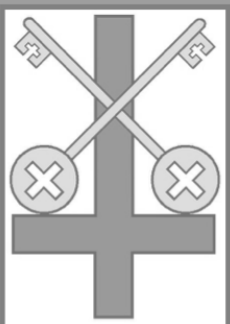


# Cross & Keys

Winter 2022 – 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

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## Scott's Spot

Welcome to the Winter edition of Cross & Keys.

There have been so many great things happening in these past months and it is exciting to see how God is at work in our Parish Community. It has been fantastic to welcome a number of new people to the Parish, who have chosen to make St Peter's their spiritual home. We extend a very warm welcome to you all!



For the most part we have transitioned back into many of our pre-COVID ways of being together. We are able to enjoy worship with very few restrictions and social gatherings which were sorely missed during the height of the pandemic. It has been a privilege for me to welcome so many families to St Peter's for Baptisms and Weddings and to be able to care for grieving families around the time of funerals for their loved ones.

For the first time in two years, we have been able to fully mark and celebrate Holy Week and Easter, Pentecost and our Patronal Festival. I am deeply grateful to everyone who has contributed to our worship life together in particular our Associate Clergy, Wendy and Wilf, our Director of Music, Evanne and the Choir, our serving teams, welcomers, readers and Intercessors. We are blessed by so many people who give of themselves in ministry in the Parish.

Our Op Shop has been doing great work supporting people in our local community. It has been a delight to welcome Bronwyn O'Keefe into the Coordinator role. She is doing a great job! We are also thankful that Maryka Gibson was able to step into the role during the time of transition between Jane and Bronwyn taking the reins. It's wonderful to see Jane back around the shop. Jane and Robert are putting a lot of work into preparing for the Vintage Market Day in August which I'm sure will be a great success. This year church building will be open during the Market Day. People will have the opportunity to take a self-guided tour of St Peter's and we will also have a quilt display in the church. If you have a quilt or quilts you can contribute to the display please have a chat to Chris Butler.

These days we have an enormous amount of administration and compliance tasks to attend to in the Parish. Christine has been working hard to roll out our new Volunteer packs and assisting people to complete forms and arrange the necessary checks. We are currently working through the Parish Council, Op Shop and Parish Pantry volunteers. Soon we will be moving on to begin working through the process with other volunteers across the Parish.

It is an immensely exciting time in the Parish at the moment and I am grateful to God for his ongoing blessing for our work here in his name.

Please be assured of my ongoing prayers for you all.

Your Priest and brother in Christ.

Scott.

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

- East Maitland Anglican
- Op Shop St Peter's East Maitland



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.

# Pentecost Celebration Lunch



On Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June we celebrated the Feast of Pentecost with parishioners from St Mary's at Maitland and St Christopher's at Rutherford. It was a wonderful gathering in the Hall for lunch after Sunday service and it was nice to spend time in each other's company.

A beautiful and delicious cake was provided by Reverend Sarah for the feast and everyone certainly enjoyed the very tasty desert!



## Retreat Reflections

My retreat was conducted by Bishop Carol Wagner, assistant Bishop of Canberra/ Goulburn, at St Joseph Spiritual Centre at Kincumber in May. The theme being Reflections on our Ordained Ministry Life.

There were six sessions held over the three days.

**1 Where do we find God and how does he speak to us?** Is it through visions, passages of scripture, a single word, one to one conversion, music or his creation?

**2 Complacency.** Do we become complacent with our daily routine of saying the offices of Morning and Evening Prayer, Compline or tending to those matters that form our daily or weekly routine? How can we find ways to inspire us to find God in our activities?

**3 The Wisdom of God.** How do we try to understand God's wisdom? Is it through reading of the scriptures, looking our favourite sunset or sunrise, sitting in our favourite spot mediating or speaking with our Spiritual Director or reading books?

**4 Overcoming our fears.** Not the fears that scare us but fears we have for ourselves and our people in this time of uncertainty. Is it through prayer, change of action, or working through them, that we find ways of overcoming them? Do we take time to celebrated with thanksgiving when we do find peace from those fears?

**5 Living simply.** What things do we need to let go that clutter our lives and take us away from God?

**6 Wilderness.** Where and when have we found ourselves in the wilderness from God, those desert times and what has brought us back to God's love.

Each of these talks ended with a contemporary song. They can be found on you tube.

**1 Words of God Speak – MercyMe**

**2 Revive Me – Jeremy Camp**

**3 The Perfect Wisdom of Our God – Getty**

**4 You Are My Hiding Place – Michael Ledner**

**5 Simple Living – Keith and Kristy Getty**

**6 Wilderness – Jeremy Camp**

You might like to listen to these songs and think about your relationship with God.

After each session we had time to reflect in silence on what Bishop Carol spoke about and the words of the songs.

**Wendy**



# Op Shop Update

Our little "Op Shop" is going from strength to strength – we continue to attract a loyal following of regular customers, who not only shop, but provide us with good quality donations for which we are very grateful. Our sales are going well and this has enabled us to provide much needed funds for the Parish.

Our team of volunteers are committed to ensuring that the Op Shop retains its proud reputation for having a wide range of quality items at bargain prices. There is an enormous amount of work done by our volunteers who work on a roster basis, sharing the many tasks that take place behind the scenes.

Unfortunately, our wonderful Co-ordinator Jane Hall left for medical reasons late last year. Jane left us extremely well set up to continue her amazing work and vision for the Op Shop. Bev Steggles, who originally set up the shop, has also continued to give her support and her contribution and leadership is valued by all the volunteers.

In June we changed our shop hours to reflect the times available by our volunteers. The new hours will be

- **Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday 9am to 1pm**
- **Friday 9am to 3pm**

As the new Co-ordinator, I would like to thank the Op Shop Committee and the amazing group of volunteers for helping me through these first few weeks, Fr Scott and Christine in the Parish Office for their support and help in transitioning to the role and lastly the customers who have made me feel so very welcome.

Hope to see you in the shop soon

Bronwyn O'Keefe

**Op Shop Co-ordinator**



## St Peter's Men

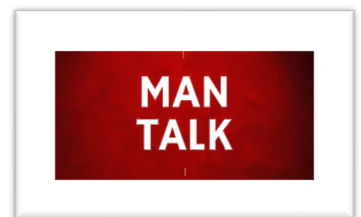
### Men's Breakfast



The next one will be held on **9<sup>th</sup> July at 8am**. Please register your name on the list at the back of the Church.

The men of our Parish came together in March and May for a BBQ breakfast which has been well attended and very successful. The weather was kind and it was a great opportunity to bond and foster friendships and support.

The Man Talk group meet twice a month to reflect on the passages of the Gospel and the word of the Lord.



All men are welcome, please contact Graham Webb or the Parish Office if you wish to join.

## St Peter's Women



Our wonderful Craft Group have been very busy over the past few months knitting, crocheting, dressmaking and doing tapestry.

They received a quilt donated from the estate of a 90 year old lady Malaysian lady. That quilt is now being lovingly restored and will be a very special Market Day Raffle prize. Of course they create our beautiful St Peter's baptism bears and have also made some trauma bears that were donated to the Maitland Hospital.

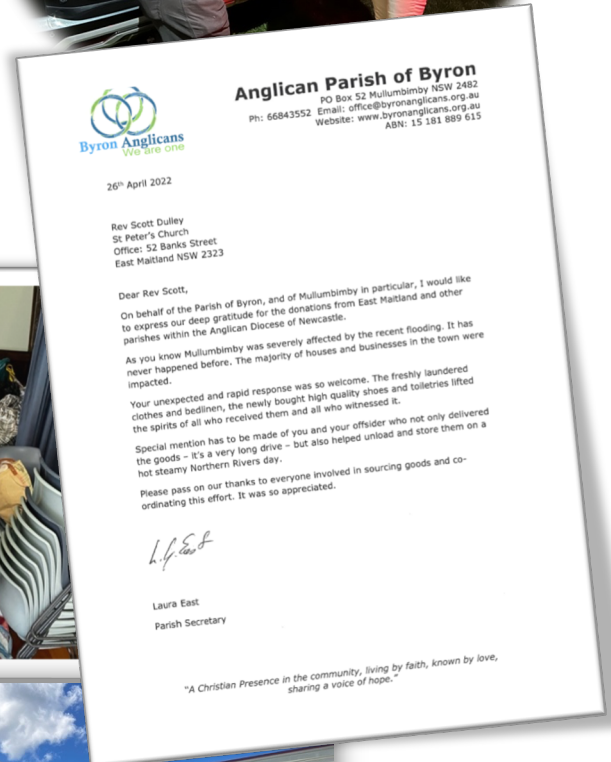
All are welcome to join, meetings are held every first and third Tuesday of the month at 2pm.



# Flood Relief!

In April Fr Scott and Fr Andrew from Wallsend Parish travelled to the flood ravaged area of northern New South Wales to deliver much needed clothing, bed linen, shoes and toiletries for the people of Mullumbimby who had been devastated by the one-in-one hundred year event that affected northern New South Wales and Queensland.

Fr Scott was amazed at the destruction but also at the resilience, determination and faith of the local people who were deeply appreciative of the support offered by the parishes in our Diocese.



## Safe Ministry Training New Volunteer Rollout



As noted by Fr Scott we have started the Volunteer compliance rollout where there is a requirement for all volunteers to meet screening standards which involve certain checks and training requirements. This includes a nationally coordinated criminal history check (police check) for various categories of volunteers. Volunteers will be provided with a duty statement and asked to complete a volunteer engagement form and volunteer agreement. Your continued support of the Diocese as our Parish undertakes this work is, as always, greatly valued.

The Bishop thanks all our volunteers for the work you are doing in Christ's name and for the difference you are making. Your support and cooperation to this rollout is integral to its success.

## SCONE TIME

Connecting the community through  
friendship and a cup of tea.



You're invited to share a scone with jam and cream while meeting new friends in your area. Only requirement is that you are over 65 years and enjoy a chat and of course a love of homemade scones and tea.

**DATE:** Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> August 2022 **TIME:** 10.30am-12pm  
**ADDRESS:** St Peters Anglican Church, 47 William Street East Maitland  
**RSVP:** Simone on 1300 363 654 or email [simonep@novacare.org.au](mailto:simonep@novacare.org.au) by Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> August. This is a free community event.

## Hall Hire

Our Parish Hall is available to hire for community or family events and functions.

We currently host a number of local businesses running weekly Yoga, Meditation and Belly Dancing classes.

All parishioners are welcome to Scone Time on 4<sup>th</sup> August.

If you would like to hire the Hall, please contact the Parish Office.



## Regular Giving

Boxes of giving envelopes are now available at the back of the church and 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. Christine Simpson-Morgan our Treasurer is available to help you. Please contact Christine at [office@eastmaitlandanglican.org](mailto:office@eastmaitlandanglican.org) or on 4934 5303 if you would like to discuss this confidentially.

## 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



## Saint Peter's Columbarium

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.

Please pray for the souls of all those who have died this year and their lives celebrated at St. Peter's

Brenda CONDON  
Janice ELDER  
Janina WITHINGTON  
John SKINNER  
Glenyce WILTON  
Walter SELLERS  
John MATE  
Joe UPTON  
Suzanne GALLAGHER  
Heather WRIGHT  
Robert RIDDEL  
Roslyn LOGUE  
Beverley CASLICK  
Jean SWAN  
Gladys FENWICK  
John PURNELL  
Heather STAMMER  
Joan PRIESTLEY  
Marilyn COOK  
Daryl COULTON

May they rest in peace and rise with Christ in glory





**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)*



