

PARISH MESSENGER

from St. John's Anglican Parish, Launceston

Join us in worship any Sunday 8am - 10am - 7pm Wednesday 10.30am

DIRECTORY

RECTOR:
Rev. John A. Brook 315218
ASSISTANT:
Rev. Peter Stuart 314566
UNIVERSITY CHAPLAIN:
Rev. Dr. Phillip Blake 301663
ORGANIST:
Mr. William Pierce 311676
SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT:
Mr. Tony Clayton 391771
OFFICE SECRETARY:
Miss Valerie Murgatroyd
Office (9am to 4pm) 314896
Address: 157 St. John Street Launceston.
7250.

PARISH GROUPS

WEEKLY MEETINGS

SUNDAY SCHOOL:
10am, 1st, 3rd, 4th, 5th Sunday 391771
FAMILY SERVICE:
10am, 2nd Sunday
SUNDAY GROUP:
Sunday 6.00pm 272374
CHILDREN'S CHOIR:
Thursday 4.30 - 5.30pm 311676
GIRLS' FRIENDLY SOCIETY:
Wednesday 6.00pm 273883
PLAY CENTRE:
Thursday 10.30am - 12 noon 316173
CEBS BOYS' SOCIETY:
Thursday 6.00pm 318996
ADULT CHOIR:
Thursday 7.30pm 311676
PARISH PRAYER GROUP:
Saturday 8.00am 311520
FAITH & FELLOWSHIP GROUPS: 314896
Several groups meet weekly at different times and places, so check your weekly Pew Bulletin.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

MEALS ON WHEELS
2nd Sunday 10.30am 314896
WELFARE AUXILIARY
2nd Monday 2.30pm 442827
MEN'S FELLOWSHIP TEA:
2nd Tuesday 6.00pm 314566
MOTHERS' UNION
2nd Wednesday 1.30pm 447163
WOMEN'S GUILD
3rd Thursday 2.00pm 442827
GFS TOWNSEND
2nd Thursday 12 noon 261877

SEPTEMBER 1992

KLOMP CLUB 20.

August 31st to September 11th.

St. John's Parish Centre.

9-00 AM to 12-30 pm. Mon - Friday.

9-00 AM to 2-00 pm Wednesday.

6-30 pm 8-30 pm Thursday Family Night

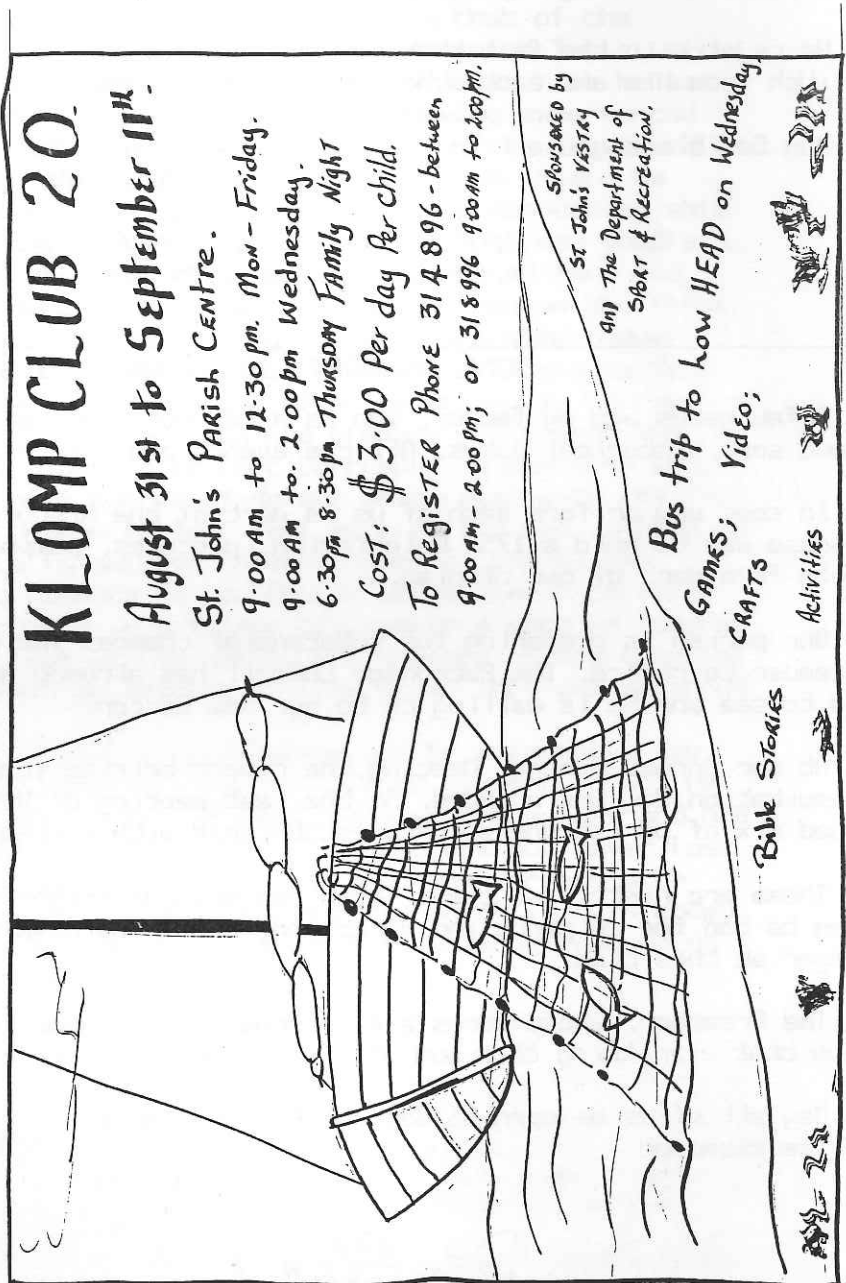
COST: \$ 3.00 Per day Per child.

To REGISTER Phone 314896 - between 9-00 am - 2-00 pm; or 318996 9-00 am to 2-00 pm.

Sponsored by
St John's YESTAY
and The Department of
Sport & Recreation.

Bus trip to Low HEAD on Wednesday.
GAMES; Video;
CRAFTS
Activities

Bible Stories



EDITORIAL NOTE

Parishoners are reminded that the deadline for ALL ISSUES is the THIRD SUNDAY EVERY MONTH. Please leave items for publication at the Parish Office BEFORE that date. Thank you.

SUPPLEMENT TO "CHURCH NEWS"

TO ALL MEMBERS OF ST JOHN'S FAMILY,

May I take this opportunity to call you all to a special effort in prayer for the next few months. Please join us at 8am. on weekdays or Saturdays if possible - if not come to church five minutes early to pray.

St John's as a family needs your special prayers - for Joan and I as we spend these last few months with you; that our ministry will be indeed really effective.

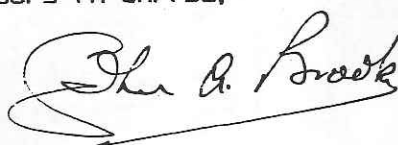
Pray for the staff as they will face change and no doubt extra responsibilities.
Pray for the Patronage Council as they seek a new Rector - it is a very demanding task and they will value your support.

Pray for yourselves and each other that during this time you will be more concerned for each other and the growth of the congregation.

We rejoice in the fact that our God answers prayer - but we need to pray! We can learn so much from Him and each other as we pray together.

May God bless you all in this special endeavour.

Yours in Christ,



SOME THOUGHTS FROM THE ASSISTANT PRIEST

A few years ago my father, who is a teacher, was taken aback when asked by a pupil about some historical dates. All the events had occurred in his life time.

In some way or form each of us is part of the history that is being written. If the Diocese was to hold a 175th Celebration, pictures, pamphlets and anecdotes from these times would form part of our display.

Our parish is preparing for substantial change. The Rector and Mrs Brook leave us in December to retire. The Patronage Council has already been asked to prayerfully listen to God to see who He is calling to be our new Rector.

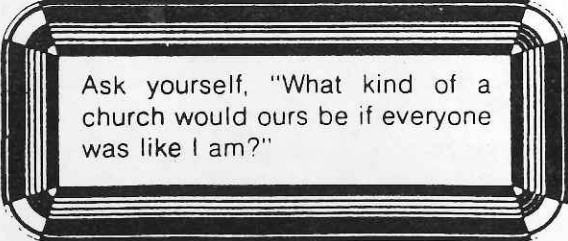
At our Annual General Meeting the report arising from the Partners in Mission Consultation Day was adopted. At the last meeting of Vestry, working groups, comprising a broad mix of parishioners, were established with a view to implementing the report.

These are historical times, they can also be frightening times if we do not continually turn to God for guidance and direction. All of us have a responsibility to be earnest in prayer at this time.

The Preacher, whose words are recorded in the book Ecclesiastes, had this to say, "...I know that everything that God does will last forever." (3:1 & 14)

May all of us be open to God and His will at this time so that through us His Kingdom may be extended.

Peter Stuart



Ask yourself, "What kind of a church would ours be if everyone was like I am?"

National Church Life Survey

You may remember that last August, St. John's participated in the National Church Life Survey. For most parishioners, participation involved filling in a survey form at one of the services on the Sunday of the survey. In fact, the survey was completed by 300000 members of 6500 congregations of various denominations. 223 forms were completed by St. John's attenders.

While the full survey results have not yet been mailed to us, we have received a four-page print-out of initial results, and these are of sufficient interest for us to publish some of them for your perusal.

The results were presented in the form of graphs, each accompanied by a reprint of the original questions you answered last year, as well as suggestions for **REFLECTION AND ACTION**. It is these that are in the end the most important aspect of the National Church Life Survey. They enable us to draw comparisons between ourselves and the wider church in Australia, or in some cases between the present and the recent past. What conclusions can we draw from these comparisons? Are we willing, under God's guidance, to be challenged by facts and figures to redress weaknesses and failures, and to pick up on our strengths as a basis for greater commitment and growth? If we simply say "so what?", we have already failed. In our striving to follow Jesus, the Way, the Truth and the Life, we need to be stimulated by the truth about the life of our congregation as evidenced in these facts and figures, and prayerfully consider where they lead us.

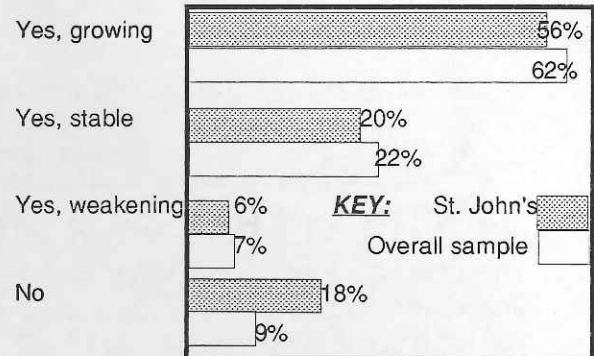
SENSE OF BELONGING IN CONGREGATION

Q. Do you feel a sense of "belonging" to this church?

FOR REFLECTION AND ACTION:

What proportion of attenders have a strong sense of belonging to their congregation?

What is the biblical significance of belonging? What could be done to help people feel that they belong?



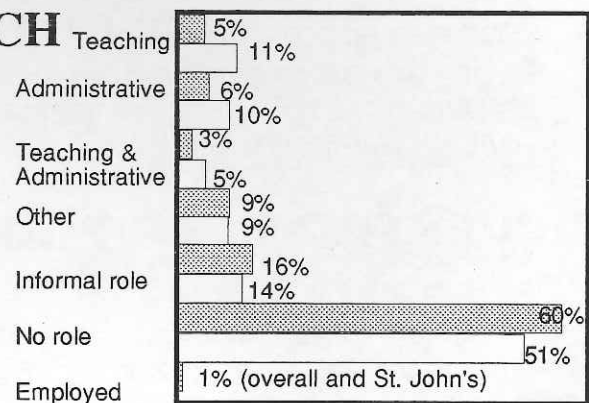
ROLE OF ATTENDERS AT CHURCH

Q. Do you have any officila role within this church?

FOR REFLECTION AND ACTION:

What proportion of attenders have a role in the life of the congregation?

What is the importance of people in the body of Christ having a role?

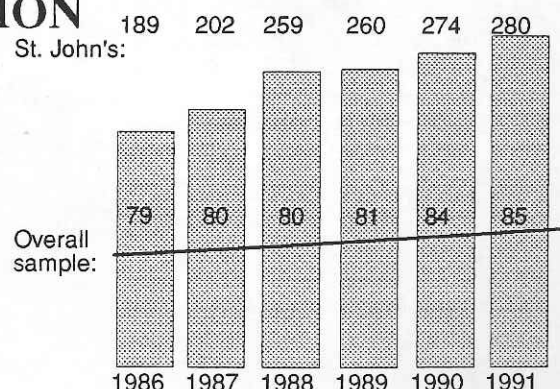


AVERAGE SIZE OF CONGREGATION

FOR REFLECTION AND ACTION:

What trends do you notice in these figures?

Projecting forward 5 years, what are the likely implications of these figures?



VISITORS AND NEWCOMERS

In the following graph attenders have been divided into five categories:

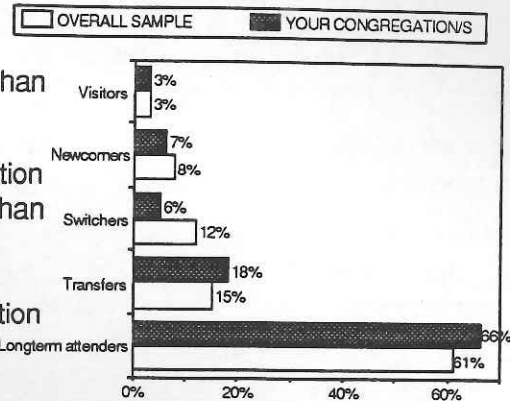
a) Visitors: - not regularly attending this congregation

b) Newcomers: - attending less than 5 years, not previously attending elsewhere

c) Switchers - attending this congregation less than 5 years, previously attending a congregation of another denomination

d) Transfers - attending this congregation less than 5 years, previously attending a congregation of this denomination

e) Long-term attenders - attending this congregation for over 5 years



VISITORS BACKGROUND	CONG ALL
Attend another church	2% 3%
Do not attend elsewhere	1% 1%

NEWCOMERS' BACKGROUND	CONG ALL
No previous attendance	1% 3%
Returning after lapse in attendanc	5% 5%

FOR REFLECTION AND ACTION:
*What proportion of your congregation claim to be visitors? Is this typical or was the survey held in an unusual week?
 How can you make the most of contact with visitors?*

FOR REFLECTION AND ACTION:
What proportion of your congregation are 'newcomers' not previously attending at all? How might you attract and better integrate newcomers?

ATTENDANCE AT SERVICES OF WORSHIP

This table shows how often people at your congregation attend worship services. You need to remember how often you have services when you look at the figures.

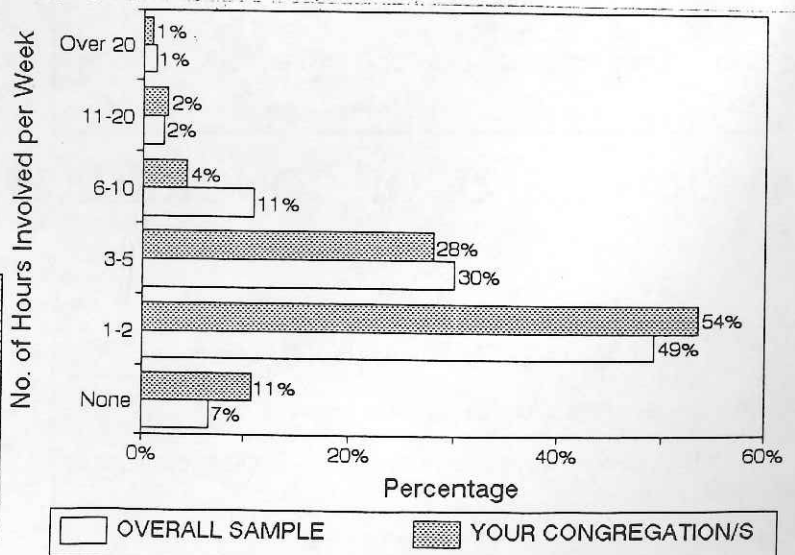
FOR REFLECTION AND ACTION:
How do you compare with other congregation(s)? Do these figures surprise you in any way?

	CONG ALL
Over once a week	9% 14%
Once a week	52% 57%
Under once a week	27% 19%
Once a month	7% 4%
Under once a month	6% 6%

HOURS SPENT IN CONGREGATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Many hours spent in congregational activities may be a sign of commitment or available spare time. On the other hand, over-involvement may be at the expense of family life and informal community involvement.

FOR REFLECTION AND ACTION:
*How much time do attenders spend in congregational activities?
 In what ways do you think the time people have could best be used?*



Linking the Past with the Future

The ability to look at the past, evaluate it, consider the present and then maintain a vision for the future is a gift that we all need today. As an Anglican Diocese we have in splendid style celebrated one hundred and fifth years of existence. However we all know that Christian witness and allegiance did not start then, any more than the Anglican Church in England commenced with the arrival of Augustine. In Tasmania, by the time the first Bishop was consecrated, church buildings and congregations were already in existence and had been so for many years. The early chaplains Robert Knopwood and John Youl started with none of these 'luxuries.'

The story of John Youl has to be of particular interest to us because he was the first minister to the parish and had much to do with the building of St John's Church. Sadly, he did not live to see the overall benefit of his labours, and if the inscription in the church is correct he died in 1827 at the age of 50 years.

He was a remarkable man who possessed a warmth of experience in evangelism - for chaplains in those days had to be missionaries. His background was that of the Congregational faith and while still young he volunteered for service in Tahiti with the London Missionary Society. He failed to get there, for the ship on which he was travelling was captured by the French. He was later repatriated having experienced the trauma of being a prisoner of war. Back in England he became actively involved in Home Missions and was ordained as a Congregational minister at Portsea. Again he volunteered for missionary service in Tahiti and while waiting for a connecting ship in Sydney was of service to the Reverend Samuel Marsden the senior Anglican Chaplain. His six years in Tahiti did not produce the results he would have prayed for, and narrowly escaping death he returned to Australia. Back in Sydney he became the first person to preach at the Ebenezer Chapel on the Hawksbury. He also assisted Samuel Marsden as a Presbyterian Catechist and Schoolmaster. For a variety of reasons Youl was moving theologically towards the Anglican faith and after returning to England for training, he was ordained an Anglican clergyman by the bishops of Chester and London. He was then appointed Assistant Chaplain to Port Dalrymple, a position which he failed to occupy until 1819 because of a series of delays associated with the lack of provision for proper accommodation. Meanwhile John Youl married and was working as a Chaplain at Liverpool. When he eventually settled in Van Diemen's Land he was ordered to reside at George Town and to commute to Launceston at regular intervals. There he held services in a temporary church in a former blacksmith's shop in Cameron Street which was used on weekdays as a lock-up. He walked the streets in his clerical attire and summoned the faithful to church by banging an iron drum. This was attached to a post outside the „church“.

Youl was a man who adapted to very difficult circumstances and he eventually saw the Church of St John built and used for worship. Then in 1827 he suddenly died. He laid the foundations on which others would build. He used his missionary zeal and his adaptability to great advantage. He deplored the depravity around him but never lost sight of the power of the Gospel. As we learn from the past and look forward with hope to the future we must never lose sight of the mission field which is ours today, or the power of God. I have a sneaking feeling that John Youl is looking down on us today and encouraging us to finish the task that he began.

Yours in Christ, Philip C. Blake,

Spring in Launceston Tasmania
Your invitation to the...
LAUNCESTON
GARDEN FESTIVAL
Incorporating the 154th Launceston
Horticultural Spring Show. 18-20 September 1992.
Launceston Showgrounds

Thur. 17 to Sun. 20
St. Johns Church
St. John Street,
Launceston

Thur. 10.15 a.m. to
4.00 p.m.

Fri. 10.00 a.m. to
8.00 p.m.

Sat. 10.00 a.m. to
4.00 p.m.

Sun. 11.15 a.m. to
4.00 p.m.

**SPRING FLORAL FESTIVAL &
ROYAL SCHOOL OF CHURCH
MUSIC CHORAL FESTIVAL AT
ST. JOHNS CHURCH**

Magnificent exhibit of floral
arrangements in historic St.
Johns Church, situated
opposite Prince's Square.

On Saturday 2.00 p.m. to 4.00
p.m. a special treat - a rehearsal
by a seventy member choir
who will perform that night at
the 10th Annual Royal School
of Church Music Choral
Festival (5.30 p.m. to 6.45 p.m.)
conducted by the acclaimed
city organist, William Pierce.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL READERS

Due to the latest increase in postage rates and projected re-organisation of postal services offered to the community, it has become necessary for St John's to cease posting the CHURCH NEWS and PARISH MESSENGER to parishioners as in recent years.

From August your church papers will be available in the Narthex on the first Sunday each month, and you are asked to offer your help with deliveries to those who cannot attend church that day. Please let the Rector or the Parish office know if you can help in this way.

The Editor.

ST JOHN'S WELFARE AUXILIARY

The next monthly meeting will be held in the Parish Centre on Monday 14th September at 2.15pm. please note. Afternoon tea hostesses will be Mrs L. Ikin and Mrs J. Tyson. Please keep 14th October free and bring your friends to our next morning tea 10am. to 12 noon that day.

ROYAL SCHOOL OF CHURCH MUSIC

The Annual Choral Festival will be held on the afternoon of Saturday 19th September at St John's. Starting at 2pm., the Chairman, Mr William Pierce will lead participants through *Fesrival Book Two*. Afternoon tea and a buffet style dinner will be included in the registration fee (which has yet to be set). A Service of Worship will conclude the singing for the day. Everyone is welcome to attend. The Festival is being held in conjunction with St John's Floral Festival.

St Mathias' Church, Windermere, has been made available to the R.S.C.M. on Sunday 25th October for a Picnic & Sing. While enjoying the Spring weather (if it has arrived) Mr Craig Johnston will use the afternoon to explore new publications and new music of the School with those present. Bring your picnic lunch to St Mathias' soon after 1pm.

The National R.S.C.M. Summer School for January 1995 will be held in Launceston and will be directed by Dr Christopher Dearnley, Director of Music, Trinity College, University of Melbourne.

Craig Johnston [Secretary]

MEALS ON WHEELS

SUNDAY 13th September 1992

Promptly at 10.30am. please

W. Cowell, P. Phelps, D. Hindrum,

J. Green/H. Pitt, D. & E. Holmes,

M. McNair, B. Whitney/B. Seaton,

J. Stevenson, L. Knowles.

AUGUST REGISTER

BAPTISMS- Daniel James Cox,

Nathan Rodney Gregory Kearnes

BURIALS- Mary Begent.

MOTHERS' UNION

The guest speaker at our next monthly meeting on Wednesday 9th September will be the Reverend Peter Stuart. Because Klomp Club will be on in the Parish Centre our meeting will be held in the Rectory at the usual time of 1.30pm. The next Special Holy Communion service will be on Wednesday 23rd September at 10.30am. For transport arrangements please telephone Mrs Easter 31 5750.

THANKSGIVING EUCHARIST

at

CHRIST CHURCH
CULLINSWOOD ESTATE,
ST MARYS

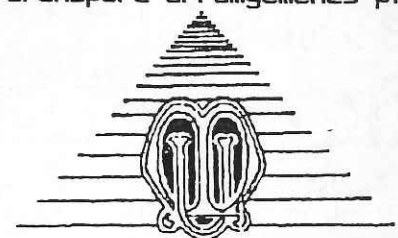
at 11.00 a.m. Monday 5th October

Busses to the service.

\$5.00 members

\$20.00 non-members

(lunch included)



1892 - 1992

AUSTRALIAN CENTENARY