

June 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

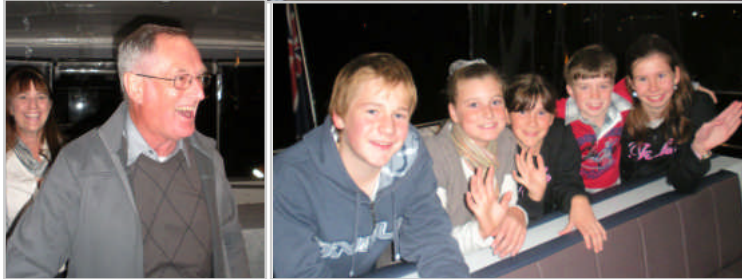
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*Opinions expressed in
this publication do not
necessarily reflect
those of the clergy or
the Anglican Church.*

**Newsletter deadline
for photos, articles,
etc. is 20th of each
month unless
otherwise stated**



ABOVE: Ian Morley's surprise 70th birthday cruise
BELOW: 200th celebrations in Princes Square



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riverlinks Newsletter

June 2011

Anglican Church



“Living the heartbeat of God”

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



A message from James Oakley

I'm sure every parent knows it: you've been watching something on television (the news recently, perhaps), and out of the corner of your eye you catch sight of a little face. Then the sinking feeling: "How much have you seen? What did you see?"

The world presses in relentlessly, doesn't it. Much of what is on offer is fairly banal and harmless, even if it is distracting from the deeper and more important things. Advertising and consumerism fall into this end of the spectrum. Other things that are thrust into our lounge rooms via the internet or TV are far more distressing. We regularly see news of violence and death, or of sexual abuse. We are bombarded with images of environmental degradation and pollution. We are reminded constantly of how the rapacious greed of the unscrupulous leads to children starving in the streets and on rubbish tips. How do I help my children process such a world?

It is tempting to decry this rampant evil and injustice as a modern phenomenon – surely things were better back in the day? Well, no, things were no better. Listen to this description:

*... I was envious of the arrogant
when I saw the prosperity of the wicked.
For they have no pangs until death;
their bodies are fat and sleek.
They are not in trouble as others are;
they are not stricken like the rest of mankind.
Therefore pride is their necklace;
violence covers them as a garment.
Their eyes swell out through fatness;
their hearts overflow with follies.
They scoff and speak with malice;
loftily they threaten oppression.*

God knew what he was doing from the very beginning. He decided from the outset to shape the lives of those who love him along the same lines as the life of his Son. The Son stands first in the line of humanity he restored. We see the original and intended shape of our lives there in him.

instruction. Thus SRI lessons can be doctrinal in character, keeping with the precepts of any given faith group. The guidelines for the NSCP are tighter, and prevent proselytizing but provide for the 'providing of guidance on religious, values or ethical matters' amongst other things.

What has happened in Victoria is that the NSCP and SRI have both come under attack. A vocal group of people are unhappy that the NSCP is being used as a back-door method of Christian evangelism and disciple-making. Access Ministries is claiming that it is not, that they are sticking to the federal guidelines.

However, there has been a convenient blurring of the lines by the media and secular opponents, which has blended these two programs and as a result the role of religious instruction in the state school system as a whole has been openly attacked.

If the High Court challenge against the NSCP is successful, the future of the NSCP will be sealed anyway. Whether it is right for the Federal Government to fund chaplaincies in the first place is rightly a matter for the High Court to determine, and it will do so in accordance with the law and legal precedent. The wider attack on SRI in Victoria should be seen against the backdrop of a broad secularist agenda, aided and abetted by sections of the media. The Global Atheist Convention will be held in Melbourne in April 2012 so this movement will get louder in coming months. Christians everywhere, especially those in Victoria, will need to gird their loins for robust public debate and engagement. Our brothers and sisters in Melbourne need our prayers.

Karin Sowada



School Chaplaincy needs your help.

Prayer support is vital, financial contributions \$2 & over are tax deductible.

Visit www.sutas.org.au to find out how you can help.

Riverlinks supports Chaplains in schools around the Parish:

Janine Targett - Port Dalrymple

Jared Stocks - Riverside High

Lindy Bailey - Riverside Primary

Kevin Donohue - South George Town Primary

Confusion about the different guidelines of Chaplaincy and Religion classes is not helping public discussion

A mixed-up debate

The additional Federal funding of \$222m provided in the Budget for the School Chaplaincy Program came as a surprise. With talk of cuts to welfare and other programs, the reasons for allocating more money at school chaplaincies seemed a mystery. It does not seem to be a priority area of education funding.

In recent weeks, the National School Chaplaincy Program (NSCP) has come under increasing media and legal scrutiny. A Queensland parent has challenged the constitutionality of applying federal funds to such a scheme under s. 116 of the Australian Constitution. Section 116 states that The Commonwealth shall not make any law for establishing any religion, or for imposing any religious observance, or for prohibiting the free exercise of any religion, and no religious test shall be required as a qualification for any office or public trust under the Commonwealth.

The case was recently mentioned in the High Court and is slated for hearing for three days in August. A judgment would be expected in late 2011 or 2012. If the case was upheld, this would result in a cessation of funding.

This is one of those watershed constitutional cases that crops up from time to time. I have argued before that the plaintiff's challenge has substance on a number of grounds. We shall have to wait for the presentation of the cases and the final judgment.

Confused debate

Debate about the NSCP is fiercest in Victoria, where the main provider, Access Ministries, has come under intense pressure from The Age newspaper. Access Ministries is also a key participant in Special Religious Instruction (SRI) in that state, which is a completely separate program to the NSCP. For many years, all religious faiths have enjoyed mandated right to a small part of the school timetable for religious

*They set their mouths against the heavens,
and their tongue struts through the earth.
Therefore his people turn back to them,
and find no fault in them.
And they say, "How can God know?
Is there knowledge in the Most High?"
Behold, these are the wicked;
always at ease, they increase in riches. Psalm 73: 3-12*

Back in the day roughly 1000BC, things were just as bad as they are today. The wicked seemed to get everything their own way – they are wealthy, they have everything they need, they are not troubled, they are proud. The apparent ease of the wicked is such that even God's own people “turn back to them, and find no fault in them”.

It seems an odd thing to include in a psalm that begins “Truly God is good to Israel, to those who are pure in heart”. It does not seem possible to reconcile these ideas, as the psalmist recognises:

*All in vain have I kept my heart clean
and washed my hands in innocence.
For all the day long I have been stricken
and rebuked every morning.
If I had said, "I will speak thus,"
I would have betrayed the generation of your children.*

*But when I thought how to understand this,
it seemed to me a wearisome task,*

Psalm 73:13-16

Does the evil we see in the world lead us to the conclusion either that God does not care, or that he is powerless to do anything? And what can we say to our children – how do we admit to them that the world is horribly messed up, and that working hard and doing good may not result in prosperity and success?

Continued next page...

After God made that decision of what his children should be like, he followed it up by calling people by name. After he called them by name, he set them on a solid basis with himself. And then, after getting them established, he stayed with them to the end, gloriously completing what he had begun.

**Romans
8: 29-30
MSG**

This article first appeared at
www.synchronicanglicans.net



Now that we are set right with God by means of this sacrificial death, the consummate blood sacrifice, there is no longer a question of being at odds with God in any way.

If, when we were at our worst, we were put on friendly terms with God by the sacrificial death of his Son, now that we're at our best, just think of how our lives will expand

The psalm shows the true answer to these hard questions.

That answer comes not from assessing the problem from the worldly viewpoint. We do not ask "what would I do about the problem if I were God" (a question implicit in the God cannot help or will not help dichotomy). Rather, the answer is to be found in the same place that the psalmist finds the answer:

*until I went into the sanctuary of God;
then I discerned their end.* (Verse 17)

The answer is to be found in the counsels of God, who removes the illusion of wealth, comfort and ease, and who instead offers himself as the source of true riches, comfort and rest.

Firstly, it is dear that the "ease" of the wicked is fragile and illusory:

*Truly you set them in slippery places;
you make them fall to ruin.
How they are destroyed in a moment,
swept away utterly by terrors!
Like a dream when one awakes,
O Lord, when you rouse yourself, you despise them as
phantoms.* Verses 18-20

And when we think about it, we can see how true this is – the well-publicised end to Osama bin Laden recently demonstrates how fragile and illusory is the power and ease of the wicked. And when this news is old, the new names and events will underscore this truth for another day.

Secondly, God's goodness to his people is reflected not in his giving material blessings, or temporal power, to his people as a reward for their cleanness of heart; rather, God's goodness to his people is shown in his giving of himself:

*Nevertheless, I am continually with you;
you hold my right hand.*

Recommitment to Ministry



During Holy Week a service of recommitment to ministry was held at Evandale, a significant service for clergy and the Bishop to reaffirm their ordination vows, for lay people to reaffirm their commitment to ministry and for us all to reflect on and celebrate our call to ministry in the Body of Christ.



Oils used in the ministries of healing and baptism were also set aside with prayer.

Kids' Church



God has a thousand ways where I can see not one; When all my means have reached their end then His have just begun.

Esther Guyot

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord.

For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Isaiah 55:8,9
NIV

Mission Giving

Fanny Crosby, being blind, could not see the material things of this world.

However, she had spiritual vision to see the Lord and wrote these lovely words:

*Take the world, but give me Jesus,
All His joys are but a name;
But His love abideth ever,
Through eternal years the same.*

*Take the world, but give me Jesus,
In His Cross my trust shall be;
'Till, with clearer, brighter vision,
Face to face my Lord I see.*

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Scripture Union - RHS Chaplaincy | \$2200.00 |
| Scripture Union - RPS Chaplaincy | \$459.00 |
| Samaritan's Purse | \$1,053.00 |
| L & R Santos | \$1,000.00 |
| Barnabas Fund | \$756.00 |
| Qld Flood Relief | \$800.00 |
| Victorian Flood Relief | \$750.00 |
| Leprosy Mission | \$330.60 |
| BCA | \$385.85 |
| World Day of Prayer | \$302.90 |
| Bible Society | \$20.00 |
| World Vision | \$258.00 |
| TOTAL PAID YEAR TO DATE | \$8,325.35 |



*You guide me with your counsel,
and afterward you will receive me to glory.
Whom have I in heaven but you?
And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides you.
My flesh and my heart may fail,
but God is the strength of my heart and my portion
forever.* Verses 23-26

God himself is the good gift that he gives to his people. God himself is the reward, the riches, the comfort, the wealth. It is crucial that we take this truth to heart ourselves, and that we convey it to our children – God is not a means to an end: not to riches, not to respectability, not to ease, not to comfort, not even to eternal life. God is the end in himself, the Alpha and the Omega (first and last letters in the greek alphabet). I am consciously trying to convey to Emily, Sophy and Felix that God will not always keep us from bad things, nor will he always give us the good things we want, but he will always be near us and with us.

For us, living after the birth, death and resurrection of Jesus, these verses are all the more potent. We have seen the manner in which God is always with us, holding us by the hand. We have a record of his counsel, and we have the Holy Spirit, the great Counsellor. We know the means by which he will take us into glory.

Let me finish with the last two verses of the psalm. They are a great summary of the difference between those who persist in wickedness, rejecting the way of God, and those who, by God's grace, are always with God. They contain a warning, great comfort, and a challenge, and show me the way to help my children deal with the world around them.

*For behold, those who are far from you shall perish;
you put an end to everyone who is unfaithful to you.
But for me it is good to be near God;
I have made the Lord GOD my refuge,
that I may tell of all your works.*

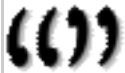
Psalm 73:27-28



and deepen by means of his resurrection life! Now that we have actually received this amazing friendship with God, we are no longer content to simply say it in plodding prose. We sing and shout our praises to God through Jesus, the Messiah!

*Romans
5: 9 - 11
MSG*

James



Celebrating 200 Years

Quentin Remondet

"Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn't do than by the things you did. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. . . . Explore. Dream."

Mark Twain

"One's mind, once stretched by a new idea, never regains its original dimensions."

Oliver Wendell Holmes, Sr.

"Thinking too well of people often allows them to be better than they otherwise would."

Nelson Mandela

On Saturday 21st May a goodly congregation of people representing Anglican Parishes in the north plus local community leaders gathered under the trees in Princes Square to celebrate 200 years since the arrival of the Revd Robert Knopwood to perform both marriages and baptisms in the north.

Why was the service held outdoors in Princes Square? Because Revd Knopwood after riding his white horse up to Launceston in 1811 held marriages and baptism services under the trees near Cameron Street.

The service was led by Revd Roger Hesketh and the address given by Bishop John relating the theme of Baptism and Marriage to the readings from Isaiah and Mark.

Prayers were prepared and led by representatives from different parishes including Sarah Shorter from Rivierlinks who prayed for Children, Youth and Young Families. The singing was well led by the Choir of High Hopes.

The weather was kind, the afternoon tea plentiful, the organization smooth and by all reports people enjoyed the opportunity to gather and fellowship across various parishes.

Ian Morley

More photos pages 12 & 16



2011 Tasmanian Bible Forums



**Prayer as
Passionate Spirituality
with Bishop John Harrower**

Saturday 25th June, 2011

10.00am – 3.00pm

**St Paul's Anglican Parish hall,
58 Cecilia Street, St Helens**

RSVP:

22nd June - 6376 1144

\$15 (includes morning tea & lunch)

Bring your Bible and a pen

Saturday 15th October at Sorell

Richard Humphrey (Dean of St David's Cathedral, Hobart)

Saturday 22nd October at St Aidan's East L'ton

Mike Raiter (Principal, Melbourne School of Theology [previously BCVI])

'No Turning Back' - 3 sessions on the Book of Numbers

youthworks **Children's & Youth Ministry Training**

Tuesday 21st June 7 - 9pm
"Understanding the developing child"

and

Saturday 25th June 7 - 9pm
"Preparing and delivering a lesson"

at St John's Parish Centre, 157 St John Street, Launceston

Donation on the night toward Youthworks
For more details contact Tanya Socorro 6331 4896
tsocorro@sjohns.net.au

**Hearing God's
Word together
in Tasmania**

**TASMANIAN
BIBLE
FORUMS**

*ALSO
IN
2011*



Youthworks (based in Sydney) exists to work with churches and schools in Word ministry to children, youth and families, to raise Missional disciples for the glory of God



The Parish Office will be

CLOSED

Wednesday 8th June to Friday 10th June



Cursillo Diocesan Ultreya

Saturday 2nd July

10am to 3pm at Campbell Town High School

Dr. Allan Meyer
Tuesday 27th September 2011
7.30 pm Door of Hope Centre

ONE NIGHT ONLY

Topic: building healthy self-esteem in families



save marriage

When: 1st June Wednesday **Time:** 7:30pm

Where: Sir Raymond Ferrall Centre Lecture Theatre
UTAS Newnham

Speakers: Andrew Corbett, Guy Barnett, and
Campbell Markham

Each will speak followed by a panel discussion.

Supported by Christian Churches of Launceston.



Boarding House Live-in Support Worker

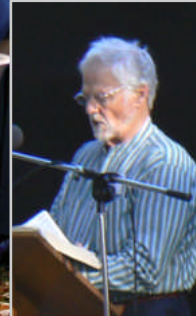
The Launceston City Mission has an rewarding volunteer opportunity for those desiring to be part of our team helping accommodate people who are struggling within our community. We are seeking someone interested in providing live-in support (mainly evenings and some weekends) to our residents within our boarding house in Launceston. The applicant will need to be self-motivated, have a genuine care and compassion for people, enjoy working in a Christian environment and be willing to undergo further training as required.

Accommodation costs are offered as remuneration for support provided.

The successful applicant will need to work within the ethos and policies of the City Mission.

For more information regarding this position and a job description contact Ray Green on (03) 6331 6999 or email:

ray@citymission.org.au



"Your assumptions are your windows on the world. Scrub them off every once in a while, or the light won't come in."

Isaac Asimov

"The man who views the world at 50 the same as he did at 20 has wasted 30 years of his life."

Muhammad Ali

"Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap, but by the seeds you plant."

Robert Louis Stevenson

"If you think you are too small to be effective, you have never been in the dark with a mosquito."

Betty Reese

Riverlinks

| June 2011 | |
|----------------------|---|
| 1 st Wed | <i>(each Wednesday)</i> East Launceston Play Group – 10:00am to 12:00 noon at St Aidan's Home & Study Groups – 7:30pm at Stott's home – 7:30pm St Oswald's "Save Marriage" Public Meeting – 7:30pm at Sir Raymond Ferrall Centre, UTAS Launceston Newnham Campus |
| 2 nd Thur | <i>(each Thursday)</i> mainly music – 10:00am at St Aidan's |
| 3 rd Fri | <i>(each Friday)</i> KYB Study Group – 10:00am at Baptist Church G/Town SYNOD |
| 4 th Sat | SYNOD |
| 5 th Sun | SYNOD Messy Church – 4:30pm at St Aidan's |
| 6 th Mon | <i>(Each Monday)</i> Home Group – 1:00pm at Collyer's home MST Meeting – 6:45pm in the Parish office |
| 7 th Tue | <i>(each Tuesday)</i> Women of St Aidan's Prayer Group Prayer Group – 1:00pm at St MM G/Town Home & Study Groups – 1:45pm at Igglesden's home – 7:30pm at Gross' home – 7:30pm at Booth's home – 7:30pm at Pedley's home – 7:30pm Stanford's group at St Aidan's |
| 8 th Wed | *** Parish Office CLOSED Kids' Church – 11:00am at St Oswald's |

| June 2011 | |
|-----------------------|--|
| 9 th Thur | *** Parish Office CLOSED Crafty Circle – 10:00am at St David's Seafarer's Mission Soup & Sandwich Lunch – 12:00 noon at the George Town Yacht Club |
| 10 th Fri | *** Parish Office CLOSED |
| 11 th Sat | |
| 12 th Sun | Kids' Church – 11:00am at St Oswald's |
| 13 th Mon | *** Queens Birthday Public Holiday Cador na – 2:00pm |
| 14 th Tue | |
| 15 th Wed | St Oswald's Fellowship Group – 2:00pm Ainslie Service – 2:15pm |
| 16 th Thur | Presbyterian Home Legana – 10:45am |
| 17 th Fri | |
| 18 th Sat | |
| 19 th Sun | |
| 20 th Mon | |

Calendar

| June 2011 | |
|--------------------------|--|
| 21 st Tue | Children's & Youth Ministry Training "Understanding the developing child" – 7 to 9pm at St John's Parish Centre |
| 22 nd Wed | |
| 23 rd Thur | Crafty Circle – 10:00am at St David's |
| 24 th Fri | |
| 25 th Sat | Tasmanian Bible Forum – 10:00am at St Helens Children's & Youth Ministry Training "Preparing & delivering a lesson" – 7 to 9pm at St John's Parish Centre |
| 26 th Sun | Kids' Church – 11:00am at St Oswald's CCCGT Seafarer's Service – 5:00pm at the Uniting Church |
| 27 th Mon | |
| 28 th Tue | |
| 29 th Wed | |
| 30 th Thur | Tamar Park – 1:45pm |
| 1 st July Fri | |
| 2 nd July Sat | Cursillo Diocesan Ultreya |

| July and other dates 2011 | |
|--|---|
| 6 th August | Northern Prayer Gathering |
| 14 th August | Preaching Workshop |
| 27 th Sept | Dr Allan Meyer at Door of Hope |
| 15 th Oct 22 nd Oct | Tasmanian Bible Forums TBF at Sorell TBF at St Aidan's |

Service Times For Worship Centres

| East Launceston | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|---|--|
| 5 th | 10:00 am 4:30 pm | Communion Messy Church | |
| 12 th | 10:00 am | Morning Prayer | |
| 19 th | 10:00 am | Communion | |
| 26 th | 10:00 am | Morning Prayer | |
| George Town | | | |
| 5 th | 9:00 am 9:00 am 10:30 am | Hillwood Pipers River George Town | Communion Morning Prayer Communion |
| 12 th | 9:00 am 10:30 am | Low Head George Town | Communion Together @ 10.30 |
| 19 th | 9:00 am 10:30 am | Pipers River George Town | Communion Communion |
| 26 th | 9:00 am 10:30 am | Low Head George Town | Communion Communion |
| Riverside & Trevallyn | | | |
| 5 th | 9:00 am 11:00 am | Riverside Trevallyn | Communion Communion |
| 12 th | 9:00 am 11:00 am | Riverside Trevallyn | Praise & Worship Kids' Church |
| 19 th | 9:00 am 11:00 am | Riverside Trevallyn | Communion Communion |
| 26 th | 9:00 am 11:00 am | Riverside Trevallyn | Communion Kids' Church |
| Each Wed | 10:00am | Trevallyn | Healing Service |
| Peace Haven | | | |
| 12 th | 10:30 am | Morning Prayer | |
| 19 th | 10:30 am | Holy Communion | |
| 26 th | 10:30 am | Morning Prayer | |

The **deadline** for the June Newsletter edition is **24th June**

Please send articles, comments, information & photos to the Parish Office

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