



November 2007

Anglican Church

Newsletter

Sue
Steele-Smith
& Kelvin
Todd

-
“Preparing a
Bible Talk”
seminar at
St Aidan’s



*Who was that masked
Bible Man?*



“Living the heartbeat of God”

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

FROM THE ENABLER



So watch your step, friends. Make sure there's no evil unbelief lying around that will trip you up and throw you off course, diverting you from the living God. For as long as it's still God's Today, keep each other on your toes so sin doesn't slow down your reflexes. If we can only keep our grip on the sure thing we started out with, we're in this with Christ for the long haul.

These words keep ringing in our ears: Today, please listen; don't turn a deaf ear as in the bitter uprising.

*Hebrews 3:12-14
MSG*

How exciting and encouraging was our October Newsletter! There are very good things happening a cross the parish at present and a sense that God is growing and stretching us. I sent copies of the newsletter to Bishop John and Paul Cavanaugh (Diocesan Director of Ministry) for their encouragement, too.

How good was it to see featured St Oswald's new **Kid's Church** with photos of children, mums and dads in church for the first one?; and what about news of the four couples who attended the **Marriage Preparation course** at St Aidan's, and the couple who had previously done the course and have subsequently come back to St Aidan's for baptism of their child? Jo and Garth Tevelein recently finished doing the **Christianity Explained course** with them and report that it was a very significant time together. How good is that? And what about the appearance of new home groups listed in the Riverlinks Calendar? By the time you read this I will have met with the leaders of these **new St Aidan's home groups** for their encouragement and to discuss our vision for the parish's home groups, something I have already done with the Riverside/Trevallyn home groups. And did you also notice in the Calendar that George Town commenced the **Christianity Explained Course** on Thursday 18th October, to coincide with the JAAL campaign, as did St Oswald's on Wednesday 31st October? And what about mention of St Aidan's new playgroup, the '**East Launceston Playgroup**'? I have been so encouraged by Sarah Shorter's vision and courage in starting this, and by the way it has grown already, connecting with and serving local unchurched mums and their children. How good, too, to see the **international focus** with the evening at St Aidan's with two Christian sisters from Ghana, and with Josie Ford's excellent work with **Samaritan's Purse**! Finally, how good it was to see the two training opportunities organised by Riverlinks for the benefit of all the churches - the '**Preparing a Bible Talk**' conferences and the upcoming **Pastoral Care Seminars** with Pamela Cornish.

The visiting faculty team from Sydney Missionary & Bible College conducted excellent training days for anyone involved in any form of Bible teaching. Their sessions were very helpful and their resource table was overwhelmed on the first day, requiring that they have couriered down from Sydney additional books and CDs for the remainder of the week.



*Christianity
is a verb.*

*It's smart to
pick your friends
- but not to
pieces.*

*A lot of kneeling
will keep you in
good standing.*

*Kindness is a
language which
the deaf can
hear and the
blind can see.*

*Genuine faith is
assuring, insuring
and enduring.*

*Following the
path of least
resistance is
what makes
rivers and men
crooked.*

*No God
No peace.
Know God
Know peace.*

Close to 60 people filled St Aidan's on the Monday, including leadership from Brethren, Baptist, Reformed and Anglican churches, a good number of Riverlinks members, MST members and preachers, and people from Flinders, Scottsdale, Deloraine, Evandale and across Launceston. Providing ministry training opportunities for the wider church is something our Parish Council and Ministry Support Team have recognised as being a very worthwhile and strategic ministry to have. The days in Wynyard and Campbell Town were obviously smaller in number but equally well received. This also functioned as part of the ongoing training I am providing for the Riverlinks' preachers, with whom I run a workshop every six weeks. I ask that you **pray for** our preachers and home group leaders across the parish: for growth in their preaching and leadership skills and for their ministry of the Word to, under God, grow our congregations in the knowledge and love of God.

Please consider if **Pamela Cornish's three pastoral care seminars** in November are something you should participate in. Who in your congregation could you encourage to attend? They are being offered to the churches of our region free of charge and will be very helpful for those involved in pastoral care. See the notice in this newsletter for the workshop details.

Another training opportunity that you can have advance notice of is a **children's ministry training day** we are organising for Saturday 19th April 2008. This will be held in Launceston and offered to the churches of our region and to all Anglican parishes in the diocese. Lisa Martin in the St Aidan's congregation is organising this day, as well as the visit to Launceston of a Sydney-based Christian puppet ministry called '**Quizworx**', who will perform shows in public and private primary schools in and around Launceston that week, as well as be involved in the training day.

As you can see, there is much to thank God for and to be at prayer for. It is so heartening to see Ministry Support Team members and non-members alike taking courageous initiatives and working hard in mission and ministry; and taking seriously our church's (every church's!) reason for existence: to make disciples and love our communities, to the glory of God. May I remind you that in any church, Enabler Supported or otherwise, **every member** is a minister of the gospel and of the love of Christ (see Ephesians 4:7-16; Colossians 3:12-17; Matthew 28:16-20; Hebrews 3:12-14; 1 Peter 4:7-11 etc.);

continued next page...

Present yourselves as building stones for the construction of a sanctuary vibrant with life, in which you'll serve as holy priests offering Christ-approved lives up to God.

But you are the ones chosen by God, chosen for the high calling of priestly work, chosen to be a holy people, God's instruments to do his work and speak out for him, to tell others of the night-and-day difference he made for you—from nothing to something, from rejected to accepted.

*1 Peter 2:5,9-10
MSG*

FROM THE ENABLER *continued...*

and **every member** is a priest - bringing God to people and people to God (1 Peter 2:5, 9; Revelation 1:5-6; 5:9-10; Matthew 16:18-19; 18:15-20). Can I ask you to fish out your congregation's/centre's strategic plan (located in the parish's 2007 Annual Report) and prayerfully consider what element of the plan you and/or your home group could be a vital part of? As we have seen above, there is considerable momentum across the parish at present. It will only be sustained and increased by **every member** praying, using their gifts and talents and resources, and 'speaking the truth (= the Word of God) in love' (Eph 4:15). Your Ministry Support Team is keen to speak with you about your ministry and mission.

The **Calling Out process** is proceeding slowly. The majority of people approached have indicated a desire or at least an openness to serve on the Ministry Support Team, but in the future, not at this time. At present, two suitable people have indicated interest in further discerning God's will for them and Team membership, and a further two are seriously considering locally ordained ministry on the Team. The next step is an interview with a Diocesan panel. Please pray for these people at this significant time in their lives; and please ask God to give us the additional leadership that we need, both now and in the future. While you're at it, thank God for the leadership that you have - a committed Parish Council and a very hard working Ministry Support Team; and remember what the 'Support' means in MST: **they are there to support you and your congregation in your/its ministry and mission.**

Finally, Parish Council asked me to include in the newsletter a copy of my quarterly activity report that I produce for the PC and MST. Here it is for the last quarter. I value your prayers as I minister to and pray for your leadership and parish, to the glory of God.

'Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen' (Ephesians 3:20-21).

Warmly,
David

ENABLER'S QUARTERLY ACTIVITY REPORT TO THE RIVERLINKS MST & PARISH COUNCIL FOR PERIOD 19TH JULY TO 11TH OCTOBER 2007

Dear MST & PC members,

Please note I was on two weeks' annual leave in September:

- Observed Team and non-team members' Sunday ministries:
29th July: Riverlinks Together service @ George Town
5th August: St Aidans
12th August: Low Head
26th August: **Preached at** Combined Parish Service @ Riverside
2nd September: **Preached at** Pipers River & George Town
23rd September: Riverside & Trevallyn
30th September: **Preached at** Riverlinks Together Service @ St Aidan's
7th October: Hillwood
- Met with various Team members for their encouragement, discussion of and feedback on their ministries, prayer
- Prepared Bible study on Christian Leadership for local MSTeams
- Attended local Team meetings monthly with RS/TR, GT, EL teams
- Prepared Bible study for and attended August combined Team meeting
- Prepared for and attended October combined Team meeting
- Met with MST Executive
- Met fortnightly with Norman Lawrence in supervisory capacity for his Tabor College Ministry Field Education unit
- Hospitality to parishioners and MST members
- Met with parishioner to discuss his ministry and to pray
- Prepared Bible study for July combined MST meeting
- Prepared three sermons for three Sunday gatherings
- Wrote articles for Riverlinks September & October newsletter
- Wrote August and September issues of 'Team Talk' for the MST members
- Continued writing notes on the John's Gospel texts for preachers in August, September & October
- Wrote a paper for service leaders and MST members on the background and use of the Anglican Prayer Book and a theology of 'worship'
- Prepared for parish Calling Out of new MST members
- Wrote Enabler's report for parish Annual Report
- Attended parish Annual meeting
- Prepared for and led parish preaching workshop in St David's hall on Sunday 12th August
- Continued work on 'Preparing a Bible Talk' conferences
- Continued organising three pastoral care seminars in November with Pamela Cornish
- Extensive emailing with Team members & parish office
- Wrote sermon critiques for Team members
- Phone calls and interviews with prospective MST members following Calling Out Sunday
- Visited St Aidan's new playgroup
- Prepared for and preached at LCGS grades 8-12 Chapel Service
- Prepared message for Kid's Church @ Trevallyn
- Wrote promotion of Riverlinks' training opportunities for the Tasmanian Anglican
- Continued overseeing organization of a visiting schools' puppet ministry and children's ministry training day for Launceston in April 2008
- Monitored and helped lead progress with our involvement in the JAAL campaign
- Finished off preparing elective for Diocesan 'Invest' training day on 4th August
- Attended and led two electives at Diocesan 'Invest' training day in Launceston on 4th August
- Attended Enabler's Training Day in Ross on 27th July
- Attended Launceston Christian Leaders' Network meetings in July and August
- Attended Clergy Conference 3rd to 6th September
- Did preliminary work on new diocesan tasks set by Paul Cavanough

GEORGE TOWN TEDDY BEAR'S PICNIC



On October 14th George Town held their annual Teddy Bears Picnic. The theme was Jesus - The Way, The Truth, and The Life. The service catered for kids and their teddy bears but the adults got just as much out of it as did the kids. The service included; Veggie Tales clip, tricks, a puppet show, "Who Wants To Be A Lolliaire", and lots of children's songs.

We talked about how we can talk to God anytime and tell him when we are scared, and how we need to tell others that they can talk to God when they are scared. After the service there was lots of yummy unhealthy food and drink and a video was shown afterwards.

Nathan Donnelly



Pooh Bear made a guest appearance on the day.

Watch out for him appearing at St Aidan's on 28th October as well!



RIVERLINKS

November 2007	
1st Thur	<p>Pastoral Care Seminars with Pamela Cornish 9.30am to 2.30pm at St David's</p> <p>Christianity Explained Course – 7:00pm at St Mary Magdalene's G/T</p>
2nd Fri	
3rd Sat	<p>Safe Ministry Accreditation Seminar – 3:00pm to 8:00pm, Holy Trinity Hall, corner George & Cameron Streets L'ton</p>
4th Sun	<p>Safe Ministry Re-accreditation – 1:00pm to 3:00pm, Holy Trinity Hall</p>
5th Mon	<p>* Recreation Day public holiday</p> <p>(Each Monday) Stanford's Home Group – 7:30pm at St Aidan's</p>
6th Tue	<p>(each Tuesday) Home Group – 11:00am at St David's Hall followed by prayer – 12:00pm Iggesden Home Group – 1:30pm at Iggesden's home Booth's Home Group – 7:30pm at Booth's home Evening Home Group – 7:30pm Women of St Aidan's Prayer Group</p> <p>Creation Ministries Ark Van Tour of Tasmania – 7:30pm at the Baptist Church, Goulburn Street G/Town</p>
7th Wed	<p>(each Wednesday) East Launceston Play Group – 10:30am to 12:00 noon in "The Upper Room" St Aidan's Evening Home Group – 7:30pm at Stott's home Evening Home Group – 7:30pm at Bullard's home</p> <p>Christianity Explained Course – 7:30pm at St Oswald's</p>

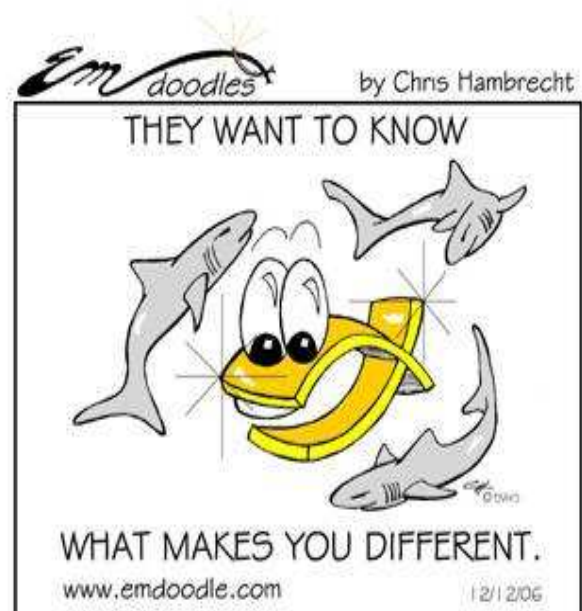
November 2007	
8th Thur	<p>Pastoral Care Seminars with Pamela Cornish 9.30am to 2.30pm at St David's</p> <p>Christianity Explained – 7:00pm G/Town</p> <p>Parish Council – 7:30pm</p>
9th Fri	<p>Special Meeting of Synod – 7:30pm at St John's</p>
10th Sat	<p>Planning Day for 2008 World Day of Prayer – 10:00am at the Salvation Army Citadel, Elizabeth Street L'ton</p>
11th Sun	<p>Kid's Church – 11:00am at St Oswald's</p>
12th Mon	<p>Cadorna – 2:00pm</p> <p>Combined LMST Meeting – 6:30pm</p>
13th Tue	<p>Rev Dr John Smith & Sammy Horner in concert – 7:30pm at Gateway Baptist Church, Wellington Street L'ton</p>
14th Wed	<p>St David's Guild – 2:00pm</p> <p>Christianity Explained – 7:30pm Trevallyn</p>
15th Thur	<p>Pastoral Care Seminars with Pamela Cornish 9.30am to 2.30pm at St David's</p> <p>Anglican Women's Fellowship Day at Cressy</p> <p>Christianity Explained – 7:00pm G/Town</p>
16th Fri	<p>Men As Men Conference "Men Behaving Boldly" at Legana Christian Church</p>
17th Sat	<p>Men As Men Conference "Men Behaving Boldly" at Legana Christian Church</p>

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

CALENDAR

November 2007	
18 th Sun	
19 th Mon	Presbyterian Home Legana – 10:40am
20 th Tue	Christmas Bowl collection at Riverside shopping centre 10:00am – 4:00pm daily
21 st Wed	St Oswald's Guild – 2:00pm
	Ainslie Service – 2:30pm Christianity Explained – 7:30pm Trevallyn
22 nd Thur	Christianity Explained – 7:00pm G/Town
23 rd Fri	
24 th Sat	Christmas Bowl collection at Riverside shopping centre 10:00am – 4:00pm
25 th Sun	
26 th Mon	
27 th Tue	
28 th Wed	Guild end of year function – 12:30pm at Grindelwald
	Christianity Explained – 7:30pm Trevallyn
29 th Thur	Healing Service – 1:30pm at George Town
	Tamar Park – 1:45pm
30 th Fri	Summer Camps early bird discount ends

December and 2008	
1 st December	World AIDS Day service – 5:30pm at Holy Trinity, corner Cameron & George Streets
9 th December	“The Inn Crowd” at St Aidan's - 6:00pm with BYO tea to share
15 th December	Public performance
27 th December – 7 th January	Tasmanian Christian Convention at Camp Clayton, Ulverstone
10 th – 13 th January	CMS Summerview at Camp Banksia, Port Sorell
January	Anglican Camping Tasmania School camps for grades 3-6, 7-9 & 9-12



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



The Guild end of year function will be held at Grindelwald on Wednesday 28th November at 12:30pm. Please contact Jan Menzie or Marie Igglesden for more information



NOTICES



BCA boxes are due to be returned. Please either send directly to BCA at PO Box 281, Heidelberg VIC 3084, or forward to the parish office as soon as possible.

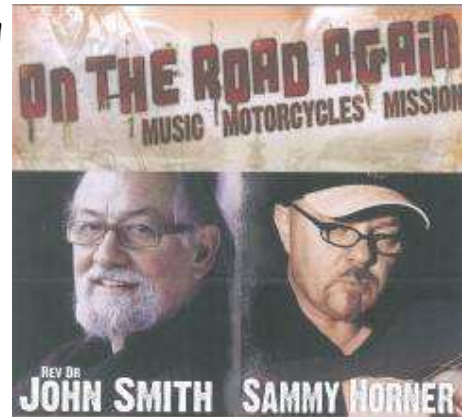
Volunteers are needed for the Christmas Bowl collection at Riverside shopping centre, from Tuesday 20th to Saturday 24th November.

As in previous years the time slots are 10am - 12noon, Noon - 2pm, 2pm - 4pm for each of the five days. Please contact Peter North on 6327 2558 or the Parish office if you can help. Thank you!

Rev Dr John Smith is coming to Launceston to speak on **Tuesday 13th November**, 7:30pm at Gateway Baptist Church, Wellington Street.

He is joined by Irish singer, writer and story teller **Sammy Horner** for a public concert.

Tickets are available from the Gateway office at 22 Wellington Street, Launceston. Phone 6334 3232



Ark Van Tour of Tasmania
Tuesday 6th November 2007 - 7.30pm
in the Baptist Church, Goulburn St, **George Town**

If you've ever been challenged to explain Noah's Ark, here is your chance to speak with long-time Noah's Ark modeller and expert, Rod Walsh, aka 'the Ark Man'. Rod is an excellent communicator who can answer your questions about Noah's Ark and the Flood.



**HOBART
CITY MISSION**

a Division of The Hobart City Mission Inc.

The Hobart City Mission
A Non-denominational Christian Organisation
Caring since 1852

**A BIG
THANK YOU!**

From Sue Clark to everyone who donated their time and wool to knit small jumpers for the AIDS babies.

They have been delivered to the catholic nuns at New Norfolk and are now on their way.

The response was truly overwhelming. They had asked for 100, but received 1,000!



**The Board of Management is seeking a new
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

This position calls for a person with proven leadership skills and a vision for the future of a leading Christian welfare organisation serving the community of Tasmania.

An information package is available to interested applicants on request. Please contact Sally Cousens at Hobart City Mission, 50 Barrack Street, Hobart. Ph. 6231 0966 by 1 November 2007. Salary package for this position can be structured to suit the successful applicant.

This is an opportunity to make a difference to the disadvantaged people of our community. If you know of anyone suitable who may be interested in this position, please pass this on.

PASTORAL CARE SEMINARS

Don't miss the opportunity to learn from Pamela Cornish, Associate Chaplain at the LGH.

Topics to be covered will include ministry to the aged and dying, listening skills, ethical matters, awareness of personal journey and how it may impact caring for others, boundaries and self-care.

Thursday 1st, 8th, 15th November at St David's hall, Riverside
9:30am registration for 10:00am start - 2:30pm (BYO lunch)
Please contact the parish office as soon as possible to book your place

**IF YOU'RE IN GRADE 3 TO 12 IN 2008 THEN CHECK
OUT THESE GREAT CAMPS HAPPENING IN JANUARY**

Huon River Canoe Grades 9-12	Sat. 5 to Fri. 11 Jan-2008
Coastal Grades 3-6	Sat. 5 to Thu. 10 Jan-2008
Waves Grades 7-9	Sat. 12 to Thu. 17 Jan-2008
East Coast Canoe Grades 7-9	Tue. 14 to Sun. 20 Jan-2008
Summer Fun Grades 3-6	Sat. 19 to Thu. 24 Jan-2008
Aquatics Grades 9-12 (in 2008)	Sat. 26 to Thu. 31 Jan-2008

Plus if you book and pay before 30th November there's a \$15 discount! Contact Rebecca Kuipers 6220 2020 or download a brochure and registration form at www.anglicancampingtasmania.org

KIDS' CHURCH AT ST OSWALD'S



46 people, 'Praise the Lord', including 16 children, 15 mums and dads and 15 of the regular St Oswald's congregation welcomed "Bible Man" to the October service.

After two action songs Bible Man told the story of the 'Lost Son' [Luke 15: 11-24]. The story was followed by activities including the making and decorating of party hats and the colouring of some pictures about various parts of the story.

We all then joined in a "party" of treats provided by our wonderful St Oswald's congregation.

Our guest story teller "Bible Man" bore a striking resemblance to our multi-skilled and multi-talented Enabler, but that's probably just a coincidence!

Our next Kids' Church will be held on Sunday 11th November. Have you invited anyone to attend?

Anne and Ian Morley



PARISH COUNCIL REPORT - OCTOBER



Election of Office Bearers:

Chair:	Ian Morley
Deputy Chair:	David Sutton
Secretary:	Tom Nixon
Treasurer:	Ken Pedley

The meeting decided to:

- Replace the 8+ year old lap top computer at St David's
- Purchase chairs for St Oswald's [to be part funded through the sale of some pews, donations and some fundraising]

It is encouraging to report that parish offertory for the month of September was above budget and that offertory for the July - September quarter is only slightly under budget.

There will be a combined meeting of the Ministry Support Team and Parish Council on 22nd November to consider and discuss Christian Stewardship.

Ian Morley - Chair Parish Council

THANK YOU FROM THE PEDLEYS

Jenny & I would like to thank the Riverlinks parishioners who had us in their prayers following Jenny's back problem occurring at Marble Bar in WA. Being in such an isolated area of Australia, the network kicked in with a contact being made by Bill & Jocelyn Ross who are at Port Hedland and have been in BCA ministry in the Pilbara for 30 years.

We went to church at Port Hedland before moving to Karratha for three weeks. Here we met up with more parishioners and helped celebrate their church's 30th birthday. It was a tremendous comfort and gave us security of contact while in Karratha. Both congregations prayed "hands on" healing prayers for Jenny which was both comforting and encouraging.

Now that our parish receives BCA assistance it was a special opportunity to experience time in the Pilbara where it is 100% BCA funded.

Our heartfelt thanks go to those two parishes for their support. They made us feel part of their community.

Ken Pedley



"PREPARING A BIBLE TALK" SEMINAR AT ST AIDAN'S

A healthy crowd of 50+ from various denominations came along to St Aidan's on 15th October for some truly inspiring teaching and some very practical lectures from this talented team from Sydney Missionary and Bible College.



David Cook started the day speaking about sermon preparation and a practical "how to", before Sue Steele-Smith spoke about what men should know about preaching to women. Jonathan Dykes followed with some great tips for making an impact with introductions and conclusions.



A delicious lunch in the beautiful new extension was enjoyed by all before a choice of afternoon elective subjects.

Many thanks to David Rogers-Smith for bringing David, Sue & Jonathan into the state to teach, encourage, equip and inspire us.





PARISH QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORT

July to September	Actual	Budget
Income	48,200	46,000
Expenditure	52,500	51,000
Operating Loss	4,200	5,000

Generally the first quarter of the financial year is the lowest income period, however it is encouraging that the income has met the budgeted income. Offertory received is below budget and in the last financial year was well below, as detailed in the Annual Report.

Preparation for a stewardship awareness for the parish will be organised in November to be presented to the parish at a later date.

The Churchwardens are preparing a list of property improvements to the George Town & Trevallyn/Riverside centres for consideration and will be prioritised.

St Aidan's have received \$54,000 from the Findlay Estate to stabilize the stained glass windows and renovate the lych gate.

This quarter has seen an increase in pastoral requirements with course and bible study seminars. Some of this expenditure will flow into the next quarter.

Ken Pedley - Treasurer

Many thanks to everyone who filled boxes for Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child this year. To date 180 boxes have been received from around the parish



"Blessing of the boxes" at St Aidan's on Samaritan's Purse national prayer day - 7th October



SERVICE TIMES FOR WORSHIP CENTRES

**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 Hwy
Riverside

Parish Office
399 West Tamar Hwy
Riverside
6327 4742
riverlinks@bigpond.com

*Riverlinks
Anglican
Newsletter
is published
monthly by the
Parish Council.
Opinions expressed
in this publication
do not necessarily
reflect those of the
clergy or the
Anglican Church.*

*Please forward
any photos or
articles to the
Parish office by
20th of each month
for inclusion in the
newsletter.*

East Launceston

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

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	11:00am Kid's Church
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