

# NORTH COAST ANGLICAN

*Embracing the spirit of Christ in Our Time*

June July 2018 | Issue No 3

## BALLINA CELEBRATES 20TH ANNIVERSARY



St Mary's, Ballina celebrated the 20th Anniversary of the Laying of the Foundation Stone of the church building with a special service. Bishop Philip Huggins, an Assistant Bishop in the

Diocese of Melbourne, celebrated and preached at the combined parish service, which also commemorated the Feast of Pentecost. Bishop Philip originally blessed the Foundation

Stone in 1998 in his capacity as the ninth Bishop of Grafton. Bishop Philip then planted a special Anniversary Tree, a Queensland Firewheel, and later joined the parishioners

for a sumptuous brunch provided by the Anglican Function Hospitality group. Afterwards, Bishop Philip joined a group on a tour of Emmanuel Anglican College who are also celebrating

their 20th Anniversary this year. The Parish of Ballina presented a gold embossed guest book to the college and Bishop Philip was the first to sign it.

**Photo: Bishop Huggins plants the anniversary tree assisted by Archdeacon Matthew, Anniversary co-ordinator Milton Colbert and Diocesan Administrator the Venerable Gail Hagon**

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[MORE DETAILS PAGE 8](#)



# A MESSAGE FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR

## Love is the Way



In 1989 Columbia pictures released the romantic comedy movie *When Harry Met Sally*, starring Billy Crystal and Meg Ryan, it raised the question of, “Can men and women ever just be friends?” That movie grossed a total of US\$92.8million in North America. It was nominated for an Oscar, a British Academy Film Award and a Writers Guild of America Award and

in 2004 it was adapted for a stage production. Its popularity seems to suggest that there is something in this movie that has struck a chord in us. It would also appear that *When Harry* (Prince that is) *Met Meghan* (Markle that is) that a chord was struck again in hearts of people across the world as millions of us engaged with the story of *When Harry Married Meghan*. It would appear that this marriage has brought us together, albeit momentarily, regardless of our faith, our culture, our sexuality or our social standing. We have stood together on common ground to witness this event. How awesome and amazing is that? It is into this scene that we hear Bishop Michael Curry preach, and preach he did for 14 engaging, enthusiastic

and passionate minutes. And what did he preach on? Why love of course, after all, it was a wedding. But the love he preached about was not a sentimental warm fuzzy kind of love, rather he preached about the love of Jesus Christ. A love that was for all people, for all time. A love that was all-embracing and unconditional, and a love that has the power to change the world. He used the scriptures to remind us about this love, and he used a quote from Dr Martin Luther King (Jnr) which said, “We must discover the power of love, the redemptive power of love. And when we discover that, we will be able to make of this old world a new world. Love is the only way.” For many of us, living our lives as if love is the only way would mean a change in our relationships, our

homes, neighbourhoods and communities. Our governments would need to change their focus, so too would most of our business enterprises and the way in which we seek world peace. Bishop Michael stated that if each of us operated from the premise of love then there would be no such thing as hunger, poverty, inequality, homelessness, indifference or war. Heaven, here on earth. But it seems as though this kind of love is costly, more costly for some than for others, perhaps that’s why we are so slow to embrace this kind of love? These words from this passionate preacher, preached at an event that occurred on the other side of the world, speak deeply to us as Australians as people of God and as Church. I wonder

what it might mean for us as we continue to address such concerns as refugees, affordable housing, and same-sex marriage. What would our parishes and ministry units look like if we really operated from the premise of love? What would it mean for us as we continue to live out the recommendations of the Royal Commission? What would this mean for us in this time of transition, of becoming the church of the 21st Century? Finally, I wonder if we as individuals and as church are willing to live lives that are deeply grounded in love, Christ’s love for us, and for others, so that the redemptive power of love might be made known.

**Diocesan Administrator  
The Venerable Gail Hagon**

## Australian Bishops’ Response to Same-Sex Marriage

**By Diocesan Administrator  
The Venerable Gail Hagon**  
The bishops of the Anglican Church of Australia held their annual meeting in Canberra on 20 On March 2018. One of the matters for discussion was that of same-sex marriage and how we as Church should respond. In summary, the Australian Anglican bishops agreed:

- That they will work within the Constitution and laws of the Anglican Church of Australia if any change is to be made to allow same-sex marriage in Anglican churches. They stated that the theological, pastoral

and missional issues involved “resist simple solutions or courses of action.”

- That in light of the Church’s current doctrine of marriage as a lifelong union between a man and a woman, “it is not appropriate for church buildings and halls, and chapels owned by Anglican schools and other Anglican organisations, to be used as venues for same-sex marriages.”

The gathered bishops also identified a number of issues

for further consideration such as the appropriate content for an informal prayer for same-sex couples occurring outside a public liturgical setting; the difference between blessing and solemnising a marriage; issues arising for Anglican officials who are merely present at a same-sex marriage or a blessing of a same-sex union; and the new pastoral issues arising from the legalisation of same-sex marriage in Australia late last year. In a resolution, entitled “Responding to Recent Changes in the Marriage Act”, three guiding principles were

named. These are the Church’s doctrine of marriage, the constitutional and canonical framework of the Church, and the need for humility and graciousness in discerning the way forward. More detail can be found at [www.scribd.com/document/378759792/Responding-to-Changes-in-the-Marriage-Act](http://www.scribd.com/document/378759792/Responding-to-Changes-in-the-Marriage-Act) The bishops noted a series of questions that needed further consideration. Some of these are: What is the relationship between a prayer and a blessing? What issues arise for Church officials who are merely present at a same-sex marriage or the blessing of a

same-sex union? How do we as Church respond to the new pastoral issues that arise from the legalisation of same-sex marriage in Australia? Currently, there is no authorised liturgy for same-sex marriage or for the blessing of a same-sex union and this matter has been referred to the Doctrine Commission of General Synod. Please remember to pray for our Bishops as they consider how we as Church should respond to same-sex marriage in a way that reflects the love of Christ.

## Students of St Columba’s Learn About Aged Care

Year 12 Community and Family Studies students from St Columba Anglican School spent the day at Regis Aged Care in Port Macquarie on April 11. In class the students have been studying Parenting and Caring. Part of this unit has included exploring the different types of carers, the roles of carers and the rights of the dependent. Spending the day at Regis Aged Care allowed the students to see the content covered in class come to life, in a practical and real-world setting.

The students had morning tea with the residents and discussed with them the difficulties of transitioning to aged care and how they have come to really love where they live. Throughout the day the students participated in a number of lifestyle activities with the residents, including gentle exercises to the tune of the *Macarena* and the *Nutbush* and a friendly competition of carpet bowls.



<b>NORTH COAST ANGLICAN</b> NEWSPAPER OF THE ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF GRAFTON	<b>CONTACT DETAILS</b> Editor: Louise Mackay PO Box 4 Grafton NSW 2460 P: (02) 66 424122 Fax: (02) 66 431814 Email: <a href="mailto:nca@graftondiocese.org.au">nca@graftondiocese.org.au</a> <b>CIRCULATION</b> Circulation: 3000	<b>SUBSCRIPTIONS (INC. GST)</b> Australia \$16.00 p.a Overseas \$28.00 p.a <b>ADVERTISING</b> Contract \$2.80 per column cm Casual \$3.50 per column cm Rates include GST	<b>CONTRIBUTIONS</b> Articles should be sent, preferably, by email or as an attachment in Word, or if sent by post should be typed. Articles need to be between 300-400 words but may be edited as a result of space constraints.	<b>PHOTOGRAPHS</b> All photographs must be sent as an attachment in JPEG format with a dpi of 500 or greater. Photographs sent through the mail will not be returned	<b>EDITORIAL</b> The editor is not responsible for the opinions expressed by contributors, nor do their views necessarily reflect the policy of this paper or of the diocese. Acceptance of advertisements does not necessarily mean endorsement of the product or service. <b>Deadline:</b> July 20 2018
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# Bangalow Celebrates the Feast of Pentecost

The celebration of the Feast of Pentecost is a great way to end the season of Easter.

Whilst you may think the red balloons are for the "Birthday of the Church" they are in fact meant to represent the tongues of fire resting on each of those gathered (Acts 2:3).

The Pentecost reading, Ezekiel's Valley of Dry Bones, and the Gospel (*John 15:26-27, 16:4b-15*) all seek to remind us of the Spirit that is within each of us and which gives us life.

Before the Paschal Candle is extinguished to mark the end of Easter we were commissioned to "live out what we proclaim" and dared to embrace each other and grow in love; dared to share our riches in common and minister to those in need; dared to pray for each other until our hearts beat with the longings of God; dared to carry the light of Christ into the world's dark places. Come, Holy Spirit, come!



## Alstonville Anglicans Celebrate with the Community

Alstonville Anglicans held their annual Mothers Day Fête on May 12 at St Bartholomew's.

It was a wonderful community event reaching near and far as evidenced by the hundreds of people wandering around and enjoying themselves.

Local entertainment throughout the morning was provided by the Emmanuel Anglican College junior band, an integrated dance group, two soloists, and Sing Australia.

Other activities included face painting, a jumping castle, rabbit patting and the youth of the parish operated the

popcorn and snow cone machines (with Alstonville Lions Club supervision).

The range of traditional stalls included a magnificent selection of floral arrangements, delicious cakes and biscuits, hand-made cards and craft and beautiful gift baskets, all providing an opportunity for purchasing a special gift for mum.

Four members of the parish faced up for sponsorship in the Bold Archies face painting - Rev'd Desiree, Charlie Handley, Diana Eagles and Murray Fivaz. Do you recognise these faces?



## Lindisfarne Helps Caitlin on her Quest to Kick Cancer

Over 170 Terranora locals gathered at Lindisfarne Anglican Grammar School last Saturday in support of one family in desperate need.

Former Lindisfarne student, Caitlin Ambrose was sadly diagnosed with a rare form of bone cancer called Ewing's sarcoma in March last year.

After 17 treacherous rounds of chemotherapy, multiple surgeries and seven weeks of radiation treatment, Caitlin's cancer refused to subside.

Having exhausted every medical option available in Australia, Caitlin and her family made the decision sign up for a trial treatment in the US which specifically focuses on Ewing's sarcoma.

Luckily, Caitlin was accepted into the trial, however, the cost of the treatment plus

accommodation and general expenses are estimated to reach a whopping \$180,000.

So, when Caitlin's friends and family reached out to Lindisfarne, the school was happy to help in any way possible.

"Caitlin Ambrose is a much-loved member of our Lindisfarne Anglican Grammar School family and was a proud Vice Captain of St Cuthbert's House during her school days," said Principal Stuart Marquardt.

"Lindisfarne is a close community and providing support and compassion to Caitlin and her family goes to the very heart of why our school was founded. The prayers of every member of the Lindisfarne family go to Caitlin during this difficult time."

Meredith Meeves, one of the event organisers and Ambrose family friend, said the Caring for Caitlin Trivia Night at Lindisfarne was "such a huge success" raising over \$14,000.

Praising the school for their altruism, Meredith said, "They have been incredibly generous. They provided the venue, catering and food, entertainment on the night, staff, flyers, they did the sound, the production and assisted with the bar as well."

"Caitlin is thrilled that her school community is supporting her and sent through a short video describing her battle with cancer thanking everyone for their support. We really are "caring for Caitlin" and this is expressed in these compassionate acts of kindness shown by staff and



parents rallying together."

Caitlin also shared a message on the "Caitlin Kicks Cancer" Facebook page expressing her sincere gratitude for everyone involved.

"Thank you to everyone who organised or attended the

Trivia Night fundraiser at Lindisfarne last night it looked like so much fun I'm really sad that I missed it!"

If you'd like to support Caitlin in her quest to kick cancer, please head to the GoFundMe page: [www.gofundme.com/caitlin-kicks-cancer](http://www.gofundme.com/caitlin-kicks-cancer).



# Thirsty Merc Live at Lindisfarne Anglican Grammar

**By Adele Rowlands-Dealey  
Communications Officer**

It was the ultimate music lesson for Lindisfarne Anglican Grammar School students experiencing a two-day jam session with iconic pop rock band Thirsty Merc.

With the temperature rising and *Summertime* calling, Aussie rockers Thirsty Merc geared up for a one-night-only show at Lindisfarne Anglican Grammar School on February 27.

The show came in the wake of the Lindisfarne Recording Studio launch late last year and was a chance for the school's flourishing music students to workshop with some of the country's best performers.

Lindisfarne's Director of Creative and Performing Arts, Todd Hardy, said the students were involved in a series of collaborative workshops including performance techniques, song writing and improvisation with members of the ARIA award-winning band.

"Lindisfarne sets high educational expectations for student character, development and performance. For our students to achieve and experience growth in this dynamic and evolving world, involvement and engagement in rich, structured and challenging mentor programs like this are paramount," said Mr Hardy.

"Our students possess an abundance of talent and these Thirsty Merc workshops served as a way to inspire our musicians while harnessing their passion and intellect in a real-world context."

Thirsty Merc joined Lindisfarne straight off the back of their Take Me Back Tour where they celebrated 15 years together. Bass guitarist, Phil Stack, said they feel "blessed" to have the opportunity to do what they love – make music.

"I try to not take this fact for granted," said Mr Stack.

"It's certainly hard work, mixed with a little luck, that I get to make a living out of music."

Recalling his days at school in countryside Dubbo, NSW, Mr Stack said that although his teachers were "super encouraging" and pushed him to persevere a career in music, he wished he had the resources available to him that the students at Lindisfarne have.

"I had very limited access to these types of workshops and even seeing outside performances like this was scarce," he said.

Lindisfarne, however, is providing innovative learning opportunities and pathways to success that the students won't get anywhere else.

"I had some great teachers [but] I did not have access to the type of music teachers that



Lindisfarne has... they were not so equipped with some of the stylistic knowledge that I needed," said Mr Stack.

"I believe a strong jazz background is fundamental in teaching all types of music and this is not necessarily the case in all schools."

The workshops concluded with a free community concert supporting the school's service-based learning initiatives with donations at the door going towards Lindisfarne's Building



Across Borders Vietnam Immersion Program helping to re-housing the poorest families in Southern Vietnam.

The first half of the concert featured Lindisfarne ensembles

performing on stage with the members of Thirsty Merc, then the Merc lads turned up the volume and performed some of their biggest hits including *20 Good Reasons*, *Tommy & Krista* and *In The Summertime*.

## Heavens Above: Where to find a divine Wi-Fi hot spot

If you're having trouble logging on to the Lord at Christ Church Cathedral, Grafton, you can use the new free Wi-Fi service - if you know the password.

The Dean of the Cathedral, Rev'd Canon Greg Jenks, said a Wi-Fi server was installed last month and already the congregation had logged on.

"When I was telling the congregation about it, I had one fellow, who must have been about 80 hold up his phone and said, 'I'm getting it just fine,'" Dr Jenks said.

"I reminded him that it was good, but he should be listening to me."

Dr Jenks said the historic cathedral has embraced the latest digital technology for its mission to the city and beyond.

Last month technicians were hard at work installing the cabling and antennae needed for a high-speed Wi-Fi network across the Cathedral campus. He said it went live in May.

Free Wi-Fi will be available to people visiting the Cathedral, attending events in the Parish Education and Welfare Centre, or simply sitting quietly in the garden to reflect.

Dr Jenks described the free Wi-Fi in the Cathedral garden as a digital welcome mat.

"Jesus was constantly inviting people to come and share, come and be healed, come and find God among us," he said.

"As a cathedral we are a community of invitation, always putting out the welcome mat. In today's world, sometimes a welcome mat looks like a free Wi-Fi service."

Dr Jenks said the Wi-Fi would also allow live streaming of events from the cathedral, such as the consecration of the new Bishop.

"We might live stream sermons, although I doubt we would do the whole service," he said.

At his first Parish Council meeting after starting as Dean in September last year, Dr Jenks presented a social media strategy for the Cathedral's mission to the city and the north coast.

The Dean's Sunday sermons are published on the cathedral website, as text and video.

The new Wi-Fi network is the next step as that plans is implemented.

"Our faith has ancient roots but we share that faith using the latest technology," Dr Jenks said.

Story: Tim Howard, Grafton Daily Examiner  
Photo: Adam Hourigan, Grafton Daily Examiner  
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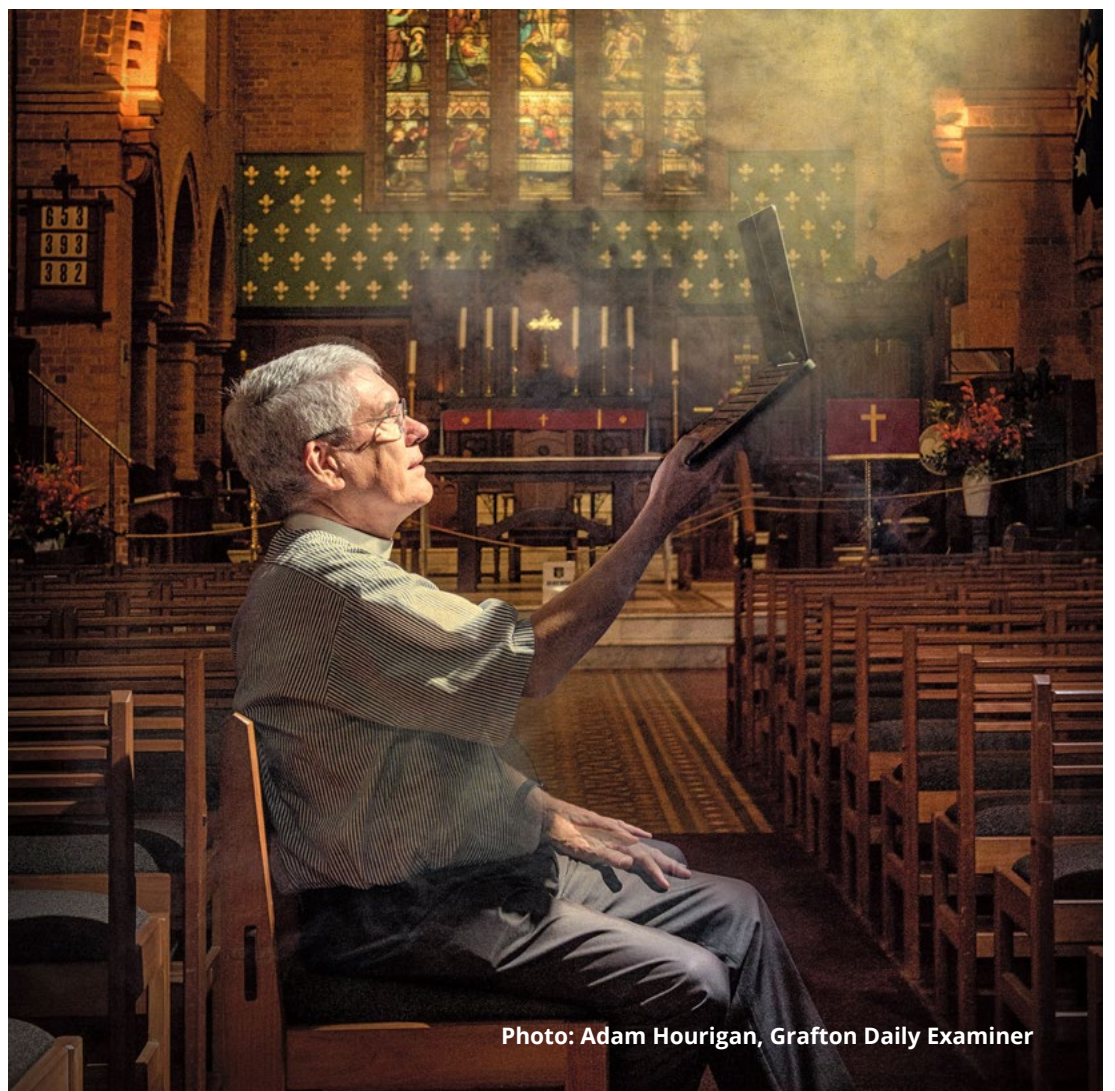


Photo: Adam Hourigan, Grafton Daily Examiner



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# Ballina Hosts Memories of Anzac Concert

The Ballina Church once again hosted an Anzac Concert celebrating and reflecting on the impact of war on the lives of the people in World War I. The audience of over 150 people arrived in drizzling rain and left in high spirits to a clear sky... our God's blessing. They enjoyed a well organised and beautiful Anzac remembrance.

Joan Pickup, the event coordinator, said, "It was a team effort really. All involved came together to produce a very professional show."

Joan organised and coordinated the program of communal singing, skits, jokes, original songs by Peter Hewett, poetry by Felicity Gordon and a slideshow prepared by Kerry Johnson that covered the theme for this year of "the significant contribution of animals in the war".

A surprise entrance was made by "Bacon" the dog who kept everyone laughing and at the

same time thinking they should perhaps get their glasses checked!

The concert was supported by musicians Margaret Tait on piano, Peter Hewett on several instruments including guitar, 12-string guitar and flute, and James Guinea on support guitars and sound by Anne and Trevor Emery.

"It was a cathartic experience for me as we laughed and cried through the emotive performances", said an audience member.

The proceeds raised were over \$1900 and will be donated to Legacy. A fine afternoon tea of Aussie fare was served including Saos, damper, lamingtons and Anzac biscuits thanks to the church's Hospitality Group.

Sadly, Marg Tait passed away on May 16. A colourful celebration of her life was held at St Mary's on May 22.



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# Australian Anglican Deacons' Conference

**By Margaret Rose  
Mullumbimby Parish**

From April 8-12 I had the pleasure of attending the Australian Anglican Diaconal Association Conference. This was held in Adelaide at St Peter's Cathedral. We were treated to a warm welcome and some wonderful hospitality.

We began each day with Morning Prayer in the cathedral. This was followed by story presentations of Hebrew Scriptures, led by Cathy Thomson, acting director at St Barnabas College, Adelaide. Rosalind Brown, from England's Durham Cathedral, and author of many books, gave a series of lectures on the diaconal role and its place within the church

and the wider community. The group discussions which followed became more lively and interesting as the days passed. Theological reflections followed lunch. We also visited AnglicareSA Western Hub, where we were given a different view of servant leadership.

Often the value of conferences comes not in programmed discussions but in casual conversations which compare notes of the work each of us does. I came home feeling much affirmed in my own ministry, as well as in the directions we have taken as a diocese and, also, within my own parish in the outreach programmes we have been working on.



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# New Priest in Charge for the Lower Macleay Parish

**By Stan Deveridge  
Parish Lower Macleay**

The parish of Lower Macleay held a consultation meeting on October 28, 2017, to discuss their vacancy for a Parish Priest.

There were 28 parishioners led by Archdeacon Gail Hagon. The parish was searching for a people person (filled with the Holy Spirit), a strong leader, an encourager/equiper (to raise up the body of Christ) and a teacher /preacher.

This did not appear an easy assignment in the current environment, however, they concluded with the task of praying to God for a leader for the parish.

In a relatively short time, the Bishop advised the presentation board that there was an interest being shown by an interested party from Warragul Victoria who wished to be closer to Armidale.

When they met Rev'd Katie Peken it was evident she had the main requirement - people skills.

Rev'd Katie was commissioned as Priest in Charge at Holy Trinity South West Rocks on April 4, 2018, by the Diocesan Administrator, Archdeacon Gail Hagon.

This was a particularly busy few weeks for Rev'd Katie. After packing up her home in Warragul and moving to the Rocks she has since begun

unpacking into the rectory.

"The short time we have been together, she has validated her referees' comments and has commenced her first task of meeting her new congregation.

"She prayerfully approaches each task, is direct and knows what she wants."

Rev'd Katie has commenced preaching in the struggling Hat Head church on a weekly basis giving the community every opportunity to rally with God's help. She likes order, good manners, and has a sense of humour.

Her home is a special place. The responsibility of making the new relationship work is that of the new rector and the whole Parish.





# Mullumbimby Farewell Reverend Lyn Baldwin

*"For everything there is a season and a time for every purpose under heaven."*

These words from *Ecclesiastes* are often read at funerals. There was not a funeral in Mullumbimby on April 13 but a very real and present sense of loss as we said goodbye to Rev'd Lyn and Howard Baldwin. Rev'd Lyn's ministry among us has been very generous reaching far beyond the four walls of the church out into the community where she is also known and loved. Rev'd Lyn was a member of the board of the Mullumbimby and District Neighbourhood Centre. The partnership between the two organisations saw our parish involved in NAIDOC day celebrations, the More than a Meal program and the distribution of parish pantry food parcels and tents to those

in need. We are able to share resources and expertise to the benefit of the local community. Rev'd Lyn was also involved in RSL Services including ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day, shared worship with the Uniting Church with whom we also partner within running Messy Church, and the Year 12 breakfast, baptisms, funerals and weddings and some wonderful music events in the church such as the Dustyesky and Dynasty8 choirs, Mullum Music Festival and most recently the acclaimed Tony Backhouse and the Backroaders. It was an emotional and heartfelt farewell and she and Howard will be sorely missed. We pray that they each find new directions and purpose in order to use their many skills and gifts and we hope they also



find time to enjoy the things that bring them pleasure. We thank Rev'd Lyn and Howard for all they have

contributed to this place, not just here in this parish but in the wider community. We thank them too for their

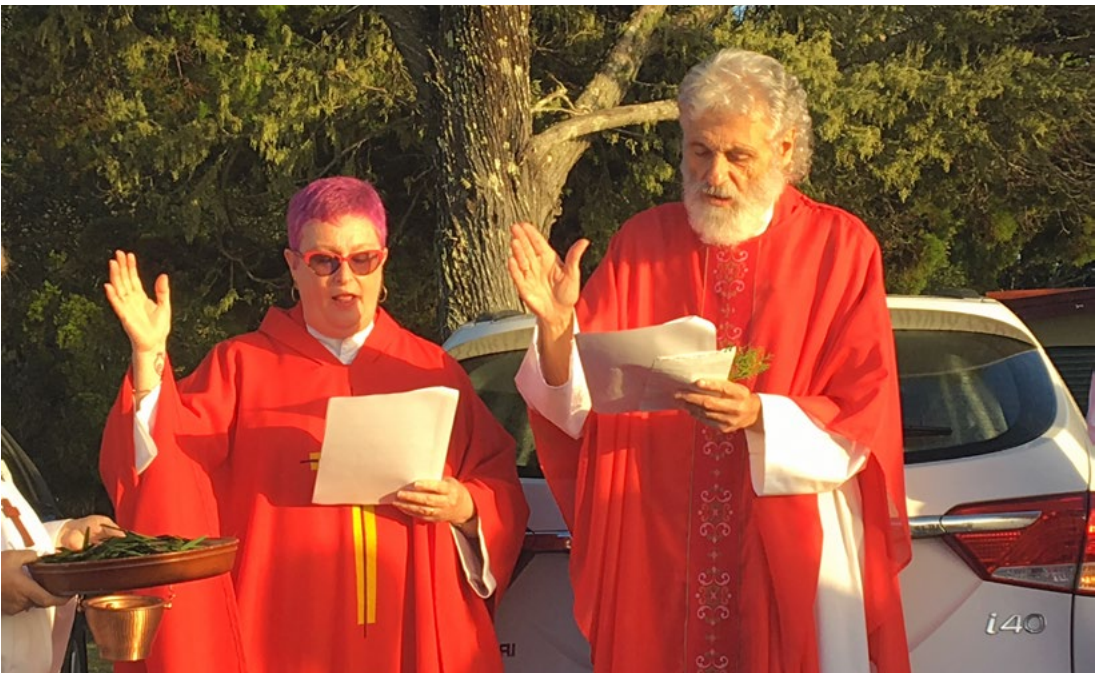
friendship, encouragement and inspiration. We move forward enriched and blessed for having known them.

## We Will Remember Them

Rev'd Cathy Ridd had the privilege of being an Evans Head RSL padre on ANZAC Day. Evans Head was an important RAAF base in World War II. The War Cemetery service remembered the 18 young

men who were killed in Evans Head while training there. Also in Evans Head, the parishes next-door neighbour is the Roman Catholics. The parish was delighted to gather with them on Palm

Sunday for the Blessing of the Palms, and then for morning tea after our services. It was a joy-filled time, and they are planning more opportunities to worship God together.



## Family Fun Service

It's hard to say who had more fun at Mid Richmond's combined family service - the kids or the grown-ups! They were very thankful the rain stayed away for the after-service treasure hunt, games and picnic.



## Pentecostal Celebrations

The congregation of All Saints Church Murwillumbah celebrated Pentecost with a Holy Communion service led by the Rev'd Lyndon Mullholland. The church was decorated with balloons by the congregation then had a birthday cake made by Anna and biscuits with flames on them made by Pat for morning tea.





# News From Clarence Valley Anglican School

Clarence Valley Anglican School hosted the Term 2 Diocesan Schools Network Meeting at its Clarenza Campus on May 11. These meetings are a perfect opportunity for Chairs of Council, Principals, Business Managers, Chaplains, specialised school staff, Grafton Anglican Schools Commission members, Anglican Funds Grafton Diocese representatives and the Anglican Diocese of Grafton General Manager/Registrar to network and share ideas. At this particular meeting IT Managers met to discuss the ever-evolving advancement in technology in education and guest speakers from the Anglican National Insurance Program and AON provided a presentation on school insurances.

After many months of planning and building works, the new amenities block comprising male, female and ambulant toilet facilities, showers, change rooms and locker space opened on May 7 at the Clarenza Campus. Final landscaping in the adjacent area is now underway and

plans are in progress to relocate the old demountable toilet facilities to the School's rural property at Glenreagh in the near future. (Appreciation is gratefully acknowledged to the Australian Government under the Capital Grants Programme for principally funding this project).

Through the school holidays students and staff attended the ANZAC march and services in Grafton, South Grafton and outer-lying areas. It was encouraging to see a large number of students attend and pay their respects on behalf of the School.

The Cathedral Campus was fortunate to have the Smoothie Bike ride into town recently. With a lot of pedal power delicious smoothies were made by our students. Year One's verdict, "The smoothies (banana, strawberry and Milo) were frothy and delicious!". \$204.50 was raised and will be spent on school resources.

There was great excitement in the Junior School as news spread we had won first place in the school section of the Grafton Show. This year the



requirements changed so it took time to come up with our theme. Our special 20th birthday formed the basis of our plan. All students PK-6 made a small avatar of themselves using different

art skills such as drawing, colouring or collage. Each student was then set the task of creating an A4 design depicting one of the PK - 6 staff members. It was an incredibly difficult task to choose which

child's design we would use in our display. We congratulate all our students for their participation and willingness to have a go at creating a unique piece of art.

## Making Mummies at Ballina



Those who attended the last Friday Fun Night in Ballina had a lot of fun making mummies by wrapping each other up in toilet paper. Even Rev'd Cathy Ridd and her pooch was turned

into a Mummy for the evening. It is quite challenging using toilet paper because it tears so quickly and you have to be able to gently wrap the other person up. This, of course,

relies on them not moving, which is not easy with very active youngsters. It was a great night!

## Bangalow Street Stall



The Ladies Guild of the Parish of Bangalow held their annual Street Stall on May 11 before Mothers Day and raised \$465.35. The Guild see it as an important opportunity to be present in the main street and to meet those we don't

normally see. A selection of cakes, slices, jams, cumquats and a few plants enticed at least a stop to see what was on offer. The draw-card of the raffle was a handmade rug by one of our 99-year-old parishioners!

## ZERO TOLERANCE FOR SEXUAL MISCONDUCT

**Grafton Diocese** has established formal procedures to deal with **sexual misconduct**. Persons aggrieved by the sexual misconduct of a church worker - whether they are an ordained or lay person - should report it. If you wish to speak to someone about sexual abuse by a church worker

please phone **1800 070 511**

at any time for recorded information of the names and telephone numbers of our contact persons.



# Commemorating our Anzacs



The congregation of All Saints Church Murwillumbah commemorated Anzac Day with a Holy Communion led by Rev'd Lyndon Mullholland. The altar display was made with poppies supplied by the ladies of the Knit and Natter craft group. Lapel poppies were also supplied to all members of the congregation.

# Former Bellingen Rector Removed from Holy Orders

Mr Eric Griffiths served as the Rector of Bellingen from 1979 to until his resignation in 1991 and on 14 October 1992 was convicted for gross indecency and served a term of imprisonment.

Although Mr Griffiths was not licensed and no longer served in the capacity of a priest in the Anglican Church, the Grafton Professional Standards Committee, in its efforts to apply improved standards, submitted to the Professional Standards Board that Mr Griffiths is unfit to retain holy orders and hold the title of "Reverend".

The panel formed by the Board to consider this matter was headed by Mr Stephen Sheaffe, an experienced barrister, and includes a clergy person (Archdeacon Sally Miller) and a layperson (Mr Phillip Bonser)

drawn from the Diocese. After due consideration and hearing from both Mr Griffiths and a victim, the Board recommended to Bishop Sarah Macneil that Eric Griffiths be deposed from holy orders.

Bishop Sarah wrote to Mr Griffiths informing him of the Board's recommendation and gave Mr Griffiths sufficient time to make a submission for a review of this decision. Bishop Sarah Macneil signed an instrument of deposition on 21 February 2018 which removed Mr Griffiths from holy orders and the title "Reverend".


The Diocese of Grafton extends its apology to any victim of inappropriate conduct by Eric Griffiths. The Diocese is lifting its standards for the protection of vulnerable people.

Do you have an inactive account? Have you changed your contact details and not let us know?


**AFGD has several accounts that are sitting dormant because we have not heard from the account holder.**

Some are School Saver accounts. Others are Saver and Investment Accounts.

Does one of these accounts belong to you?  
Have you moved recently? Are you the executor of the estate of an AFGD account holder?



**Please call us on 1800 810 919 (freecall in NSW) or 02 6642 4480 if you suspect that your account may have fallen asleep!**



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### Term Investment Accounts

Term	Interest Rate
90 days	2.50% p.a.
180 days	2.60% p.a.
365 days	2.65%p.a.

\*Interest paid at maturity

Note: Special Interest Rates on Term Investments are available on request for funds \$100,000 & over

### Saver Accounts

Balance	Interest Rate
Balances up to \$4,999	0.10% p.a.
\$5,000 to \$49,999	0.25% p.a.
\$50,000 and over	0.50% p.a.

### Cheque Accounts (Parishes, Ministry Units & Anglican Affiliate Entities Only)

Entity	Interest Rate
Parish	1.00% p.a.
Anglican Affiliate	0.25% p.a.

\*Interest paid monthly

### Cash Management Accounts (Parishes, Ministry Units & Anglican Affiliate Entities Only)

Entity	Interest Rate
Parish	1.75% p.a.
Anglican Affiliate	1.50% p.a.

\*All Interest Rates are current as at 28 May 2018 and are subject to change

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# Last Priest Ordained by Bishop Sarah



By Yvonne Turner

St Cuthbert's Tweed Heads and Lindsfarne Anglican Grammar School have experienced the most wonderful two days.

On February 24 the Rev'd Chad Rynehart, Chaplain at the school, was ordained as Priest by The Right Rev'd Dr Sarah Macneil, Bishop of Grafton.

Rev'd Chad is a much-loved member of the school and St Cuthbert's. He continues to support our Rector, Rev'd Rachel, in many areas of parish life, and the music he leads in many services is wonderful.

However in his role as the chaplain at the college it is evident that he is very much loved.

Rev'd Chad began his journey towards ordination in 1996 and attended St John's Theological College, Morpeth from 1998-2000, completing the three year Bachelor of Theology degree along with a Certificate in Professional Ministry and a certificate course in Pastoral Care and Counselling.

He was ordained as a deacon

in Newcastle Cathedral on February 24, 2001.

The ordination as priest in the college chapel was absolutely wonderful. Apart from the brilliance of the service, the hymns chosen expressed the feeling of all, *Here I am Lord, Be Still in the Presence of the Lord, Gather Us In*, and *The Summons*.

The school choir supported the ceremony brilliantly and with much joy. Following the service a wonderful afternoon tea was provided by the school community to the 150+ people who shared the celebration. Singing and music was the backdrop of the celebration.

St Cuthbert's parishioners were delighted to have been invited to be part of the ordination. Lindsfarne College provided buses and much joy was had by all.

The following day, Bishop Sarah confirmed two members of the parish, Joy Kendrick and Matthew Wilson. It gave us all the opportunity to farewell our Bishop whilst rejoicing in Joy and Matthew's great day.

An amazing and spiritual time was the experience of all. We have all been blessed by the occasions.

## IN BRIEF

### ANNOUNCEMENT

The **Reverend Angela Dutton** has been appointed Rector of Wauchope. A tentative commissioning date has been set for 27 July at 6pm.

### IN MEMORIAM

The Honourable Charles Simon Camac Sheller AO QC died on April 16 2018.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**3 June** – Cursillo Show Your Colours Day

**9 June** – Faithfulness in Service workshop in Nambucca Heads

**16-17 June** – Synod at Grafton Cathedral and South Grafton Ex-servicemen's Club

**21 June** – Faithfulness in Service workshop in Nambucca Heads

**12 July** – Registry closed (Grafton Public Holiday)

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## REFLECTIONS

# Looking for the Nazareth of Jesus

By The Very Rev'd Dr Gregory Jenks

I invite you to come with me on a journey of the imagination. This is a journey enabled by imagination but informed by recent critical scholarship. We are going to visit Nazareth at the beginning of the first century of the Common Era.

We are not going to see a city, but rather we are going to find ourselves visiting a small and remote rural village in perhaps its first or second generation of existence. The couple of dozen families who comprise this agricultural village have recently moved up to the north of the country from the areas around Jerusalem in the south. This village is clustered around a couple of small springs which provide that most essential element for any human settlement: water. The largest of these springs was about 500 metres away from the village and today is known as Mary's Well.

We can anticipate that these pioneer Nazareth families will have shared some of the essential facilities required for agriculture: threshing floor, communal open, wine press, and the like. On the other hand, at this early stage of the village's development, it is most unlikely that we going to find a synagogue or a school.

If we went to visit any of the families in their homes, we



would find very few standalone structures. Rather, we would discover that most of the families were living in caves which had been modified to make them more suitable for domestic and agricultural purposes, and in some cases had modest structural additions at the entrance to the cave.

This frontier village will have had very high infant mortality rates. Half of all the live births would be dead within 12 months, and half of those who survived the first 12 months would die within the first five years. Very few children will survive long enough to reproduce and for those that do childbirth is a risky experience for the mothers.

This is the community in which

God took human form and came among us in the person of Jesus of Nazareth.

Within that village community there was an even more intimate community: namely the family of Joseph and Mary. These were people who shaped Jesus as a person and his understanding of God.

We do get some hints about the religious disposition of Jesus' family. To begin with, his parents, Miriam (Mary) and Joseph, had names with ancient roots deep in the biblical tradition.

Having been given names with deep typical pedigree, it is no surprise to find that Joseph and Mary drew upon the ancient biblical traditions when naming their own children. We are told in *Mark* chapter 6 that Jesus

had several brothers and at least a couple of sisters. The names of the girls have not survived, but the male children each had names with strong biblical associations.

We can begin with Jesus himself: Joshua in Hebrew or Yeshua in Aramaic, a key figure in the OT narratives. The names of the other brothers confirm this connection with Israel's sacred story: James or Jacob, the ancestor of the 12 tribes; Josés, probably a variant of Joseph and named for his father along with the ancient patriarch; Judas, named for Judah a leading figure among the 12 sons of Jacob; and Simon, recalling Simeon, another of the twelve sons of Israel.

According to the tradition,

Joseph was a tekton, the Greek term for "smith", someone who is skilled in metalwork, timber work, and possibly stonework. We might think of the role of the blacksmith in the pioneer settlements of colonial Australia. These men worked long and hard hours and provided an essential service to their neighbours who are themselves engaged in various agricultural pursuits.

So Jesus, along with his brothers and sisters, grows up in the home of a blacksmith servicing the needs of a small pioneer farming community in the hills of lower Galilee. His family seems not even to have been peasants with their own patch of dirt. In many ways they were people on the margins, eking out a living by providing services to neighbours.

In that place, and on those fringes near the edge of a life considered "successful" at the time, a new family has been created, and within that family faith is nurtured as connections are made with the ancient faith traditions of the Jewish community. It is into that village community and into this small family that Christ child is born. This is the place where God takes human flesh, in a village with no pedigree, and within a family with no land, in a country where there is no freedom, but in hearts where faith is strong.

## THREADS LAID BARE

# Bees, beehives and honeycomb

By Rev'd Camellia Flanagan

The cooler weather is here and ones thoughts turn to a hot drink with honey, or crumpets with honey perhaps by the fire with a book of riddles. Known since the beginning of time, industrious bees have become the symbol of activity, diligence, work and good order. Because the bee produces honey, it has come to be accepted as a symbol of sweetness and religious eloquence. The beehive is a recognised attribute of St Ambrose and of St Bernard de Clairvaux, for their eloquence is said to have been as sweet as honey. The beehive is also known as a symbol of a pious and unified community. St Ambrose compared the Church to a beehive, and the Christian to the bee, working ardently and forever true to the hive. As a producer of honey, which is a symbol of Christ, and for the virtue of its habits, the bee according to ancient legend, never sleeps. In *Proverbs* 16:24 we are told that "pleasant words are like a

honeycomb, sweetness to the soul and health to the body". In *Proverbs* 24:13 we read, "My child eat honey, for it is good, and the drippings of the honeycomb are sweet to your taste." But in *Proverbs* 25:16 we are reminded, "If you have found honey, eat only enough for you, or else, having too much, you will vomit it." But best of all the psalmist says, "I do not turn away from your ordinances, for you have taught me. How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!" (*Psalms* 119: 103).

Honey is a symbol of the abundance and the goodness of God indicated when he told Moses, "...I have come down to deliver them (my people) from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites..." (*Exodus* 3:8). And there is Samson's riddle to set us thinking, "Out of the eater came something to eat. Out of the strong came something sweet." (*Judges* 14)



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PRAYING WITH THE SAINTS

Pope Saint John XXIII. Bishop of Rome, reformer

By Rev'd Camellia Flanagan  
DIED 1963, FEAST DAY 3 JUNE

John XXIII was head of the Catholic Church and ruler of the Vatican City State from 28 October 1958 to his death in 1963. He was canonised on 27th April 2014 and appears in the Anglican Church Calendar in APBA on page 457.

Angelo Guiseppe Roncalli was the fourth of 14 children and the eldest son born to a family of sharecroppers in Lombardy. Descendant of an impoverished Italian noble family, he received both his first Communion and Confirmation at the age of eight.

On March 1, 1896 the spiritual director of his seminary enrolled him in the Secular Franciscan Order (similar to the Anglican Third Order of Saint Francis.) He professed his vows on May 23, 1897. He completed his doctorate in Canon Law and was ordained to the priesthood on 10 August 1904. This was a time of training and of deepening spiritual encounter with two saints, St Charles Borromeo and St Francis de Sales. This was a time also of deep pastoral involvement and apprenticeship as he worked as secretary to Radini Tedeschi, Bishop of Bergamo. When the Bishop died in 1914 he lectured in the seminary and ministered in various pastoral areas.

During the war in 1915 he was drafted as a sergeant in the medical corps, and became a chaplain to wounded soldiers. He was appointed spiritual director of the seminary, and later called to the service of the Holy See and raised to the episcopate with the titular Diocese of Areopolis. His Episcopal motto Oboedienta et Pax was his lifelong guide.

He spent time visiting Catholic communities and establishing relationships of respect and esteem with other Christian communities. He became Apostolic Delegate in Turkey and Greece and his respectful dialogue with the worlds of Orthodoxy and Islam became a feature of his tenure.

When the Second World War broke out he was in Greece and tried to help prisoners of war contact families and assisted Jews to escape. In France at the end of the war he was an attentive, prudent and positive observer of the new pastoral initiatives of the French Bishops. He always strived for Gospel simplicity for even complex diplomatic questions, and his sincere piety was prayerful and meditative.

In 1953 he was created a Cardinal and sent to Venice. With advancing years his trust in the Lord grew with energetic enterprising and joyful pastoral labours.

When Pius XII died, in 1958 he was elected Pope and as

John XXIII he was an authentic image of the Good Shepherd. He established the Commission for the revision of the Code of Canon Law and summoned the Second Vatican Council and launched an extensive renewal of the Church.

Can we pray this part of a prayer for peace written by John XXIII?

*Lord Jesus Christ, who is called the Prince of Peace, who is yourself our peace and reconciliation, who so often said, "Peace to you," grant us peace. Make all men and women witnesses of truth, justice, and brotherly love....*

Celebrating the contributions of Bessie Webb

By Phillip Bonser



When Orara Valley parishioner Elizabeth (Bessie) Webb turned 95 the Parish Council asked me to write a short piece for the NCA celebrating her many contributions to the parish and to the community of Glenreagh. That will be easy

I thought, Bessie has slowed down a bit these days, I'll go to the Glenreagh markets next Saturday and talk to her while she sits at the parish stall. When I arrived though I met Bessie bustling out the door. "Sorry, I can't talk," she said, "I have to go home and make some more lemon butter, we've run out."

She has slowed down a bit, but not much! She is still busy organising projects to be undertaken at Christ Church, most recently the construction of a ramp so that a long-term parishioner would have easy access in her wheelchair. She is still on Parish Council and still making items for sale on the Parish stall at the monthly markets. She is also heavily involved in community activities and recently joined the local Lions Club on top of everything else. None of that trademark vitality, practicality and creativity seems to be disappearing. Nor is her

extraordinary capacity to convince people to "give us a hand". When she turned eighty she says she, "asked the Dear Lord for another twenty years" because there was so much more that she needed to do. Like the rest of us the "Dear Lord" could hardly refuse!

If it has happened in Glenreagh in the past 30 years or so you can bet Bessie has been involved. More likely it was her idea in the first place. Here's a short list of jobs she's done and things she's been involved in over the years: Secretary, Glenreagh School of Arts, since 1983; Secretary and founding member, Glenreagh Memorial Museum and Historical Society, 1986-1997 and coordinator, since 1997; member, Glenreagh Town Beautification Committee, since 2000; senior editor, The Link local fortnightly newsletter, since 1999; foundation member, Glenreagh Timber Festival since 2003; foundation

member, Glenreagh Mountain Railway and fundraiser and supporter in efforts to establish a steam train on the Glenreagh Dorrigo Railway Line. Most recently Bessie had a key role in the rebirth of the Glenreagh Village Markets in 2011. In 2013 she was awarded an Order of Australia Medal for her contribution to the community.

Underpinning that has been her ongoing involvement in and support of Christ Church Glenreagh, as its Warden from 1986 until 2002 and as a Parish Councillor since 1986 when the Orara Valley Parish was formed and as its Treasurer from 1986 to 2002. Most importantly Bessie has been a leading light in the small group of dedicated parishioners who pushed hard for the establishment of the parish, first as an Experimental Parochial District and then as a fully-fledged Parish. She worked tirelessly to "do her bit" to make sure the Parish survived in the early days when

money was tight and always had something wise to say when we weren't sure what to do in various circumstances.

One of her proudest achievements, Bessie says, is having worked with her late husband Les to re-pier Christ Church Glenreagh, by selling piers to members of the community. This is a symbol perhaps of someone for whom church and community are one. Bessie's contribution is in many ways a simple expression of a view she shared with her father, who as a young girl loaned her to a neighbour to help with the milking during WWII. "If you are going to live in a community you need to make it a better place," she says.

As a Parish we thank Bessie not only for her contribution but also for her inspiration. We wonder though, ... what's next on the agenda?

Vale The Hon C S C Sheller AO QC (1933–2018)

The Honourable Charles Simon Camac Sheller AO QC died on April 16, 2018. The Hon Mr Justice C S C Sheller QC was Chancellor of the Diocese of Grafton from 1974 to 1996.

The president of the NSW Bar Association, Arthur Moses SC said: "He was one of the great jurists of the NSW Court of Appeal. He will be remembered by the NSW Bar as a judge of outstanding

intellect, exemplary fairness, compassion and integrity whose judgments continue to have an impact on the development of the law in NSW."

In his farewell to Justice Sheller, Chief Justice Spigelman concluded by saying: "Thank you for many things, but thank you most of all for providing all of us a role model as to how a judge should behave."

A memorial service was held for the Honourable Charles Simon Camac Sheller AO QC in St James' Church King Street on May 4, 2018.

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## BOOK CLUB

# POW's biography reveals emotional pain of WWII

By Belinda Scott

Don Tweedie was not a literary man, but his experiences as a World War II prisoner of the Japanese in South East Asia scorch the pages of *Don Tweedie Fighting Bandsman's Last Stand*.

The heart of this biographical book is several hundred hand-written pages of first-hand accounts that Don Tweedie penned after his return from Japan in 1945.

Those accounts, kept secret by Don for more than 50 years, show not just the physical but the mental damage inflicted on this Digger and other POWs by their captors and sometimes by others, even other captives.

They also demonstrate the love and loyalty that soldiers gave each other, helping many to survive their brutal situation.

Don returned to Australia with major eyesight and hearing problems which dogged him for the rest of his life.

He suffered years of insomnia, nightmares, depression and anxiety and a succession of mental breakdowns.

He left city life for the peace of the bush and his beloved animals but struggled to make

a living out of dairy farming at Ramornie near Grafton.

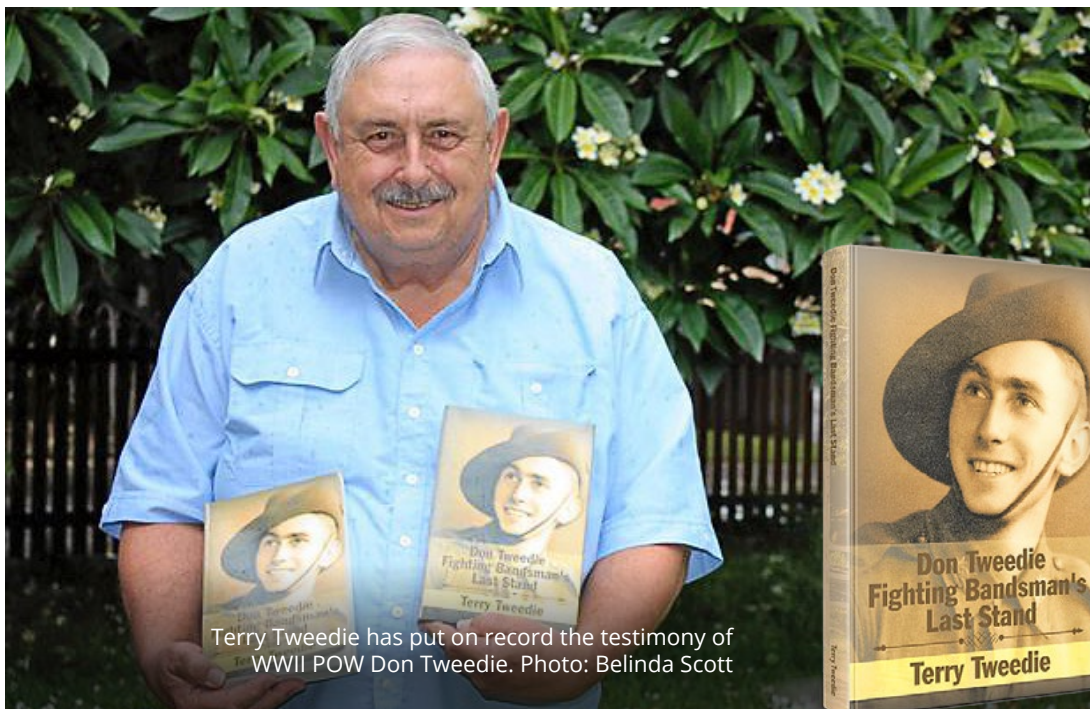
In 1957 Don Tweedie was declared totally and permanently incapacitated and granted a TPI pension.

He still managed a full and active life, farming and breeding cattle and poultry at Ramornie; at Orchard Hills near Penrith, where he began a jersey stud and at Forbes and later Gooloogong, where the family moved after he was advised to find a drier climate.

He and his wife raised a family of five boys and Don pursued his interests in dairy and beef cattle and Rhode Island Red fowls, as well as his interest in band music as a drummer and teacher in the town band.

The book follows Don Tweedie to his death at the age of 88 in 2007, providing a valuable picture of post-war farming life.

The author of the book is his son, retired forester Terry Tweedie of St Johns Coffs Harbour. Terry, who holds a university degree in natural resource management, said writing the book was very different from writing scientific papers, reports and surveys on threatened species like the Hastings River mouse.



Terry Tweedie has put on record the testimony of WWII POW Don Tweedie. Photo: Belinda Scott

But he has brought academic rigour to the task, including an index, extensive notes and a bibliography for those interested in learning more about WWII and the POW experience.

After half a century of being unable to speak about his war, his father had finally wanted his family to "know what really

happened and tell them to tell their kids."

"He was always proud of being an Australian soldier and he was a very determined man. He wasn't going to give in to them," Terry said.

Terry said he was encouraged to write for a wider audience by a friend Bill Cottam from

Ballina who is a Vietnam War veteran.

*Don Tweedie Fighting Bandsman's Last Stand* is available directly from the author in both softcover and hardcover format. Go to email: [tdtweedie@bigpond.com](mailto:tdtweedie@bigpond.com) or call 0428 711 725.

Story from Coffs Coast Advocate

## Parishioner Receives Australian Red Cross Award

By The Rev'd Canon Zoe Everingham  
Rector, Bellinger Parish

Mrs Heather Connell (82 years young) of the Bellinger Parish received a Distinguished Service Award at the Red Cross Day conference in Coffs Harbour on May 8.

The official commendation read: "Heather joined the Bellinger Branch of the Red Cross in 1984. During the past 34 years, Heather has demonstrated loyal dedication and amazing commitment, together with selfless service to the work of the Australian Red Cross. She has participated in every aspect of the work of the Branch and in 1996 she was elected President. Heather held this position until 2002.

She always demonstrated an efficient business-like manner and with her determination and strength of character, the

Branch grew from strength to strength. With the support of her members, Heather did much to cement the role of Red Cross in the Local Community, thus proving her powers of leadership.

For many years, Heather has been the Coordinator of Merchandising. As a long time Telecross caller, she still makes regular phone calls to the most vulnerable in the area. She also coordinates Red Cross calling for the Branch and in fact, this year, she personally collected \$532. She is always eager to sell raffle and Art Union tickets. Many of the Branch raffle prizes are her very generous donations and she always volunteers to assist on street stalls.

Heather has been on the Personal Support Team for many years, long before it was officially formed and she is still

on the team. She is excellent in a crisis and assisted during numerous floods in Bellinger.

Heather received a Long Service Medal in 1994, 1st Bar in 2004 and 2nd Bar in 2014 being the Red Cross Centenary Year. She also received a NSW Service Award in 2014. The Bellinger Branch is well known for its fundraising and catering capabilities and Heather is always there to assist with lunches, afternoon teas, celebrations, trivia nights and meetings. Heather Connell is a worthy recipient of the Australian Red Cross Distinguished Service Award."

Heather has served on the Bellinger Parish Council for many years as either a Warden or a Councillor. She is a prayerful Christian attending Sunday worship and weekday prayer services, and is a regular attendee of the weekly



Meditation Group. Heather organises morning teas for the parish and refreshments for funerals. She visits the sick in hospital and also in their homes. Heather exercises a full life, sharing the love of Jesus

with many people on a daily basis. We call her the "Ever-ready bunny!"

We thank God for Heather and those like her, who live their lives in service to the church and the wider community.



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