

# Cross & Keys

September 2019 - Newsletter of  
Saint Peter's Church



**Anglican**  
Church

Saint Peter's East Maitland



*Aerial View of Bell Tower and surrounding area*

**The Anglican Parish of East Maitland**  
**Saint Peter's Church**  
**47 William Street East Maitland**

Serving the Communities of Ashtonfield,  
East Maitland, Four Mile Creek, Louth Park,  
Metford, Pitnacree, Tenambit and the Hunter Region



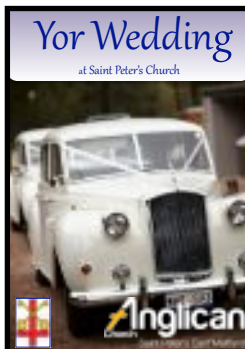
**Parish Office & Parish Information** The Parish Office is normally open on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 9 am to 4 pm and is the first point of contact for all parish enquiries and bookings. If the office is unattended please leave a message. Contact details and information about our regular activities can be found in our *Welcome Guide* available at the back of church, on the parish website, or through the Parish Office.

**Pastoral Care** Please advise the Parish Office of any pastoral needs and especially if someone is in hospital. If you need the assistance of a priest at any time please contact the Parish Office. After hours the office telephone will automatically re-direct you (without charge to you) to a member of staff who can assist you.

**Baptisms and Weddings** Information about baptisms (christenings) is available on our parish website. Information about holding a wedding at Saint Peter's is available in our *Wedding Guide* and on our wedding website. The best way to make an enquiry about baptisms or weddings is through our websites.

**Site Hire** The Parish Hall is available for hire for one-off or regular community and commercial events.

**School & Retirement Living** We commend to you our Anglican College at Fletcher and our Retirement Village in Tenambit.



# MUSIC TIME

Come and join us for our fun, nurturing neighbourhood music group for new borns, toddlers and pre-school children with parents, grandparents or carers

Music Time helps young children develop motor skills, rhythm, language, and creativity and gives families a chance to enjoy learning and growing together

We meet on Wednesday mornings during school term time from 10 am to 12 noon in St Peter's Parish Hall, Banks Street, East Maitland

Contact the Parish Office: 4934 5303  
[www.eastmaitlandanglican.org](http://www.eastmaitlandanglican.org)

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*Mailing:* P. O. Box 662 East Maitland NSW 2323

## Saint Peter's Columbarium

The mortal remains of many of our friends and loved ones rest in the columbarium niches and memorial garden.

We invite all members of our local community to consider our columbarium as the final resting place for their cremated remains, where family members and descendants can visit.

For further details about purchasing a columbarium niche please speak to Maryka in the Parish Office.



**B**ishop Tyrrell Anglican College is a co-educational independent school that focuses on the development of the whole child within a caring, Christian environment.

Enrolments are now open.  
To find out more visit our website [www.btac.nsw.edu.au](http://www.btac.nsw.edu.au) or contact our Registrar on 02 4979 8488.



# A Message from Mother Beatrice Pate

My theme this month is music, so much part of our lives, and often taken for granted.

Firstly I would like to tell you a bit about the movie, *Three Summers*, written and directed by Ben Elton. Set in a fictional West Australian town inland from Bunbury, this romantic comedy tells a story that covers three annual Summer Music Festivals. It is a fantastic movie that deserves, I think, much more exposure than it had. It was better known in WA, true, but its warm, human themes embrace us all.



One of the joyous things about the movie is its celebration of different styles and types of music, and the way it can draw us together. In a time when it is hard to find positive, non-violent, family friendly movies here is one everyone can enjoy. I admit to feeling a sense of personal ownership of it because one of our dear parishioners in WA had a relative playing in one of the bands. So we had a theatre night and many from the St Paul's parish, where I served, came along and all enjoyed it.

Do make every effort to come along on Sunday 15th September, down in the Parish Hall, commencing at 4.00pm and let us enjoy it with our St Peter's friends as well. Afterwards there will be pizza to enjoy, and ice cream during the movie. Do make every effort to come along. Pay at the door!

My second item in my music theme emerges from last Sunday's reading. The end of the second reading, Hebrews 12.8:

*Let us give thanks, by which we offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe.*

We worship in a beautiful church, one that does inspire reverence and awe. So much of our modern life allows no room for reverence and awe – indeed it is counter cultural. As we prepare to come to church we ought to prayerfully put aside, as much as we are able, the stresses of our lives, quieten our minds, be still and open to the very presence of God.

One of the most precious ways we are helped as we come into the holy space of our lovely church is not just the breathtaking building, but also the stunning music we are offered. Those from the past have left us the stunning organ and the privilege of continuing the precious Anglican music traditions, in which generations of Christians have approached God.

We are blessed with Evanne Sherringham, our music director, Kath Waddell and Margot Miller who support Evanne and share playing for our services. The gifts they offer us are skills they have spent so many years learning and perfecting.

And then we have the support of those wonderful singers in the choir. Maybe you have musical talents – do not be shy and hide them, rather be prepared to share them for all our blessing! New singers are most enthusiastically welcomed into the church. Talk to Evanne.

We have so much to help us to approach God with reverence and awe.

But sometimes we take all this for granted. So let our hearts and imaginations go free. So free back to the wonder of childhood and to a children's book. I am thinking of the wonderful children's classic, Grahame Greene's *Wind in the Willows*, the timeless tale of Ratty and Mole. In one chapter they go out to seek to find the lost baby otter. They row up each branch of the river, right through the dark night, then as dawn appears:

*Rat, who was in the stern of the boat, while Mole sculled, sat up suddenly and listened with a passionate intentness. Mole, who with gentle strokes was just keeping the boat moving while he scanned the banks with care, looked at him with curiosity. "It's gone!" sighed the Rat, sinking back in his seat again. "So beautiful and strange and new.*

*Since it was to end so soon, I almost wish I had never heard it. For it has roused a longing in me that is pain, and nothing seems worthwhile but just to hear that sound once more and go on listening to it for ever. No! There it is again!" he cried, alert once more. Entranced, he was silent for a long space, spell-bound. "Now it passes on and I begin to lose it," he said presently. "O Mole! The beauty of it! The merry bubble and joy, the thin, clear, happy call of the distant piping! Such music I never dreamed of, and the call in it is stronger even than the music is sweet! Row on, Mole, row! For the music and the call must be for us."*



On they paddle, as dawn approaches, drawn ever on by the beautiful piping. Eventually, drawn to a tiny island, they go ashore and then, as the sun climbs over the horizon,

*Perhaps Rat would never have dared to raise his eyes, but that, though the piping was now hushed, the call and the summons seemed still dominant and imperious. He might not refuse, were Death himself waiting to strike him instantly, once he had looked with mortal eye on things rightly kept hidden. Trembling, he obeyed, and raised his humble head; and then, in that utter clearness of the imminent dawn, while Nature, flushed with fullness of incredible colour, seemed to hold her breath for the event, he looked in the very eyes of the Friend and Helper*

And there they find the baby otter safely curled up and asleep. Beautiful writing, but catching the awesome power of music, to draw us out of ourselves, open our hearts to the divine, to the Holy Spirit of God, to reverence and awe in our worship.

Yes, we have a wonderful heritage here, a heritage of music, we have a beautiful building richly endowed for us by Christians of past years, we have so many gifted people, both in music and in leading in the liturgy, in prayers, reading, serving. All moved by God to help us be more his people, strengthened by his grace and guidance.

Let us seek to live as his people, make his presence known, show forth the love that Jesus teaches, to make a difference in our community and in our world.

And make every effort to come along and enjoy the community in sharing a great movie in the Parish Hall on Sunday 15th September.

With love  
Mthr Beatrice

## Date for your Diary - Carols on the Hill

The 2019 Carols on the Hill is scheduled for Friday 13th December, commencing at 6pm. Always a popular event, we will again have The Three Tenors as our keynote entertainers, together with Maitland City Choir, Maitland Brass Band, and Maitland Pipes and Drums.



Let us hope that the weather smiles on us this year and that the outdoor venue in the grounds of Saint Peter's goes ahead - although we are fortunate that we can always move indoors and take advantage of the wonderful acoustics of Saint Peter's.

# Parish Diary

## Special Events in September

*Please join us and invite your friends!*

**Tuesday 3rd September - 10am  
Anglican Womens Service**

**Sunday 15th September - 4pm  
Sunday Afternoon Entertainment with  
Movie "Three Summers"**

## Special Events in October

*Please join us and invite your friends!*

**Sunday 6th October - 9.30am  
Pet Blessing Service**

**Sunday 13th October - 6.00pm  
Three Choirs Evensong**

## Registers

### Holy Baptism

We welcome all those who will be baptised into the Body of Christ at Saint Peter's in the coming weeks, amongst them **Rohan James Wynands, Charlotte Marie Wynands, Zagan Mitchell O'Hara, Harvey Gordon Polak, and Kaiden Allan James Ashby.** Please pray for them and for their families.

### Holy Matrimony

Please pray for those who have been married recently or who are preparing to be married in coming weeks, amongst them **James Carey and Melissa Dron** on 19th October.

### Rest in Peace

Please pray for the souls of all those who have died recently.

### In Memoriam

Throughout the year we pray for the souls of loved ones on the anniversary of their death. Each year families remember loved ones who have died by dedicating memorial flowers in the church on the weekend in which they are included in our prayers. In September this will include flowers in memory of **Olivia Sharp and Frederick French.**

- |          |  |
|----------|--|
| 1st Sept | 12 noon: Parish Pub Lunch  |
| 2nd      | 10 am: Cursillo Group<br>(and 1st Monday each month)   |
| 2nd      | 2 pm: Enlightenment Group<br>(and first & third Monday of each month)                              |
| 2nd      | 7 pm: Esther Community<br>(and every Monday)   |
| 3rd      | 10am Anglican Womens Service   |
| 3rd      | 10 am: Craft Time<br>(and 1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month)   |
| 3rd      | 7.30 pm: Man Talk<br>(and 1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month)   |
| 4th      | 10 am: Enquiring Minds<br>(and every Wednesday in school term time)                                |
| 4th      | 6 pm: Companions of Saint Peter<br>Eucharist and Chapter Meeting<br>(and 1st Wednesday each month) |
| 5th      | 4.30 pm: Talitha Community<br>(and every Thursday in school term time)                             |
| 5th      | 4.30 for 5 pm: Community Meal<br>(and every Thursday)  |
| 6th      | 10.30 am: First Friday Eucharist<br>(and 1st Friday of each month)                                 |
| 8th      | 5 pm: Petrus Community Church<br>(and 2nd & 4th Sunday of each month)                              |
| 16th     | 10 am: Mothers' Union Meeting<br>(and 3rd Monday of each month)                                    |
| 18th     | 6 pm: Supper with the Saints &<br>7 pm Compline<br>(and 3rd Wednesday each month)                  |
| 18th     | 7 pm: Parish Council Meeting   |
| 25th     | 6 pm Men's Fellowship Dinner   |
| 27th     | 6 pm: Stations of the Cross<br>(every 4th Friday of each month)                                    |
| 6th Oct  | 9.30am Pet Blessing Service  |
| 13th Oct | 6.00pm Three Choirs Evensong   |

# Anglican Women's Service - 3rd September

The 2019 Anglican Women's Service is scheduled to take place at Saint Peter's Church on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September, commencing at 10am with Morning Tea prior to the Eucharist at 10.30am led by Bishop Charlie.

The theme of the service is "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God – not the result of works, so that no one may boast" (*Ephesians 2.8*).

Ladies - please mark this date in your diary and join other women of the Diocese at this very special day of service and fellowship.



# St Francis Day - Pet Blessing Sunday 6th October at 9.30am

Do come along and enjoy this very special annual Blessing of the Pets service. Bring your pets if you have any that travel, or just come and enjoy other people's pets. You are welcome with or without pets.

The Pet Blessing will be incorporated in an informal Holy Communion service.

Involved in the service that day will be young people from the Sunday evening Petrus Family Communion service. It will be great to have their involvement.

If you would prefer to worship in a quieter atmosphere, come to the Saturday evening Eucharist at 6.00pm, or to the 7.30am Eucharist.



# Combined Choirs Festival Evensong Sunday 13th October 2019

Following on the success of previous years, the Combined Choirs Evensong will take place at Saint Peter's Church on Sunday 13th October at 6pm.

Featuring the choirs of East Maitland, Raymond Terrace and Morpeth, the choirs will sing under the conductorship of Evanne Sherringham, with Fr Stephen Williams leading the service.

The choirs will sing a range of sacred songs and hymns, selected by all the choirs.

This is a very special choral event - please come along to support our choristers. Light refreshments will be provided following the service.



# Families and Children's Ministry

- an update from Louise Hay

## Playgroup

This term has been a busy one for our Playgroup kids who have been enjoying craft projects. We have been decorating cardboard glasses, owls and fairies with sequins, glitter, feathers and plastic gems. It has been interesting seeing what each child designs and how happy they are with their completed work. With our new art easels we will be able to provide different art and craft projects each week.

With all of our new toys and resources we are able to provide different toys and activities every week. The children are very excited when they walk in and see the Parish Hall full of new toys. Some of the favourite activities the kids enjoy playing with are the slide, a jungle set with animals, the train table, the very large doll house and playdough.

We continue to welcome new families to our Playgroup and together with our regular attendees we have a great time every Friday morning.



## Petrus Community Church

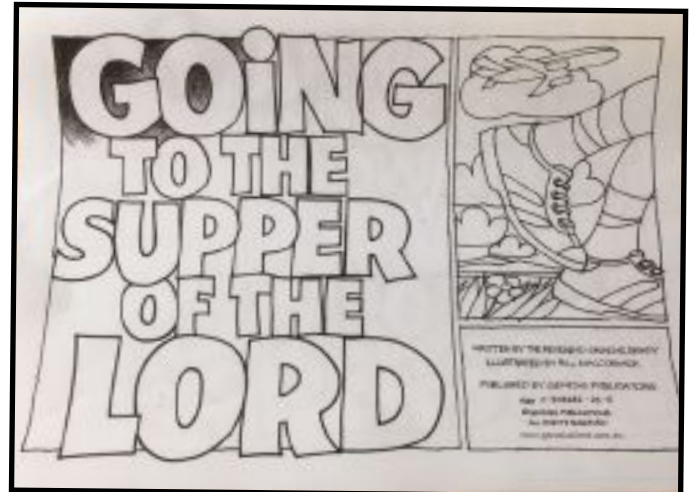
Petrus Community Church offers families with children a more relaxed way to worship. Second and fourth Sunday afternoons we meet in the hall for our service which commences at 5.00pm.

Everyone, young and old, are welcome. We celebrate a simple form of the Eucharist, using a powerpoint presentation and enjoying music suitable for young people and families.

celebrate a simple form of

At the Gospel the young people move to the meeting room for learning and craft. The adults, meantime continue with the service, until the Peace when the children return to show everyone what they have been doing.

The children at the moment are working through an Australian book, "Going to the Supper of the Lord". This book works through the Holy Communion service, starting with the children's own understandings and helping them to see how our Christian worship meets their own experience. The book also has ideas for parents to pursue at home with their children.



The young people seem to be enjoying their lessons from this book with Louise and Kim, and we are hoping they will come to more understanding of just what we do at church and why we do it.

Visit our Website: [www.eastmaitlandanglican.org](http://www.eastmaitlandanglican.org)

Latest News and Events + Information about the Life of our Parish



# Site Maintenance Projects

There has been a flurry of activity around the church in recent weeks as a number of projects have been completed.

## Saint Barnabas Aisle

The trip hazard sign has been a permanent fixture of the northern aisle for quite some time so it was exciting to see the truck arrive with a team of workers ready to remedy the issue, raise the level of the aisle, and make the aisle safe. The job went very smoothly, allowing the church to re-open on schedule.



## Saint Barnabas Altar

The carpeting in front of the Saint Barnabas Altar has been replaced and the surrounding area renovated to make it more easily accessible.

## LED Lighting for Church

Have you noticed a difference in the church lighting? All of the church lighting has been replaced with LED lighting, creating a more natural overall lighting throughout the church, and all lights are now the same colour.

## Church Bell

The regular inspection of the Church Bell identified safety issues that resulted in removal of the bell for the short term. The problems will be rectified at such time that the church roof is replaced, which is one of the major projects currently under discussion.



## The Rectory

The Housing Working Team, led by Site Maintenance Manager, David Burton, has been working on ensuring that the Rectory is bright and sparkling for the new incumbent and his family when they move in at the end of November. This includes a new bathroom, painting throughout, carpeting, and a general overhaul of minor maintenance issues.



## Stormwater Drainage

A complete review of the Stormwater Drainage on site has been undertaken with the use of a flexible camera to determine any damage or blockages. Surprisingly, given the age of the pipes, overall the stormwater system was in good repair, with the exception of a small length of drainage at the entry to the driveway to the Parish Hall, that has now been replaced.

All of the above projects come at a cost but are a part of maintaining our beautiful church and properties into the future.

If you are a user of Facebook please like and share our Facebook Pages:



- East Maitland Anglican
- Petrus Community
- St Peter's Playgroup East Maitland

We are finding that Facebook is a very useful way to keep people informed about activities at Saint Peter's and has had a good response from young families interested in coming along to join Music Time and Playgroup.

# Parish Council Meetings

The Parish Council meets each month - including Church Wardens, Parish Councillors and members of the Ministry Team. Meetings cover a range of topics to ensure that all aspects of Parish life are considered and addressed in a timely fashion. Topics discussed at the August meeting included:

- Removal of the ramp to the northern door
- Renovation work in the Rectory prior to the arrival of the new Incumbent and his family.
- Replacement of Church Roof - commencing the process
- Construction of a large storage shed on site.
- Possible funding opportunities to assist with costs of work.



*Church Wardens - Anne Page, Geoff Seccombe and Kevin Short*

## Access Doors to Saint Peter's

### **Ramp to Northern Door**

There has been much discussion in recent months about the ramp access to the northern door to the church. All construction at the church is required to comply with Office of Heritage requirements as well as the usual Council Development Application requirements.

Unfortunately there are issues regarding the safety of the ramp that were not identified until construction was completed. At that time a new Heritage Consultant was engaged who advised that the ramp does not comply with safety requirements. In order to comply we are required to remove the stairs on the northern side of the ramp, adjust the crossfall of the ramp which is non-compliant, and construct handrails and kerbrails on both sides of the ramp. These adjustments would be at considerable expense with no guarantee that the finished ramp would provide an attractive entry to the church.

The majority of parishioners in a recent survey voted to remove the ramp and return access to the Northern door to the original layout. (The original two small steps are still in place underneath the metal plates, so can easily be reinstated).

### **The Western Doors to the Church**

Access to the church for those with mobility issues has always been available via the large Western Doors to the church. We are currently organising for these doors to have Fire Exit rails installed for ease of opening in the case of an emergency. This will also include accessibility from the outside for those who are unable to use the steps to the northern door and need to enter the church through the Western doors.

### **Portico at Western Entry to the Church**

The Parish Council is considering building a Portico at the Western entry to the church. This would provide protection for the Western doors that would not then be subject to weather conditions, and would provide a more attractive and protected entry to the church. Initial discussions have commenced regarding possible design options and compliance with Heritage requirements.

## Grandparents as Parents - High Tea

Thank you to all those who supported the recent GAPS High Tea. With the Parish Hall filled to capacity, delicate sandwiches and sumptuous cakes and slices were the order of the day. Total funds raised on the day were \$3,200 which will go a long way to ensuring the success of the annual weekend away for grandparents and children.



## Bunnings BBQ

For those who enjoy a Sausage Sizzle, Bunnings was the place to be on 27th July when a team of volunteers from Saint Peter's ran the Bunnings BBQ. On a perfect sunny Winter's day the crowds poured into Bunnings and the pace at the BBQ was fast and furious throughout the day. The initial 70kg of sausages ran out by 1pm, requiring several trips to the local Woolworths to buy more during the afternoon to meet the demand.

The hard work resulted in a profit of just under \$1,500 that will go towards Saint Peter's Community Meal, allowing us to help others less fortunate.

Sincere thanks to the many volunteers who worked throughout the day - your hard work was much appreciated.



## Op Shop - Surprise Visit

The Op Shop staff got a lovely surprise when a group of children from Maitland Christian School walked through the door recently - they had brought cards and gifts to say Thank You for the work that the Op Shop does to help the community

This was a touching gesture that was much appreciated by the Op Shop volunteers and at the same time demonstrated the lessons being learned by young people in recognising the work that can be done to support those less fortunate in the community.



## Parish Office Hours

The Parish Office is open from 9.00am to 4.00pm Tuesday to Friday for all enquiries related to Parish matters. For urgent matters please phone 4934 5303 - in the event that the Parish Office is closed, the phone will divert to another number where a message can be left. Please allow sufficient time for the diversion to activate.

# Mission Partnerships

ABM's priorities in supporting both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Anglicans are to support the ministry of Indigenous Australians with their own people and communities and to support programs of training and leadership development.



Members of the NATSIAC at their 2016 Gathering in the Diocese of North Queensland. © Brad Chapman/ABM, 2016

The overall program has an emphasis on local leadership development rather than external leadership. ABM primarily seeks to encourage and support Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders to minister to their own people in Australia. The people and projects contribute to the development of Indigenous communities and the Australian community as a whole.

ABM fundraise for the projects by promoting them and working in partnership with the Diocese that generally manage the projects at the local level. ABM believes that Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders have a special place in this country as their ancestry goes back thousands of years. Many Indigenous Christians believe that God was with them from long ago and they find meaning and hope in the Good News of Jesus Christ. ABM believes that there is a need for trained Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Christian leaders to minister to their communities.

ABM projects are currently in New South Wales, Queensland and the Northern Territory.




# Sunday Afternoon Entertainment

Mark the date in your diaries - Sunday 15th September 2019 at 4pm - Sunday Afternoon Entertainment in the Parish Hall with the movie "Three Summers". The cost of \$20 includes Food and Drink.

Three Summers is an Australian romantic comedy, written and directed by Ben Elton. Filmed and set in Western Australia at a fictional summer musical festival, over three consecutive years two musicians meet and fall in love at the festival amidst a microcosm of Australian society. The star studded cast includes Magda Szubanski, Michael Caton, Deborah Mailman, Jacqueline McKenzie and John Waters.

This acclaimed Australian film is sure to entertain.

The Parish Hall will be filled with laughter and great entertainment - please invite family and friends - all are welcome.



**Anglican**  
CHURCH SOCIETY BOARD

Sunday 15th September 2019  
4pm / 4.30pm  
St Peter's Parish Hall  
52 Banks St, East Maitland

**YOU'RE INVITED!**

**Sunday Afternoon Entertainment with Movie "Three Summers"**

Cost: \$20 per person - includes Food and Drink

## Parish Ministry & Staff Team

*...we are here to help you*

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## Parish Leaders

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**Evanne Sherringham**  
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**Kevin Short**  
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**Graham Webb**  
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**Marie Rothnie**  
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# Men's Fellowship Dinner

The August Men's Fellowship Dinner was a Partners Night that was very well attended. Guest Speakers were Mother Beatrice Pate and husband Dennis, who gave an interesting presentation about a number of trips they had made to China. Their daughter and son-in-law, Heather and Michael, spent ten years in China, providing a unique opportunity for Beatrice and Dennis to visit China on a number of occasions and become absorbed in the culture and history of what is a very interesting and diverse country.

The Men's Fellowship Dinner is a monthly event, held on the fourth Wednesday of each month for the menfolk of the parish. Thanks go to Kay Teterin and her team for preparing the dinner each month, which is always very much appreciated.

The next Dinner is scheduled for Wednesday 25th September.

**Please contact Father Peter Rothnie or the Parish Office for more information.**



Horses in Tomb of Terracotta Warriors



Daughter Kathy with Beatrice



Daughters Kathy & Heather with Dennis

# Farewell Tea for George and Barbara Williams (see photos on inside cover)

Many fond farewells were bid to George and Barbara Williams on 11th August, their final day at Saint Peter's. George played the organ with his usual gusto, making it a memorable occasion for all those present.

As a parting gift the Parish presented George and Barbara with framed photographs of the church, the organ and the eagle, which we hope will provide a fond memento of their many years at Saint Peter's. There was also a personal letter from Bishop Sonia who recalled George's role as Organist over many years, together with a certificate of appreciation from the Diocese for the many years that George played the organ.

Farewell it may be, but we hope to see George and Barbara when they visit the area in coming years.



Morning Tea as we bid a fond farewell to Barbara and George Williams

