

March 2011

East Launceston

21-23 Arthur St
East Launceston
0438 378 233

George Town

3 Anne St
George Town
0439 821 038

Hillwood

Hall - Jetty Rd
Hillwood

Low Head

Low Head Rd
Low Head

Pipers River

School Rd
Pipers River

Riverside

399 West Tamar Hwy
Riverside

Trevallyn

34 Bain Tce
Trevallyn
0409 799 419

Parish office

399 West Tamar Hwy
Riverside
6327 4742
office@riverlinks.net.au

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Contact us:

Parish Office (Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm)
6327 4742 office@riverlinks.net.au

Children & Young Families Ministry
6327 3482 kids_families@riverlinks.net.au

Website www.riverlinks.net.au

riverlinks Newsletter
Anglican Church
March 2011



**Riverlinks Together at the Baxter's farm
Sunday 30th January**

More photos page 8,9,12

“Living the heartbeat of God”

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



All things to all people

For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them. To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though not being myself under the law) that I might win those under the law. To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (not being outside the law of God but under the law of Christ) that I might win those outside the law. To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings. 1 Corinthians 9:19-23

How does the Church relate to the world around it? How about our churches – how do they relate to the city and towns around them? What about us – how do we relate to the people who cross our paths? Is it all about us, or all about them, or is it a bit of both?

My great fear is that our relationships with the world are largely about us: why aren't more people coming to church? How can we welcome people back to our services? How can we help Tasmania (or Australia) return to the good old days when most people went to church? If these are the questions we are asking, I fear that we will continue to falter in our mission to seek and save the lost.

I think that Paul, in this section of his first letter to the Corinthian church, is showing a better way of carrying out the mission of the church. The heart of that way is a focus on the position of others, rather than our own position. By this I mean that Paul's emphasis was in taking the good news of Jesus to people, wherever they are and whatever their background, rather than in trying to attract them to a site or an event where they might meet Jesus: "For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them." (v. 19)₂

Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law.

The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery," "You shall not murder," "You shall not steal," "You shall not covet," and whatever other command there may be, are summed up in this one command:

"Love your neighbor as yourself."

Love does no harm to a neighbor.

Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

Romans 13:8-10
NIV

- Met with Bp Ross Nicholson, 2nd December
- Attended MST/PC Christmas Dinner in George Town, 7th December
- Preliminary planning for 2011
- Wrote Enabler's quarterly activity report for Oct-Jan
- Read:
The Challenge of Islam to the Church and its Mission, by Patrick Sookhdeo (2009)
Various articles in 'The Briefing'
- Reading in progress:
The Trellis and the Vine: The Ministry Mind-Shift that Changes Everything, by Colin Marshall and Tony Payne (2009)
Knowing God, by J I Packer (2004)
This Momentary Marriage: A Parable of Permanence, by John Piper (2010)

Work on (BCA funded) Diocesan Ministry Development Officer tasks:

- ❑ Coordinating the diocesan Certificate in Theology & Ministry, including promotion in the Tasmanian Anglican, letters to new students, organising CTM display at Sorell Tasmanian Bible Forum and Clergy Conference, ongoing revision of course Prospectus, preparation of new unit (7.4)
- ❑ Academic support for Certificate students in Break O'Day parish in capacity as their course Mentor
- ❑ Coordinating online lectionary-based bible study resource on the diocesan website, including weekly editing of drafts submitted by contributors for weekly studies, recruiting contributors for 2011 and writing studies for December 5, 12, 19, 26 and January 2, 9, 16.
- ❑ Updated a chapter for the online Preaching Page on the Diocesan website
- ❑ Organising Tasmanian Bible Forums for 2011; attended Sorell TBF day on Saturday 30th October
- ❑ Wrote annual report to Diocesan Ministry Council
- ❑ Preparation for 2010 Clergy Conference:
 - Promotional display promoting the Certificate in Theology & Ministry, Tasmanian Bible Forums and the online Preaching Page and Lectionary-based Bible study resources
 - Graduation of first graduate of the Certificate in Theology & Ministry
- ❑ At 2010 Clergy Conference:
 - Promoted CTM, TBFs, etc
 - Facilitated graduation of the first graduate of the Certificate in Theology and interviewed her

2011 Tasmanian Bible Forums

Saturday 25th June at St Helens - Bishop John Harrower on Prayer as Passionate Spirituality

Saturday 15th October at Sorell - Richard Humphrey
(Dean of St David's Cathedral, Hobart)

Saturday 22nd October at St Aidan's East L'ton with Mike Raiter
(Principal, Melbourne School of Theology [previously BCV])
'No Turning Back' - Three sessions on the Book of Numbers

Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world.'

Matthew 25:34
NIV



Hearing God's Word together in Tasmania

Garage Sale

**Saturday
19th March
from 9am
onwards**

73 Gascoyne
Street,
Kings
Meadows

Items include:
QS Bed
3 Seater
Lounge
Wooden table
with bench
seats
Children's
puzzles,
games &
books
Many house
hold items



Enabler's Quarterly Activity Report for period 21st October 2010 – 19th January 2011

24 th Oct	Preached at East Launceston, Led discipleship group
31 st Oct	Riverlinks Together Service at George Town
7 th Nov	Preached & celebrated at Pipers River, Preached at George Town Ministered as Bible Man at Messy Church, East Launceston
14 th Nov	Preached and celebrated at Beaconsfield Preached and celebrated at Exeter Led preaching workshop, Riverside Discipleship group
21 st Nov	Riverside, Trevallyn, Led Café Church on Bain, Trevallyn
28 th Nov	East Launceston, St Aidan's Sunday School End-of-year lunch
5 th Dec	Preached at East Launceston Co-led (with Julie) church time at Messy Christmas, East Launceston
12 th Dec	Low Head, George Town, Christmas Story & Carols at Riverside

On Annual Leave: 16th December – 14th January

- Met with various Team members
- Extensive emailing and phone calls with Team members & parish office
- Prepared for, attended and led training component at combined MST November meeting
- Prepared for and attended local Team meetings with RS/TR, GT, and EL teams
- Wrote Summer issue of *Team Talk* for the MST
- Prepared numerous sermons and PowerPoint slide shows
- Prepared for and co-led church time at November and December Messy Church
- Prepared for and led Café Church on Bain at St Oswald's Trevallyn in November
- Wrote extensive article for December Riverlinks newsletter
- Prepared for and led parish preaching workshop. In addition to Riverlinks preachers, this was attended by preachers from the West Tamar parish
- Maintained contact with parish's preaching development team
- Provided guidance to preachers on their yet-to-be-preached sermons
- Wrote numerous sermon critiques for Riverlinks preachers
- Wrote paper for Ordained Team Members on Marriage Preparation and Weddings
- Organised and supervised *Preliminary Theological Certificate* exam for Jo Tevelein and Anne Morley, 9.00am-12.00pm, 23rd November
- Progressed application to MST membership for Helen Boughton, including organising interviews with Diocesan Vocational Advisors
- Prepared for and led fortnightly Sunday afternoon discipleship group
- Prepared for and met with two St Aidan's men for mentoring and discipling
- Attended St Oswald's Healing Service
- Preliminary planning for MST/PC Retreat in March 2011
- Hospitality at home for church members
- Led devotion at and attended November Parish Council meeting
- Attended Enablers' training day in Ross, 12th November
- Monthly meetings with fellow church worker in Launceston for mutual encouragement and prayer
- Attended 2010 Clergy Conference: 3rd – 5th November
- Attended Clergy Christmas party in Pontville, Saturday 20th November
- Attended St Oswald's & St David's Fellowship Christmas Lunch, 24th November
- Attended address given by Dr Patrick Sookhdeo, Barnabas Fund, at St Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Launceston, 24th November
- End-of-year bbq at home for MST members, 26th November
- Attended St Aidan's Sunday School End-of-year lunch, 28th November

To the Jews ...

I suppose that we never really forget that the gospel was new and strange to the Jews of the first century. Even though Christianity grew out of Judaism, it was counter-cultural – a move away from a religion based on law, in favour of a relationship with God based on the free and undeserved gift of Jesus Christ.

We also need to remember that Australian church culture is not exactly the same as the gospel. All churches add bits and pieces to the gospel. Some of these additions are quite innocent, such as music preference, or liturgy, or architecture, or any number of different options for worship. Some of them are more dangerous and include requirements to adhere to rules that are not found in the Bible. As servants of Jesus, we will meet people who may be well experienced in church, but who have never met Jesus. Our job of reaching these people for Jesus will have to take into account their experience of the church, breathing life and meaning into weekly ritual and liturgy, and challenging people with the offence of the gospel: our own sinfulness, and God's amazing, gracious gift of reconciliation and life.

To those outside the law ...

Paul was a great cross-cultural missionary. From a very strict Jewish upbringing, he was able to reach many thousands of people in the non-Jewish world. Have a look at his great example to the people of Athens in Acts 17:16-34 – there he read the Athenian culture accurately and was able to relate the news of Jesus' death and resurrection to them in a way that they were able to comprehend. He started in a place they understood, and took them with him to the gospel. As a result, we read that “some men joined him and believed”.

It would be a mistake to look at verse 21 of the Corinthians passage (beginning “To those outside the law ...”) as only about cross-cultural missionary work overseas. Whenever we venture outside the church, we are engaged in cross-cultural work.

continued next page ...



**Pancake
Night
Shrove
Tuesday
8th March
from 6pm**

Come and
join us
for some
flippin'
marvelous
fun and
fellowship,
and of
course lots
of yummy
pancakes!



Pipers River 30th January

Continued from previous page...

God makes a promise.
Faith believes it.
Hope anticipates it.
Patience quietly awaits it.

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

Confessing your sins is no substitute for forsaking them.

If you want to defend Christianity, practice it!

Learn to enjoy little things -- there are so many of them.

As a man grows older and wiser, he talks less and says more.

Christianity is a verb.

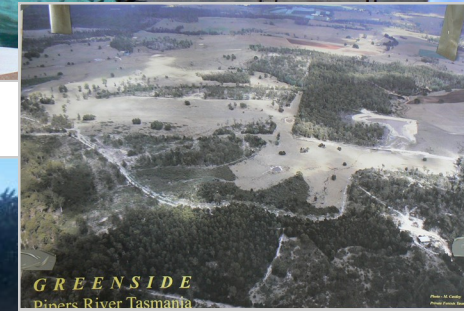
Australian culture is now very distant from church culture, to the point where many will have no idea what Christians believe, who Jesus is, or what happens in a church. Where else in Australian society will a group of people, all facing in the same direction, stand up, sit down, sing (!), stop everything to say hello to all the people around them, talk with their eyes closed and eat a wafer dipped in port?

Perhaps for us, becoming "as one outside the law" is more difficult. I find it difficult to enter into meaningful relationships with non-believers. My relationships with such people tend to be more superficial than my relationships with Christians. I suspect that the main reason for this is that I have not taken the time to get to know other people on their own turf or in a setting where I am the stranger. It is not at all surprising that this makes it less likely that I will get to speak of my hope in Jesus, or that I will speak in a way that my un-believing friend understands.

As my two girls start at a new school this year, I have great opportunities to serve the school community and to build relationships with other parents. I hope not to waste those opportunities. My prayer is that God will bless those relationships and that I will recognise the right time to speak of Jesus' work in my life.

To the weak ...

Most churches have a great concern for the poor and needy. Christians give to charity and help those who lack. While not wanting to run down these gifts, I believe that Paul challenges us to greater levels of love and sacrifice. "To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak." Paul's love is not a distant gift, but the up-close sharing of the weak person's weakness. It is what happens whenever Christians have given up their own comfort to live with, care for, serve and love the sick, the poor and the needy. It is what the world saw when Mother Teresa left her comfortable position as a teacher to



Around 80 people attended St Alban's Pipers River for Riverlinks Together in January.

In place of a sermon a question and answer session was held with James Oakley to introduce him and his family to the Parish.

The service was followed by a picnic & BBQ at the Baxter's farm.

Riverlinks Together



work among the poorest of the poor in Calcutta. It is what the world sees in the countless hospices around the world caring for people dying of HIV/AIDS, dying of cancer, or dying with dementia. It is what remains unseen where Christians have lived with subsistence farmers, helping them to access modern tools, crops and methods to increase yields and improve nutrition. It is what remains unseen in the daily work and lives of countless Christians who counsel and care for the victims of violence and abuse, or torture and war.

The willingness of Christians down the ages to walk with and suffer with the weakest of people illustrates so clearly the great love of God in walking with us and suffering with us in our weakness and need.

In all this that Paul does he does for the sake of the gospel and out of love for those he is trying to reach. These twin purposes will always point in the same direction – if we truly love others and Christ has loved us, then we will want to tell them the truth about God, the world and us, and we will want them to experience the joy and freedom of life lived in Christ. Paul will take any trouble for any person, if some might be saved.

My question for us (without implying any particular answer) is this: is our purpose (like Paul's) to win people for Jesus? And are we prepared, under God, to use any means He gives us?

James

Children & Young Families Ministry Officer Support Group contacts:

Ian Morley	6327 1191
Jenny Baxter	6382 7171
Mike le Rossignol	6344 1943

To contact James directly please email kids_families@riverlinks.net.au or phone 6327 3482.



Trish Anderson

was named as the Australia Day Citizen of the Year

in the 2011 George Town Municipality Australia Day Awards.

A very well-deserved honour!

C O N G R A T U L A T I O N S
T R I S H

Riverlinks

March 2011	
1 st Tue	(each Tuesday) Women of St Aidan's Prayer Group CCCGT Prayer Group – 1:00pm Home & Study Groups – 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
2 nd Wed	(each Wednesday) East Launceston Play Group – 10:00am to 12:00 noon in "The Upper Room" St Aidan's Home & Study Groups – 7:30pm at Gross' home Bell Buoy Beach – 7:30pm at Stott's home – 7:30pm at Bullard's home
3 rd Thur	(each Thursday) mainly music – 10:00am at St Aidan's
4 th Fri	(each Friday) KYB Study Group – 10:00am at Baptist Church G/Town World Day of Prayer service – 10:00am at St David's Riverside – 10:00am at St Mary Magdalene's G/Town Mental Health First Aid Course – 9:30am to 4:30pm at Door of Hope
5 th Sat	Mental Health First Aid Course (day two) – 9:30am to 4:30pm at Door of Hope
6 th Sun	Preaching Workshop – 2 to 4pm at St David's Messy Church – 4:30pm at St Aidan's
7 th Mon	(Each Monday) Home Group – 1:00pm at Collyer's home

March 2011	
8 th Tue	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Night – 6:00pm at St David's Childsafe Team Leader Training – 7 to 9:00pm at Holy Trinity
9 th Wed	
10 th Thur	Crafty Circle – 10:00am at St David's Parish Council – 7:30pm
11 th Fri	
12 th Sat	Childsafe Team Leader Training – 2:30 to 4:30pm at Holy Trinity
13 th Sun	Kids' Church – 11:00am at St Oswald's
14 th Mon	***** 8 Hours Day Public Holiday Cadorna – 2:00pm
15 th Tue	Childsafe Team Member Training – 7 to 9:00pm at Holy Trinity
16 th Wed	St Oswald's Fellowship Group – 2:00pm Ainslie Service – 2:15pm
17 th Thur	Presbyterian Home Legana – 10:45am
18 th Fri	
19 th Sat	Ministry Support Team & Parish Council Retreat

Calendar

March 2011	
20 th Sun	Café Church on Bain – 4:30pm at St Oswald's
21 st Mon	
22 nd Tue	Man to Man Course begins – 7 to 9:30pm Tuesdays over 10 weeks at Door of Hope
23 rd Wed	
24 th Thur	Crafty Circle – 10:00am at St David's AWF – 10:00am at Belle's George Town
25 th Fri	
26 th Sat	
27 th Sun	Kids' Church – 11:00am at St Oswald's
28 th Mon	
29 th Tue	
30 th Wed	
31 st Thur	Tamar Park – 1:45pm

April and other dates 2011	
29 th May	Riverlinks Together
25 th June 15 th Oct 22 nd Oct	Tasmanian Bible Forums

Service Times For Worship Centres

East Launceston			
6 th	10:00 am 4:30 pm	Communion Messy Church	
13 th	10:00 am	Café Church	
20 th	10:00 am	Communion	
27 th	10:00 am	Morning Prayer	
George Town			
6 th	9:00 am 9:00 am 10:30 am	Hillwood Pipers River George Town	Communion Morning Prayer Communion
13 th	9:00 am 10:30 am	Low Head George Town	Communion Together @ 10.30
20 th	9:00 am 10:30 am	Pipers River George Town	Communion Communion
27 th	9:00 am 10:30 am	Low Head George Town	Communion Communion
Riverside & Trevallyn			
6 th	9:00 am 11:00 am	Riverside Trevallyn	Communion Communion
13 th	9:00 am 11:00 am	Riverside Trevallyn	Praise & Worship Kids' Church
20 th	9:00 am 11:00 am 4:30 pm	Riverside Trevallyn Trevallyn	Communion Communion Café Church on Bain
27 th	9:00 am 11:00 am	Riverside Trevallyn	Communion Kids' Church
Each Wed	10:00am	Trevallyn	Healing Service
Peace Haven			
13 th	10:30 am	Morning Prayer	
20 th	10:30 am	Holy Communion	
27 th	10:30 am	Morning Prayer	

The deadline for the April Newsletter edition is 9am on 21st March

Please send articles, comments, information & photos to the Parish Office
399 West Tamar, Riverside - 6327 4742 office@riverlinks.net.au