

ANGLICAN PARISH OF LOWER MACLEAY

PARISH PROFILE

2017

19 McIntyre Street
South West Rocks, NSW 2431
Email: swranglican@bigpond.com
Website: swranglican.com.au
Parish telephone number (02)6566 6172



Location and Context

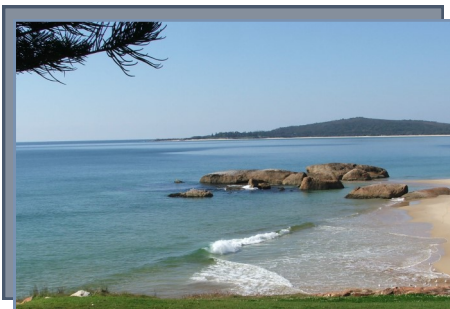
The Anglican Parish of Lower Macleay is located on the Mid North Coast of New South Wales. Housing, units and subdivision development around the South West Rocks area, reflects a growing population.

Other townships and communities are Gladstone, Smithtown and Hat Head and rural areas in-between. The Parish of Kempsey is to the south/west whilst Macksville is to the North.

There are two locations for worship, South West Rocks and a struggling Hat Head. The 2016 census put the population of South West Rocks at 4,600 and Hat Head at 300, both increase substantially during holiday periods. The population for the geographical area of the parish would number around 8,000 people.

South West Rocks is the hub of the parish and just thirty minutes from the major town of Kempsey and one hour from Port Macquarie an hour and a quarter from Coffs Harbour. Travel time to Sydney is around 5 hours and with the dual highway completion north and south it will be even less.

South West Rocks is a very popular and picturesque holiday destination, especially during the summer months. It has many pristine beaches and Trial Bay. South West Rocks is the base for two diving companies who organise trips to the iconic Fish Rock. There are also a number of charter boats for day fishing trips together with a well-known Fish Co-Op. Hat Head is also located on the coast and a popular tourist location.



Parish History

Church services at South West Rocks commenced in 1886.

1st Parochial district of the Lower Macleay was formed in 1897. This group then divided and the 2nd Parochial district of the Lower Macleay formed in 1921.

1st Parish of Lower Macleay was born in 1964.

St. John's - Smithtown (now closed)

St. Barnabas - Gladstone (now closed)

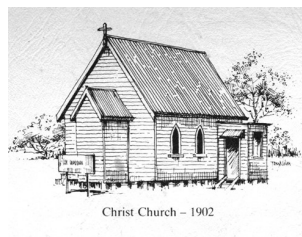
St. Andrew's - Kinchela (now closed)

Christ Church – Hat Head was built in 1901 is an old weatherboard building that was relocated from Belmore River in 1967. At the back of the church and within the property is the Nicholls Centre which was constructed in 2003 mainly by local voluntary labour.

Holy Trinity – South West Rocks originally built in 1916 was moved to present site in 1968.

In 1983 with a lot of local support a hall was built behind the church in place for a new church to be added when possible. In 1992 the Rector Tom Hall formed a building committee and the present church was designed and built. Stained glass windows, pews, and other special parts of the old churches were used.

October 1992 - a time capsule was filled with relevant information of the parish and buried in the garden adjacent to corner of building and flagpole to be opened in 100 years.



Christ Church – 1902



Holy Trinity South West Rocks, Baldwin Lane.

In 1997 an Op-shop was started under the leadership of Rector Bill Carroll and wife Robyn. In 1999 they guided the formation of the Playcentre which attracts up to 40 Children and mums or carer.



Staff

Locum – The Rev'd Michael Bain. Commenced role on 17th September, 2017

Honorary Clergy – The Rev'd Jeff Murnain

LLM – There is one Licensed Lay Minister and one in training.

We have one young man who's keen to recommence youth ministry.

Mission Statement - our Focus

Growing disciples, growing disciples.

Parish Facilities

The buildings include the present **Holy Trinity Church, South West Rocks**. The church holds around 150 people and provides a warm space with good acoustics. A more than adequate parish hall, Parish Office, kitchen and toilets adjoin the worship area. The exterior of the church and hall was re-painted in 2017.

A Rectory with Study is adjacent to the church and hall. It is currently undergoing some refurbishing internally and externally.

Christ Church, Hat Head - seating 40-50. The Nicholls Centre houses a branch of the Kempsey Council Library and is well used by both the church and local community for various meetings and functions.

Worship

Holy Trinity, South West Rocks has an intergenerational service at 9am each Sunday morning that includes Holy Communion. There is small weekly 9am Wednesday service of Holy Communion.

From 2009 until September 2017 there were two Sunday morning services, one at 8am of a more traditional kind and an informal 10am service.

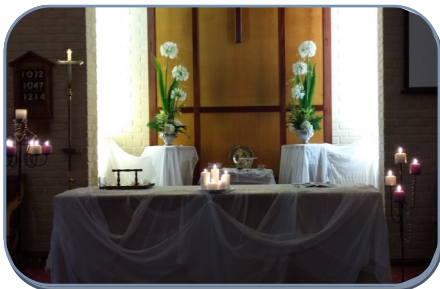
With a dropping off of numbers for a variety of reasons at the 10am service and with an ageing 8am service there was strong support to blend the two services into one at the later (for the 8am) time of 9am.

Currently there is a small worship team that leads a blend of traditional and contemporary music. Presently we are developing each week's service based on the theme for the day.

Hat Head has a weekly service of a Saturday afternoon with the time varying from 5pm for Daylight Saving time and 4pm for the April to September period.

We have reintroduced the Wednesday morning service at 9am after five years. It is quite small at present. There is also a monthly service in the SWR Nursing Home.

Special Services—Grief and Loss, Confirmation, Pentecost



Rectory

church and hall. It is

Christ Church Hat Head
and
The Nicholls Centre



What we do—regular groups/ministry/outreach

Small Groups. Two Know Your Bible groups for women meet each week and are led by members of the Anglican Church. There are three small men's bible study groups and one other women's group that meet weekly

Op Shop. This has been operating since 1997 and operates from rented premises in front of the SWR Nursing Centre. Together with the Coordinator and Committee, there are some forty people who volunteer in one form or another. Not only does it provide the parish with necessary funds, it also provides a channel for the sale of around \$8,000 of Christian product annually.

Play Centre. This weekly activity for preschoolers during school term time has been run by the parish for some twenty years and currently is the only such group in South West Rocks. Average attendance of littlies is in the 20's with 15-20 mums or family members in attendance. Few mums attend church but there is a Christian theme running through the two-hour meeting each week.

SWR Nursing Home. This facility opened in 2010 and the Anglican Church has had a presence right from the beginning offering pastoral care and a monthly service of worship where anything up to 15 people might attend. With the departure of our deacon in the near future our ongoing pastoral care to the Centre will be stretched.

Parish Statistics

9am Service	Average attendance	55
Hat Head Service	Average attendance	14
Wednesday Service	Average attendance	4-6
SWR Nursing Centre	Average attendance	10
Baptisms in last 12 months	=	5
Funerals –in last 12 months	=	7
Weddings	–	NIL

Wardens

Rector's Warden – shortly to leave the district

Stan Deveridge 65665233

John King 65665497

Nominators

Stan Deveridge 65665233

Wal Sharoff 65665547