



February 2007

Anglican Church

Newsletter



Welcome!
to our new Enabler
Rev David Rogers-Smith, his wife Julie
and children Gabrielle and Jordan

“Living the heartbeat of God”

Linking ministering communities in East Launceston, George Town,
Hillwood, Low Head, Pipers River, Riverside and Trevallyn

NEW ENABLER REV DAVID ROGERS-SMITH

Hello,

My name is David Rogers-Smith - the good looking one in the picture. Actually, that's my beautiful wife, Julie, along with our two wonderful children - Gabrielle and Jordan.

We have recently moved to Launceston from Scottsdale where I have been the Rector of the parish of Dorset for the last three years.

We moved to Tasmania from Sydney but our first time in Tassie was in January 1994 when Julie and I had two very happy weeks holidaying around the island with Launcestonian friends Paul & Karina McKendrick; you'll recognise Paul's surname.

I have known the Lord Jesus since he called me in September 1984 as I studied the Bible with some very friendly Christians in Sydney.

My passions are my God and his Kingdom, the Word of God, my wife and kids, teaching and preaching the Bible, God's amazing creation, good coffee, inspiring music and a good movie.

My previous ministries have included lecturing in New Testament at Sydney Missionary and Bible College, Anglican parish ministry in the Armidale (country NSW) and Sydney Dioceses, and itinerant ministry with the Bible Society NSW.

I will be your Enabler full time until the end of March, then half time in order to commence a half time ministry within the diocese that will have oversight of the biblical/theological training of ministry teams across the diocese.

This latter position is to be largely funded by the Bush Church Aid Society for which Julie and I have become Field Staff.

My principal responsibility as your Enabler is to the Local Support Ministry Team - helping to enable them to enable you to live fruitful lives to the glory of God.

I will very much appreciate your prayers for stamina, wisdom and faithfulness to Christ and his precious people.

Rev David Rogers-Smith

Email -

<mailto:rogerssmith@hotmail.net.au>



BAPTISING BABY MIA AT ST DAVIDS 7TH JANUARY

A kindergarten teacher was observing her class while they were drawing.

She would occasionally walk around to see each child's work. As she got to one little girl who was working diligently she asked what the drawing was.

The girl replied, "I'm drawing God." The teacher paused and said, "But

no one knows what God looks like." Without missing a beat, or looking up from her drawing the girl replied, "They will in a minute."



Alister Stott baptising baby Mia Claire White at St Davids with Mum, Dad and friend watching. Ross Gregory behind.



SUPPORT FAMILY IN PRAYER FOR THE LOSS OF A LOVED ONE

We seek prayer support for Margaret Brodie's family at Rowella. They are members of Beaconsfield church.

Their son was one of the young men electrocuted in that most unfortunate accident at Cressy late last month.



AN INVITATION

You Are Invited to a Fundraising Dinner and Social Evening!

*An extract from an
email from
Judith Calf who is
with CMS and now
in Tanzania
4th October 2006*

*"The church
situation on
Sundays has
become a little more
difficult but as I
hope to go to Dares
Salamon soon to
collect the
Landrover (which
John T calls the
jolly green giant) I
am looking forward
to getting out and
visiting village
churches. Please
pray for a safe
journey and great
care and protection
as I begin driving
about again. I have
been reminded this
past week of the
dangers on our
Tanzia roads.
Praying for God's
hand over us as we
travel by bus or car
is always a very
real prayer."*

*You are invited to bring a friend
and have fun!*

Why?

*To Make a difference and
join the race to stop poverty*

When?

*Friday 23rd February 2007
at 6:00 pm*

Where?

*St Aidan's Church Upper Room
Arthur Street, off Abbott Street,
East Launceston*

Cost ?

\$25 per head

Contact

*Birgit 0407 350 487
or David 6327 1912*



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

The theme of the day will be
"United Under God's Tent" and it
will be held at St Francis' Church,
Pomona Rd West Riverside at
10:00am on Friday 2nd
March.

The service has been prepared
this year by Christian women in
Paraguay.



SCHOOLS SUNDAY TASMANIA

FEBRUARY 25TH 2007



**More from Judith
Calf's Journal
Korogwe
Tanzania**

"I really am the only white around! The local community has begun to get used to me! The children will invariably call out Auntie Judi, Mwalimu Judi or the generic 'mzungu' as I walk around. And I am getting used to them. I now know my way around town, market, the bank and the local transport situation. I go to Tanga, about 100 km away about once a month for a big shop to get the extras that are not available here in Korogwe."

Churches celebrating and supporting local schools February 25th 2007.

Schools are a crucially important institution within our community. Not only do all our children and young people attend school, but they do so during many of their formative and shaping years.

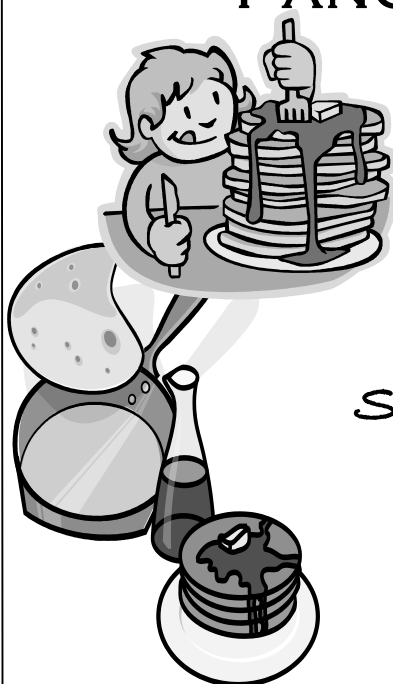
Schools Sunday is your opportunity to join with many other church communities throughout Tasmania to celebrate, pray for and support our schools.

**An initiative of TCC -
Commission for Christian
Ministry in State Schools**

**Back To School
Foundation**



COMBINED HOME GROUPS PANCAKE NIGHT



20th February

6:30 pm at

St Davids Hall Riverside.

Please bring toppings

Please advise numbers

attending

RIVERLINKS

February 2007	
1st Thur	Tamar Park – 1:45 pm
2nd Fri	
3rd Sat	
4th Sun	
5th Mon	
6th Tue	
7th Wed	
8th Thur	Parish Council – 7:30pm
9th Fri	
10th Sat	

February 2007	
11th Sun	
12th Mon	Cadorna – 2:00pm Combined LMST Meeting – 6:30pm
13th Tue	
14th Wed	St David's Guild – 2:00pm
15th Thur	
16th Fri	
17th Sat	
18th Sun	
19th Mon	Presbyterian Home – 10:40 am
20th Tue	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Evening 6:30pm at St David's Hall Riverside

The **deadline** for the next Newsletter edition is **20th February**

February 2007	
	St Oswald's Guild – 2:00pm
21st Wed	Ainslie Service – 2:30 pm
22nd Thur	
23rd Fri	Fundraising Dinner 6:00pm in the Upper Room St Aidans Phone Birgit 0407 350 487 or David 6327 1912
24th Sat	
25th Sun	Schools Sunday
26th Mon	Healing Service at George Town 1:30 pm
27th Tue	(each Tuesday) Morning Home Group 11:00am Study St Davids Hall 12:00pm Prayers Evening Home Group 7:30pm The Parables at 43 Cleghorn Ave, Riverside Ph. 6327 3530 Igglesden Home Group – 1:30pm at 21 Wongarra Ave Legana Women of St Aidans Prayer Group 6343 4168 or 6343 4133
28th Wed	(each Wednesday) Evening Home Group 7:30 pm at Bullards Ph 6331 8968

[illegible]

Send any articles, comments, information or photos to
Parish Office, 399 West Tamar, Riverside - 6327 4742
riverlinks@bigpond.com.au

riverlinks@bigpond.com.au

PARISH FINANCIAL REPORT

PERIOD 01/07/06 – 31/12/06

*.../cont from
Judith's journal*

"At home, I am well set up. Living with electricity rationing has been a bit of a challenge (we lose power 4 days a week 7am-7pm). I have Monika working 2 mornings a week doing cleaning, washing etc and Yohana is working outside. Still in the early stages of working on a garden. I am doing my own cooking because lots of things like bread and other goods are readily available in town.

And after wondering if I would ever feel cool again our wet season weather produced lovely mild days and cool nights so that I was glad when we got my hot water system going (just need power and water pressure!) It has been in fact been very wet, I got so used to wading in slippery mud made worse by road repairs that got started but just stopped waiting for the rains to stop!"

	Actual	Budget
Total Income	93,724	105,800
Total Expenditure	87,859	96,440
Operating Profit	5,865	9,360

INCOME:

The drop in income of \$12,000 is due to the reduced offertory received. During this period the parish received \$11,000 in capital refunds on expenditure from the sale of the rectories. Parishioners are reminded that the offertory commitment of \$13,000 per month is not being met. For the period July to December it has been \$10,500 per month.

All other income is on par with the budget.

EXPENDITURE:

Mission support to date is \$4,700 plus \$2,000 for extra travel required for the Beaconsfield mine disaster. This was provided to Chris to cover costs. There has not been any major expenditure variations to the budget. The development at St Aidans church is nearing completion. The Findlay Estate has contributed \$175,000 after receiving \$75,000 from the Trust in November. The total development cost is approximately \$420,000

Ken Pedley (Treasurer)

ST OSWALD'S GUILD

The first meeting of St Oswald's Guild for 2007 will be held at **2:00 pm on Wednesday 20th February** at the home of Mary Bonnily, 12 Delungra Rd Trevallyn.

We invite everyone to come and join us. We need to plan times of fellowship and outreach in our community.

Bring along your ideas on the way to go. Have you any thoughts on a luncheon in the hall, a Parish picnic, or a similar occasion?

Who would you like to invite to come along as a guest speaker?

Please, we need lots of help.

ABC TV

*Summer
Season of
Compass: The
Prophet of
Redfern
Sunday 4
February,
11.00 am*

*Songs of
Praise - The
Bible Society
Sunday 4
February,
11.30 am*

*Compass, with
Geraldine
Doogue –
A Mother's
Journey
Sunday 4
February,*



FIVE CHANGES THAT COULD REVOLUTIONISE THE CHURCH

BY ERIC SWANSON ADVISOR TO
CITIREACH INTERNATIONAL

¶

For some, it may be a small prophetic cloud on the horizon, for others, it is the Holy Spirit's quietly working: all around the world, Christians are beginning to wonder whether God didn't really mean Church to be completely different from how we know it. It's no longer about success, size, seeker sensitivity, gifts of the Spirit or the number of small groups. It's about making a significant and sustainable difference in the lives of people around us - in our communities and in our cities.

There is an attitude change sweeping through the Church, headed up by leaders who feel at home in changing times and a changing Church. Here are just five points of significant change that are emerging in the Church across the world.

1. BUILD BRIDGES, NOT WALLS

If Christians are 'the salt of the Earth', how do we see ourselves as a church? Are we standing outside society, inviting people to 'come to us', or are we willing to leave our isolation, entering our

communities and transforming them?

Robert Lewis, pastor of the Fellowship Bible Church in Little Rock, was content with his 'successful, growing mega-church' until he realised how little influence it had on the city. He asked the mayor how the church could help the community. The answer was a list of challenges facing the city. The church then faced the question of what they could do "that would cause people to marvel and say, 'God is at work in a wonderful way for no one could do these things unless God were with them!' And so it came to be that over 100 churches and 5,000 volunteers help their communities in the Little Rock area in very practical ways. The relationship of Christians to the city has been revolutionised.

If Christians are 'the salt of the Earth', how do we see ourselves as a church? Are we standing outside society, inviting people to 'come to us', or are we willing to leave our isolation, entering our communities and transforming them?

*The
Philosophers'
Zone
ABC Radio
National,
Saturdays 1.30
pm; Wednesdays
9.35 pm*

*New
Dimensions
ABC Radio
National,
Sundays,
1.00 am*

*John Safran:
Religion,
Politics and
Hoochies
Triple J,
Sundays,
9.00-11.00 pm*



2. EMPHASIS IMPACT, NOT ATTENDANCE

Two helpful questions are "would the city cry, if your church ceased to exist?" and "would anyone notice if you moved away?"

Today, it is deeds, not words, which are the greatest testimony to the reality of Jesus Christ. Effective Christian ministry has always been holistic, connecting good works with the Good News.

Tillie Burgin, for example, founded 'Mission Arlington' to reach people in her city who were not going to church, to be "a church which goes to the people, not the other way around." Today, Mission Arlington is a movement of around 250 house churches totalling around 4,000 people, who help some 10,000 people every week, changing their lives in some practical way. "The question is no longer 'how large is your church?' but 'how much impact do you have in your region?'"

3. ENCOURAGE SERVICE, NOT ATTENDING THE SERVICE

God appointed ministries to 'equip the saints to works of ministry' (Eph. 4:11), not to 'bring the saints to the Sunday service'. Ministry is often misunderstood as being something purely church-oriented. The opportunities to minister are

often limited to leading Sunday School, a Bible study group, singing in the choir or membership in a church committee. It is not surprising that pastors complain that only 20% of the members are active. Maybe the opportunities inside the church are simply too limited!

We need to communicate and implement 'every-member ministry', the message that every Christian is an ambassador of Christ and has a ministry of some form, whether inside or outside the Church, perhaps to the region's poor and needy, perhaps in some other form.

4. FROM "SERVE US" TO "SERVICE" - FROM INWARD TO OUTWARD FOCUS

"The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve and to give..." (Mark 10:45)

When the Communists took over Russia in 1917, Lenin did not ban the Church, but forbade it to do any good works. Central elements of Christian ministry such as feeding the hungry, teaching and caring for the sick and orphaned were taboo for the Church.

Seventy years later, the Church was completely irrelevant. Today, without Lenin, many churches still do exactly that, concentrating only on preaching, with identical results.

Prayer Changes Things

A woman purchased an antique plaque that fitted nicely into the décor of her home. It read simply, "Prayer changes things!" She brought the plaque home and hung it above the mantle over the fireplace. The next day she noticed that the plaque was missing. When she inquired of her husband about the matter, he told her that he had taken it down. "What's the matter?" she asked. "Don't you believe in prayer?" "Sure I believe in prayer," he replied, "I just don't like change."

Take service out of the church, and it becomes irrelevant and weak.

Mary Francis Boley, leader of women's ministry in the First Baptist Church in Peachtree City, Georgia, called on women in the church to keep their eyes open for women in the community who nobody else was reaching: cashiers, hairdressers, single mothers, homeless women, strippers and prostitutes. Her aim is to 'save the women of Atlanta' - starting with the women in the church, because "people cannot become mature Christians without giving themselves in service to others!"

Steve Sjogren of the Vineyard Community Church of Cincinnati has engraved the words "small things done with great love will change the world" in stone above the entrance to the church.

5. PARTNERSHIP INSTEAD OF DUPLICATED SOCIAL MINISTRY

Almost every city or community has social services and morally positive and spiritually neutral groups which are doing their best to care for the needy, such as giving shelter to the homeless and providing safe houses for abused women. There are also church and para-church ministries

concentrating on particular groups such as students, youth or business people.

Instead of starting duplicate ministries, why not help existing ministries and services, saving resources and creating synergy?

In Boulder the group Big Brothers Big Sisters of America has a list of two hundred youths waiting for an elder mentor. That is a great opportunity for Christians to become partners. How about listing not only the Bible Study times, but also twenty or more partner ministries in the church newsletter? Many social service agencies need exactly that which churches generally have: willing volunteers, financial support and meeting places. That way, partnerships form around shared care and love for the city or region instead of theology, and Christians have more opportunity to 'love their neighbour' through existing organisations.

That way, we all very quickly become the letter 'known and read by everyone' (2. Cor. 3:2)"

*Source:
Australian Prayer Network*

**East Launceston
Worship Centre**
21-23 Arthur St
East Launceston

**George Town
Worship Centre**
3 Anne St
George Town

**Trevallyn
Worship Centre**
34 Bain Tce
Trevallyn

**Riverside
Worship Centre**
399 West Tamar
Highway
Riverside

Parish Office
399 West Tamar
Riverside
6327 4742
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**Riverlinks
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SERVICE TIMES FOR WORSHIP CENTRES

East Launceston

4 th	10:00 am	Holy Communion
11 th	10:00 am	Holy Communion
18 th	10:00 am	Holy Communion
25 th	10:00 am	Morning Prayer

George Town

4 th	9:00 am 9:00 am 10:30 am	Hillwood Holy Communion Pipers River Holy Communion George Town Holy Communion
11 th	9:00 am 10:30 am	Low Head Holy Communion George Town Together at George Town
18 th	9:00 am 10:30 am	Pipers River Holy Communion George Town Holy Communion
25 th	9:00 am 10:30 am	Low Head Holy Communion George Town Holy Communion

Trevallyn and Riverside

	Riverside	Trevallyn
4 th	9:00 am Holy Communion	11:00am Holy Communion
11 th	9:00 am Morning Prayer	
18 th	9:00 am Holy Communion	11:00 am Holy Communion
25 th	9:00 am Holy Communion	11:00am Holy Communion

Each Wednesday there is a Healing Service at St Oswald's based on Holy Communion at 10:00am

Peace Haven

11 th	10:30 am Morning Prayer
18 th	10:30 am Holy Communion
25 th	10:30 am Morning Prayer

MOBILE PHONES:

East Launceston 0438 378 233
Trevallyn/Riverside 0409 799 419
George Town 0439 821 038

RIVERLINKS WEBSITE:

www.riverlinks.net.au