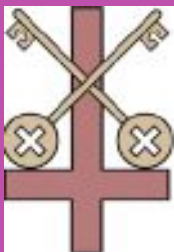


# Cross & Keys

Spring 2023 – 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

Telephone: (02) 4934 5303 | email: [office@eastmaitlandanglican.org](mailto:office@eastmaitlandanglican.org) | website: [www.eastmaitlandanglican.org](http://www.eastmaitlandanglican.org) | mailing: PO Box East Maitland NSW 2323

## Scott's Spot

With so much turmoil and strife in the world at the moment it is not surprising that sometimes we find it difficult to know how to pray for the world and for the church. Bushfires in New South Wales and Queensland, five women murdered in ten days in domestic violence situations in Australia, the discord generated around the referendum campaign, natural disasters and the ongoing reality of horrendous wars abroad all goes together to leave us quite overwhelmed. I don't know about you, but lately I have found watching the evening news about as confronting as any other time I can remember.



We wonder how much more can our world take and how can we as Christian people respond with a sense of compassion and integrity? Of course, there are, as always, obvious and perhaps less obvious ways to respond.

We can contribute to local and national relief efforts as we are able. We can call out violence of all types when we see it. We can disagree with each other and still choose to maintain relationships of integrity, love and trust. And we can hold God's world and all of the people of the world in prayer when the situations are seemingly beyond our control and outside our sphere of direct influence.

To say that we will pray for a person or situation is not a simple platitude or worse still a cop out when things are getting tough. Prayer can be one of the most powerful tools we possess in our spiritual tool kit. To say that we will hold another person or a situation in prayer is a deep commitment to the welfare of a person or group of people.

In recent years I have noticed a shift in the way that I pray. Rather than the specific, focussed prayers of my childhood, youth and early adult life I have felt myself led towards a broader and more expansive holding of people and situations before God. Rather than approaching God with my 'shopping list' of things that I believe need fixing in a particular way and expecting God to see things my way, I have often been challenged to allow God to open my mind and heart to a different way of looking at people, situations or issues and indeed the world as a whole. Prayer often results in a call to meaningful action on my part. It's rarely an easy path. But the easy path is often not the right one anyway. I hope that you might commit with me to holding God's world and God's church in prayer in new and challenging ways that might just open our hearts and minds to a new and living way of being together.

Your Priest and brother in Christ.  
Scott

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

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



Parish Office hours are as follows;

- **Tuesday 9am – 1pm**
- **Thursday 9am – 1pm**
- **Friday 9am – 1pm**



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.

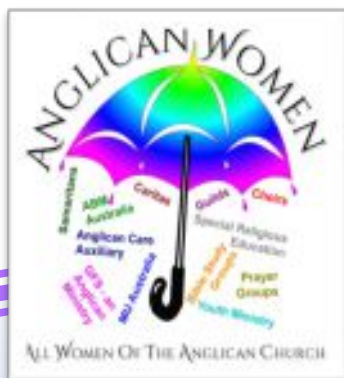


# Anglican Women Spring Celebration

**On Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September St Peter's** hosted the annual Anglican Women Spring Celebration.

It was wonderful to have Bishop Sonia join us, along with many women committed to their faith and the broader Anglican family.

The service was followed by morning tea and a chance for everyone to enjoy a chit-chat and connect with one another over a cup of tea and a selection of delicious cakes.



Anglican Women Newcastle unites and helps women across the Diocese with:

- Prayer and Worship
- Learning
- Fellowship with all women in the Diocese and beyond
- Giving with Anglican Women Newcastle Thank You boxes



# SPP NEWS

## Rotary



The St Peter's Parish Pantry (SPP) team are gearing up to prepare our client Christmas hampers.

These are always very popular and we couldn't do it without the support of local charities and businesses who donate the goodies we are able to provide.

Here we have Susan from the East Maitland Rotary Club delivering 70 Christmas puddings to Fr Scott for our Christmas Hampers!



## Congratulations Stephen McKinnon

After a period of discernment Stephen has been invited by Bishop Peter to enter into the formation process towards being ordained as a Priest in Local Mission.

Well done Stephen, we look forward to continuing the journey supporting you.

# St Peter's Hands



**1 CHRONICLES 29:12**

**"IN YOUR HANDS ARE STRENGTH AND POWER TO EXALT AND GIVE STRENGTH TO ALL"**

Partaking in the Holy Communion is God's ordained channel of healing and wholeness. Fr Scott recently reflected on the number of hands he has seen during communion over the years. All different, all with a story of what they do and where they have been.

From this sprung an idea to photograph the hands of our St Peter's congregation and create a montage to be framed in the Church.

Glennis Holwell is our project photographer, and she has already taken over 40 photo's.

If you have not had your hands photographed and would like to participate, please contact Glennis or Christine in the Parish office by the end of November.

## Thank you for the Music!

On Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> October Evanne Sherringham formally retired as Director of Music after many years of dedicated service to St Peter's.



Evanne will be deeply missed by the congregation and the Choir after such a long time spoiling us all

with her musical gifts and giving us the joy of song during all our services.

We wish Evanne a wonderful retirement and hope she can finally put her feet up and take time to listen rather than play.





# Ordination of Nick Edwards

**ST PETER'S  
SATURDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2023**

We were honoured to host the ordination of Nick Edwards as a Priest in the Church of God.

Raised in Gippsland Victoria Nick studied theology at Trinity College, Melbourne and abroad before travelling to sing with cathedral choirs in England.

Bishops Peter, Charlie, and Sonia during the service



Nick was ordained Deacon by Bishop Humphrey Southern in England at the request of Bishop Peter Stuart, on Sunday 14 May 2023.



The Combined Choir directed by Evanne Sherringham were in beautiful voice



Nick, his wife Eleanor, and their six-year-old daughter, Henrietta (Etta), arrived in Morpeth in August.



After a very special day at St Peter's shared with the Diocese clergy, family and friends, Nick began serving his community as Priest in Charge of St James Church Morpeth the following day.



# SPRING FLOWER BLOOM

Our wonderful flower ladies put their passion to work each week to ensure our Church looks as beautiful as it can. We thank them all for their dedication and skill.

*Pictured Barb and Jan, missing Dawn and Marie.*



## We are big fans!

In keeping with our theme, the fans in the Church and the Hall were in desperate need of a spring clean. A very **BIG** thank you to **Warren, Richard and Maurie** who we can always count on to spring into action and to bring back the sparkle!

We are now ready for summer and am sure our congregation, SPP, exercise classes and all will welcome the nice clean, cool breezes.

SO COOL



**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> October** we were delighted to host the **Underground Opera**

performing incredible arias, duets and ensemble pieces from Opera's most memorable moments.

In conjunction with Morpeth Gallery, we also displayed Gordon Hanley's artworks to cap off a world class experience for those who were able to attend.



Another shout out to our amazing volunteer handyman Dave Burton for picking up a mobile cool room donated to us from Maitland Park Bowling Club.

Dave, John Whittaker and other handy helpers have worked really hard to bring it back to a new life with a coat of paint and some repairs – just in time for our big night of Carols!

The Church was resplendent in all it's glory

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## MEN'S BREAKFAST

SATURDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER

TIME: 08:00 – 10:00



PARISH HALL

2

## ST PETERS OP SHOP CHRISTMAS MARKET AND TOY SALE



SATURDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER  
9AM – 1PM

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS  
NEW TOYS  
CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEAS  
RAFFLE  
GUESSING COMPETITION  
CAKE STALL  
BBQ AND REFRESHMENTS



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## Carols on the Hill

FRIDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2023

Food & Drinks from 4pm. Carols commence at 6pm

Join us for Community Carols in the beautiful grounds of  
ANGELICAN CHURCH, WILLIAM STREET, EAST MAITLAND



Maitland Brass Band



The Three Tenors



Maitland City Choir



Maitland Pipes and Drums

**FREE ENTRY**  
Market stalls, sausage sizzle, soft drinks,  
ice cream & coffee van from 4pm.  
Please bring a rug or chair.  
This is a family friendly alcohol-free event



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## MISSION LUNCH

SUNDAY  
10<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER  
PARISH HALL

TIME: 12PM

BRING A SHARED MEAL  
GUEST SPEAKER FROM ABM  
MEAGAN SCHWARTZ

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## Christmas Service Times

We invite you to join us for Christmas!

### Christmas Eve - 24th December

6 pm: Family Christmas Celebration  
8.30 pm: Christmas Eve Service  
for those who cannot make it to Midnight  
11.30 pm: Midnight Mass and Blessing of the Crib

### Christmas Day - 25th December

8.30 am: Christmas Day Service with Carols

Find out more about your local Parish Church: [www.eastmaitlandanglican.org](http://www.eastmaitlandanglican.org) (Ph 02) 4934 5300





## Hall Hire

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

We currently host a number of local groups running weekly **Yoga, Belly Dancing and Tai Chi** classes.

Welcome to our newest group, the **U3A Garden Class**, we look forward to hosting you again soon.

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



## 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 since our last edition and their lives celebrated at St. Peter's

Warren STACE  
George RINKIN  
Audrey TEAT  
Linda SERGI  
Marion TAYLOR  
Brendan HENRY  
Jacob MURPHY  
Audrey MILLINER

May they rest in peace and rise with Christ in glory

## Regular Giving

The preferred way of receiving peoples offering to support the ministry and mission of the Parish is by electronic bank transfer.

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 remember our 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



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