



Newsletter

August 2018

I will bless you with a future filled with hope—
a future of success, not of suffering.
You will turn back to me and ask for help,
and I will answer your prayers..
You will worship me with all your heart,
and I will be with you.

Jeremiah 29:11-13 ^{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

From Roger



Dear Friends,

When we sang that wonderful hymn, The “Church’s One Foundation” last Sunday at St David’s, I was struck by the incongruity between the old-fashioned words and the message which is so contemporary in our present situation.

Though with a scornful wonder men see her sore oppressed,
by schisms rent asunder,
by heresies distressed,
yet saints their watch are keeping,
their cry goes up, ‘How long?’
and soon the night of weeping
shall be the morn of song.

The world is indeed scornful of the dark secrets of sexual abuse that have been exposed and how so many of our parishes are ‘sore oppressed’ with aging and declining congregations, but the rest of the verse is also true. We are people keeping watch – faithful to God’s call – saints with a small ‘s’.

In His Story [history] right from Abraham to the present

we can see a cycle of decline and renewal among His people. This redemptive cycle is based on God’s covenant that He made with His people on Mount Sinai. We see the pattern back in Egypt when they cried for help from the oppression and delivered them. No matter how far gone His people might be, when they come and cry out to Him for help, the Lord comes to rescue and deliver His people (Judges 2:1ff). The same has been true right through church history; it’s the story of the Reformation out of which the Anglican Church was born.

What is happening at the moment as we face the closure of churches and the payment of redress is that we are collectively taking stock of our situation, recognising our need before God and turning back to Him. As I write this a line from another old hymn springs to mind, “Change and decay in all around I see”, but I can’t help remembering the authors

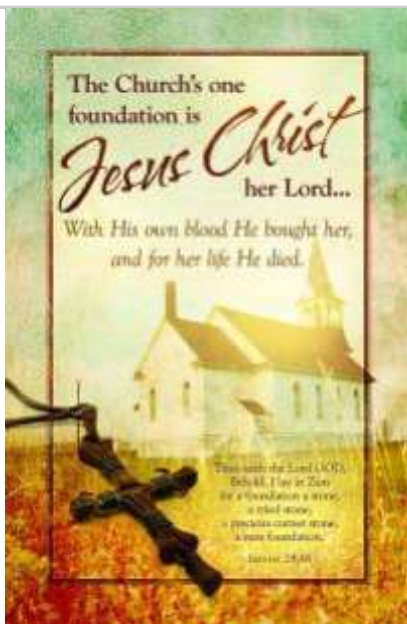


So encourage
each other
and build
each other up,
just as you
are already
doing.

1 Thessalonians
5:11 NLT



plea in the following line, “O Thou who changest not, abide with me.” Henry Lyne penned these immortal words as he was dying 250 years ago. We are facing some painful changes but as His saints we know this — Jesus Christ does not change. He is “the same yesterday, today and forever”. He is the constant in our life giving great hope and comfort beyond this present life. We may well cry out, “How long?” but be assured of the promise from the psalms, “Those who sow with tears will reap with songs of joy.” (Psalm 126:5), or as paraphrased by the hymn writer, Samuel John Stone,



“and soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.”

Yours in the love of Jesus,

Roger Hesketh
(locum Rector)

Every man [and woman] must decide whether they will walk in the creative light of altruism or the darkness of destructive selfishness . . . Life’s persistent and most urgent question is ‘What are you doing for others?’

Martin Luther King Jr

You may encounter many defeats, but you must not be defeated.

Maya Angelou

If not us, who?
If not now,
when?

John F. Kennedy

Financial Position

OFFERTORY	<u>Income</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Full Year 2017-2018	146,679	160,200
Profit/(Loss) Year ended 30/06/2018		<u>(13,521)</u>
MTD July 2018	<u>8,264</u>	13,500
Profit/(Loss) YTD		(5,236)

Paying the price of welfare reform



The best way to knock the chip off your neighbour's shoulder is to pat him on the back



If you scatter thorns, don't go barefoot



The creek would lose its song if God removed the rocks



Come to worship, leave to serve



New research released by the Anglicare Australia network, including Anglicare Tasmania's Social Action and Research Centre, examines the impact of the ongoing automation of Centrelink services on vulnerable clients, on staff, and on outcomes for our community service programs.

Anglicare initiated this research because of a perception across their services that increased Centrelink automation is not meeting the needs of some Australians, particularly those experiencing complex life circumstances or high levels of vulnerability. It is also resulting in unintended consequences for community sector staff in terms of increased time and other resources required to assist clients with Centrelink-related matters.

This research was undertaken across three different jurisdictions by Anglicare Southern Queensland, Anglicare Tasmania, and Anglicare Western Australia. It involved surveys and face-to-face interviews with a total of 218 staff and the collection of 18 client case studies across several community services areas, including accommodation

support and homelessness services, financial counselling, mental health services, domestic violence, alcohol and other drug services, gambling and family support.

Australia is in the midst of a major reform to the way in which the income support system is delivered. This involves automation of the system and a move towards self-sufficiency for customers, as well as changes to eligibility criteria, assessment processes and the compliance framework for a number of different payments.

While this shift to automation will provide convenience and efficiency for some Australians as they access and navigate the social security system, our research indicates that for many people it presents distressing barriers to accessing the income support to which they are entitled.

In progressing an automation agenda for the Centrelink system, the Federal Government is failing to identify and accommodate the needs of its most vulnerable citizens. This is resulting in people missing out on income support to which they are

entitled. Alarming, in some cases, through overwhelming distress and confusion, people are disengaging from the system altogether, which puts them at risk of poverty, homelessness, and very poor health outcomes.

The research also concludes that although welfare reform may be leading to cost savings for the Department of Human Services (DHS), substantial costs are being shifted to vulnerable customers and the community services that support them. It is they that are paying the price of welfare reform.

Based on this research, their recommendations are:

That the Department of Human Services reinforce and extend current mechanisms to better identify, track and support vulnerable Centrelink customers to ensure they are protected by the Centrelink safety net.

That Centrelink establish an interface which meets the needs of its vulnerable customers.

That the Department of Human Services ensure that Centrelink is properly resourced to improve its processes to eradicate error and ensure efficiency in

delivering services within a reasonable time frame.

That the Australian Government consider the provision of specialist advocacy services to assist Centrelink customers who are struggling to navigate the system.

That the Department of Human Services commit to collecting and using detailed feedback from vulnerable customers during the period of welfare reform and incorporating it into policy, service design and implementation to provide a customer focused service.

That the Department of Human Services ensure that the principals of respect and dignity are embedded in the Centrelink system.

That the Australian Government commit to an increase in payment levels to ensure customers have a minimum acceptable standard of living.

Read their key findings and comments from clients and community support workers:
www.socialactionresearchcentre.org.au



The devout
have no doubt



The company
you keep
helps
determine
the trouble
you meet



Life is like a
mirror - it
never gives
back more
than it gets



All people
smile in
the same
language



Riverlinks

August 2018	
1st Wed	<i>(each Wednesday)</i> Men's Shed – 9:00am to 4:00pm in Riverside Healing Service – 10:00am at St Oswald's Prayer Gathering – 12:00pm at St Oswald's
2nd Thur	<i>(each Thursday)</i> mainly music – 10:00am at St Aidan's
3rd Fri	<i>(each Friday)</i> Combined Churches KYB Study Group – 10:00am at the Baptist Church George Town Fellowship Night – 6:00pm at George Town
4th Sat	Women's Breakfast – 8:00am at St John's L'ton
5th Sun	Messy Church – 4:30pm at St Aidan's
6th Mon	
7th Tue	<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 the Parish office – 7:30pm Stanford's group at St Aidan's
8th Wed	
9th Thur	Crafty Circle – 10:00am at St David's Parish Council meeting – 7:30pm

August 2018	
10th Fri	Hoodies For Homelessness
11th Sat	Bible Forum – 10:00am at St John's Launceston Men At Work: Men's Bible Conference – 10:00am at The Branch, Kings Meadows
12th Sun	Crafty Circle – 10:00am at St David's Parish Council meeting – 7:30pm
13th Mon	Cadorna – 2:00pm
14th Tue	
15th Wed	Ainslie Service – 2:15pm
16th Thur	Chaplaincy Soup & Sandwich Lunch – 12:00 noon at St MM's George Town
17th Fri	Fellowship Night – 6:00pm at George Town Winter Relief Gala Fundraiser – 6:00pm at the Star Theatre, Invermay Challenge Conference – 1:30pm
18th Sat	Challenge Conference – 8:00am at The Old Woolstore, Hobart
19th Sun	
20th Mon	

The deadline for the August Newsletter edition is 23rd July

Calendar

August 2018	
21 st Tue	
22 nd Wed	
23 rd Thur	Crafty Circle – 10:00am at St David's
24 th Fri	
25 th Sat	
26 th Sun	CCCGT Combined Churches Service – 2:30pm at the Baptist Church
27 th Mon	
28 th Tue	CMS Prayer Breakfast – 8:00am at St John's Preaching Training Workshop
29 th Wed	
30 th Thur	Hope in Dark Times - An evening with Michael Leunig – 8:00pm at Earl Arts Centre
31 st Fri	
1 st Sept Sat	Women's Breakfast – 8:00am at St John's L'ton

September and other dates 2018	
22 nd September	Bishop's Training Event at Hutchins School , Sandy Bay
30 th September	Riverlinks Together at St David's Riverside
16 th & 17 th October	Ministry Leaders Conference at Grindelwald



Service Times For Worship Centres

East Launceston			
5 th	10:00 am 4:30 pm	Morning Prayer Messy Church	
11 th	10:00 am	Communion	
18 th	10:00 am	Morning Prayer	
25 th	10:00 am	Communion	
George Town			
5 th	9:00 am 10:30 am	Pipers River George Town	Communion Communion
11 th	9:00 am 10:30 am	Low Head George Town	Communion Together @ 10.30
18 th	9:00 am 10:30 am	Pipers River George Town	Communion ABU Baptist
25 th	9:00 am 10:30 am	Low Head George Town	Communion Communion
Riverside & Trevallyn			
5 th	-	No service	Combined with St A's
11 th	10:00 am	Riverside	Praise & Worship
18 th	10:00 am	Riverside	Communion
25 th	10:00 am	Riverside	Communion
Each Wed	10:00am	St Oswald's Healing Service & HC	
Peace Haven			
18 th	10:30 am	Communion	

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



Launceston Bible Forum The Christian Imagination

How important is using your imagination for the way you live your Christian life?

What does the Bible say about imagination? And how might we use our imagination to glorify God? Presented by Graham Stanton, Lecturer in Practical Theology at Ridley College, Melbourne.

Date: **Saturday 11 August**
Venue: **St John's Launceston**
Time: **2.00-5.00pm**

MENS BIBLE CONFERENCE

SATURDAY 11 AUGUST,
@ The Branch

Email Ben at
mens.bible.conf@gmail.com or
call 6334 8145 before 8 August

Cost \$35 on the day in cash
(includes morning tea & lunch)

TOPICS:

<u>God at Work</u>	Christopher Ochs
<u>Men at Work</u>	Andrew Corbett
<u>Give it a Rest</u>	Richard Humphrey

Challenge CONFERENCE

Full conference \$180 per ticket • Saturday only \$150

Take your gospel witness further with **great teaching**, the opportunity to **share ideas** and **build a network** of support for your ministry

Friday 17 - Saturday 18 August 2018 • Fully catered day conference
The Old Woolstore Hotel, 1 Macquarie St. Hobart



Sam Chan (PhD, TEDS) is a global citizen - born in Hong Kong, raised in Aus, medical doctor in Sydney, Theology PhD from the USA. As a public speaker for City Bible Forum, Sam connects with young postmoderns on evangelism, ethics, preaching, story-telling, and apologetics.



Bernard Cane is currently the pastor at Good News Christian Church, in Hoveah, Tasmania. He is an ordained Minister in the Christian Reformed Churches of Australia, and has ministry experience among Presbyterian and Anglican churches, both in Tasmania and Sydney.

Register online vision100.org/challenge



WHEN: FRIDAY 17 AUGUST @ 6.30PM

WHERE: STAR THEATRE, LAUNCESTON

#SHAREYOURWARMTH

Hoodies For Homelessness

Friday 10 August

Wear your hoodie and help raise awareness of homelessness as part of National Homelessness Week.

You can also join in for a \$5 breakfast at Morton's Place to kick off the day.

Fellowship Nights
 First & Third Friday Nights
 at St MM's George Town
 6:30pm for a shared meal
 followed by a DVD & discussion
 All very welcome!



MAKING DISCIPLES EVERY DAY

BISHOP'S TRAINING EVENT 2018

Saturday 22 September, 10am-4pm
 The Hutchins, School Sandy Bay
 Register at: BISHOPSTRAININGEVENT.COM

George Town Schools Chaplaincy Lunches

Soup, Sandwich & Slices

Thursday 16th August, 12 noon
at the Anglican Church
 3 Anne Street, George Town
\$10 per person (children negotiable)

Please join us for some good food and good company and support Chaplaincy in our schools



Ed Sheeran - But what if the castle's no longer there?

I love Ed Sheeran. I love so many things about him. I love his songs. His voice. His mop of red hair.

I love Ed Sheeran. There I've said it. I love Ed Sheeran.

But what I especially love about Ed Sheeran is this. He's the pop star for whom I can say, "Wait ... I'm as good looking as he is!"

This is rare. I can't say I can dance better than Michael Jackson. I can't say I'm as bad-ass as Ice-T. I can't say I'm better looking than Justin Bieber.

But I can say I'm as good looking as Ed Sheeran.

He's no taller than I am. His face is no more symmetrical than mine. And he, like me, doesn't have the Greco-Roman nose, which women find the epitome of masculinity and handsomeness. Ryan Gosling, Hugh Jackman, Liam Neeson, I'm looking at you!

Ed Sheeran is the *everyday* hero!

We can relate with him. And he can relate with us.



In, my favourite Ed Sheeran song, "Castles on the Hill" (2017), I think, "Wait! This is my life!" It debuted at number 2 on the charts, and has had 307 million views on YouTube so far.

"Castle on a the Hill" is one of those heart-wrenching songs about returning to a home that may no longer be there.

Ed is in his car, driving back to his home town, with Framlingham Castle on its hill.

Framlingham will always be Ed's home. And the castle will always be there.

His heart will always be filled with memories of Framlingham from his formative years:

"Had my first kiss ... We found weekend jobs ... We'd buy cheap spirits ... Me and my friends."

As the hook says, "We watched the sunset over the castle on the hill."

I have seen
the burden
God has laid
on the
human race.
He has made
everything
beautiful in
its time.
He has also
set eternity in
the human
heart;
yet no one
can fathom
what God has
done from
beginning to
end.
I know that
there is
nothing

As long as there are sunsets.
As long as there is the castle.
Ed will always have a home.

But life has also moved on,
and Ed will never have what
he once had: "*Made friends
and lost them ... One friend
left to sell clothes ... One had
two kids but lives alone ...
One's already on his second
wife ... One's just barely
getting by.*"

And the hook sums it up:
"*And I miss the way you make
me feel.*"

What was once there is no
longer there. There's nothing
to go back to.

Home may be where the
castle is. But what's the point
if the castle is now cold,
lifeless, and empty?

This is the conundrum of
human existence. Life moves
on and on relentlessly. Yet we
keep yearning for something
we once had, but can never
have again. If we go back, we

will be disappointed. But if
we move on, we have to say
goodbye.

Why are we like this?

It's because the Bible
says, "God ... has set eternity
in the human heart."

And so we restlessly wander,
yearning for a home. But we
will never find it, until we
find it in transcendence—
eternity—in worship of the
God who loves us and made
us.

And if we find our resting
place in God, we are set free
to enjoy (and mourn) the
happy memories of what
once was. But there's no
need to go back and make
them do what only God can
do for us. The home is gone.
The castle's no longer there.

But God will always be there
for us. He will be the castle.
He will be our home.

Sam Chan

www.espressotheology.com

better for
people than to
be happy and
to do good
while they
live.

That each of
them may eat
and drink,
and find
satisfaction in
all their toil—
this is the gift
of God.

I know that
everything
God does
will endure
forever;
nothing can
be added to it
and nothing
taken from it.
God does it
so that people
will fear him.

Ecclesiastes
3:10-14 ^{NIV}



East Launceston
21-23 Arthur St
East Launceston
0438 378 233

George Town
3 Anne St
George Town
0439 821 038

Low Head
Low Head Rd
Low Head

Peace Haven
185 Penquite Rd
Norwood

Pipers River
School Rd
Pipers River

Riverside
399 West Tamar Rd
Riverside

Trevallyn
34 Bain Tce
Trevallyn
0409 799 419

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Riverlinks Anglican
Parish Newsletter is
published monthly.

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

Right: A power outage didn't stop the Collings' Home Group from enjoying their afternoon tea



Below right: Acknowledging the wonderful skills and the contribution of Anne Godman to the important 2018 Synod

Below: Healing service morning tea at St Oswald's



Below: A second mainly music group has begun successfully at St Aidan's on Friday that is being lead by the St John's Team. Exciting opportunities to reach out to the greater Launceston area



Right: Friday group Teddy Bear's Picnic



Contact us:

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Website

www.riverlinks.net.au