



# The Anglican Parish of South Grafton

Parish Profile September 2018



St Matthew's Anglican Church

Tyson Street

SOUTH GRAFTON

## **PARISH CONTACTS**

### **WARDENS**

Mr Francis Kean Phone

02 6644 6096

Mob. 0429446096

Email; [fandnkean@bigpond.com](mailto:fandnkean@bigpond.com)

Mrs Chris Cable Phone

02 6643 1001

Mob. 0431 433 046

Mr Wayne Jubb Mob.

0428 465 351

Email: [wjubb@icloud.com](mailto:wjubb@icloud.com)

### **NOMINATORS**

Mr Francis Kean

(as above)

Mr Alan Boman Mob.

0413 995 153

Email: [boman61@bigpond.com](mailto:boman61@bigpond.com)

Parish website: [sthgriftonanglican.weebly.com](http://sthgriftonanglican.weebly.com)

## **OUR PARISH**

**The township of South Grafton** is situated in the southern part of the Clarence Valley, in the Northern Rivers area of New South Wales. It is just off the Pacific Highway, which is the major highway from Sydney to Brisbane. The current population is approximately 6,200 people, with potential for growth. Its climate is sub tropical. It is an ideal location for a young family with easy access to numerous sporting and cultural facilities. There are three primary schools in South Grafton, (2 public and 1 independent), with Clarence Valley Anglican School just a short trip across the bridge. There is easy access to shopping venues, medical practitioners, and a hospital. Whilst most people choose to travel by car these days, it is helpful to note that this area has a small regional airport; a railway station, ferries and a number of bus companies.

The main centre of worship is St. Matthew's, Tyson Street South Grafton. Whilst the original Saint Matthew's was located in Bent Street South Grafton, the Parish committed to building a new church and multi function centre. In August, 2000 this building was occupied for the first time. After several years being partially built, the building has been completed and is now a multi-functional asset for our Parish.

The Parish includes the smaller towns of Ulmarra, Wooli and Coutts Crossing, with Worship Centres at both Wooli (every second Sunday), and Coutts Crossing (bi monthly).

Christ Church Cathedral, the Diocesan offices and Clarence Valley Anglican School are located on the northern side of the river some 4km away from the South Grafton Church.

South Grafton Anglican Parish is one of the 27 parishes in the Diocese of Grafton. It is a Diocese that is known for its collegiality and its genuine desire to celebrate our diversity.

### **OUR MISSION STATEMENT:**

*Sharing the good news of Jesus Christ, making disciples and growing faith communities. (included printed statements).*

We value the way in which we worship, engage with one another, and strive to be God's presence in the world. We have a number of solid connections with the wider community, which is expressed in a variety of ways.

We are currently growing a new ministry to young families (18 children in attendance), and we see this ministry as essential to growing the church of the future.

**BUILDINGS & ASSETS:**

St. Matthew's church is a modern multi-purpose centre located in Tyson Street, South Grafton. This is a two storey brick building with Church, Narthex, Vestry, Flower Room, Toilet facilities and a small kitchen located on the upper floor. Downstairs is a carpeted function room, kitchen, parish office, chapel, meeting room, together with a storage room and toilet facilities.

There is an operative church building at Woolli. The church, a small timber building with a colour bond roof, is fully functional for church services. The out centres of the Parish are Woolli and Coutts Crossing, which is a Union Church. People of the Presbyterian faith share this church.

The Parish has one non-stipendary Deacon and there are a number of voluntary Office staff who help out on varying days.

The Rectory is at a separate location away from the Church, and is about a 5 minute drive. The Rectory is a three bedroom home with additional guest quarters comprising one bedroom, ensuite and lounge area. It has air conditioning in the main living area and the master bedroom.



A Columbarium has been established within the Church grounds.



### WHAT WE DO:

There are currently 3 Church services per week at St. Matthew's, namely  
10.00 am Wednesday  
6.00 pm Saturday  
8.00 am Sunday

There is a service at Woolli once a month at **10.30am**



At the Union Church at Coutts Crossing there is a service each second month with a Presbyterian service during the alternate month.

St. Matthew's take services to two Aged Care facilities, and there are several regular home communions.

Parishioners regularly participate in Worship as in Intercessions, Eucharistic assistant, Bible readings, operate the audio visual and Welcoming. Baptisms are sometimes held within a scheduled Church service and sometimes at another time.

Funerals - a very amicable relationship has been nurtured with the local Funeral Directors. Our church is locally well known for our catering service which is offered on the occasion of funerals.

Special services that are held include Blue Knot and Memorial Services. Kids Musical Playtime is an outreach to young families, with Christian input and music.

We currently have four musicians in the Parish who provide music for our services.

We have 3 Family Groups which gather regularly for social outings, meals and a Camp. These groups are social only. Members are encouraged to invite friends and family who are not church going people.

**WELFARE:**

We participate in Samaritans Purse Christmas Child Boxes and BCA Money Boxes.

We support a number of Missions including financially supporting a couple who are CMS Missionaries in overseas countries, give financially to Special Religious Education in Schools. We also regularly donate food to Anglicare and a percentage of our Op. Shop takings each month is given to support a worthy local cause.

**BIBLE STUDIES:**

Bible studies are usually conducted during Lent and Advent plus two other groups meet on a regular basis.

**CARE AND SOCIAL INTERACTIONS:**

These include Home Communion, Pastoral Care, Family Groups, Court Care, Women's Breakfasts, Mothers Union, Maternity Visiting to new Mums and babies.

Our Parish provides the use of our downstairs function area, free of charge, for use by the local Alcoholics Anonymous Group three times weekly.

**PARISH COUNCIL:**

Parish Council is comprised of ten parishioners plus the Rector who meet monthly in the church meeting area.

**OP SHOP MINISTRY:**

This is a very worthy outreach to the Community as many customers call in to have a chat about many topics, and volunteer staff have a listening ear. There are many volunteers, some who have no church connection. Some of the volunteers at the Op Shop use their time there to fulfil their obligations for Centrelink Job Start. Each month 5% of the takings is given to a worthy local cause and an additional 5% is given to Christian Education in schools.

St. Matthew's Anglican Op shop is located in the main street of South Grafton in an ideal spot next to the Newsagent. This location gives good exposure as many people go to the Newsagency. The financial support from the Op. Shop is a very significant part of Parish financials.

### **ADMINISTRATION:**

There are a number of voluntary Office staff who assist with administration on different days. Other administration matters are carried out by the Rector, The Wardens and Parish Council. (The administration of the Op Shop is done by the Op Shop Coordinators).

### **STRENGTHS:**

Active Pastoral Care, visits, participation in services, volunteers for cleaning, preparation of rosters, outreach to the community, prayer chain.

Regular activities include Court Care, Op Shop, hospitality (catering for funerals & catering for groups not within our Parish), Kids Musical Playtime, Women's Breakfasts. A large number of our Parishioners have attended Cursillo weekends.

### **PASTORAL CARE:**

Includes visits to Aged Care facilities, home visits and welcoming to church services.

### **CHALLENGES:**

As an ageing congregation how do we continue to do existing tasks when there are no younger people coming through as a follow on? While we are very encouraged by the growth of the Kids Musical Playtime we need to be proactive in thinking about how can we continue to nurture and encourage this group in the Christian faith and what resources we might need. What is the next step? We need to develop further Facebook and our Web Page as social media extensions of our being and our activities. We need to be more aware of our environmental responsibilities. We see a need to develop our corporate prayers during our services so that they better reflect the current needs of our Parish, Diocese, local community and beyond.

### **FINANCIAL OVERVIEW:**

The Parish is in a reasonably good financial position, although not outstanding. The very welcome contribution from the Op Shop is of considerable assistance. In addition, some of our parishioners use the Parish Provider which is a direct debt system.

The Auditor's Report for the 2017 calendar year is positive.

We believe our parish is able to support a full time Rector.

The new St. Matthew's Church is basically complete. Now that major

improvements carried out in recent years have been completed, there should be no significant capital expense in the near future.

**LOOKING FORWARD:**

We look forward to having a Rector who will lead us in Worship, teach and challenge us to grow spiritually, and who will reach out to us and the community in prayer, care and understanding, so that together we can develop lines of creative communication.

Ascension Window





## MISSION STATEMENT

### *The Anglican Parish of South Grafton Mission and Ministry Overview*

*"Inspired by God's Grace -We seek to share His unconditional Love"*

#### **Mission Statement**

*Sharing the good news of Jesus Christ,  
Making disciples and growing faith communities.*

#### **Diocesan Prayer**

*God in whom we live and move and have our being,  
We thank You for Jesus Christ who is the good news  
By the power of your Holy Spirit,  
Enable us to be people who  
Transform lives, make disciples and grow communities,  
That your glory may be revealed in all creation.  
We pray this through your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen*

#### **Parish Prayer**

*God of Mission and Ministry send your Holy Spirit to  
give discernment to us in our planning, wisdom and  
understanding in our actions, and courage to walk  
with the stranger in our midst. Grow our church both  
in love and in numbers, as we promise to welcome,  
support and to care for all whom we encounter.  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

### **The Five Marks of Mission**

- To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
- To teach, baptise and nurture new believers
- To respond to human need by loving service
- To transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind, and pursue peace and reconciliation
- To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth.

### Priorities

#### Strengthening our Mission Focus

- Support and be in community and beyond
- Continue support of CMS link missionaries, CMS, BCA and ABM
  - Support and promote Anglicare Northcoast
  - OP Shop Enhance our communication across our MMR
  - MU
  - Newsletter

#### Build up a new generation of disciples

- Welcome and encourage new folk in our church community
- Work with School Chaplains and SRE teachers
  - Integrate Baptism families and others from the community

#### Enrich our Spiritual Life

- Offer a variety of ways for worship, study, fellowship
- Provide worship services that will nurture our Christian growth
  - Continue to expand the use of our AV system
  - Encourage bible study participation
  - Encourage Family groups to ask others to join them

#### Caring for creation - environmental stewardship

- Reduce our Carbon footprint in our community
- Promote recycling and good environmental practices

#### Support local initiatives in partnership

- Support, encourage and actively increase our ecumenical relationships within our community.

#### Mission & Ministry

- Equip people for mission and ministry
- Encourage & Develop the gifts and abilities of those in our Parish
  - Build on Op Shop Network
  - Reach out to the community in their places of need and also socially

#### Attend to our Governance

- Comply with all required regulations
- Refer to and follow Policy & Procedure Manual.



**The Parish of South Grafton:** Serving the community  
 Office: Ph: 66431313 Fax: 66431312 Open: Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri 9.30am -1.30pm  
 E-mail: southangadmin@bigpond.com Website: stgraftonanglican.weebly.com  
 Op Shop: Skinner street, South Grafton. Ph: 0401 397 465  
 Pastoral Team: Rector: [0488041133]  
 Hon. Deacon: Revd. Jenny Parker [66425102]

