

# Cross & Keys

Winter 2024 – 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

## The Coming of the Light

On the 1<sup>st</sup> July each year the Anglican Church of Australia celebrates the festival of the Coming of the Light. The festival remembers and celebrates the arrival of the first Christian missionaries in the Torres Strait in 1871. The Reverend Samuel MacFarlane of the London Missionary Society anchored at Erub Island and was welcomed onto the island. Unlike other parts of our colonial history this experience was a largely positive event for the people of the Torres Strait and the missionaries. It is said among Torres Strait islander people that on that day in 1871 there was light on both sides of the beach. There was a meeting of the Christian story and the existing spirituality of the people of the Torres Strait which was both enriching and life-giving. So we remember and celebrate this significant event and give thanks to God for the people of the Torres Strait.



## St Peter's Roof Replacement Project

I am delighted to be able to report that the Roof Replacement project has now commenced. If you are passing by St Peter's or attending services, you will notice the extensive scaffolding (in excess of 85 tonnes) that has been erected to allow access to the roof. On 12<sup>th</sup> June the final approvals were received from the Newcastle Anglican Corporation (NAC) Board with approval to access funds held in trust for the Parish having previously been received from the Diocesan Council. The total cost of the project will be close to \$1M. The approved contractors East Coast Slate Roofing have extensive experience in heritage roof replacement and restoration having previously worked on some of Sydney's most significant properties. They have also recently completed repair and restoration works on the Rectory and Church at St Mary's Maitland. Watch this space as the project moves from the initial setup phase into the substantive work of replacement of the slates and supporting timber battens, replacement of the waterproof membrane and restoration of the dormer windows and belfry. It is anticipated that the project will conclude in early September.

## Vice-Regal Luncheon

In late June I was delighted to attend a luncheon with the Governor of NSW as a guest of the Hunter Valley Slow Food Network at Maitland Showgrounds. The event highlighted the excellent work undertaken by the organisation and its many volunteers. We are fortunate to partner with them in the provision of food support for people in need through St Peter's Pantry.

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, Thursday and Friday 9am – 1pm**

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



## WEEKLY SERVICES

- Saturday 6:00pm - Vigil Eucharist
- Sunday 8:30am - Parish Eucharist and Morning Tea
- Sunday 5:00pm - Petrus (1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday only)
- Wednesday 8:00am – Eucharist
- 1<sup>st</sup> Friday 10:30am - Eucharist

# St Peter's Stairway to Heaven



With the scaffold now complete, Fr Scott was given the opportunity to climb the stairway to heaven for a closer inspection of the church roof. No Jimmy Page, Robert Plant or the Prophet Elijah to be found! Only Jamie the contractor and the magpie family for company!

It was the best view in Maitland.



## Confirmation Day 12<sup>th</sup> May

There were smiles all round on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May as Bishop Sonia confirmed Fania, Eva and Declan into the Anglican Church.



## Pentecost Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May

Our parish commemorated the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles in Jerusalem 49 days after Easter Sunday.

The church was adorned in red with the altar cloth, clergy vestments and pews decorated with balloons symbolising fire, wind, a dove and the breath of God.



# Pantry News

On 21<sup>st</sup> May we very humbly and gratefully accepted a huge donation of food for the Parish Pantry from the wonderful East Maitland Lions Club, who for the second year, ran a food drive at Greenhills shopping centre. They received a huge response from our local community.



St Peter's Pantry is one of their chosen beneficiary's and it was great to see Kathy Barkley again assisted by some of her work colleagues, drive up with three carloads of food for the needy who come to our doors here at St Peter's each week looking for help to put food on the table for their families.



Our Pantry Co-ordinator Bill, his team and all at St Peter's give a huge shout out and big thank you to East Maitland Lion's Club for the work they do and their kind generosity.

Our **Parish Pantry Team** has again excelled itself.

So far this year the statistics tell the story of a huge effort by all our volunteers to deliver a very necessary and important service to our community.

For the period **1<sup>st</sup> January to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024** here is what we have received, sorted, packed and distributed.

Thanks to all our partners and parishioners, volunteers and donors who make this service possible.

	<p><b>FOOD PARCELS</b> 1,301</p>
<p><b>FOOD RESCUED</b> 17,385 kg</p>	
	<p><b>KFC PACKS</b> 1,131</p>
<p><b>FROZEN MEALS</b> 1,200</p>	
<p><b>PLUS OVER 1,000 FOOD ITEMS DONATED BY ST PETER'S PARISH CONGREGATION</b></p>	

# Op Shopper's get fashionable!

Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April our wonderful Op Shop team hosted another Fashion Parade and High Tea in the St Peter's Hall. The pictures tell the story of a wonderful day of comradery and spirit as everyone worked to make this a great fundraising event.

Our models this year were Cheryl, Denise, Vicki, Sue, Noeline and Bron.

Thanks to all those who contributed by making delicious cakes and slices, preparing the food, setting the tables, washing and drying a hundred cups, saucers, plates, knives and forks, manning the register, dressing the models and of course to the *'hostess-with-the-mostess'* and coordinator extraordinaire, Bronwyn who pulls it all together with a smile and inspires her team to do the same.

The St Peter's Op Shop is without doubt the best in town but what makes it special is our volunteers and customers. The shop helps our community with quality clothing and household items at a great price which means so much to so many in this time of economic hardship.

Thanks also to those people who donate items to the Op Shop, we would not be able to do what we do without this continued support and it means the world.

A special mention must go to Warren Kreckler, a St Peter's volunteer champion who gives his time to so many duties across the Parish.

Warren was our man of the day, and not only did he help the ladies with the heavier setup and cleanup, but he proudly wore his apron and spent the day in the kitchen with our beloved Barbara. Warren was *'Daddy of the Dishwasher'* and ran load after load to keep the show rolling on.

Since then, his latest and ongoing passion project is sorting all the different sets of crockery and cutlery to make sure we always mix-and-match at a St Peter's event!

We love your work Warren and everyone for such a memorable day!



# Synod - 2024

On Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June our annual Synod took place in Newcastle. Synod is the coming together of clergy and lay representatives from across the 53 parishes of the Diocese to meet with the Bishop and Assistant Bishops. The Synod has both informal and formal parts, with the formal parts being likened to a parliamentary process. At Synod we worship together, receive reports of the work of our Diocesan agencies and schools, pass legislation to assist in the good governance of the church and in recent years spend time in conference together considering important matters for the church.

This year, after the Eucharist was celebrated by Bishop Sonia, with Bishop Charlie preaching, the Bishop gave his Presidential Address or Synod Charge. Following the Presidential Address and morning tea the Synod began considering its business.

An order of the day was the sharing of good news stories from parishes across the Diocese. It was wonderful to hear of the many and varied expressions of mission and outreach which are taking place across so many places in our Diocese. A further order of the day was a presentation and subsequent launch of HOPE 25. HOPE 25 is a nationwide initiative of the Anglican Church of Australia with all 23 dioceses participating. HOPE 25 will run from Easter to Pentecost in 2025 and is an opportunity for every parish and church in the country planning for unique and individualised ways that they might share the Hope of Jesus with the community they serve in their local context. The Reverend



Kim Hodges has been appointed as the part-time project officer for HOPE 25 and will seek to resource parishes and assist them in planning for projects for HOPE 25.

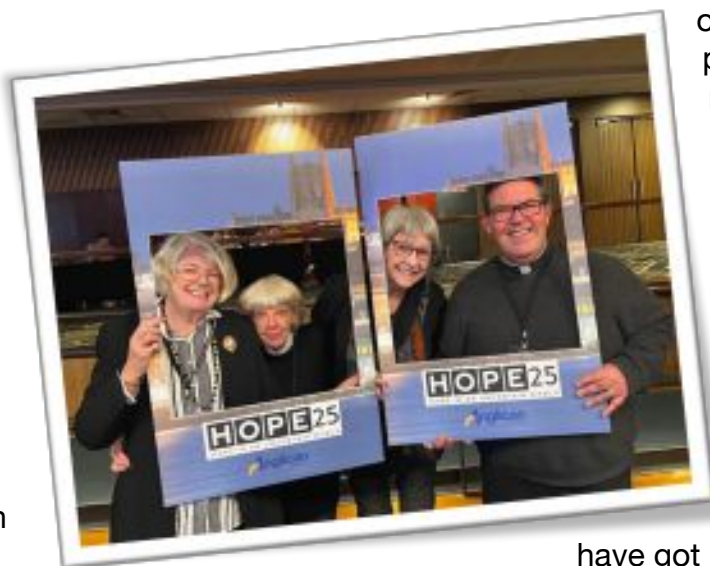
Throughout the rest of the day the Synod considered changes to church legislation or Ordinances relating to the work of Incumbency Boards, and the make-up and membership of the Synod. Of particular note was the suggestion that the number of Lay Synod Representatives from each parish be reduced from 3 to 2. This amendment

ordinance did not pass and the number remains at 3. Each of the other amendment ordinances passed with or without some amendments.

In the latter part of the day there was a risk the Synod might

have got bogged down in a number of successive amendments but we were saved from that dark valley by the excellent leading of our Bishop who assisted the Synod to keep on track and keep moving.

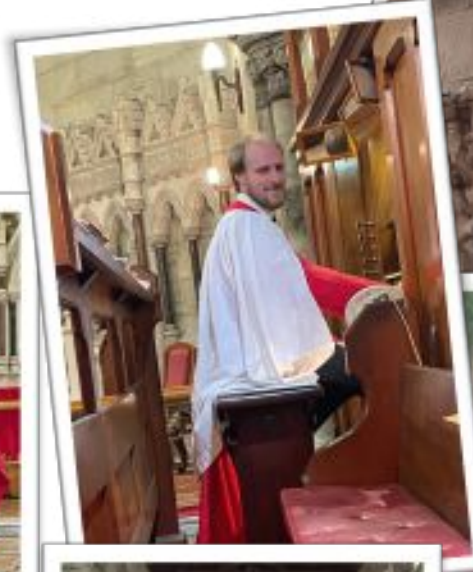
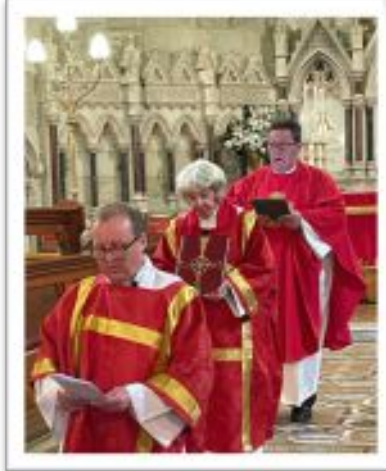
The Synod was adjourned and we left with the Bishop giving the blessing. We will meet again in 2025.



# Patronal Festival Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June

We celebrated the Feast of St Peter and St Paul during our 8.30am Church Service. It was a very special occasion for Stephen who preached the sermon in honour of the martyrdom of these two iconic saints.

Later that afternoon we all gathered at the Windsor Castle for lunch which was enjoyed by all as can be seen by the smiles and laughter!





# 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.

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.

- Cheryl CARTER
- Brian GOLDSMITH
- Denise JONES
- David HAGGARTY
- Shane JACKSON
- Stephen HARMEY
- Philip VINE
- Vincent LEWIS
- June LAMBERT
- Robert HALSON
- Wayne HARWOOD

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 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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