

Cross & Keys

Winter 2021 - Newsletter of
Saint Peter's Church



Anglican
Church

Saint Peter's East Maitland



The Anglican Parish of East Maitland

Saint Peter's Church

49 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, Thursday and Friday from 9 am to 3 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 provide a mobile phone number for a member of staff who can assist you, or you can leave a message.

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 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.

A background image for the Op Shop section showing various items for sale, including clothing and household goods, in a well-lit shop environment.

OP SHOP

Bargains Galore! Clothing, Household items, Books, Bric-a-brac - something for everyone.

Thursday 9am - 3pm
Friday 9am - 3pm
Saturday 9am - 1pm

Located at rear of St Peter's Parish Hall, Banks Street, East Maitland

Contact Ph. 4934 5303
office@eastmaitlandanglican.org
www.eastmaitlandanglican.org

Op Shop St Peter's East Maitland

The Facebook logo, consisting of a white lowercase 'f' inside a blue square.

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 contact the Parish Office.

Parish Office Telephone: (02) 4934 5303
E-mail: office@eastmaitlandanglican.org
Parish: www.eastmaitlandanglican.org
Mailing: PO Box 662 East Maitland NSW 2323

Scott's Spot

Welcome to the Winter edition of Cross and Keys.

On 25th July, the feast of St James, I marked the fifteenth anniversary of my ordination as a Priest. I was delighted to be able to share that anniversary with you here at St Peter's as we celebrated the Eucharist together.



Significant milestones such as this provide an opportunity to reflect on the nature of things. In this case it has been for me an opportunity to reflect on the nature of my ministry as a Priest and how that ministry is exercised in the context of our church.

Over these past fifteen years I have noticed many changes. Some of them are geographical. I have moved through a curacy in Ipswich to my first incumbency in the North Burnett region of Queensland. We moved to this Diocese in 2012 when I became the Parish Priest at Muswellbrook and then here to East Maitland. Each of these communities of faith have been unique in their own way and it has been a blessing to be part of each of them. As well as the geographical changes I have noticed a difference in the way each of these communities has engaged with the wider community they are drawn from and the way they live out their call to be the church.

I have also noticed similarities in each of the worshipping communities I have been called to serve. In each community there has been, I believe, a genuine desire to see the church continue to engage with the world around it. There has also been deepening levels of concern about whether we have the resources to do that. Those resources are not only financial, although that is part of the concern. Perhaps of greater concern for many has been whether we have the people available on the ground to continue to be the church in the way that we have done so for many generations as we continue to watch our congregation numbers reducing. I think that these are reasonable concerns to hold. I also believe that these concerns should not define us, nor should they lead us into depression or worst still, fearful inaction.

For all of the fifteen years I have been a Priest I have read about and listened to people speak about the idea that the church is in a time of transition. That we are moving from one way of being to another. It is not clear what this new way of being will be or what it will look like. This can be disorienting and at times destabilising. The reality is that the church has always been in a state of transition for all of its life, since its earliest days. Change has always been a part of the reality of the church and it is no different for us today. Change is inevitable - it happens whether we like it or not. What matters is not so much that things are changing, even though change is hard for us at times. What matters is how we respond to change. Do we embrace it or reject it. Do we fight change with all of our being or actually help to bring it about. Do we walk into change with our eyes and hearts and minds wide open or do we put our head in the sand and hope it will all go away.

The pattern of our life as the church is defined by the pattern of the Easter mystery - life, death and new life. If we only see change as a death of what we have known and loved and been comfortable with then we are not really living out that Easter pattern. If however we see change in the full light of the glory of the resurrection then we will perhaps see the opportunities and the new life that is springing up all around us. The green shoots are here now if we choose to see them.

In all of my years as a Priest I have been deeply encouraged when the communities I have been a part of have noticed the green shoots of new life around them. When together we have noticed and embraced the new opportunities that have become evident. I am excited about the green shoots that I can see emerging in our life together as the church here in East Maitland at the moment. I wonder if you see them too? I look forward to continuing this journey of discovery with you as we walk into new life and new opportunities with Jesus as our constant companion and guide.

Be assured of my prayers for you all.
Your Priest and brother in Christ, Scott.

Parish Diary August - September 2021

Special Events in August

Please join us and invite your friends!

1st August - 8.30am Eucharist
Dean of Newcastle preaching

15th August - 8.30 am Eucharist
Celebrating Mary, Mother of our Lord

Special Events in September

Please join us and invite your friends!

7th September - 10am
Anglican Womens Service

Date for your Diary

We are delighted to advise that we are planning to hold Carols on the Hill this year - on Friday 3rd December at 6pm in the grounds of Saint Peter's Church. So, mark the date in your diary and don't miss out on what has previously been a wonderful community event for us all.

AUGUST

1st August. 4.30pm Petrus Community Church
(in St Peter's Church)
(and then 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month)

3rd 2pm: Craft Group
(and then 1st & 3rd Tuesday each month)

3rd 4pm: Pastoral Care Team Meeting

3rd 7.30pm Man Talk
(and then 1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month)

10th 10.00am Kinship Group (formerly GAPS)
(and then 2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month)

11th 7pm Resourcing Team Meeting

SEPTEMBER

7th 10.00am Anglican Womens Service

19th - 27th Scott on leave



Working with Children Checks & Safe Ministry Training

Throughout the Parish we have many people who volunteer to assist with a variety of roles. In order to comply with both legal and Diocesan requirements in regard to volunteers, many of our volunteers have been asked to provide Working with Children Checks and to attend Safe Ministry Training. For many of the volunteer roles this is an essential and necessary requirement.

Working with Children Checks

To get a Working with Children check requires you to apply online by going to the website at www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/check and completing the online form. At this point you are provided with an Application Number - this then needs to be taken to the local Service NSW office together with proof of identity. For volunteers this check is free. You will then be provided with a Working With Children Check number - please advise this number and your date of birth the Parish Office so that we can complete the process.

Safe Ministry Training

Safe Ministry Training workshops are scheduled at various times during the year, however the training can be undertaken via online training via the following weblink:

www.openlearning.com/courses/safe-ministry-online-induction. The cost is \$30 per person payable directly to Openlearning.com. When you have completed the training please bring a copy of your certificate to the Parish Office and a copy of your receipt for reimbursement.

Registers

Holy Baptism

During August and September baptisms are scheduled for **Noah Albert Dennis Ray, Mia Annabel Watson, Raffy Lenard Field, Ava Ellen Lindsay, George Phillip Bailey, Willow Jade Hennessy, Alfie Leo Dziemidowicz and Sonny Bob Dziemidowicz**. Baptisms now take place on Sundays at 1pm.

Holy Matrimony

Please pray for those who have been married recently or who are preparing to be married in coming months, including **Paul Thomson and Stephanie Evans** on 11th September, and **Brent Gilbert and Taryn Naidoo** on 9th October.

Rest in Peace

Please pray for the souls of all those who have died recently, including **Joyce Bailey, Susan White, Sheila Noone, Cherie Bernardine, Graham Sharp, and Brian Owens**. May they rest in peace and rise with Christ in glory.



Memorial Flowers

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.

This is a lovely way to remember loved ones and to help Saint Peter's maintain a supply of fresh flowers throughout the church.

The cost of flowers is determined by the family making the donation, however as an indication this is usually in the order of \$150 - \$200.

If you would like to organise memorial flowers for a loved one, please contact the Parish Office on 4934 5303.



Parish Office Opening Hours

The current Parish Office hours are as follows:

Tuesday 9am - 3pm

Thursday 9am - 3pm

Friday 9am - 3pm

Outside of these hours messages can be left on the Parish Office phone (4934 5303) and will be responded to as promptly as possible during opening hours.

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
- Op Shop St Peter's East Maitland



Welcome to Christine

We are delighted to welcome Christine Simpson-Morgan as our new Parish Office Assistant. We asked Christine to tell us a little about herself

I am delighted to pick up the baton from Maryka as Administration Assistant and after just a few days in the job I can see I have big shoes to fill!

My husband and I moved from Sydney to the Hunter not too long ago and we are enjoying the lifestyle and feel very much at home in this wonderful region. We have both spent almost all our careers working in business and technology administration for Woolworths. Greg has recently retired and I was seeking a role that would utilise my administration experience and give me the chance to work within and contribute to the local community. I am extremely happy to have found it here in the Parish Office.

This is a wonderful opportunity for me and it is already clear the church is supported by an amazing group of volunteers who selflessly give their time towards so many worthwhile outreach activities caring for and helping others.

You must all be very sorry to see Maryka go but after such dedicated service I join in wishing her all the best for her retirement and thank her for making the transition such a pleasure.

I look forward to working with Scott and meeting as many of you as I can in the near future.



Regular Giving

Boxes of giving envelopes are now available at the back of the church. We invite you to collect a box next time you are in church. The boxes contain sufficient envelopes for each week for the coming twelve months.

Would you be willing to give your regular offering electronically?

The Parish Council is asking all those who regularly give to the life of the Parish to consider doing so electronically. Giving regularly by bank transfer is simple to set up and saves having to remember your giving envelopes each week. It also reduces security risks on the church site. There are two ways to set this up:

- ★ If you have access to the internet and already use electronic banking for other payments you can set this up from within your bank's website;
- ★ If not, you can visit your local bank branch and ask the staff to arrange it for you.

The Parish's bank details are:

Saint Peter's Anglican Church

BSB: 705-077,

Account Number: 00040464 Reference: St Peter's Giving.

It is important for you to know that your giving will remain confidential and will not appear on any financial papers that are distributed to the Resourcing Team or any other group. Yvonne Hinde our Treasurer is available to help you. Please contact Yvonne at yvonnehinde@eastmaitlandanglican.org or on 0417 727 098 if you would like to discuss this confidentially.



Anglican Board of Mission Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Mission Grants

ABM's Mission Grants give Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people a say in how funding should be prioritised and directed. The purpose of the grants is to support mission activities that benefit Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Grant applications which meet the funding guidelines are appraised by members of NATSIAC, the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Anglican Council.



Grant recipients (preference is given to Anglican Church organisations, or ecumenical initiatives where there is an Anglican connection) are required to provide complete financial reporting and demonstrate how the purpose of the grant connects with the Anglican Communion's Marks of Mission.

Last year the projects included chaplaincy in an Aboriginal school, musical instruments for a new ministry engaging young men in the Northern Territory, funding for an Aboriginal Anglican Leaders conference, help for the establishment of the new Torres Strait Regional Council for the Anglican Church, help for newly established Aboriginal churches, Bible camps, breakfast programs, an event to connect with the families of school children involved in Religious Education, publication of curriculum resources, copies of Kriol prayer books for Aboriginal churches, and help to investigate the viability of a new commercial enterprise for one Aboriginal church.

Your support for the mission grants empowers NATSIAC to direct funding to initiatives which best represent the aspirations of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Anglicans.

In 2021 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mission Grants needs \$100,000



Men's Breakfast

After an extended break due to Covid-19 the men of the Parish did not need asking twice when a Men's Breakfast was suggested. Despite a cold and wintry Saturday morning in June, more than 20 men turned up to share a BBQ Breakfast and take time to socialise. The Breakfast was deemed a great success and will be the forerunner to many more once the current Covid crisis is resolved.



Kinship Care (GAPS) Meat Raffles

The East Maitland Kinship Care Group – formerly known as Grandparents as Parents (GAPS) – run a Meat Raffle every Friday night from 6pm – 7.30pm at the Hunter River Hotel, (10 Melbourne St, East Maitland). 10 quality meat trays from Tenambit Butchery are raffled, together with a Fruit/Veg tray.

Money raised at the meat raffle goes towards the cost of the end of year camp where grandparents and children get to enjoy a weekend away at Port Stephens – a much needed respite from the challenges that the grandparents face throughout the year.

Please keep this in mind and if you're looking for somewhere to go on a Friday evening – treat yourself to a pub dinner and don't forget to buy some meat raffle tickets while you are there.



A blast from the past

Barb Wood recently found this photo when she was tidying up at home - the picture she is holding was donated by artist Mr Thornton for a raffle and was won by George Sutherland.

Of particular note is the garage at the right hand side of the photo. Unbelievably this garage was heritage listed and permission to take it down and replace it with a more substantial brick garage alongside the Rectory proved a time consuming and challenging process.



Prayers and Readings at your Fingertips

The daily readings and prayers that we use at Saint Peter's are taken from the Australian Lectionary. Saint Peter's Church has a subscription to ePray that is an online, easy to use resource for worship planning, based on the Australian Lectionary.

For those of you who have an iPhone or a smartphone, ePray is available as an app - just download the app and put in St Peter's code, 5911,



Aged Care Ministry

Over the last six months my ministry to Age Care has changed significantly. Some of these changes were the result of the Covid-19 restrictions, changes in personnel or name changes.

Fresh New Hope Lodge (formally Greenhills Lodge)

The Lodge has become the focus of my ministry. I now conduct a service at the Lodge each week on a THURSDAY. The first Thursday of the month is a Communion Service with the others being Morning Prayer with lots of singing. I am fortunate to have Steven play the organ for me. All the services are viewed through their large TV so, all the residents can see it with social distancing in place. There is no need now for the residents to hold booklets or turn pages. The residents are suggesting what hymns or songs they would like to sing. A lot of these songs are accompanied with lot of actions and laughs.

Fresh New Hope Nursing Home (Greenhills Nursing Home)

Unfortunately, since Covid-19 restrictions were lifted I have been unable to hold any services here. Only one on one ministry could take place. Most of this was carried out by the other Chaplain with me visiting the home occasionally. During June it was announced that the Nursing Home was to close with all the residents being relocated to other Age Care Facilities. Once all the residents have been relocated then the present Nursing Home will be knocked down and a new Age Care Facility will be built.

Rutherford Park (formally Opal at Aberglasslyn)

Like The Lodge this Age Care Facility has become my focus of ministry. I am now visiting Rutherford Park on a weekly basis. I conduct a Communion service on the first TUESDAY of each month. It too is played through a large TV so all residents can see it with social distancing in place. There is no need now for the residents to hold booklets or turn pages. On the other Tuesday I visit the residents on a one-on-one basis.

If you hear of any parishioners that have moved into an Age Care Facility, please let me know so I can visit them or make sure they know about the Church services or who visits that facility from a church.

Benhome Age Care

I have handed my Churches services over to Sarah Dulley. I still visit the residents that I have formed a friendship with, only on a one-on-one pastoral visit on a casual basis.

Rev'd Wendy



Fresh Hope Care, Greenhills



Rutherford Park Age Care



Benhome Age Care

Hospital Visiting and Home Communion

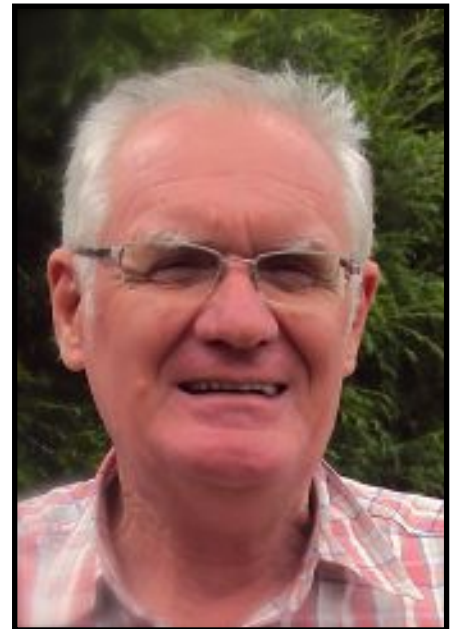
There is another change now that Covid-19 restrictions have been lifted, with Richard Fellows deciding to retire from this ministry and to concentrate on the beautification of the grounds of St Peter's.

Thank you, Richard for your long, dedicated and caring ministry over many years.

I know many parishioners and people in the community have valued your visits in their time of need.

So, if you or any parishioner is in hospital and would like a visit or would like to receive Communion at home. Please contact Rev'd Wendy on 0409 045202.

Rev'd Wendy



Stained Glass Window Update

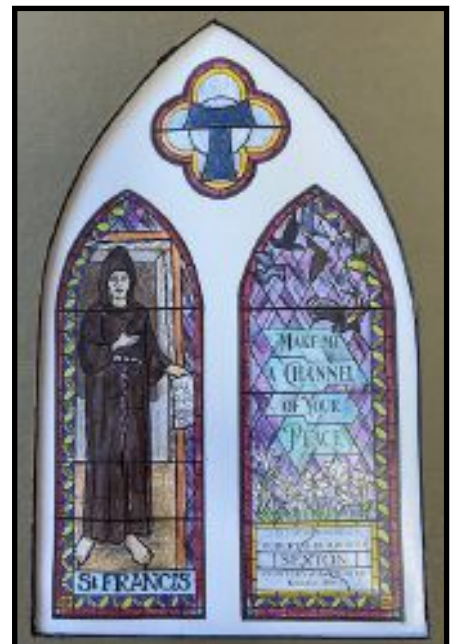
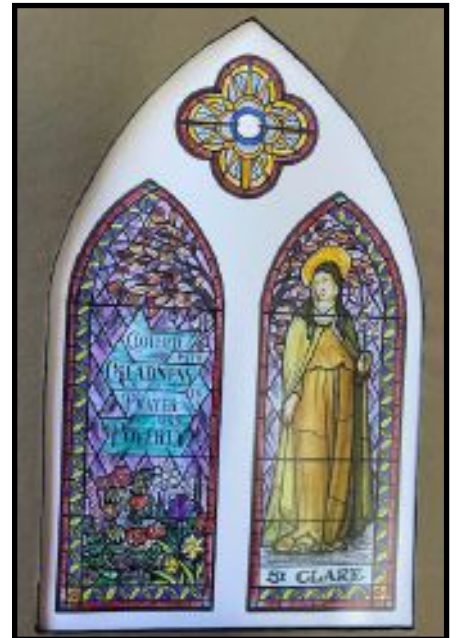
The process surrounding the installation of the St Francis and St Clare stained glass windows in the Southern Clerestory at Saint Peter's Church is slowly moving forward. The design has now been finalised by Jeff Hamilton, the artisan who is responsible for design and installation of the windows. (Shown here are the draft designs that will be used to make the windows).

Now that the design has been finalised and funding provided by a number of very generous donors, the next step is for Parish Council to apply to the Bishop for a Faculty which will allow the windows to be installed as a permanent fixture of the church.

The design of the windows and the faculty application were approved by Parish Council at its most recent meeting and now the faculty application will be displayed for a period of fourteen days during which time people can make comment on the proposed application. Once the exhibition period is ended the application will be forwarded to the Bishop for his consideration.

Once the Bishop approves the application the faculty will be issued and work can commence on making the windows. This will be done by Jeff Hamilton in his studios in Sydney - a detailed and time consuming process to ensure the accuracy and precision of the artwork. Once finalised by Jeff, we will set a date for installation in the church - including scaffolding inside and outside the church, hire of a cherry picker, etc.

At this time we cannot estimate a date for installation, however we are certainly happy to be moving forward with this final set of windows in the Southern Clerestory.



Op Shop Update

By Jane Hall

As we have Covid on our doorstep again we are hoping things continue to run smoothly in the Hunter Valley but with no guarantee. It is a worrying time for us all!

In saying that, it is very hard to plan Op Shop fundraisers into the coming months. With such beautiful donations that we receive from the Community we are finding we will indeed be able to have another Vintage Market Day, it would be good to think it will be a Spring Market Day in late September, but at this point we can only hope and pray.

We continue to have wonderful support from the Community in the Op Shop. Our Facebook Community is growing every week. With this in mind our Op Shop Philosophy remains the same:

1. Providing a community Service
2. Raising funds for the work of our beloved Saint Peter's Church
3. Reducing landfill through recycling.

If you are interested in joining our amazing team of Op Shop Volunteers for 3 hrs a month, fortnight or week, contact Jane on 0421 550615. We are open Thursday & Friday 9am – 3pm, and Saturday 9am -1pm.

At this point it has been wonderful to see everybody complying with the NSW Department of Health orders whilst visiting our Op Shop.

Lastly we say Goodbye to our amazingly wonderful Maryka. You are going to be greatly missed, but we wish you every happiness in your retirement. Thank you for being such an incredible support for our Oppy Shop and also to me Maryka. Your friendship and guidance during my time as Op Shop Co-ordinator has been such a help to me. I thank you with all my heart. Xxx

Thank you

Jane.

Take care all!.



Stamps to Support Mission

For many years the Anglican Board of Mission (ABM) has been collecting used postage stamps as part of their fundraising for overseas mission projects. Today this practice continues with loyal supporters from all dioceses around Australia sending stamps on a regular basis. This represents millions of stamps and many, many hours of effort from a large number of Friends of ABM, who collect, cut, sort and sell. They provide a source of income that helps to support their work.



Please continue to help by saving stamps and placing them in the box at the back of the Church. Remember to ask your family and friends to save used stamps for you. We can also take stamp collections that people no longer require.

Parish Governance

The Parish Resourcing Team meets monthly, with the Parish Council meeting every two months. At recent meetings the following topics were discussed:

- Faculty approval for St Francis and St Clare Stained Glass Windows.
- Updating signage across the St Peter's site.
- Mobile EFTPOS for use at the Op Shop and Parish Office.

Decisions made at the Parish Council are recorded formally in meeting minutes and kept as an ongoing record of Church activities, retained by the Church and sent in due course to the Parish Archives at the University of Newcastle.



Churchwardens (l to r)
Anne Page, Kerry Bruce, Graham Webb

Farewell from Maryka

It is with some sadness that I write this message of farewell as I move into Retirement. I can certainly reflect on the many friends I have made at St Peter's and how much I will miss the daily interaction with everyone. With many activities on my "To Do" list the decision to retire was made with a view to leaving the routine of the the workplace and taking time to do the numerous things that I had not got around to over the past few years and to sit back and enjoy my home, my garden and my family.

I have to say a very big Thank You to all those who have made me so welcome at St Peter's. I have thoroughly enjoyed being a part of the many community activities that are a part of St Peter's, and am in awe of the hard work put in by so many of the parish community to ensure that St Peter's is held in such high esteem across the East Maitland area. The wealth of history attached to St Peter's is impressive and something that I am always keen to share with visitors to the church.

It has certainly been an interesting and varied time since I first took on the role of Parish Office Administrator in April 2016 - life has never been predictable but I have thoroughly enjoyed my time here and will leave with many happy memories and hope to see you around the Maitland area as I enjoy my leisure time.

Thank You all so much for your wonderful support and encouragement.

Maryka xx





Anglican Church Newcastle

Being Together

Expectations of Behaviour in our Church Community

Jesus told us to love one another as he loves us. As Christians we know our life together is strengthened when our behaviour is consistent with our faith. However, our experience of being together can be difficult, particularly when there are differences. So it is important to be clear about how we will behave towards each other.

Being a community:

- We will value the wellbeing and safety of others, especially children and other vulnerable people.
- We will encourage each other to participate in the life of the church.
- We will consider the impact of our behaviour on others.

Relating to each other:

- We will protect the safety of all, especially children and other vulnerable people.
- We will treat each other with respect and dignity, irrespective of ability, gender, sexuality, race, age or contribution to the church.
- We will act with integrity and honesty in our interactions with each other.

Communicating with each other:

- We will communicate respectfully with others, and not in a way that threatens, belittles or humiliates.
- We will speak with integrity and honesty, and refrain from speculation and gossip.

Acknowledging difference:

- We will respect those who are different from us and not isolate or ridicule them.
- We will listen to and seek to understand the beliefs, opinions and practices of others, even when we do not share their views.

Responding to conflict:

- We will accept responsibility for our part in a conflict.
- We will be willing to play our part in resolving a conflict.

(Approved by General Synod July 2014, revised on 17 April 2020)

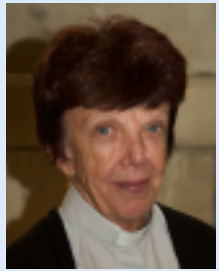
(Approved by Newcastle Diocesan Synod October 2015, Revision adopted by the Diocesan Council from 15 May 2021)



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David Burton
Parish Councillor &
Maintenance Manager



Yvonne Hinde
Parish Treasurer
yvonnehinde@eastmaitlandanglican.org



Stephen McKinnon
Parish Councillor



David Wheeler
Parish Councillor



Barry Sherringham
Parish Councillor



Kevin Short
Parish Councillor

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PARISH
LEADERSHIP
TEAM
2021

