

*They devoted themselves to the apostles teaching, fellowship, the breaking of the bread  
and to prayer. Acts 2.42*

# ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF GRAFTON

## PARISH OF THE DORRIGO

### PARISH PROFILE



*'Sharing God's Love through Prayer and Action Everyday'*

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**Our Identity:**

A Rural community church in the Anglican tradition, part of the Diocese of Grafton. A Church with a diversity of people under the Lordship of Christ

**Our Values:**

Growing our church by reaching out and sharing the good news of Jesus. Bringing God Praise and Glory through a variety of worship styles. Growing in our relationship with God through prayer, bible study and fellowship. Being generous and good stewards.



**Our Mission Statement:**

Sharing God's Love through Prayer and Action Everyday

**Where we are:** Dorrigo is situated 720 metres above sea level with a population in the total area of approximately 1400. There are social and service Clubs and sporting groups. The National Park and the beauty of the place attract many tourists. There are 3 schools, a High School, a State Primary School and Mt St John's Catholic Primary School. There is a hospital and aged care facility called "Highview".

We as a Parish, are united to proclaim Christ through worship, word and witness. We look outwards as we respond to God's call to serve. We think of ourselves as a body in which each part is needed and valued. We try to build



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a community of faith which is welcoming, by the strength of Holy Spirit. We try to equip and enable people for ministry so that their faith is life giving. We value and care for our assets which are a sign of God's presence and a means of ministry. We are Christ centred, informed by the life and person of Jesus. We try to care for each other and the people we meet with the love that is poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit.



**Church** - seats 150, data projector & computer, electronic organ, Yamaha Piano.

**Parish Hall** - quite large, has a good size stage, storeroom, parish office, photocopier, indoor toilet with access for the disabled. The kitchen is well equipped. 100+ chairs and 22 tables.

**The Rectory** - Comfortable, 4 bedroom, 3 bathroom brick and tile with a large usable basement. A double garage, wood heating and air conditioner.



\*Photo above – Rectory. Other photos taken from Musical Memories Night in 2024\*

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**A Bit of History** - The First appointment of Clerk in Charge was Rev Everleigh on 1 October 1908 and the church of St Stephen's of The Dorrigo was dedicated on 8 September 1909 by Archdeacon Moxon ( a booklet produced in 2008 for the centenary of the church is available).

### **Our Community's Strengths, Prayers and Celebrations:**

The Parish of the Dorrigo is an active and diverse parish with two services each Sunday. Dorrigo is a country town within proximity to Bellingen, Coffs Harbour and Nambucca Heads. Liturgy and worship span from traditional to more contemporary. Despite this diversity, we actively pursue opportunities to come together as a whole parish.

Dorrigo has a great sense of community and generosity that one might expect from a country town and our people are our richest resource, with commitment to hospitality, care and leadership. The congregation is made up mostly of Anglicans with members of other denominations actively involved in worship and ministry each week and are part of the "whole".

There is an Interchurch Council which meets four times a year and services such as Pentecost, World Day of Prayer, Christmas combined churches social and Carols at Christmas present an opportunity to come together as a Christian family and as an outreach.

The Parish has a strategic three-year plan and has been implemented with some things still to be done as COVID interrupted.

### **Our Prayers for 2025**

- That we continue to grow our Kidsclub GLUE
- We continue to reach out to families and children via Messy Church
- We trust God for our future





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## ONE OF OUR CELEBRATIONS IS CHILDREN'S MINISTRY!!



### GLUE

God Loves you (U)  
Eternally  
Held in Term Time 3 - 5pm  
Wednesday  
Grade 1 to 6



### MESSY CHURCH

Outreach to families -  
Held four times a year



### SCRIPTURE IN PRIMARY SCHOOL

We have a small team  
who teach Scripture at the local school each week

\*Pictures taken from GLUE and Messy Church events\*

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### **More Ministries at St. Stephen's Dorrigo:**

- Monthly prayer meeting.
- Outreach each Friday morning to those who live alone.
- Regular Bible Studies held during the year.
- Pastoral Care team who are allocated a number of the congregation to keep in touch with.
- Catering for funerals when requested.
- We hold a large Garage Sale each February to help with Parish funds.
- Aged Care Centre "Highview" monthly for communion.
- Lay people - read the Scriptures and lead intercessions

### **Our Challenges:**

The Parish doesn't currently have a dedicated youth group, although over time has had youth groups. We haven't the resources at present to expand again into this ministry. Despite having some musicians in the parish, the parish is in need of extra musicians.

We need someone to raise up Licensed Lay Ministers and empower the laity in this way.

### **Parish Statistics - 2024**

7.30 average attendance 10.

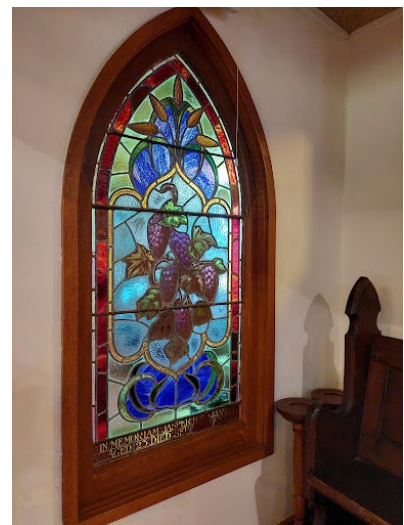
10 am average attendance 27

Combined Service every 5th Sunday 38,

Messy Church 36 Includes workers

Deervale Union Church 13.

**Finances:** We are currently a viable full-time Ministry Unit, offering a full-time stipend package as outlined in the Ordinance. More information on parish finances via enquiry.



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The Parish Council maintains an overview of all the activities of the parish. Much of the planning, organising and executing of the work of the church is conducted by the Parish Council.

Members of the Parish Council and other volunteers work with the Rector to ensure that tasks are completed. Wardens are involved with ensuring that the place of worship is safely managed and are instrumental in negotiating with tradespeople when required.

The parish has collectively devoted significant attention to developing our mission and strategic planning. A most important need is leadership to continue to bring the strategic plan to life. We are aware that we need to continue to grow our congregation and continue to increase giving in time talent and finance.

### **Our Next Priest:**

We are looking to appoint a person who is Christ centred, true to God's word, a capable, energetic and a dedicated leader noting the congregation's diversity in composition and ministry style.

Their skills should include:

- Flexibility
- Good preaching
- Gospel focused
- Ministry to families
- Sound pastoral care (warm, gentle and genuine) and visiting
- Respect for existing traditions, practices and norms in parish and where change is needed, to lead it with gentleness and support
- Community mindedness
- Passion
- Good listener
- Comfortable in ambiguity



We would appreciate a person who:

- who has energy and enthusiasm for children, youth/young adults, and families

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### **Our Vision and Dream for our Parish Community:**

- For younger generations to know about Jesus
- 'I don't want to be able to hear the sermon' – because of the sound of children
- Centrality of Gospel and building up biblical knowledge and principles.
- Youth group
- Mentoring
- Reliance on the Holy Spirit
- Expansive prayer ministry
- For others to see the love of God at work in the community – in all of us.
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Check out our website:

**website:** <https://www.dorrigoanglicanchurch.com.au>

**Wardens:** Kath Parker (Rector's Warden), Di McGuigan and Robin Burley

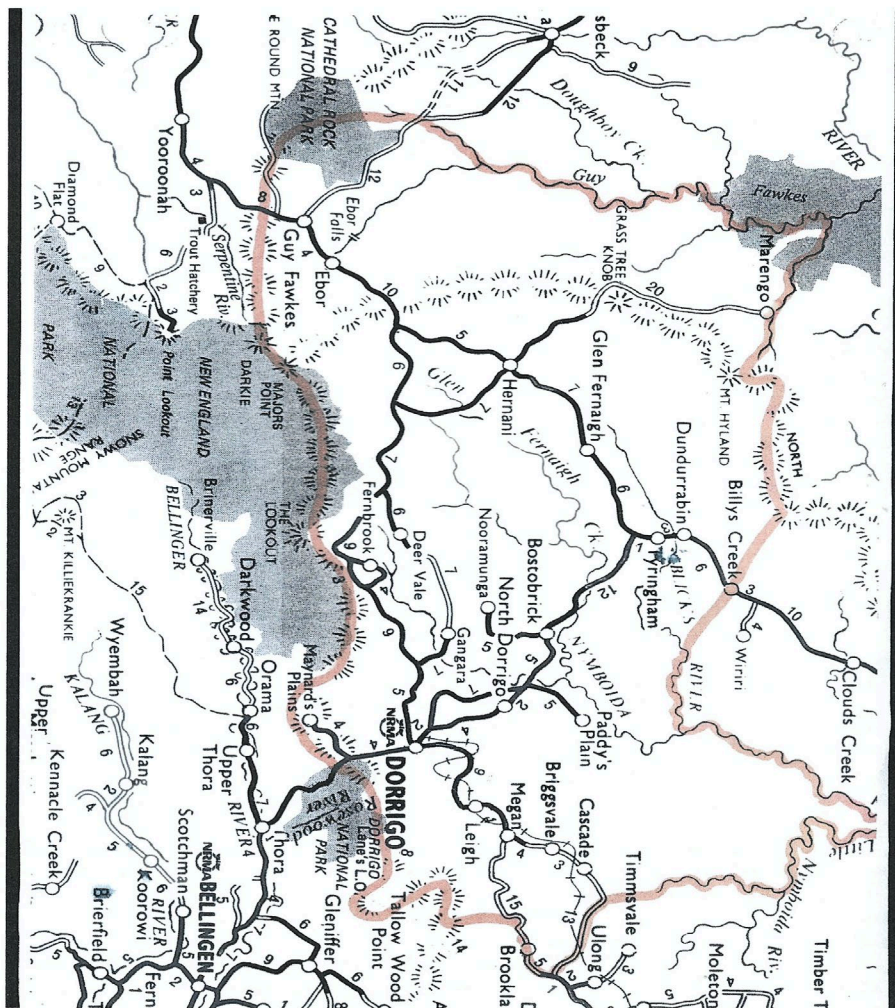
**Nominators:** Robin Burley, Gwenneth Ditchfield and Murray Slender

Is God calling you to be the next Priest in Charge of the beautiful Parish of Dorrigo? Please send your Expression of Interest to Bishop Murray Harvey: [bishop@graftondiocese.org.au](mailto:bishop@graftondiocese.org.au)



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### Map of the Dorrig District



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Dorrig Parish is located halfway between Sydney and Brisbane, 64 km from Coffs Harbour, 29 kms from Bellingen and 127 km from Armidale.