscover authentic ways for each tradition in this diverse Diocese to pursue God's mission together. Bishop George Browning nailed the problem in April 2004 when he said to Bishop-in-Council: *we seek a more outward-looking, mission-focused and Christ-confident church*. As I now look back over 15 years I praise God for all the signs of growth and every evidence of this most necessary culture change which is not easily achieved or maintained.

What means has God therefore used to bring us to where we are today? There are obviously numerous contributing factors but I want to mention just two which remain essential from my perspective for our future health as a family of God.

In the *first* place, we have grown

together because we have intentionally put the mission of God at the centre in all aspects of our Diocesan life. In that regard we have collegially developed two Diocesan mission action plans. While people are rightly jaded by so-called mission plans which gather dust on shelves or disappear into desk drawers, this planning process and its outcomes have revolutionised many Dioceses because of the stress on the difference between *mission* and *vision*. In brief, *mission* is what God wants us to do all the time. For our Diocese this is embedded in our Governance Ordinance in six succinct phrases (such as proclaiming the gospel and responding to human need by loving service to name but two). However *vision* is what God calls us to be and do as we pursue his mission in a particular season. Vision is only discerned after much collaborative prayer and listening.

Our initial 2004 vision to *grow communities confident in Christ* was warmly and widely embraced as what was needed at the time. Subsequently after the 2008 election of Bishop Stuart Robinson, a revised plan was devised which built on the former but was couched in terms of a dream to see both *lives and communities transformed by the love of Jesus*. This likewise captured our people's imagination. Significantly it has been these shared visions willingly endorsed and owned by the Synod, which have been the necessary glue in uniting us together under a common agreed missional



purpose and goal. Furthermore the strategies devised to pursue these visions have meant people from all traditions in this Diocese have grown in their confidence in Christ and have been united in a commitment to sharing the transforming love of Jesus in word and deed in their unique relational networks. As a result we have seen many existing ministries re-energised by a clear focus and new communities of faith emerge for which we praise God.

In the *second* place, we have grown together as a Diocese because we have also constantly sought to confront and eliminate the silo mentality which is endemic in Anglicanism. We need to constantly remember we belong together as one body and that we need each other if we are to really impact this

Diocese deeply with the gospel. This of course does not mean we have always been successful in this aspiration because parochialism is a very common human failing. Even though no ministry unit or agency is an island, we each might perhaps remember how we have sometimes succumbed to the temptation to act independently and do our own thing without proper thought for others. Nonetheless we have continued to encourage, promote and model collaboration and cooperation. For example, we have actively worked hard behind the scenes to keep reminding Councils and Boards that we belong together as members of the one Diocese, and that we have different but complementary parts to play as we pursue the mission of God in this Diocese in our distinctive areas and in our own distinctive ways.

As I prepare to vacate my position it remains my sincere prayer that we will discover together a fresh vision for what God wants us to do in the next stage of our Diocesan journey and that we will remain thoroughly committed to working diligently together to bring it into effect for the eternal benefit of those whom we are called to serve in the name of Jesus.

With every good wish,

+Trevor

4 October 2019

Clergy Moves

The Reverend Debbie Mazlin will serve as Chaplain at Fred Ward Gardens from October while continuing to undertake some ministry at The Canberra Hospital.

The Reverend Liz Sloane has been licensed as Locum Deacon Assistant at Sapphire Coast Parish from 10.11.2019 to 9.02.2020.

The Reverend Canon Em Harvey Sloane has been licensed as Locum Assistant Priest at Sapphire Coast Parish from 10.11.2019 to 9.02.2020.

The Reverend Morton Johnson has resigned as Chaplain Fred Ward Gardens effective from 25.10.2019 but will be licensed as Hon Assistant Chaplain, Fred Ward Gardens from 25.10.2019 to 29.02.2020.

AnglicanNews

Editor: Alison Payne
Phone: 02 6245 7154

Address: GPO Box 1981, Canberra, ACT 2601
Advertising: enquiries to the editor.

Email: alison.payne@anglicands.org.au

ISSN 2207-6484

Articles for each edition need to be submitted by the 25th day of the previous month. Any statements or opinions expressed in articles published in this newspaper are attributed to the identified author and are not necessarily endorsed by or representative of the Diocese or its officers.



30TH AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL PRAYER BREAKFAST

MONDAY 14TH OCTOBER 2019, 6:30AM FOR A 7:00AM START
GREAT HALL, PARLIAMENT HOUSE, CANBERRA

nationalprayerbreakfast.org

At a time when the role of faith in public life is being questioned and challenged, the National Prayer Breakfast is an important opportunity to join together with the Christian community across Australia in recognition of the many shared values and aspirations we hold for our nation and her people.

When we pray to our God and Father, we are reminded of our own frailties, our need for forgiveness and of the solemn responsibility of using power for the benefit of others. We pray that men and women in national leadership will discover a new strength through the fellowship of the followers of Jesus Christ, and that they will know God's wisdom and strength in all their service.

The speaker this year is David Hurley. General David Hurley, AC, DSC, FTSE is formerly the senior officer in the Australian Army and is the 27th Governor-General of Australia, in office since 1 July 2019. He was previously the 38th Governor of New South Wales, serving from 2014 to 2019.

Register: <https://plus.citybibleforum.org/civcrm-event/2080>

Flo wins National Anglicare Volunteers Award



Mrs Flo Young of the Sapphire Coast Parish won the Anglicare Australia Volunteer Achievement Award at this year's Anglicare Australia Awards held in Perth Western Australia. She outdid ten other short-listed nominees and received the Anglicare Australia Volunteer Achievement Award from The Primate whilst in Perth on Monday 9 September 2019. This award acknowledges Flo's commitment of 25 years volunteering and running the Anglicare Sapphire Surprises Op Shop and Emergency Relief in Eden, NSW. During that time she has kept the business running, supported the parish and assisted countless individuals and families doing it tough in the Eden region.

Flo was invested as an Honorary Lay Canon at Synod in September 2015, recognised for her contribution to the church and ongoing ministry role. But this is only part of Flo's story. Flo has always been involved in her local community. Her faith and beliefs that 'we are not just here for ourselves' drives much of what Flo does. She runs Sapphire Surprises in Eden, operating not only the shop, but also working with her team of volunteers providing emergency relief to those

in the community who are in need of emergency assistance.

Flo's work in the shop 'gives her purpose' and stems from an enjoyment of being able to help others. The provision of emergency relief, such as pantry items, and assistance with utility bills in times of financial crises, makes a significant difference in the lives of the individuals who are helped.

However, when you talk to Flo, you can see that she wants to do more than provide just emergency relief. She dreams of being able to help those in long term crisis move beyond just coping, to actually being able to get on top of the bills, and develop skills to be able to manage their finances on a long-term basis.

Eden is one of the most disadvantaged regional communities in New South Wales. It is half-way between Sydney and Melbourne and has a large itinerant population with many people out of work.

Flo has made a tangible difference in the quality of individuals' and families' lives. Her judicious management of the service has kept it sustainable, keeping the doors open for families who need help and enabling the service to gain recurrent government funding. Flo has

managed the Anglicare Sapphire Surprises operation competently over the past 25 years.

Flo's role involves management of the thriving community shopfront but she also provides emergency relief to vulnerable members of the community as well as pastoral care to volunteers and shoppers. We deeply appreciate Flo's dedicated service to Anglicare NSW South, NSW West and ACT and the Eden community.

Over the years, Flo has demonstrated strong leadership ability and responded to changing requirements and growth in the provision

of emergency relief services. Her independence and well-respected role in the community has facilitated the growth of the service and increased linkages with the parish. Flo's leadership extends to providing pastoral care to her volunteers as well as regular customers at the shop. This is a valuable role, ensuring that community members who might otherwise be isolated feel connected and welcome to drop in for a chat.

'Volunteers like Flo are the soul of places like Sapphire Surprises shop. Being dedicated and involved in the community is an important part of who Flo is. She quietly gets things done without fuss and always with a smile. She is willing to stretch her abilities to try new and improved systems but also able to say no when necessary. I respect her compassion for people in need and her willingness to help others,' said Kaye Pritchard, former Manager of Anglicare Retail Development.

Volunteers such as Flo are essential for the delivery of services in many parishes. Without dedicated volunteers like Flo, Anglicare would not be able to work effectively with parishes to deliver vital services to people in need.

Submitted by Anglicare



MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY

ANGLICARE
Sunday

BE INFORMED & INSPIRED

BE PART OF ANGLICARE SUNDAY
SUNDAY 20 OCTOBER

Anglicare Sunday is an opportunity for you, your church and scores of churches across regional NSW and the ACT to connect with local community needs.

Sunday 20 October also marks the end of Anti Poverty Week – the perfect time to discover how you can make a difference in your local community.

Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy. - Proverbs 31:8-9

www.anglicare.com.au

The Riverina Anglican College Brings IB World School to the Region



The Riverina Anglican College is now one of the first schools in regional NSW to be an authorised International Baccalaureate (IB) World School.

The College's journey to becoming an authorised IB World School began in 2017 and was completed when they became an authorised provider in mid-2019. Schools attain IB authorisation through rigorous inspections from IB teams, assessment and extensive teacher training.

Delivered in over 4000 schools globally, the IB Diploma Programme provides pathways to Australian and overseas universities through broad study that balances rigorous academia and critical thinking with active citizenship, service learning and civic engagement.

Students studying the IB Diploma Programme study six subject groups and the DP core, comprising theory of knowledge (TOK), creativity, activity, service (CAS) and the

extended essay.

Through the IB Diploma Programme core, students reflect on the nature of knowledge, complete independent research and undertake a project that often involves community service.

The IB Programmes develop well-rounded students with character who respond to challenges with optimism and an open mind, are confident in their own identities, make ethical decisions, join with

others in celebrating our common humanity and are prepared to apply what they learn in real-world, complex and unpredictable situations.

‘The aim of all IB programmes is to develop internationally-minded young men and women who, recognising their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet, help to create a better and more peaceful world’, Principal, Mr Humble, said.

Farewell to Jenni Lowes



Jenni Lowes resigned from the Anglican Diocesan Services Finance team this year, wanting to leave without great fanfare to spend more time with her family.

Jenni started working with Anglicare in finance and administration at

Calwell Early Childhood Education and Care back in 1992 and moved into a finance role in head office in 2010. Her history with Anglicare and the ADS is very long indeed and many readers will have had contact with her over these 27 years.

The ADS will definitely miss the knowledge that so many years of service brings with it.

Jenni has been an incredibly efficient and hardworking staff member in the Finance team. However, most importantly, she embodied many

of the qualities ADS and Anglicare hold dear including compassion, honesty and caring. Jenni has an excellent sense of humour and is also an excellent cook, particularly of baked goods, so it was hard to see her leave and her presence in the office is sadly missed.



Spirit 2019 at Batemans Bay

BY THE REVEREND DOUG NEWMAN



After a break of two years the Spirit 2019 conference was held in Batemans Bay at the Anglican Church on Friday and Saturday 13–14 September.

Ken Fish from Kingdom Fire Ministries, who had previously spoken at Spirit 2014, returned and taught on the theme of the Spirit Empowered Church. He had ministered at

Cootamundra immediately prior to the Spirit conference and we started with a real sense of momentum and expectation, which God moved in powerfully to bless and encourage us all.

Just over 100 attended allowing us to have quite an intimate experience of God's presence and for all those wanting ministry to be prayed for.

While most of the attendees came from the South Coast, Canberra and the Southern Highlands others travelled from as far away as Perth to join us, so hungry were they for a touch of God's presence.

It was a privilege to pray with people and to see God heal some physically, affirm and encourage many spiritually and to set several captives

free. I found watching Ken minister and teach and encourage others to pray very useful in helping me to improve my skills in this ministry area – although on at least one occasion it felt as though I had come to an elephant hunt armed only with a popgun. Ken stepped in to pray for one person and they received a major blessing as he brought to bear his years of experience together with God's direction. This reminds me that there is wisdom in knowing our gifts and our limits and always a need to refine our skills by regular practice.



Braidwood Concerts



2019 Braidwood Spring Concert series is in full swing at St Andrew's Anglican Church. Celebrating the wonderful historic and recently restored organ at St Andrew's Anglican Church in Braidwood is the annual October organ extravaganza. 'Bach rattles the rafters and other organ music' will be performed by Dr James Forsyth and Mervyn Olds on Sunday 20 October from 2.30pm. This concert is exit by donation, and is the annual fundraiser for the organ restoration and maintenance fund.

In November, there will be two concerts offering great diversity. On Sunday 3 November from 2pm, string trio Three Piece Suite with flautist James Fortune return by popular demand to present 'Australian Made and Played', a mostly Australian themed program including selections by Percy Grainger, Graham Powning, Margaret Sutherland, David Hush, Sarah Hopkins, Alice

Chance, Gregory van der Struik and Caspar Summer. There may be a hot-off-the-press World Premiere to top it off! Tickets: \$25 adults and concessions, \$5 children.

Our final concert in the 2019 Spring Series is a wonderfully eclectic performance by Evergreen Ensemble entitled 'One Hundred Days Away'. Held on Monday 18 November from 2pm, Evergreen Ensemble present 18th and 19th century Scottish-Australian music from the collections of the National Library of Australia. Virtuoso arrangements of Scots tunes by Edinburgh fiddlers, Tasmanian Sth-rathspeys played on baroque violin, beautiful songs from the Hebrides and 19th century Australian piano music. Recorded by ABC Classics, the album CD will be available on sale. What a wonderful note to end the series on! Tickets: \$30 adults, \$25 concessions and children under 15 free.

All concerts at held at St Andrew's Anglican Church, 47 Elrington St, Braidwood with afternoon tea to follow the performances. If you would like to know more about the Braidwood Concert Series or would like to be put on the email list, please email: artwork123@icloud.com.

by Anne Sanders

New Front Doors for All Saints' Bermagui



New doors were fitted during May to replace the two sets of front doors to All Saints', Bermagui. The church was built and dedicated in 1911. The original outer doors became the (inner) doors to the nave when a porch was added in 1959 to shelter the south-west facing entry. The exposed site and severe prevailing winter weather had taken a toll on the, respectively, 108 years and 60 years old sets of doors.

The doors were fabricated by Ray's Joinery, Bega, and fitted by builder Chris Cooper of Verona. Wood-staining of the doors, to match the Annexe doors of the church, was

done by congregation members.

The parish of Bermagui, Cobargo and Quamma is extremely grateful that the project was fully funded by a grant and donations.

A submission to Bega Valley Shire Council secured \$2,500 under the Local Heritage Assistance Fund scheme. Subsequent donations by several parishioners fulfilled the budget of \$10,825.

The opportunity of a passing visit by the recently-consecrated new Bishop of Canberra and Goulburn, Rt Reverend Dr Mark Short, was taken to have him bless the new doors on the evening of Tuesday 25 June 2019. Parishioners from Christ Church (Cobargo) and St Saviours' (Quamma) joined the congregation of All Saints' to share the occasion which was complemented by a delightful supper and the opportunity to chat with Bishop Mark.

by David Richard-Preston



What's On

CELTIC CHRISTIANITY

come and explore

ANCIENT SPIRITUALITY FOR CONTEMPORARY AUSTRALIANS

with

The Reverend Simon Reed

A guardian of the Aidan & Hilda Community, (Lindisfarne UK) & Vicar of Ealing (London)

5.30pm for 6pm

Friday 18 October 2019

St Paul's Manuka

Cnr Captain Cook Cres & Canberra Ave, Manuka

Arrival drinks/nibbles and concluding supper provided

No cover charge – donations welcome

RSVP 14 October:

office@stpaulsmanuka.org.au

02 6239 6148

www.stpaulsmanuka.org.au

@stpaulschurchmanuka



St Mark's OPEN DAY

9am - 12pm

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



stmarks.edu.au/event/st-marks-open-day/

WHERE ARE YOU GOD?

8 NOVEMBER 2019

SPEAKER
ANDREW ROBINSON

CANBERRACHRISTIANCONVENTIONS.ORG.AU



ONE is the Canberra Youth Christian Convention that brings teenagers from all over Canberra and surrounding regions together. We believe God has made us all ONE in Jesus and so we want to express that by getting together. We think the good news about Jesus is so good that all youth should hear it.

Friday, 8 November 2019

6.15pm - BBQ & lawn games 7pm to 9pm - Singing & talk
University of Canberra, The Boiler House Lecture Theatre
Entry fee: \$5 BBQ purchases are extra

Andrew Robinson will be speaking and has been sharing the story of Jesus with young people for a while now. He's worked with uni students in Sydney and homeless people in Johannesburg, and as a School Chaplain in Canberra and Honiara, Solomon Islands.

BARGAIN BUYS at St Mark's Library!

St Mark's Open Day, Sat 9 Nov
9am to lunch, 15 Blackall Street, Barton

St Mark's National Memorial Library is hosting a special book sale where we'll be selling **theological and ministry books at low, low prices.** Come on in and grab a bargain or ten!

All proceeds from the sale will go towards **The Friends of St Mark's fund**, which was established to support the library. Contributions to this fund enable us to maintain and increase our collection, staff and resource the library, and provide appropriate accommodation to our precious and diverse collection.