

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

Peacehaven
185 Penquite Rd
Norwood

Pipers River
School Rd
Pipers River

Riverside
399 West Tamar Hwy
Riverside

Trevallyn
34 Bain Tce
Trevallyn
0409 799 419

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Riverlinks Anglican Parish
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Opinions expressed in this
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necessarily reflect those of
the clergy or the Anglican
Church.

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photos, articles, etc. is 20th
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otherwise stated



CMS
SummerView
2015



Contact us:

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6327 4742 office@riverlinks.net.au

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6327 3482 kids_families@riverlinks.net.au

Website
www.riverlinks.net.au

riverlinks Newsletter
February
2015

"But this is the new covenant I will make with the people of Israel after those days," says the Lord. "I will put my instructions deep within them, and I will write them on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people."

Jeremiah 31:33 ^{NLT}



Our vision: **"Growing a community of faith committed to Christ and making him known"**

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



Introducing Josh Skeat

When, where and how did you become a Christian?

Really I have known about Jesus my entire life, as I was raised in a Christian household, with my parents involved in Youth With a Mission since I was 1 year old. Having said that, my own personal Christian experience has been fairly varied, including a period in my late teen and early adult years in which I walked outside the Christian faith.

It was only in late 2008 when, in response to the persistent urging of my own mother and a blunt exhortation by my father-in-law, that I once again pursued church involvement, and was invited to check out Connections – an Anglican church plant in Somerset. This was an odd group of people that didn't meet in a building and talked about Jesus in a way that while my parents had modelled, I had never experienced myself. It was in Connections that Jesus really

spoke to my heart, called me unto his own, and I committed my life to follow him.

What do you consider your greatest achievement?

There are a few answers I could give here. In terms of study, I have completed a B.Ed (Hons) and will finalise my B. Min this coming year. I have an amazing family, that I absolutely adore (I don't really consider my wife and kids achievements, but I am very proud of them!). I landed my dream musical role (completely unlooked for) as Jean Valjean in Burnie in 2013. But to be honest, as pleased as I am with these areas of my life, they feel hollow as achievements. In all honesty, my greatest achievements are not my own, but the times when God is at work in and through me – and my greatest hope is that my Lord and Saviour will look at me not based on my achievements, but on my faithfulness and on that day

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!

In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead

1 Peter 1:3 NIV

ma to get here. How have we responded? Not with compassion. But with more trauma. We traumatise the traumatised. How does our country administer this trauma?

We imprison asylum seekers and their children in detention centres. We commit sustained child psychological abuse in the light of day. For the asylum seekers who have made it onshore we commit them to a different type of imprisonment.

We park them on a bridging visa, that dehumanising non-visa. The paltry financial support, coupled with the prohibition against work, results in a forced poverty. This might just be bearable if it were for a very limited time.

But our greatest assault is our inaction.

We let these people languish, failing to process their claims with any sort of efficiency or haste. We don't tell them if they will stay, and we don't tell them when they will have an answer. Months and then years roll by.

Men (for the majority are men) who were lawyers, builders and businessmen in

their country of origin, are driven to depression and despair, their dignity painstakingly eroded. The recently legislated Temporary Protection Visas are so mixed. They allow work rights, which is humane. But they disallow family reunion, which is inhumane.

Families will be kept apart indefinitely, multiplying the trauma. It seems that we punish those who have arrived, so as to keep others away. This punitive course of action is not only inhumane.

It is also unjust, for it is not illegal to seek asylum, under either Australian or International Law.

In all, we deprive asylum seekers of that most essential ingredient for life: hope. It is a shameful blight on our nation.

The God of compassion wants people to have compassion (Col 3:12). And all the more, given our great wealth, for: 'much will be required of everyone who has been given much.' (Luke 12:48). What will God say about our treatment of asylum seekers?

Church leaders were given spent convictions after children in detention protest at Julie Bishop's electorate. Protesters stripped to their underwear and marched back to Julie Bishop's Subiaco electorate office on 28 January from Perth court.

See the full story at ab.co/1JKLgLr





God, compassion and us

Tim Cocks
26/01/15

Tim Cocks is the Rector of St Philip's Anglican Church in Auburn, Sydney. He works one day a week as a General Practitioner.

This article first appeared at www.sydneyanglicans.net

What will God say about our treatment of asylum seekers?

For God is marked by compassion. It distinguishes him. He revealed his name to Moses, on Mount Sinai, as: "The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God.' (Exodus 34:6).

God is compassionate not only in name. For out of compassion, God embraces us in our need, through the death of his Son Jesus Christ (Luke 15:20).

Our current treatment of asylum seekers lacks compassion and denies our country's Christian heritage.

I live and work in the Auburn Local Government Area of Sydney. We house the highest concentration of asylum seekers in Australia, some 1200 people.

I count it a great privilege to be able to befriend many of these people. I tell them of my compassionate God. But I cannot tell them of my compassionate government.

I have heard innumerable stories of these people's flight for life. Without exception they

are heart wrenching.

Wahid* became a Christian in Iran. His neighbour reported his conversion to the government. Facing imprisonment or execution, he fled with his wife and daughter across the world and the seas, and came to Australia. Their four year old daughter Bibi* is receiving counselling for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.

Rushani*, a Tamil Sri Lankan lady, saw her sister murdered by the government militia. She fled across the seas, with her husband and daughter, and came to Australia.

Nalin*, another Tamil Sri Lankan, had his teeth knocked out by the government militia. He also fled across the seas to get here. He can't afford prosthetic teeth, so remains locked indoors in Auburn, too embarrassed to be seen.

These are but a few brief stories amid the thousands.

They all need to be heard.

What the stories all share in common is that people faced trauma in their homelands, and then went through trau-

simply say to me: "Well done good and faithful servant, enter now into your rest".

How did you come to be ordained?

This was completely unlooked for and there is a much longer version of this story that I am happy to share if you want to have a coffee with me sometime. Basically in 2009 I entered the year excited to be teaching, energised for the year ahead, and 2 weeks later discovered that all of my fire and passion and excitement had died. Through prayer and wise counsel, I discovered that in fact this change in me was the Holy Spirit getting my attention and changing the direction of my life. This was affirmed by my family, especially my kids, by the leaders around me, and the wider leadership of the Diocese. The rest, as we say, is history.

Through what incident(s) in your life has the Lord taught you your most valuable lesson?

In my children I have seen the truth of both a "faith like a child" and that God is always speaking to us, if only we would listen to him. They have been integral in affirming two of the major decisions of our family life – the call to ministry, and the move from our comfort zone in Burnie.

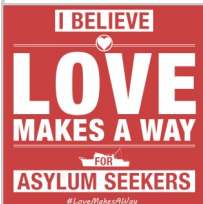
And most recently, through the 3DM discipleship huddle, I have been blown away as God has reminded me, assured me, applied to me and made alive in me, the wonderful truth that I am his child, and that my identity rests first and foremost in him. This is a mind-blowing, world-changing and enormously freeing truth to live out of!

What do you enjoy most about ministry?

I love the people aspect – sharing in the journeys of life, sharing my own journey, walking in good and bad situations, and being witness to the healing of the Holy Spirit in the lives of people. I love

Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

Lamentations
3: 22,23 ^{NIV}



continued
from
previous
page

He has made
everything
beautiful in
its time.

He has also
set eternity
in the hearts
of men;

yet they
cannot fath-
om what God
has done
from begin-
ning to end.

Ecclesiastes
3:11 NIV

opening Scripture – for me, for my family, for us
being challenged by it, as God’s people in this place,
shaped by it, wrestling with for our community, that
it, and seeing God speak Jesus Christ is Lord?
through it, not just to me but
to those around me. I love
the variety – I don’t think I
have ever had two days that
are the same since we made
this step five years ago. I love
the flexibility and chaos that
being part of a Christian
community entails – it
invigorates and excites me!

**In a two-sentence sermon
what would you most like
people to hear and
remember?**

(I’m gonna need three!!)

At the end of the age, every
knee will bow and every
tongue confess that Jesus
Christ is Lord. If we truly
believe this, then we have to
ask the question; ‘Lord of
what?’ and if we are honest
then the answer that
Scripture gives is ‘Lord of all’,
which of course means me,
you and us together. The
biggest challenge that I see
for us as the people of God is
to live that truth in the here
and now: what does it mean

for me, for my family, for us
as God’s people in this place,
for our community, that
Jesus Christ is Lord?

**Can you tell us a little bit
about your family?**

Naomi is an avid crocheter
and enjoys hand-dyeing her
own yarns - both for her own
projects, and to sell on at
request. She is active
alongside me in ministry,
serving as both a Child-safe
Team Leader and as
administrator for the
leadership team at
Connections.

Elizabeth is very musical,
having played flute since
grade 4, through both private
tuition and as part of local
concert bands. She is
currently learning the piano
at school and loves to sing,
taking part in pantomimes
with the local music society.
Elizabeth has taken on a
junior leader role in the
Children's ministry in Burnie,
and also loves to read, craft,
use the internet and do
gymnastics.

Lachlan loves to play all
manner of sports, especially

MST Commissioning **Anne Neale & Mark Ford**

Monday 9th February
7:30pm
at St Aidan’s

*New budget for the new year?
Direct deposits make it easier!*

For offertory direct deposits: -

Commonwealth Bank

BSB 067 021

Acc 1000 6848

Riverlinks Anglican Church

*For Children, Youth & Families Ministry
direct deposits: -*

Commonwealth Bank

BSB 067 600

Acc 1077 1716

Riverlinks Anglican Church

A Teacher's Prayer

Help me be grateful

for the students who like to
learn,
and feel challenged by those
who dont

Help me be thankful

for the students I love,
and understand those I m

This Year 2015

LOVE WHAT YOU SEE IN THE MIRROR

MAKE TIME FOR CREATIVITY

NEVER SAY NO TO ADVENTURE

EAT MORE GREEN FOOD

SEND SNAIL MAIL

SEND HANDWRITTEN THANK YOU

BUY LESS, CHOOSE WELL

GIVE OUT TOO MANY COMPLIMENTS

TRAVEL

BE KIND TO STRANGERS

VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME AND SKILLS

TAKE A COOKING CLASS

GIVE THE PRESENT OF PRESENCE

LEARN FROM OTHERS

EMBRACE SIMPLICITY



Safe Church Communities ChildSafe Reaccreditation Training Thursday 19th February 7-9 pm at St Aidan's East L'ton

Book your place by contacting the Parish office
6327 4742 or office@riverlinks.net.au

BIBLE STORYTELLING WORKSHOP

12th - 15th February

Non-refundable deposit of \$30 with registration (\$100 total cost)

Goals of the Bible Story Seminar

- To learn how to take a Bible passage and craft it into a memorable Bible story.
- To learn how to lead a Bible Study on a Bible story.
- To share Good News through Bible storytelling with nonbelievers.

Registration deadline: 5th February, please note that the seminar is limited to 24 places and sorry; but part time attendance is not possible -



In three days learn how to craft, tell, and teach Bible stories that are simple accurate and memorable!

Grow your ministry
Grow your outreach

St Aidan's Anglican Church
41- 43 Arthur St,
East Launceston

Registration forms are available in all centres or from the Parish office

Are you a knitter with time & spare wool on your hands?
The Bell Bay Seafarer's Mission are always in need of knitted beanies for visiting seafarers. All colours, patterns & designs in adult sizes will be gratefully received.

Beanies can be left with Anne at the Parish office

Please help!



cricket and football, and thrives in an environment where he is constantly challenged. He plays the bass guitar, sings and has taken part in local pantomime productions, as well as being part of the school choir. Lachlan is also an avid reader, and would like to be given more time to play computer games, particularly Minecraft.

Caleb is an active and creative 3 year old, with the energy and personality to



match! He is constantly exploring the world, developing his language skills and engaging in imaginative play. He is particularly fascinated by the movie 'Cars' at the moment and regularly re-enacts his favourite scenes. Caleb also shows signs of being highly musical – dancing, singing and playing instruments at every opportunity!

How can we pray for you?

- For quick development of connection and relationship with the community of Trevallyn.
- For the children to settle quickly into their new schools and make positive friendships.
- For wisdom in the opportunities to pursue in Trevallyn.
- For energy and rest during the period of transition.

Josh, Naomi, Elizabeth,
Lachlan & Caleb

MISSION GIVING JULY TO DECEMBER 2014

CMS
Tim & Emma
\$1500
CMS General
\$500

ABM \$900

BCA \$1152

Barnabas Fund
\$1241

Bible Society
\$751

SU Tas
RHS Chaplain
\$1000

GT Chaplain
\$400

RPS Chaplain
\$395

Staff Support
\$400

World Vision
\$258

WAY-FM \$250

Riverlinks

February 2015	
1st Sun	Messy Church – 4:30pm at St Aidan's
2nd Mon	MST Meeting – 7:00pm in the Parish office
3rd Tue	<i>(each Tuesday)</i> Prayer Group – 1:00pm at St MM G/Town Home & Study Groups – 1:45pm at Igglesden's home – 7:30pm at Booth's home – 7:30pm at Pedley's home – 7:30pm Stanford's group at St Aidan's
4th Wed	<i>(each Wednesday)</i> Healing Service – 10:00am at St Oswald's Men's Shed – 1:00pm to 4:00pm in Riverside Home & Study Groups – 7:30pm at Stott's home – 7:30pm St Oswald's
5th Thur	<i>(each Thursday)</i> mainly music – 10:00am at St Aidan's
6th Fri	<i>(each Friday)</i> KYB Study Group – 10:00am at Baptist Church George Town Youth Group – 6:00pm at St John's Launceston Fellowship Night – 6:30pm at George Town
7th Sat	Women's Breakfast – 8:00am at St Johns L'ton
8th Sun	
9th Mon	Cadorna – 2:00pm MST Commissioning Anne Neale & Mark Ford – 7:30pm at St Aidan's

February 2015	
10th Tue	
11th Wed	
12th Thur	Bible Storytelling Workshop at St Aidan's Crafty Circle – 10:00am at St David's Parish Council meeting – 7:30pm
13th Fri	Bible Storytelling Workshop
14th Sat	Bible Storytelling Workshop
15th Sun	Bible Storytelling Workshop
16th Mon	
17th Tue	
18th Wed	St Oswald's Fellowship Group – 2:00pm Ainslie Service – 2:15pm
19th Thur	Prescare Legana – 10:45am ChildSafe Reaccreditation Training – 7:00pm at St Aidan's
20th Fri	Fellowship Night – 6:30pm at George Town
21st Sat	

Calendar

February 2015	
22nd Sun	CCCGT Combined Service Church – 6:00pm at Uniting Church
23rd Mon	
24th Tue	
25th Wed	*** Launceston Cup Day Public Holiday ***
26th Thur	Crafty Circle – 10:00am at St David's
27th Fri	
28th Sat	

March and other dates 2015	
6th March	World Day of Prayer Services at St David's Riverside & St Mary Magdalene's George Town
25th - 27th March	Anglican Future Conference in Melbourne
29th March	Riverlinks Together at St David's
31st March	Recommitment to Ministry North & South including Blessing of the Oils – 10:00am at Christ Church, Longford
11th April	Diocesan LMST & Enablers' Meeting

Service Times For Worship Centres

East Launceston			
1st	10:00 am	Morning Prayer	
8th	10:00 am	Communion	
9th	7:00 pm	MST Commissioning for Anne Neale & Mark Ford	
15th	10:00 am	Inclusive Service	
22nd	10:00 am	Communion	
George Town			
1st	9:00 am	Hillwood	PPP
	9:00 am	Pipers River	PPP
	10:30 am	George Town	Communion
8th	9:00 am	Low Head	Communion
		George Town	Together @ 10.30
15th	9:00 am	Pipers River	Communion
	10:30 am	Baptist Church	Combined Service
22nd	9:00 am	Low Head	Communion
	10:30 am	George Town	Communion
Riverside & Trevallyn			
1st	10:00 am	Riverside	Communion
8th	10:00 am	Riverside	Praise & Worship
15th	10:00 am	Riverside	Communion
22nd	10:00 am	Riverside	Communion
Each Wed	10:00am	Trevallyn	Healing Service
Peace Haven			
8th	10:30 am	Morning Prayer	
15th	10:30 am	Holy Communion	
22nd	10:30 am	Holy Communion	



The **deadline** for the March Newsletter edition is **23rd February**

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