

**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

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Riverlinks
Anglican Parish
Newsletter is
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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

Service Times For Worship Centres

May 2010

East Launceston		
2 nd	10:00 am	Communion
9 th	10:00 am	Morning Prayer
16 th	10:00 am	Riverlinks Together Combined Parish Service with Communion
23 rd	10:00 am	Morning Prayer
30 th	10:00 am	Communion

George Town		
2 nd	9:00 am	Hillwood Communion
	9:00 am	Pipers River Morning Prayer
	10:30 am	George Town Communion
9 th	9:00 am	Low Head Communion
	10:30 am	George Town Together @ 10.30
16 th	No services	Riverlinks Together @ St Aidan's
23 rd	9:00 am	Pipers River Communion
	10:30 am	George Town Communion
30 th	9:00 am	Low Head Communion
	10:30 am	George Town Communion

Riverside & Trevallyn		
	Riverside	Trevallyn
2 nd	9:00 am Communion	11:00am Communion
9 th	9:00 am Praise & Worship	11:00am Kid's Church
16 th	No service	No service
23 rd	9:00 am Communion	11:00am Kid's Church
30 th	9:00 am Communion	11:00 am Communion
Each Wednesday there is a Healing Service at St Oswald's based on Holy Communion at 10:00am		

Peace Haven	
9 th	10:30 am Morning Prayer
16 th	10:30 am Holy Communion
23 rd	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

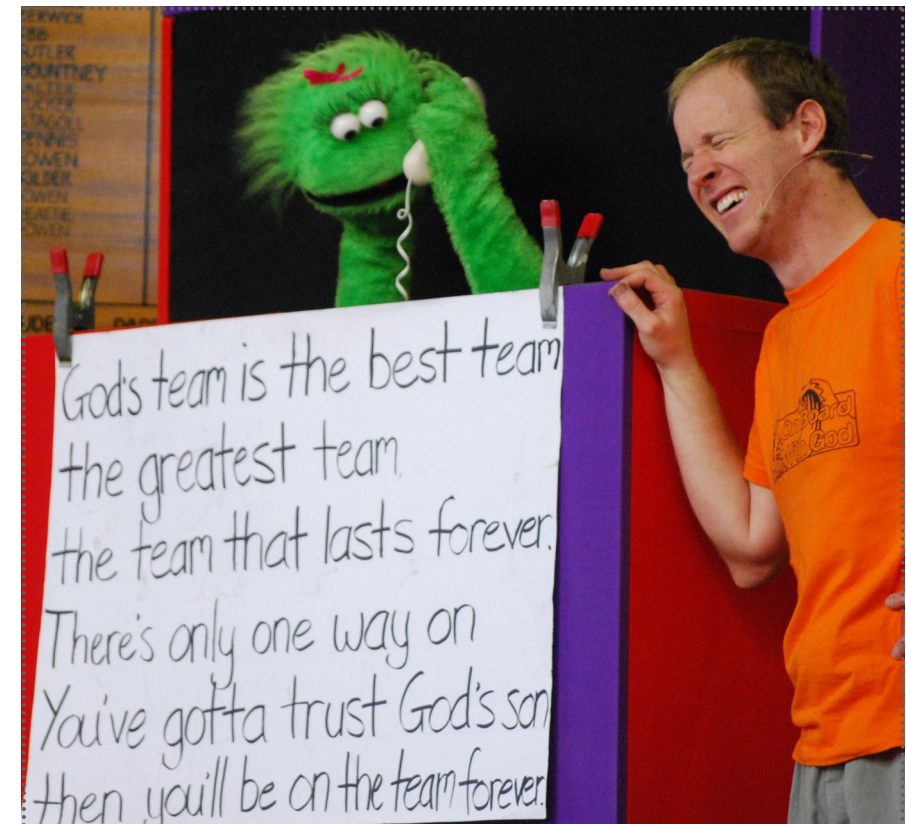


Anglican Church

May 2010

Newsletter

Matt & Gruncharina spread the Word
in the schools



"Living the heartbeat of God"

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

FROM THE ENABLER



The excellent movie, *Into the Wild*, tells the true story of Christopher McCandless, a young American man who rejects his parents' materialistic world and travels to the wilds of Alaska on a quest to discover who he truly is and life's true meaning. I won't tell you what happens because I'd like you to see the movie. It confronts us with the disturbing possibility that we are living a lie; an identity and persona and life that do not really correspond with reality, with who we truly are and with what life's purpose actually is. When Tiger Woods recently admitted to living a lie, how many people hearing that frank confession secretly admitted to themselves a similar possibility?

The truly wonderful thing about being a Christian is that we do not have to find or invent our true identity; that our identity has been freely and graciously **given** to us by **God**; that we are, in fact, God's **adopted children**, and therefore know God as **Father**! This was Jesus' most basic and most important self-understanding; that he is God's Son and that God is his Father. He spoke of God as his Father and of himself as God's Son. It's the language of personal and family relationship:

'All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him' (Matt 11:27).

Jesus' Sonship is unique. He is God's Son by nature. He is the 'only Son from the Father' (Jn 1:14; see also 1:18; 3:16). Jesus knew exactly who he was, where he was from and where he was going (Jn 13:1, 3; 17:1-5).

The truly remarkable truth about being a **Christian** is that Jesus' Father becomes **our** Father! That by God's grace we are adopted into God's family, not by being born into the human family but by being born again into God's family:

'But to all who did receive him (Jesus), who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God' (Jn 1:12).

Wise Guy

by Michael Jensen

If there is a God, then almost all are agreed that he will be the kind of being that knows quite a lot. We know this, because we can see there is so much to know out there, and we clearly DON'T know it all.

In fact, however we try to describe it, his capacity for remembering the past, for monitoring the present and knowing the future far exceeds the limited perspective of human knowers. We can't begin to imagine this, because our organ of knowledge, though quite incredible - actually, **REAL-LY** incredible - is a lump of flesh called a brain. One thing we know is that we forget, overlook, misunderstand, and fail to see what is coming. Even with our enhanced knowing-machines - computers, that is - we can only get the garbage out that we put in. The very existence of computers should be a reminder to human beings that we need assistance to know stuff.

But not God - he has no need of extra hard disc space. He has no problem with storage of data. As Hannah says in her song in 1 Samuel 2:2-3:

There is no one holy like the LORD; there is no one besides you; there is no Rock like our God. "Do not keep talking so proudly or let your mouth speak such arrogance, for the LORD is a God who knows, and by him deeds are weighed."

For God, knowledge is not merely the job of discovering or observing what is already out there. That's how human beings know things. Because he is the creator, his knowledge is of the very inner workings of the world. It is extensive, and incisive - it is wide, and deep. He knows not only its parts, but how the parts hang together as a whole - and he knows from before the foundation of the world.

Israel understood this knowledge that God has as more than just having a large IQ: and they called it 'wisdom'. There are two great passages in which this gets played out: Proverbs 8:12-31 and Job 28: 20-28. Here's Proverbs, which starts with wisdom herself talking about the creation of the world:

Then I was the craftsman at his side. I was filled with delight day after day, rejoicing always in his presence, rejoicing in his whole world and delighting in mankind.

This not merely expertise, is it? This is not a specialist knowledge in a particular area. It is not merely the knowledge gained by surveillance either. It is not just the knowledge of things but the craft needed to make them, to order them and pattern them. It is fruitful and just. It can only be called 'artistry' this knowledge, so creative is its power.

This wisdom, the craftsman by God's side, is the means by which God ordered of the natural world and by which he rules the world of human affairs.



If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him.

James 1:5
NIV

This article first appeared 27/04/10

To read the full article visit www.sydneyan Anglicans.net

No one has ever seen God, but God the One and Only, who is at the Father's side, has made him known.

John 1:18
NIV

Messy Church

Messy Church is *church without the boring bits* for young families and is catering for mainly music, playgroup and other families.

The first Messy Church for this year at St. Aidan's got underway on 18th April with a special performance from Quiz Worx along with a wide variety of craft and other activities for younger children and their parents.

We had wonderful support from our regular worship community as well as from the wider community. About 100 people turned up and thoroughly enjoyed the relaxed atmosphere, the food and the very engaging activities provided.

Quiz Worx was probably the highlight as they presented some of their amusing and exciting programs – a number of people came who'd either heard about this group or had seen them in action during the week in local schools. An encouraging aspect of this activity was the number of appreciative and positive comments from the young families who came along – for some this was their second or third experience of Messy church since it began late last year.

We'd like to thank all those who helped make this possible, especially Maureen and Grace for all their hard work - they couldn't get to sleep that night for joy!

Messy Church will be held on the first Sunday of each month as from June .



I would argue that the Christian's most basic and important self-understanding is that we are God's adopted sons and daughters and that consequently we know God as Father. This means that, as with Jesus, our identity and destiny are clear and sure. We don't go 'into the wild' to discover them or go on Facebook to manufacture them. J. I. Packer puts it memorably:

'Do I, as a Christian, understand myself? Do I know my own real identity? My own real destiny? I am a child of God. God is my Father; heaven is my home; every day is one day nearer. My Saviour is my brother; every Christian is my brother too' (*Knowing God*, p.256).

Now, is this not a very real incentive to prayer? Prayer is not a mechanical, impersonal religious exercise or even a duty. Prayer is the natural outworking of our new relationship to God. In fact, prayer mirrors this relationship. How so? Well, a Christian is someone who has turned back to God the Father through the person and work of God the Son by the ministry of God the Holy Spirit. In prayer we do the same thing. We continually draw near to God the Father through (in the name of) Jesus in or by the Spirit. In fact, notice these connections in Paul's letter to the Romans:

'For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received **the Spirit of adoption as sons**, by whom we cry, "**Abba! Father!**" The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are **children of God**, and if children, then heirs – heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ' (Rom 8:14-17).

When we pray, we are recognising and expressing this wonderful new adoptive relationship. It is a privilege beyond words to be in such a relationship and to pray. Being in God's family is not like being a fearful slave or servant in a household with a harsh, even cruel master (such as some of the Roman Christians would have been). We are confident members of God's household with a loving, heavenly Father. Hear God's gracious invitations in the book of Hebrews:

'Let us then **with confidence draw near** to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need' (Heb 4:16).

After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed:

"Father, the time has come.

Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you. For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him. Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. I have brought you glory on earth by completing the work you gave me to do. And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began.

John 17:1 - 5 NIV

Continued next page ...

"And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by men. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full. But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

FROM THE ENABLER *cont/...*

My children, Gabbie and Jordan, don't need permission or an appointment to come into my office at home to see me. They are welcome anytime and it's a delight to see them, especially when they've been away at school all day; and when they come in, they don't look down to the ground for fear of catching an angry or disapproving eye. They boldly walk straight in, confident and secure in their knowledge of my deep, abiding love for them, my children. This, dear Christian, is **our** immense privilege. We know God as Father and we are invited to walk in anytime, in fact often. Hear again the book of Hebrews:

'Therefore, brothers, since we have **confidence** to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus...let us **draw near** with a true heart in **full assurance of faith**, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water' (Heb 10:19, 22).

In Judaism and Islam it is unthinkable to have such a direct, personal relationship to God as Father. In both religions, God is just too other and too holy for this. This is an understandable deduction and we would do well to recover an appreciation for God's greatness and holiness. For this only serves to heighten the absolute wonder of our direct and unhindered access to God and knowledge of him as Father. It truly is amazing grace. Through the precious blood of Jesus we are reconciled to God and adopted by God, and we enjoy a personal, privileged place in his family and in his presence!

So, in the Lord's Prayer, Jesus not only gave his people a pattern of the way to pray (six petitions that I plan to look at in the coming months) but also the way to address God in our prayers. A way that is unthinkable and absurd to everyone but the Christian and Christian gathering:

'Our Father'
(Matt 6:9)

The contrast with prayer by the pagan Gentiles in their gatherings (Matt 6:7-8) and the plural pronoun 'Our' suggest that the so-called 'Lord's Prayer' is principally (though not exclusively) a model prayer for Christians gathered.

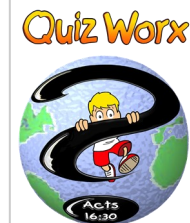
So let me ask, is this identity (adopted children of God) understood and deeply treasured by your church family?

Lisa doesn't give up and again this paid off with 11 state school shows and three Christian school shows. WELL DONE Lisa and thank you Martin for again supporting Lisa in this over many months.

As always, our parish Administrator, Anne Godman, provided excellent administrative support, especially in relation to the training day, dealing with 70 registrations! Thank you, Anne, for your professionalism and patience.

I also wish to say a big thank you to the Riverlinks Parish Council for their strong support of this tour, inviting church members to financially support it and underwriting any shortfall. Thank you, too, to those Riverlinks church members who gave through the special envelopes. Numerous churches kindly helped sponsor local school shows – the combined churches of George Town, Longford Anglican, St Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Launceston, Scottsdale & Districts Ministers' Fraternal, and Ulverstone Anglican Church. Gateway Baptist Church, Launceston gave \$200 towards the overall cost and St John's Anglican Church, Launceston gave \$500, for which I am very grateful. I also wish to thank the St John's children's ministry worker, Tanya Socorro, for her support and for organising the Quiz Worx Supporters' Night at St John's. All of this goodwill and generosity between the churches wonderfully demonstrates our essential unity in Christ and our common desire to see the Kingdom come, in this case to children.

In His service,
David Rogers-Smith



LEFT:
Scruff &
Gruncharina

BELOW LEFT:
Matt & Roz
entertaining &
sharing the
Word in the
schools

BELOW:
Training Day



Quiz Worx
sharing Jesus with kids everywhere

Quiz Worx tour

I am very grateful to God for the success of the much anticipated tour in April by Sydney-based children's ministry team, Quiz Worx. It truly was a significant time of outreach and training. During the nine days Matt and Roz were with us, they performed to approximately 3000 infants-primary children and many teachers and Principals in the following schools:

Devonport Christian School, Ulverstone Primary, Somerset Primary, Wilmont Public School, Riverside Primary, Port Dalrymple (including South George Town children), Westbury Primary, Seabrook Christian School, Hagley Primary, Launceston Christian School, Longford Primary and Scottsdale Primary School.

Quiz Worx' message was that God's team is the best team, the greatest team, the team that lasts forever. There's only one way on. You've gotta trust God's Son, then you'll be on the team forever.

This message was communicated in an engaging, fun and interactive way using puppets, song and chalk drawing. At the end of each show they referred interested children to their CRE teachers, chaplains and local churches.

On Saturday 17th April we ran our second children's ministry training day, again featuring Quiz Worx. I had been asking God for 50 people to attend (35 came to our first one in 2008) and we ended up with 70 registrations! It was a great day that inspired, challenged and equipped people from many different churches around the state in ministry to children. It was wonderful to have people together from churches as varied as Pentecostal, Brethren, Anglican, Salvation Army, Reformed and Presbyterian, united by the gospel and a commitment to share that gospel creatively and effectively with children. People came from Smithton, Circular Head, Devonport, George Town, Scottsdale, Hobart, New Norfolk, Launceston. Elizabeth and Will VanWynden once again did a great job catering for the day (at no charge!) and their church, The Branch Community Christian Church, Kings Meadows, again generously provided their ideal facilities for the day.

On Sunday 18th April Quiz Worx did the church time at the launch of Messy Church at St Aidan's East Launceston. Puppets Bluebottle and Grungerina, with Matt and Roz, celebrated God's creation, especially human beings because they are made in God's image. This was a truly special time together with around 100 people, and Quiz Worx were a very special part of it.

Once again I heartily thank Lisa Chugg for all her persistent, hard work in liaising with schools and school chaplains and booking the school shows.

If not, how can this be cultivated by each member and the whole gathering? Are these questions for each local ministry support team to consider? If you have the privilege of leading your church family in prayer or in the services on a Sunday, would those you lead recognise **your** understanding of our identity and privilege? Are they swept up **with you** in the sheer wonder of God's grace towards us in Jesus? In our prayers, singing and responses to God, is there a joyful confidence in our identity as God's family? Is there genuine awe and astonished humility at God's lavish grace towards us in Jesus? Would a visitor recognise these things? If you have been answering 'no', then your church family, perhaps you too, need to (re)discover your identity and privileged position in Christ and grow to treasure Him and that identity above all things.

Finally,

'Our Father is **in heaven**'
(Matt 6:9)

God our Father is with us in that secret place behind the closed door when we pray alone (Matt 6:6), but he is also 'in heaven'. He is the enthroned, all-powerful King. He is not only willing to hear and help us his children, but **able**. God is not an elderly grandfather who would help us if he could but can't. Nor is he an impersonal, uncaring power that can but won't. Thank God that he is both our Father and in heaven. He is personally and lovingly committed to us, his children, and

he is able to save and lead and help us. He is both

'the King of ages, immortal, invisible, the only God,' to whom
'be honour and glory forever and ever. Amen'
(1 Tim 1:17)

and

'your Father' who 'knows what you need before you ask him'
(Matt 6:8)

Christian, that name means so much. You are a follower of Christ. His Father has become our Father. We share in Jesus' sonship to the Father; sons and daughters adopted by grace. I urge you to know and treasure who you are; and confident in your identity, continually draw near to your Father in heaven – with wonder, worship and prayer.

Warmly,

David

"This, then, is
how you should
pray:

" 'Our Father in
heaven,
hallowed be
your name,
your kingdom
come,
your will be done
on earth as it is in
heaven.

Give us today
our daily bread.
Forgive us our
debts,
as we also
have forgiven
our debtors.
And lead us not
into temptation,
but deliver us
from the evil one.'

For if you forgive
men when they
sin against you,
your heavenly
Father will also
forgive you.
But if you do
not forgive men
their sins, your
Father will not
forgive your sins.

Matthew 6:5 - 15
NIV



Palm Sunday at Kids' Church

Kids' Church on Palm Sunday included (of course) lots of palm branches, joyful songs and a very handsome donkey!

This was followed by lunch in the park for the Teddy Bears Picnic, with lots of sunshine, great fellowship and (of course) teddies!



Crafty Circle

Thursday 13th May - 10am
at St David's Riverside

50 Plus Bible Convention Thursday 10th - Saturday 12th June at Poatina

Supported by Bishop John Harrower & Rev David Jones

Faith Under Fire by Brian Vaatstra

Three Studies in Job

- Trouble in a good man's life
- Unbelievable belief
- Wisdom and an unexpected answer

Registration by 27th May, brochures now available in all centres

Definitions for Parents

FEEDBACK: The inevitable result when a baby doesn't appreciate the mashed carrots.

HEARSAY: What toddlers do when anyone mutters a dirty word.

PRENATAL: When your life was still somewhat your own.

PUDDLE: A small body of water that draws other small bodies wearing dry shoes.

STERILIZE: What you do to your first baby's pacifier by boiling it and to your last baby's pacifier by blowing on it.

TOP BUNK: Where you should never put a child wearing Superman pajamas.

WHOOPS: An exclamation that translates roughly into "get a washrag."

Happy Mother's Day 9th May!

- July 22nd - 25th

- August 5th - 8th

Men's
Women's

For more details contact Bev Percey on 6344 7102
or Grace Rogers on 6327 3982

CURSILLO





NOTICES

Riverlinks Together

Combined Parish Service

Sunday 16th May - 10am

at St Aidan's East Launceston

Bishop John will be our guest speaker

A shared lunch will follow the service, so please
bring a plate of finger food to share

CWA service
2pm on Sunday 2nd May
At St David's Riverside



CAFÉ CHURCH ON BAIN

Sunday 16 May

@ 4:30 - 6pm

A chance to bring your friends to
learn about the life of Jesus
in a relaxed café style atmosphere

*Includes a light meal & children's programme
in the church hall*



29th May 2010
Thanking God...
Thanking each other

Teddy Bears' Picnic at Trevallyn



With
around 60
people in
attendance
Stephen
played the
guitar and
everyone
sang the
Teddy
Bears'
Picnic song.



Riverlinks

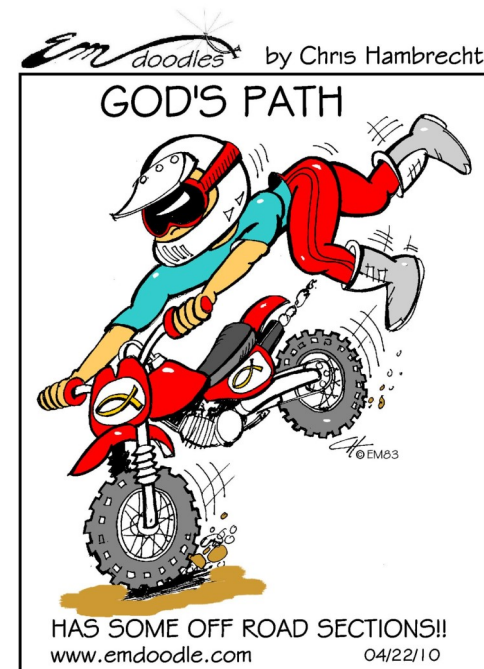
May 2010	
1 st Sat	
2 nd Sun	<i>(each Sunday)</i> KYB Study Group – 3:00pm at the Baptist Church G/Town CWA service – 2:00pm at St David's Preaching Workshop – 2:00pm at St Oswald's Trevallyn
3 rd Mon	
4 th Tue	<i>(each Tuesday)</i> Women of St Aidan's Prayer Group Home & Study Groups – 11:00am at St David's Hall followed by prayer at 12:00pm – 1:45pm at Igglesden's home – 5:30pm at St Mary Magdalene's GTown – 7:30pm at Booth's home – 7:30pm at Pedley's home – 7:30pm Stanford's group at St Aidan's
5 th Wed	<i>(each Wednesday)</i> East Launceston Play Group – 10:00am to 12:00 noon in "The Upper Room" St Aidan's Home & Study Groups – 7:00pm at Gross' home Bell Buoy Beach – 7:00pm at Woods' home at Lulworth – 7:30pm at Stott's home – 7:30pm at Bullard's home
6 th Thur	<i>(each Thursday)</i> Home Group – 10:00am at Collyer's home mainly music – 10:00am at St Aidan's
7 th Fri	<i>(each Friday)</i> KYB Study Group – 10:00am at the Baptist Church G/Town

May 2010	
8 th Sat	
9 th Sun	*** Mother's Day Kids' Church – 11:00am at St Oswald's
10 th Mon	Cadorna – 2:00pm
11 th Tue	AWF Conference at St Stephen's Church Smithton
12 th Wed	AWF Conference St David's Guild – 2:00pm
13 th Thur	Crafty Circle – 10:00am at St David's Parish Council – 7:30pm
14 th Fri	
15 th Sat	
16 th Sun	Riverlinks Together combined parish service with Bishop John – 10:00am at St Aidan's followed by shared lunch Café on Bain - 4:30pm at St Oswald's
17 th Mon	
18 th Tue	
19 th Wed	St Oswald's Guild – 2:00pm Ainslie Service – 2:30pm

Calendar

May 2010	
20 th Thur	Presbyterian Home Legana – 10:45am
21 st Fri	
22 nd Sat	
23 rd Sun	Kids' Church – 11:00am at St Oswald's
24 th Mon	
25 th Tue	
26 th Wed	
27 th Thur	Tamar Park – 1:45pm
28 th Fri	SYNOD at LCGS
29 th Sat	National Day of Thanksgiving SYNOD & CMS dinner at LCGS
30 th Sun	SYNOD
31 st Mon	Prayer Group – 1:30pm at George Town
1 st June Tue	

June and other dates 2010	
10 th - 12 th June	50 Plus Bible Convention
22 nd - 25 th July	Cursillo - Men's 24
5 th - 8 th August	Cursillo - Women's 24
2 nd & 9 th October	Tasmanian Bible Forums
22 nd - 23 rd October	Global Leadership Summit



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

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