

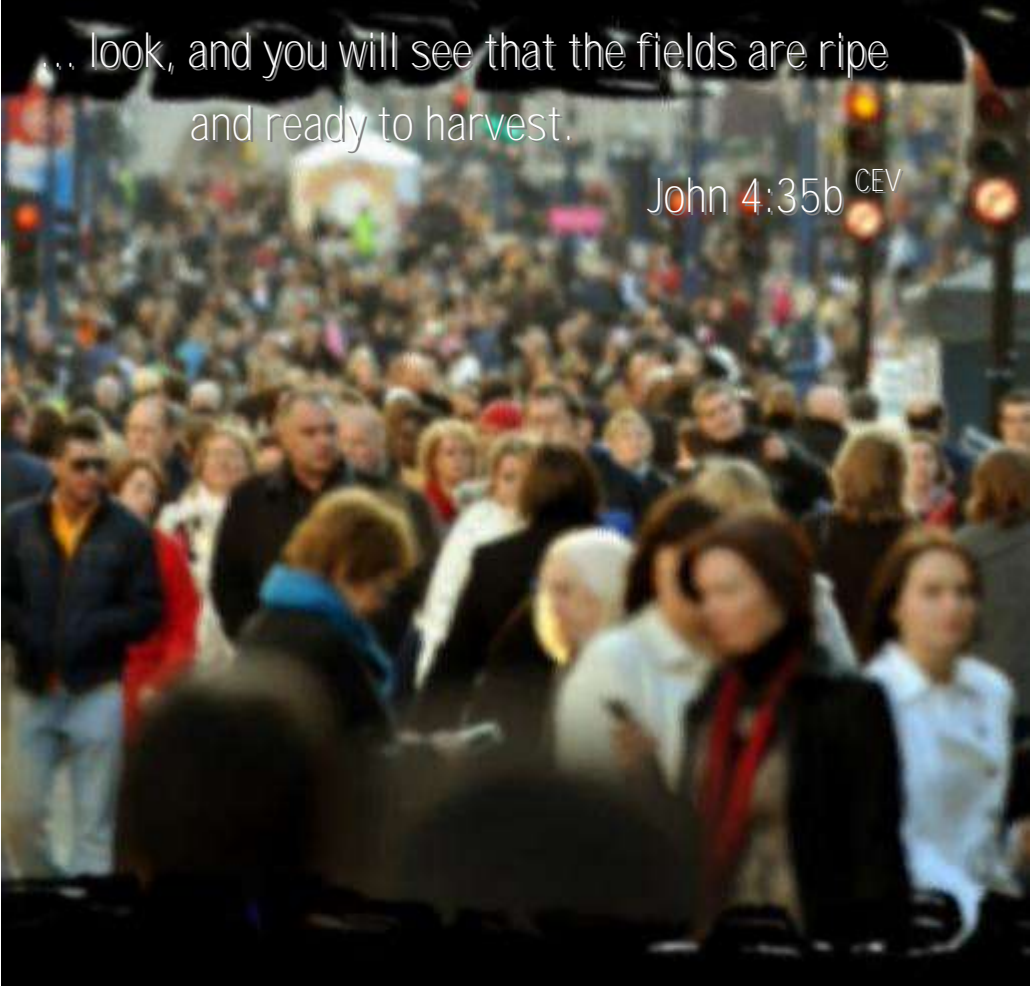


# Newsletter

## March 2015

... look, and you will see that the fields are ripe  
and ready to harvest.

John 4:35b <sup>CEV</sup>



*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

## On Reflection...



The Spirit shows what is true and will come and guide you into the full truth. The **Spirit doesn't** speak on his own. He will tell you only what he has heard from me, and he will let you know what is going to happen.

John 16:13 <sup>CEV</sup>

“The night too quickly passes”, to borrow a line from Henry Lawson, and so does this year. Already we are into March and the season of Lent. Lent lends itself to reflection. We **ponder God’s marvellous plan of the cross and Jesus’** journey to it. We stand in awe of the cost. We are humbled by the gift of eternal life the cross gives and our unworthiness to receive it. Some people as they enter Lent give up something to help focus their attention on the coming events of Easter. Other folk give something up to merely gain something. For example they may give up chocolate for Lent in an attempt to lose weight, rather than to concentrate their thinking on God.

Reflection is a good thing as it allows us to take stock of where we are at in life ponder how we got here and plan where to go next. We can do this individually or corporately. Corporately the MST have done this recently

as our old enabler David has moved on and been replaced by Roger Hesketh. As a **group we considered David’s** legacy to us, where we, as a team, are now at, where we want to go and the best way to get there. We took advice from various sources and chose Roger to be our new enabler. We are now looking forward with anticipation to **a future under Roger’s** tutelage.

We often view our lives as a series of isolated and unrelated events. Life is just the things that happen to us. Professionals call this an “episodic grasp of reality”. Such a view fails to take into account the big picture and what God is doing (or trying to do) in our lives. To see the big picture we need to get into the habit of linking and constructing meaning from our experiences. Therefore seeing the big picture requires reflection.

Now I am not real good at giving things up but I can reflect and ponder. Here are some things I reflect on.

First (and most importantly in my opinion) is personal growth. Am I the person God wants me to be? Regardless of time, place or circumstance I can still be the person God wants me to be. So on reflection I can see there are plenty of places in my life where I can improve. Reflection helps me identify them and develop strategies to improve. It is amazing how many times I realize it is an attitude that must change before I see a change in action. As much as we hate admitting we are wrong reflecting on mistakes provides a valuable opportunity to grow. Not taking advantage of this opportunity dooms us to repeat the failures of the past.

Next is use of resources. Am I making the most of, and valuing, what I have? Am I a generous and cheerful giver or do I hoard or waste what has been entrusted to me? This also includes my time.

Then there is family. How am I doing as a husband and father? What sort of role model and example am I to family and friends?

Finally there is work. Am I using my talents, abilities and gifts in the time and place that God wants me to? Is it time for a career change?

There is a scary side to the reflection coin. It makes me accountable. I cannot consider my life and not be obligated to make changes where necessary. Paul wrote to the Philippians and encouraged them to live lives worthy of the gospel. A life worthy of the gospel is only possible with reflection. Here is a key point - our reflection should be biblical. The one to whom we compare ourselves should only be Jesus. Are we becoming more like him every day? WWJD may be a cliché but is incredibly relevant. What Would Jesus Do? Further, good reflection requires brutal honesty with ourselves. It does us no good to paper over the cracks in our lives or to live in denial.

It is important, however, to **remember reflection doesn't** just highlight the negative. It also identifies and reinforces the things we do well. Good

So remember that the Lord is the only true God, whether in the sky above or on the earth below. Today I am explaining his laws and teachings. And if you always obey them, you and your descendants will live long and be successful in the land the Lord is giving you.

Deuteronomy 4: 39,40 CEV

*continued  
from  
previous  
page*

But the Holy Spirit will come and help you, because the Father will send the Spirit to take my place. The Spirit will teach you everything and will remind you of what I said

John 14: 26 <sup>CEV</sup>

attributes and actions are reinforced and encouraged.

So we can see there are some good reasons to adopt a reflective lifestyle but what are some of the barriers that prevent or discourage us from doing so? Often we **don't have time. We are so busy doing stuff we don't** pause to consider whether what we are doing is worth the effort. It becomes all about doing and not about being and we lose our perspective on life. Another reason is our pride. We will not to admit to ourselves that there are areas in our lives that we need to work on. And then of course is fear. Reflection is most associated with a mirror.

When we go to a mirror we see ourselves as we truly are.

**When we don't like what we** see the easiest response is not to look. So it is with reflective thinking. When we **don't like what we find we don't go there. Reflection,** therefore, takes courage.

**So if you don't already do so I** would encourage you to embrace a habit of reflection. Not just at New Year or in Lent but right through the year. Make it a daily discipline and you will find God at work in you, improved relationships and a sense of purpose and destiny in life.

Every blessing

Ian

## Prayer Points **For St Oswald's Project**

Praise God for:

- Smooth transitioning and settling in for the Skeat family
- The opportunities that are already presenting for connecting to the community
- Positive interaction and engagement with the **"Freedom Bells" campaign beginning at St Oswald's**

Pray for:

- Open doors to connect to the school community
- Upcoming Easter events: Community meal, Pupil-free day, and Easter celebrations
- Crochet-for-a-cause – 18<sup>th</sup> April. Especially that this would provide further opportunities to engage with the community

# Commissioning & Induction Service

Just over 60 people from across the parish attended the commissioning and induction service for Joshua Skeat (Assistant Minister, Ministry Development) and Anne Neale and Mark Ford (newly appointed LMST members for East Launceston) at **St. Aidan's** on Monday, February 9<sup>th</sup>. The service was led by Assistant Bishop Ross Nicholson, assisted by Rev. Roger Hesketh and Paul Cavanough (Diocesan Director of Ministry Services).

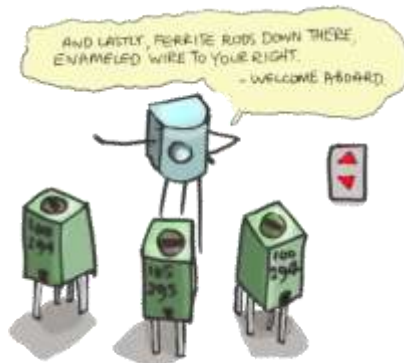
Anne and Mark have been involved in a lengthy Calling Out process for the LMST for over 12 months and have been attending local LMST meetings at East Launceston for some time. Both will be very welcome additions to the leadership team at **St Aidan's**. Joshua and his family arrived from Burnie in **January where they've been involved in the "Connections"** program at Somerset. Josh will be working part time with the diocese but the majority of his ministry will

be across Riverlinks with a special focus on a new ministry at Trevallyn.

**We're encouraged and excited** by the addition of these three capable people to the leadership team at Riverlinks and look forward **to the contribution they'll be making** to ministry and mission in the parish. Our thanks goes to all those who were able to attend this significant occasion and for the strong support that was evident from all who attended.

**We'd ask you to uphold Josh, Anne and Mark** in your prayers in their new areas of responsibility and leadership.

Mike Le Rossignol



Forgive  
Forgive  
someone.  
Today  
forgive.  
Turn from  
bitter to  
positive.  
End  
frustration,  
anger, pain;  
Wash the  
anguish from  
your brain.  
No need to  
reconcile  
or tell;  
Just feel  
better and  
get well.  
A brand new,  
peaceful life  
to live,  
**That's your**  
gift, when  
you forgive.

# Riverlinks

March 2015	
1 <sup>st</sup> Sun	Messy Church – 4:30pm at St Aidan's
2 <sup>nd</sup> Mon	
3 <sup>rd</sup> 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
4 <sup>th</sup> Wed	<i>(each Wednesday)</i> Healing Service – 10:00am at St Oswald's <b>Men's Shed</b> – 1:00pm to 4:00pm in Riverside Home & Study Groups – 7:30pm at Stott's home – 7:30pm St Oswald's
5 <sup>th</sup> Thur	<i>(each Thursday)</i> mainly music – 10:00am at St Aidan's
6 <sup>th</sup> 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 World Day of Prayer Services – 10:00am at St David's Riverside & St Mary Magdalene's George Town
7 <sup>th</sup> Sat	<b>Women's Breakfast</b> – 8:00am at St Johns L'ton
8 <sup>th</sup> Sun	
9 <sup>th</sup> Mon	Cadorna – 2:00pm

March 2015	
10 <sup>th</sup> Tue	
11 <sup>th</sup> Wed	
12 <sup>th</sup> Thur	Crafty Circle – 10:00am at St David's Parish Council meeting – 7:30pm BCA Commissioning of David Rogers-Smith
13 <sup>th</sup> Fri	
14 <sup>th</sup> Sat	Connect CMN Conference – 9:00am to 3:30pm at Hope Christian Centre, North Hobart Cursillo Northern Ultreya – 12:00pm at St Mark's Deloraine
15 <sup>th</sup> Sun	
16 <sup>th</sup> Mon	
17 <sup>th</sup> Tue	
18 <sup>th</sup> Wed	<b>St Oswald's Fellowship Group</b> – 2:00pm Ainslie Service – 2:15pm
19 <sup>th</sup> Thur	PresCare Legana – 10:45am
20 <sup>th</sup> Fri	Fellowship Night – 6:30pm at George Town

The deadline for the April Newsletter edition is 23<sup>rd</sup> March

# Calendar

March 2015	
21 <sup>st</sup> Sat	
22 <sup>nd</sup> Sun	CCCGT Combined Service Church – 6:00pm at Uniting Church
23 <sup>rd</sup> Mon	
24 <sup>th</sup> Tue	
25 <sup>th</sup> Wed	Anglican Future Conference in Melbourne
26 <sup>th</sup> Thur	Crafty Circle – 10:00am at St David's
27 <sup>th</sup> Fri	
28 <sup>th</sup> Sat	
29 <sup>th</sup> Sun	Riverlinks Together – 10:00am at St David's Riverside
30 <sup>th</sup> Mon	
31 <sup>st</sup> Tue	Recommitment to Ministry North & South including Blessing of the Oils – 10:00am at Christ Church, Longford

April and other dates 2015	
3 <sup>rd</sup> - 7 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter (Parish office closed 3 <sup>rd</sup> to 12 <sup>th</sup> April)
11 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>Diocesan LMST &amp; Enablers' Meeting</b> – 10:00am to 3.30pm at Longford
12 <sup>th</sup> & 13 <sup>th</sup> June	SYNOD
18 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>Bishop's Workshop at St Aidan's</b>

## Service Times For Worship Centres

East Launceston			
1 <sup>st</sup>	10:00 am	Morning Prayer	
8 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 am	Communion	
15 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 am	Inclusive Service	
22 <sup>nd</sup>	10:00 am	Communion	
29 <sup>th</sup>	-	No service	
George Town			
1 <sup>st</sup>	9:00 am	Hillwood	Communion
	9:00 am	Pipers River	Morning Prayer
	10:30 am	George Town	Communion
6 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 am	George Town	World Day of Prayer
8 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 am	Low Head	Harvest Festival
	-	George Town	No service
15 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 am	Pipers River	Communion
	10:30 am	Uniting Church	ABU Comb Service
22 <sup>nd</sup>	9:00 am	Low Head	Communion
	10:30 am	George Town	Communion
29 <sup>th</sup>	-	No services	
Riverside & Trevallyn			
1 <sup>st</sup>	10:00 am	Riverside	Communion
6 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 am	Riverside	World Day of Prayer
8 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 am	Riverside	Communion
15 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 am	Riverside	Communion
22 <sup>nd</sup>	10:00 am	Riverside	Communion
29 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 am	Riverside	Riverlinks Together Communion
Each Wed	10:00am	Trevallyn	Healing Service
Peace Haven			
8 <sup>th</sup>	10:30 am	Holy Communion	
15 <sup>th</sup>	10:30 am	Morning Prayer	
22 <sup>nd</sup>	10:30 am	Holy Communion	

Please send articles, comments, information & photos to the Parish Office  
399 West Tamar Hwy, Riverside - 6327 4742 [office@riverlinks.net.au](mailto:office@riverlinks.net.au)



## Cursillo

**Northern Regional Ultreya**  
**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March**  
**at St Mark's**  
**Westbury Place, DELORAINE**

**12 noon for shared lunch**  
**1 pm start, 3 pm finish**

World Day of  
Prayer



**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March**  
**10:00am**

services will be held at both  
**St David's Riverside**  
399 West Tamar Hwy, Riverside  
and

**St Mary Magdalene's**  
3 Anne Street, George Town

*Prepared by Christians of the WDOP Committee  
in the Bahamas*



You are invited

to the Commissioning of  
Revd David Rogers-Smith  
as BCA's Regional Officer for QLD  
and Northern NSW

Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> March  
7:00pm

at St Andrew's Lutwyche  
673 Lutwyche Rd, Lutwyche QLD



Connect CMN Conference

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March  
9:00am to 3:30pm

at Hope Christian Centre, North Hobart  
Register online [www.cmn.org.au/events](http://www.cmn.org.au/events)  
or call 6327 4742



Recommitment to Ministry  
& Blessing of the Oils  
Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March, 10am  
at Christ Church, Longford



**Riverlinks**  
**Together**

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March**  
**10:00am**  
**at St David's Riverside**

*Josh Skeat will be preaching.*  
Please bring a plate of finger food to  
continue the fellowship over shared lunch

Choose Traffik Free

Much of the chocolate  
that finds its way into our  
shops and homes is made  
with cocoa from Ivory  
Coast plantations that  
use trafficked children.  
To find out what you can  
do to end this sickening  
practice visit  
[www.stophetraffik.org](http://www.stophetraffik.org)





# Speak Up To Get All Kids Out Of Detention



There are 126 children still in immigration detention in Australia and a further 116 on Nauru.

More than half the children being held in Australian immigration detention centres will be returned to Nauru.

Of the 126 minors in detention, 68 were in Australia temporarily with their families for medical treatment. Of the remainder, 19 will be released into the community shortly; 20 are from families whose cases are close to being finalised; while the rest are children of parents with adverse security assessments.

The recent Australian Human Rights Commission report on children in detention puts forward a clear case for why we need to immediately release *all kids* from Australian detention centres.

**The Commission's report** provides disturbing evidence of the harm inflicted on children in detention, with kids as young as 12 exposed to high degrees of violence,

committing acts of self-harm, and experiencing significant mental health problems.

**Now that we've heard the evidence, we need to get it out there – because while many of us know about the harm detention causes, there are many more who don't even realise this is happening.**

Will you speak up to call for the release of *all children* from Australia-run detention centres?

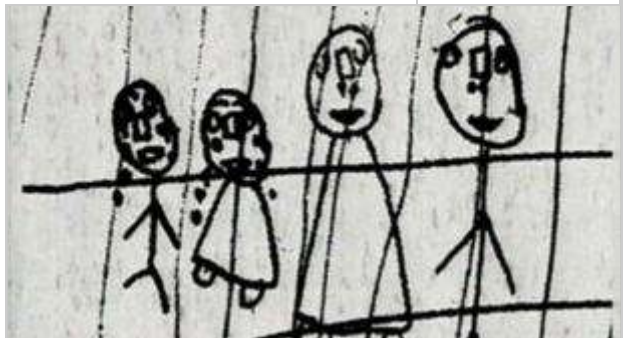
We need as many Australians as possible adding their voice and calling for an end to the detention of children once and for all. Sign your name to the petition at:

[www.asrc.org.au/rightthingtodo/kidsout/](http://www.asrc.org.au/rightthingtodo/kidsout/)

Riverlinks  
is still  
ringing  
the bells!

Join the  
Freedom  
Bells for  
Asylum  
Seekers  
Campaign  
community  
on

 Facebook  
[on.fb.me/1BIMntY](https://www.facebook.com/riverlinks)



## News Shared



Archbishop  
Glenn Davies

This article first appeared at  
[www.sydneyanglicans.net](http://www.sydneyanglicans.net)

A prayer for  
mission

Our heavenly

Father,  
fill our lives  
with the fruit  
of your Spirit,  
so that we  
may walk

in joyful  
obedience,  
share your  
love by word  
and deed,  
and see

Christ  
honoured in  
every  
community  
as Lord and  
Saviour.  
Amen.

When the Apostle Paul wrote to the saints at Colosse he told them that he regularly thanked God for them in his prayers.

Although Paul had not visited Colosse when he wrote his letter, he knew of the growth of the church through his faithful co-worker, Epaphras.

His letter of encouragement to these new Christians therefore began with thanksgiving to God for the work of grace in each of their lives.

*We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all the saints – the faith and love that spring from the hope that is stored up for you in heaven and that you have already heard about in the word of truth, the gospel that has come to you.*

*Colossians 1:3-6*

Here the familiar triad of faith, hope and love are knitted together in Paul's

prayer. Faith and love spring from hope, according to the apostle, which is a way of saying that they spring from **God's promises to us in the gospel.**

Our hope is the joy of heaven secured for those whose lives are bound to Jesus Christ. He is our righteousness and through him, God freely forgives us, since we would otherwise be condemned.

Faith and love are therefore **our response to God's grace and the hope that is "stored up for us in heaven"**. Faith highlights our trust in God, not just for our salvation but for every aspect of our lives, expressed in humble dependence upon his word.

Love highlights our obedience to God in all that we do, honouring God by our lives in the power of the Holy



Spirit (Colossians 1:8) in accordance with his word. This, as Paul declares elsewhere (Romans 1:5), is the “obedience of faith”: not an obedience that is dependent upon our own efforts, nor a faith that is barren, but “faith expressing itself through love” (Galatians 5:6).

Epaphras brought this good news to the city of Colosse.

Who was your Epaphras? Who first shared with you the hope of heaven, the joy of sins forgiven and the liberating declaration that **you were righteous in God’s** sight solely through the work of Christ?

Perhaps it was your parents, your minister, your Scripture teacher, a relative, friend or neighbour. Whoever, it was, I trust you thank God for them in having shared this news with you.

Perhaps another more interesting question is: who would say that you were their Epaphras? Who could thank God that you shared the hope of heaven with them?

Paul expected every Christian to be a partner in the gospel. He expected every believer to “redeem the time” (Ephesians 5:16), or as he says to the Colossians:

*Be wise in the way you act towards outsiders, make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everybody.*  
Colossians 4:5-6

The gospel was growing among the citizens of Colosse, for they shared in the joy of seeing gospel growth among them (Colossians 1:6). Their activity was a delight to the apostle and a cause of much joy and thanksgiving to God.

As we commence a new year in 2015, we all have a part to **play in God’s great mission** to the world.

May we be as earnest and as prayerful as Epaphras and those early Colossians, making the most of our time with those who do not know God, so that Christ might be honoured as Lord and Saviour in every community.

Groaners

What do lawyers wear to court?  
Lawsuits!

Did you hear about the shampoo shortage in Jamaica?  
It’s dread-full.

What do you call security guards working outside Samsung shops?  
Guardians of the Galaxy.

What is the best day to go to the beach?  
Sunday, of course!

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

Newsletter deadline for  
photos, articles, etc. is 20<sup>th</sup>  
of each month unless  
otherwise stated

Sometimes  
*God*  
lets you  
hit rock bottom, so  
that you will discover  
that he is the  
rock at the bottom



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Little Church Mouse 



Visit [stopthetraffic.wordpress.com](http://stopthetraffic.wordpress.com)  
for more information.

**STOP THE TRAFFICK**  
PEOPLE SHOULD BE BOGGY & SHU!

### Contact us:

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6327 4742 office@riverlinks.net.au

Children & Young Families Ministry

6327 3482 kids\_families@riverlinks.net.au

Website

www.riverlinks.net.au