



Newsletter September 2017

Your faithful people, LORD, will praise you with songs
and honour your holy name.

Your anger lasts a little while, but your kindness lasts for a lifetime.
At night we may cry, but when morning comes we will celebrate.

Psalms 30:4,5, CEV



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



Tara Sing and her husband Soong both serve at St Barnabas Bossley Park, in Sydney

This article first appeared at

GoThereFor.com

Be sure to welcome strangers into your home. By doing this, some people have welcomed angels as guests, without even knowing it.

Hebrews 13:2 CEV



Ten misconceptions about practising hospitality

Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling.

1 Peter 4:9

Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality. *Romans 12:13*

One of the marks of a Christian is practising hospitality. Whenever it's mentioned in the New Testament, it is assumed as a staple part of the Christian life. However, lots of people don't show hospitality to others. I have heard a wide variety of reasons for why people can't or won't be hospitable, and I think there are a lot of misconceptions out there. Here are ten misconceptions about hospitality I have heard:

1. I don't have the right place
2. I don't know how to cook or bake
3. Entertaining is too stressful
4. My house is too messy
5. I can't possibly have XYZ over
6. It's just not my gift
7. I live too far/it's too inconvenient for people to come to me

8. I'm not in the right season of life

9. I can't afford to feed people

10. I just don't have time at the moment

These are all misconceptions—rather than excuses—because they stem from a misunderstanding of what biblical hospitality is. There is an underlying assumption here that hospitality involves mouth-watering three-course home-cooked meals served around a beautifully laid dining table in a pristine living room decorated to look like the latest IKEA catalogue. But when the Bible describes true hospitality, it makes no mention of appetizers, cake forks or allen keys.

The word used in Greek is *philoxenos*, which translates to “loving the stranger”. It's not about cooking, or entertaining. First and foremost, hospitality is about showing love to others.

Hospitality is the result of a life transformed by Christ. Both in Romans 12 and 1 Peter 4, hospitality is mentioned as a mark of the Christian life. A practical result of being saved by Jesus' death and resurrection is that you love everyone, including strangers.

This is because our desire to show true hospitality to others stems from understanding the hospitality that Jesus has shown us. He is the greatest example of true hospitality. For when we were enemies and strangers to him, he invited us into his Father's house and prepared a room for us. Jesus did more than just serve us a meal; he loved us enough to serve us with his entire life. And as people who have been served by the greatest of kings, how can we do anything else but serve others?

Melissa Kruger says it well: At the heart of biblical hospitality is a humble willingness to serve others. It is not intended to show off what we have, but to demonstrate whom we follow.

In fact, hospitality is listed as a quality of someone suited for eldership, as outlined in both 1 Timothy and Titus. It's expected that an elder of the church, a person who is meant to be an example for others, should show love to strangers—as a contrast to the leader who expects to be waited on. But we are all examples to each other of Christ; we shouldn't leave it to our Bible study leaders or friends with food processors. We can all share the welcome that God extended to us.

So while a good meal and an IKEA dining table may help you to be hospitable, these things are not what hospitality is about. It's possible to be sitting at a fancy table with delicious food while feeling exceedingly unwanted by the host! Hospitality is about the heart. It's about serving people. The focus is not on the meal, or the space, the focus is on loving people and inviting them into your home, ultimately into your life. And hopefully they meet Jesus there.

May our dependably steady and warmly personal God develop maturity in you so that you get along with each other as well as Jesus gets along with us all. Then **we'll be a choir**—not our voices only, but our very lives singing in harmony in a stunning anthem to the God and Father of our Master Jesus! So reach out and welcome one another to **God's glory**. Jesus did it; now *you* do it!

Romans
15:5-7 MSG

Bishop's Training Event

**23RD
SEPTEMBER**
**HUTCHINS
SCHOOL,
71 NELSON RD,
SANDY BAY**

***Registrations essential online at:
www.bishopstrainingevent.com***

GENERAL INFORMATION

You are invited to attend 'Flourish', an event designed to equip members of Anglican Parishes in Tasmania to enable us to grow flourishing parish centres.

'Flourish' is for everyone in the Diocese, and will be especially helpful for lay leaders and clergy. The aim is for people to leave with practical skills for growing flourishing parish centres.

PRICE

This is a no charge event. There will be an opportunity for you to support this event by making a donation on the day.

FOOD

Lunch: Bring a picnic lunch. There will be some food for purchase and you can buy a coffee or hot drink from the coffee cart. Kids in the Children and Youth Program will have their lunch provided.

Snacks: Morning and afternoon tea will be supplied.

WORKSHOPS

When you register for the training event, you can choose 2 workshops - one from each session. These workshops have limited capacity and are offered on a 'first come, first served'

basis, so it is vital that you book into the workshops of your choice as soon as possible!

You will receive confirmation of your workshop at time of booking.

If you cannot select your preferred workshop there may be no places remaining (it will say 0 remaining next to the workshop name). In this case please choose another workshop.

Some workshops are available in both the first and second session - so don't book into the same workshop twice!

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

There is a children's and youth program available: Building Faith.

When not in the children's program children remain the responsibility of their parents.

RESOURCES

There will be a variety of resources, including books, for purchase on the day.

WHEN & WHERE

Saturday 23rd September at Hutchins School, Sandy Bay.



Tasmanian Bible Forum @ St Aidan's



Bishop Richard Condie once again shared his tremendous knowledge and insight with his discussion of 1 Corinthians 15, "A living hope – the resurrection," TBF held recently at St Aidan's.

Bp Richard: *What could be considered "a higher or more pressing claim" than someone's own life? The answer is: the life of one you love.*

We gladly make sacrifices for the ones we love. We do it in small ways every day, and from time to time, in much bigger ways, even with our lives. The story of Easter begins with costly loving sacrifice, where because of "the higher or more pressing claim" of your life and mine, Jesus lays down his life for others in love.

He dies so that we might be forgiven and live in freedom. Then on Easter morning he lives to show his triumph over death. His sacrifice produces

hope. Hope in the face of despair and brokenness, and even death; that someone has gone before to secure our tomorrow. We are a resurrection people. Easter reminds us that God has new life for us, and calls us into that resurrection life now. That is the basis for our confidence. God has defeated death, the greatest enemy and so we can step out confidently with him. I don't know about you, but I find this immensely exciting. It is the cycle of the Christian life. Born anew into a living hope, with mercies new every morning. New ways to serve the Lord. New opportunities at our doorstep. A fresh start every day in the grace of God.

Great teaching, great food & great fellowship! If you missed out, these talks will soon be available online at www.stclementskingston.org.au

"Where,
O death, is
your victory?"

Where,
O death, is
your sting?"

The sting
of death is
sin, and the
power of sin
is the law.
But thanks
be to God!
He gives us
the victory
through
our Lord
Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians
15:55-57 ^{NIV}

Riverlinks

September 2017	
1st Fri	<p><i>(each Friday)</i> KYB Study Group – 10:00am at Baptist Church George Town Good News Club – 3:30pm at St David's Riverside Youth Group – 5:00pm at St John's Launceston Fellowship Night – 6:00pm at George Town</p>
2nd Sat	<p>Women's Breakfast – 8:00am at St John's Launceston</p>
3rd Sun	<p>Messy Church – 4:30pm at St Aidan's</p>
4th Mon	<p><i>(each Monday)</i> Child's Play – 9:30am at St O's</p>
5th Tue	<p><i>(each Tuesday)</i> Prayer Group – 1:00pm at St MM G/Town Home & Study Groups – 1:30pm at Collings' home – 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 Building a Discipling Culture Training Evening – 7:00pm at Barney's, Newnham</p>
6th Wed	<p><i>(each Wednesday)</i> Healing Service – 10:00am at St Oswald's Prayer Gathering – 12:00pm at St Oswald's Men's Shed – 1:00pm to 4:00pm in Riverside Home & Study Groups – 7:30pm at Stott's home</p>
7th Thur	<p><i>(each Thursday)</i> mainly music – 10:00am at St Aidan's Here 2 Stay Follow Up Conversation – 7:00pm at Launceston North Uniting Church</p>
8th Fri	

September 2017	
9th Sat	<p>Men's Bible Conference – 10:00am at The Branch, Kings Meadows</p>
10th Sun	
11th Mon	<p>Cadorna – 2:00pm</p>
12th Tue	
13th Wed	
14th Thur	<p>Crafty Circle – 10:00am at St David's Parish Council meeting – 7:30pm</p>
15th Fri	<p>Fellowship Night – 6:00pm at George Town</p>
16th Sat	
17th Sun	<p>Messy Church Games & Fun Night – 4:30pm at St Aidan's</p>
18th Mon	
19th Tue	<p>Building a Discipling Culture Training Evening – 7:00pm at Barney's, Newnham</p>
20th Wed	<p>Fellowship Group – 2:00pm Ainslie Service – 2:15pm</p>

The deadline for the October Newsletter edition is 25th September

Calendar

September 2017	
21 st Thur	PresCare Legana – 10:45am
22 nd Fri	
23 rd Sat	CMS Prayer Breakfast – 8:00am at St John's Bishop's Training Event 'Flourish' Hutchins School, Sandy Bay "Everyday Peacemaking" Training Day – 9:30am Punchbowl Christian Centre
24 th Sun	CCCGT Combined Service – 2:30pm at Salvation Army
25 th Mon	"The Heart of Peacemaking" Training Day – 9:30am Punchbowl Christian Centre
26 th Tue	
27 th Wed	Ageing Well: Use it or lose it! – 2:00pm at Aldersgate Village, Newnham
28 th Thur	Crafty Circle – 10:00am at St David's
29 th Fri	
30 th Sat	"Have you no shame?" Workshop – 9:30am at St Aidan's
1 st Oct Sun	Messy Church – 4:30pm at St Aidan's 

October and other dates 2017	
12 th -15 th October	The Second Coming Convention @ Seahorse World, Beauty Point
18 th October	Seniors Week Healing Service "Music for the Body, Mind & Soul" @ St Oswald's
20 th October	Seniors Week Ambulance Info Session @ St David's Riverside
29 th October	Riverlinks Together @ St Aidan's



Service Times For Worship Centres

East Launceston			
3 rd	10:00 am 4:30 pm	-	Messy Church
10 th	10:00 am	Communion	
17 th	10:00 am	All In Service	
24 th	10:00 am	Communion	
George Town			
3 rd	9:00 am 9:00 am 10:30 am	Hillwood Pipers River George Town	Morning Prayer Morning Prayer Communion
10 th	9:00 am 10:30 am	Low Head George Town	Communion Together @ 10.30
17 th	9:00 am 10:30 am	Pipers River George Town	Communion ABU Uniting
24 th	9:00 am 10:30 am	Low Head George Town	Communion Communion
Riverside & Trevallyn			
3 rd	10:00 am	Communion combined with St Aidan's congregation	
10 th	10:00 am	Praise & Worship	
17 th	10:00 am	Communion	
24 th	10:00 am	Communion	
Each Wed	10:00am	St Oswald's Healing Service & HC	
Peace Haven			
17 th	10:30 am	Morning Prayer	
24 th	10:30 am	Holy Communion	

Please send articles, comments, information & photos to the Parish Office
399 West Tamar Hwy, Riverside - 6324 0039 office@riverlinks.net.au



**Riverlinks
Together**
Sunday
29th October
10am
at St Aidan's
East Launceston

Please bring a plate of
finger food for a shared
lunch after the service

Seniors Week Healing Service
Music for the Heart, Body, Mind & Soul
with guest speaker Monte Mumford
Wednesday 18th October, 10am
at St Oswald's

& Ambulance info session
Friday 20th October, 10am - 20m
at St David's
Gold coin donation, healthy lunch provided

SENIORS WEEK 2017
16-22 OCTOBER

DISCOVER. IMAGINE. TOGETHER.

Ageing Well

Use it or lose it!

A free community information session

Wednesday 27th September
2pm to 4pm

at Aldersgate Village, Newnham

Uniting AgeWell Speakers:

Steal Neal,
Quality Officer
Petter Cullen,
Community Programs
Coordinator



Messy Church Games & Fun Night

Third Sunday in the month



4.30pm

L.O.L.

Bring a favourite game
and your own tea



St Aidan's Anglican Church
21-23 Arthur St, East Launceston

BISHOP'S TRAINING EVENT

23RD SEPTEMBER 2017

HUTCHINS SCHOOL, 71 NELSON ROAD, SANDY BAY

Registrations essential online at:

www.bishopstrainingevent.com

GOD IS NOT SILENT

9 SEPTEMBER 2017, 10AM-3PM
SPEAKER: MIKEY LYNCH

THE BRANCH CHRISTIAN CHURCH
2 INNOCENT ST, KINGS MEADOWS



MEN'S BIBLE
CONFERENCE

Have you no shame?

Understanding shame and honour
in the Bible & present day culture

Saturday

30th September

9:30am to 4pm

@ **St Aidan's Church**, Arthur St East Launceston

No charge, BYO Lunch

Register by contacting the Parish Office 6324 0039

or office@riverlinks.net.au

More info from Josh 0438 681 404 / joshua.skeat@gmail.com



PEACEWISE

Christian relations in conflict?

How do you handle conflict?



Training events to help build
positive relationships with those at
• work • home • church • school

“Everyday Peacemaking” Saturday 23rd September

&

“The Heart of Peacemaking” Monday 25th September

9:30am to 4:30pm @ Punchbowl Christian Centre

Register online at peacewise.org.au/events

Financial Position

OFFERTORY	<u>Income</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Year To Date 31JUL17	12,820	13,250
MTD 23AUG17	<u>10,039</u>	<u>13,250</u>
TOTAL	22,859	26,500
<u>Profit/(Loss) Year To Date</u>		<u>(3641)</u>



But don't just listen to God's word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves.
James 1:22 NLT

Direct deposit account details for your Parish offertory contributions:

BSB 067 021
Account # 1000 6848
Name: Riverlinks Anglican Church

My life as a BCA Regional Officer

You can't do everything, but you can do something



A good example is the best sermon



Always put off until tomorrow what you shouldn't do at all



Love is an act of endless forgiveness



A smile is a curve that sets a lot of things straight



The photo below taken at the North Coast Christian Convention (NCCC) in May captures a big part of my role - promoting the vital work of Bush Church Aid, usually with the help of my beautiful wife, Julie. This takes us to a different church every Sunday. I preach the Bible & make a BCA presentation. Julie runs our information and merchandise stall.

I also promote BCA at Diocesan Synods, clergy conferences, Bible teaching conferences and lay ministry training days. Sometimes at these I also take Bible seminars and ministry workshops. In all my public ministry I seek to exalt the Lord Jesus, encourage His people in the gospel and urge them to support His mission through BCA, by praying, giving and going.

I provide pastoral care for Field Staff in our region with monthly phone or Skype conversations and periodic visits. I especially value

praying with them. I work closely with the Regional Office Manager, Craig Buchanan.

What you can do to share Jesus in the bush?

- Pray for a locum for Winton, Jade and Emma, the Lierschs, and the churches in central west Qld.
- Like BCA on Facebook and invite your friends to like us.
- Take time to look around our website.
- Sign up for the BCA newsletter: bushchurchaid.com.au
- Contact the Parish office for a BCA donation box - monies are collected twice yearly, April & October

David Rogers-Smith



Time To Pray: anytime, anywhere

As a freckle faced youngster, my bed became prime view.

Lying beneath plaster cornices laced with cracks, beside a window to the garden and on pink sheets, my dreams and prayers were sent heavenward.

But as sleep dragged my eyelids shut, the last thing pondered was a framed cross-stitch hung in pillow-view, a prayer I can still recite by heart today:

“Now I lay me down to sleep, I pray thee Lord my soul to keep. If I should die before I wake, I pray thee Lord my soul to take. If I should live for other days, I pray thee Lord to guide my ways.”

For many, prayer is getting down on your knees, hands clasped, eyes shut tight.

It's something mumbled before a meal, articulated from the pulpit, or whispered as a cute novelty with the kids before bed.

At the heart of it, prayer is communicating with God.

You don't have to get on your knees to do it, don't have to be a thespian to perform it, don't even have to shut your eyes to say it.

Pray while you're jogging, driving, ironing, eating, waiting.

There's no formula - just say what's on your mind.

My prayer life frequently has the attention span of a goldfish. It starts with focus and becomes tempered with distraction. “Lord, please take away my cold. That reminds me, have I turned my electric blanket on ... what time do I start work tomorrow ... is my alarm set ... umm where was I? Thanks for the nice day... amen.”

That's why we close our eyes and clasp our hands - to fend off distraction rather than any liturgical custom. And “amen” isn't some holy seal, just a word meaning “let it be so”. Prayer is for all people, in need, in anger, in joy, in contemplation.

Whatever the situation, there's a comfort in knowing that God is always happy to hear from us.

Prayer can be praise like many of the Psalms or honest like Jeremiah.

I pray that you can talk simply and truthfully to God and know that he is listening.

Amen₁₁



From
"Keeping The Faith"
Examiner Newspaper
12 June 2009

And when you come before God, don't turn that into a theatrical production either.

All these people making a regular show out of their prayers, hoping for stardom!

Do you think God sits in a box seat?

Here's what I want you to do:

Find a quiet, secluded place so you won't be tempted to role-play before God.

Just be there as simply and honestly as you can manage.

The focus will shift from you to God, and you will begin to sense his grace.

Matthew 6:5,6
MSG

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

Peace Haven
185 Penquite Rd
Norwood

Pipers River
School Rd
Pipers River

Riverside
399 West Tamar Hwy
Riverside

Trevallyn
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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: Tasmanian Bible Forum at St Aidan's

Below: Ross Gregory's
80th Birthday celebration



Contact us:

Parish Office (Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm)

6324 0039 office@riverlinks.net.au

Children & Young Families Ministry

6327 3482 kids_families@riverlinks.net.au

Website

www.riverlinks.net.au