



# **ANGLICAN PARISH OF BALLINA**

## **PROFILE – JUNE 2022**

*An inclusive Christ-centred community, growing in our relationship with God  
and the wider community.*

**Ballina and Lennox Head Anglicans**

*Respecting the traditional people of this land, the Bundjalung people*



## **ANGLICAN PARISH OF BALLINA, DIOCESE OF GRAFTON**

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### **PARISH NOMINATORS**

Dr John Phillips, Mr Hugh McIntosh, Mr John Bryen

### **PARISH CHURCHWARDENS**

Dr John Phillips, Mrs Kerry Johnston, Mr John Bryen

### **PARISH OFFICE**

Office Administrator: Mrs Cathie Guest. 24 Burnet St Ballina NSW 2478



## AN INVITATION

### COME- JOIN US ON OUR MISSIONAL JOURNEY

Come and join the team as the leader in a vibrant parish on the beautiful North Coast of NSW.

Whilst we are passionate about worshipping in the Anglican tradition, we have a genuine openness to explore diverse ways in which people might explore faith, worship and spirituality.

We are equally passionate about embracing the social justice side of mission and ministry.

We see ourselves as a community of faith, giving thanks for the many volunteers using their gifts, supporting many ministries.

We are in a financially sound position with a well maintained property and investment portfolio.

We have a desire to grow the Church so that it can be an inclusive place for seekers, inquirers and explorers of the faith as we continue to explore ways to *Be Christ* in the wider community.

We look forward to developing the network with Alstonville Parish and Emmanuel Anglican College.

Is God calling you to be our next Rector?



# MISSION AND MINISTRY IN 2022 AND BEYOND

## **DIOCESAN RESTRUCTURE**

*Restructuring for Mission and Ministry: Daring to Live into God's Future for Us* was endorsed at the Synod in 2020. Part of the Restructure is a focus on different models of ministry. Model 2 (networking) has been selected for the future of this parish. A Ballina-Alstonville Network will be formed, including the Parishes of Ballina and Alstonville, as well as Emmanuel Anglican College. In this model, Parishes retain their individual identities and their own Parish Councils, while licensed ministers (ordained and lay) work together in different ways across the whole network.

In 2021 our Parish Council held two Planning Days which looked at our mission and ministry in the coming years, especially with the coming Ballina-Alstonville Network in mind.

## **PARISH HEALTH CHECK**

In preparation for our Planning Days, Parish Council members completed a Diocesan document, *Parish Health Check*. While the Health Check identified areas for celebration, it also revealed the need for major growth in parishioners' engagement with a parish vision, sharing of their faith, proactively inviting people and then welcoming them into the church. This Health Check helped to direct Parish Council's focus as we then formulated our Mission Action Plan for 2022 and beyond.

## **MISSION ACTION PLAN FOR 2022 AND BEYOND**

### **Looking Ahead and Envisioning**

To be effective in inviting others, we need to be passionate about our own spiritual journey.

We want to increasingly involve ourselves with the wider community, seeing what God is doing in our community while praying for 'the eyes to see' God-given opportunities when they emerge and discern ways to provide a Godly response. By focussing on mission, the potential use of our property and resources becomes obvious.

### **Opportunities and Possibilities**

Form a Development Committee of Parish Council to review the use of properties to support the mission focus e.g re-development of the Op Shop site, rethink the current use of St Mary's Precinct.

Investigate options for increased use of St John the Baptist church building.

Investigate potential partnerships with Anglicare North Coast.

Using the resources of the parish to connect more effectively with Emmanuel Anglican College community.

Investigate establishing a faith community in one of the growth areas e.g Cumbalum, west Lennox Head.



Continue to employ an Associate Priest as a Pioneer Community Minister with a focus on Mission and Faith Formation, bringing an understanding of God to people where they are at, meeting the needs of people in our community.

Being more missionally intentional with some existing activities, e.g. St Mary's Music Program, Anglican Op Shop.

Prayer Ministry- underpin all our mission and ministry activities in prayer.

Collaboratively formulate a Parish Prayer.

Nurturing Individual Spirituality: apart from sermons and celebrating on Sundays and Wednesdays, develop opportunities for spiritual nurture e.g small groups, book clubs, quiet days, weekday breakfasts with guest speakers.

Develop a more intentional culture of being welcoming and being inclusive.

Increase the number of more small groups, preferably 'amoebic', (divide and grow).

Explore ways Parish Council can be more proactive about spiritual nurture.

Pilgrim Course- to be offered to a pilot group and invite feedback.

Taking A Stand: against cruelty and injustice, developing the eyes to see the opportunities when they arise and the heart to respond e.g asylum seekers, violence in horse racing.

Create a 'safe space' environment to discuss topical issues e.g assisted dying. Consider Talking Circles or other similar options.

Recent Initiatives:

As we begin to live into our Mission Action Plan, we have already seen the following initiatives:

Approval to conduct a feasibility study into establishing a K-2 EAC campus at St John the Baptist, Lennox Head;

'What's Your Story?' - sharing parishioners' faith journeys on video;

Launch of The Isaiah 61 Project;

Formation of the Parish Council Development Committee to explore new or expanded use of our Parish resources.

## PARISH PROGRAMS, ORGANISATIONS AND ACTIVITIES

### *ISAIAH 61 PROJECT- commenced March 2022*



The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me;  
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the broken-hearted,  
to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners. (Isaiah 61:1)

The impetus for this project was the people who come to the parish office for food vouchers each Monday morning, who are experiencing increasing hardship in an uncertain world. We believe God is stirring the Parish to explore a calling to bring good news to the poor, to bind up the broken, to free those held captive by poverty and despair.

The Isaiah 61 Project is not something which will run forever (although activities which are started under its banner may run for a long time). The Project gives a name to what is really a process of discernment with a distinct lifespan - perhaps 1 year? At the end we can assess whether the Parish has embraced a call to fulfil Isaiah 61:1 in very practical ways, and whether this is becoming a distinctive part of our Parish identity.

In this constantly changing world we cannot predict what will happen, so the answer may be 'No, this is not for us.' That's OK: this is what a period of discernment is all about.

Monday Afternoon Outreach: Offering a range of services simultaneously at St Mary's, e.g. once a week for 2 hours. This includes- Woolworths food vouchers (budget \$900 a week for 2022); Anglicare mobile food pantry - purchase tinned and packet groceries at 1/6 of market price; Orange Sky van - laundry and shower facilities and 'Feed Your Soul' - open the church for prayer, beautiful music, spiritual conversation.

Free medical clinic: Follow the model that currently runs at the Winsome Hotel, Lismore with the service being operated by the local Primary Health Network. The parish simply providing a venue for the service at no cost, i.e. the two offices with the separate side entrance in the admin building. Depending on availability of GPs, the service might operate for 1 or 2 half-days per week.

Build a better network with other local service providers: Explore how we can support one another, and work together without overlapping or gaps.

Be a voice for the voiceless: Meet with local, state and federal government representatives to highlight the needs in our community. There may even be grants the parish can access.

Bring existing missional activities under the Isaiah 61 Project banner: Some of our current activities don't have much visibility to our parishioners. Including them in our regular updates on the Project will help remind people of all the things we are involved in. For example: Offering the admin hall to AA, Al Anon and NA - members make a minimal donation for use of the premises; Offering an office to Anglicare at a modest rent; Threshold Choir (binding up the broken hearted in song); Offering a base for the Orange Sky van free of charge.

*Monday afternoon outreach:*

*Distribution of food vouchers, Anglicare NC Mobile Food Van, and Orange Sky Van*

**ST MARY'S MUSIC PROGRAM:** The Music Program is a monthly cycle of concerts (one concert per month from February to December) and part of the music ministry of the Anglican Parish of Ballina and Lennox Head. The name 'St Mary's' refers to the church building that has made a name and is well known in the Northern Rivers for its musical activities, choral acoustics and pipe organ.

Following our mission statement, the music program is to open our church buildings and connect to the wider community. Concerts over the last two years (2020, 2021) have created a regular following within our local community and connected with musicians and audience from all the Northern Rivers. Attendance in each concert ranged from 60 (during Lismore lockdown) to 200.

Concerts bring in many people who would not attend or connect with 'church' or traditional forms of worship. Our concerts have become part of community life in Ballina and the surrounding area. St Mary's is known for its music, hospitality and welcoming openness.

Parish Council has made a commitment to this program for three years. (2022-2024).



*St Mary's Music Program Concerts*

## **PRAYER MINISTRY**

Advent and Lenten Daily Reflection booklets.

Parish Prayer Chain: available to anyone who requires prayer for themselves and for others with their permission. This is a confidential ministry.

Weekly Parish Prayer for the bulletin: parishioners, on a rostered basis, write a weekly prayer that is relevant to what is happening in our day-to-day world.

Year 12 Emmanuel Anglican College Prayer Team: Each team member is allocated a Year 12 student to pray for the student on a daily basis or as often as they are able. The students know they are being prayed for but not who is praying for them. The Team Leader liaises with the College Chaplain and sends regular emails of encouragement to the students during the year. A list of the subjects studied by each student and exam time is provided when the HSC exam is held.

Individual Prayer During Holy Communion at St Mary's Sunday worship: in recess during COVID-19.

**MISSIONARY SUPPORT:** Five percent of budgeted offertory each month goes to the following groups with the budget for 2022:

Anglican Board of Missions (ABM): \$4550;

Church Missionary Society (CMS): \$2600 and

National Home Mission Fund (NHMF): \$650.

Whatever is the Mission of the Month; it is promoted in the weekly bulletin.

Also, five percent of budgeted offertory is allocated each month plus donations from parishioners to the following groups: Anglicare Affordable Housing, The Bible Society, Bush Church Aid (two months), ABM - Lent, Advent and Diocesan Auxiliary Project, CMS, Anglican Overseas Aid, Act for Peace project, Sparklit, Leprosy Mission.

Special appeals are supported: local, national and international e.g Tonga appeal 2022.

Local mission support goes to: Ballina Christian Education Committee (Chaplain in the state High School), Primary school SRE material, various community groups determined on an annual basis.

Total giving to local, national and international missions in 2021: \$52 386.30

**STATE SCHOOL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SRE):** Ballina Christian Education Committee: Co-ordinates SRE in state schools. Two Parish representatives are members of this committee. Parish financially contributes to the employment of part-time chaplain in the State High School.

State Primary Schools: Combined Protestant Special Religious Education weekly classes. Parish contributes towards resources and booklets for children.

**ANGEL TREE MINISTRY:** Members of the Parish have generously supported this ministry to children of prison inmates for over twenty years. In 2021 parishioners donated \$2696.45 for Christmas gifts to be purchased for children of inmates.

### **HOSPITAL VISITATION**

Pre COVID-19: A team of volunteers visit Anglicans in Ballina and District Hospital and Rehabilitation Unit each Monday. A copy of the weekly bulletin as well as prayers the patient may use later.

### **ANGLICAN OP SHOP:**





The Op Shop operates from a special purpose building owned by the Parish. It is staffed by a team of over fifty volunteers. The Op Shop is open Monday to Friday from 9.00am to 3.30pm and on Saturday from 9.00am to 12 noon. As well as providing an outlet for good value clothing, it also provides a social meeting place for buyers and volunteers alike. It is in its twenty seventh year of operation.

The Op Shop makes a valuable financial contribution to Parish finances (2021- \$219 000). Funds are also used for welfare support through distribution of food vouchers as part of the Isaiah 61 Project and to support community groups and organisations (2021- \$27 885).

**MU AUSTRALIA:** A faithful and dedicated group who seek to honour the ideals of Mothers Union through their commitment to a variety of projects as well as supporting Diocesan functions and activities.

**ANGLICAN FUNCTION HOSPITALITY (AFH):** Anglican Function Hospitality (AFH) co-ordinates all catering functions in the Parish, including paid catering. Paid catering hospitality is provided for funerals and other community functions. A committee has responsibility for this ministry. AFH commenced in 2013. Has had limited activity during COVID-19.



**CRAFT GROUP:** The Craft Group meets weekly on Tuesday morning for fellowship and sharing skills and talents. The ladies go to lunch after Craft. Items made by the Craft Group are sold at various community fund raising activities or donated to individuals with a special need. As well members make financial donations to both community, national and overseas organisations. Has been in recess during COVID-19.

**BUS MINISTRY:** The Bus Ministry has been operating for many years, connecting the church with the community through regular bus trips. There are bi-monthly day trips, trips to Brisbane to concerts and special events. The emphasis is on fellowship with many commenting positively on the Christian content. Bus competitions support the Australian Seabird Rescue Centre in Ballina. Has been in recess during COVID-19.

**THRESHOLD CHOIR:** The Associate Priest is the Musical Director of the Threshold Choir, which sends small groups of singers to the bedsides of people who are approaching death. The singers come from all parts of the community. The Choir uses St Mary's Church building for weekly practice. A family member of one person the Choir sang for described it as "the most spiritual experience of my life."

**WHAT'S YOUR STORY?:** In mid-2021 *What's Your Story?* was introduced as a way to encourage people to talk about their faith journey. People are interviewed on film about some aspect of their faith, and then edited into a five-minute video. The completed videos are shared on YouTube and Facebook, with some incorporated into sermons. The videos are people talking about how God is at work in their lives. 2021 Summary is here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rrKOqk81Q9M>

**STUDY GROUPS:** Two weekly home study groups operate, led by lay leaders. As well there are parish Lenten and Advent Studies led by the clergy.

**QUIET DAYS/ MINI RETREATS:** Held at various times during the year, parish organised, and held at an equine assisted therapy and learning retreat centre in the parish. Activities include labyrinth walks.



**COFFEE AND CONVERSATION:** Held on the fourth Thursday of the month at one of the cafés in Lennox Head to share in fellowship and grow in friendship.

**COFFEE N CHAT GROUP:** *The Lemon Tarts* meet weekly at a local café for mutual support, sharing and fellowship. Cards, with quotes, are used to stimulate conversation.

**ANGLICARE FINANCIAL COUNSELLING SERVICE:** In 2013 the Parish made available to Anglicare North Coast office space for the establishment of a Financial Counselling, two days a week, for the Richmond River region.

**CURSILLO:** Many parishioners have participated in Cursillo weekends. Cursillo is promoted in the parish.

**BALLINA CHRISTIAN CHOIR:** The Ballina Christian Choir is a group of Christian women who enjoy singing the praises of God's amazing love. They perform at Ballina RSL Sub-branch memorial services, at different Christian church functions as well as nursing homes and hostels.

**WEEKLY BULLETIN:** The Weekly Bulletin is available at each service, the Op Shop and is mailed (emailed or posted) to parishioners and those requesting it. The bulletin includes: a weekly prayer with ABM Reflection, MU Thought for the Week, From the Rector, Readings for next week, Parish Prayer Points, calendar for the next week, details of upcoming parish events and activities and parish contact details. A monthly report from Parish Council is included.

# THE PARISH

## **LOCATION & MAJOR TOWNS/AREAS**

Ballina is located in an area known as the Northern Rivers in the State of New South Wales, Australia. It is a modern, well serviced town, located on the banks of the Richmond River just off the M1 Motorway (Pacific Highway), the major highway joining the major State capital cities of Brisbane, Queensland to the North (2 hours by car, 190 kms) and Sydney, New South Wales to the South (9 hours by car, 770 kms).

Lennox Head is a coastal town 13 kms to the north. Significant growth areas in the Parish are located at Lennox Head, Skennars Head, about halfway between Ballina and Lennox Head, and Cumbalum, 8 kms to the north-west of Ballina.

The Parish of Ballina is set in the Shire of Ballina excluding that part covered by the Parish of Alstonville to the West. It includes the major church and administration centre of St Mary's in Ballina and St John the Baptist in Lennox Head.

Ballina is thought to be named either from Aboriginal words meaning 'place of fish and oysters' or 'fighting ground' or after a town in Ireland.

The original inhabitants of the Ballina area were Bundjalung Aboriginal people.

Ballina is well serviced by health and other professional services. It is 35 kms and 90 kms respectively from the major health centres of Lismore and the Gold Coast. Education needs are well provided for by two State Primary Schools and a State High School in Ballina and a Primary School in Lennox Head. The Parish is closely associated with Emmanuel Anglican College in West Ballina which provides for Pre-school through to Year 12. There is a Catholic Primary School in Ballina and Skennars Head, a Catholic Secondary School at Skennars Head and a Christian College in Ballina. Southern Cross University is located in Lismore with a TAFE College in Ballina, Wollongbar and Lismore.

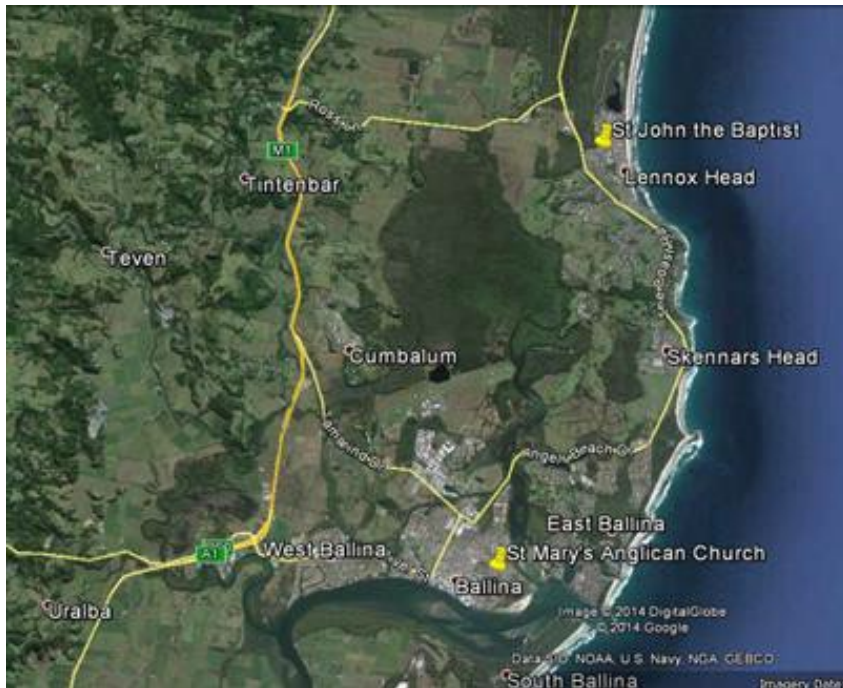
The Ballina Byron Gateway Airport, 10 minutes from the Ballina town centre, is a busy transport hub with several daily jet and turbo prop flights to/from Sydney as well as regular flights to Newcastle and Melbourne. The Gold Coast Airport at Coolangatta, about an hour by car, provides connections to major Australian and NZ cities as well as tourist destinations in Australia, NZ and South East Asia. International flights to major overseas destinations are available through Brisbane Airport, approximately 2.5 hours by car. The popular tourist destination of Byron Bay is on the coast 30 minutes north by car from Ballina.

Ballina has extensive sporting and recreational facilities for all ages.

Ballina was a centre of a thriving ship building industry and had seen several mission boats launched over the years.



## ANGLICAN PARISH OF BALLINA & LENNOX HEAD



Larger map showing Parish in relation to Brisbane, Sydney and Canberra

### STAFFING

#### **RECTORS**

2015-2022: The Reverend Canon Matthew Jones (Rector of Camperdown and The Holy Apostles, Diocese of Ballarat)

2010- 2015: The Reverend Canon Dr Robert Ireland (Retired January 2015)

2003- 2009: The Reverend Canon Gail Hagon (Currently Archdeacon Emeritus-Grafton Diocese)

2000- 2003: The Reverend Greg Ezzy (Currently Archdeacon Emeritus -Grafton Diocese)

1993- 2000: The Reverend Geoff Smith (Currently Archbishop of Adelaide and Primate)

#### **ASSOCIATE PRIEST**

2019- 2025: The Reverend Cathy Ridd- Pioneer Minister with a focus on Mission and Faith Formation. Reverend Cathy works five days a week.

#### **MUSIC CO-ORDINATOR- Part-time**

2018: Mr Hamsa Arnold. Employed to the end of 2022- 30 hours a week.

#### **OP SHOP CO-ORDINATORS**

Mrs Ann Emery and Mrs Julie Harwood in a voluntary capacity.

#### **LICENSED RETIRED PRIESTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PARISH**

The Reverend Major Richard Brown and The Reverend Margaret Davis.



## ***LICENSED LAY MINISTERS***

Five Licensed Lay Ministers- Mr John Bryen, Dr John Phillips, Mr Amkela Malaba, Mrs Pat Kerr and Mrs Ros Rowe.

## ***OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR***

Mrs Cathie Guest: Monday to Friday- 9.00am to 3.00pm. (25 hours per week)

## **LITURGICAL SERVICES**



EAC Chapel Services



Ecumenical Easter morning Renewal of Baptism



## SUMMARY

### *Pre-COVID-19: 2019 Sunday and Mid-week Services*

**St Mary's Ballina: Sunday 7am:** Sung Eucharist using APBA - Second Order with occasional First Order. *Dudman* setting with small choir. Music- Organ with four traditional hymns and sung psalm. Average attendance: 2018: 40; 2019: 39. Adults-60 years plus. Organised by clergy with Lay Assistants and lay participation.

**St Mary's Ballina: Sunday 10am:** Holy Communion - following APBA - Second Order on data projector - contemporary. Music - organ/ piano with lead singers. Organised by clergy with Lay Assistants and lay participation. Average attendance: 2018: 76. 2019: 79. Majority over 60 years.

**St Mary's Ballina: Wednesday 10am:** Sung Eucharist- *Dudman* setting using APBA - Second Order. Sheets with key service responses. Music- Organ/piano. Organised by clergy with Lay Assistant and participation. Average attendance: 2018: 19. 2019: 21. Majority over 70 years.

**St John the Baptist Lennox Head: Sunday 8.30am:** Holy Communion - service on the data projector following Second Order APBA with *Roots on the Web* variations. Music- Organ with four traditional hymns. Organised by clergy and Lay Assistants with lay participation. Children's Ministry. Average attendance: 2018: 33. 2019: 33. 2 families. Majority over 60 years.

### *2022 Sunday and Mid-week Services*

**St Mary's Ballina: Sunday 9.30am:** Holy Communion- following APBA - Second Order on data projector with *Roots on the Web* variations. Sung responses. Music- organ/ piano with lead singers occasionally. Organised by clergy with Lay Assistants and lay participation. Average attendance: 2020: 42. 2021: 59. Majority over 60 years.

**St Mary's Ballina: Wednesday 10am:** Sung Eucharist- *Dudman* setting using APBA - Second Order from Prayer Book and Hymn Book. Music- Organ/piano. Organised by clergy with Lay Assistant and lay participation. Average attendance: 2020: 20. 2021: 13. Majority over 70 years.

**St John the Baptist Lennox Head: Sunday 8.00am:** Holy Communion - service on the data projector following Second Order APBA with *Roots on the Web* variations. Music- Organ with four traditional hymns. Organised by clergy with lay participation. Average attendance: 2020: 21. 2021: 20. Majority over 60 years.

### *2022: RETIREMENT VILLAGES AND NURSING HOME SERVICES*

Services are held monthly in the following: St Andrews Nursing Hostel, St Andrews Village, RSL Life Care Chapel, BUPA Ballina Aged Care, Crowley Village.

### *COUCH CHURCH*

*Couch Church* commenced in 2020 in response to the COVID-19 lockdown. This online pre-recorded service included the sections in the Second Order Holy Communion service, excluding the Thanksgiving Prayer and communion. It was recorded and edited by our Associate Priest with music recorded by the Music Co-ordinator. It is half to one hour in duration.

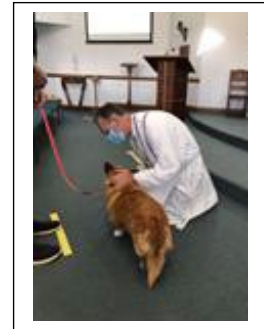
As the COVID-19 restrictions eased and people had the option of returning to 'in church' services, the format was reduced to around thirty minutes and included music with hymn singing, prayer, scripture reading and reflection. It continues to be recorded by the Associate Priest and Music Co-ordinator and edited by the Associate Priest.

*Couch Church* is available online through YouTube (2020: 267, 2021: 104 average weekly views). A link is emailed with the weekly bulletin.

Couch Church can be found at this site: <https://anglicanballina.com.au/home/church-during-covid-19-link/>

## **SPECIAL SERVICES**

- New Year's Day
- Ecumenical Easter morning Renewal of Baptism vows on the beach at Lennox Head
- Patronal Festivals
- Ash Wednesday
- Choral Evensongs
- All Souls' Day Remembrance Service
- Emmanuel Anglican College Chapel services
- Nine Lessons and Carols
- Blue Christmas and Christmas Family Service
- Significant National and Community Events
- EAC Chapel Services



## **BAPTISMS**

2019: 14; 2020: 2; 2021: 8.

By arrangement as part of a church service or as a baptism service.

## **WEDDINGS**

2019: 1; 2020: 2; 2021: 1.

By arrangement. No fee is charged for use of the church buildings. Fee for music.

## **FUNERALS**

2019: 16; 2020: 22; 2021: 16.

By arrangement in a church building, chapel, crematorium or graveside. There is no fee for clergy or the use of the church buildings. Fee for music. Catering is available through Anglican Function Hospitality (AFH).

## **ATTENDANCE STATISTICS- summary**

2019:

- Number of communicants: 10 231
- Total church attendance: 18 466
- Number of Eucharistic services: 278
- Number of non-Eucharistic services: 63

2021:

- Number of communicants: 4290
- Total church attendance: 5323
- Number of Eucharistic services: 129
- Number of non-Eucharistic services: 27
- *Couch Church*: average views- 104 (average views 2020- 267)

# GOVERNANCE

## PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council meets monthly. Committees present items and recommendations for consideration and approval by Parish Council and then have the responsibility for implementation. A written progress report is presented to each General meeting.

The Executive Committee of Parish Council (Rector, Associate Priest, Churchwardens and Treasurer), meet monthly (or as required) to plan, co-ordinate and reflect on Parish life.

Parish Council: The operation and Roles and Responsibilities of Parish Council are listed in the Grafton Diocese Governance Ordinance 2008 Amended 2022, Chapter 10.



Each Committee prepares a written report to be included with the agenda for each Parish Council meeting. It will include a summary of the actions of the Committee in implementing decisions referred to the Committee by Parish Council and recommendations for consideration by Parish Council, including draft motions. Where possible, background information is included to assist Parish Council in making an informed decision in a timely manner. The Committee undertakes the research, considers options and possible implementation strategies for any matter or action under consideration.

Committee Reports form part of the official minutes of Parish Council.



## PROPERTY PORTFOLIO- HISTORY

### SUMMARY

By 1844 church services were already being held in Ballina. A small church was completed in 1876. The Parish of Ballina was created in the 1890's with Canon W A Dalton as the first Vicar. The Parish included Alstonville and Dalwood, Tintenbar and North Creek (now Lennox Head). The church building on the present site of St Mary's Ballina served almost thirty years. The replacement church building was dedicated in 1906. A new organ was installed in 1964 and extensively upgraded when the new church was built.

Specifications for the replacement of St Mary's Church were finalised in 1995 with the new building being consecrated and dedicated on 6<sup>th</sup> September 1998. External maintenance and painting was undertaken in 2006 and internal painting in 2014.

Twenty-year celebrations were held in 2018 with a fund-raising weekend for *Beyond Blue*. Guests included The Most Reverend Geoff Smith, Archbishop of Adelaide (former Rector) and wife Lyn. The Right Reverend Philip Huggins (Bishop at the time of opening) spent a weekend as guest preacher.

A vicarage was completed in 1898 and the building was eventually donated to Ballina Shire as a Community Centre and relocated across the road in Swift St to allow the construction of St Mary's Glebe.

Alstonville and Dalwood were separated from Ballina Parish in 1908, forming a new parochial district.

The Parish Hall (now the Parish Administration/hall Centre) was built in 1959 for a cost of just over \$4000.

In 1975 a joint venture between the Anglican Church and the Presbyterian Church resulted in the establishment of St Andrews Retirement Village, Nursing Home and Hostel Ballina in 1983.

In 1975 a house in Norton Street was bequeathed to the Rector who donated it to the Parish. It was sold in 1982 with funds used to purchase an Assistant Priest's House. This house was sold to help finance the Op Shop.

The seventeen, two bedroom units, known as St Mary's Glebe Retirement Units were built in four stages between 1992 and 1997 and were sold to St Andrews' Retirement Village in 2015.

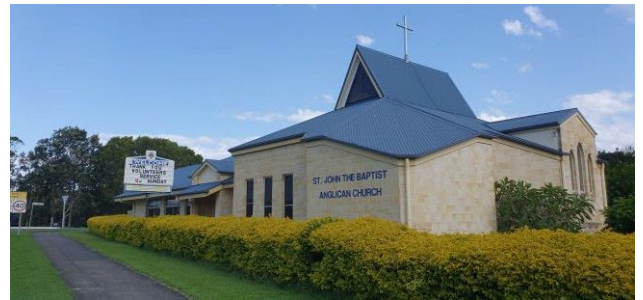
Following sale of properties in 2002, land was purchased with construction of the Op Shop completed in 2003.

The house in Burnet Street was rented prior to 2002. It then became the Rectory for The Reverends Gail Hagon, Robert Ireland and Matthew Jones.

The Chickiba Street Clergy House was purchased in 2006. It is presently rented to long term tenants for \$580 a week.

St John the Baptist Church Lennox Head: The record of the first service in Lennox Head was at North Creek on 5<sup>th</sup> January 1896. The first church building was dedicated on 26<sup>th</sup> October 1898 on North Creek Road. Services were held monthly until the church building was moved to the village of Lennox Head in 1947. In 1998 land was purchased for a new church building with construction completed in 2003. The present church was consecrated on 13 February 2004 by Bishop Keith Slater.

**St John the Baptist Church Lennox Head**



**St Mary's Church Ballina**



***Clergy House (Rectory) 28 Burnet St Ballina***



***Clergy House 127 Chickiba Dr East Ballina***

### ***PROPERTY SUMMARY:***

**St Mary's Anglican Church Precinct:** Corner of Norton and Burnet Streets Ballina.

The Precinct consists of three adjoining blocks- St Mary's Anglican Church on one block; Administration/hall and storage shed on the other two blocks.

**St John the Baptist Anglican Church:** Corner of Fern and Byron Streets Lennox Head.

**Rectory/Clergy House:** 28 Burnet Street Ballina

**Clergy House:** 127 Chickiba Drive East Ballina.

**Anglican Op Shop:** Corner Tamar and Grant Sts Ballina

### ***USE OF FACILITIES***

St John the Baptist: Lions Club of Lennox Head for the Youth of the Year competition, music lessons two afternoons a week and The Third Order of St Francis gatherings.

Parish Administration Centre and Hall facilities - AA, NA, Al-Anon for friends and relatives, Kumon and Anglicare for financial counselling and welfare support.

Other groups: Meals on Wheels Committee and for Parish Council Committee meetings and Parish groups

## **EMMANUEL ANGLICAN COLLEGE**

Emmanuel Anglican College (EAC) opened in 1998 in the former Anglican Conference Centre in East Ballina with a student population of 16. The College was an initiative of the Anglican Parish of Ballina.

Emmanuel Anglican College is now situated on approximately 6ha of land in West Ballina. Architecturally designed in keeping with the style and climate of northern New South Wales, building commenced on the site in 1999 with classes commencing in 2000.

EAC has an enrolment of over 800 students from pre-school to Year 12. It is one of five Anglican schools in the Diocese of Grafton. Enrolment is projected to grow to 1080 students by the end of the decade. EAC has a very positive reputation as a school of excellence on the Northern Rivers.

Strong connections exist between Emmanuel Anglican College and the Parish of Ballina. St Mary's Anglican Church is used for chapel services and College activities. A member of the Parish is the Chair of College Council.

EAC Web Site: <http://www.eac.nsw.edu.au/>



# CENSUS INFORMATION FOR BALLINA SHIRE

## SETTLEMENT HISTORY

European settlement dates from 1842, with land used mainly for timber•getting and agriculture. From the 1860s, land was used more for sugar cane growing, maize growing and dairy farming. Gradual growth took place during the late 1800s. Significant development occurred from the post•war years, with the population increasing from about 8,000 in 1947 to about 9,000 in 1966. Rapid growth took place during the 1970s and 1980s. The population increased from under 11,000 in 1971 to 19,000 in 1981, and then to 39,000 in 2011. Today the shire population is over 45 000. Rural land is used largely for grazing, fruit and nut growing, sugar cane as well as fisheries.

## POPULATION HIGHLIGHTS

Shire population in 2022 (estimate)- 45 314. The forecast by 2036- 51 238

Land area- 484 square Kilometres

In 2016 Ballina Shire had a lower proportion of children (under 18 years) and a higher proportion of persons aged 60 years or older than Regional NSW (32.7% compared to 27.2%)

Item- 2018 Census	Ballina Shire	Regional NSW	NSW
Median age	48	43	38
Older couples with children	15%	13%	10%
Couples with children	23%	25%	32%
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Pop.	3.3%	5.5%	2.9%
Overseas born	11%	11%	28%
Language other than English	4%	6%	25%
Median weekly income	\$1152	\$1162	\$1481
Households with a mortgage	25%	29%	30%
Households renting	26%	26%	30%
University qualification	11%	11%	28%
Trade qualification	22%	24%	18%

## RELIGION

Analysis of the religious affiliation of the population of Ballina Shire in 2016 compared to Regional NSW shows that there was a lower proportion of people who professed a religion and a higher proportion who stated they had no religion.

Overall, 58.9% of the population nominated a religion, and 30.5% said they had no religion.

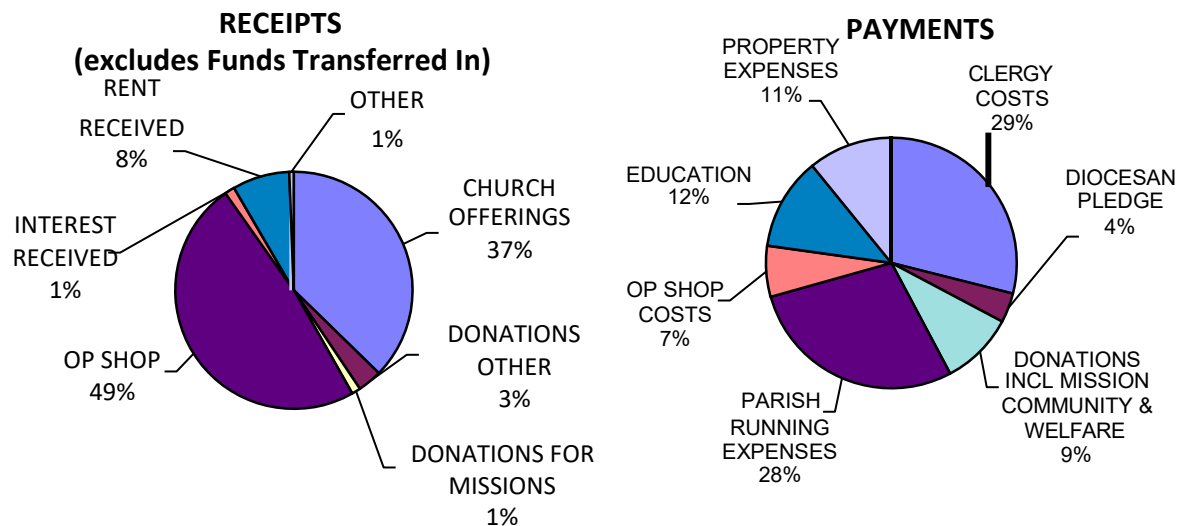
The largest single religion in Ballina Shire was Western (Roman) Catholic, with 21.9 % of the population followed by Anglican with 19.1% (7 966). Anglican had the largest decrease between 2011 and 2016, from 24.2% to 19.1%



# FINANCIAL MATTERS

## FROM THE ANNUAL REPORT 2021- SUMMARY

Following charts highlight the relative and significant inputs to Receipts and Payments.



The Parish made the decision three years ago to employ an Associate Priest as a Pioneer Minister, with a focus on faith formation, connecting with the wider community. Funding and growing existing ministries as well as this Pioneer Ministry has required the Parish to allocate some of its term deposit funds to support a deficit budget. A commitment has been made to continue this for the next three years. The Op Shop contributes almost half of the annual income with income from the rental property.

The Parish has a healthy investment portfolio with the Corporate Trustees and Anglican Funds South Australia.

## THE PARISH PROFILE CONTEXT: IMPACT OF COVID-19 and FLOODING

- *Couch Church*, a pre-recorded weekly service of prayer, praise, preaching, music and singing that has proved very popular, and is our major response to the COVID-19 pandemic. It is an online option for parishioners, keeping a connection with our clergy and parish life during lockdown. It is also viewed by people outside the parish.
- A weekly mailout (email and post) of the Bulletin and various other documents has kept parishioners connected to parish life.
- A team of 20 parishioners kept in phone contact with parishioners during the COVID lockdown periods.
- As the majority of parishioners are in the vulnerable age group, the Parish Leadership Team spent a lot of time responding to the ever-changing Public Health Orders and restrictions to ensure the safety and wellbeing of everyone.
- Most parish programs and activities have been in recess for two years. Some have recommenced.

- Attendance at weekly services decreased by 47%. There are signs of increasing attendance at the main Sunday service at St Mary's Ballina.
- The use of Zoom has greatly facilitated communication and will continue to do so.
- Parish income has been maintained with a large increase in the number using direct giving options as well as increased Op Shop sales helping fund the Isaiah 61 Project.
- As COVID restrictions have eased, Parish Council has spent time planning for another 5 to 10 years, including more effective ways to use our resources (property and reserve funds) to facilitate and support mission and ministry.
- The network formation between Ballina and Alstonville parishes and Emmanuel Anglican College as listed in the Diocesan Restructure, *Daring to Live into God's Future for Us*, has not commenced due to COVID-19.
- Since March 2022 the focus has included flood recovery in the Northern Rivers, especially supporting those directly impacted by flood waters. This support includes the Associate Priest working as a Disaster Recovery Chaplain, providing housing advocacy and the provision of welfare, clothing etc for vulnerable people.

