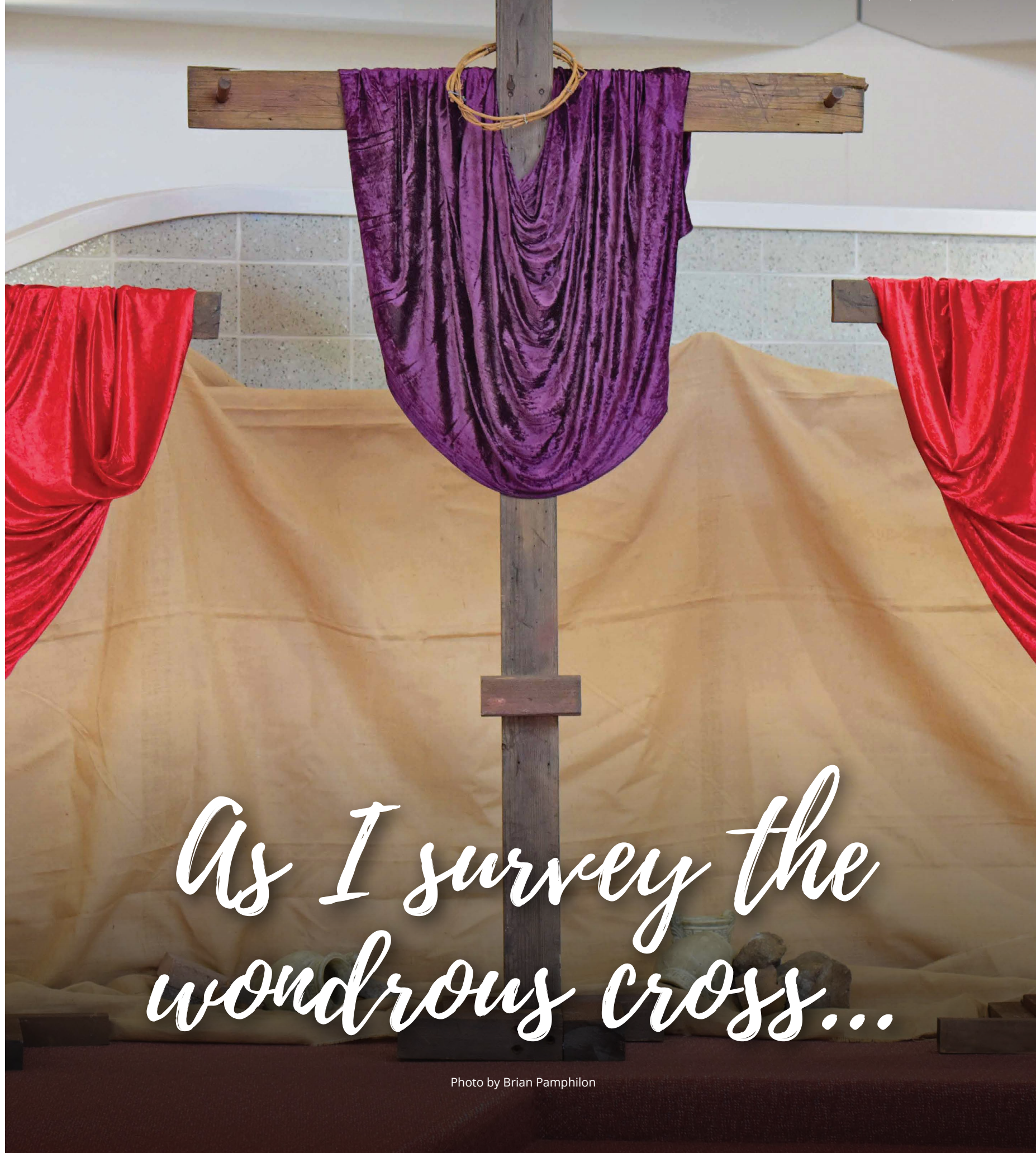


NEWSPAPER OF THE ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF GRAFTON, NEW SOUTH WALES

NORTH COAST ANGLICAN

Transforming lives through Jesus Christ

April May 2019 | Issue No 2



*As I survey the
wondrous cross...*

Photo by Brian Pamphilon

 **Anglicanfunds**
GRAFTON DIOCESE

*To be the trusted financial services provider of the
Anglican Diocese of Grafton, enabling ministry growth*

MORE DETAILS PAGE 8

TO *BE* OR TO *DO*? THAT IS THE QUESTION!



This is usually the Bishop's column, but as our Bishop has recently had a number of weeks in England attending a conference for those in the early stages of their Episcopal ministry, and with his mother's death soon after his return, Bishop

Murray asked me if I would be able to write this column for this edition of the *North Coast Anglican*. I am happy to have this opportunity to reflect on the season of Lent and to put onto paper some thoughts I shared in a recent sermon. I hope my thoughts may provide some food for thought for other *North Coast Anglican* readers.

When I was preaching on the Transfiguration, I focussed on Peter's reaction to this amazing event. As Jesus was praying and he was transfigured, he was joined by Moses and Elijah and then God spoke through the cloud. It must

have been one of the most amazing experiences any human being could hope to experience in their lifetime. If I had been there, I think I would have been transfixed and unable to move. However, we read that Peter wanted to build dwellings, that he presumably wanted to leave the mountain at that point and go and get supplies so he could do practical things, rather than taking the time to "be" in the moment. How often do we do this? How often do we place practical activity over spiritual quietness and stillness?

Our pace of life seems

to be getting faster and people often complain about being time poor, even though much of our modern technology is about providing us with labour-saving devices. Are we using the time that these devices give us to "be" more, or are we "doing" more? Are we like Peter, who almost missed the most sacred and holy time of his life because he was tempted to go and "do" something, rather than just "being" in the moment? I am also reminded of the conversation Jesus had with Mary and Martha when Martha criticised Mary for just sitting and listening at Jesus' feet rather than

helping with the household tasks. Jesus said that Mary had actually chosen the better path.

This Lent, I am making a concerted effort to "be" more. By this, I mean that I am trying to take more time to be aware of being in the presence of God and I am trying not to be too busy with tasks which could rob me of those God moments. I invite you to try this as well. Perhaps we may all hear something from God that we might otherwise miss in the noise and distraction of being too busy!

Archdeacon Matthew Jones

Lindisfarne Anglican Grammar School receives \$6 million under Capital Grants Program

Students in the Tweed Coast, Northern New South Wales and Southern Gold Coast will benefit following a funding announcement of \$6 million for Lindisfarne Anglican Grammar School under the Australian Government's Capital Grants Program (CGP) for non-government schools.

Principal Stuart Marquardt said that 12-months of concentrated planning resulted in the successful application with the funds being allocated through the NSW Independent Block Grant Authority (BGA).

"It is an exciting time for the Tweed Coast region, one of the fastest growing regional areas in Australia. Students are joining our school from right across the region; from Robina in the north, south to Byron Bay and west to Uki. This funding will allow our school to cater for these record enrolments."

Official confirmation of \$6 million in funding from the Australian Government's Department of Education and Training will help meet some of the considerable costs needed to complete the following projects:

- Construction of a new Middle School Centre with at least 10 learning spaces and adjacent collaborative spaces, staff hub and outdoor learning spaces on the Mahers Lane Campus;

- Development of a Senior Centre with teaching and learning spaces aligned to learning beyond the school; including senior common room, exam centre and associated amenities;
- Construction of a new Mahers Lane K-4 Campus including learning areas for Kindergarten and Years 1-4 and associated student and staff amenities, a multifunction covered space and sports fields.

Chair of Lindisfarne School Council Chris Goldstone said the first project to be completed will be Middle School Centre.

"This is a pivotal project under our Master Plan that we have been developing for some time. We must ensure we can continue to cater to the population growth of this region and the unprecedented enrolment growth of our school."

"In addition to these projects School Council are progressing plans to fund and build an Early Learning Centre (ELC) at our Sunshine Avenue Campus consisting of a Preschool Centre and a project to build additional Kindergarten classrooms. The ELC will be the first project of the Master Plan that has been developed for the Sunshine Avenue Campus," Mr Goldstone said.



Principal Marquardt said that the projects announced today will be part of an ongoing focus on developing Lindisfarne Anglican Grammar School as a premier co-educational place of learning in Australia and beyond.

"We are forming a long-term view for education in this region, building on our strong reputation for excellence with aspirations to offering a world class school for students in the Tweed Coast, Northern New South Wales and Southern Gold Coast."

"Leading architects and nationally recognised firm Thomson Adsett are finalising the plans for these projects and concepts will be available for the School community to view in the near future," Mr Marquardt continued.

NORTH COAST ANGLICAN

NEWSPAPER OF THE ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF GRAFTON

CONTACT DETAILS

Editor: Louise Mackay
PO Box 4 Grafton NSW 2460
P: (02) 66 424122
Fax: (02) 66 431814
Email: nca@graftondiocese.org.au

CIRCULATION

Circulation: 3000

SUBSCRIPTIONS (INC. GST)

Australia \$16.00 p.a.
Overseas \$28.00 p.a.

ADVERTISING

Contract \$2.80 per column cm
Casual \$3.50 per column cm
Rates include GST

CONTRIBUTIONS

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.

PHOTOGRAPHS

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

EDITORIAL

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.

Deadline: May 17, 2019

Prayer Vigil for Christchurch NZ at Grafton Cathedral

A Prayer Vigil for Christchurch, New Zealand was held at Christ Church Cathedral, Grafton on March 18 for the community to gather in solidarity with the people of Christchurch, New Zealand.

Prayers and music were shared together at the vigil to commemorate the victims and Christchurch community affected by the massacre in their mosques on Friday March 15.

"Our hearts are joined with all those caught up by the violence and hatred unleashed in Christchurch yesterday. May peace prevail on earth," a spokesperson said.



Rev'd Greg March is Commissioned at Kingscliff

For the last three months of 2018 Rev'd Greg March was locum at the Anglican Parish of Kingscliff, APOK. On March 8, 2019 he was commissioned as the Priest at APOK. We were blessed! Not many Parishes get to try before they buy and the same can be said of priests. A perfect match you could say.

Thank you to the Diocese, especially Archdeacon Gail Hagon, for their support during the 15 months we were without a Priest.

Greg comes to us from the Diocese of Brisbane and brings with him the spiritual, pastoral, visionary, and administrative gifts and personal characteristics our parish needs in a leader to support us through the exciting Mission and Missionary Project we are developing. Rev'd Greg and his delightful wife Georgina have

been warmly embraced by the parish.

Many guests joined us in the Commissioning celebrations. Bishop John Roundhill, clergy, family and friends from Brisbane, clergy from Grafton Diocese, local community members and parishioners comfortably filled our little church. In the absence of Bishop Murray Harvey, Archdeacon Matthew Jones from St Mary's Church, Ballina presided over the proceedings. Formalities were appropriately balanced with humour, making it a joyous occasion in a relaxed atmosphere.

At the conclusion of the service, and at the request of Greg, guests were served ice-cream in a cone followed by a more than generous supper washed down with punch, bubbly, wine or beer. We drew the line at Greg's request for a jumping castle! It was a memorable

occasion for APOK!

The Rev'd Greg March said, "I am excited by the opportunities for spiritual growth that are very evident in the local area.

"We live in a world where the mission of the church seems to be getting harder and harder to define and pursue. It is therefore encouraging to find a place that is keen to grow in spiritual depth and grow outwards in spreading the good news.

"I am also excited by the possibilities of developing synergies between my work at the Centre for Practical Spirituality Merthyr Road Uniting Church and at the "Little Blue Church" across the road from the beach, St James Kingscliff and St Marks Pottsville. I believe that every church should be perceived by the community to be a "Spiritual Centre"."



Archdeacon Matthew Jones (L) congratulates Reverend Greg March (R)



Reverend Greg March with his Churchwardens

Looking for NCA in your Inbox?

Do you want to be among the first to receive the NCA? Would you prefer to receive it electronically instead of in paper form? Or would you like to have it both ways? For future editions of the North Coast Anglican, we will be sending out a PDF version by email as well as sending out the normal paper copies. So if you would like the NCA in your email Inbox, please send your details to Kaytrina in the Registry on admin@graftondiocese.org.au and remember: It's free!



Clarence Valley Anglican School News

2019 SCHOOL LEADERS

We are pleased to introduce our new 2019 leaders who were inducted at Christ Church Cathedral at a special service on February 1, 2019.

Senior student leaders: Nicholas Masters (School Captain), Lillian Gumbleton (School Vice-Captain), Chloe Ford (School Sacristan), Khalehla Mupudzi (Kallatina House Captain), Emma Henderson (Phoenix House Captain), Liam Ward (Sovereign House Captain) and Emily Griffioen (Induna House Captain).

Junior student leaders: Riley Wondergem (Primary Senior Prefect), Shaniqua Mupudzi (Primary Senior Prefect), Ebony Hill (Induna House Prefect), Imogen Bacon (Kallatina House Prefect), Bennett Stainlay (Phoenix House Prefect), Ethan Spears (Sovereign House Prefect).

Congratulations to these students on their appointment.

CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA – SCHOOL'S DAY

On March 1, 2019 students from Clarence Valley Anglican School participated in the Clean Up Australia School's Day. Our students cleaned up areas in Red Rock, Corindi, Yamba and Grafton as part of this initiative.

Many students expressed surprise at the amount of

rubbish collected and one even asked if we could do this every week! Our school already runs a Friday afternoon program where students participate in Sport, Activities and Community Service because we believe that a focus on community participation helps to foster a strong sense of wellbeing and belonging in our students.

BACK TO THE 80'S... THE TOTALLY AWESOME MUSICAL

High school students amazed audiences at the Back to the 80's... *The Totally Awesome Musical* on March 1 and March 2. Held at the Criterion Theatre, the packed audience was captivated by the student performances and live music, breaking the musical drought of many years. The atmosphere was buzzing and it showed on the faces of the audience who were beaming with pride, and laughing and singing along while reminiscing about the 80's era. We feel we've only scratched the surface of the creative side of our students and we look forward to more shows in the future.

ASH WEDNESDAY

On March 6, members of The Cathedral Campus attended a service at the Cathedral and then Dean Jenks came out to Clarenza Campus and held another service with the



Stage 3 – 6 students. The day before was Shrove Tuesday, often called Pancake Tuesday where traditionally ingredients were used up before the start of Lent. The senior students cooked delicious pancakes, serviced with ice-cream as a fundraiser at recess on Tuesday, much to the delight of many. Thank you to Dean Jenks for his support of this

important date in our Christian calendar.

NCIS SWIMMING

CVAS competed at the recent NCIS swimming carnival on February 28. While the school didn't place in the top three schools we had some swimmers post some personal best times.

Josh Pattison was third in 17 years boy overall and qualified for CIS in three events and Mim Thomasser placed second in breaststroke 18 years. This means that our wonderful exchange student Mim has qualified for state in both swimming and athletics whilst she has been at CVAS.

A Response from Uki to the Massacre in Christchurch

By The Rev'd Dr John Tyman

Like most (but, sadly, not all) Australians, we were horrified at Holy Trinity Uki to learn of the massacre of the innocents at prayer on Friday in Christchurch of all places! The following Sunday we included special prayers for those there burdened by pain and grief. In the Tweed Valley there are many compassionate souls who have supported our efforts to minister to refugees (most of them Muslims) who are held in community detention in Southern Queensland. Many of us have actually formed close friendships with several of these families and are

especially mindful of the pain they must feel at this time.

In our service that Sunday we had payers for our Muslim brothers and sisters, both in Australia and in New Zealand. As a focus to our thoughts, and as a symbol of Islamic spirituality, we used a Muslim prayer mat which was given to me when I was travelling in Egypt. I told my guide that I wanted a prayer mat that I could use in the programs I then offered in schools throughout Eastern Australia that promoted racial tolerance and cross-cultural understanding. He dashed off and bought the best one

he could buy, and he refused payment.

On either side of the mat we positioned the candles that are normally placed on the altar, but we did not light them, symbolising the darkness which had enveloped Christchurch, and Christ's church. The one candle we did light was that within the pottery figurine that symbolises our fellowship, a circle of friends looking to the Light. Each Sunday we ask any visitors present to light this candle as a sign that they are welcomed into this community. On that Sunday it was lit in remembrance of those who had died in Christchurch.



Disaster Recovery training

For those interested in becoming a Disaster Recovery volunteer, the following training has been planned:

- Port Macquarie – 13th April
- Coffs Harbour – 4th May
- Tweed Heads – 15th June
- Lismore – July/August

For further details and to register your interest, please contact Owen Gray via email at: oweng@anglicarenc.org.au

Please note that you must undertake training if you wish to assist as a volunteer during a disaster.



BDC Stewardship - Lighting the Way

Anglican stewardship is a theological concept that embodies the ethical planning and management of resources. This idea can easily be applied to environmental concepts.

The Bishop Druiitt College Council and the greater college community have a strong commitment to sustainable practices and have embedded these values into our communities new strategic plan. The college community has then found innovative ways to activate these goals in practical ways.

At BDC, our Environmental Group has been active in supporting local environs such as Newports Creek. They have also been active in working with the college canteen to reduce plastic waste and to plant more local trees on site and within our region. The "think globally, act locally" rhetoric is in action at the college.

The college has also embarked upon an ambitious carbon dioxide reduction strategy. To facilitate this change the college has over the past 12 months replaced 80% of our lights with LEDs. The upgraded LED also saves on our electricity costs by 40%, has a similar impact on our carbon emissions and reduces our fire risk. The light is also truer to sunlight.

Independent research conducted on LED lighting concludes that students also have improvements in mood, performance and wellbeing as compared with similar groups using traditional fluorescent light.

Innovative schools have been moving towards this model over the last few years. BDC, which already has a significant solar system in place, will be expanding its environmental commitment over the next three months to include an



additional 99-kilowatt solar system.
BDC Principal, Mr Nick

Johnstone, states that "the college community can see local action regarding the climate change issue and can

be proud that their school is part of the solution for our shared future".

Celebrating 40 years of Faithful Service

By Lyn Johnstone

People from around the Diocese gathered at the Cathedral on February 11 to celebrate the 40th Ordination Anniversary of our Dean Greg Jenks.

There was a 50 strong gathering for the occasion consisting of folk from the Cathedral and from across the Diocese which included members of Cathedral Chapter and clergy.

It was a wonderfully joyous service and there was a true sense of a special occasion being celebrated.

The music was great and so were the hymns which were very appropriately chosen by the Dean.

The service was a Eucharist presided over by Fr Greg.

Fr Greg gave a short address making mention of Dean Warr the 1st Dean of the Cathedral and the changes that would be evident to him if he were to return to the Cathedral at this present time.

Greg reflected on the fact that the church has changed over time and must continue to change to be relevant in today's society. We need to experience and accept change in order to attract people across a wide spectrum to our church.

Many stayed after the service to partake of light refreshments and a catch up which put a seal on a wonderful celebration.



Afghan Veterans Visit Year 11 Modern History

Year 11 students at St Columba Anglican School have had an eye-opening experience during a recent Modern History lesson. The students were fortunate enough to interview local Afghan Veterans and gain a first-hand account as to what role each played in the war, the achievements, and the impacts of serving your country in a conflict situation.

This authentic experience was also a key feature of the student's first assessment task for Modern History, where they will work closely with Port Macquarie's branch of Soldier On, a charity set up to support veterans and their families.

As one student noted, "It was such an incredible experience for a lot of people in our class,

I know many of us cried at one point after the interview. It made Soldier On so much more real being confronted with the people it is helping. When you meet the people that served their country - it can be really confronting and makes you just that little bit more aware of how lucky we are to live in peace."

The School would like to thank Jody Geosits from Soldier On Port Macquarie for her organisation of the event and the veterans for showing such courage in sharing their insights with our students. As a history teacher, I was very proud of the exemplary behaviour and respect that SCAS students showed towards our veterans.



SNAPSHOT



Photo by Brian Pamphilon

As you enter St Mary's, Ballina this Lent you can't help but be struck by the sight of three immense crosses on one side of the sanctuary. It's an invitation to "survey the wondrous cross". Our Lenten studies pick up the theme of "When I survey the wondrous cross", and in our studies we sit before these three enormous crosses.



Jack Mulholland, Joshua Mulholland and Daisy Chaplin

The Congregation of All Saints Church, Murwillumbah celebrated Australia Day with a Holy Communion service lead by Rector Rev'd Lyndon Mulholland and then after the service we all enjoyed an Aussie morning tea of a cuppa and damper with Cockie's Joy topping and lamingtons.



It was a great delight to celebrate the continuing faith journey of four people as they were baptised and confirmed at Grafton Cathedral.



The Cathedral community gave thanks for the contribution of its many volunteers recently and also welcomed a group of Rotarians from Wisconsin USA who are in Grafton on exchange. Many enjoyed a talk about the organ and a tour of Grafton Cathedral.



Preschoolers at Columba Cottage had a blast bringing their favourite teddy to school for a very important cause on March 8. Susanna Christie, director of Columba Cottage said the preschoolers were fundraising for Westmead Children's Hospital.



Bishop Murray Harvey visited Canterbury UK in February to attend the Conference for Bishops in the early years of their Episcopal ministry. On the Sunday he participated in the Eucharist in Canterbury Cathedral for the Feast of the Presentation and together with the other bishops attended the cathedral parish lunch. He also caught up with The Very Rev'd Tim Barker who was the preacher at the Consecration service in Grafton Cathedral in September.

International Pi Day at St Columba Anglican School

International Pi Day is a beloved event celebrated on the St Columba Anglican School calendar.

Students from Kindergarten to Year 12 participated in the celebration of the fascinating transcendental number Pi which never repeats or terminates.

Year 10 student Zali Everden was among many of the volunteers on the day who mentored their younger peers through some of the mathematical challenges set up around the school.

"We had tables set up with equations you had to figure out and solve to win a piece of pie. It was just really beautiful to see the kids from all different year groups coming together to try and solve these equations and helping each other out," says Zali.

Among the festivities included a special screening of *Donald Duck in Mathmagic Land* and Year 12 students reading mathematically-based stories to our Primary School students before school.

Year 12 student Joanna Ryder was particularly inspired by her

younger peers' enthusiasm for maths.

"The kids wanted to read about maths and they loved it. I like that in maths there is always an answer and there is a sense of pride and satisfaction when you get it and I saw that in the younger kids' excitement," says Joanna.

The Pi Day fun was part of a broader celebration of mathematics at SCAS that is set to have a big, exciting 2019.

Coordinator of Mathematics and Australian Mathematical Sciences Institute (AMSI) Choose Maths Award Winner, Dr Janine Stewart, hopes that this year can see a continuation of bringing mathematics out of the classroom and into the everyday lives of SCAS students.

"We are really about visible and contextual maths. We want to give our students a deep conceptual understanding of maths that is transferable and seen in all aspects of their lives," says Dr Stewart.

The success of the mathematics program at SCAS was affirmed as Dr Stewart and her colleagues travelled to

Newcastle to hear fellow AMSI Choose Maths award winner Eddie Woo speak.

"Eddie spoke about the importance of cultivating curiosity, creativity and openness in the maths classroom and we were happy to learn that the strategies advocated by Eddie reflect the current teaching practices and philosophies shared by the Mathematics Department here at SCAS," says Dr Stewart.

Dr Stewart has big plans to expose the students of SCAS to opportunities in the realm of maths. SCAS has a focus in 2019 on empowering girls in the field given the alarming statistic that only six per cent of Year 12 girls chose to study higher mathematics for the HSC.

"This year our girls have the opportunity to be a part of the live streaming of the AMSI Choose Maths International Women's Day conference and we will again be entering some strong female teams into the Choose Maths Awards for 2019 including our first ever Primary girls' team," says Janine.



World Day of Prayer Service held at Port Macquarie

By Jacqueline Draffan

The convict-built church of St Thomas, one of the oldest in Australia, was the host for the World Day of Prayer in Port Macquarie this year. This day of global importance is held in churches of many different denominations in countries all round the world. People of many races come together to pray for peace and justice, in their local communities in huge cathedrals, small churches and even under the shelter of trees.

Each year the order of service is prepared by the women of a different country, under the guidance of the Bible Society and is translated into many languages. The program for 2019 was prepared by the women of Slovenia, a beautiful, but troubled small country which was part of Yugoslavia.

The colourful cover of the order of service featured the work of a partially sighted Slovenian woman and showed a plate prepared for a feast,

the Bible text being *Luke 14: 15-24*, Jesus' parable about the host whose invitations were refused.

Two of the St Thomas ladies took up the challenge of producing the Slovenian national cake "Potica" and the traditional heart shaped red-iced biscuit. The cake and large biscuit were set on a small round table with red and green grapes, red carnations and a cloth with red embroidery, over a green undercloth. The

table stood at "the crossing" in the church and slices of Potica were available for tasting at the lavish morning tea held in the parish hall.

Michelle Webb welcomed the large crowd to the service in the historic church and led the singing, joined by her daughter Emma and teen-aged intern Celecia, accompanied on the keyboard by Cilla Boyd. Archdeacon Stuart Webb called for a show of hands from the folk representing various Port

Macquarie churches amid much good-humoured rivalry and fun. Rev'd Stuart's address centred on our unity when we come together in Jesus' name on occasions such as World Day of Prayer.

A very generous offering was taken up for the Bible Society's program of trauma counselling for women in Slovenia.

Next year's program will be prepared by the women of Zimbabwe.

New Outdoor Prayer Room at Urunga

By The Rev'd Canon Zoe Everingham

The new prayer garden at St Barnabas Church, Urunga, is finally finished. The last item to be added was an in-situ brick and timber seat.

When plans were made in 2017 to subdivide land at the rear of the church, the question was what to do with the old memorial garden. The free-standing brick wall had large cracks and the pebble based "garden" was overgrown with weeds. With the permission of the Diocesan Property Committee, the wall was demolished, the bricks and metal windows were stored, the top surface of the soil was relocated to the western-side

of the vestry, and ash remains mixed with soil were carefully and individually removed in a prayerful archaeological styled excavation, to temporarily rest in peace under the Lord's table. Presiding at communion "surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses" took on a whole new meaning!

Last November, in a mammoth effort, a new prayer garden was created on the western side of the vestry. The area was cleared of overgrown grass and a circular plinth was laid using the bricks from the old wall. Each brick was lovingly cleaned by volunteer Rebecca Robinson and then laid in place by handyman Gary Sills, who also designed a central cross in white pebbles. The plinth

was three-quarters surrounded by mulched garden beds then planted with drought resistant natives. A hedge of lily pillies runs around the garden boundary. The old windows have been fixed to the metal fence and will be "planted" inside the hedges as they grow. Once developed, the overall effect should be reminiscent of a secluded outdoor room for prayer and reflection. On Christmas Eve, the excavated ashes and soil were re-interred during a small prayer service, and new locations recorded in the existing memorial book. The hand-made brick and timber seat is the final touch to a beautiful new prayer space that is always open. Thank you Gary and Rebecca.



New Partnership Between BDC and CVAS to Develop Property



Clarence Valley Anglican School and Bishop Druitt College have announced a new partnership to access Farnworth Property. Mr Martin Oates, Mr Phillip Bonser, Mr Nick Johnstone and Mr David Ford completed the negotiations for a Memorandum of Understanding to share the use of and develop a property in Glenreagh.

The property, named Farnworth, is currently used as a sustainable cattle property with 55 head of cattle. The property is 161.51 hectares of pastures with extensive tree-lined ridges and established walking paths. Both CVAS and BDC see the potential to develop Farnworth into an educational facility that can support:

- Vocational education

(e.g. construction, agricultural and pastoral education);

- Science and Environmental education;
- Outdoor education (e.g. School camps);
- and the Creative Arts.

“This is a fantastic development in the school's history and I am excited by the possibilities,” Mr Nick Johnstone said.

Director of Professional Standards Appointed

The Diocese of Grafton after many years of sharing a Director of Professional Standards with other Anglican Dioceses has now appointed a Director of Professional Standards in its own right. Ms Amanda Hickey takes on the role and brings with her experience in the law and working for a number of church groups on child protection, safe ministry and an appropriate response to victims of abuse. Part of Amanda's role is to support the Professional Standards Committee in their efforts to further improve the safety of our churches



particularly for vulnerable people. Amanda can be contacted by email to dps@graftondiocese.org.au or by telephone to 1800 370 757.

Diocese of Grafton endorses “Being Together”

The Bishop-in-Council of the Diocese of Grafton has recognised that we cannot take for granted how we act as a church community. At their February meeting, the Bishop-in-Council unanimously endorsed “Being Together” which is a positive statement of how church communities are to work together valuing and respecting each other. “Being Together” started as a resolution of the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Australia and has been adopted by several Anglican

Dioceses as a benchmark for positive behaviour as a community. To underline the importance of “Being Together”, the Bishop-in-Council has also approved policies relating to the Prevention of Bullying and Harassment and a policy on responding to Grievances both with “Being Together” at their heart. Members of Diocese of Grafton churches will soon see “Being Together” posters on display in their churches and halls.

To be the trusted financial services provider of the Anglican Diocese of Grafton, enabling ministry growth

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 1 April 2019 and are subject to change

50 Victoria Street Grafton NSW 2460 | PO Box 4 Grafton NSW 2460 | ABN 42 489 753 905

Phone FreeCall 1800 810 919 (NSW only) or 02 6642 4480 | Fax 02 6643 2391 | office@afgd.com.au | www.anglicanfundsgraftondiocese.com.au

Ballina Generosity aids the Community

The Parish of Ballina once again shared generously with the community at their Annual General Meeting.

Four not-for-profit organisations who promote and provide social justice very gratefully received cheques.

Mick Maloney represented Sheraton House. This organisation is run by St Francis Xavier Parish Centacare. It helps homeless men with short-term accommodation and receives no government funding. Mick stated homelessness has become a growing issue in our area.

Julia Adlington, secretary, accepted for Heartfelt House, who provide support and group therapy programs for adults who have suffered childhood sexual abuse.

Julia said, "It was exciting that Heartfelt House had been recognised for the work they do by this invitation."

Heartfelt House CEO Kate Loubet, will be attending a stakeholder consultation in Canberra with the new National Office for Child Safety, which is attached to the Prime Minister's Department.

It will be an opportunity to share thoughts on the recommendations from the Royal Commission Into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

Thirdly, two representatives, Meg Gordon and Chris Penn of the Ballina Hospital Auxiliary, told of the cost of purchasing medical equipment such as an ultrasound unit at a cost of \$65,000 and how every cent helps to reach the goal.

Finally, Principal Bhavni Stewart from Biala School was pleased to receive a cheque, as the School will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary in 2019. The school provides support for both disabled adults and school children.

Ballina Anglican Community Says Thanks

Over 17 years Ellen and Carney Goodger, now in their 80's, along with Marie and Gordon Jarrett, who retired last year, have helped the Ballina community spread its wings further afield through the provision of bus trips around the country both locally and further interstate.

They have also opened the



minds of many with excursions to see excellent drama productions in Brisbane. The journeys were always very popular and often had a long

waiting list.

They have decided to pass on the baton to Joan David, who is now co-ordinating the bus trips through the Anglican

Parish Office. Ellen and Carney proudly displayed their Bishop's Certificates from the Grafton Diocese received at the Parish of Ballina's AGM.

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 370 757** or email dps@graftondiocese.org.au

to reach our Director of Professional Standards who can receive your report with confidentiality.

IN BRIEF

NEW APPOINTMENT:

The Rev'd Cathy Ridd will conclude her ministry as Priest in the Parish of Mid Richmond on Sunday April 21. From the beginning of May she will be Associate Priest in the Parish of Ballina. We thank Cathy for her faithful ministry in the Parish of Mid Richmond since her appointment there in 2016.

ANNOUNCEMENT:

The former Dean of the Cathedral, **The Venerable Donald Kingsley Kirk**, has been elected as the 11th Bishop of Riverina. He will be consecrated and installed as Bishop of Riverina on June 15 in Griffith.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

5 April - Safe Ministry Training Workshop at St Thomas' Port Macquarie.

6 April - Safe Ministry Training Workshop at St John's Coffs Harbour.

10 April - Service of Blessing of the Oils in the Cathedral at 10am.

27 April - Safe Ministry Training Workshop at St Andrew's Lismore.

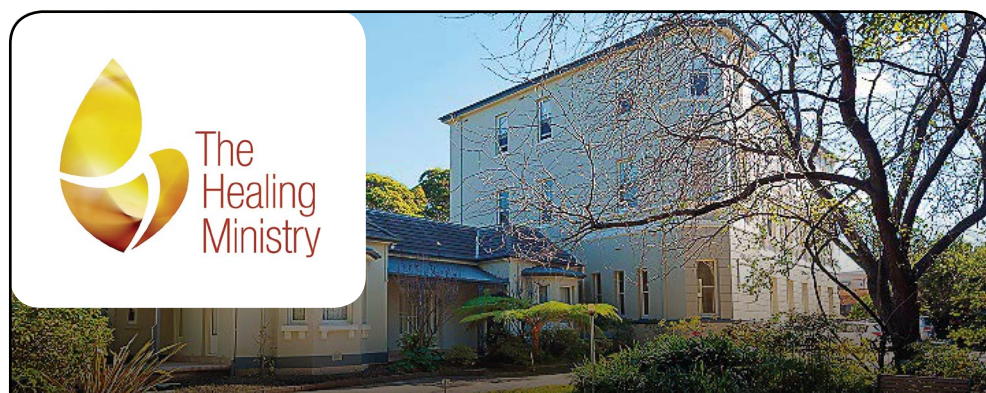
15 May - Anglicare 20th birthday celebration service in the Cathedral at 10am.

8 June - Pre-Synod Meeting at St Bartholomew, Alstonville.

12 June - Pre-Synod Meeting at St Augustine, Woolgoolga.

15 June - Pre-Synod Meeting at All Saints, Kempsey.

21-23 June - Synod at Christ Church Cathedral Grafton and Grafton District Services Club.



SYDNEY ACCOMMODATION

Secure, affordable, clean

Golden Grove accommodation Bed & Breakfast is conveniently located only minutes by public transport from Sydney City Centre or a short walk from RPA Hospital; it is at the heartland of Newtown's restaurants and Cafe scene.

Golden Grove offers:

- Warm & caring atmosphere in a tranquil setting
- Comfortable, clean rooms with en-suite or shared bathrooms
- Continental breakfast everyday
- Starting at \$60 P/N shared bathrooms
- \$75 P/N single en-suite
- Free off-street parking

For more information call 02 9557 1642

The Healing Ministry Centre
Golden Grove
5 Forbes Street Newtown NSW
centre@sydneyheal.com
www.goldengrove.org.au

REFLECTIONS

The Power of a Story

By Archdeacon Stuart Webb

A few Sundays ago we had the good fortune to have Rick George come to all our services, and he told the story of a king and his jester. Rick very cleverly weaved the Gospel throughout the story using magic tricks, props and dress-ups and some upfront roles for the extroverted kids. Not only was it funny and engaging but it was interesting to see the power of a story to speak truth into the lives of both the children and the adults.

It got me thinking about how we communicate the good news of Jesus Christ to a world that believes it has either heard it and dismiss it or hasn't heard it and don't want to because of the negative images of the church or religion. How many of us struggle to share what we believe because we feel our story is weak in the face of the Royal Commission findings or a negative portrayal in the media? Perhaps people we encounter through their own experiences of life's struggles equate God with their suffering. Either way, it's easy for Christians in the Australian context to feel silenced by the negative narratives toward our message. Ironically this is how most of the world's Christians have thought since the day of Pentecost. Most followers of Christ throughout history have had to count the cost of sharing the faith in a world that desperately needs our story but stands either against it or is indifferent to it.

So how do we find the courage to proclaim our story? A story of love and forgiveness in the face of sin and corruption; a story of justice and mercy walking hand-in-hand. A story of our God who, "so loved the world that he gave his one and only son so that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."

Ours is a story brimming with hope and dignity, a story inviting people to new beginnings where past mistakes are washed away, and we are encouraged to be new creations. We have a story that invites people to know that they are made in God's image and that God has a plan and a purpose for them. Our Gospel invites them to see that they hold intrinsic worth because they live and breathe by the will of God. We own a story that reveals God's desire to walk with us in our sufferings because God knew to suffer in Jesus Christ. Our story is inviting us to healing, forgiveness, truth, wisdom, faith, and love. And this is just the opening page of our story. We have a Bible filled with stories of human frailty and failing with God's justice, and mercy outworked throughout the history of God's people. It's written by the same frail people yet inspired by the God who created the heavens and the earth. Within its pages lies the truth, wisdom and salvation story of our timeless God.

What a great story for a world cynical about love, faced with terror and violence either in our homes or on our screens. What an excellent story for Australians who are suiciding in unprecedented numbers and are depressed and anxious in record numbers. What a great story for our elderly who are told that they don't matter anymore or our young who are lied to about their identity by corporate marketing machines. How powerful is a story of our God forced to flee as a refugee for those languishing in our facilities?

The problem is not with our story because it's the most excellent story ever told. The problem is with how we are living out the story in our own lives. If we don't understand our own story and don't see the transforming power of God in it then we won't value it



enough to share it. If we have believed the lies told that cause fear and doubt in our own Gospel then we won't have the confidence in it to re-tell it.

The church in Australia stands at a crossroads, and those of us who live in it have to choose.

Choose whether we believe in it enough to live it rather than philosophically subscribe to it. Either our story holds and proclaims the metaphysical or supernatural power of God, or it is merely another ideology in a world filled with doctrines. If

we believe our story holds the truth of God and God's ability to transform lives then what are we waiting for? Let's get out there and tell our story; the story of Jesus and let God worry about whether people believe it or not.

THREADS LAID BARE

Stones and Rocks

By Rev'd Camellia Flanagan

In life, in literature and in the symbolism of the Bible everyday items can have significant meaning. In this season of Lent we find our daily readings call to mind that God is our rock and his work is perfect (*Deuteronomy 32.4*). Rocks are commonly referred to as a symbol of God's reliability. We are advised to build our homes and lives upon the stable rock that is God's love, his wisdom and salvation.

Rocks call to mind the idea of refuge and a place to escape to from hardship.

We all know the difference between rocks and stones. We are told that a stone causes people to stumble but a rock makes them fall (*1 Peter 2:8*). Rocks are usually large and not particularly attractive with rough or jagged edges and not many people build with unshaped rocks. Stones bring to mind rocks that have been made into a smooth

and rounded shape by the continuous action of water. The shape and smoothness of the stone will depend on how long this process has been happening to the piece of rock. Some stones may even look like something good to eat - a bread roll or a round loaf of bread (*Luke 4:3*). Jesus' words remind us that we live by "the word that comes from the mouth of God", not bread (*Matthew 4:4*).

Stones are often used as background decoration in stained glass windows and religious art. In many cases they have spiritual significance. The spirit is likened to water and the spiritual rocks of our souls are changed by the continuous action of the Spirit of God. Our thoughts, the things we treasure and what we contemplate are the spiritual water that polishes the building blocks within our soul and, like water, can be

contaminated and corrode. Jesus said, "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be" (*Matthew 6.21*). This means that as the temple of the Holy Spirit within our soul is being built, if our attention is there, we will be always choosing and polishing stones for our eternal home. May we contemplate the value of the little pebbles in our meditation this Lent.

The Coming of the Light and Three Lessons and Carols

By Gerri White
St Bartholomew's Church,
Alstonville

In December last year a special Advent occasion was held at St Bartholomew's Church in Alstonville. The whole church community worked together to make the night a special outreach event, with its focus on families and on the coming of Christ, hence the title, *The Coming of the Light*.

The idea grew from seeing a photo of a church decorated with ropes of LED lights and from the feeling that our lovely sandstone church would look wonderful decorated in this way and provide a beautiful, exciting and unexpected backdrop to our Advent night. Our Rector, The Rev'd Dr Desiree Snyman, was very supportive of the concept and of it being planned and organised by our Alstonville Branch of Mothers Union. The Parish Council also supported this special focus on Advent, offering finances to cover the purchase of over 300 metres of fairy lights and the cost of providing a meal at the beginning of the event.

Much planning, a great deal of ingenuity and artistry went into the putting up of the very long ropes of lights by several men from our church. At one point, some 80 metres of lights became entangled and only with the patience of the men

helping, their good humour and dexterous untangling, were we rewarded with success. Years of un-knotting their children's fishing lines paid off!

The catering group organised a wonderful BBQ meal with accompanying salads and served it with amazing efficiency which was quite a feat, as we ended up with 96 people coming to the night. MU ladies had agreed to buy and to make all that was needed for a range of delicious desserts to accompany the meal.

The evening commenced in our Ministry Centre, with a Christmas game involving all ages – children, parents and those who were quite a lot older! Team members, for two teams, were randomly chosen as they came in and given a red or gold tinsel badge to identify them. The aim was for the teams to compete in placing their set of decorations on their tree. Where a team member had mobility issues, the tree was carried to them! The game caused a great deal of laughter and was enjoyed by participants and spectators.

The evening, commencing at 6pm, was run to a tight schedule as we did not want to make it a late night for the sake of young children and older folk. After enjoying their meal and MU desserts, people were asked to make their way over



to the church. Waiting inside, were the choir members ready to sing as people came in to the sound of their lovely music and to the surprise of finding our historic stone church illuminated only with the soft glow of fairy lights, candles and lights strung through the flower arrangements in the Sanctuary. The choir helped create a unique atmosphere and were vital to the atmosphere and message of the night with their Advent hymns.

Several different people were invited to be readers of the Lessons but the whole

congregation, in great voice and aided by the choir, sang the carols.

Children were involved in a Nativity activity for which our MU President had made the outfits for Mary, Joseph and the Angel Gabriel. A rustic and beautifully made cradle was made by our Op Shop leader and filled with straw. All the children present joined in with instruments to accompany the singing of *Joy To The World* as Mary and Joseph entered and placed baby Jesus into the cradle, with Gabriel watching over all, having earlier had his

wonderful message delivered by a reader. Coloured lights were now turned on around the cradle.

As the service concluded and the last hymn was sung, people still sat, enjoying the special atmosphere the evening had created. During the *Three Lessons and Carols*, the darkness had fallen completely and the fairy lights had become even more beautiful, adding to the wonderment of honouring the coming of Christ – the coming of the light, in such a meaningful and family-centred way.

PRAYING WITH THE SAINTS

George Augustus Selwyn – First Missionary Bishop to New Zealand

By Rev'd Camellia Flanagan
DIED 1878
FEAST DAY 11 APRIL

Selwyn was educated at Eton and at Cambridge and known as a scholar and an athlete. In 1833 he was ordained a deacon and became a curate at Windsor. He married Sarah Harriet Richardson on June 25, 1839 and had two sons, William prebendary of Hereford, and John Richardson Selwyn, Bishop of Melanesia. He was made Bishop of New Zealand in 1841. He learned to preach in Maori and to sail his own vessel among the diocesan islands.

Bishop Selwyn's see was an early foundation in the series of colonial sees organised by the English Church, and his organisation and government of his diocese proved of special importance.

In six years he visited the whole of New Zealand, and in December 1847 began a series of voyages to the Pacific Islands, which were included in his Diocese by a clerical error in his letters patent. Selwyn was a keen critic of the unjust and reckless land acquisition practices.

Of the New Zealand Company. Selwyn clashed with Archdeacon Henry Williams,

the leader of the CMS in New Zealand, over land purchases. He was suspect to Maoris as an Englishman and to settlers as a native sympathiser but later won wide respect.

The CMS missionaries held the low church beliefs that were common among the Anglican Church. There was often a gap between the views of the missionaries and the bishops and other clergy of Selwyn's high church traditions of the Oxford Movement as to the proper form of ritual and religious practice.

His journals describing journeys through Melanesia provide a picture of his

versatility, courage, and energy. His voyages and the administrative work resulted in 1861 in the consecration of John Coleridge Patterson as the first Bishop of Melanesia

Selwyn developed a scheme for self-government of his Diocese. In 1854 he visited England for permission to subdivide his Diocese, and for the church of New Zealand to manage its own affairs by a General Synod. On his return, four bishops were consecrated and the legal constitution of the church was finally established. The first General Synod was held in 1859.

In 1867 Selwyn visited

England a second time to participate at the first Pan-Anglican synod of the Lambeth Conference, an institution which he established. He was enthroned as the ninety-first Bishop of Lichfield on January 9, 1868 and governed there until his death aged 69 on April 11, 1878. Selwyn College Cambridge and other institutions have been named for him. Can we give thanks for Bishops of energy and vision?

"A land there lies. Now void; it fits thy people; thither bend thy course; there shalt thou find a lasting seat; There to thy sons shall many Englands rise. And states be born of thee. 1850."

Anglican Diocese of Grafton

Do you have an up-to-date will? Please consider giving to the work of the Church in your will.

Our diocese has been blessed by the generosity of benefactors in times past. As we seek to expand Christ's Mission in the 21st century, please consider how you might contribute. You should get legal advice before making your will. You may wish to consider the activities of the Anglican Diocese of Grafton as the recipient of either a specific gift or the residue of your estate.

The following wording may be useful for you and your legal advisor when making your will: "I bequeath to the Corporate Trustees of the Diocese of Grafton in the State of New South Wales the sum of to be used for the general purposes of the Diocese of Grafton in such manner as the said Trustees may approve."



ANGLICARE NORTH COAST CONNECTION

Anglicare North Coast making community connections for Migrant and Refugee women

3Es to Freedom is a program run by Anglicare North Coast for refugee and migrant women. The program emerged from Anglicare North Coast's practical experience in delivering settlement services to families from refugee backgrounds. The pilot program commenced in 2016 with funding from the Department of Social Service. The success of the program lead to its expansion under the *Third Action Plan 2016-2019 of the National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children*. The 3Es program operates under the premise that women who are educated, employed and empowered are less likely to be harmed or incapacitated by Family and Domestic Violence.

Education and employment are overt components of the program, however empowerment is integral to, and underpins the program. 3Es build confidence and safety through community connections and wellbeing activities where participants are most eager to learn our

Australian ways. The program provides access to activities which expand on their exposure to experience what Australian women enjoy; along with education to meet workplace expectations and information to understand Australian Laws and the statutory systems in place to protect woman and children's right to safety.

Research and reflection underpins the 3Es to Freedom program. Southern Cross University have partnered with Anglicare North Coast to identify key learnings and best practice with working with refugee and migrant women. The impact of this program has been documented in film, photography, textiles and creative arts and will be presented in three upcoming public exhibitions.

Each exhibition will capture the richness and experiences of the 3Es to Freedom participants in each of their program areas on the Gold Coast and located in the regions of Richmond/Tweed and Coffs Harbour.



All are welcome to attend any of the exhibitions as listed. Please contact Roslyn Felsch for further information via email to: roslynf@anglicarenc.org.au

"The great thing about being a women in Australia is that you can do everything like driving, riding bikes and opportunities for different jobs. The 3Es to Freedom Program is helping me find the best path forward for my future," Helena (Iran) - participant 3Es to Freedom.

STORIES TO FREEDOM EXHIBITION VENUES AND DATES

Gold Coast Helensvale Cultural Centre

Dates: April 29 – May 30 2019
Exhibition Opening: 5pm, Friday April 26
RSVP: kestif@anglicarenc.org.au
Venue: Sir John Overall Dr & Lindfield Rd, Helensvale QLD 4212

Lismore Regional Art Gallery

Dates: May 23 – May 30 2019
Exhibition Opening: 6pm, Thursday May 23
Venue: 11 Rural St, Lismore NSW 2480

Coffs Harbour Regional Museum

Dates: May 17 – June 22 2019
Exhibition Opening: 6pm, Friday May 17
Venue: 215 Harbour Dr, Coffs Harbour NSW 2450

Uncertainty and Adversity

One of the most certain things in our lives in uncertainty! We really never know what we will be faced with in our lives. Our country is currently in a state of uncertainty, with both Federal and State elections due very soon. We don't know who will be elected and how that will impact on us. Current members of parliament face the uncertainty of whether they will have a job after the election. Uncertainty can be distressing and have dire consequences for us if we are worrying about what will happen to us in the future. How do you react when facing an uncertain future or when

something that is less than desirable happens to you? Recently at a Leadership Team meeting we were challenged by a devotion about carrots, eggs and coffee beans. Now that might seem like a strange combination of things to be discussing, but each of them has a different reaction when subjected to boiling water. Carrots go into the water hard and unyielding but after being in boiling water for a while, they become soft and mushy. Eggs have a fragile exterior full of liquid, but after boiling they become hard on the inside. Coffee beans, however, actually lead

to a change in the water, producing a product that is desirable (at least to those of us who like coffee). The point of this, clearly, is to think about how we react to adversity in our lives. Are we a carrot, that turns soft and mushy, an egg that becomes hard on the inside, or a coffee bean that actually uses the adversity (boiling water) to change the circumstances for the better?

There are many stories of adversity and triumph from the women in our 3Es to Freedom Program. Some of these stories will be showcased at events during April and May. Details of each

event can be found on this page. Please encourage the participants in the program and the staff who assist them, by visiting the exhibits.

Finally, if you are currently facing adversity, I trust you will draw strength from this promise from *Phillipians 4: 6-7*:

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

20th Birthday Celebration Service

On May 15 a special service will be held at the Cathedral to celebrate Anglicare North Coast's 20 years of Service to the Community. The service will commence at 10am and be followed by refreshments. We would be delighted to have representatives from each parish and school attend this service. To assist us in catering, we would appreciate it if you could let us know by May 3, 2019 if you are planning to attend. Please reply via email to admingrafton@anglicarenc.org.au or by calling our Grafton office on 6643 4844.



Phone (02) 6643 4844
Anglicare North Coast, PO Box 401 Grafton 2460
anglicarenorthcoast.org.au

AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOUNDATION

AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOUNDATION DONATIONS

Our mission is to provide appropriate, affordable accommodation to disadvantaged persons throughout the North Coast of NSW. To donate or for further information please view our website or contact our office.

ALL DONATIONS TO ANGLICARE NORTH COAST OVER \$2.00 ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE AND ARE USED TO HELP US FULFIL OUR MISSION